

Appendix 2 - Citizen Participation in the Shoreline Master Program Planning Process

A major portion of Snohomish County's Shoreline Management Master Program development effort centered around public involvement. The County made a concerted attempt to implement the approach for citizen participation outlined in the Final Guidelines (WAC 173-16-040(1)) adopted pursuant to the Shoreline Management Act of 1971. By following this recommended approach, Snohomish County has extensively involved the public from the initial planning stages throughout the development of the Master Program.

Formation of the Citizens Advisory Committee of Shoreline Management:

The Citizen's Advisory Committee of Shoreline Management (CAC) has served as the primary vehicle for gathering public input during the shoreline planning process. The CAC was appointed by the Board of County Commissioners in June, 1973, from a list of applicants who responded to news media announcements asking for volunteers to assist in developing the County's Shoreline Master Program. The CAC was composed of 50 citizens representing a wide diversity of backgrounds and interests. The membership consisted of 36 "citizens at large" and representatives from 13 County organizations including:

1. Washington Environmental Council
2. Everett Area Chamber of Commerce
3. Washington State Sportsmen Council
4. Snohomish County Master Builders Council
5. Snohomish County Sportsmen Association
6. Pilchuck Audubon Society
7. Snohomish County Economic Development Council
8. Snohomish Agricultural Extension Service
9. Snohomish County Planning Commission
10. Snohomish County League of Women Voters
11. Snohomish County Board of Realtors
12. Snohomish County Park Board
13. Forest Products Industry

The Board also appointed an 18 member Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) to advise the CAC which consisted of representatives of various public and private agencies having the information and expertise related to shoreline management problems and use activities. The Board established the CAC to guide the formulation of Snohomish County's Master Program and directed the Committee to submit its findings and recommendations concerning the Master Program to the Snohomish County Planning Commission for further consideration prior to final adoption of the Master Program by the Board itself.

Public Meetings:

In June, 1973, the CAC began holding public evening meetings announced in advance through legal advertisements and often through news articles in local newspapers.

The Committee held 40 of these public meetings during which public input was sought and accepted. Specifically, over 250 citizens attended more than 30 of the 40 meetings held by the CAC. The CAC itself expended more than 3,700 man-hours of work on the development of the Master Program. In addition to offering the general public the opportunity at every meeting to present information and comments concerning the development of the Master Program, the CAC also issued special invitations to numerous agencies, firms and individual experts who had a particular interest in shoreline related activities to present their views to the Committee. Several full meetings were set aside by the Committee in the fall of 1973 for this purpose. The agencies and individuals who made presentations to the CAC (a special effort was also made to invite the general public to these meetings) are enumerated by the date of the meeting at which they spoke:

October 18, 1973

1. Forest Products Industry (Forest Management Practices)
2. Snohomish County Extension Service (Agriculture and Aquaculture)
3. City of Everett, Department of Community Development (City plans affecting the Snohomish River estuary)

October 25, 1973

4. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Snohomish River Basin Study)
5. Port of Everett (Future Port expansion plans)
6. Burlington Northern Railroad (Proposed rail classification yard in the Snohomish Valley)
7. Associated Sand & Gravel (Need for preserving and utilizing prime aggregate reserves in river flood plains)

November 8, 1973

8. Minor Baker - Seattle First National Bank Economist (Future economic growth in Snohomish County)

November 15, 1973

9. Forest Products Industry (Industrial site requirements and air/water pollution abatement)

November 28, 1973

10. Wolf Bauer (Marine shorelines of Snohomish County)

November 29, 1973

11. Wolf Bauer (Streamway resources and the Snohomish River System and Estuaries)

December 6, 1973

12. Charles Roe - State Attorney General's Office (Legal aspects of Shoreline Master Program development)

13. John Spencer - Department of Ecology (Status report of local Master Program development)

January 3, 1974

14. Jack Sceva - EPA Geologist (Environmental impact of mining operations)

15. Don Ford - Dept. of Natural Resources (State Surface Mining Act)

Field Trips:

In addition to its public meetings, the CAC also conducted three organized field trips to better acquaint members of the Committee with the characteristics of the County's varied shorelines. The field trips were conducted in July, August and September, 1973, and included two boat trips along the County's marine shorelines and river estuaries and one airplane flight which followed the County's major river systems.

News Media Coverage:

A strong effort was made to provide as much news coverage as possible of the CAC's work on the development of the Master Program. A meeting notice and agenda for each public meeting was sent to the various news media in Snohomish County including daily and weekly newspapers, radio stations and Cable TV outlets. The Planning Department also prepared and sent press releases to the news media regarding development of the Master Program shortly prior to consideration of key phases of the program by the CAC and the Planning Commission.

A total of more than 70 newspaper articles, including numerous front page and feature articles, were published during the Master Program's development. Numerous announcements of the CAC's activities were also made by local radio stations. In addition, the CAC and Planning Department staff worked with KING Television, People Power staffers, RIBCO and adjacent jurisdictions to put together a two hour television program concerning water and shoreline resources and the need for coordinated planning to properly manage those resources. The program which was aired October 27, 1973, included a questionnaire which received more than 2500 responses.

Public Hearings - Planning Commission:

The Snohomish County Planning Commission assumed the initial responsibility for holding the required public hearings on the Master Program. It should be noted that due to the size and complexity of Snohomish County's program, four public hearings rather than just the one required hearing were held by the Planning Commission. One public hearing was held to consider each major component of the Master Program and all the hearings were conducted in full accordance with the requirements of the Shoreline Management Final Guidelines. The date and subject of each hearing is listed below:

September 25, 1973

Shoreline Use Element Goals

October 23, 1973

Shoreline Use Element General Development Policies

May 21, 1974

Shoreline Use Activity Policies
Environment Designations Criteria and Management Policies

May 28, 1974

Shoreline Use Activity Regulations
Shoreline Planning Environment Designation

Public Hearings - Board of County Commissioners:

At its June 17, 1974, public meeting, the Snohomish County Board of Commissioners reviewed the development of the County's Shoreline Management Master Program and the recommendation of the Planning Commission. After conducting this review, the Board elected to hold its own public hearings on the Master Program before taking final action on its adoption and submission to the Department of Ecology. Two evening public hearings for the purpose of taking additional public testimony were held. The date and subject of each public hearing is listed below:

July 24, 1974

All goals, policies, regulations and other supporting textual portions of the Master Program.

August 7, 1974

The mapped shoreline environment designations of the Master Program.

The second hearing was continued to September 25, 1974, by the Board for the purpose of making it's decision regarding approval of the Master Program. During the time period when the

second hearing was continued, the Board reviewed all the written testimony submitted during the development and review of the Master Program. The Commissioners also reviewed the final Environmental Impact Statement on the Master Program which has been drafted, circulated and revised in conformance with the provisions of the State Environmental Policy Act.

At the September 25, 1974, evening public hearing continuation, the Board of County Commissioners took final action by approving a series of amendments to the Planning Commission approved version of the Master Program and then adopting the amended Master Program for submission to the Department of Ecology. Action on one specific environment designation issue was delayed for further consideration.

The second public hearing was continued again until September 30, 1974, for the purpose of resolving the remaining environment designation issue and was officially terminated on this date after this final Master Program decision was made by the Board.