

# Thurston County Board Briefing

<b><u>Briefing Date/Time:</u></b>	Wednesday, May 24, 2023 / 9:00-10:00 AM
<b><u>Office/Department &amp; Staff Contact:</u></b>	<p>Andrew Deffobis, Senior Planner, ext. 5467</p> <p>Jeremy Davis, Operations Manager, ext. 2103</p> <p>Joshua Cummings, CPED Director, ext. 4995</p>
<b><u>Topic:</u></b>	<b>Public Hearing Follow-Up: Development Code Docket Item A-6 – Shoreline Master Program Update</b>
<b><u>Purpose:</u></b> (check all that apply)	<div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information only         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Decision needed         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Follow up from previous briefing         </div> <div>           Optimal Time Frame for Decision is:            (dd/mm/yyyy)         </div>
<b><u>Synopsis/Request/Recommendation:</u></b>	
<p>During this work session, the Board will discuss public comments submitted for the Shoreline Master Program public hearing.</p>	
<b><u>Background</u></b>	
<p>On May 16, 2023, the Board held a public hearing on the Shoreline Master Program (SMP). The County is required to update its SMP according to the Shoreline Management Act. The SMP regulates development and redevelopment along many shorelines in Thurston County, including Puget Sound, large lakes and rivers, and associated critical areas.</p> <p>The public hearing had both in-person and virtual components. Fifty-seven people signed up on the physical sign-in sheets, and 28 people testified in person. Thirty-three people registered to attend by Zoom, and approximately 20 attended. Six people testified via Zoom.</p> <p>Seventy-nine written public comments were received prior to the close of the written public comment period, including 53 comments submitted since the Board briefings on the SMP update began in February 2023. All written public comments received during this public comment period were provided to the Board and posted online at <a href="http://www.thurstonsmp.org">www.thurstonsmp.org</a>. A comment matrix is also posted on that site.</p> <p>Written and verbal comments covered a wide range of topics. Topics and themes discussed by the public included, but were not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed shoreline buffer widths</li> <li>How legally nonconforming structures and uses are referenced in the draft</li> <li>Requests to re-examine or amend proposed shoreline environment designations for various shoreline reaches</li> </ul>	

- Discussion of the Planning Commission SMP recommendation and minority report
- How the draft SMP addresses and tracks impacts to the shoreline and ‘no net loss’ over time
- Questions about environmental review conducted during the SMP update process
- Calls to incorporate projected sea level rise into the draft SMP’s provisions
- Concerns regarding the potential effects of future flooding
- Specific proposed development standards for shoreline modifications and uses, including docks, bulkheads, aquaculture, and residential development
- Other comments about specific sections of the draft SMP

#### **Documents Attached:**

- None

#### **Summary & Financial Impact:**

The Board held a public hearing to accept public testimony on the SMP on May 16, 2023. During the hearing, more than thirty people provided testimony, covering a variety of topics. The Board will explore public comment in this and future work sessions as they continue to review the SMP update.

#### **Affected Parties:**

County residents, CPED, Public Works

#### **Options with Pros & Cons:**

This briefing is informational only. The Board will explore options relating to the SMP draft during future work sessions.

#### **Board Direction:**

TBD

#### **Next Steps/Timeframe:**

Staff will prepare additional briefing materials based upon the Board’s discussion of public comments and any further revisions to the draft SMP they wish to make. The next work session is scheduled for June 14, 2023, at 9:00 AM.

Ultimately, once the Board adopts the draft SMP, it will be forwarded to the Department of Ecology for formal review. The SMP will take effect upon approval by the Department of Ecology.