

SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM: PERIODIC REVIEW PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

Introduction

The Town of Bucoda is undertaking a Periodic Review of its Shoreline Master Program (SMP), as required by the Washington State Shoreline Management Act (SMA), RCW 90.58.080(4). The SMA requires each SMP be reviewed and revised, if needed, on an eight-year schedule established by the Legislature. The review ensures the SMP stays current with changes in laws and rules, remains consistent with other Town plans and regulations, and is responsive to changed circumstances, new information and improved data.

A Public Participation Plan is required to describe how the Town will encourage early and continuous public participation throughout the process of reviewing the SMP.

This Public Participation Plan describes the steps that the Town will take to provide opportunities for public engagement and public comment, as well Town contact information and web addresses. This plan is a working document and will be adjusted as needed to provide for the greatest and broadest public participation.

Public Participation Goals

- Provide interested parties with timely information, an understanding of the process, and multiple opportunities to review and comment on proposed amendments to the SMP.
- Actively solicit information from citizens, property owners and stakeholders about their concerns, questions and priorities for the Periodic Review process.
- Encourage interested parties to informally review and comment on proposed changes to the SMP throughout the process and provide comments to decision makers.
- Provide forums for formal public input at project milestones prior to decision-making by local officials.
- Consult and consider recommendations from neighboring jurisdictions, federal and state agencies, and Native American tribes.

Public Participation Opportunities

The Town is committed to providing multiple opportunities for public participation throughout the process. The Town will use a variety of communication tools to inform the public and encourage their participation, including the following:

Town Staff

At any time during the Periodic Review process, the Planning Commission can be reached with any comments or questions via the following methods:

Phone: (360) 278-3525

Email: bucoda@scattercreek.com

Mail: PO Box 10
Bucoda, WA 98530

Website

The Town's website includes a Shoreline Master Program webpage where project information such as status updates, draft documents, and official notices can be accessed. The webpage will be the primary repository of all information related to the Periodic Review process. The webpage for the Periodic Review can be found at:

<https://www.bucoda.us/projects.html>

Town Hall

In addition to the website, all documents under consideration will be available for review at Town Hall. Due to COVID-19, please contact Town staff (see "Town Staff" above for contact information) prior to visiting to confirm when Town Hall is open to the public.

Email Notifications

An email list of interested parties will be maintained by the Town. The list will be used to notify interested parties regarding SMP Periodic Review progress and participation opportunities. Interested parties can be added to the list by contacting Town Staff.

Comment

Comments to the Town by letter or email are encouraged (see "Town Staff" above for contact information). All comments during the joint public comment period will be provided to the Town Council during their next public meeting. Comments during the joint comment period and joint public hearing will also be provided to Washington State Department of Ecology.

Public Comment Periods & Hearings

The Planning Commission will hold at least one public hearing to solicit input on the Periodic Review. The public hearing will be held during the 30-day public comment period.

The Town will coordinate with the Department of Ecology on public notification of comment periods and hearings to take advantage of Ecology's optional SMP amendment process that allows for a combined state-local comment period (WAC 173-26-104).

Public notice of all hearings will state who is holding the comment period and/or hearing, the date and time, and the location of any public hearing. Notices will be published per official policy and comply with all other legal requirements such as the Americans with Disabilities Act. A notice will be sent to the email list (see “Email Notifications” above) and the Department of Ecology.

Stakeholders

The Town will engage the following stakeholders:

- Department of Ecology
- Thurston Regional Planning Council
- Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Department of Natural Resources
- Washington Department of Commerce
- Nisqually Tribe
- Chehalis Confederated Tribes
- Town at large
- Shoreline property owners

Public Participation Timeline

The following is a general timeline, including anticipated public participation opportunities. The timeline may be modified as the project progresses. Specific dates will be publicized via the website, email notifications, official notices, and the news media.

Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town staff may be contacted with project-related questions or concerns • Project information and Public Participation Plan is available on project webpage
June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place notice of joint public comment period, joint public hearing in Tenino Independent • Town Council introductory meeting (June 8th)
June – July 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Periodic Checklist and SMP amendments available on website • Planning Commission/Town Council review begins • Ecology/Town Joint Public comment period (June 17 – July 17) • Ecology/Town Joint Public Hearing (July 13, Town Council meeting)
Summer 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond to public comment (if necessary) • Submittal to Ecology for their Initial Determination • Respond to Ecology comments (if necessary) • Town Council adoption