February 6, 2015

The Honorable Bruce Bassett
City of Mercer Island
9611 Southeast 36th Street
Mercer Island, WA 98040

Re: City of Mercer Island Comprehensive Shoreline Master Program Update – Conditional Approval, Resolution No. 1440

Dear Mayor Bassett:

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the City of Mercer Island (City) for its efforts in developing the proposed comprehensive Shoreline Master Program (SMP) update. It is obvious that a significant effort was invested in this update. The SMP will provide a framework to guide future development along the City’s shorelines.

As we have already discussed with your staff, the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) identified specific changes necessary to make the proposal approvable. These changes are detailed in Attachment B. Recommended changes are proposed in Attachment C. The findings and conclusions that support Ecology’s decision are contained in Attachment A.

Pursuant to RCW 90.58.090 (2)(e), at this point, the City may:

- Agree to the proposed changes (required and/or recommended changes), or
- Submit an alternative proposal. Ecology will then review the alternative(s) submitted for consistency with the purpose and intent of the changes originally developed by Ecology and with the Shoreline Management Act.

Final Ecology approval will occur when the City and Ecology agree on language that meets statutory and Guideline requirements.
Please provide your written response within 30 days to the Director’s Office at the following address:

WA State Department of Ecology
Attention: Director’s Office
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-6700

Ecology appreciates the dedicated work of City Staff, the Planning Commission, City Council, and the community on the Shoreline Master Program update.

We look forward to concluding the SMP update process in the near future. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the changes identified by Ecology, please contact our Northwest Regions Senior Shoreline Planner, Joe Burcar, at Joe.Burcar@ecy.wa.gov or (425) 649-7145.

Sincerely,

Maia D. Bellon
Director

Enclosures (3)

By Certified Mail [7012 1010 0003 3028 3782]

cc: Scott Greenberg, City of Mercer Island
    Joe Burcar, Ecology
    Erik Stockdale, Ecology