SUMNER SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM UPDATE
Public Participation Plan
Grant Agreement No. G1000024, Task 1.2

Prepared for: November 2009
City of Sumner
INTRODUCTION

The City of Sumner is conducting a comprehensive update to its Shoreline Master Program (SMP), consistent with the state Shoreline Management Act (SMA; RCW 90.58) and its implementing guidelines, WAC 173-26. Sumner’s updated SMP will be both a planning document that will set policy, and a regulatory tool establishing development standards for the City’s shoreline areas, including adjacent upland areas within 200 feet of designated shorelines. The primary policy objectives of the SMA are to: encourage water-dependent and water-oriented uses; protect the shoreline ecology and natural resources; and promote public access. Since public use and enjoyment of the shorelines is a principal factor in developing the SMP update, it is the City’s desire to have ample opportunities for the public to participate in the process. This Public Participation Plan identifies goals and strategies to ensure such participation occurs.

GOALS OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

The SMA and SMP guidelines (RCW 90.58.130 and WAC 173-26-090 and 100) require that local governments inform the people of the state about the planning process and invite and encourage participation by all who have any interest or responsibility related to shorelines. The goal of the Public Participation Plan is to provide a guide to proactively encourage public participation throughout the SMP update process. The City of Sumner is committed to encouraging coordinated and effective public involvement.

OVERVIEW OF THE CITY AND SHORELINES

The City of Sumner is centrally located in Puget Sound, 12 miles east of Tacoma and 34 miles south of Seattle. The City encompasses an area of approximately 7.5 square miles. The City’s population is approximately 9,085. The SMP update will also cover the city’s urban growth area (UGA) which is approximately 1.3 square miles. However, the SMP will not be effective in the UGA until areas become annexed into the city. The SMP update will also
cover a portion of the joint planning area along the north bank of the Puyallup River in unincorporated Pierce County. The area is bordered by the city limits and the Orting Highway (SR 162) on the west; city limits and SR 410 on the north; and extending east and south along the Puyallup River to the boundaries of Pierce County’s Riverside County Park. This area is considered an area of special interest which may be considered for inclusion in the City’s UGA sometime during the SMP update.

Sumner encompasses 6.8 miles along the White (Stuck) River and Puyallup River shorelines in its city limits and UGA. A small portion of Lake Tapps is located in the City’s easternmost limits of the UGA. The shorelines along these water bodies are where community members live, work, and play and therefore are of great value to the residents of Sumner.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The City of Sumner is responsible for all aspects of the SMP update. The City will lead the update process and be the primary administrator of the program. However, this update is funded by a state grant from Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) which will act in a support and review capacity. Ultimately, Ecology must approve new or amended shoreline master programs. Following local adoption of the City’s updated SMP, Ecology will conduct its own public review as part of its formal approval process.

KEY PARTIES

Local governments must consult with interested parties throughout the process of developing a SMP. To date, the City of Sumner has identified the following interested parties, technical resources, or other stakeholders that may participate in the SMP update process:

Primary contacts for Sumner’s SMP update are:

**Eric Mendenhall, Associate Planner**
Phone: 253.299.5526; Fax: 253.299.5539
Email: ericm@ci.sumner.wa.us

**Ryan Windish, Planning Manager**
Phone: 253.299.5524; Fax: 253.299.5539
Email: ryanw@ci.sumner.wa.us

**Address**
Community Development Department
1104 Maple Street, Suite 250
Sumner, WA 98390
### Members of the Public
- Residents city-wide
- Property/business owners in the shoreline jurisdiction

### Business Community
- Chamber of Commerce
- Sumner Downtown Association

### Environmental Stakeholders
- Friends of the Lower White River
- Audubon Society
- Puyallup River Watershed Council
- Trout Unlimited

### Tribes
- Puyallup Tribe of Indians
- Muckleshoot Indian Tribe

### Other
- Puget Sound Energy
- Cascade Water Alliance

### City Officials
- Sumner City Council
- Sumner Planning Commission

### City Departments
- Public Works
- Wastewater Treatment Facility
- Parks and Recreation
- Sumner Meadows Golf Links

### Other Local Government
- Pierce County
- City of Bonney Lake
- City of Pacific
- City of Puyallup
- City of Auburn

### State Government
- Dept. of Ecology
- Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
- Dept. of Natural Resources
- Dept. of Community, Trade and Economic Development
- Dept. of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

### Federal Government
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service

These parties will be informed and invited to participate throughout the process. Notification to these stakeholders may be accomplished via email or other means as the SMP update process proceeds.
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION STRATEGY

Technical Advisory Review

The City will seek technical review at key points in the SMP process from technical representatives of affected Tribes and other agencies such as Ecology, Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Pierce County. The City hopes to utilize the same individuals that are currently participating in the Pierce County SMP Update. These representatives would be asked to provide comments and suggestions on technical work products such as the Inventory and Characterization and the Shoreline Restoration Plan. The City does not plan to convene regular meetings with a committee. The reviewers are anticipated to provide review and input through mail, email, and telephone.

The City will request the following agencies and tribes to participate in technical review:

- Washington State Department of Ecology
- Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Aquatic Lands
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Puyallup Tribe of Indians
- Muckleshoot Indian Tribe

Public Workshops

The City plans to hold several workshops to garner feedback from the community on specific policy issues such as flood management, public access, and restoration opportunities. After a brief presentation, community members will break into groups to discuss a particular issue and how the SMP should address it. Project staff and City personnel will be on-hand to lead each group in a discussion. The purpose of these workshops would be to receive policy direction from the general public on particularly challenging issues facing Sumner’s shorelines.
Meetings with Planning Commission and City Council

The City envisions holding a series of meetings with the Planning Commission and City Council during the SMP update process, culminating in local approval of the SMP. Early in the process, the City will hold a joint work session with the Planning Commission and City Council to introduce the overall process and context for the update; discuss some of the technical findings of the inventory work; and highlight key policy issues that will be considered.

The Planning Commission will function as an advisory body, representing the interests of the citizenry. A series of work sessions, Planning Commission meetings, and one public hearing will be held during the local approval process.

Following Planning Commission recommendation on the updated SMP, the City Council will review and hold one public hearing prior to taking action on the proposed SMP amendment.

Regularly scheduled Planning Commission and City Council meetings are open to the public and advertised.

Public Outreach Program

In addition to the stakeholder committee forum, the City will also set up a public outreach program to ensure that the broader population is also informed and has opportunity to participate. Some key elements of this program include:

- **Website:** Adding a page to the City’s current website where community members can access draft documents and maps, view the schedule, check for meeting notices, obtain contact information and submit comments. This will create one central location where the latest information can be obtained. The City calendar could also contain key dates in the development of the SMP.

- **Videos:** Posting videos on the Sumner website of SMP presentations at public hearings, workshops and open houses will allow community members who were unable to attend the meetings to stay informed throughout the update process.
• **Open houses:** Hosting at least one open house at a convenient location will allow for the broad dissemination of information (i.e. maps, proposals, etc.) and opportunity for comment. In addition, project staff and City personnel will be on-hand to periodically make brief presentations, answer questions from community members and address any concerns.

• **Information Booths:** Staffing an informational booth at Sumner Summer Days would allow festival goers to review SMP materials, ask questions, and fill out comment forms. This provides people who do not regularly attend City meetings an opportunity to learn about the SMP update and provide feedback.

• **Mailing list and Newsletters:** Maintaining a list of interested parties would provide the City with another avenue to keep the public informed throughout the update process. Notices of comment periods, public hearings, open houses, or workshops could be sent to parties on the mailing list. The City can also use the mailing lists associated with the Sumner E-Newsletters (Community Connections, Industry Connections, and Flood Protection Updates newsletters) to disseminate information.

• **Comments:** Establishing multiple means for submitting comments will allow for interested people to choose their preferred way to provide input. Methods can include web-based surveys, on-line comment forms, written comment forms at the open house and workshops meetings, public hearing testimony, and a direct email address for comments.

• **Public notices and meetings:** Notice of the open house, workshops, and public hearings will be placed on the City’s website, posted at City Hall, the local library, and published in at least one local newspaper (i.e. The News Tribune).
### SCHEDULE

**City of Sumner’s Public Participation Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 2010</td>
<td>Establish SMP website</td>
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<tr>
<td>April / May 2010</td>
<td>Open House</td>
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<tr>
<td>June – August 2010</td>
<td>Staff information booths at Sumner Summer Days</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 2010</td>
<td>Combined City Council and Planning Commission meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 2010</td>
<td>Workshop (1st)</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 2010</td>
<td>Planning Commission meeting (1st)</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 2010</td>
<td>Workshop (2nd)</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2010</td>
<td>Planning Commission meeting (2nd)</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 2011</td>
<td>Planning Commission meeting (3rd)</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 2011</td>
<td>Draft SMP submitted to Ecology for review</td>
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<tr>
<td>May / June 2011</td>
<td>Planning Commission meeting on Ecology revised SMP -</td>
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<td>Recommendation to City Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 2011</td>
<td>GMA 60-day review to CTED and Ecology</td>
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<td>November 2011</td>
<td>Local SEPA review and approval</td>
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<td>November 2011</td>
<td>City Council ordinance – first reading</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2011</td>
<td>City Council ordinance – second reading</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 2012</td>
<td>SMP Submittal to Ecology</td>
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