

## Downtown Camas Association – Public Participation in the Georgia-Pacific Mill Site Clean Up Project



Meeting minutes: Community Advisory Group Meeting #8

Thursday, January 12, 2023 | 4 – 5:30 p.m.

### **Meeting Attendees**

#### Community Advisory Group (CAG) Members:

- Leslie Lewallen
- Marty Snell
- Randal Friedman
- Isaac Dizon
- David Ripp
- Steve Young
- Kalani Cox
- April Berlin
- Mark Nickerson
- Timothy Hein
- Larry Keister

#### Maul Foster & Alongi (MFA) Members:

- Will Henderson
- Sulley Schuster
- Emily Hess

#### Downtown Camas Association (DCA) Members:

- Carrie Schulstad, Executive Director

#### Guests:

- Amanda Martinez
- Natalie Swan
- Joan Bueckner
- Ken Lederman

### **Meeting Purpose and Topics:**

Meeting objectives included:

- Provide updates on the Washington State Department of Ecology process
- Provide December 2022 outreach updates
- Discuss 2023 outreach activities

## **Agenda**

### **Opening**

- Welcome and introductions
- Agenda review
- Approve minutes of the November 10, 2022, meeting

### **Washington State Department of Ecology process updates**

- Question and answer

### **Outreach updates**

- December 2022 Rotary presentation
- School district communications

### **Discuss 2023 outreach activities**

- Revisit engagement activity options
- Participation at existing community events
- First Friday event in April 2023

### **Next steps and open discussion**

[The full meeting agenda can be found online.](#)

### **Meeting Minutes:**

*Meeting began at 4:03 p.m.*

***Opening: Will Henderson, MFA,** welcomed meeting attendees and walked through the proposed agenda for the meeting.*

*The CAG members reviewed the minutes of the November 10, 2022 meeting.*

*The CAG members approved the minutes of the November 10, 2022 meeting.*

### **Washington State Department of Ecology process updates: Emily Hess, MFA**

Emily Hess, MFA, shared an update on coordination with the Washington State Department of Ecology. Emily stated that progress has been made with partners, including the Yakama Nation. Following approval of the workplan, remediation and collection of samples will begin. Emily shared that Ecology likes to see a revised work plan in about 90 days, so we'll see if that is met her or not given the complexity of some of the comments from Georgia Pacific (GP).

Randal Friedman, CAG member, asked if the new Ecology project manager (PM) has seen or visited the mill site. He suggested it would be beneficial for them to do so if they have not.

Carrie Schulstad, DCA, shared that CAG Chair Caroline Mercury has been in correspondence with the Ecology PM, but has not shared whether they have visited the site. Emily Hess, MFA, said that this is a great idea and something that MFA/DCA could ask the Ecology PM to

consider. Randal Friedman, CAG member, shared that it may also be good to ask the Ecology grant contact as well.

Mark Nickerson, CAG member, suggested that an in-person CAG meeting may also be worth looking into.

Will Henderson, MFA, said that these proposals were things that MFA and DCA will look into and discuss in further detail in the coming weeks.

## **Outreach updates**

### **Rotary club meeting, December 2022**

Emily Hess, MFA, shared that she and CAG Chair Caroline Mercury provided a presentation to the Camas Rotary Club in December 2022. About 40 people were in attendance – there were lots of great question and interest from Rotarians about what’s going on with the site, what the connection is to Camas, and what it may look like in the future. Emily shared that they received good feedback and interest for project team members to return in the future to provide additional updates.

Randal Friedman, CAG member, shared that he received great feedback from Rotarians and that he would love to schedule a follow-up in the future.

### **School district outreach**

Carrie Schulstad, DCA, shared that they received permission to send out a flyer to the school district. The flyer will be developed MFA. Carrie shared that she has been working to coordinate with the school districts for some time now and is excited to share information about the project with those contacts. More information will be shared with CAG members as information is distributed in the future.

### **Discuss 2023 outreach activities**

Will Henderson, MFA, shared that there were exciting outreach developments in the works for 2023. He stated that while we are waiting to hear what the timeline for remediation might be, the CAG has done a great job at sharing information with the community. He expressed that in the coming months, the CAG can expect to be involved at the April 1 First Friday event, which will include a STEM activity. He shared that the team wants to ensure that project materials are up to date with the status of the cleanup process, this includes the following:

- Partner packets
- Flyers
- Web page

Will Henderson, MFA, shared the web page on his screen and asked CAG members to provide feedback on updates that they would like to see to the project webpage. CAG members offered the following suggestions:

- Add icons in text-heavy places to make the site more accessible to visitors
- Add an “Ecology status update” section that includes information shared by MFA during the CAG meetings
- Add a map of the mill site that includes the mill’s location relative to the Camas-Washougal area

- Consider adding a video that provides a summary of the cleanup process and anticipated next steps
- Add a project timeline graphic that indicates where we are at in the cleanup process
- Update the photo at the top of the site with more current images

David Ripp, CAG member, asked if web page metrics were being tracked, and if so, how many visitors was the page getting? Carrie Schulstad, DCA, said yes, metrics were being tracked. She shared that in the past couple of weeks, the page received over 600 visitors.

Will Henderson, MFA, closed the discussion by sharing that MFA/DCA will take the CAG's feedback and look to update the web page accordingly.

### ***Reaching out to community groups***

Will Henderson, MFA, asked CAG members about prospective community organizations/groups that they wanted to reach out to in 2023. Will shared that the CAG has done a great job at identifying organizations/groups, and that DCA/MFA would like to assign CAG members to specific organizations, so that they could begin conducting outreach once all of the project materials have been updated. CAG members proposed the following organizations and volunteered to reach out to:

- Interfaith Treasure House – Carrie Schulstad
- Salvation Army Washougal – April Berlin
- Peace Health – Kalani Cox
- Vancouver Clinic – Kalani Cox
- Book clubs and bible studies – Isaac Dizon
- View Ridge HOA – David Ripp
- Camas City Council – Leslie Lewellen and Timothy Hein
  - Leslie and Timothy shared that there will be a planning session during the week of January 16 to prioritize topics for the next year. They recommended that DCA connect with the new City Administrator and Mayor. They shared that a meeting in the next six weeks may be unlikely.
- City of Camas-Washougal HOA list – Carrie Schulstad
- Sea-Mar Community Health – Kalani Cox

CAG members also proposed the following groups/organizations, but did not specify who from the group would reach out:

- St. Vincent De Paul
- Clark County Realtors Association
- Post offices
- Congregations and churches
- Public libraries
- Community centers

April Berlin, CAG member, offered to contact organizations/groups that had not been assigned to other CAG members. Kalani Cox, CAG member, offered to post information to the Nextdoor app when it is available.

Will Henderson, MFA, thanked CAG members for their participation and enthusiasm. He shared that DCA/MFA would be updating materials in the coming weeks and will send it to the CAG

once approved by Ecology. Isaac Dizon, CAG member, asked if it would be possible to include a draft email in the partner packet. Will Henderson, MFA, shared that they could absolutely include an email template in the next iteration of edits.

Carrie Schulstad, DCA, concluded the conversation by sharing that the CAG was positioning themselves well, as they were getting information to the public ahead of any process milestones/decisions. She appreciated everyone's thoughts and looks forward to engaging more community members.

### ***Open discussion***

Natalie Swan introduced herself, she works for Yakama Nation Fisheries. Carrie Schulstad, DCA, will add her to the email list.

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**Next Steps: Will Henderson, MFA**, wrapped up the meeting and went over next steps:

- Will be closely coordinating with Ecology, flag desire to do a site visit.
  - Update partner packets (and include email template), flyer with QR code, website
  - Next CAG meeting is March 9.
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*Meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m.*

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## **CONTACT INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

Sign up for email updates and learn more at: [www.downtowncamas.com/camaswamillinfo](http://www.downtowncamas.com/camaswamillinfo)

Email questions and comments to Caroline Mercury, DCA Past President:  
[camaswamillinfo@downtowncamas.com](mailto:camaswamillinfo@downtowncamas.com)

Read and review the draft Remedial Investigation Work Plan:  
<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?%20csid=15156>