



**Community and Environmental Justice Group  
Meeting #9**

February 1, 2007  
5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Kenton Firehouse  
2209 N. Schofield St.  
Portland, OR 97217

***Agenda***

Meeting Objectives:

- Debrief Bus Tour outing and identify what we learned
- Report-back from January Task Force meeting
- Review and discuss public comments from January Open Houses & community meetings
- Present and discuss noise and air quality impacts (monitoring, placement, baseline, etc.)
- Identify any information still needed to write CEJG response
- Continue discussion and input re: staff recommendations
- Identify CEJG membership attitudes toward staff recommendations
- Clarify process for writing CEJG response to staff recommendations
- Identify next steps and begin work on CEJG written response to staff recommendations

Dinner	5:30 p.m.
Welcome	6:00 p.m.
Review Meeting Purpose and Draft Agenda	6:05 p.m.
Meeting Summary Approval Process	6:10 p.m.
Bus Tour Debrief	6:15 p.m.
Report from January Task Force Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Public Outreach Review and Discussion	6:40 p.m.
January Open Houses—Reports from CEJG Members	
Public Comment, Community Meetings and Outreach Events Summary	
Presentation and discussion on noise and air quality	7:00 p.m.
Discuss Staff Recommendations	7:25 p.m.
Present matrix on project funding	
Clarify decision making and writing process for CEJG response	
Public Comment	8:20 p.m.
Review Action Items & Next Steps	8:30 p.m.
Closing and Next Meeting Reminder	8:40 p.m.
Depart	8:45 p.m.



**Meeting Notes**  
January 9, 2007

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**Meeting:** Community and Environmental Justice Group

**Date:** Tuesday, January 9, 2007

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

**Members Present**

John Benson

Pam Ferguson (alternate for Ed Garren)

Dave Frei

Connie Sherrard

Dave Skagen

Michelle Tworoger

Marcia Ward

Nikki Williams

**Members Absent**

Diana Avalos

Kris Long

Anne Mc Enerny-Ogle

Jonath Colon-Montesi

Lawrence Russell

Jeri Sundvall-Williams

**Guest Present**

Alex- USPS Manager for Hayden Island and North Portland (Kenton)

Daniel Sherrard (Connie's son)

**CRC Staff Present**

Rangineh Azimzadeh

Danielle Cogan

Heather Gundersen

Jeff Heilman

Nanci Luna Jiménez

Barbara MacKay

Tom Markgraf

Lynette Shaw

**CRC Staff Absent**

Doug Ficco

Kris Strickler

**Introductions and Team Building Activity** *(Name, constituency or group and one thing you would like to see happen with this group in 2007)*

**John Benson** – Piedmont; Arbor Lodge as well

- Would like to see what kind of community enhancement funding as part of package

**Dave Frei** – Arnada; member of the Task Force

- Would like to see strong outreach and that the communities are well informed and able to make informed decisions

**Connie Sherrard** – Lincoln neighborhood; Vancouver Housing Authority

- Seconds Dave Frei's sentiment; true "bridging" of project communities

**Daniel Sherrard** – Lincoln neighborhood; Vancouver Housing Authority

- To understand what's been discussed

**Michelle Tworoger** – Jantzen Beach Moorage, Inc.

- Community involvement; positive involvement-would like to see more community member step up and become involved

**Jeff Heilman** – CRC project staff; environmental team

- Would like to communicate importance of EJ group

**Heather Gunderson** – CRC project staff; environmental team

- Seconds Jeff's sentiments

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

- Increase outreach; become more comfortable with the info being presented.

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

- Would like the outcome of the project to be community friendly; to set a good example

**Lynette Shaw** – CRC project staff; communications

- Would like the EJ group to feel more confident about their role

**Rangineh Azimzadeh** – CRC staff (Facilitation Team)

- Would like to group to feel empowered about their role and that they are making a difference in the overall scope of the project

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

- Group feels confident and sees tangible outcomes

**Barbara MacKay** – CRC Staff (Facilitation Team)

**Nanci Luna Jiménez** – CRC staff (Facilitation Team)

- To facilitate a process with honor that brings forth the true wisdom of the group

**Alex** – Local postal service supervisor

**Other Comments:**

- Give a good bus tour to the group
- Do a rigorous analysis for this project
- Be responsible to community needs

**Opening Comments and Discussion**

- December Meeting Summary – Not available; will be given out at Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> meeting
- Agenda for January 18<sup>th</sup> – Proposal to discuss air quality at that time (Danielle Cogan)
- ACTION – Revised "Charter & Activities for CEJG" handed out

- ANNOUNCEMENT – Echo Leighton will no longer be joining the group due to other commitments
  - Proposal to recruit representatives from other underrepresented areas via phone (DC)
  - Would like to see stronger representation from neighborhoods east of I-5 (i.e. Rose Village, 4<sup>th</sup> Plain, Central Park, Hudson's Bay) (Dave Frei)

### **Staff Recommendation**

- Discussion around the recommendation will happen over 2 meetings (1/9 & 1/18)
- CRC is a bridge, highway & transit project
- CRC staff presented Task Force with the best option for the project
- Task Force is now asking the public for its opinion/feedback (Dec. 1 – Feb. 15 has been designated to do outreach and get public feedback about the recommendation)
- CRC staff recommends:
  - Replacement bridge – this option meets population needs in terms of safety, storm water issues, land consumption (land consumption is less w/ this option), bridge lift (will no longer exist eradicating several safety concerns & traffic congestion), transit advantage
  - Disadvantages of a supplemental bridge – Bridge ownership and poor quality of life due to increased traffic congestion

### **Staff Recommendation – Questions & Comments**

Michelle Tworoger – Will the old bridge be taken down entirely?

John Benson – (Regarding a replacement bridge) How many businesses & residents are impacted? What kind of mitigation is happening?

Danielle Cogan – (Response) Supplemental bridge would have more of a negative impact on the communities due to larger land consumption. Next phase of the discussion will address the effects of a new bridge and transit system.

John Benson – What are the differences in impact to the local communities with the different transit options?

Jeff Heilman– Conceptual alternative showed displacement of [floating] homes on the west side. How business will be affected depends on whether you go east or west but either way some of them will be affected.

Nanci Luna Jiménez – (Question to Jeff) Do you have a number of projected business that will be affected?

Jeff Heilman– Certain business that will be affected have been identified on the east and west side at this point.

Dave Frei – I see only one option w/ no middle option. See no numbers on air/water quality and costs on this one option (or other options). This [option] could be the right answer but like to see data behind it; expect public will want this too. Would like to see

one more intermediate option and see more cost/benefits data. Will one option meet the NEPA process? Will air quality impacts look different if you have “an inconvenient” bridge configuration rather than a “best” option?

**Question to Group** – “Name one thing jumping out at you from the presentation/questions”

- Dave Skagen – Why aren’t there more alternatives for the one bridge option?
- Marcia Ward – “Light rail”: would like more info about it. Read about the survey and wonder how much weight does that survey really have? (Concerned that info about the light rail implied people want the light rail but my experience was that people don’t want light rail; afraid other may assume light rail is the general consensus because of the way the info has been presented)
- Michelle Tworoger – “Wider Impact”: Concern around more of Hayden Island being impacted
- Connie Sherrard – struck by how complicated it is and how much info is needed to build trust around this process (heard a certain message around safety)
- Dave Frei – Concerned that it’s a very good “story” for why we should get rid of the bridge
- John Benson – “Impact” Delta Park had specific maps so communities could visualize. With this project we only have a few vague sketches; don’t have a good “feel” for this project or what the impact areas look like.
- Pam Ferguson – (Missed Danielle’s presentation) “Progress” seems to be made, we have more definition

**Question to Group** – “What is your gut reaction to the staff recommendation right now?”

- Dave Frei – Don’t know enough. Curiosity as to what it looks like. What really are the impacts? Worried we might skip a step.
- Connie Sherrard – Curious, questioning, worried we might mess it up
- Michelle Tworoger – Please about the replacement bridge but want it placed somewhere else – another corridor. Have not studied other sites.
- Marcia Ward – Fear related to unknown commitments of other players (i.e. City of Vancouver) to this process
- Dave Skagen – Want more info
- Pam Ferguson – Pleased to move forward with a smaller amount of alternatives; can better concentrate our efforts

**Question to Group** – “What are the implications on the communities you are representing?”

- Michelle Tworoger – More potential to eliminate a community that has nowhere to move, the floating home community.
- Dave Frei – No matter what option we go with, someone will be impacted (Implications are cost, air quality, relocations, division of neighborhoods)

**Question to Group** – “Given what you know now, what are additional things you want the staff to consider?”

- Dave Frei – Consider an intermediate option between a replacement bridge and no build
- Michelle Tworoger – More consideration about an east vs. west placement (want them to go east)
- Dave Skagen – More effort to get community leaders involved

**Group Activity (writing exercise):** “Write down one thing (at this point) you would want the Task Force to know about the staff recommendation (from CEJG)”

- “Having only one alternative makes it look like the process is bogus – like there was never any intention to have anything less than a new replacement bridge”
- “Show specific route plans for alternatives 2 & 3 and intermediate bridge. Each to ‘overlay’ no build. Also show approximate cost.” (John Benson)
- “That were being heard, being useful, and is there anything that “EJ” can do for the Task Force?” (Dave Skagen)
- “The environmental justice impacts to displacing the residential community on the water is very negative and unfair!” (Michelle Tworoger)
- “Reminder to consider displacement of residents in the impacted area!” (Dave)
- “Limiting”
- “We have a monkey”

**Group Activity (writing exercise):** “What are all the things we need to know and do to provide a succinct response to staff recommendations?”

- “What is the real impact of air quality, noise, and unbiased data?” (Marcia Ward)
- “Clarify our questions; listen to community open houses” (Connie Sherrard)
- “Provide adequate info so that people can ask the right questions” (Connie Sherrard)
- “Environmental costs” (Connie Sherrard)
- “Define the width of impact” (Michelle Tworoger)
- “Build the replacement bridge in an area that does not impact Hayden Island” (Michelle Tworoger)
- “Study at least 2 alternatives” (Michelle Tworoger)
- “How far from the purpose and needs have staff been willing to explore” (Dave Frei)
- “Public to have the alternate look at transportation” (Dave Frei)
- “1000 people’s comments at the open houses” (Dave Frei)
- “What businesses will be displaced?” (Pam Ferguson)
- “What studies will be done to show these impacts?” (Pam Ferguson)
- “What compensation might be offered to the communities most affected?” (Pam Ferguson)
- “What is the estimated cost of this project?” (Alex)
- “Who will shoulder the cost of this project and how is this to be determined?” (Alex)
- “What is the projected completion date from the start date of the project?” (Alex)
- “Specific routes for each alternative and each option to address costs, air quality, and noise levels.” (John Benson)
- “Neighborhood mediation and impacts enhancements” (John Benson)

- “Information from transit consultants on light rail, truck/rail, ferry, bus and funding sources (% from feds/states/local).” (John Benson)

**Open House/Outreach – Questions and Comments** (“Open House Outreach Tracking” packet distributed)

- Good idea to include translated documents if option is offered
- Good job on materials
- Extra post cards available?
- Is this a self-guided tour?
- Feels like a “pretty good marketing spiel”
- Need to have boards that show potential impact areas (with shading)
- Board #7 – Is this the only visual option?
- People will not see how this affects them so may not make comments – they need to see neighbors or businesses that will be displaced, then they can equate to it personally
- SUGGESTION: Everyone gets a card (or name badge) at the beginning of the open house with their name and association or area they live in/work in printed on it,
- Has an opportunity been offered to some of the stronger advocates from the public to voice their opinions or attend the open house? Give them a little space - if cannot handle them in a public forum, what does this say?
- What can we do to handle this in an objective way?

**Bus Tour (Question to group)** “Why is the bus tour important to you?”

- “Get to know who’s affected & exactly where they are”
- “Did tour for Delta Park and it really helped make it real and connected more with what might happen”

**Bus Tour Logistics**

- Blue Star Charter Bus will be used (max. capacity of 28)
- Group will meet at Starbucks inside Safeway by 9:30 AM on Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup>
- Tom and John will cover Echo’s section on the tour

**Closing Comments (Question to group)** “Name one thing you like/learned tonight”

- Danielle’s a good speaker (Dave Frei)
- Good representation of the concerns of the group (John Benson)
- Excited about upcoming open houses (Pam Ferguson)
- Excited about bus tour (Lynette Shaw)
- Hope staff hear concerns
- Glad touch questions were asked because they will turn into more substantial facts and information (Danielle Cogan)
- Liked being here (Nikki Williams)
- Discussion was stimulating, generated questions (Marcia Ward)
- Glad Dave Frei made sure everyone got heard (Heather Gundersen)

- Happy that public member came into the meeting and gave us very relevant input regarding the problems at the post office with the post card (Nanci Luna Jiménez)

### **Action Items**

- Stronger representation of neighborhoods east of I-5 needed for CEJG rather than more west/Vancouverites (i.e. Central Park, West Plain, Rose Village, Hudson's Bay)
- Recruit or invite at meetings in those areas (Danielle and others)
- Put the offer of translation in the languages to be translated
- Post office had many returns – need to fix post card
- Shading of impact areas on Open House boards
- Include “neighborhoods” map on a board
- Think about including more vocal perspectives at open houses
- Dave Skagen to speak to Area 2 on bus tour
- Dave Frei to do part also
- North Portland area will be covered by Tom and John during the bus tour
- Michelle will make phone calls
- Community members to review the air quality and noise reports distributed at end of meeting

### **Next Meeting**

- **Date:** Thursday, January 18, 2007
- **Location:** Kenton Firehouse, 2209 N. Schofield St., Portland, OR