

## ***Rivergate Environmental Enhancements Project Update***

***February 2001***

### **PORT BEGINS ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENTS**

The Port of Portland is moving forward with an environmental enhancement package in the Rivergate Industrial District that will remove fill, restore wetlands, re-vegetate the banks of the Columbia Slough, and provide a recreational trail.

These enhancements will complete mitigation for fill used to develop the Rivergate Industrial Park over the past 30 years, while fulfilling the terms of a consent decree settling a citizen lawsuit against the Port and several other agencies.

According to Port Property Development Manager, Gerry Meyer, *"The Port has collaboratively agreed to perform this project, which will create and enhance about 37 acres of habitat for native plant species and wildlife in Rivergate. This work returns a portion of the industrial park to a more natural setting while amicably settling a question about the placement of fill material."*

### **PROJECT UPDATE**

On January 10, 2001, the Port of Portland Commission approved a contract with David Evans and Associates Inc. to design wetland, riverbank and upland habitat improvements in the Rivergate industrial park. The design portion of the project is expected to be completed in July 2001, with estimated completion of construction in 2002. Concurrently, Multnomah County will begin construction of a new county jail in Rivergate and the City will begin construction of the North Marine Drive Widening project in June 2001.

After the design is completed the Port will hire contractors to remove approximately 400,000 cubic yards of sand fill, grade the various sites as necessary for plant establishment, create new wetlands, and replant native vegetation.

The plan also calls for constructing approximately 1 1/3 miles of the region's

40-Mile Loop Trail, which will extend east and south from the Lombard Street Bridge, parallel to the north bank of the Columbia Slough. A path will also be created beneath the bridge.

## **PROJECT DETAILS**

Although still in the design phase, the environmental enhancements project calls for on-site exploratory work. This includes taking core samples to determine depth and make-up of native soils as well as determining location of potential archeological sites. The process involves the use of a rubber tire drilling rig that will take 120 6-inch diameter core samples to a depth of about 20 feet below the surface of the sand fill.

In addition, another 53 6-inch diameter samples, 3 feet deep each, will be taken by hand along the bank of the Columbia Slough where the 40-Mile Loop Trail will be created.

## **PROJECT SCHEDULE**

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| ◆ Core Sampling Begins                                    | February 9, 2001 |
| ◆ Sand Removal Begins                                     | July 2001        |
| ◆ Revegetation and 40-mile Loop Trail Construction Begins | November 2001    |
| ◆ Bike Path Under Lombard Bridge                          | November 2001    |

**If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact: Gerry Meyer, Property Development Manager, Port of Portland, 121 NW Everett, Portland, OR 97209. E-mail: [meyerg@portptld.com](mailto:meyerg@portptld.com)**

# New Multnomah County Corrections Facility

# Wapato Corrections Facility Newsletter

Vol. 5, No. 5 May 2001

A newsletter in the public interest keeping citizens informed on the construction of the new corrections facility in Multnomah County.

## Work to Begin Soon

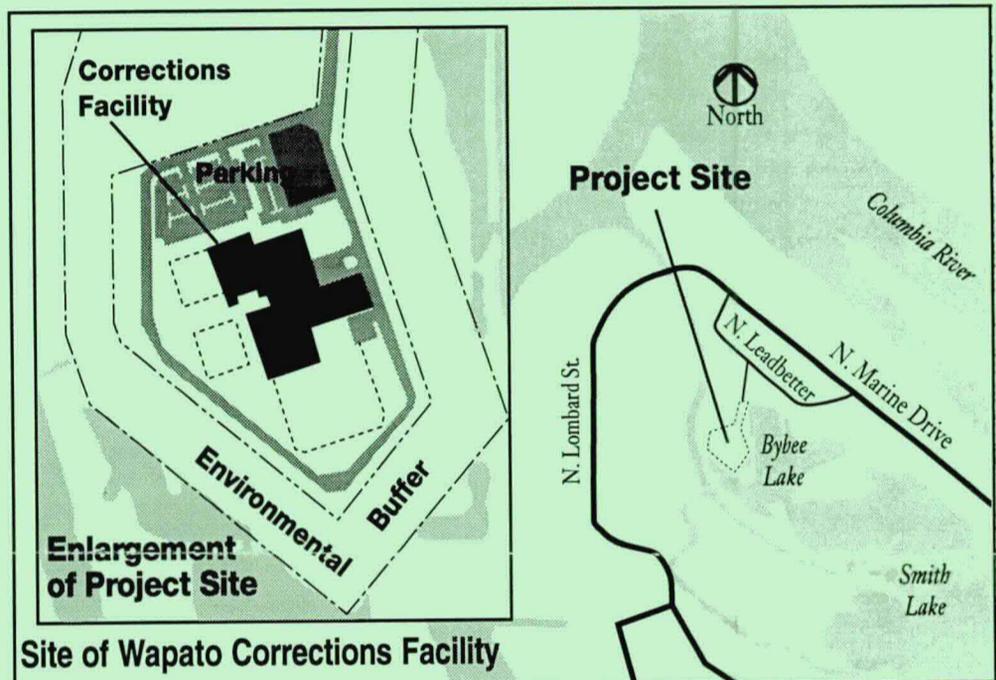
Construction of Multnomah County's new Wapato Corrections Facility will begin in late spring. Two main tasks will be the focus of the initial construction. First, the County will begin building the access road to the site and building the connections to key utilities, such as water, sanitary sewer and electricity.

Second, the County will begin work on its environmental buffer around the Leadbetter Peninsula. The County will create a six-foot tall berm and then plant evergreens on that raised soil to form a visual buffer of the facility from surrounding natural areas.

This initial work will be coordinated closely with the Port of Portland's plans to remove fill from a 200-foot wide swath around the peninsula's perimeter. The Port's work is one element of the Consent Decree that settled the *Jones v. Thorne* lawsuit.

Work on the building proper, which will house a 225-bed medium security jail and a secured 300-bed drug and alcohol treatment facility, will begin in the fall. It is at this time that the County plans to hold a groundbreaking ceremony.

The Citizens Working Group, the-15 member community advisory panel that has



assisted the County's designing and planning of the Wapato facility, will also assist in planning the modest commemoration.

If you would like to participate in the planning for the groundbreaking, come to the next meeting of the Citizens Working Group on May 23<sup>rd</sup> (see back panel for details) or contact Captain Bobbi Luna at (503) 988-3282.

## Conditional Use Permit In the Books

Multnomah County has received a Conditional Use Permit from the City of Portland for the Wapato Corrections Facility. As readers of this newsletter will recall, the Portland City Council early this year affirmed the initial OK for the permit issued by a Land Use Hearings Officer. No appeal of the Council's unanimous decision was filed with the State Land Use Board of Appeals within the time period for appeals, so the important Conditional Use Permit is now official. There remain several transportation and site development permits needed for construction, and work on them is proceeding apace.

## NEXT WORKING GROUP MEETING

The next meeting of the Citizens Working Group, the sixteenth for those of you keeping score at home, will feature discussions on several important topics.

- The County and its construction management firm, Hoffinan Construction Company of Oregon, will present a construction schedule for the facility, its supporting infrastructure, and the environmental buffer.
- The Working Group will continue its discussion on the groundbreaking ceremony.
- Bryan Cole of Walker Macy, the firm that worked closely with the Citizens Working Group in designing the environmental buffer, will present its 100% design drawings for the buffer.
- The Port of Portland will update the committee on its environmental mitigation projects in Rivergate.

The meeting will be held the fourth Wednesday of May, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Port of Portland's Terminal 6 Administrative Office Building Conference Room, 7201 North Marine Drive, Portland. The conference room is fully accessible.

### WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Are you a member of a group that would like to learn more about the plans for permitting and construction of the Wapato Corrections Facility? Captain Bobbi Luna has made numerous presentations to interested businesses, civic organizations and environmental advocacy groups over the last year. She is eager to talk to any and all who would like to get the latest on the project. If interested in placing Bobbi on your agenda, please call Captain Luna at (503) 988-3282.

# FYI

For more information on the new corrections facility project, or if you know of persons who wish to subscribe to this newsletter, please contact Cpt. Bobbi Luna of the Multnomah County Sheriff's Department. Cpt. Luna can be reached by phone at: (503) 988-3282. You can write her at:

Cpt. Bobbi Luna  
Multnomah County Sheriff's Department  
11540 NE Inverness Drive  
Portland, OR 97220

Or, you can send her a fax at (503) 988-6829 or an e-mail to: bobbi.l.luna@co.multnomah.or.us.

You can also learn about the new corrections facility at the Sheriff's Office webpage: <http://www.co.multnomah.or.us/sheriff/newjail.htm>. The County's Department of Adult Community Justice also has an informative webpage: <http://www.co.multnomah.or.us/dcjadsecure.html>.

## Regional Arts & Culture Council Digests Arts Workshop

In late-January, over 30 North Portland residents, artists and business persons gathered at a public workshop to brainstorm qualities and features they would like to see from the public art pieces created from the Wapato facility's Percent for Art funds.

The Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC) administers Percent for Art Projects. It distributed to its nine citizen Selection Panel for the Wapato Percent for Art program a report documenting the ideas generated at the workshop.

Favorite locations for public art identified in the workshop were prominent public parks and spaces, including art to enhance Smith & Bybee Lakes. Workshop participants specified qualities for the public art from traditional, historic

pieces to more whimsical and mobile projects. Citizens also identified groups and individuals in North Portland that could serve as resources for artists, providing historical knowledge and perspective.

If you would like to receive a copy of this report, please contact Captain Bobbi Luna at (503) 988-3282.

The Selection Panel and RACC will issue a prospectus to the artist community for the project and review responses this year. The Selection Panel expects to meet twice this spring. Kristin Calhoun is RACC's project manager for the Wapato Percent for Art projects. For the most recent updates on the Selection Panel's work, call Kristin at (503) 823-5401.

### Members of Citizens Working Group:

Cpt. Bobbi Luna, Multnomah County Sheriff's Office - Chair  
Bill Bach, Port of Portland  
Jane Bogus, St. Johns Neighborhood Association  
Troy Clark, Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee  
Jerry Coddington, Columbia Sportswear  
Jean Estey Hoops, North Portland Neighborhood Association Chairs  
Chuck Harrison, Columbia Corridor Association  
Nancy Hendrickson, Portland Environmental Services  
Laf Keaton, Columbia Slough Watershed Council  
Joanna Nakashima, Rivergate Human Resources Managers Association  
Lt. Mike Reese, Portland Police Bureau  
Wayne Scott, Multnomah County Adult and Community Justice  
Elaine Stewart, Metro  
Peter Teneau, Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes  
Edward Trott, St. Johns Business Boosters

## MEETING OF CITIZENS WORKING GROUP

### Working Group Meeting #16:

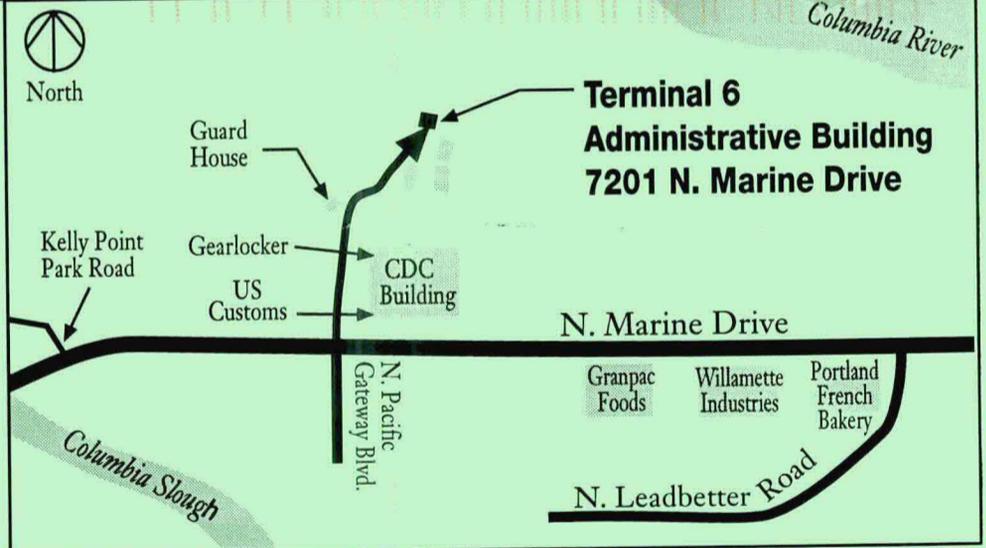
Wednesday, May 23, 2001  
6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

### Location:

Port of Portland  
Terminal 6 Administrative Building  
7201 N. Marine Drive, Portland

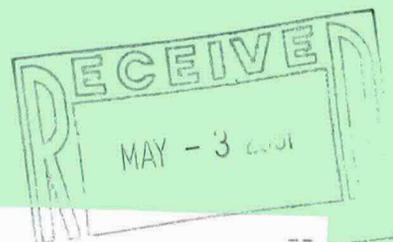
The meeting room is fully accessible.

The public is invited to attend and participate in all meetings of the Working Group and its subcommittees.

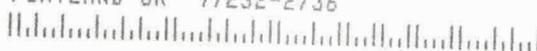


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# N MARINE DRIVE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

June 2001

*The North Marine Drive project is a 2.2-mile roadway improvement project that provides much needed safety and environmental improvements. Project improvements begin near Terminal 6 and end at a point 2.2 miles to the east (where the road improvement project constructed in 1995 terminated).*

## We Are Ready To Build!

Design is complete for the North Marine Drive Extension Project and Robison Construction, Inc. has been selected to construct the street improvements. Their bid came in at approximately 9.6 million dollars.

Robison Construction expects to start work on-site the week of July 9<sup>th</sup>. It is expected that it will take about 16 months to complete construction of all proposed improvements. Contract documents state that we are to be substantially complete by November 2002. During those 16 months, the Portland Office of Transportation and Robison Construction will have construction offices on site.

Note that we also just completed some work specific to the construction of the outfalls (conveying roadway runoff) to the lakes. This work had to be completed in the month of May due to concerns about impacts to the turtle nesting habitat along Smith & Bybee Lakes. Cipriano & Son Construction, Inc. was awarded that contract and has successfully completed that job.

## Open House to Discuss Construction Staging & Impacts

We know that many of you are anxious to hear about the proposed construction staging and impacts. Staff from the Portland Office of Transportation and Robison Construction will be prepared to discuss this at the following time and place:

### OPEN HOUSE

**MONDAY, JULY 9<sup>TH</sup>**

**4:30 TO 7:30 P.M.**

**7201 N Marine Drive**

**Port of Portland Administration Building**

**At Terminal 6**

## QUESTIONS?

**Stacy Bluhm, Project Manager**  
Portland Office of Transportation  
(503) 823-7723  
stacy.bluhm@pdxtrans.org

**Denise Dietrich, Contract Manager**  
Portland Office of Transportation  
(503) 823-5363  
denise.dietrich@pdxtrans.org

*Directions: Turn onto the road leading to Terminal 6 from Marine Drive. Turn right onto the first road on the right. Follow that road up to the Administration Building.*

Note that there will be no formal presentation. We will have materials displayed depicting the project elements and construction staging. Staff will be there to discuss concerns with you and answer any questions that you may have.

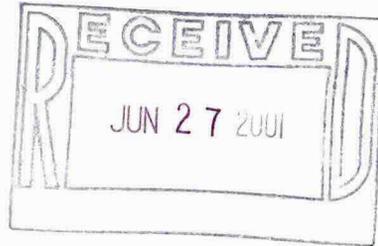
Portland Office of Transportation  
1120 SW Fifth Avenue Suite 800  
Portland, Oregon 97204-1914



PREMIER  
FIRST CLASS



JIM MORGAN  
METRO  
600 N.E. GRAND AVENUE  
PORTLAND, OR 97232



ALMS 37232



## **THE “RADIO TOWERS” SITE UPDATE #3**

### **Constructing a New Mitigation Site**

**October 2001**

#### ***Background***

*The Radio Towers site is a Port of Portland mitigation property, located in North Portland, which is being enhanced to improve wetland habitat. The site includes 90 acres, 62 of which will be used for wetland mitigation. Before the Port purchased the property, the site was dominated by reed canary grass, an invasive weed that grows so densely that few other native plants can survive. This in turn limits the numbers and types of wildlife that can use the habitat.*



#### **Our Mitigation Objectives**

The Radio Towers site currently consists of a 62-acre central wetland dominated by reed canary grass and 28 acres of blackberry-dominated upland. To create this new mitigation area, we are engaging in a number of activities: seasonal flooding (up to five feet of water) in order to stress the reed canary grass, increasing native wetland plant diversity through seeding and planting and enhancing the upland areas through intensive weed control measures and planting of native species.

#### **What’s being done?**

You may have noticed large construction equipment and a lot of activity at the Radio Towers site. The Port is in the process of building the new mitigation area, and some dramatic changes will take place over the next months.

#### **New Swales**

New meandering swales are being excavated to replace the straight-lined ditches that now drain the site. The slopes and benches of the swales will be seeded and planted with native forbs and grasses. The swales will still serve the purpose of draining the site when necessary to control floodwaters and to dry the site in the late summer. The existing drainage ditches will be filled and planted.

#### **Earthen Bank**

A meandering earthen bank is being constructed in the northern portion of the site in order to prevent flooding of the north ditch and Expo Road. The bank will be approximately 4 feet high and will allow floodwater to accumulate to approximately 5 feet deep in the wetland.

## **Reed Canary Grass Control**

A number of techniques are being used to control the reed canary grass, which now dominates the wetland. Chemical spraying with Rodeo took place during April and early October, and will be followed in mid October by mowing. The wetland will then be plowed in order to turn over the weeds and expose their roots, causing additional stress. Flooding during the rainy season will further control the grass, as it cannot tolerate depths of water over two feet during the growing season.

## **Upland Weed Control**

The Port is also undertaking an extensive weed control program in the uplands surrounding the mitigation site. Blackberry, nightshade, teasel and hemlock are being removed either through mechanical or chemical means.

## **Seeding and Planting**

The wetlands and uplands will all be reseeded and replanted with native woody and herbaceous species to increase plant diversity on the site. The planting will take place at various times over the coming year.

## **Selecting a New Name for the Site**

The Port has been collecting potential names for the "Radio Towers" site, through our web site and community suggestions, for the last ten months. The Columbia Slough Watershed Council has been reviewing these submissions and will make the final selection of a permanent name, which will be approved by the Port. We hope to have a new name by November 2001.

## ***NEXT STEPS***

Construction of the mitigation site is scheduled to be completed by November 2001. Plowing and seeding of the site will take place immediately after that, so flooding can begin with the November rains. Weed maintenance in the upland areas will take place throughout the year. Monitoring of the wetland site for water levels and wildlife use will be ongoing over the winter and spring, until the surface waters are pumped off next June. At that time we will be able to start monitoring wetland plant diversity and the success of the reed canary grass control techniques. Development of the Working Document for the Comprehensive Management Plan is underway. It is expected to be released for public input early in 2002.

Any questions about the new design and construction activities can be sent to Denise Rennis, Project Manager at the Port of Portland, 121 NW Everett, Portland, OR 97209, or [rennid@portptld.com](mailto:rennid@portptld.com).