

City of Moses Lake Shoreline Master Program

Chapter 2 Public Participation Process

Citizen Advisory Committee

In 1998, the City formed a Citizen Advisory Committee of volunteers to review draft language for the Shoreline Master Program (SMP) update. The draft language was based on a model SMP developed by the Department of Ecology. The Committee met monthly starting in 1998 through 2001, when it was determined that a shoreline inventory was needed before any more work could be done on the SMP update. Minutes of the Committee meetings and the draft language discussed by the Committee formed a basis for the goals, policies, and regulations in this draft SMP.

Open Houses, Planning Commission, and City Council Involvement

Date	Action
Sept 2004	Open House to introduce the project, present inventory and analysis work done so far, and discuss draft goals and policies
Nov/Dec 2004	The Planning Commission held five study sessions to review draft policies that had been written as part of the SMP update.
June 2005	The Planning Commission held a study session to learn about the consultants' work on the inventory and analysis.
Nov/Dec 2005	The Planning Commission held two study sessions to discuss the shoreline environment designations.
Jan 2006	Open House to present inventory and analysis, draft environment designations, and draft goals, policies, and regulations; and gather public input. Sedimentation issue raised by Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District was a major area of discussion.
Feb 2006	Open House as a follow-up to January Open House, to present remaining regulatory chapters of the draft SMP (uses and modifications) and further discuss sedimentation.
Mar/Apr 2006	The Planning Commission held six study sessions to review the regulations that had been drafted in support of the policies previously reviewed.
June 2006	Staff issued a "Response to Comments" document addressing all of the comments made at the open houses and study sessions, and those submitted in writing.
July 2008	The Planning Commission held on-site study sessions, visiting several shoreline sites with Department of Ecology and Department of Fish & Wildlife staff to discuss the effects the updated SMP would have once adopted.
Feb 2010	City staff and Department of Ecology staff presented an overview of the SMP update process to the City Council at Council Retreat.
Jan 2011	Department of Ecology staff had a study session with the Planning Commission to discuss some of the remaining issues for the SMP draft.
Mar 2012 to Dec 2013	Planning Commission intensively reviewed the draft at monthly study sessions (23 total).
Oct 2013	Open House on the SMP draft and the Cumulative Impacts Analysis (CIA) with the CIA consultant. Notice was mailed to every shoreline property owner in the City and UGA. Approximately 150 attended.
Jan 29, 2014	Open House.
Feb 27, 2014	Planning Commission Public Hearing on draft SMP.
Mar 27, 2014	Planning Commission recommended draft SMP to City Council.
Apr 28, 2014	Issued Determination of Non-Significance.
Apr 29, 2014	Opened 60-day public comment period and notified Department of Commerce of intent to adopt updated SMP. Per the official process, Commerce is to notify other agencies. The only comments received were from Department of Ecology and Department of Fish and Wildlife. These comments were addressed in the Response to Comments approved by the City Council August 26, 2014.
May 13, 2014	City Council opened a public hearing on the Planning Commission's recommended draft SMP. To be consistent with the 60-day notice period, the Council continued the hearing to the next three meetings, providing four opportunities for the public to speak in a public

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Date	Action
	hearing format (May 13, May 27, June 10, and June 24). No one spoke at any of the hearings.
Sept 23, 2014	First reading of the ordinance adopting the updated SMP and repealing the 1974 SMP.
Oct 14, 2014	Second reading of the ordinance adopting the updated SMP and repealing the 1974 SMP.

Public Information and Outreach

The 2006 open houses were advertised in the Columbia Basin Herald newspaper, and notices were mailed to the mailing list that has been developed for the SMP update. The 2013 and 2014 open houses were advertised on the City's website and Facebook page, flyers were posted, and notices were mailed and emailed to those on the mailing lists. Notice of the October 2013 open house was mailed to every shoreline property owner in the City and UGA.

Public hearing notification included legal notices in the Columbia Basin Herald newspaper, City website and Facebook announcements, and notices emailed to the mailing list.

A Shoreline Information page on the City's website was created in 2006 to provide another method of disseminating SMP update information. The page has included draft SMP chapters, minutes of study sessions, open house announcements, response to public comments on the 2006 SMP draft, shoreline inventory information, notice that the inventory map portfolio is available for viewing at City Hall and as a DVD, contact information for the SMP update and shoreline permits, and a link to Ecology's Shoreline Management page. The page was updated as new information became available.

In 2012, the City launched a much-improved website, with much greater ability to add and customize pages. Staff has used this website to create multiple shoreline pages to keep the SMP update information current, as well as providing links to hot topics like shoreline stabilization and vegetation. The SMP update pages include documents such as current drafts, study session minutes, the inventory and analysis, cumulative impacts assessment, comments received, maps, FAQs, etc. Short news items have been posted on the home page, with links to the SMP update pages. Through the website, the public can sign up for email notifications on topics that interest them, including the SMP update.

Staff gave copies of a DVD with the Shoreline Inventory information to interested parties, in Arc GIS format for those with the software to use it, and with a simplified reader program (ArcReader) for those without. Staff also used a computer at the front counter to show the inventory information to interested parties who lacked the computer hardware to be able to view the DVD.

Agencies Contacted

Washington State Department of Ecology
Washington State Department Fish and Wildlife
Washington State Department Natural Resources
Washington State Department Archaeology and Historic Preservation
Washington State Department Transportation
Washington State Department Commerce, Growth Management Division of
United States Army Corps of Engineers
United States Bureau of Reclamation
East Columbia Basin Irrigation District
Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District
Colville Confederated Tribes