



## **Project Updates to Task Force September 2006**

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### **The Interstate Collaborative Environmental Process (InterCEP)**

InterCEP passed their second 'formal comment' point on September 6, for the Method and Data Reports, which outline the method for analyzing impacts of various alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The next decision point will be in February or March 2007, when they will 'concur' on the range of alternatives to enter into the DEIS

### **United States Coast Guard Preliminary Hearing**

The U.S. Coast Guard and the CRC project will host an open house and public hearing Thursday, Sept. 21, 2006, to obtain public input on current proposals for an additional or replacement bridge serving vehicle traffic over the Columbia River for I-5 traffic between Portland and Vancouver. Bridge alignments, pier placement and navigational concerns will be discussed.

### **Inter-tribal Meeting**

An Inter-tribal meeting will be held on September 28, to discuss technical issues related to cultural and natural resources. All eight consulting tribes have been invited to send staff.

Yakama Nation  
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian  
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde  
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs  
Spokane Indian Tribe  
Nez Perce Tribe  
Cowlitz Indian Tribe  
Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians



## Communications Summary

August 16 – September 20, 2006

### Where We've Been

In the past five weeks, CRC staff has been to the following events. The number of people we discussed the project with is in parentheses.

### Neighborhoods

#### Oregon:

- Jantzen Beach Moorage Inc. (20)
- Humboldt Neigh. Assn. (16)
- Hayden Island Neigh. Network
  - (11) on Sept. 7
  - (60) on Sept. 14

### Businesses

#### Oregon:

- Lake Oswego Chamber of Commerce (18)

### Community

#### Oregon:

- Arbor Lodge Community Fair (37)

#### Washington:

- Kiwanis Club, Vancouver (8)
- Lions Club, Vancouver (18)
- Fern Prairie Grange (8)

### Fairs and Festivals

#### Oregon:

- PROPER Festival, North Portland (32)
- SeptemberFest, Holy Cross Catholic Church (35)
- Alberta Cooperative Farmers Market and Alberta Street Fair (13)

#### Washington:

- Taste of Vancouver (93)
- Uptown Village Street Festival (187)

### Other

#### Washington:

- Vancouver City Council (7 councilors; televised on CVTV)

- Friends of Clark County annual picnic (35)

### The Totals

598 people reached in this five week period.  
2,647 people reached since March 1, 2006.

### What else is happening?

#### Community and Environmental Justice Group

The kick off meeting of the CEJ Group occurred Aug. 17, with a follow up longer briefing on Aug. 19. Feedback from the members was generally positive. They provided good input on how the CRC project can further improve on outreach efforts.

The next meeting occurred September 14 and the EJ training session is schedule for Sept. 30. Two area bus tours are being planned for October.

#### Open House and Public Hearing

The U.S. Coast Guard and CRC are holding an open house and preliminary public hearing on bridge alignment, pier placement and navigational concerns Sept. 21 at the Jantzen Beach Red Lion. CRC staff will be available during the 4 p.m. open house to provide information about the bridge proposals currently under consideration and answer questions. The Coast Guard will then hear oral testimony beginning at 6 p.m. Information is posted to the CRC Web site under "Open Houses."

#### Portland Design Concepts Workshop

A date has been set for the Portland Design Workshop: Monday, Sept. 25. The event will occur 6-9 p.m. at OAME in north Portland.

Invitations have been sent to neighborhood and business leaders and planning with the City of Portland is ongoing.

## Focus Groups

Focus groups are scheduled for the third and fourth weeks in October. A discussion guide currently is being developed.

## Media Coverage

- KEX aired an interview with John Osborn Aug. 14 that focused on general project information.
- The Battle Ground Reflector published an opinion piece Aug. 23 regarding public comment at Task Force meetings.
- The Columbian published a column by Tom Koenninger Aug. 23 that supported light rail.
- The Columbian published a story Aug. 22 about the CRC presentation to the Vancouver City Council.
- The Oregonian's Randy Gragg published a commentary Sept. 3 about the design of a new bridge and freeway alignment.
- The Oregonian published an editorial Sept. 7 about the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the MAX and mentioned a link with Vancouver.
- The Portland Tribune ranks the northbound commute from Portland to Vancouver as the worst in the metro area

## Outreach Materials

Final touches were made to a project newsletter, which will be printed and then mailed to the project mailing list. This issue will provide information about the 12 preliminary alternative packages. Look for it in your mail box this week.

- The monthly project email will be sent out this week to about 2,300 subscribers.
- The updated 2006 Task Force meeting schedule was uploaded to the Web as well as a page describing the 12 alternative packages. We will be posting a new page on the Community and Environmental Justice Group.
- A CRC project display will be put on view at the Fort Vancouver Library beginning Oct. 2.

## What We're Hearing

- Support for light rail from Portland to Vancouver was expressed at public events in Portland.
- Concerns expressed with livability of Hayden Island and with the access to Hayden Island from north Portland.
- Support voiced for tolling from Oregon residents.
- We received 11 emails with comments or questions in this two week period. Of those:
- Support received at festivals for retaining the existing spans for some transportation modes, especially arterial traffic. People want another travel option in case there is an accident on a new I-5 bridge. They are willing to put up with bridge lifts on the existing structures.
- Several people said we need a third crossing – most said near Camas/Washougal.
- Support voiced for the Delta Park project.
- A couple of comments from Portland residents and realtors who said they or their clients would consider living in Vancouver if it wasn't for the congestion.
- Several comments about tolls – both in support and in opposition.



## Columbia River Crossing In the News

### **Reflections – A Better Plan**

Marvin F. Case

*The Reflector* – September 13, 2006

### **Which commute is the worst?**

Peter Korn

*The Portland Tribune* – September 12, 2006  
(republished in *Clackamas Review*)

### **Coast Guard sets hearing on I-5 bridge**

Thomas Ryll

*The Columbian* – September 12, 2006

### **Riding on the vision of our predecessors**

*The Oregonian* – September 7, 2006

### **Project threatens to scar Vancouver a second time**

Randy Gragg

*The Oregonian* – September 3, 2006

### **Reflections – A Better Plan**

Marvin F. Case

*The Reflector* – August 24, 2006

### **Opinion – New bridge must carry light rail**

Tom Koenninger

*The Columbian* – August 23, 2006

### **Mayor: Numbers to dictate new I-5 bridge agenda**

Jeffrey Mize

*The Columbian* – August 22, 2006

## Columbia River Crossing on Television & Radio

### **Infamous Hwy. 26 upstaged by new 'worst commute'**

Compiled by kgw.com staff

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