



CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

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City Taps New Shoreline Planner

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, March 23, 2010 – The City has hired a new Shoreline Planner, Department of Planning and Community Development Director Kathy Cook announced today. “We’re very pleased to have Ryan Ericson joining our planning staff in April to help lead our shoreline planning activities,” Cook said.

Ericson has worked for the city for the past two and a half years, serving most recently as Engineering Technician for the city’s Water Resources Program. “Ryan has strong technical skills in marine science, natural resources and GIS, coupled with an educational background in environmental policy,” said Long Range Planning Manager Libby Hudson. “Ryan also has great hands-on knowledge of the city’s marine habitat, since he’s managed aquatic habitat and biological assessments around the island.”

Ericson expects to complete a Masters Degree in Environmental Policy and Management with the University of Denver in August, 2010. Prior to coming to the City of Bainbridge Island, he spent five years with international environmental consultants Weston Solutions/MEC, where he conducted data analysis and managed a variety of water quality and aquatic habitat surveys. He received a BA in Anthropology with a minor in Geographical Information Technologies from Humboldt State University in 2002.

The city’s Shoreline Master Program (SMP) update process, which began with a public meeting on March 2, will be a top priority for Ericson, Hudson said. The SMP is a combination of planning strategies and regulations that guide shoreline development as required under the State Shoreline Management Act (RCW 90.58). State law requires that the city review and update the island’s Shoreline Master Program by December, 2011.

“Ryan’s previous work experience, knowledge and understanding of shoreline ecological functions, and understanding of the Shoreline Management Act will serve our community well as the shoreline planner and as we move forward with our Shoreline Master Plan Update,” Hudson said. Ericson is scheduled to start work in his new role on April 1, 2010.

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