

MEETING SUMMARY

Advisory Committee Meeting Flood Control Zone District February 21, 2012 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Location

Board of County Commissioners' Hearing Room, Skagit County Administrative Building, 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon, WA.

Meeting Purpose

For the Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) Advisory Committee (AC) members to conduct normal business and:

1. Acceptance of Meeting Summary
2. Skagit River General Investigation (Skagit GI) Update
3. Feasibility Scoping Meeting (FSM) Read-Ahead Report
4. Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan (CFHMP) Update
5. Meeting Schedule
6. Funding
7. To determine next steps and assignments, if any, for Technical Committees

Public Comment

No public comment.

Acceptance of January 23, 2012 AC Meeting Summary

There was no quorum, therefore, the meeting summary could not be considered and accepted. This will be revisited on March 19, 2012.

Skagit GI Update

Dan Berentson reported the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has received \$700,000 to continue the Skagit GI for Fiscal Year 2012. The USACE is scheduling the FSM for March.

Kara Symonds added the USACE is currently preparing for the Alternatives Formulation Briefing. Preparation includes the 10% design of the alternatives, the cost-to-benefit ratio of each alternative, recommend the National Economic Development plan, and the Locally Preferred Plan.

Feasibility Scoping Meeting Read-Ahead Report

Symonds explained the purpose of the report is to document technical studies and findings related to flood risk management of the Skagit River basin. Once a report is ready, the USACE can schedule a meeting to discuss it. This is a continuation of the report that was submitted in 2009, which received several comments that needed to be addressed. Additional comments and responses were received in 2011, as well. The final submittal includes things such as all comments, environmental and economic reports, levee failure analysis, basin description, and alternatives formulation strategy. This is the meeting anticipated to take place in March.

CFHMP Update

Symonds has been getting up to speed on the WACs and RCWs that guide the process of creating a CFHMP. Currently, she is updating the bibliography and incorporating recent

publications from the USACE and others into the document, such as the NEPA scoping comments, Hydrologic Effectiveness Report, FSM Read-Ahead documents, the Geotechnical report by Shannon & Wilson, and a Stratigraphy report from the U.S. Geological Survey.

Meeting Schedule

County staff suggested the FCZD AC meet quarterly since it is difficult for all members to attend monthly. This topic was opened for discussion. Overall, the AC members present appeared to want to meet six times a year (no less). However, since there was no quorum, the AC could not move forward with a motion. This will be addressed at the next meeting on March 19, 2012.

Funding

The County's match for the Skagit GI is \$700,000. Avenues will have to be explored in order to come up with a way to match this significant amount of money.

Skagit River Historian

Larry Kunzler presented a letter from 1975 from Colonel Poteat, USACE, to James King, The Seattle Times, regarding flood terminology that had been incorrectly used in an article. Specifically, an editorial from 1975 described a 10-year event as being a 100-year flood, a misunderstanding mostly likely due to the extensive damages that occurred. He also raised issue with the comment that a dam on the Sauk River would provide adequate protection in the lower valley, when the current levees (from Burlington on downstream) already provide necessary coverage. He also commented that more storage at the Baker Dam is what is needed to assist in heightening the adequacy of the levees. While all alternatives need to be weighed, the addition of the Avon Bypass would probably help in reducing flood damage, as well.

Suggested Next Steps and Meeting

1. Local Funding
2. Skagit River GI Work-In-Kind

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

PRESENT AT FCZD ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING:

Name	Representing	Affiliation	Present	Absent	Proxy
Anderson, Mayor Mike	Cities and Towns	City of Sedro-Woolley		X	
Boudinot, Bob	ETC	Skagit Land Trust		X	
Boudreau, Mayor Jill	Cities and Towns	City of Mount Vernon		X	
Carey, Bob	ETC	The Nature Conservancy		X	
Carlson, Todd	LUTC	WA Dept. of Transportation		X	
Easton, Jason	LUTC	LUTC	X		
Flaig, Dean	DDTC	Drainage District 21		X	
Halverson, Leonard	At-Large	Sterling Area	X		
Hamburg, Daryl	DDTC	Dike District 17	X		
Hughes, Robert	LUTC	Ag. Adv. Committee		X	
Kunzler, Larry	At-Large	Skagit River Flood Historian	X		
Nelson, Stanley	DDTC	Dike District 22	X		
Pflug, Dave	ETC	Seattle City Light		X	
Sexton, Mayor Steve	Cities and Towns	City of Burlington			X Chal Martin
Solomon, Shirley	ETC	Skagit Watershed Council		X	

STAFF	
Name	Affiliation
Berentson, Dan	Skagit County Public Works
Hash, Henry	Skagit County Public Works
MacMullen, Meghan	Skagit County Public Works
See, Mike	Skagit County Public Works
Symonds, Kara	Skagit County Public Works

OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES	
Name	Affiliation
Chesterfield, Blaine	City of Mount Vernon
Ellestad, Lorna	Citizen
Ertel, Cory	Puget Sound Energy
Lefeber, Dan	Dike District 12
O'Donnell, Dan	Citizen
Tjeerdsma, Eddie	Dike District 12