

# Columbia River CROSSING

**Meeting Summary**  
**Columbia River Crossing Task Force**  
**September 12, 2005**  
**4–6:30 p.m.**  
OAME, Main Conference Room  
4134 North Vancouver, Portland, Oregon

**Members Present:**

Sam Adams, City of Portland  
Charles Becker, City of Gresham  
Rex Burkholder, Metro  
Bob Byrd, Identity Clark County  
Lora Caine, Friends of Clark County  
Serena Cruz, Multnomah County  
Hal Dengerink, Washington State  
University Vancouver (Task Force Co-chair)  
Dave Frei, Arnada Neighborhood  
Association  
Lynne Griffith, C-TRAN  
Jerry Grossnickle, Columbia River Tugboat  
Association  
Brad Halverson, Overlook Neighborhood  
Association  
Henry Hewitt, Stoel Rives (Task Force Co-  
chair)  
Monica Isbell, Portland Business Alliance  
Ed Lynch, Vancouver National Historic  
Reserve Trust  
Dick Malin, Central Park Neighborhood  
Association

Wally Mehrens, Columbia Pacific Building  
Trades  
Larry Paulson, Port of Vancouver, USA  
Bart Phillips, Columbia River Economic  
Development Council  
Janet Ray, Washington AAA  
Art Schaff, Washington State Trucking  
Association  
Jonathan Schlueter, Westside Economic  
Alliance  
Karen Schmidt, Washington Freight  
Mobility Strategic Investment Board  
Steve Stuart, Clark County  
Jeri Sundvall, Environmental Justice Action  
Group  
Walter Valenta, Bridgeton Neighborhood  
Association  
Scot Walstra, Greater Vancouver Chamber  
of Commerce  
Tom Zelenka, Oregon Freight Advisory  
Committee

**Member Substitutes Present:**

Scott Champan for Jill Fuglister, Coalition  
for a Livable Future

Susie Lahsene for Bill Wyatt, Port of  
Portland  
Alan Lehto for Fred Hansen, TriMet

**Absent Members:**

Dr. Wayne Branch, Clark College  
Rich Brown, Bank of America  
Elliot Eki, Oregon/Idaho AAA  
Jill Fuglister, Coalition for a Livable Future  
Fred Hansen, TriMet  
Eric Holmes, City of Battle Ground

Dean Lookingbill, Regional Transportation  
Council  
Mark McCloud, Greater Vancouver  
Chamber of Commerce  
Royce Pollard, City of Vancouver  
Bob Russel, Oregon Trucking Association  
Bill Wyatt, Port of Portland

**Project Team Members Present:**

Katy Brooks, The JD White Company, Inc.  
(JDW)  
Rob DeGraff, Oregon Department of  
Transportation (ODOT)  
Amy Echols, Washington State Department  
of Transportation (WSDOT)  
Doug Ficco, WSDOT  
Matt Garrett, ODOT

Nanci Luna-Jimenez, Nanci Luna-Jimenez  
Seminars  
Jay Lyman, DEA  
Tom Markgraf, Tom Markgraf & Associates  
David Parisi, Parisi Associates  
Marcy Schwartz, CH2M Hill  
Kris Strickler, WSDOT  
Don Wagner, WSDOT

**I. Meeting Minutes**

Henry Hewitt, Columbia River Crossing (CRC) Task Force Co-chair, requested the adoption of the February 3 and May 4, 2005, meeting minutes.

**Action:** Meeting minutes were adopted after no discussion.

**II. Operating Protocol**

Henry introduced the Operating Protocol. Task Force members discussed potential time limits for individuals' public comments and accommodating comments at the beginning of meetings. There was also discussion regarding posting meeting videos on the CRC web site.

**Action:** The Operating Protocol was adopted.

**III. Project Update**

Jay Lyman, Consultant Team Project Manager, provided a project update on recent activities, process and schedule, decision points, and roles and responsibilities. Amy Echols, Project Communications Manager, gave an overview of the public involvement program development and upcoming October public meetings. The public meetings will include an introduction to the project and an opportunity to provide input on public issues, concerns, ideas regarding the same products under consideration by the Task Force.

**Action:** No action required.

**IV. Vision and Values Statement**

Henry introduced the Vision and Values Statement, which was discussed at length by Task Force members. Comments are summarized in Appendix A.

**Action:** Henry formed a Vision and Values Statement subcommittee, consisting of Co-chair Hal Dengerink, Larry Paulson, and Commissioner Serena Cruz. The subcommittee will discuss and produce a recommended version of the Vision and Values Statement for review at the October 12, 2005, Task Force meeting.

**V. Project Problem Definition**

David Parisi, Project Transportation Manager, gave a presentation on the project's problem definition, the function and role of the I-5 bridge influence area and an overview of general

traffic data. Task Force members posed questions concerning the vehicle trip data across the bridge, the implications of additional lanes and the number of vehicle occupants. The issue of Clark County's job/living imbalance was raised along with the origin and destination of commuters. Members also inquired about peak traffic times, division between freight and commuter traffic, addition of 99E to the I-5 bridge influence area, time restrictions on bridge lifts, trip demographics, and land use changes.

Congressman Earl Blumenauer addressed the Task Force, stating the importance of the project to the region and emphasizing his appreciation of the work of the Task Force.

**Action:** No action required. Discussion to be continued at the October 12, 2005, meeting.

## **VI. Upcoming Meetings**

Henry and Rob DeGraff discussed upcoming meeting dates—October 12 and November 28, 2005.

### **Tentative Agendas:**

#### **October 12, 2005, 4:00–6:30 p.m., Vancouver – WSDOT Southwest Region Headquarters, 11018 NE 51st Circle**

- Adoption of Vision and Values Statement
- Discussion of problem definition
- Discussion of evaluation criteria development
- Public involvement update

#### **November 28, 2005, 4:00–6:30 p.m., Portland location TBD**

- Public involvement review of Problem Statement
- Adoption of problem definition
- Adoption of evaluation criteria

## **VII. Public Comment**

Henry Hewitt received public comment from seven citizens. Written comments are included in Appendix B.

The following people provided comments: Jim Howell, Lore Wintergreen, Jim Kurlock, W. Scott Baumhofer, Sharon Nasset, Ray Whitford, and Susan Morton. Public comments ranged from the importance of freight mobility to cost effectiveness of a new bridge.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting ended at 6:45 p.m.

*September 29, 2005*