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Shoreline Elements – Goals

INTRODUCTION

As required by the Shoreline Management Act in RCW 90.58.100, the following elements have been considered in the preparation of this Master Program for the City of Sultan: Economic Development, Public Access, Recreation, Circulation, Shoreline Use, Conservation, Historical/Cultural Resources, and Floodplain Management. The goals and objectives established for these elements provide the basis for policies and regulations included under the general and specific use requirements of this Master Program.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ELEMENT

- Goal** Provide for economically productive uses that are particularly dependent on their shoreline location or use.
- Objective** Plan for economic activity that is water-dependent, water-related, or that provides an opportunity for a substantial number of people to enjoy the shoreline (water-enjoyment).

PUBLIC ACCESS ELEMENT

- Goal** Increase public access to publicly-owned areas of the shoreline, and preserve and enhance shoreline views.
- Objective** To provide for public access to publicly owned shoreline areas, except where deemed inappropriate due to safety hazards, inherent security problems, environmental impacts, or conflicts with adjacent uses.
- Objective** Preserve and enhance shoreline views.

RECREATIONAL ELEMENT

- Goal** Provide for the preservation and enlargement of public and private recreational opportunities and recreational facilities along the shoreline,

including but not limited to, parks and recreational areas, wherever appropriate.

Objective To develop public and private recreation opportunities that are compatible with adjacent uses and that protect the shoreline environment.

CIRCULATION ELEMENT

Goal Provide for a safe and adequate circulation system including existing and proposed major thoroughfares, transportation routes, terminals, and other public utilities and facilities within the shoreline jurisdiction that benefits permitted uses without degrading the environment or aesthetic values of the area.

Objective To ensure that uses permitted in shorelines areas are designed and conducted in such a manner that any interference with the public's use of the water and shoreline is minimized, as much as is practical.

SHORELINE USE ELEMENT

Goal Ensure that the overall design of land use patterns will locate activity and development in areas of the shoreline that will be compatible with adjacent uses and will be sensitive to existing shoreline environments, habitat, and ecological systems.

Objective To promote the best possible pattern of land and water uses consistent with the Shoreline Management Act of 1971, the City of Sultan Comprehensive Plan, the City of Sultan Comprehensive Flood Hazard management Plan, and the Sultan Zoning Code.

CONSERVATION ELEMENT

Goal Preserve, protect, and restore¹ the natural resources of the shoreline, including but not limited to scenic vistas, aesthetics, and vital estuarine areas for fisheries and wildlife protection.

Objective Through the use of best available science develop and implement siting criteria, design standards, and best management practices that will ensure the long term enhancement of unique shoreline features, natural resources, and fish and wildlife habitat.

¹ The Shoreline Management Act (RCW 98.58.100 (2)f) states that a shoreline master program shall include: "A conservation element for the preservation of natural resources, including but not limited to scenic vistas, aesthetics, and vital estuarine areas for fisheries and wildlife protection." The shoreline guidelines suggest that one goal of an SMP shall be the "Protection and restoration of the ecological functions of shoreline natural resources."

Objective To designate and develop areas where there is an opportunity to restore, enhance, and conserve the natural shoreline for the benefit of fish and wildlife habitat.

HISTORICAL/CULTURAL ELEMENT

Goal Identify, preserve, protect, and restore shoreline areas, buildings, and sites having historical, cultural, educational, or scientific values.

Objective To ensure the recognition, protection, and restoration of shoreline areas that have historical and or cultural value to the City of Sultan and create a unique “sense of place” for public facilities, recreation areas in the shoreline jurisdiction.

Objective To ensure the recognition, protection, and restoration of shoreline areas that have educational or scientific values to the City of Sultan.

FLOOD HAZARD MANAGEMENT

Goal Protect the City of Sultan from losses and damage created by flooding.

Objective To seek regional solutions to flooding problems through coordinated planning with state and federal agencies, other appropriate interests, and the public.

Objective To ensure that flood hazard protection projects have a positive environmental benefit that emphasizes long-term solutions over short-term solutions.

RESTORATION ELEMENT

Goal To protect and improve water quality, reduce the impacts of flooding events; and preserve natural areas, vegetation, and preserve and restore habitat functions.

Objective The degraded processes of the Sultan Shoreline will be restored to the extent that a net improvement to the shoreline ecosystem is obtained to benefit water quality, vegetation, and the residents of Sultan.