



CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 23, 2011

Contact: Libby Hudson, Planning Manager
City of Bainbridge Island
(206) 780-3750
pcd@ci.bainbridge-isl.wa.us

Shoreline Citizen Workgroup Draft Policies Available for Comment

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, February 23, 2011 – Draft amendments to the Goals and Policies of the City of Bainbridge Island’s Shoreline Master Program (SMP) are now available for public review and comment.

The draft contains policy recommendations produced by citizen groups as part of the City’s SMP update. The SMP guides shoreline development under the state Shoreline Management Act, and state law requires that the city update the management program by the end of 2011. The recommendations are a product of a unique citizen involvement process, designed to engage interested community organizations and citizens in three topic-based workgroups and a task force consisting of representative the workgroups.

“The draft document reflects hours of meetings and discussions involving 21 citizen volunteers which started in September 2010,” said Ryan Ericson, Shoreline Planner. “The process seemed to work well – the revised policies reflect a range of opinions and in most cases were unanimously approved by the groups.”

The draft policies are now posted on the city’s website for public review. Written comments will be accepted until March 31, 2011, and compiled for the Planning Commission’s review.

The SMP workgroups and task force are now focused on regulations and will revisit the policy recommendations later in the spring. Recommendations will be forwarded to the Planning Commission, who will begin work on the SMP update this summer.

###