

Bridgeport Shoreline Master Program Periodic Review Public Participation Plan

Introduction

Bridgeport is undertaking a periodic review of its Shoreline Master Program (SMP), as required by the Washington State Shoreline Management Act (SMA), RCW 90.58.080(4). The SMA requires each SMP be reviewed and revised, if needed, on an eight-year schedule established by the Legislature. The review is intended to ensure the SMP stays current with changes in laws and rules, remains consistent with other Douglas County, Douglas County PUD and City of Bridgeport plans and regulations, and is responsive to changed circumstances, new information and improved data.

This Public Participation Plan is required to describe how Bridgeport will encourage early and continuous public participation throughout the process of reviewing the SMP.

The Plan describes the steps that Bridgeport will take to provide opportunities for public engagement and public comment, as well as Bridgeport Staff and Contractor contact information and web addresses. This plan is in addition to any other minimum requirements for public participation required by Chapter 19.01 of the Bridgeport Municipal Code. This plan is a working document and will be adjusted as needed to provide for the greatest and broadest public participation.

1.0 Public Participation Goals

- *Provide interested parties with timely information, an understanding of the process, and multiple opportunities to review and comment on proposed amendments to the SMP.*
- *Actively solicit information from citizens, property owners and stakeholders about their concerns, questions and priorities for the Periodic Review process.*
- *Encourage interested parties to informally review and comment on proposed changes to the SMP throughout the process and provide those comments to decision makers.*
- *Provide online workshops, meetings and hearings for both informal and formal public input at project milestones prior to decision-making by local officials.*
- *Consult and consider recommendations from neighboring jurisdictions, federal and state agencies, the Douglas County PUD and Native American tribes.*

2.0 Public Participation Opportunities

Bridgeport is committed to providing multiple opportunities for public participation throughout the process. The City will use a variety of communication tools to inform the public and encourage their participation, including the following:

2.1 Website

The City's website will include a Periodic Review webpage where interested parties can access status

updates, draft documents, official notices, links to online workshops, meetings and hearings, minutes and other project information. The webpage, that went live on January 22, 2021, will be the primary repository of all information related to the Periodic Review process. The page will include who to contact for more information and an email link for questions and comments.

2.2 Survey

A community survey will be conducted during the month of March to solicit specific feedback from interested parties and results will be posted on the Periodic Review webpage.

2.3 Open House

The City initiated the Periodic Review with an online community open house on February 4, 2021. Public comments received during the Open House will be posted on the Periodic Review webpage.

2.4 Notice mailing list

An email list of interested parties will be created, advertised and maintained by the City. The list will be used to notify interested parties regarding Periodic Review progress and participation opportunities. Interested parties will be added to the list by contacting the Clerk's Office.

2.5 Comment

Interested parties will be encouraged to provide comments to Bridgeport by letter, email and/or participation in online meetings. All comments will be forwarded to the Planning Commission and Bridgeport City Council. The Periodic Review webpage will be the central repository for information under consideration. Documents will be available for review at City Hall with advance notice and copies will be provided at the established copying cost.

2.6 Planning Commission

The Planning Commission will be the primary forum for detailed review and recommendations to the Bridgeport City Council. Interested parties are encouraged to attend online workshops, meetings and hearings and provide comments during Planning Commission review and deliberations and/or City Council workshops and public hearings. Official notices will be published as established in City policy.

2.7 City Council

The City Council will receive monthly updates on the update process, proposed revisions and timelines.

2.8 News media

The local news media will be kept up-to-date on the Periodic Review process and receive copies of all official notices.

3.0 List of stakeholders

Bridgeport will engage, at a minimum, the following stakeholders:

- Douglas County
- Douglas County PUD
- Army Corps of Engineers

- Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Washington Department of Ecology
- Washington Department of Natural Resources
- Chelan/Douglas Regional Port Authority

5.0 Public Comment Periods and Hearings

The Planning Commission will conduct a public comment period and at least one public hearing to solicit input on the Periodic Review prior to submittal of a draft plan to the Department of Ecology on June 15, 2021. The City Council will hold one public hearing before final adoption in September, 2021.

Bridgeport will coordinate with the Department of Ecology on public notification of comment periods and hearings to take advantage of Ecology's optional SMP amendment process that allows for a combined state-local comment period (WAC 173-26-104).

Public notice of all hearings will state who is holding the comment period and/or hearing, the date and time, and the location of any public hearing. Notices will be published per official policy and comply with all other legal requirements such as the Americans with Disabilities Act. A notice will be sent to the email list (2.4, above) and the Department of Ecology.

Contacts: Judy Brown, City Clerk, 509 686 4041, Clerk@bridgeportwa.net
Kurt Danison, Contract Planner, 509 322 4037, kdanison@ncidata.com
Allison Stam, Deputy Clerk, 509 686 4041, Bridgeport@bridgeportwa.net

City Website: <http://www.bridgeportwashington.net/>