

Notice of Joint Local-State Public Comment Period, SEPA Environmental Review, and Public Hearing: City of Pasco Shoreline Master Program - 2023 Periodic Review

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Pasco Shoreline Master Program and Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) are seeking comments on the City's Shoreline Master Program (SMP) periodic review and proposed SMP Amendments. The joint 30-day local/state public comment period will run from March 26, 2023, through April 25, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

Authority for the periodic review is based on Washington's Shoreline Management Act (Ch. 90.58 RCW) and related rules. These amendments were led by the City of Pasco with designated shorelines of the state. This periodic update is in order to comply with WAC 173-26-090, which requires all local governments to review their SMPs on an eight-year schedule set in state law and revise it if necessary. The review ensures the SMP keeps up with changes in state law, changes in other County and City plans and regulations, and other changed circumstances. The City has elected to use the optional joint review process to combine the local and Ecology comment periods, as allowed under WAC 173-26-104. No additional comment period will occur during the state review process. Comments provided to the City will be reviewed by both the City and Ecology. There is no need to send comments directly to Ecology.

The proposed amendments include updated sections to reflect changes in state law and administrative code provisions to:

- Fish passage projects – 29.01.770
- Adjust cost threshold for building freshwater docks – 29.01.770
- Adjust cost threshold for substantial development – 29.01.770
- Clarification of the definition of “development” – 29.01.080 (30)
- Rules clarifying exceptions to local review under the SMA – 29.01.020
- Amend rules clarifying permit filing procedures – 29.01.790
- Clarification that the SMA does not apply to lands under exclusive federal jurisdiction – 29.01.020
- Add nonconforming lot section – 29.01.630
- Add definitions of nonconforming development, structure and lot – 29.01.080
- Create a new shoreline permit exemption to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act – 29.01.770
- Adopt a 90-day target for local review of WSDOT projects – 29.01.020

Comments may be submitted to Associate Planner Jeff Adams at adamsj@pasco-wa.gov, City of Pasco, 525 N. 3rd Avenue, Pasco WA 99301. Comments may also be provided at the public hearing noted below.

At the conclusion of the comment period, the City will prepare a response to comments and determine whether changes are needed. Public comments and responses will be shared with Ecology. After local adoption, the SMP amendment will be formally submitted to Ecology for final action per WAC 173-26-104 and WAC 173-26-110. Ecology will review amendments for consistency with state laws and rules. Ecology may either approve the program as adopted or may recommend changes.

Environmental Documents: This proposed amendment is considered a non-project action and an Environmental Checklist has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the State Environmental Policy Act. The lead agency for this notice, City of Pasco Community and Economic Development, intends to issue a SEPA DNS under WAC 197-11-340(2). The SEPA notification will

be published and circulated separately and will also be available at the City SMP Periodic Update webpage.

Documents related to this proposal are available for review at: <https://www.pasco-wa.gov/858/Shoreline-Management-Program>

A Public Hearing is to be held by the City of Pasco Planning Commission on April 20 2023, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting location is at the Council Chambers, City Hall, Pasco, Washington. There is also a remote participation link listed below:

Remote Participation Link to Join Meeting:

□ www.pasco-wa.gov/publiccomment

DATED THIS 24th DAY OF February 2023 – CITY OF PASCO COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BY: Jeff Adams, Associate Planner

For email distribution on 24 February 2023