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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Downtown Camas Association selects members for mill clean-up community advisory group

Group will guide public involvement, technical materials review during Camas paper mill environmental assessment

CAMAS, Washington – The [Downtown Camas Association](http://www.DowntownCamas.com) (DCA) selected people from across the community to participate in an advisory group focused on engaging the community during assessment of potential contamination at the Georgia-Pacific (GP) pulp and paper mill site.

The DCA received 65 applications for eight seats on the Community Advisory Group. Selected members are:

- April Berlin
- Marquita Call
- Kalani Cox
- Isaac Dizon
- Randal Friedman
- Mark Nickerson
- Marty Snell
- Steve Young

These members join DCA Chair Caroline Mercury and representatives from the City of Camas and the Port of Camas-Washougal to form an 11-person advisory group. The group will supervise the DCA's public involvement consultant's work, provide broad community outreach, and encourage opportunities for public feedback on the cleanup process. It will also review technical materials and respond to the Washington State Department of Ecology and GP regarding the cleanup process, findings, and plans.

"We are grateful that so many people want to be involved in this process," said DCA Executive Director Carrie Schulstad. "We are committed to being inclusive and ensuring the advisory committee can function effectively and achieve its goals within the timeframe we've been provided."



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“There will be many opportunities to be involved outside of participating in the advisory group. The community will have access to information to learn about the mill site, and as things move along, be able to provide input and have questions answered.”

The advisory group is expected to meet every other month, starting in early 2022 through summer 2023. Meetings are open to the public and will be announced on the project website: www.downtowncamas.com/CamasWaMillInfo.

About the mill cleanup

More than a century of industrial activity at the GP paper mill in Camas has potentially led to contamination in soil, sediments, and groundwater in and around the mill due to operations, spills, or leaks. In August 2021, Ecology and GP issued an [Agreed Order](#) to investigate potential contamination and evaluate how to clean it up if present at this location and the nearby Camas Business Center property, also owned by GP.

GP will conduct cleanup activities in accordance with Ecology’s Toxics Cleanup Program statutes and regulations. GP continues to operate a paper mill on the main site and has not shared plans related to the shutdown of current operations.

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The Downtown Camas Association is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded in 2009. We help downtown Camas to thrive by creating a vibrant social, cultural, and economic center of the community while emphasizing historical preservation. The DCA achieves its goals through the collaboration of its Board of Directors, staff, committees, volunteers, the City of Camas, and other partners. The DCA has been a proud Nationally Accredited Main Street Program since 2017. For more information, visit www.downtowncamas.com.

This project is funded in part through a Public Participation Grant from the Washington State Department of Ecology.