



Notice of City Council Public Hearing

Planning and Economic Development Department

200 NE Moe Street | Poulsbo, Washington 98370

(360) 394-9748 | fax (360) 697-8269

www.cityofpoulsbo.com | plan&econ@cityofpoulsbo.com

The public has the right to review the contents of the official file for the proposed amendments, provide written comments, participate in any public hearings, and request a copy of the final decision.

Application:	2025 Critical Areas Ordinance Update, Phase I
Permit No./Type:	P-08-04-25-02 Type IV
Hearing Date/Time:	Wednesday, November 19, 2025 @ 5:00 pm , or soon thereafter as the agenda determines
Requested Action:	All interested citizens and agencies are invited to provide written and verbal testimony to the City Council regarding the proposed amendments.
Summary of Proposed Amendments:	<p>The City of Poulsbo is undertaking an update to its Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO) as part of the required periodic review under the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA), RCW 36.70A.130. This update ensures the City's critical areas regulations remain consistent with current state law, reflect Best Available Science (BAS), and continue to protect the ecological functions and public health and safety associated with wetlands, fish and wildlife habitat, frequently flooded areas, geologically hazardous areas, and critical aquifer recharge areas.</p> <p>To manage the complexity of the update and meet both statutory and local planning objectives, the CAO will be updated in two phases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Phase I (2025) will include required updates mandated by state law and guidance from the Washington State Department of Commerce, Department of Ecology, and Department of Fish and Wildlife. These changes are non-discretionary and must be completed as part of the City's 2025 GMA periodic update.• Phase II (anticipated to begin in 2026) will focus on discretionary amendments identified by the city to improve clarity, address local implementation challenges, and support long-term environmental and regulatory goals. <p>This phased approach allows the city to meet state requirements within the periodic update deadline while also creating space for more thoughtful engagement on optional changes.</p>
Public Comment Methods:	Written comments may be mailed, e-mailed, or delivered to the City of Poulsbo. To ensure consideration, all written comments must be received prior to the closing of the public hearing. At the hearing, the public will have an opportunity to provide written and verbal testimony regarding the proposed project.
Public Participation Plan:	A public and agency participation plan has been developed for this review process and can be viewed at https://cityofpoulsbo.com/criticalareasupdate/ .
Public Hearing:	The City Council Public Hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, November 19, 2025 , at 5:00 pm, or soon thereafter. Public hearings are being held as a hybrid virtual/in-person meeting at the web address and call-in number noted below and at Poulsbo City Hall Council Chambers, 200 NE Moe Street, Poulsbo, Washington. This call-in number: 1-253-215-8782 and meeting id: 898 4841 6447 are provided for virtual attendance, in addition to this webinar link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89848416447 . Oral comments can be made in-person only. Please state your name and limit your comments to 5 minutes unless additional time is granted by the Council. As a rule, the Council will not respond to citizen comments. Written comments can be emailed to cityclerks@cityofpoulsbo.com by 2:00 p.m. the day of the meeting, and they will be distributed to the Council before the meeting. Written comments will not be read into the record.

Draft Document:

The proposed amendments are represented as underline for proposed additions and ~~strikeouts~~ for deletions. The proposed amendments can be found online:
<https://cityofpoulsbo.com/criticalareasupdate/>.

Examination of File:



<https://cityofpoulsbo.com/criticalareasupdate/>

Staff Contact:

Nikole Coleman | Planning Manager | ncoleman@cityofpoulsbo.com

