April 3, 2015

The Honorable Denise McCluskey
City of University Place
3715 Bridgeport Way West
University Place, WA 98466

Re: Final Ecology Approval of City of University Place Shoreline Master Program Comprehensive Update

Dear Mayor McCluskey:

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) is pleased to announce final approval of the City of University Place’s (City) Shoreline Master Program (SMP) update. Congratulations to you, your staff, and the community for completing this comprehensive update. We know this has been a long and challenging process. We appreciate your commitment to planning for Washington’s unique and valuable shorelines.

As you know, the following correspondence regarding the SMP update took place between Ecology and the City:

- March 26, 2014 – Ecology accepted the City’s locally adopted SMP update as complete for purposes of review (adopted as Resolution No. 736).
- January 7, 2015 – Ecology conditionally approved the City’s comprehensive SMP update with specific required and recommended changes.
- March 20, 2015 – The City sent a letter to Ecology agreeing to all of Ecology’s required and recommended changes, and proposing alternative language in the form of one addition to the locally adopted SMP: revising the definition of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas consistent with statutory changes in 2012.

Upon review, Ecology finds the City’s proposed alternative language to be consistent with the purpose and intent of the changes required by Ecology and with the policy of RCW 90.58.020 and applicable rules. Ecology therefore approves the City’s comprehensive SMP update, which includes the agreed to required and recommended changes and the City’s proposed additional language. This action represents Ecology’s final decision and there shall be no further modifications to the City’s proposal.
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The effective date of the City's comprehensive SMP update is fourteen days from the date of this letter, Ecology's final approval letter. This fourteen day period was established by legislative action in 2011 and is intended to provide lead time for the City to prepare to implement the new SMP.

Ecology is required to promptly publish notice that the City’s SMP has received final approval. The notice, in the form of a legal ad, will begin a 60-day appeal period. We will provide a copy of the legal ad to the City for its records.

Finally, please integrate the changes referenced in this correspondence into the City’s SMP proposal and forward two clean hard copies and one digital copy of the complete approved SMP to Ecology, at your earliest convenience.

Thank you again for your significant work and leadership in completing this SMP update. If you have any questions, please contact our regional planner, Chrissy Bailey, at Chrissy.Bailey@ecy.wa.gov or (360) 407-0290.

Sincerely,

Maia D. Bellon
Director

Enclosure

By Certified Mail [7012 1010 0003 3028 3911]

cc: Jeff Boers, City of University Place
    Chrissy Bailey, Ecology
    Paula Ehlers, Ecology