



SKAGIT COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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MEETING SUMMARY

**** DRAFT ****

Advisory Committee Meeting #4
Skagit County Flood Control Zone District
September 15, 2008 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Location:

Skagit County Continental Building, 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon, WA

Meeting Purpose - For the Advisory Committee (AC) members to:

1. Conduct normal business
2. Hear presentation: City of Burlington's/Dike District #12's proposal for 100-year protection for Burlington.
3. Review preliminary table of contents for the Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan (CFHMP).
4. Develop a CFHMP mission statement, and short-term and long-term goals, and objectives.
5. Determine next steps and schedule, including Technical Committee (TC) assignments, if any.

Summary of Action Items and Next Steps:

1. Request the County Commissioners to clarify what they want the AC to respond to in relation to the City of Burlington's (and Dike District #12's) levee improvement and Urban Growth Area (UGA) expansion proposal.
2. Request a copy of the DS SEPA documents from the City of Burlington.
3. Request Burlington to clarify exactly what they are proposing.
4. Request that the City of Burlington consider extending their State Environmental Policy Act Determination of Significance (SEPA DS) comment period to a date that is after the AC meeting on November 17.
5. Meet with United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) at 10/20 AC meeting to hear about flood preparedness, flood response, and levee certification criteria.
6. Ask TC's to meet and report out at 10/20 AC meeting on criteria to be considered for screening CFHMP recommended projects and measures.
7. Update draft goals/objectives document based on input from AC, and mail to AC members. Request comment in time to update for next AC meeting.
8. AC to continue work on the goals/objectives/measurement criteria element with goal of completing draft at next meeting.
9. Schedule AC agenda time for discussion topic: What does the AC think about the Skagit General Investigation (GI)?
10. Review draft Public Involvement Plan.
11. AC to begin work on selecting criteria for evaluating projects/measures.

Welcome:

Chairman Bob Boudinot opened the meeting, welcomed AC members and public attendees. Bob announced that this (and future) AC meetings will be audio recorded. Recordings of meetings (on CDs) are available upon request to staff.

Public Comment:

- Konrad Kurp asked that the flood management plan include an evaluation of the land use patterns throughout the entire watershed (forestry was used as an example), and their impacts on the volume of stormwater run-off.
- Written memo from Stan Nelson (absent AC member) regarding his thoughts on the Skagit GI was handed out.

Regular Reports:

- Larry Kunzler, Flood Historian, read from a portion of an article published in the New York Times on December 2, 1891 regarding the natural resources and dike-drainage activities already underway in the Skagit delta at the time.
- James Voetberg, P.E., Public Works Director, noted that the public comment period on the preliminary measures being considered under the Skagit GI will remain open until the end of the month and encouraged folks to submit written comment.
- There were no TC reports.
- Linda Smith, USACE, responded to some questions regarding the status of the Skagit GI and also encouraged public comment on the preliminary measures.

Previous Meeting Summaries:

It was moved by Jason Easton, seconded by Ramon Hayes, to accept the AC meeting summaries of July 14, 2008 and August 18, 2008 as drafted by staff. Meeting summaries were accepted by consensus.

City of Burlington Flood Protection Proposal :

Chal Martin, Public Works Director for the City of Burlington, presented information on a joint proposal on behalf of the City and Dike District #12 to provide enhanced flood protection for the City and nearby urban areas. The talk included a PowerPoint presentation (CDs of which are available). The proposal includes levee setback and certification and modification to the City's UGA. Chal advised that the City had asked the County to consider Co-SEPA Lead on the proposal. In response, the County asked the City to first present the proposal to the AC for its consideration and recommendation. Discussion and Q & A took place during and after the presentation.

The AC took no formal action on a recommendation at this time deciding instead to seek clarification from the County as to exactly the nature of the recommendation being requested. The City has issued a SEPA DS scoping comment notice for which the comment period expired August 29, 2008. The AC asked Chal for a copy of the SEPA DS notice and if the City might consider extending the comment period through November to allow the AC members additional time in which to consider its recommendation and comment. Chal was thanked for an informative presentation.

What will the CFHMP look like and when will it be completed?

Cynthia Carlstad (consultant) led a discussion on this topic. She presented a CFHMP preliminary table of contents and a time schedule to complete the first six chapters (existing conditions portion of the plan) by February 2008.

Mission statement, guiding principles, goals, and objectives for the CFHMP:

Working from a draft “straw-man” document prepared by staff, the AC began deliberating on this element of the CFHMP. The work was not completed due to time constraints and staff was asked to revise the “straw-man”, according to the amendments made at the meeting, send out the revised document to AC members for review, and comment before the next meeting. This work item will be continued at the next 10/20 AC meeting.

TC Assignment(s):

It was decided, by consensus, that the three TCs (Dike and Drainage Districts, Environmental, and Land Use) be asked to provide input on the criteria to be considered for screening CFHMP recommended projects/measures appropriate from each Committee’s perspective to report out at the next 10/20 AC meeting.

Old business:

Postponed due to lack of time to future meeting.

Next steps and meeting:

- Next meeting will be Monday, October 10, 2008.
- USACE will make a presentation on flood preparedness, flood response, and levee certification criteria.
- Continue work on developing goals, objectives, and measurement criteria.
- AC member views on Skagit GI.
- Criteria for selecting CFHMP projects/measures.
- Review Public Involvement Plan

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

See meeting attendance roll below.

PRESENT AT MEETING 9/15/2008 FCZD ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Name	Representing	Affiliation	Present	Absent	Proxy	Position Vacant
Anderson, Mayor Mike	Cities and Towns	City of Sedro Woolley	X			
Boudinot, Bob	Environmental Technical Committee	Skagit Land Trust	X			
Carey, Bob	Environmental Technical Committee	The Nature Conservancy	X			
Carlson, Bob	Land Use Technical Committee	WA Dept. of Transportation	X			
Easton, Jason	Land Use Technical Committee	Washington Realtors	X			
Flaig, Dean	Dike and Drainage District Technical Committee	Drainage District #21	X			
Halverson, Leonard	At-Large	Sterling Area	X			
Hayes, Mayor Ramon	Cities and Towns	Town of LaConner	X			
Hughes, Robert	Land Use Technical Committee	Agricultural Advisory Committee		X		
Kunzler, Larry	At-Large	Skagit River Flood Historian	X			
Nelson, Stanley	Dike and Drainage District Technical Committee	Dike District #22		X		
Norris, Mayor Bud	Cities and Towns	City of Mount Vernon		X		
Olson, David	Dike and Drainage District Technical Committee	Dike District #3	X			
Pflug, Dave	Environmental Technical Committee	Seattle City Light	X			
Wasserman, Larry	Environmental Technical Committee	Swinomish Indian Tribe	X			

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE at 9/15/2008 Advisory Committee Meeting

Name	Representing/Affiliation
Carlstad, Cynthia	Skagit County (consultant)
Wheeler, Bob	Skagit County (consultant)
Berentson, Dan	Skagit County Staff, Public Works
Boge, Ric	Skagit County Staff, Public Works
Ellestad, Lorna	Skagit County Staff, Public Works
Karsh, Tom	Skagit County Staff, Public Works
MacMullen, Meghan	Skagit County Staff, Public Works
Miller, Jeff	Skagit County Staff, Public Works
See, Michael	Skagit County Staff, Public Works
Voetberg, Jim	Skagit County Staff, Public Works