



**Community and Environmental Justice Group
December Meeting**

December 13, 2006
5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

South Shore Club House
12221 North South Shore Drive
Hayden Island

Agenda

Meeting Objectives:

- Finalize roles and responsibilities of CEJG and project staff
- Understand relationship between CEJG and Task Force
- Understand where and how the group will have an impact through upcoming project milestones
- Review project timeline (including CEJG meeting schedule) and 2007-08 milestones
- Finalize plans for project area bus tours for 2007
- Presentation and discussion of evaluation criteria and decision-making process
- Follow-up presentation on neighborhood resource mapping
- Brainstorm necessary support and information for CEJG to reach February milestone
- Identify venues and tasks for CEJG outreach in December, January and February

Dinner	5:30 p.m.
Welcome	6:00 p.m.
Introductions, Review Meeting Purpose and Agenda	6:05 p.m.
Review and Approve Past Meeting Summaries	6:10 p.m.
Clarify Roles and Responsibilities	6:20 p.m.
Community and Environmental Justice Group	
CRC Project Team	
Review Project Timeline	7:10 p.m.
Project Milestones	
CEJG 2007 Meeting Schedule	
Bus Tour Planning	7:25 p.m.
Review and Discuss Evaluation Criteria	7:40 p.m.
Neighborhood Resource Mapping Report-back	8:00 p.m.
Brainstorm Needs to Achieve February Milestone	8:05 p.m.
CEJG Member Outreach Planning	8:10 p.m.
Review Action Items & Next Steps	8:20 p.m.
Closing and Next Meeting Reminder	8:30 p.m.



Meeting Notes
November 30, 2006

Meeting: Community and Environmental Justice Group

Date: Thursday, November 30, 2006

Location: Kenton Firehouse, 2209 N. Schofield St., Portland

Members Present

Pam Ferguson (alternate for Ed Garren)

Dave Frei

Kris Long

Anne McEnery-Ogle

Connie Sherrard

Dave Skagen

Michelle Tworoger

Marcia Ward

Members Absent

Diana Avalos

Desiree Carter

Jonath Colón-Montesi

Keith Edwards

Echo Leighton

Lawrence Russell

Jeri Sundvall-Williams

Nikki Williams

Guest Present

John Benson

CRC Staff Present

Rangineh Azimzadeh*

Danielle Cogan

Heather Gundersen

Doug Ficco

Nanci Luna-Jimenez

Barbara MacKay*

Tom Markgraf

John Osborn

Lynette Shaw

Kris Strickler

*Facilitator's assistants

Introductions and Team Building Activity *(Name, constituency or group)*

Dave Skagen - Rose Village (specifically K Street and those right next to I-5)

Anne McEnery-Ogle - Shumway; low income and minority populations

Dave Frei – Arnada; member of the Task Force

John Osborn – CRC Project Director; Oregon Department of Transportation

Michelle Tworoger – Jantzen Beach Moorage, Inc.

Doug Ficco – CRC Project Director; Washington State Department of Transportation

Connie Sherrard – Lincoln neighborhood; Vancouver Housing Authority

Kris Long – from Vancouver; on board of low-income non-profit; member of NAACP

Danielle Cogan – CRC staff; Oregon Department of Transportation; state employee working for state residents

John Benson – Piedmont; Arbor Lodge as well

Tom Markgraf – CRC staff; works with business leaders; lives in Piedmont as well

Marcia Ward– Hazel Dell; commuters who use I-5

Kris Strickler – CRC Project Staff; Washington State Department of Transportation

Pam Ferguson – Hayden Island (HINooN)

Heather Gunderson – CRC project staff; environmental team

Lynette Shaw – CRC project staff; communications

Opening Comments and Discussion

- The Task Force accepted the CRC staff recommendation. The recommendations will now be forwarded to the public for review and comments. It is important to get out to your constituencies and start talking about it.
- The staff has recommended that the project move forward with two transit modes (Light Rail and Bus Rapid Transit). In addition, only replacement bridge options will move forward. The same information that was provided to the Task Force will be provided to you later tonight.
- During the upcoming DEIS phase, detailed analysis on things such as air quality, tribal issues, noise, etc. will begin for each alternative that moves forward. We will start having a better idea of what we mean by minimizing impacts for each alternative, and start figuring out the “locally preferred alternative” from that. Major discussions will occur between this group and the project staff then about the different parts of this project that might have impacts.
- How is the CEJG group structured (with regards to attendance)?
 - This is not set up as a voting membership so groups or members can send alternates if they wish to have someone here, but it is not required. Some people have only come twice but are still listed as members right now, but that could change. More follow up could be done to remind people to come or send an alternate.
 - If we are making decisions, there are key players that should be here for them. The Task Force needs to know that the key players were here, so if the member can't come they need to send an alternate. Who do we expect to be here – Housing Authority, Vancouver School District?

Introduction: Questions and Hopes

- Find out more about community outreach (John Benson)
- How do we communicate with task force? (Pam)
- How does CEJG come into play and will we see benefits from that? (Michelle Tworoger)
- Definition “minimized” and “encroached upon” (Dave Skagen)
- Let’s try to beautify I-5 a bit (Dave Skagen)
- Determine various ways to mitigate impacts – both sides (Anne)
- Understanding impacts (e.g. noise, air quality). Which of these solutions give best outcome? Or minimize negative impacts (Dave Frei)

Clarification of Roles and Responsibilities (staff and members)

Prompted Q & A

- What is your role in the group?
 - Represent the community
 - Giving feedback/information to the community
 - Put information into newsletters, educate
 - Sharing expectations of staff
 - Learning whole picture, becoming informed
 - Listening and taking back information
 - Being thoroughly honest
 - 2 pieces – meaningful input and meaningful opportunities to do something
 - Frustrated – Why am I here?
 - Am I making a difference?
 - In what areas can I make a difference?
 - We don’t know the communities as well as we should
 - A whole lot at stake; big issues. Make sure folks have opportunity
 - Two sides to EJ: Outreach/Technical side (can we have same input on technical side too? Can we give you feedback?)
- What is confusing?
 - Not clear about how EJ fits with what we are doing
 - Not sure what we are trying to do here
 - The scope of what we are handling
 - Not as well defined as the roles of Task Force
 - Not sure how EJ issues connect with what we are doing
 - How to impact environment impacts
 - What is the scope of our responsibility? (unclear)
- What is the staff hearing from the group?
 - Concern about whether or not the group will make a difference
 - Questions about what areas you can and can’t make a difference in
 - Don’t have adequate hold on community.
 - Reflections on nature, depth, and quality of outreach.

- Feeling that a whole lot more is at stake on the big issues
- Interest in aspects of EJ
- What are we finding out from tech and can we have input on tech aspect?
- What is the group hearing from the staff?
 - CEJG does not have direct line to Task Force. Project team will filter through what goes through to Task Force.
 - Want to hear from the community
 - Heard that this doesn't matter – that take information and not take action on it.
 - Not everyone is sure on what is being done. Staff to staff surprise
 - Focused on “lines” on maps
 - Eager to get our input
 - Not sure anything will happen with our input
 - Not sure staff knows what they are doing, or not sure what members are doing

Discussion

Anne McEnery-Ogle – Who will speak for people when these are built, Task Force or CEJG?

Doug Ficco – Everyone has input but the departments of transportation and local parties have the final say. This is in all pieces of the decision making process. Task Force doesn't have a say in Right of Way – this group would. Working groups are the ones who have the more detailed work.

Anne McEnery-Ogle – What authority has Task Force given us? Do we volunteer to do research and get information? Or, are we here to deal with the impacts? Is our job input or the second half of EJ about balancing impact?

Dave Frei – Look at charter and at the Delta Park project. I believe Task Force and project staff depend on us to get to the community (they are the only ones who can really have a say.) It's about hundreds of thousands being heard. We have to be confident that voice is being heard. Unless we are driven by that, we just have opinions.

Kris Long – Are you (Dave Frei) representing CEJG at the Task Force?

Dave Frei – I have two roles. On one, I am a Westside representative. On the other, I am looking for the things that are not being looked at. We should know our communities by now - there is a year behind us. Staff should intimately know the community. How do we make sure that connection is happening?

John Osborn – This group was not envisaged to report to the Task Force. It was intended to be more engaged with the project team. It is another vehicle for getting input. What is it that you see? We are just now narrowing things down to lines on a map. If we need to mitigate, what would you like to see in your community? Come back to the charter – to provide a forum where we can say what we're looking at and ask you how we identify and minimize impact. We come back from that forum and say “here is what we heard along with some other factors, what do you think?”

Kris Long – Did Michelle and her group impact decision between the supplemental and replacement bridge?

John Osborn – Now is when we are having that conversation.

Kris Long – Are we receiving or proactive in this? I was hoping we would be part of the development piece.

John Osborn – We are just starting to have those discussions.

Michelle Tworoger – I am 90% sure my home is going to go with the new bridge. My concern and focus are with the island though.

Pam Ferguson – Could you restate that it is not too late because lines are on the map?

John Osborn – We are just on the cusp of being able to do something here. We have to get to the point that we clarify so we can focus on what is happening.

Barbara MacKay – I hope that we can put in writing the roles of the members and staff so there is something to refer back to with respect to us and communities.

Dave Frei – I empathize that lines on a map are easy. Work should have been done on big decisions on 5 miles and 50 years away. We need a strategic level of understanding about our communities and what future generations are going to inherit.

DYAD Question

If you knew you were making a difference on this project, what would you be doing as a CEJG member or as a staff member?

What is easy about the role of a CEJG member?

- Communication piece
- See where people are coming from, commitment
- Hearing each other

What are hard things about the role of a CEJG member?

- Vague – not so easy
- Next piece not in charter – how do we give input around “mitigating & minimizing impacts?”

What don't you understand about the role?

- CEJG input will be “sieved” by project team since no direct input to task force
- Why am I not being asked to do something, e.g. tasks, planning?
- Why not have 3-4 goals?

Additional Questions

- Alternates?
- How has the group changed?
- Is it evolving?

What do you think your role is now? (results of writing exercise)

CEJG Members	Staff
Outline clear info to combat rumors/misinformation on this project	Assist both staff & the group in reaching clarity in how the group can provide timely and meaningful input
Provide neighbors & coworkers with clear objective info on alternatives/project	Creation of a new kind of project that serves the whole of the community via a process of healthy, honest consensus building.
Learn from/listen to diverse viewpoints	Healthy understanding of everyone's concerns and that everyone contribute
A viable community enhancement fund	Provide support to the meeting so that group can concentrate on priorities. Take back what I hear to the Communications Team in a way that makes it useful to the staff.
Take alternatives back to Piedmont/A.L. NHS	Green bridge habitat, riparian improvements, tribal sites identified, better collaboration between Task Force and agencies.
Define my role	Learn what the communities are thinking and help CEJG with staff. Learn environmental impacts. Benzene?
Community update for my neighbors. Make them feel like they're being heard, having a good feeling that this could go well.	Want a long-term positive affect on community – not just “a project.”
Feel the community voice heard	Provide technical assistance.
Provide updated info to my community. Provide feedback to CRC. Provide concerns to CRC	Work with all groups: Needs, concerns, mid-ground of groups, project with “best fit” to meet needs, where “most” can see benefits of one project.
Great communicator, talk to people, get feedback, create solutions, more activity	Research (collect info from my area, neighborhood, residents/businesses) the direct and indirect economic, social, cultural, environments, and health benefits/burdens or impacts on the stakeholders.
Keep the staff honest. Hold them to their obligation/accountability to communities.	Form a closer and personal relationship with EJG.
Ask my questions and speak my truth.	Do a better job demonstrating how to present to neighborhood groups more effectively & engaging.
I come for food	Make sure that the communities on both sides of the bridge would not be hurt & would make the bridge mass-transit friendly.
Still unclear what my role is. I need a task.	

Time is running out.	
Empathy and understanding of communities affected	
Define community needs	
Listen & react to various/diverse info/opinions of this group	
Represent and protect the interests of students in the VSD	
Who are we in this process	
Understand why some from org. are not here tonight, officials, higher ups should be representing groups here	
Listen more closely, follow process more closely	
Ways to mitigate project impacts: air quality, noise, health, more ways to minimize project's impact on those next to I-5. Communicate with those folks moved and those remaining newly adjacent to I-5	
Provide info. About project to people	
All information is factual from the project	
Enable a democratic process	
Educate community – CEJG – Project	
Bring beauty to project. Is CRC listening? Everyone happy?	
Keeping everything in check. Follow up on what CRC is saying.	

December Meeting Information

- December 13th (Wednesday) or
- December 20th (Wednesday)
 - Hayden Island Yacht Club
 - South Shore Club House

Parking Lot

- Follow up on people who have stopped attending – how best to do this?
- Key players not here, their alternate needs to be here (identify who they are and why they're not here?)
- Survey answers – hope to have all in (if people want that) by year-end and decide how to use info (e.g. on bus tour, etc.)
- Property values dropped – Dave S. \$20,000 drop

Last Impressions/Thoughts

- Community's frustration of their roles and staff intransigence?
- Commitment
- Willing to wade through ambiguous stuff and meet in Dec.
- Frustration – Thought we'd moved past that
- Everybody's ability to listen in egg roll

- Pleased to see bus tour on map
- Still looking for clarity and a task to do
- Confusion, frustration and enjoyment
- Staff standing up under fire
- People speaking their truth
- Under representation
- Give tasks to do – May help lack of clarity around R & R
- Frustrated – tired of being facilitated. Need to see a goal – action steps – we’re involved in those action steps
- Holding our feet to the fire
- Glad to meet in December
- We’ll work through this. Decided my role is to “facilitate” in my community. Get them to write ideas down

Action Items and Next Steps

- Group will hold another meeting in December to continue working on this. The meeting will be on the evening of either December 13th or December 20th, and will be held on Hayden Island.
- Help plan/refine bus tour - email to Danielle, Pam, Michelle and Dave Skagen
- Anne & Marcia will help set next meeting’s agenda
- Staff and community contact, missing community members (those who have not shown up). Michelle is willing to call and remind.
- Follow up with key players and find out who their alternate person is
- Community folks write up (e.g. recent demo, graphics) something about their neighborhoods (or photos)
- Bring 2000 census demographic maps (Start filling in gaps between what we know now has changed)
- Danielle can give most recent contact list

***These meeting notes were reviewed and approved by the Community and Environmental Justice Group.**