



Communiqué

◆ 207 4th Avenue North, Kelso, WA 98626

◆ Phone: 360-577-3041

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◆ January 2009

Open house scheduled for Airport Master Plan



The City of Kelso and URS will hold a public open house from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Tuesday, January 20 at the Kelso City Council Chambers, 203 South Pacific Avenue in Kelso. URS will have display boards showing the current airport layout, and statistical information on airport use and projected growth. The public is asked to comment on future facility requirements that are being derived from the aviation demand forecast. The Kelso Longview Regional Airport is recognized by the State of Washington Aviation Division as an airport having a significant role in the future air transportation system for the state.

The project Consultant, URS Corporation is working on facility requirements which will include runway length and approaches, aircraft storage, vehicle parking, utilities and drainage, aviation fuel storage, security of the airport boundaries, and future property acquisition.

The City of Kelso has contracted with the CWCOG to manage the master plan update. For more information regarding the plan process or the state's long-range aviation planning, contact Project Manager Jerry Sorrell at jsorrell@cwco.org or 360-577-3041.



Networking Café planned

The Networking Café planners invite all community members to join this casual café-style event on Tuesday, February 10, 2009, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Cowlitz County Regional Conference Center, Longview. The format is simple and designed for networking by tackling local issues together. The topics for discussion include: underage drinking, early childhood education, Highlands Neighborhood Group, tobacco cessation, unique funding for after-school programs, health services for families, social service/ministry burnout, needs of the elderly and housing dilemmas. Hors d'oeuvres, desserts and beverages will be provided.

While this is a free event, funds are needed to pay for the facility and refreshments. Supporters of the Café contribute to these expenses as well as absorb costs for promotion, printing and labor. Financial donations are appreciated. The Café is supported by the Cowlitz County Community Network, Cowlitz Substance Abuse Coalition, Longview Parks/Recreation, Youth and Family Link, Cowlitz Meth Action Team and the Cowlitz Youth Commission. These supporters are committed to producing change within the community by building relationships and sharing local resources.

For further information, contact Brian McCrady at 360-577-3041. To RSVP, email bmccrady@cwco.org.

Come Help Us Support Youth Drug & Alcohol Prevention

Cowlitz Meth Action Team 6th Annual Banquet

in partnership with the Kelso/Longview Elks



Date: February 7, 2009

Time: 5:30-6:30 p.m. Social Hour—Bidding Begins / Dinner (*Chicken Fettuccine*)
7:30 p.m. Bill Moreland, Washington State Meth Initiative
8:30-9:00 p.m. Silent Auction Ends / Closing

Place: Kelso/Longview Elks Lodge (900 Ash Street, Kelso)

Cost: \$20.00

Please R.S.V.P and mail your payment by January 30, 2009, to the Cowlitz Substance Abuse Coalition, 207 4th Avenue North, Administration Annex, Kelso, WA 98626 or by contacting Tabatha Owens at (360) 577-3041, towens@cwco.org or Nancy Harris at nharris@cwco.org.

Youth Forum planned for February

A **Youth Forum** is scheduled for Tuesday, February 10, 2009 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Cowlitz County Regional Conference Center. The purpose of the forum is to get input from teens and get to know what is really going on with youth in this community. The forum will help identify opportunities for assistance and programs for area youth.



The Youth Forum is a collaborative partnership among local organizations such as the Cowlitz Meth Action Team, Cowlitz Youth Commission, Cowlitz Substance Abuse Coalition, Cowlitz County Health Department, and the WSU Extension 4-H office. The Cowlitz Substance Abuse Coalition is working with area high schools to attract attendance by teens from the ages 14-18. For additional information, contact Ronni Lewis at 577-3041.



Consultant begins work on Kelso's Talley Way Corridor Study

The consultant selected by the Talley Way Corridor Study committee, David Evans and Associates (DEA), has begun working on the Talley Way Corridor Study. The scope of work includes:



- Verification that a three lane roadway section (two lanes with a center two way left turn storage lane) will be adequate for a 20 year design life;
- Widening or replacement of the Talley Way Bridge across the Coweeman River;
- Stormwater management to include the impacts of the airport stormwater runoff;
- Design and construction schedules and budgets to help the city in long range planning; and
- Funding strategies to help the city identify funding sources.

The resultant document, expected in three to four months, will provide an implementation plan that may take ten or fifteen years to construct. Finding adequate funding will be the challenge.

The city has contracted with the COG to manage the corridor study. For project related questions, contact Project Manager Jerry Sorrell at jsorrell@cwco.org or 360-577-3041. The COG is working with the city to provide additional information on the city's website.



Woodland Transportation Study to be adopted by agencies

The Woodland City Council, Port of Woodland, Washington State Department of Transportation and CWCOG have all gone on record in support of the recommendations in the final report and executive summary for the Woodland Transportation Study. Final copies of the report will be distributed to the agencies before February 2009. Copies are available for review at the CWCOG office. A CD of the report may be available upon request.

This final report presents a process to fund, design and construct a number of transportation improvements in the Woodland area over the next 20 years. The major design and construction phases include:

- Elevating I-5 over Scott Avenue to allow for a new east-west transportation link.
- Reconstructing Scott Avenue westerly to bridge the BNSF Railroad.
- Constructing roundabouts at Dike Road/I-5 interchange ramps and Schurman Way (a developer may fund this work).
- Constructing additional lanes for ramps and nearby roadways at the SR-503/I-5 (Lewis River Road) interchange.
- Adding a two-way left turn lane and shoulder improvements as near-term improvements of SR-503, from Hillshire Drive to Gun Club Road.

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Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership update

➤ *New office... Same Location...Different Suite*

The Estuary Partnership moved offices in late November, trading the first floor location for more space on the fourth floor at suite 410, 811 SW Naito Parkway, Portland.

➤ *Volunteer Planting Opportunities*

The Estuary Partnership is organizing tree planting projects during the upcoming months at the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, the Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge, and along Lacamas Creek. All plantings are from 9 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Come prepared for the weather. Gloves, tools, and warm drinks are provided. Contact Jennie Klein at 503.226.1565 x222 or klein@lcrep.org to sign-up or for more information. Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge: January 24, February 21, March 7; Steigerwald National Wildlife Refuge in Washougal: January 31, February 7, February 28, March 14, March 21, March 28, April 4; and Lacamas Creek in Camas: April 11.



➤ *Potential Upland Disposal Site*

The Estuary Partnership has contracted with the Columbia River Estuary Study Task Force (CREST) to identify a potential upland dredge disposal location for ports in the lower Columbia River. The project has grown out of discussions by the Lower Columbia Solutions Group (LCSG), a bi-state organization comprised of local, state, and federal government and non-government stakeholders, formed by the governors of Washington and Oregon, to address dredge material disposal activities in the lower river. The group identified the need to develop upland disposal options for sediments that exceed regulatory thresholds for contamination and must be disposed of at upland sites.

In August 2007, CREST, under contract with the Estuary Partnership, completed an evaluation of the amount of material dredged by the ports, upland and in-water disposal amounts, projected dredging amounts, and assessed interest and need to pursue upland disposal options for contaminated sediments. It was determined that two ports in the lower Columbia River, the ports of Astoria and Ilwaco, dredge and dispose of contaminated sediment and that both of these ports have a low capability of handling upland disposal and limited capacity for future dredging disposal needs. CREST then researched 20 possible regional upland disposal sites. A site in Warrenton, Oregon has emerged as a likely option. The next phases will be a feasibility study of the site and then solicitation of funding for its development.

➤ *2009 Board of Directors selected; new staff hired*

Jane Bacchieri has been selected to serve another term as Chair of the Board of Directors. Jane represents Governor Kulongoski's office, working on Willamette and Columbia river issues. CWCOG director, **Steve Harvey**, was selected to serve as another term as Vice Chair. Steve has been on the board since Partnership inception, representing local government interests. Joining the board this year are **Dick Pedersen** and **Rick Applegate**. Dick is with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. Rick has worked in the environmental field for many years, most recently with the City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services. A full list of Board members can be found on www.lcrep.org.

Maggie Jones has joined the Partnership as Development and Communications Specialist. In the fall, Maggie managed the move to the new suite and assisted with grant writing. In her new position, Maggie will develop, manage and implement development and communications strategies for the Partnership. She will identify key activities to maintain and expand financial support for the Partnership.



COG Board Meeting ***Change in time & place***

Thursday, January 22, 2009

11:15 am

**Cowlitz Regional
Conference Center**

1900 7th Avenue, Longview

No lunch served due to CEDC Annual meeting at noon.

TITLE VI and ADA Notice to the Public

COG ensures full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the American Disabilities Act of 1990 by prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or disabilities in the provision of benefits and services resulting from its federally assisted programs and activities. For more information, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, call program coordinator at (360) 577-3041.

2009 CALENDAR

2009 CALENDAR		
Jan		
15	4:00p	Cowlitz Substance Abuse Coalition – General
15	5:00p	Cowlitz Substance Abuse Coalition – Exec. Council
21	1:30p	Cowlitz <i>Housing First</i> Coalition
21	4:00p	Regional Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation
22	11:15	COG Board Meeting
22	1:30p	Cowlitz Area TAC Committee
26	12:00	Cowlitz Meth Action Team
30	7:30a	Regional Information Forum
Feb		
10	8:00a	Wahkiakum Information Forum
11	9:00a	Southwest Washington RTPO
18	1:30p	Cowlitz <i>Housing First!</i> Coalition
18	3:00p	Housing Advisory Committee
18	4:00p	Regional Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation
19	4:00p	Cowlitz Substance Abuse Coalition – General
19	5:00p	Cowlitz Substance Abuse Coalition – Exec. Council
23	12:00	Cowlitz Meth Action Team
26	12:00	COG Board Meeting
26	1:30p	Cowlitz Area TAC Committee
Mar		
16	12:00	Cowlitz Meth Action Team
18	1:30p	Cowlitz <i>Housing First!</i> Coalition
18	4:00p	Regional Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation
19	4:00p	Cowlitz Substance Abuse Coalition – General
19	5:00p	Cowlitz Substance Abuse Coalition – Exec. Council
25	6:00p	COG Board Meeting and Annual Banquet
26	1:30p	Cowlitz Area TAC Committee

December COG board meeting highlights

- * **Amended** the 2008 COG Budget/Work Program to add funds for staff to assist the City of Longview with an update of its Consolidated Housing Plan;
- * **Amended** the 2009-2012 Regional Transportation Improvement Program to add TIPs from Cowlitz, Lewis and Wahkiakum counties;
- * **Amended** the Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Planning Organization Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan to include 22 projects for the 2009-11 biennium, totaling \$1,057,935 for capital and \$6,872,667 in operating requests;
- * **Approved** the COG's 2009 Budget/Work Program of \$1,733,840;
- * **Heard** a re-cap from the director of the two December legislative forums and conducted a round table of local issues and concerns.

Contact the COG office at 577-3041 for more information.





PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

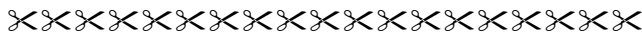
This is a list of some publications received by the CWCOG. You may review them at the COG office until the next newsletter is published. After that time, they may be borrowed for up to thirty days. If you would like to have a copy of your own or need more information, call (360) 577-3041.

- *Planning Commissioners Journal Reprints, Taking a Closer Look, Food, Farmland, & Open Space*, A Planning Commissioners Journal Special Collection, www.plannersweb.com
- *A Planners Guide to Community and Regional Food Planning, Transforming Food Environments, Facilitating Healthy Eating*, American Planning Association, Planning Advisory Service, Report Number 554.
- *A Dream Denied: The Criminalization of Homelessness in U.S. Cities*, A Report by the National Coalition for the Homeless and the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty, January 2006.
- *Planning the Urban Forest: Ecology, Economy and Community Development*, American Planning Association, Planning Advisory Service, Report Number 555.

Woodland Trans. Study adopted, continued . . .

- Constructing long range improvements of SR-503 from North Goerig Street to Evergreen Lane by signaling the Scott Avenue intersection and other intersections as warrants develop, further extending the two-way left turn lanes, and adding bike lanes, curbs and sidewalks throughout.

Currently funded interim improvements include the two way left turn lane from Hillshire Drive to Gun Club Road. The city will be the lead agency on this project, coordinating with WSDOT. For further information, contact Jerry Sorrell, Assistant Project Manager at 360-577-3041 or e-mail jsorrell@cwco.org.



COG 2009 meeting schedule

COG Board meets at noon:

- January 22 CC Regional Conference Center*
- February 26 CC General Meeting Room
- **March 25 Annual Meeting & Banquet****
- April 23 CC General Meeting Room
- May 28 River Street Building, Cathlamet
- June 25 CC General Meeting Room
- July 23 CC General Meeting Room
- August 27 CC General Meeting Room
- Sept. 24 River Street Building, Cathlamet
- October 22 CC General Meeting Room
- Nov. 19 *To be announced.*
- Dec. 17 *To be announced.*

Regional Information Forums:

Cowlitz County

- Fridays at 7:30 am
- Cowlitz PUD Bldg.
- January 30
- May 8
- July 17
- September 18
- November 13
- December 11 (*Leg*)

Wahkiakum County

- Tuesdays at 8:00 am
- River Street Bldg., Cathlamet
- February 10
- April 14
- June 9
- August 11
- October 13
- December 8 (*Leg*)

*Held at the Cowlitz Regional Conference Center at 11:15 am.

**The annual banquet will be held at 6:00 pm, at a place to be announced next month. Invitations will be sent out in early March.