

# City of Seattle

## Comprehensive Plan Amendment Application

**Date:** January 18, 2008

**Amendment Title:** Sand Point Policies

**Applicant:** Department of Planning and Development

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**General Area that would be affected by proposed amendment:** Sand Point/Magnuson Park

- 1) The suggested amendment is to move the "Sand Point Amendments" from the Comprehensive Plan into a more appropriate document, such as a park master plan.
- 2) The document titled "Sand Point Amendments" has a confusing history. In 1997, the City Council adopted an ordinance (118622), which amended the Comprehensive Plan to include this document. However, that same ordinance said that the document "will be bound or compiled separately from the Comprehensive Plan." This creates a situation where City policies governing a City facility have the same status as other policies in the City's Comprehensive Plan, but the public and decision makers have limited access to those policies, since they are not published with all of the other policies of the Comp Plan.
- 3) Two potential ways to clarify the current situation are either to move the Sand Point policies out of the Comp Plan or to bind the Sand Point policies within the Comp Plan document. The Sand Point policies are more similar to a master plan or management plan for a City facility than they are to either the citywide policies or the neighborhood plan policies that constitute the majority of the Comp Plan. Other master plans or facility management plans are adopted by the City without making them part of the Comp Plan, and there is no requirement in the Growth Management Act that such policies be included in the Comp Plan. In order to be consistent with the treatment the City gives other master plans and to prevent the Comp Plan from becoming an unwieldy document, the best approach for the Sand Point policies is to move them from the Comprehensive Plan and to make them readily available by printing a

document or posting them on the Department of Parks and Recreation web site.

- 4) The proposed change is intended as a clean-up to clarify the status of the Sand Point policies. There will be no substantive effect, and the policies will continue to guide City decisions about activities and operations at Sand Point.
- 5) The proposed change retains intact the policies that were developed through a public engagement process and adopted through City Council review.
- 6) To date, there have been no discussions with the community about the proposed amendment.