

Meeting with John Anderson and Jim Brazil
September 7, 2009

Meeting Purpose: To discuss the September 10 meeting with the County Engineer John Huestes.

Discussion Items:

John and Jim have a great deal of information regarding past flooding events and mitigation efforts. The revetments that exist were put in by the NRCS and the County in response to past events. The engineering of the protections was at times very marginal although the revetment above HV11 is considered very good. The HV11 revetment is used as the basis of estimating costs by the NRCS study. John has the engineering information for that revetment.

The NRCS study is viewed as being potentially very helpful. It might be the information needed to initiate action on the part of the Forest Service and the County

Funding of NRCS recommendations may be a challenge. The idea of a flood control district is the most promising approach. Grants usually require a government entity to request the grant which could be the flood control district or the county. Grants also require some kind of matching funds or in kind support.

The highest priorities for implementation were viewed to be the Skate Creek Bridge and the proposed new revetment beyond the forest service gate in the National Forest. The Skate Creek Bridge needs protection for access to the north side of the Cowlitz. It is threatened by erosion just up stream and north of the bridge as well as the wood debris upstream. The new revetment is critical as an avulsion (migration) of the Cowlitz down Cannon Road behind the existing revetment above HV 11 would wipe out much of HV 8/11, and potentially Serenity Acres and Eagle Peak..

John is leading a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to challenge the CMZ purpose and regulation requirements. They will review the CMZ data, models and assumptions and try to determine the impact on development in the CMZ. They would then participate in County workshops with the intent of influencing the final outcome of the CMZ situation.

Action Steps:

Jim and Gary will try to meet Christy Miller before the Thursday meeting with the County Engineer. We would like her support of the NRCS recommendations as we attempt to solicit help from the County in implementing those recommendations.

John, Jim and Gary will meet with John Huestes (County Engineer) Thursday September 10 and determine how much support we can expect from the County in several areas including:

- Emergency response
- Implementing the NRCS study
- Engineering of proposals
- Obtaining funding
- Obtaining permits (NEPA)
- Managing operations
- Forming a flood control district

Gary will push for participation of the Corps of Engineers through Laura Hicks who has promised to send a representative to assess the situation in the upper Cowlitz.

Jim, John and Gary will continue to work with the NRCS (Larry Johnson, David Cline) to get their help in implementing their recommendations. Get the Power Point presentation ASAP and the study details when published.