



**VERNONIA SCHOOLS PROJECT
TEAM MEETING 2
SCOUT CABIN, VERNONIA, OREGON
MAY 27, 2008**

Participants

Commissioner Tony Hyde, Co-Convener	State Senator Betsy Johnson
Glenn Ahrens, OSU Extension Service	Richard Krikava, Office of Senator Smith
Tim Bamburg, Vernonia School Board	Scott Laird, Vernonia's Voice
Dan Brown, Vernonia Planning Commission	Kelly Marks, PCC
Chip Bubl, OSU Extension Service	Steve Marks, Office of Congressman Wu
Philip Carpenter, OR Emergency Management	Rebecca McGaugh, The Independent
Tim Collier, Northwest Regional ESD	Donna Nyberg, Office of Rep. Brad Witt
Ken Cox, Vernonia School District	Randy Parrow, Vernonia City Council
Matt Crall, DLCD-TGM	Ramona Perrault, Office of Congressman Wu
Shirlee Daughtry, Vernonia City Council	Katherine Perrson, Portland Community College
Mark Ellsworth, Oregon Governor's Office	Larry Steele, Cedar Ridge
Marc Farmer, West Coast Electric Cooperative	Philip A. Stroud, FEMA
Gary Fish, DLCD	Jim Tierney, Columbia County
Phyllis Gilmore, Providence Medical Group	Kim Wallace, Vernonia School District
Sam Goldstein, USDA	Merrie Waylett, FEMA
Fritz Graham, Office of Senator Wyden	Richard Whitman, DLCD
Bill Haack, Col. Pac. EDD	Janet Wright, Columbia County
Cherise Harbour, Vernonia School District	Congressman David Wu
Josette Hugo, Office of Rep. Brad Witt	
Georgia Irwin, The Independent	
Tammy Jennings, Vernonia School Board	

Oregon Solutions staff

Wendy Willis
Tobin Krell

I. Welcome and Introductions

Commissioner Hyde brought the meeting to order at 1:45pm and welcomed Congressman David Wu. Wendy Willis conveyed apologies for Tom Kelly not being able to attend the meeting due to a death in his company. Members of the team introduced themselves

II. Report from Congressman Wu

Congressman David Wu greeted the team, congratulated the community on what it has accomplished so far and offered his full support to the team
Congressman Wu conveyed the four appropriation requests that he has put into Congress for Vernonia to date:

-Moving West Oregon Electric Cooperative to a different site.

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- Funding for school equipment and infrastructure.
 - Address sewage ponds and wastewater treatment problems.
 - The needs identified by the community since the flood.
- Congressman Wu explained the current limitations on Congressional earmarks.

III. Report from Siting Committee

A. Report on Work

- Dan Brown, chair of Housing Committee, reported that the committee visited each potential site and looked at the unique strengths and challenges.
- The team reviewed the site map. Dan Brown walked them through the proposal of the matrix of criteria for potential sites followed.
- Phyllis Gilmore commented that the matrix should include where there is potential for green residential development. Commissioner Hyde suggested this be added to the matrix under Category 7: Neighborhood Impacts.
- The matrix was accepted as a preliminary guide. The criteria were found to be appropriate.
- The team agreed with the recommendation that they should focus on the three sites identified by the Siting Committee.

A.1. Other issues:

- Dan Brown had the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development to conduct workshops for Urban Growth Boundary expansion and land swap issues. Richard Whitman, DLCD Director, said the DLCD would be eager to do land use workshops. He added that the discussion of possible sites would be more focused if the costs were fully evaluated.

B. Next Steps

1. Design

- Tom Kelly and Ken Cox will work with Vernonia School District's Facilities Committee to develop criteria for the school design and determine how best to select a design team.
- Senator Johnson suggested that the Best program of Oregon, Inc. (Oregon Innovation Council) might have some sources for *pro bono* design

2. Transportation Growth Management Process

- Wendy introduced Matt Crall with the DLCD's Transportation Growth Management (TGM).
- Matt explained that TGM has consultants to do much of the preliminary technical work defined by needs of the project. Their services include:

- Cost comparisons (initial site design, transportation needs, etc. for each site)
- Transportation comparisons
- Public outreach
- Utility considerations
- Building configuration (baseline for comparison is the existing site)
- TGM is cognizant of other transportation options (i.e. bicycling, buses, etc.)

- The Siting Committee will work with DLCD to finalize the scope of work

3. Develop Master Timeline

- Senator Johnson recommended that the team develop a master timeline with contingencies for the project.

Other timing concerns:



-If the project is to have any chance of taking advantage of new market tax credits, the project needs to “be underway” by December 31, 2008. It is unclear whether that means physical groundbreaking or not. Commissioner Hyde will follow up and report back to the team.

-Richard Whitman explained that the timing on filing depends on the degree to which it affects current UGB. It will be quicker to site the schools within the current UGB. The next quickest is the ‘land swap’ option. The lengthiest process would be a more general UGB expansion that would include other development options.

-Richard Whitman expressed concern that if the TGM analysis was not completed until August 2008, the public process may take longer. This could result in missing the target date of December 2008 for ground breaking.

-Dr. Cox assured the team that the school board is fully behind the process and will act quickly when district input or authorization is needed.

4. Contact with Land Owners

-Dr. Cox stated that there is a list of property owners that is being compiled. He also pledged to prepare a list of issues and questions to be presented to land owners. This will be done within the next few weeks for the Siting Committee.

-There is a general sentiment that the landowners need to be approached in the near future to determine what property might be available

III. Budget and Funding

-Commissioner Hyde called for the formation of a Budget and Funding Committee. Bill Haack and Tim Collier volunteered to serve. The team also suggested Jim Krahn should serve.

-Betsy Johnson said that once the Fundraising Committee is formed that she is willing to be chair. There were also some suggestions about seeking volunteer professional assistance.

-Commissioner Hyde stressed that the more the new institution can demonstrate that there is a unique niche in the labor market, the greater the likelihood that private foundations will be inclined to fund the project.

-Richard Krikava stated that there are a variety of federal programs that can be tapped once more specific decisions have been made.

IV. Other Motions

-The team voted to invite Bob Stacey (1000 Friends of Oregon) and Carl Talton (Portland Family of Funds) to join the team.

-The Project Description was accepted as a working document for the team.

-The team formed a subcommittee on co-location, chaired by Dr Gilmore.

V. Other Business

-Senator Wyden wants to meet with as many team members as possible June 1, 2008 at 1PM at the Scout Cabin in Vernonia.

VI. Next Meeting

When: JUNE 23 @ 2PM

Where: TBA

When: JULY 21 @ 2PM

Where: TBA

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