

City of Asotin Public Participation Plan

The City of Asotin is conducting a comprehensive update to its Shoreline Master Plan (SMP), consistent with the State of Washington Shoreline Management Act (SMA); RCW 90.58, and its implementing guidelines, WAC 173-26. Asotin's SMP is a planning policy document as well as a regulatory tool, establishing development standards for the City's shoreline areas, including adjacent upland areas within 200 feet of designated shorelines.

The primary policy objectives of the SMA are to:

- Encourage water-dependent and water-oriented uses
- Protect shoreline ecological functions and natural resources
- Promote public access

It is the City's desire to have ample opportunities for the public to participate in the update process. This Public Participation Plan identifies the goals and strategies the City will use to ensure that such participation occurs.

Goals of the Public Participation Plan

The SMA and SMP guidelines (RCW 90.58.130 and WAC 173-26-090 and 100) require that local governments inform the people of the State about the planning process and invite and encourage participation by all who have any interest or responsibility related to shorelines.

The goal of this Public Participation Plan is to provide a guide to proactively encourage public participation throughout the SMP update process.

Overview of the City's Shorelines and Wetlands

Within Asotin's city limits lie 10,607 lineal feet of shoreline on the Snake River and 6,625 feet on Asotin Creek. The Asotin Creek carries an annual mean flow of 59 cubic feet per second (cfs) and is therefore considered a regulated shoreline since it is greater than 20 cfs. There is approximately 0.80 acre of wetland within the city limits of the City of Asotin. There are no lakes nor reservoirs exceeding 20 acres in size within Asotin's jurisdiction.

Responsibilities

The City of Asotin is responsible for all aspects of the SMP update. The City will lead the update process and will be the primary administrator of the program. Preparation of this update is funded by a state grant from Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), which will act in a support and review capacity. Ultimately, Ecology must approve new or amended shoreline master programs. Following local adoption of the City's updated SMP, Ecology will conduct its own public review as part of its formal approval process.

Parties Involved - Stakeholders

Local governments must consult with interested parties and those with expertise throughout the process of developing or updating an SMP. To date, the City of Asotin has identified the following interested parties, technical resources, or other stakeholders that will be invited to participate in the SMP update process. All listed stakeholders will have access to the updated reports and links to on-line resources once initial comments have been vetted by City staff.

All Asotin residents (Identified interested residents will receive email reports)
Property owners within 200' of the Snake River and Asotin Creek
The Mayor of Asotin
Asotin City Council
Asotin Planning and Zoning Commission
Asotin County Planning Department
Asotin Public Works
Asotin Finance Department/City Clerk
Asotin Historical Society
Asotin County – Planning, GIS, Public Works, and Emergency Management
Asotin County Conservation District
Nez Perce Tribe
Washington State Department of Ecology
US Fish and Wildlife Services
Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife,
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Washington State Department of Commerce
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
Washington State Department of Transportation/United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE)
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Area Office Division/Biology
Snake River Salmon Recovery Board
Asotin-Anatone School District

Bureau of Land Management
Middle Snake Watershed (WRIA 35)
Levee Roundtable, Asotin Development Task Force

Due to their technical expertise related to shorelines, the following stakeholders from the above list will receive early drafts of Master Plan documents for their technical review and comment:

Nez Perce Tribe

Washington State Department of Ecology

US Fish and Wildlife Services

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife,

Snake River Salmon Recovery Board

Asotin County Conservation District

Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE)

Public Participation Strategy

Public Workshops:

After the Shoreline Inventory, Analysis, and Characterization phases of the SMP have been completed, the City will hold a visioning exercise for local citizens and stakeholders. All of the parties listed above, as well as the general public, will be invited to participate. This public event is currently scheduled for October 2014 and will be used to garner feedback from the community. This input will be used when generating community objectives and goals concerning land use policies, public access and shoreline restoration.

The City has added a section to their website, www.cityofasotin.org that details progress toward completion of the SMP update. On this page, there will be links to Fact sheets, draft documents and final task document, dates of open house, public meetings and contact information.

Through each step of the process the public is invited to appear at monthly meetings where staff presentations will be made on the following work products as they become available:

- Development of general SMP goals, policies and regulations (from the Visioning Exercise)
- Development of environmental designations
- Development of environment-specific shoreline use and modifications policies, regulations and standards
- Development of SMP administrative provisions

- Preparation of a preliminary cumulative impacts analysis
- Development of a shoreline restoration and no net loss plan

At the end of the process, a final Planning Commission public hearing will be held prior to their recommendation to the City Council for approval of the SMP.

Notice of the visioning exercise, Planning Commission meetings, and City Council meetings will be placed on the City website, posted on the community billboards and published in at least one community newspaper. All comments received, either at meetings or via email and post, will be collected together for inclusion in an appendix of the final SMP.

Meeting Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Status</u>
April 2014	Kickoff Meeting at City Hall	Scheduled
Oct 2014	Community Visioning Meeting Public Meeting	
May 2015	City of Asotin Planning Commission Public Meeting	
June 2015	City of Asotin Planning Commission Public Meeting	
July 2015	City of Asotin Planning Commission Public Meeting	
Aug 2015	City of Asotin Planning Commission Public Hearing	
Nov 2015	Asotin City Council Public Meeting	
Dec 2015	Asotin City Council Public Meeting Adoption of Master Program	