



# City of Pasco Shoreline Master Program Update

## Visioning Workshop Summary

*Prepared By Anchor QEA, July 2014*

### Introduction

The City of Pasco is preparing an updated Shoreline Master Program (SMP). To help identify the community vision for the local shoreline and engage the public in the SMP update process, the City planned and conducted a visioning workshop at City Hall on June 19, 2014.

The purpose of a visioning workshop, as described in the Washington State Department of Ecology's (Ecology's) SMP Handbook, is to meet the following goals:

- Gain an understanding of the common shoreline interests held by participants
- Give the public an opportunity to review and understand the framework for the SMP update
- Identify community goals and aspirations for local shorelines within this framework
- Help to develop shoreline environment designation criteria, policies, uses, and regulations

### Visioning Workshop Structure

The meeting included a presentation providing an overview of the SMP update process required under the Shoreline Management Act and state guidelines. The presentation also included information from the SMP update's Inventory, Analysis, and Characterization (IAC) Report, which summarizes City shoreline conditions. During the meeting, public comments were received and recorded. To help solicit feedback, a set of visioning questions were discussed, which covered the following topics:

- Water-dependent and other shoreline uses
- Ecological functions
- Future development potential
- Economic development opportunities
- Public access
- Sensitive areas

A Frequently Asked Questions brochure was also provided, and attendees were encouraged to provide additional feedback through the online comment form available from the City's SMP update website (<http://www.pasco-wa.gov/index.aspx?NID=858>).

The website is intended to facilitate continued communication and public involvement by providing an opportunity for interested parties to access additional information, including meeting announcements, status updates, and SMP update materials.

## Outreach and Attendance

The June 19 workshop was attended by 11 individuals, including City and consultant staff and a City Planning Commissioner. The following outreach measures were conducted to notify the public of the upcoming events:

- **Newspaper** – A public notice was posted in the Tri-City Herald in advance of the workshop.
- **Email** – An email announcement was distributed to stakeholders on April 9, 2014, including: members of the public and business community; environmental stakeholders; tribes; and local, City, state, and federal agencies.
- **Postcards** – A letter was mailed to all landowners with property within the shoreline jurisdiction on April 30, 2014.
- **Website** – An announcement of the upcoming events was posted to the City’s SMP update website. The event was also posted on the City’s main event calendar.

## Summary of Public Comments

Public comment received during the visioning workshop is summarized below.

### *Public Access Improvements*

- Riparian vegetation (both native and non-native) is blocking access and views at Wade Park and around Schlagel Park and the marina.
- Manage or upgrade the jetties that protect the Pasco Boat Basin marina and Schlagel Park to provide for improved public access.
- Provide for a trail underneath the railroad bridge that allows bicycle and pedestrian traffic. (Note: One resident pointed out that there has been access under this bridge for the past 100 years).
- Limited public access exists at Wade Park, the northern part of Chiawana Park and at Road 72 along the bike path.
- At a May 2014 Franklin County visioning workshop, a member of the public identified that a beach at Chiawana Park would be a nice public access improvement.

### *Economic Development*

- Largely unconstrained development should be allowed in shoreline lands located landward of existing levees.
- Existing developed areas where redevelopment or additions might occur over time should be unconstrained as long as they remain within disturbed areas with limited ecological function.
- The best areas for additional economic development along the shorelines include the following:
  - Port of Pasco marine terminal
  - Other Port of Pasco properties consistent with the Port’s terminal plan

### *Protection and Restoration Opportunities*

- Protect the wetland area upstream of the I-182 bridge and also the islands in the Columbia River.
- Manage or upgrade the jetties that protect the Pasco Boat Basin marina and Schlagel Park in a way that provides improved ecological function on the shoreline and for in-water habitat.

- Manage invasive vegetation and replant with native vegetation along non-leveed areas of the shoreline and in-water (e.g., milfoil). Geese and terns can also be a problem.
- Tumbleweeds are stacking up in slack water areas along the river. For example, this is occurring at the boat launch at Wade Park, just downstream of the railroad bridge, and just downstream of Osprey Point.

### *Other Input*

- Break up Inventory, Analysis and Characterization report files on the website.
- Provide for consistency between the County and City of Pasco SMPs (from the Franklin County May 2014 visioning workshops).

### **Next Steps**

The public feedback provided during the visioning workshop provides valuable information for the next step of the SMP planning process, which is to draft goals and policies for shoreline development.

Based on the local conditions identified in the IAC Report and the public feedback provided through the visioning workshops, the City will develop draft goals and policies and environment designations for the shoreline jurisdiction. These steps will begin with the development of an SMP document outline and regulation requirements summary.

Additional opportunities for public input will be provided throughout this next phase of planning via public meetings, information posted on the website, and other communications.