September 18, 2012

The Honorable Debra Perry, Mayor
City of Milton
1000 Laurel St
Milton, WA 98354

RE: City of Milton Comprehensive Shoreline Master Program Update – Conditional Approval, Ordinance Number 1789-12

Dear Mayor Perry:

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the city of Milton (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, the planning commission, and the community. The SMP will provide a framework to guide development and habitat restoration in the City’s shoreline along Hylebos Creek and Surprise Lake.

As we have already discussed with your staff, the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has identified specific changes necessary to make the proposal approvable. The required changes are detailed in Attachment B. Also, there are several recommended changes found 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 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 that you, the city council, Community Development Department staff (Chris Larson), and the planning commission has put into the SMP 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, Sarah Lukas, at sarah.lukas@ecy.wa.gov or (360) 407-7459.

Sincerely,

Ted Sturdevant
Director

Enclosures (3)

By Certified Mail [7009 0820 0001 9056 1325]

cc: Chris Larson, City of Milton
    Paula Ehlers, Ecology
    Sarah Lukas, Ecology
    Peter Skowlænd, Ecology