The City of Spokane and Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) are seeking comments to the City’s Shoreline Master Program (SMP) periodic review and proposed SMP amendments. The joint local/state public comment period will run 30 days from January 5, 2021 through February 5, 2021, 5:00 p.m.

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. The review ensures the SMP keeps up with changes in state laws, changes in other local jurisdictions’ plans and regulations, and other changed circumstances. The City has 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 will occur during the state review process. Comments provided to the City of Spokane will be reviewed by both the City and Ecology. There is no need to send comments directly to Ecology.

Comments may be submitted to: shorelinemasterprogram@spokanecity.org or to Project Lead Melissa Wittstruck, mwittstruck@spokanecity.org. Comments may also be mailed to City of Spokane Planning Services Dept., 6th Floor, 808 W Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane, WA 99201.

Comment can also be made by participating in the virtual public hearing noted below. Joint Public Hearing is to be held February 10, 2021 at 4:00 pm. Due to Washington Governor Inslee’s orders for the COVID-19 pandemic, the hearing will be held virtually over Webex. Hearing date is subject to change and can be confirmed at the City of Spokane Plan Commission agenda website: https://my.spokanecity.org/bcc/commissions/plan-commission/

Comments are due by February 5, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Documents are available for review at: https://my.spokanecity.org/projects/shoreline-master-program-periodic-update/.

Due to Washington Governor Inslee’s orders for the COVID-19 pandemic, in person review is by appointment only to Melissa Wittstruck, mwittstruck@spokanecity.org, 509.625.6087. Documents for appointment viewing will be available in City Hall, 3rd Floor, 808 W Spokane Falls Blvd Spokane WA 99201.

At the conclusion of the comment period, the City will prepare a response to comments and determine whether changes are needed. Public comments and City responses will be shared with Ecology. After local adoption, the SMP amendment will be formally submitted to Ecology for final action per WAC 173-26-104 and WAC 173-26-110. Ecology will review amendments for consistency with state laws and rules. Ecology may either approve the program as adopted or may recommend changes.

SEPA: SEPA Determination of Non-Significance issued on January 5, 2021 under WAC 197-11-970. The lead agency will not act on this proposal for at least 14 days. Comments regarding the DNS must be submitted no later than 5:00 PM on January 21, 2021 if they are intended to alter or appeal the DNS.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) INFORMATION: The City of Spokane is committed to providing equal access to its facilities, programs, and services for persons with disabilities. The Spokane City Council Chamber in the lower level of Spokane City Hall, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., is wheelchair accessible and is equipped with an infrared assistive listening system for persons with hearing loss. Headsets may be checked out (upon presentation of picture ID) at the City Cable 5 Production Booth located on the First Floor of the Municipal Building, directly above the Chase Gallery or through the meeting organizer. Individuals requesting reasonable accommodations or further information may call, write, or email Human Resources at 509.625.6363, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd, Spokane, WA, 99201; or msteinolfson@spokanecity.org. Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may contact Human Resources through the Washington Relay Service at 7-1-1. Please contact us forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting date.