



**STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY**

PO Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600 • 360-407-6000

April 28, 2026

The Honorable Girmay Zahilay  
King County  
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Re: Final Ecology Approval of the King County Shoreline Master Program Locally Initiated Amendment**

Dear Executive Zahilay:

The Washington State Department of Ecology is pleased to announce final approval of the King County Shoreline Master Program (SMP) locally initiated amendment. Congratulations to you, your staff, and the King County community for completing this locally initiated amendment of your SMP. We appreciate your commitment to comprehensive land-use planning for Washington's unique and valuable shorelines.

As you know, the following correspondence regarding the recent SMP amendment took place between Ecology and the County:

- February 28, 2025 – Ecology accepted your locally-adopted SMP amendment (Ordinance No. 18810, 19648, 19820) submittal as complete.
- March 25, 2026 – Ecology conditionally approved the County's SMP amendment with required changes.
- April 17, 2026 – The County sent an email to Ecology accepting all of Ecology's required changes (Ordinance No. 20024).

Ecology therefore approves the County's locally initiated amendment, which includes the required changes. This action represents Ecology's final decision and there shall be no further modifications to the County's proposal.

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**The effective date of the County's SMP amendment is 14 days from the date of this letter, Ecology's final approval letter.** This 14-day period was established by legislative action in 2011 and is intended to provide lead time for the County to prepare to implement the amended SMP.

Ecology is required to promptly publish notice that your SMP has received final approval. The notice, in the form of a legal advertisement, will begin a 60-day appeal period. We will provide a copy of the notice to the County for its records.

Finally, please integrate the changes referenced in this correspondence into a final clean copy version of the complete approved SMP, including appendices, and forward a digital copy of the complete approved SMP to Ecology within 30 days.

If you have any questions, please contact our regional shoreline planner, Brooke Sullivan, at [Brooke.Sullivan@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Brooke.Sullivan@ecy.wa.gov) or 425-570-2028.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Misty Blair". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Misty Blair  
Shoreline Management Policy Lead

ec: Jenny Ngo, King County  
Joe Burcar, Ecology  
Chad Yunge, Ecology