

CHAPTER 9. SHORELINES

9.1. Introduction

The City of Port Orchard has diverse and active shoreline. The city waterfront contains a multitude of docks, marina's and businesses that are water dependent. Recreational boaters come from around the Puget Sound region to refuel at the Port of Bremerton facilities and to enjoy time ashore replenishing supplies and taking a hot shower.



Port Orchard has a working shoreline that provides economic vitality to the downtown merchants, the city as a whole and provides needed services to citizens throughout the region. The citizens value this economic aspect of their shoreline while at the same time understanding that the general health of the Sound is critical to maintaining the area as a viable working shoreline and a marina attraction.

9.2. Planning Context

Pursuant to GMA, the goals and policies of the Shoreline Master Program (SMP) are considered an element of the Plan. The framework for this chapter is based on the goals and policies outlined in the Shoreline Master Plan.

While it is the intent of the SMP to provide a management scheme that will govern the utilization, protection, restoration, and preservation of the City of Port Orchard shoreline, this chapter serves to provide a link between land use planning and the regulatory process outlined in the Shoreline Master Plan. The Shoreline Master Plan is proposed to be updated consistent with the Washington State Department of Ecology timeline. Upon completion of the update process, the enacting regulations contained in the Shoreline Master Program should reflect the goals and policies found within this document.



9.3. Shoreline Management Master Program Goals and Policies

Goal 1. Encourage shoreline diversity by recognizing the distribution and location requirements of housing, commerce, industry, transportation, public buildings, education, recreation and natural resources.

Policy SH-1 Encourage and support shoreline diversity through planned and coordinated development, which gives preference to water-dependent uses, traditional and historic use patterns, resource values, and environmental protection.

Goal 2. Commercial uses and other economic developments, which require or depend on shoreline locations for their success, should be encouraged when the shoreline can accommodate such development.

Policy SH-2 Encourage and support water related and water dependent commercial uses that are environmentally compatible.

Policy SH-3 Land use activities shall be sited and designed to minimize conflicts with and impacts on the shoreline environment.

Policy SH-4 Encourage maritime dependent services and industry to remain and improve services.

Goal 3. Provide a variety of water and shoreline related recreational opportunities for the public.

Policy SH-5 The City, in conjunction with other organizations, should work to maintain and enhance existing recreational opportunities for the public.

Policy SH-6 The City, in conjunction with other jurisdictions, should work to develop new and diverse water and shoreline related recreational opportunities for the public.



Goal 4. Increase public awareness of the historical, cultural and environmental influences of Port Orchard's shorelines.

Policy SH-7 Historical, cultural, educational or scientific areas should be identified, preserved and/or restored and shoreline development within them should be minimized.

Policy SH-8 Waterfront historical districts (those identified now and in the future), cultural resource areas and specific historic sites and structures should be integrated into zoning and planning maps.

Policy SH-9 Public awareness of the historical, cultural and environmental influences of Port Orchard's shoreline should be increased through educational and interpretive projects.

Intentional Blank Page