

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the Kitsap County Shoreline Master Program (SMP) update. We understand that a recent postcard mailed by the Kitsap Alliance of Property Owners (KAPO) may cause concern. Many of the "issues" stated in the postcard have yet to be addressed in the SMP update by County staff, the SMP Task Force, the Planning Commission or by the Board of County Commissioners. To date there have been no new regulations, buffers, or setbacks proposed drafted, as stated. We have no evidence that banks have refused or would refuse to finance real estate involving shoreline parcels, conforming or non-conforming. More importantly, this Board has directed that the update continue to recognize and protect private property rights.

The SMP has been underway since 2009 and is expected to be completed in 2012. Unlike many other jurisdictions, Kitsap County chose to work with citizens from the beginning of this effort. Many of the current proposed policies and other SMP drafted elements are a direct result of citizen Task Force input. The work of the Task Force continues as they review proposed regulations to ensure consistency with the goals and policies they recommended.

We are pleased to let you know that our SMP update process has received numerous compliments as the most open and transparent of any County code update. We invite you to view all of the product and meetings that have occurred to date by going to the dedicated SMP web site www.kitsapshoreline.org. We encourage all citizens to become and stay involved in this important program update. We look forward to hearing from you in the months ahead during the public review and comment and public meetings and hearings.