

Ridgefield 2020 Shoreline Master Program:

Periodic Review Public Participation Plan

Introduction

The City of Ridgefield has begun the periodic review of its Shoreline Master Program (SMP), to meet the requirements of the Washington State Shoreline Management Act (SMA, RCW.90.58) and WAC 173-26. The City of Ridgefield has received a Department of Ecology grant for this effort. The SMP generally affects lands within 200 feet of shorelines.

The primary policy objectives of the SMP intend to:

- Encourage water oriented uses;
- Protect the shoreline ecology and natural resources; and
- Promote public access.

Public use and enjoyment of the shoreline is a principal factor in developing the SMP update, therefore it is essential that local communities have opportunities to participate in the process. This Public Participation Plan identifies goals and procedures for meaningful participation from these communities.

1.0 Public Participation Goals

- 1.1 Inform the citizens within City of Ridgefield about local shoreline conditions
- 1.2 Invite and encourage participation by all interested parties
- 1.3 Encourage public participation throughout SMP update process
- 1.4 Encourage coordinated and effective public involvement

2.0 Public Participation Opportunities

- 2.1 Website
 - a. The project website can be found at <https://ridgefieldwa.us/government/city-planning/development-updates/shoreline-master-program/> which provides links to the latest project updates, allowing citizens to access draft documents and maps, view the schedule, check for meeting notices and materials, obtain contact information and submit comments. The webpage and calendar will be updated as new information and documents become available.
- 2.2 Public Notice
 - a. Notices of open houses and public hearings will be located on the project website, and published in the local newspaper. A mailing list of interested parties will be maintained and updated to keep the public informed throughout the update process. Notices will be sent to the parties on the mailing list.

- 2.3 News Media
 - a. Media releases will be issued at key points during the SMP process in order to keep the public informed of event and progress
- 2.4 Open House
 - a. The City of Ridgefield will organize an open house to solicit public feedback on Ridgefield's Periodic Review.
 - i. An online open house option will be available for those who are unable to attend the open house.
 - b. The City of Ridgefield will organize a second open house for the public to review the draft with proposed revisions.
- 2.5 Comments
 - a. Means for submitting comments will allow interested parties to choose their preferred method of providing input. Methods include comment forms (written and online), public hearing testimony, mailing address, and email address. The project staff will respond to the comments received and will respond either in aggregate or individually.
- 2.6 Meetings with Interest Groups
 - a. Project staff will be available to meet with interest groups to discuss the project
- 2.7 Public Comment Periods and Hearings
 - a. The review and adoption processes conducted by the City will provide community forums for formal comments that will be entered into the public record.
 - b. The public comment period will remain open until City Council's consideration of the SMP update at their public hearing, which is tentatively planned for July 2020.

3.0 List of Stakeholders

- Clark County Officials
- Port of Ridgefield officials
- State Government Agencies
- Cowlitz Tribe
- Yakama Tribe
- Chinook Tribe
- NW Natural
- WA Department of Fish and Wildlife
- WA Department of Commerce
- WA Department of Natural Resources
- Clark County Fire and Rescue

- WA Department of Ecology
- Ridgefield School District
- WA Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
- Clark Regional Wastewater District
- Southwest Clean Air Agency
- Corp of Engineers
- Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board
- Citizens of Ridgefield

4.0 Project Timeline