



Alliance for a Healthy South Sound LIO Council Meeting

SEPTEMBER 18, 2025

Agenda

Time	Session	Speakers
10:00am	Welcome & Get Settled	Elizabeth McManus
10:05am	Thurston County Comprehensive Plan Update	Maya Teeple, Thurston County
10:35am	Pierce County Comprehensive Plan Update	Becca Book, Pierce County
11:05am	LIO Healthy Shoreline Action Plan	Elizabeth McManus
11:25am	AHSS LIO Updates	Elizabeth McManus
11:45am	Round Robin	All
11:55am	Wrap-up & Next Steps	Elizabeth McManus
12:00 - Adjourn and Enjoy the Day!		



Thurston County Comprehensive Plan Updates

Maya Teeple, Thurston County



Pierce County Comprehensive Plan Updates

Becca Book, Pierce County

LIO Collective Action Plan

Healthy Shorelines

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What is included in an Action Plan?

- *Clear connections between local barriers, pressures, challenges, and priorities and Action Agenda Strategies and Actions*
- *Specific project/action descriptions that identify who would like to do what, where to address barriers, pressures, challenges, etc., and achieve desired outcomes*
- *Estimated costs to carry out the identified work (when known)*
- *Staffing/capacity needs (when known)*

Healthy Shoreline Action Plan Process

1. Coordinators work with AHSS partners to list opportunities, barriers, and associated actions for healthy shorelines.
2. The Action Plan will be submitted to the Puget Sound Partnership later in September.
3. Action Plan development is iterative; plans can be updated whenever needed.

AHSS LIO Healthy Shoreline Action Plan

Key Themes

- Development of meaningful incentives and funding sources for shoreline landowners to take restoration actions is needed
- Shoreline landowners need more information on opportunities for shoreline restoration and shoreline rules and regulations
- Others engaged in shoreline work (contractors, real estate professionals) also need more information on shoreline rules and requirements and stronger expectations they share this information with shoreline landowners
- Counties need additional capacity and funding to update and implement shoreline master programs
- Funding is needed to advance local activities including priority local shoreline restoration projects, such as Chambers Bay and the Deschutes estuary (priority = as identified in LE workplans)

Action Agenda Healthy Shoreline Strategies

Regulatory: Increase and improve shoreline regulation implementation, compliance, enforcement, and communication to protect existing intact nearshore habitat and reduce hard armor.

Incentives: Expand and improve incentives and education for residential property owners to motivate voluntary actions for healthy, climate resilient shorelines.

Long-term Planning: Improve long-term strategic planning to reduce shoreline armoring and increase public access and related human wellbeing benefits.

Design: Increase and improve coastal process-based design and technical training to improve the region's capacity to implement restoration projects.

Restoration: Implement restoration and protection to improve beach processes, structure, and function identified through strategic planning at multiple geographic scales.

- *What shoreline strategies are most important in the South Sound?*
 - *DRAFT AA Strategies on the left for reference*
- *What is the critical local work (actions) to advance shoreline protection and restoration in South Sound?*
- *Are there also things that need to happen at the state or Puget Sound level?*



LIO Updates

- *South Sound Science Center Next Steps*
- *AHSS LIO Stormwater Strategic Initiative Lead Funding*
- *AHSS LIO ECB Local Forum*
- *December 18 AHSS Council Meeting*
 - *Keep this on the 18th or move to early December or January?*

South Sound Science Center - Next Steps

- Continue connecting with Local Partners to identify key science and research needs and science funding gaps
- Develop a small ad hoc South Sound Science Center Committee to help refine the objectives and build structure
- Identify potential funding opportunities

Strategic Initiative Lead Integrated Watershed Planning Funding

- One-time funding allotment from the Stormwater SIL to support a project identified by an AHSS LIO Partner
- Funding will support a *Nisqually Watershed Scale Integrated Planning for Salmon Recovery by using Thurston County's Visualizing Ecosystem Land Management Assessments (VELMA) modeling tool*
- This work will be led by Thurston County in partnership with the Nisqually Indian Tribe and other watershed partners.
- Funding would support modeling, process facilitation and methodology validation
- Utilizing the county's available land use tools and authorities, Thurston County can address salmon recovery in new ways and coordinate county programs (like transportation, and stormwater) around common salmon recovery and land use objectives and combine planning efforts and structures by working with the Nisqually River Council and integrate with the Nisqually Watershed Stewardship Plan.

AHSS LIO ECB Local Forum: History and Future of Estuary Restoration in the South Sound

- History of local collaboration around South Sound estuary restoration projects
- Role of watershed councils in building understanding and support for estuary restoration and need to take a system wide view
- Importance of restoration in smaller estuaries and embayments
- Practically, what it takes to move these large, complex, sometimes controversial projects from idea to reality – time, technical info, openness to a range of views, persistence, money
- Projects to discuss: Nisqually, Shelton Harbor and Oakland Bay, Whiteman Cove, and ongoing work at Chambers Bay and the Deschutes Estuary



Round Robin Announcements



Thank you for
being here!

THE NEXT AHSS LIO
COUNCIL MEETING IS ON
DECEMBER 18, 2025!