

## Section I GOALS

### A. Master Goal

The City's shorelines are among the most valuable, scarce, and fragile of our natural resources that provide a significant part of our way of life as a place of residence, recreational enjoyment, and occupation. It is the intent of this program to manage the shorelines of Bainbridge Island, giving preference to water-dependent and water-related uses, and to encourage development and other activities to co-exist in harmony with the natural conditions. Uses that result in long-term over short-term benefits are preferred, as are uses which promote sustainable development.

### B. Shoreline Use Element

1. Establish and implement policies and regulations for land use consistent with the Shoreline Management Act of 1971, as amended. These policies and regulations should ensure that the design and land use of shoreline areas are compatible with shoreline environment designations and will be sensitive to and not degrade ecological systems and other shoreline resources.
2. Identify and preserve shoreline and water areas with unique attributes for specific long-term uses, including commercial, industrial, residential, recreational, and open space uses.
3. Designated Shorelines of State-wide Significance are of value to the entire state and should be protected and managed. In order of preference, the priorities are to:
  - a. Recognize and protect the state-wide interest over local area or individual interest.
  - b. Preserve the natural character of the shoreline.
  - c. Produce long-term benefits over short-term benefits.
  - d. Protect the resources and ecology of shorelines.
  - e. Increase public access to publicly-owned areas of the shorelines.
  - f. Increase public recreational opportunities on the shoreline.
4. Ensure that proposed shoreline uses are distributed, located, and developed in a manner that will maintain or improve the health, safety, and welfare of the public.
5. Ensure that proposed activities and facilities located on the shorelines retain or improve the quality of the environment as it is designated for that area.
6. Ensure that proposed shoreline uses give consideration to the rights of private property ownership and the rights of others.
7. Encourage innovative shoreline uses consistent with this program.
8. Encourage joint-use activities in proposed shoreline developments.
9. Encourage restoration of shoreline areas that have been degraded or diminished in ecological value and function.
10. Ensure that planning, zoning and other regulatory and nonregulatory programs governing lands adjacent to the shoreline jurisdiction are consistent with the Shoreline Master Program.

### **C. Economic Development Element**

1. Promote sustainable economic development.
2. Ensure healthy, orderly, economic development by allowing those activities which will be an asset to the economy of Bainbridge Island and which result in the least adverse effect on the quality of the shoreline and surrounding environment, giving consideration to the other goals in the Shoreline Master Program.
3. Protect current economic activity (e.g., shipping, marinas, aquaculture, etc.) that is consistent with the objectives of the Shoreline Master Program, and that provides for environmentally sensitive new development.
4. Develop, as an economic asset, the recreational industry along shorelines in a manner that would enhance the public enjoyment of the shorelines.
5. Encourage new economic development to locate in areas already developed with similar uses which are consistent with the Master Program.
6. Limit new shoreline industrial and commercial development to those that are classified as water-dependent, water-related, or water-enjoyment uses and discourage and/or prohibit nonwater-oriented uses which are not accessory to a preferred use.
7. Propose economic use of the shoreline which is consistent with the Bainbridge Island Comprehensive Plan.

### **D. Roadways, Trails and Waterways Element**

1. Promote transportation modes by giving preference to pedestrian, bicycle and rapid transit modes, and by encouraging multiple-use corridors where compatible.
2. Provide safe, reasonable, and adequate routes to shorelines, minimizing the adverse effect on unique or fragile shoreline features and existing ecological systems, while contributing to the functional and visual enhancement of the shoreline.
3. Locate roads serving permitted shoreline uses as far from the water as feasible to reduce interference with either natural shorelines or other appropriate shoreline uses, and to avoid creating barriers between adjacent uplands and the shoreline.
4. Route transportation corridors to harmonize with the topography and other natural characteristics of the shoreline.
5. Acquire and develop physical and visual public access where topography, view and natural features warrant as a result of new transportation development in shoreline areas (e.g., turnouts, rest areas).
6. Avoid widening existing roads along the shoreline.
7. Protect, manage, and enhance those characteristics of shoreline roadway corridors that are unique, and have historic significance and/or great aesthetic quality for the benefit and enjoyment of the public.
8. Protect and enhance marine and marine-oriented transportation and water-dependent transportation facilities.

### **E. Conservation Element**

1. Acknowledge natural shoreline processes and seek alternatives to structures that adversely affect the shoreline.

2. Develop and implement renewable resource management practices that will ensure a sustainable yield while preserving, protecting, and restoring unique and non-renewable shoreline resources or features (including shellfish, eel grass, forested areas, wetlands, and wildlife habitat).
3. Ensure that natural resource utilization minimizes adverse impacts to the shoreline environment.
4. To the greatest extent feasible, reclaim and restore areas which are geologically, biologically and/or aesthetically degraded while maintaining appropriate use of the shoreline.

#### **F. Public Access Element**

1. Provide, protect, and enhance a public access system that is both physical and visual and which utilizes public and appropriate private lands and increases the amount and diversity of public access to the State's shorelines.
2. Integrate shoreline public access into a Bainbridge Island public trail system.
3. Unify individual public access elements into an organized, operational, and informational system.

#### **G. Historic/Cultural/Education Element**

1. Identify, protect, preserve, and restore important archaeological, historical, and cultural sites located in the shorelands of the State for educational and scientific purposes, and the enjoyment of the general public.
2. Acquire historic/cultural sites, through purchase or gift, to ensure their protection and preservation.
3. Encourage educational projects and programs that foster a greater appreciation of the importance of shoreline management, maritime activities, environmental conservation, and maritime history. Advocate interpretive features, maritime centers, or educational programs that alert people to the importance of shoreline management.

#### **H. Recreation Element**

1. Ensure optimal recreational opportunities that can reasonably tolerate peak use periods as well as active, passive, competitive, or contemplative recreational uses without destroying the integrity and character of the shoreline.
2. Optimize opportunities for both passive and active water-oriented recreation.
3. Integrate shoreline recreational elements into public access and conservation planning.
4. Encourage State and local government to acquire additional shoreline properties for public recreational uses.

**I. Harbor Use and Safety Element**

1. Ensure the safe and environmentally sound use of Island harbors and bays in a manner that protects and enhances harbor and shoreline use consistent with the goals of other elements.
2. Provide, protect, and control public use of harbor and bay waters in a manner that is in the best interest of the public.

**J. Comprehensive Long-Range Planning Element**

1. Advocate integration of other city planning and regulatory efforts with shoreline management activities.