



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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May 8, 2013

The Honorable Steve Sexton  
City of Burlington  
833 South Spruce Street  
Burlington, WA 98233

**RE: City of Burlington Comprehensive Shoreline Master Program Update – Conditional Approval, Resolution Number 22-2012**

Dear Mayor Sexton:

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the city of Burlington (City) for its efforts in developing the proposed comprehensive Shoreline Master Program (SMP) update. It is obvious that significant effort was invested in this update by your staff and community. The SMP will provide a framework to guide habitat restoration within Gages Slough and development along the City's Skagit River shoreline.

As we have already discussed with your staff, the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has identified specific changes necessary to make the proposal approvable. These changes are detailed in Attachment B. Recommended changes are proposed in Attachment C. The findings and conclusions that support Ecology's decision are contained in Attachment A.

Pursuant to RCW 90.58.090 (2)(e), at this point, the City may:

- Agree to the proposed changes, or
- Submit an alternative proposal. Ecology will then review the alternative(s) submitted for consistency with both the purpose and intent of the changes originally submitted by Ecology and with the SMA.

Final Ecology approval will occur when the City and Ecology agree on language that meets statutory and Guidelines requirements.

Please provide your written response within 30 days to the Director's Office at the following address:

WA State Department of Ecology  
Attention: Director's Office  
PO Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-6700



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Ecology appreciates the dedicated work that you, the city council, Community Development Department staff (Director Margaret Fleek) and the planning commission put into the Shoreline Master Program update.

Thank you again for your efforts. We look forward to concluding the SMP update process in the near future. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the changes identified by Ecology, please contact our Regional Planner, Bob Fritzen, at [Bob.Fritzen@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Bob.Fritzen@ecy.wa.gov)/(360) 715-5207.

Sincerely,



Maia D. Bellon  
Director

Enclosures (3)

**By certified mail [7012 1010 0003 3028 3171]**

cc: Margaret Fleek, City of Burlington  
Bob Fritzen, Ecology  
Peter Skowlund, Ecology  
Erik Stockdale, Ecology