

## **Public Participation in the Georgia-Pacific Mill Site Clean Up Project**

Meeting minutes: Community Advisory Group Meeting, Oct 10, 2024, 4-5:00 pm

Attendees:

Caroline Mercury (Chair)  
Carrie Schulstad. (DCA)  
Zach Linn - CAG member  
Marty Snell -CAG member  
Larry Keister - CAG member  
April Berlin – CAG member  
Mark Nickerson – CAG member  
Randal Friedman – CAG member  
Abbi Russell - Past consultant  
Elena Ramirez -Yakama Nation  
Molly McKay Williams -Camas Earth Day Society  
Glen DeWillie- Camas Earth Day Society

Chair Mercury called the meeting to order. First order of business was introducing Trang Lam, the Port's new Executive Director replacing the retiring David Ripp. Trang has been on the job for 6 weeks and is looking forward to working with the community on this project.

Chair Mercury asked if there were any community members with comments and there were none. There was one email inquiry about the future of the mill that had already been circulated. The answer provided the overall framework of the MTCA, the complexity of the project, and that the CAG had adopted a statement concerning level of cleanup.

FAQ Update: The next agenda item was to reconsider the Q/A sheet. CAG member Berlin had provided several comments including revising the timeline, making updates and indicating when the last revision occurred. The update on the demolition of the Camas Business Center, and the role of the CAG and update the extension of the CAG and meeting CAG member Young indicated DOE had already published an updated timeline, as well as the CBC had already had PCB's and asbestos removed. Chair Mercury indicated other buildings where this has been done and could be highlighted as work done outside of the Agreed Order. Updates would include the planning updates underway with the City of Camas and a link to DOE's MTCA page. Finally, there was discussion of who establishes cleanup levels and some corrections to current wording including the key role of the city including the adoption of plans. Chair Mercury indicated DOE's statement that the zoning

does not have to be changed. New language will be circulated. CAG member Schulstad asked about whether GP does have to go to all Ecology meetings and correct if necessary, as well as the CAG operates outside working with a consultant when one is available.

Chair Mercury mentioned the Yakama Nation was hiring technical expertise and provided an update that they have hired one.

CAMAS EARTH DAY SOCIETY: "The Camas Earth Day Society, a new non-profit involved in a variety of Earth Day related activities, asked to present their plan for the Mill District overlay plan. Their President spoke about their mission, including environmental education in the schools, native plantings at the Library, and working with HOA's to properly maintain their stormwater facilities to improve water quality. Board member Randal Friedman, also of the CAG, described the origin of the plan. The Society spoke of new findings under state law that define the need for a new pathway for the city's treatment of the mill in the upcoming Comprehensive Plan update. The Society discussed a proposed overlay plan for inclusion in the upcoming plan update and its origin. The Society indicated this information, and its impact to achieve "unrestricted use" cleanup supported by the CAG, brought this question and plan appropriately within the CAG's purview.

Chair Mercury opened discussion. While commenting on the substance and completeness of the plan, she expressed concerns about whether this was within the CAG's lane, expressed the CAG already through its statement made clear the need for unrestricted use, and then opened the item for discussion. CAG member Martin Snell started discussions with the general consistency of this plan as a means to achieve the CAG's approved vision statement submitted to DOE and said it was consistent with the CAG's statement. There ensued lively discussion including both the city's authority to plan its future versus property rights of a corporation. There was discussion about how work like this is provided to DOE and the City. While no action was taken, the discussion included acknowledgement that the plan is consistent with the CAG's statement submitted to DOE.

YOUTH LIAISON: CAG member Linn had discussed the idea of having someone on the CAG designated as a liaison to youth. The CAG discussed this and agreed that Linn would be so designated.

**Next meeting – Jan 9, 2025, 4- 5pm via Zoom.**