

SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM PERIODIC UPDATE

City of Lake Stevens

WASHINGTON STATE SHORELINE MANAGEMENT ACT

- The Washington State legislature enacted the Shoreline Management Act (SMA) in 1971 to protect and restore the state's shorelines.
- Additionally, this act established rules for developing waterfront locations and providing opportunities for the public to enjoy the state's shorelines.
- The SMA established a local planning and regulatory program with state guidance.
- Lake Stevens adopted Snohomish County's SMP in 1974. The city began a major update to the SMP in 2010, which was finalized in 2013. The SMP has not been updated since 2013.

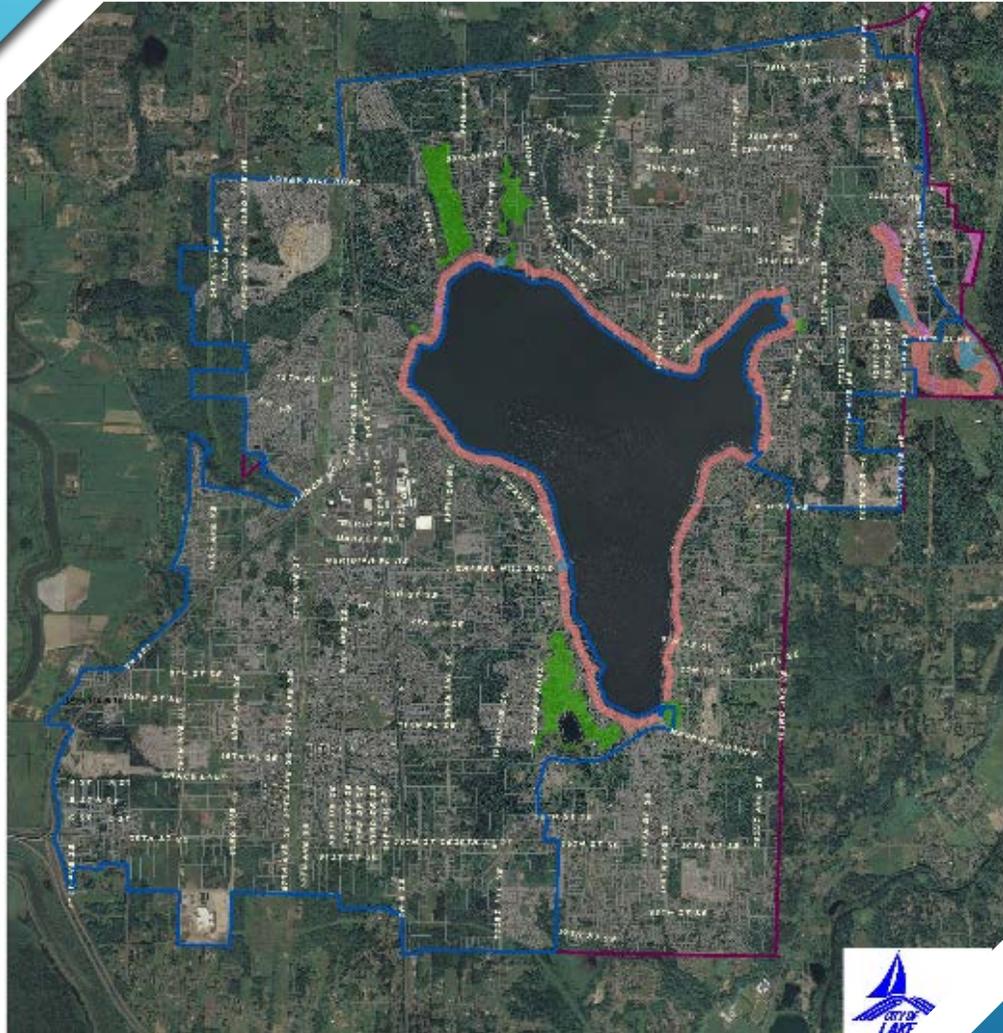
WHAT IS A SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM (SMP)?

SMPs are local regulations that guide public and private uses of Washington waters.

- SMPs apply to more than 28,000 miles of lake, stream, wetland, and marine shorelines in Washington.
- SMPs protect natural resources, provide for public access to state waters and shores and regulate uses near shorelines.

SCOPE OF LAKE STEVENS SMP

The Shoreline Management Act is applicable on all *shorelines of the state*. In the City of Lake Stevens, the SMP covers Lake Stevens, Stitch Lake, Catherine Creek, Little Pilchuck Creek, and associated wetlands.



STATE REQUIREMENTS FOR LOCAL JURISDICTIONS



The SMA has three broad policy goals:

- protect shoreline natural resources
- promote public access
- encourage water-dependent uses.

Additionally, there is an overriding concept of *no net loss of ecological functions* of shorelines. This concept's aim is preservation lakes and streams while allowing reasonable development in the shoreline jurisdiction.

PURPOSE OF THIS PERIODIC UPDATE

Periodic updates to the SMP are required by state law. The city is examining how the SMP functions in our city and will propose changes as appropriate. This review is intended to be relatively minor compared to the 2013 update.





PRIMARY TOPICS ADDRESSED BY THE SMP

- *Residential Development/Shoreline Setback*
- *Docks and Dock Maintenance*
- *Bulkheads and Shoreline Armoring*
- *Shoreline Non-Conforming Uses and Structures*

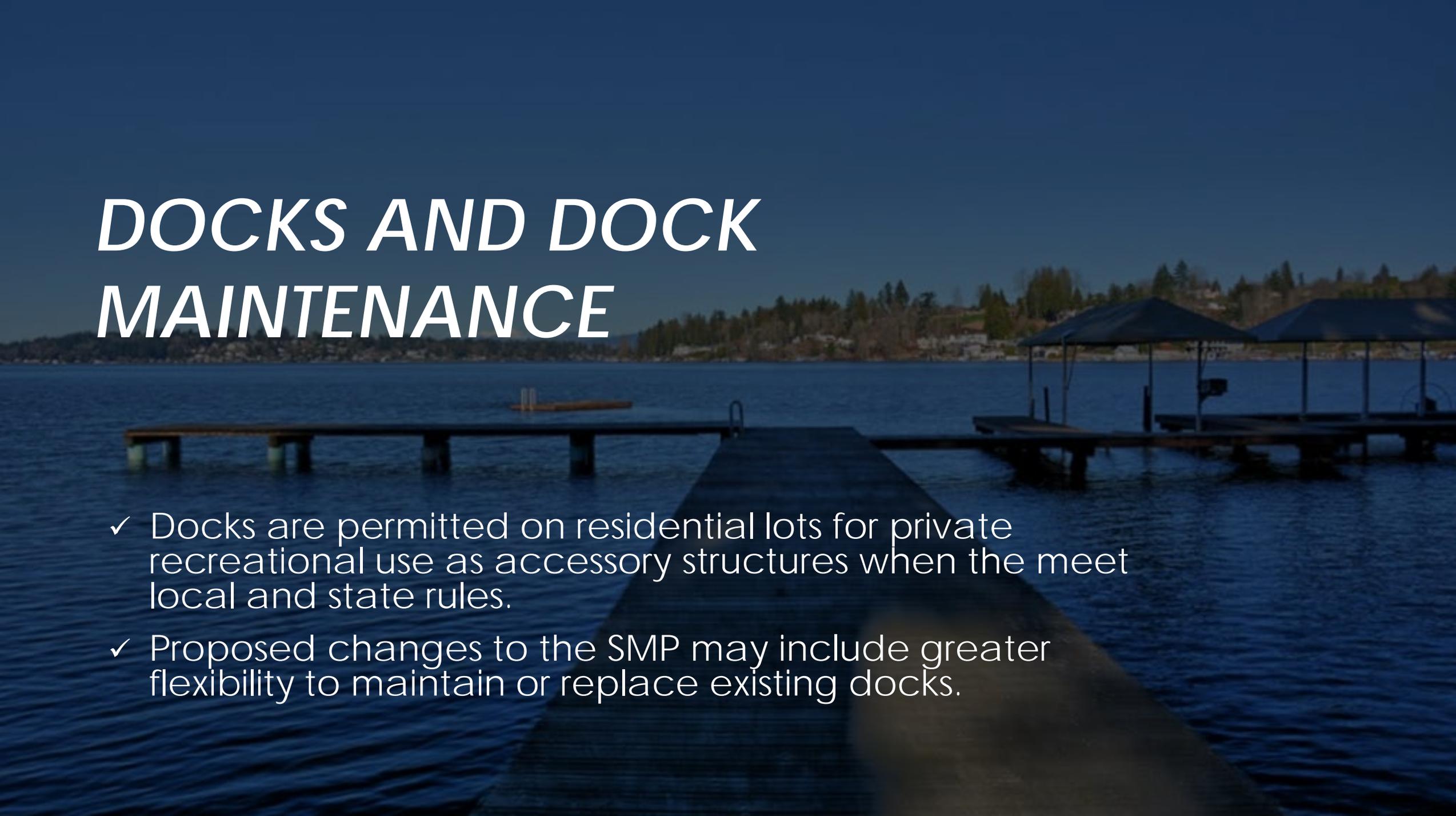


RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT/SHORELINE SETBACK

The standard minimum setback for buildings from Lake Stevens and other applicable shorelines is 60-feet, pursuant to Section 5.C.8.c. SMP.

The 60-foot setback is to be maintained or is encouraged to be restored to native vegetation.

DOCKS AND DOCK MAINTENANCE



- ✓ Docks are permitted on residential lots for private recreational use as accessory structures when they meet local and state rules.
- ✓ Proposed changes to the SMP may include greater flexibility to maintain or replace existing docks.



BULKHEADS AND SHORELINE ARMORING

- Existing shoreline stabilization structures may be replaced if there is a demonstrated need to protect principal uses or structures from erosion.
- New stabilization measures are not allowed except to protect or support an existing primary structure.



SHORELINE NON-CONFORMING USES AND STRUCTURES

"Nonconforming use" means a shoreline use which was lawfully constructed or established prior to the effective date of the Shoreline Management Act or the Shoreline Master Program, or amendments thereto, but which does not conform to present regulations or standards of the SMP.

Any legally established nonconforming use is permitted to remain in the form and location in which it existed on the effective date of nonconformance.