



TO: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
FROM: Brian Boudet, Planning Manager, Planning and Development Services Department;
Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services Department
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution – Adopting Shoreline Implementation Strategies – Requested City Council
Date: July 1, 2014
DATE: June 13, 2014

SUMMARY:

Adopting the updated Tacoma Waterfront Public Access Alternatives Plan and the Tacoma Waterfront Design Guidelines as implementation strategies for the Shoreline Master Program, as recommended by the Planning Commission.

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

This action is best aligned with the following strategic policy priority:

- Foster neighborhood, community, and economic development vitality and sustainability.

BACKGROUND:

Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and development regulations are considered on an annual basis, as required by the Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A).

The Proposed Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Regulatory Code for 2014 (“2014 Annual Amendment”) are presented in a package of legislative proposals for ease of review, which consists of an ordinance to amend the Comprehensive Plan (“Plan”), an ordinance to amend the Tacoma Municipal Code (“Code”), and this resolution to adopt shoreline implementation strategies of the Plan.

The Planning Commission has completed its review of the 2014 Annual Amendment through a public review process including a public hearing on March 19, 2014, and made a recommendation to the City Council on May 7, 2014, as documented in the *Planning Commission’s Findings and Recommendations Report* (“Report”).

The 2014 Annual Amendment includes a recommendation carried over from the 2013 Annual Amendment cycle (referenced as Application #2013-05 in the Report), which consists of the following components: (a) Rescindment of Elements – that the Ruston Way Plan, Shoreline Trails Plan, and Foss Waterway Design and Development Plan be rescinded as elements of the Comprehensive Plan; (b) Adoption of Implementation Strategies – that the rescinded elements be replaced with the updated Tacoma Waterfront Public Access Alternatives Plan and the Tacoma Waterfront Design Guidelines, which should be adopted as implementation strategies for the Shoreline Master Program Element of the Comprehensive Plan; and (c) Incorporation by Reference – that said implementation strategies be incorporated by reference into the Waterfront Section of the Open Space Habitat and Recreation Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

Adoption of the proposed amendments as contained in Application #2013-05 was postponed due to timing issues related to the City’s Shoreline Master Program update. Now that the Shoreline Master Program has been adopted in October 2013, the Commission recommends that these amendments be adopted along with the adoption of the 2014 Annual Amendment. Of the three amendments proposed in Application #2013-05, the “Rescindment of Elements” and the “Incorporation by Reference” components



are addressed in a separate ordinance adopting the 2014 Annual Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan, while the “Adoption of Implementation Strategies” component is addressed with this resolution.

Pursuant to TMC 13.02 and the Growth Management Act, the City Council is required to conduct a public hearing before considering for adoption. The Council conducted a public hearing on the Planning Commission’s recommendations on June 3, 2014.

The Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee reviewed the 2014 Annual Amendment at its meetings on August 14, 2013, February 26, 2014, April 23, 2014, and June 11, 2014. On June 11, 2014, the Committee recommended that the City Council adopt the 2014 Annual Amendment as recommended by the Planning Commission including the adoption of above-mentioned shoreline implementation strategies.

ISSUE:

There is no specific issue relating to this action.

ALTERNATIVES:

There are no specific alternatives being considered at this time.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve of the resolution on July 1, 2014 to adopt the Planning Commission’s Findings and Recommendations Report of May 7, 2014 and to adopt the updated Tacoma Waterfront Public Access Alternatives Plan and the Tacoma Waterfront Design Guidelines as implementation strategies for the Shoreline Master Program Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.