

March 16, 2015

CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION ITEM

SUBJECT

Shoreline Master Program Update Study Session 11 – Consideration of Amendment Options to the Council SMP Update Package.

STAFF CONTACT

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FISCAL IMPACT

There is no new fiscal impact anticipated from completion of this process. This work is necessary for completion of the Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Update that is a component of the Council-endorsed code amendment work program.

POLICY ISSUES

On March 16, Council is being asked to vote on amendment options suggested by individual Councilmembers. Options identified for advancement by the full Council will be drafted into the final SMP Update Package tentatively scheduled to return for Council approval on April 20, 2015. The Council SMP Update package will then be submitted to the Department of Ecology for review and approval.

DIRECTION NEEDED FROM COUNCIL

☒ Action
☒ Discussion
☐ Information

The Council is being asked to vote on amendment options described in the matrix included with this memorandum as Attachment A. Draft code language will be prepared, distributed to stakeholders for review, and returned to Council on April 20 for approval.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The City Council completed its review of the Planning Commission recommended Shoreline Master Program Update in September 2014. In-depth review was conducted by the Council on nine topics considered central to the update process. A public hearing was held on the Planning Commission's recommended option to kick off the Council's in-depth review on May 5, 2014. A second public hearing was held on August 4, 2014, at the culmination of the in-depth review process, to receive public comment on variations to the Planning Commission Recommendation that were being considered by the City Council.

On September 8, Council was provided with a summary of comments received during the August 4 hearing on each of the Council-requested variations. With this information, the

Council provided direction to staff for revising the SMP Update package. On December 1, the City Council considered a revised draft to determine whether staff had adequately captured the direction provided on September 8 related to the residential shoreline regulations contained in LUC 20.25E.065. On December 1, the Council provided clarifying language on the revised draft. Individual Councilmembers also suggested options for changes to the draft that would be considered by the full Council at a future meeting.

Options suggested by Councilmembers during and following the December 1 meeting have been organized into a matrix provided as Attachment A to this memorandum. A base document has been prepared and included as Attachment B to identify where in LUC 20.25E.065 (Residential Shoreline Regulations) the amendment options would be located if the Council directs staff to draft them into code.

Stakeholder Engagement

Many stakeholders have been involved with the SMP Update process since it began. Stakeholder groups have been an important part of the update process and have worked tirelessly to help ensure that the final product meets the Council principles that the SMP be:

- Bellevue Appropriate
- Protective of neighborhood character
- Balanced
- Predictable and flexible
- Consistent with a reasonable interpretation of the SMA and Ecology's guidelines.

Options advanced by Council for code drafting would be included into the base document, posted to the SMP Update website, circulated to stakeholders, and returned to Council for a final determination of completeness. Once the draft regulatory package is determined to be final, the SMP Update Package (including the CIA, final review under the State Environmental Policy Act, and Ecology checklist) will be prepared and transmitted to the Department of Ecology for review and approval.

Options Proposed by Individual Councilmembers

During the December 1 Study Session on the SMP Update topic, individual Councilmembers suggested options for changes to the draft. No votes were taken during the December 1 Study Session, and staff continued to accept Council feedback on options through the end of January as directed by Mayor Balducci. To help facilitate Council review of options suggested by individual Councilmembers, Attachment A includes a matrix of the suggestions made. Attachment B contains the base document that identifies where the suggested changes would be drafted into the regulations governing shoreline residential development that were last reviewed by the Council on December 1. Attachment C includes the meeting minutes from the December 1 Study Session for Council reference.

On March 16, Council is being asked to vote on amendment options suggested by individual Councilmembers. Options identified for advancement by the full Council will be drafted into the final SMP Update Package for submittal to the Department of Ecology for review and approval.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Consider each amendment option contained in Attachment A and identify which options should be moved forward for drafting into the Council SMP Update.
2. Do not consider the options contained in Attachment A and provide staff with alternative direction for drafting the final Council SMP Update.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Draft Options Matrix
- B. LUC 20.25E.065 Based Document for Residential Shoreline Development
- C. Minutes from December 1, 2014 Study Session