

**CITY OF SPOKANE PLAN COMMISSION
FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS
REGARDING THE SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM PERIODIC REVIEW**

A recommendation of the City of Spokane Plan Commission to the City Council to approve the amendments to the Spokane Municipal Code proposed by the Shoreline Master Program Periodic Review (SMP PR). The SMP PR proposed amending Spokane Municipal Code (SMC) Title 17A Administration, Chapter 17A.020 Definitions, Sections 17A.020.040(R)(2) "D" Definitions, and Section 17A.020.060(S) "F" Definitions, Title 17E, Chapter 17E.060, Article II, Part II sections 17E.060.110 and 17E.060.150, Article IV 17E.060.290, 17E.060.300, 17E.060.340, Article VI Part II 17E.060.690, Article VII Part II 17E.060.770, 17E.060.790, Article VIII 17E.060.800, 17E.060.810, 17E.060.820, 17E.060.830, 17E.060.840, and Article V Part III 17E.060.380.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

- A. The Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Periodic Review (PR) is state mandated and led by the City of Spokane in close collaboration with Dept of Ecology. This project is narrowly focused to achieve City SMP compliance with changes to state legislation concerning Shorelines.
- B. Authority for the periodic review is based on Washington's Shoreline Management Act (Ch. 90.58 RCW) and related rules. These amendments were developed by the City 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.
- C. The periodic review ensures the SMP keeps up with changes in state laws, changes in other local jurisdictions' plans and regulations, and other changed circumstances.
- D. Shaping Spokane, the 2017 adopted City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan Chapter 3 Land Use policy 7.1, Regulatory Structure, supports regulations that are predictable, reliable, and adaptable to changing living and working arrangements brought about by technological advancements and Land Use policy 7.2 calls out a continuing review process to periodically re-evaluate and direct city policies and regulations consistent with chapter 3 Vision and Values.
- E. The City 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 occurs during the state review process, however additional city review and comment periods have been provided. Comments provided to the City of Spokane are reviewed by both the City and Ecology.
- F. Amendments to Title 17 are subject to review and recommendation by the Plan Commission.


- G. A State Environmental Protection Act (SEPA) Determination of Non-Significance was issued by Planning Services on December 23, 2020 and a 14-day comment period commenced January 5 - January 19, 2021. No comments were received during the comment period.
- H. The City SMP was reviewed against Dept of Ecology Periodic Review checklist as required; analysis submitted to Ecology. Necessary amendments were identified, and the Draft Amendment Proposal prepared, shared with agencies for review, and uploaded online. An email database of interested parties is maintained for regular communications. Information on the Periodic Review was presented to the public, neighboring jurisdictions, and partner agencies in two virtual Open House sessions via Webex on December 1, 2020. The Community Assembly was briefed on December 3, 2020.
- I. A notice of Joint Public Comment Period with Ecology and City of Spokane was published in the Spokesman-Review December 23 and January 5; the comment period commenced January 5 - February 5, 2021 and all comments were recorded, responded to, and provided to Ecology. Ecology provided separate notification.
- J. Plan Commission hearing legal notices were published in the Spokesman-Review February 10, and February 17, 2021.
- K. The Plan Commission held a public hearing on February 24 to obtain public input on the proposed amendments, if any.

CONCLUSIONS:

- A. The Plan Commission has reviewed all public testimony received during the public hearing.
- B. The Plan Commission finds that the proposed amendments are consistent with applicable provisions of the comprehensive plan and that the proposed amendments bear a substantial relation to the public health, safety, welfare, and protection of the environment.

RECOMMENDATION:

In the matter of the amendments to the Spokane Municipal Code proposed by the Shoreline Master Program Periodic Review, by unanimous vote, the Plan Commission recommends to the City Council the approval of the proposed amendments to the Spokane Municipal Code, as mandated by the State of Washington Shoreline Management Act RCW 90.58 eight year cycle of review.



Todd Beyreuther (Mar 2, 2021 16:48 PST)

Todd Beyreuther, President
Spokane Plan Commission
March 3, 2021