



CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

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Contact: Libby Hudson, Manager, Long Range Planning
City of Bainbridge Island
(206) 780-3767
lhudson@ci.bainbridge-isl.wa.us

Community Meeting to Help Plan Shoreline Master Program Involvement

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, February 25, 2010 – The public will have the opportunity next week to tell the city how they want to be involved in the island’s upcoming Shoreline Master Program update, a process required under state law. At meeting on Tuesday, March 2, city staff will provide an overview of the Shoreline Master Program and update process, and invite citizens to share ideas for community involvement and help plan how stakeholder groups and individuals can participate.

“Some ideas for involving the public include public forums, guest speakers and field trips,” said Long Range Planning Manager Libby Hudson. “Since Bainbridge Island has 53 miles of shoreline – more than any other city in Washington State – this will be an important process for our community. This is an opportunity for the community to help design how the public will be involved in the update process. Input from the meeting will be used to develop a public participation plan, which will guide activities over the next two years.”

The City’s Shoreline Master Program is a combination of planning strategies and regulations designed to guide development along Washington shorelines consistent with the State Shoreline Management Act (RCW 90.58). The Act requires local governments to update the program on a periodic basis, and Bainbridge Island is about to begin such a review.

The city has engaged planning consultants AHBL to assist in developing and implementing the public participation process, and representatives of the firm will facilitate Tuesday’s meeting. AHBL’s support is funded by a grant from the State Department of Ecology.

The meeting is scheduled for 6:30 – 8:30 pm at Council Chambers, City Hall. For more information, contact Libby Hudson, Long Range Planning Manager, at 780-3767, email pcd@ci.bainbridge-isl.wa.us or visit www.ci.bainbridge-isl.wa.us.

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