



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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November 4, 2013

Cathy Reed
Shorelands/Wetlands Specialist
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
15 W. Yakima Avenue, Suite 200
Yakima, WA 98902-3452

RE: Comments on Land Development Code Update

Dear Ms. Reed:

Thank you for your August 29, 2013 comment on the City's Draft Land Development Code Update document. Your comments related to suggested amendments to the City's Critical Area Ordinance which are currently found in the City's Zoning Ordinance in Chapter 13.39. The Draft Land Development Code Update is consolidating all of the City's land development code sections into a single new Title 15 of City Code – Land Development Code. If the LDC is adopted, the critical area Chapter will now become Title 15, Article 6 of the LDC.

However, the City is not proposing any amendments to the critical area code as part of the Land Development Code Update project, other than to relocate it with the other land development codes in new Title 15 and to renumber it accordingly.

The City does recognize the need to review and update the critical area code and City Council has indicated that it would like to initiate that project later in 2014 as a stand alone project due to the high level of public and agency interest involved in the critical area code. The City will of course keep you informed of that update project and will extend an invitation to the Department of Ecology and other State Agencies to participate and provide expertise and guidance in that project.

Again, although not directly related to the current Land Development Code Update project the City thanks you for your comments and will keep them on file for when the critical area code review project begins. If you have questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Smith", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Mike Smith, Director