January 3, 2022

The Honorable Linda Lehman
Benton City
PO Box 70
Benton City, WA 99320

Re: Final Ecology Approval of the Benton City Shoreline Master Program Periodic Review Amendment

Dear Mayor Lehman:

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) is pleased to announce final approval of the Benton City (City) Shoreline Master Program (SMP) periodic review amendment. Ecology finds the City’s program consistent with the policy and procedural requirements of the Shoreline Management Act (RCW 90.58) and its implementing rules.

Ecology approves the City’s SMP amendment as submitted.

The enclosed Attachment A, Findings and Conclusions document, provides more information about our decision. This is Ecology’s final action and there will be no further modifications to the proposal.

The amendment adopted by this action conclude the City’s periodic review under RCW 90.58.080(4). Ecology’s approval affirms the amendment is consistent with the applicable provisions of the SMA and its implementing rules, including periodic review requirements of WAC 173-26-090.

The amended SMP is effective 14 days from the date of this letter. This time period was established by the state legislature and is intended to provide lead-time for the City to prepare to implement the amended SMP.

Ecology is required to publish a newspaper notice that the City’s SMP has received final approval. The publication of this notice, in the form of a legal ad, will begin a 60-day appeal period. We will provide a copy of the legal ad to the City for its amendment record.
Please send Ecology a final clean copy version of the complete approved SMP that includes the amendment changes.

If you have any questions, please contact our Regional Planner Chelsea Benner at Chelsea.Benner@ecy.wa.gov or 509-454-3619.

Yours truly,

Laura Watson
Director

Enclosure

cc: Nicole Stickney, Benton City
    Rebecca Ozuna, Benton City
    Gary Graff, Ecology
    Chelsea Benner, Ecology