



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

PO Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600 • 360-407-6000

July 8, 2022

The Honorable Victoria Woodards
City of Tacoma
747 Market Street
Tacoma, WA 98402

RE: City of Tacoma Shoreline Master Program Locally Initiated Amendment – Conditional Approval

Dear Mayor Woodards:

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the City of Tacoma (City) for its efforts in developing the proposed Shoreline Master Program (SMP) amendment. This is in reference to Ordinance 28786 amending the City's SMP related to regulation of industrial uses in the Port of Tacoma/Tideflats area. It is obvious that a significant effort was invested in this amendment process. We appreciate your commitment to comprehensive land use planning for Washington's unique and valuable shorelines.

Ecology conditionally approves the City's SMP amendment.

As we have discussed with your staff, the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) considered the record and concluded that portions of the proposal were not consistent with applicable laws and rules. The findings and conclusions that support Ecology's decision are contained in Attachment A. The specific changes identified as necessary to make the proposal approvable are detailed in Attachment B.

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

- Agree to the proposed changes as shown in Attachment B, or
- Submit an alternative proposal. Ecology will then review the alternative(s) submitted for consistency with the purpose and intent of the changes originally developed by Ecology and with the Shoreline Management Act.

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

Please provide your response within 30 days to me at laura.watson@ecy.wa.gov.

We look forward to concluding the SMP amendment process in the near future. If you have questions or would like to discuss the changes identified by Ecology, please contact our senior regional planner, Tess Brandon, at tess.brandon@ecy.wa.gov or 360-407-6520.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laura Watson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Laura Watson
Director

Enclosures

cc: Stephen Atkinson, City of Tacoma
Tess Brandon, Ecology
Maria Sandercock, Ecology