

Letter of Transmittal

To: Ms. Piper Peterson Lee –EPA, Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, ECL-111
Seattle, Washington 98101 -3140

Date: April 27, 2009

From: Joanna Florer – Windward Environmental

Project reference: **Terminal 117 Public Participation Plan**

<u>Electronic:</u>	<u>Description:</u>
<u>X</u>	Cover letter for transmittal of T-117 Public Participation Plan
<u>X</u>	Final T-117 Public Participation Plan

cc:

<u>Electronic:</u>	<u>Name:</u>	<u>Company:</u>
<u>X</u>	Kym Takasaki	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
<u>X</u>	Rick Thomas	Dept of Ecology
<u>X</u>	Renee Dagseth	EPA
<u>X</u>	Marla Steinhoff	NOAA
<u>X</u>	Glen St. Amant	Muckleshoot Tribe
<u>X</u>	Thea Levkovitz	Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition
<u>X</u>	Tom Meyer	City of Seattle
<u>X</u>	Roy Kuroiwa	Port of Seattle
<u>X</u>	T-117 Technical Team	Windward, DOF, AECOM, Integral



Signature



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April 27, 2009

Ms. Piper Peterson Lee
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

Dear Ms. Peterson Lee:

I am pleased to provide to you with the *T-117 Public Participation Plan*. It addresses public participation associated with the T-117 early action area, including the preliminary public participation schedule and associated activities. The plan has been revised to include the previous stakeholder recommendations and edits, as well as project updates.

Please feel free to contact me at 206.728.3814 (Kuroiwa.R@portseattle.org) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Roy Kuroiwa".

Roy Kuroiwa
Project Coordinator

TERMINAL 117 EARLY ACTION AREA PROJECT

Public Participation Plan

April 22, 2009

Submitted to:
EPA

Prepared by:
EnviroIssues
101 Stewart Street, Suite 1200
Seattle, WA 98101



Port of Seattle



City of Seattle

Terminal 117 Early Action Area Project
Public Participation Plan

T-117 Early Action Area Project

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Terminal 117 (T-117), a property owned by the Port of Seattle (Port), is on the west bank of the five-mile Lower Duwamish Waterway in the South Park neighborhood of Seattle. It is part of the larger Lower Duwamish Waterway Superfund Site established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on September 13, 2001 under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA).

EPA designated T-117 as an Early Action Area (EAA) site because the river bank and sediment in the waterway have high concentrations of PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) and other contaminants of concern (arsenic, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons) in comparison to some other areas of the Duwamish Waterway. The Port and the City of Seattle (City), under the direction of the EPA, are leading this cleanup effort to protect people and the environment. The 6.4 acre T-117 cleanup area includes the river bank and sediments, the Port-owned land next to the river (upland area), and portions of City streets adjacent to T-117. Extensive soil and sediment sampling and other investigations to determine the cleanup area boundaries have been conducted and are ongoing, and appropriate cleanup actions are being developed. Other industrial areas adjacent to the T-117 cleanup area are also being evaluated for contamination. If determined to be contaminated, the potential for recontamination of the T-117 site will be evaluated to ensure that the cleanup efforts will result in permanent cleanup of the site for future use.

An earlier Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) was developed for the project in 2005. The 2005 EE/CA was based on an industrial end-use. Subsequent events and interactions with the community, the City and the Port have lead to the EPA concluding that future land use should no longer be reasonably anticipated to be limited to industrial uses, and that cleanup standards for T-117 soils should be based on requirements for unrestricted uses.

EAA PROJECT ELEMENTS

These are the elements involved in completing the Early Action Area Project:

- Develop a final EE/CA which will:
 - present background information about the site including previous site activities, nature of contamination, and risks
 - identify site risks
 - discuss available information and proposed boundaries of the cleanup action
 - document the development and evaluation of different cleanup options
 - identify preferred cleanup action(s) (subject to EPA approval)
- Cleanup design and contracting
- Cleanup implementation
- Compliance monitoring

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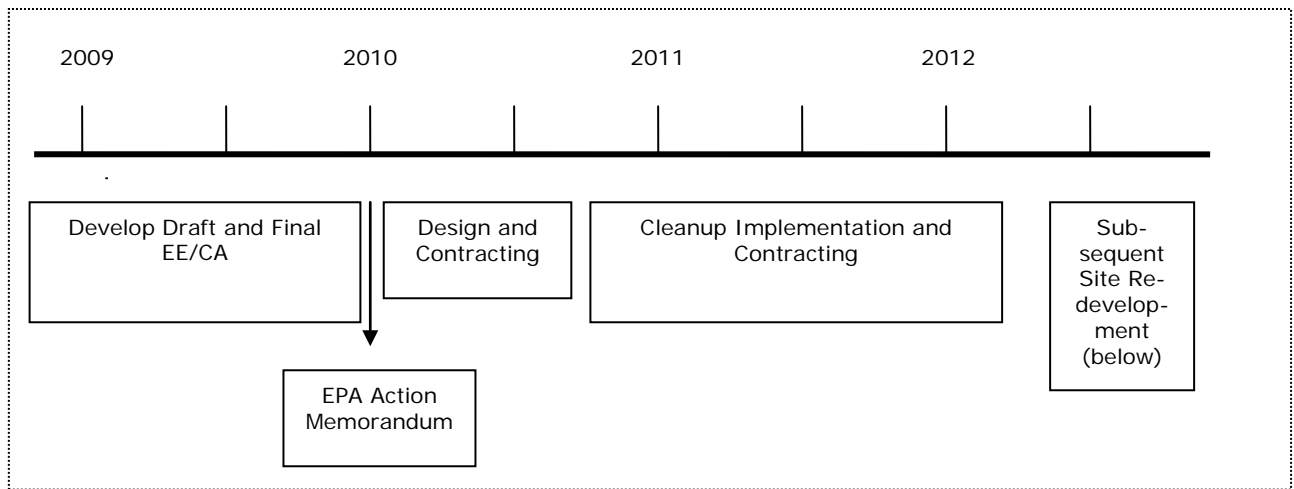
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT OBJECTIVES

The overall objectives of the Port and City's public participation strategy are to:

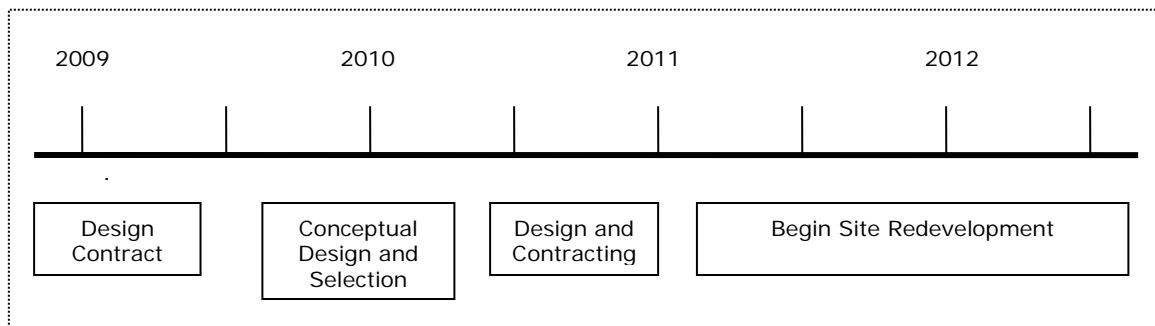
- Inform local community groups, local residents and businesses about the EE/CA, site contamination, cleanup plans and implementation, and lay the groundwork for subsequent redevelopment activities
- Provide information and opportunities for public involvement on key decisions, including the draft EE/CA
- Provide meaningful opportunities to minority, low-income or limited-English speaking populations to gain information and be involved with decision-making
- Remain consistent with earlier community involvement plans and commitments (e.g., LDW Early Actions at Slip 4/Malarkey- Communication/Coordination Plan)
- Ensure coordination and consistency with EPA public involvement requirements
- Coordinate with the Lower Duwamish Waterway Group to maximize outreach opportunities and minimize public confusion
- Provide consistent and clear messaging through the life of the project
- Support Task 4 (Community Involvement) included in the EPA Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Removal Action

OVERALL PROJECT SCHEDULE

Cleanup Schedule:



Subsequent Site Redevelopment (including Natural Resource Damage Assessment) Schedule*:



*Note that this plan does not include public participation associated with site redevelopment.

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PRELIMINARY PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE

The following schedule and suggested activities are approximate, and are based on the overall project schedule, which may be adjusted as the project evolves and more detailed schedule and technical information is available.

	2009				2010				2011			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	Final EE/CA				Cleanup Design and Contracting				Cleanup Implementation			
Direct Neighborhood Outreach		X				X				X		
Community Briefing	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Neighborhood Public Meeting			X EPA			X				X		
Printed Project Updates			X		X					X		
E-mail South Park List Serv updates		X	X			X		x	x		x	
Duwamish River Festival			X				x				X	
Spring Community Fair		X				X				X		

KEY MESSAGES

The following key messages will be used throughout the public outreach process in order to ensure that the public is receiving accurate and consistent information about the T-117 site, cleanup efforts, timeline and end result.

- The T-117 cleanup effort is one piece of the larger effort to clean up the Lower Duwamish Waterway Superfund site under CERCLA.
- Cleanup is comprehensive – the Port and City are developing a plan to clean up the entire site (uplands, streets, sediments, bank, and yards as appropriate). In addition, adjacent sites will be evaluated for their potential to recontaminate the site to ensure that the cleanup efforts will result in permanent cleanup of the T-117 site.

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- The Port and City are committed to cleaning up the T-117 site to allow for unrestricted future use of the site, which means that the upland and sediment portions of the site could be used for any reasonably anticipated land use after the cleanup is complete, including fish and wildlife habitat.
- Cleanup efforts will significantly reduce the site risk to the environment and human health.
- The Port and the City are committed to ensuring community values and concerns are identified and considered in the cleanup process.
- The Port and City will engage in communication and dialogue with residents and businesses in the vicinity of T-117, especially at key milestones in the process.

INTERESTED AGENCIES, TRIBES, ORGANIZATIONS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

Many agencies and organizations are involved in the T-117 cleanup and have been involved with the process for many years. It will be essential to 1) continue to involve historic key interests in the cleanup planning and implementation process in order to anticipate and address agency, Tribal, community, and organizational concerns and issues; and 2) identify any other parties that should be involved (i.e. identify and include participants in the *South Park Action Agenda* development, September, 2006)

Interested Agencies and Parties

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Port of Seattle
- City of Seattle
- Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- Washington State Department of Health (DOH)
- Public Health, Seattle and King County
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps)
- Lower Duwamish Waterway Group (LDWG)

Tribes

- Muckleshoot Tribe
- Suquamish Tribe
- Duwamish Tribe

Organizations

- Manufacturing and Industrial Council (MIC)
- Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition (DRCC)
 - Community Coalition for Environmental Justice
 - The Duwamish Tribe
 - IM-A-PAL Foundation
 - Environmental Coalition of South Seattle (ECOSS)
 - Georgetown Community Council
 - People for Puget Sound
 - Puget Soundkeeper Alliance
 - South Park Neighborhood Association (SPNA)
 - Washington Toxics Coalition
 - Waste Action Project

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- South Park Action Agenda (SPAA)

Community Groups

- Local residents
- Local businesses
- Local employees
- Local recreational users
- Environmental groups
- General public

Other potentially interested agencies

- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (FWS)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES

To achieve the public involvement objectives detailed earlier, EPA in conjunction with Ecology and the Port and City will conduct the following public outreach activities as needed to meet the objectives of this plan. This list includes a full suite of tools that can be used to ensure responsiveness as conditions of the project change.

- Direct neighborhood outreach (canvassing)
- Community briefings and updates
- Neighborhood public meetings
- Environmental justice outreach
- Neighborhood construction kick-off meeting
- Coordination with other Lower Duwamish Waterway community involvement activities
- Coordination with Media

The objectives and approach for each activity are discussed in detail below.

1. DIRECT NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH (CANVASSING)

Objective

The purpose of directly contacting residents and businesses in the immediate project area is to:

- Notify and provide information on activities at or near the site that may raise questions or cause impacts such as truck traffic, noise, etc.
- To identify and answer questions or concerns residents may have about the project.
- Provide contact information and ways to stay involved and informed (e.g. Web site).

Approach

T-117 contamination and cleanup, and subsequent redevelopment activities, directly affect the neighborhood and local businesses adjacent to T-117. To ensure people in the neighborhood know about and understand cleanup associated activities at the site, the Port, City and EnviroIssues will canvass the neighborhood, providing flyers, contact information and translated materials. This direct contact method ensures that all homes and businesses

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in the affected area are reached. Additionally, canvassing reaches people who may not attend community briefings or meetings.

- **Who** – EnviroIssues. Port, City and potentially Health officials as determined by subject matter
- **Where** - The generally identified boundaries of the project area for canvassing include:
 - 14th Ave. S between Dallas Ave. S and S. Donovan St. (including both sides of 14th Ave. S)
 - Dallas Ave. S from 14th Ave. S east to the Duwamish River
 - S. Donovan St. from 14th Ave. S east to the Duwamish River
- **Specifics** – If needed, interpreters will be used to communicate with any non-English speaking residents in the targeted area

2. COMMUNITY BRIEFINGS AND UPDATES

Objective

The purpose of these community briefings will be to update the community on cleanup efforts, the timing of activities on site, and future redevelopment activities.

Topics may include:

- Status of the project including the project and cleanup timeline.
- Cleanup boundaries and how they were determined.
- Techniques for cleanup including capping and dredging.
- Details on the different alternative cleanup options being considered.
- Long-term monitoring plans and techniques.
- Construction activities and what to expect.
- Redevelopment activities and habitat restoration efforts being explored in coordination with the T-117 cleanup.

Approach

Community briefings will be informal and may be hosted in coordination with existing community organizations. Briefings may also be as informal as a phone call once a quarter to a representative of existing community organizations. The project team will prepare materials for in-person meetings that focus on specific topics related to the cleanup effort. However, the conversation at the meeting or on the phone can guide the issues and questions addressed during the meeting.

- **Who** - Briefings will be coordinated with or presented to Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition (DRCC), South Park Neighborhood Association (SPNA) and other community organizations' standing meetings to reduce meeting fatigue in the community. This coordination will also identify specific people to call for more informal phone briefings.
- **Where** - In the South Park area specifically, and broader as needed.
- **Specifics** - Notifications for in-person meetings will also be done in coordination with the DRCC, SPNA, and other community communications networks in order to take advantage of information sharing forums with which the community is already accustomed.

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3. NEIGHBORHOOD PUBLIC MEETINGS

Objective

Public meetings will be held to provide a forum for local residents and businesses as well as the wider public to get information and provide input on the T-117 project at major milestones.

Approach

Public meetings will be held in conjunction with the release of the final EE/CA and during the site design process.

- **Who** – The public meeting associated with the EE/CA will be hosted by EPA with support from the Port and the City.
 - Local residents and businesses as well as organized groups will be invited
- **Where** - Potential public meeting locations are:
 - South Park Community Center
 - Concord Elementary School
- **Specifics** -
 - Meeting notifications will be distributed via list serves, posters and fliers, web site kiosk, press releases, and through existing organizations' communications methods
 - Public meetings will be held, at a minimum, in conjunction with the release of the final EE/CA; during the cleanup design process, and prior to commencement of cleanup construction.
 - A neighborhood tour on or adjacent to the site will be held prior to construction associated with the site cleanup.

4. OUTREACH TO DIVERSE COMMUNITIES

Objective

Targeted outreach will be conducted to reach the diverse residential and business community members who live or work in the project area to ensure that they have opportunities for meaningful engagement and a chance to provide input into the T-117 project.

Approach

Neighborhood canvassing will help to identify the type of outreach needed to reach these populations. Project team members will also ask questions about certain affected demographics during community briefings to gain a better understanding of the local population.

In response to advice received during stakeholder interviews and building on the Hispanic Community Involvement Supplement for the Lower Duwamish Waterway Site (2002) for outreach opportunities, the following outreach components will be used:

- **Who** - Spanish and Vietnamese speakers materials translated into Spanish and Vietnamese at community meetings and on the Web site.
- **Where** – Distributing translated flyers and outreach materials at locations frequented by identified cultural groups.
 - ECOSS Neighborhood Information Center /Centro de Información Hispano
 - South Park Library

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- Hispanic and Vietnamese businesses and churches
- **Specifics** –
 - Providing interpreters at community meetings to explain project updates.
 - Providing briefings with diverse populations at their pre-scheduled meetings or events.
 - Attending appropriate cultural groups' local fairs or festivals.
 - Establishing relationships with key community leaders who can help the Port and City engage diverse communities.
 - Working with key community leaders to determine the need for technical document translations, both identifying specific sections of documents and ensuring the translations make sense in the target language and vernacular. At a minimum, the Executive Summary of the draft EE/CA should be translated.

5. COORDINATION WITH OTHER LOWER DUWAMISH WATERWAY COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

Objective

Coordinate with other entities conducting community involvement activities along the Lower Duwamish in order to find opportunities for synergistic outreach to the community and capitalize on existing and upcoming involvement activities.

Approach

Attend meetings and/or follow planning processes of organizations or groups that may be planning events or other activities in the South Park area

- **Who** – Coordinate with the Lower Duwamish Waterway Public Involvement Coordinators
- **Where** – Have a T-117 presence at the following events
 - Duwamish River Festival
 - Spring Community Fair – Duwamish Alive!
- **Specifics** - Attend scheduled LDWG Community Involvement Coordination meetings monthly to stay informed about potential coordination opportunities. Monitor local list-servs and other planning announcements to identify parallel outreach opportunities where T-117 information could be disseminated.

6. COORDINATION WITH MEDIA

Objective

EPA, the Port and the City provide coordinated and consistent response to media inquiries.

Approach

Develop key messages and share with all parties in anticipation of media interest.

- **Who** – Coordinate with EPA, Ecology, DRCC and others as appropriate to develop coordinated responses.
- **Specifics** – Work with the project team to identify areas where key messages may be needed.

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OUTREACH MATERIALS AND TOOLS

The following outreach tools may be used to support the public participation activities detailed above as needed to meet the objectives of this plan.

- Web page/Public kiosk (www.T-117.com) (information repository and public administrative record file)
- Project updates and fact sheets
- Postcards and posters
- Presentations
- Comment log and reports
- Key stakeholder contact list
- Postings on the South Park List Serv.

EVALUATION

To evaluate the success of the public participation plan, the project team is committed to documenting not only the number of people reached by this outreach strategy, but also the breadth of community representation and the diversity of stakeholders who have participated in the cleanup and subsequent site redevelopment process once it is complete.

A number of strategies will be implemented for this documentation including:

- Sign-in sheets or head counts to document the number of attendees and/or stakeholder group representation at every community forum
- Summaries of each forum and workshop that also note the parties in attendance and who was represented
- Verbal check-ins with participants at community meetings and briefings on the relevance and clarity of information and the meeting process
- Evaluation forms that can be submitted anonymously after meetings and briefings or via US mail will solicit feedback on the relevance and clarity of information and the meeting process. These forms will be provided in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.
- A comment form that can be submitted via the project Web site

This information will be compiled and provided as a section in the public involvement summary.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SUMMARY

To document and summarize public outreach activities and feedback received to date, a public involvement summary will be developed and updated at the end of each major project phase. The document will be provided to EPA and posted on the T-117 Web page/public kiosk.