



# **News Release**

## **CITY OF MOUNTLAKE TERRACE**

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MOUNTLAKE TERRACE, WASHINGTON 98043

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **Council to Review Shoreline Management and Progress on Transfer of Development Rights**

MOUNTLAKE TERRACE—Updates to the Shoreline Master Program and progress on a possible Transfer of Development Rights program will be reviewed by the City Council at its Thursday, September 29 work/study session. The meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. in the Interim City Hall Council Chambers located on the second floor of the Redstone Building at 6100 219<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Suite 220.

The draft shoreline plan being reviewed is for the 200-foot or so area around Lake Ballinger and within Mountlake Terrace. The draft plan adds greater protection for Ballinger Island, located in Lake Ballinger. The island is owned by the city and is uninhabited except for wildlife. In the recent past, a human-caused fire burned much of it.

Cities in King and Snohomish counties must update or replace their shoreline plans by the end of the year under state law. Mountlake Terrace last updated its shoreline plan in 1993. The new plan is expected to be ready by mid-December.

In late 2010, the city won a grant for \$100,000 to develop a Transfer of Development Rights ("TDR") program for the City Council to consider. The intent of TDR programs is to protect the working farms and forestlands by reducing urban development in those areas and encouraging it within cities that have suitable areas, such as in the downtown. TDR programs allow rural property owners to transfer some of their development "rights" to urban property owners. Under a new state law, cities that have TDR programs can obtain special funding to help pay for street improvements and other projects.

More information will be provided at the September 29 meeting. Other meetings for the shoreline plan have been scheduled as follows: October 10, Planning Commission work session; December 12, Planning Commission Public Hearing; December 15, City Council work session; and December 19, City Council Public Hearing.

For more information, call Community and Economic Development at (425) 744-6266.

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