

To: Annie Von Burg
CC: Portland Utility Board (PUB), Mike Jordan, Dawn Uchiyama, Jonas Biery, Todd Lofgren
From: Melissa Merrell
Re: Consolidated questions from board members about Portland Harbor Superfund projects
On: March 16, 2018

PUB members greatly appreciated your written update on BES's work on Portland Harbor Superfund Site submitted for the March 6 board meeting. Please see below for follow-up questions. If possible, please provide responses by close of business April 5 so they can be distributed as part of the April 12 meeting materials.

1. Is the early action with River Mile 11 using a community involvement plan? The community involvement plan for the overall superfund project is still being created but not yet implementable. How will the bureau ensure that there is a public process to engage community members in the early action items, specifically in giving feedback on the remedial design process?

The City is one of the six parties participating within the River Mile 11 group and does not solely determine a community involvement plan. Performing parties are looking to EPA to guide the public involvement planning process. EPA has indicated that they may require the River Mile 11 group to present updates on its cleanup design at 30, 60, and 90 percent of completion, which the city fully supports. The City of Portland is committed to sharing River Mile 11 updates with the community as they are made available.

2. How will Communities of Color and coalitions be involved in providing feedback on the city's efforts? Lee attended a work session a while back with Communities of Color that was specifically about the Portland Superfund projects. How is the city following up on commitments made at that meeting to involve the communities? Has there been more work on crafting a potential Community Benefits Agreement (CBA) with these communities?

BES created a new position dedicated to meaningful community involvement in Portland Harbor. Since starting in January, Jessica Terlikowski, has engaged with more than 25 individuals, advocates, and leaders representing diverse community-based organizations, including those led by and prioritizing communities of color and environmental justice issues. These organizations include, but are not limited to Portland Harbor Community Coalition, Portland African American Leadership Forum,

Center for Diversity and the Environment, JOIN, Right2Survive, Street Roots, OPAL, Environmental Professionals of Color, Iraqi Society, and East European Coalition. She is currently focusing her outreach on building relationships and understanding the many ways in which Portlanders are connected with and work on Portland Harbor. If you have recommendations of individuals and organizations for Jessica to reach out to or would like to connect with her directly, please contact her at Jessica.terlikowski@portlandoregon.gov. Conversations between the City and community leaders about the feasibility of establishing Community Benefits Agreements related to Portland Harbor cleanup continue.

3. For the fish advisory plan, what type of outreach will be done instead or in addition to more signs, which may not be very useful or effective? Does the city plan include meeting with communities and doing outreach through those or directly to the communities themselves? Is this partnership considering additional strategies like including fish cleaning workshops/demonstrations, implementing a fish exchange program, or other programs?

Through the city's public involvement work we've heard from community members that current fish advisories, specifically the signs, are not effective. In response to that feedback we've partnered with the State of Oregon and the Port of Portland to provide the Multnomah County Health Department with funds to build a more robust outreach program that is more responsive to the needs of local communities. With these new funds, Multnomah County is currently in the process of hiring a full-time health educator that is dedicated to establishing the new outreach program for Portland Harbor. This program will be developed in close consultation with community partners to ensure outreach efforts are effective through culturally-specific communication and materials. We anticipate a wide variety of strategies like fish cleaning workshops will be a part of that program.

4. As part of the Portland Harbor, will the new fish advisory program collect any data on fish consumption, incidence of illness, etc. to use in the education and outreach to the public?

Creation of the fish advisory and collection of data on illness related to fish consumption is not within the City of Portland's jurisdiction. The Oregon Health Authority is responsible for the creation of fish advisories and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry collects information on toxics and diseases. The City supports collecting data that helps inform the best and most effective tools to raise public awareness of the risk of eating fish from the Superfund. Currently we are focused on supporting Multnomah County's fish consumption outreach and education efforts to local communities.

