January 4, 2013

The Honorable Vern Little
City of Lake Stevens
1812 Main Street
Lake Stevens, WA 98258-0257

RE: City of Lake Stevens Comprehensive Shoreline Master Program Update - Conditional Approval, Ordinance No. 856

Dear Mayor Little:

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the city of Lake Stevens (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 by your staff and engaged community of stakeholders. The SMP will provide a framework to guide development and restoration in the City’s shoreline along Little Pilchuck Creek, Catherine Creek and Lake Stevens. The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) applauds the City’s “pre-designation” of anticipated future annexation areas. This improves predictability for all concerned regarding future incorporation of these areas.

As we have already discussed with your staff, Ecology has identified specific changes necessary to make the proposal approvable. These changes are detailed in Attachment B. Suggested changes are also included in Attachment C. Ecology’s findings and conclusions related to the City’s proposed SMP update are contained in Attachment A.

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

- Agree to the proposed 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 submitted 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 Guidelines 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
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Ecology appreciates the dedicated work that you, the city council, Planning & Community Department staff, and the planning commission have put into the Shoreline Master Program update.

Thank you again for your efforts. 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 Regional Planner, Joe Burcar, at Joe.Burcar@ecy.wa.gov or (425) 649-7145.

Sincerely,

Ted Sturdevant  
Director

Enclosures (3)

By Certified Mail [7012 1010 0003 3028 2600]

cc: Rebecca Ableman, City of Lake Stevens  
Karen Watkins, City of Lake Stevens  
Joe Burcar, Ecology  
Peter Skowlund, Ecology  
Geoff Tallent, Ecology