



City of Olympia

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Meeting Minutes City Council

Information: 360-753-8447

Tuesday, September 25, 2012

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

Special Meeting to Hold a Study Session

1. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor Stephen H. Buxbaum, Mayor Pro Tem Nathaniel Jones, Councilmember Jim Cooper, Councilmember Julie Hankins, Councilmember Steve Langer, Councilmember Jeannine Roe and Councilmember Karen Rogers

2. [12-0580](#)

Shoreline Master Program Workshop with Non-Governmental Agencies and Organizations

Attachments: [1. SMP Schedule](#)
[2. SMP Marine Shoreline Parcels](#)
[3. Outline of Presentation from Friends of the Waterfront](#)

Mayor Buxbaum welcomed everyone and said this is a meeting for discussion and a chance for Councilmembers to hear from those present. He introduced facilitator Mike Fraidenburg.

Mr. Fraidenburg reviewed the agenda for the evening. Workshop members introduced themselves. Those present included:

*Barb Scavezze - Alliance for Community Transition
Jim Lengenfelder - Olympia Yacht Club
Michael Cade - Thurston Economic Development Council
Connie Lorenz - Olympia Downtown Association
Dave Schaffert - Thurston County Chamber
Sara Smyth McIntosh - West Bay Drive Neighborhood Association
Don Law - East Bay Neighborhood Association
Bob Jacobs - Friends of the Waterfront
Angela White - Olympia Master Builders
Jerry Reilly - Olympia Capitol Park Foundation
Keith Bausch - ILWU Local 47
Dean Stol - Thurston County Realtors
Jim Randall - West Olympia Business Association*

Community Planning and Development Director Keith Stahley reviewed existing and proposed shoreline regulations, and impacts along shoreline. He noted the City has been reviewing the Shoreline Master Program (SMP) for three years and stated the revised SMP will modify development standards along the shoreline. He provided a powerpoint presentation and reviewed the following:

- The Shoreline Environment Designation*
- Current Zoning*
- Shoreline Database*
- October 2010 Draft prepared by Thurston Regional Planning Council*

- July 2012 Draft proposed by the Olympia Planning Commission

Mr. Fraidenburg asked the workshop members to write about what their vision is for the waterfront, what are the issues you see in the draft SMP, and what would be your solutions.

Members shared their work.

Mr. Fraidenburg stated he heard the following recurring points

- How the community should resolve the issues of commercial use, urban conservancy, and public access
- The need for contingency planning
- The need to conform with state law
- Look at the broad vision
- How to define balance
- Need to evaluate on a reach-by-reach basis

Members discussed these issues.

Councilmember comments included:

- SMP is one of several tools available to regulate what happens at the shoreline.
- Think about the picture we want; don't get caught up in semantics.
- There is not that much controversy, not as much conflict with Ecology, and we are much closer than originally thought.
- We can come up with a shared vision
- if regs make land undevelopable, then what?
- If development is allowed closer to the water, and something catastrophic happens, who is liable?
- What are costs if we change the regs in either direction?
- We have to find balance for the environment and economics. Need to consider science vs. emotion.
- SMP is not due concurrently with Comp Plan.
- Need to make a durable decision.

Mayor Buxbaum noted the next steps include a work session next week with another group and on October 16, the Council will deliberate in a business meeting.

The work session topic was discussed and closed.

3. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:09 pm.