



Meeting Summary

Hunters Point Shipyard

Community Informational Meeting

January 26, 2011

MEETING TIME/DATE: Wednesday, January 26, 2011, 6:00 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.

MEETING LOCATION: Bayview YMCA – Multipurpose Room
1601 Lane St., San Francisco, CA 94124

I. Meeting Ground Rules

Yolanda Jones (YCAT) introduced herself as the meeting facilitator and began by announcing the ground rules to ensure a productive meeting. She said the meeting would begin with a presentation followed by a breakout session. At the end of the meeting there would be time for questions on any topic.

II. Welcome/Introductions

Keith Forman (U.S. Navy) introduced himself and other members of the Navy team. The team included Melanie Kito, the lead engineer for the cleanup; Chris Yantos, the remedial project manager for the largest program (Radiological Program); and John Sourial, a Navy contractor responsible for the cleanup at Sites 7 and 18.

Mr. Forman said that this meeting would follow a new format and he requested participants provide feedback to him regarding whether they liked the format. He explained that the meeting format was based on meetings held for the community involved with the Army's Fort Ord Cleanup Program. This meeting, like the Fort Ord meetings, would have a general topic presented at the beginning followed by a breakout session. During the breakout session people would have an opportunity to visit the various topic tables and ask questions. Mr. Forman introduced the topic tables to be held later in the meeting. He stated that Chris Yantos and Melanie Kito would lead the "Community Partnering Table." The purpose of this table would be to discuss how the Navy partners with the community and how much funding was provided under contracts with the local community in 2010. The "Meet the Regulator Table" would be led by employees from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) (Sarah Kloss, Mark Ripperda, and Jackie Lane) and California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) (Ryan Mia). The "Cleanup at Site 7 and 18 Table" would be led by Mr. John Sourial from ERRG, who is responsible for conducting the cleanup. Mr. Forman indicated that he would be at the "Future Agenda Topics Table" to obtain ideas for future meeting topics and locations.

Mr. Forman stated that the tables would provide a chance to talk to and ask questions of the people that are closest to the project and doing the work. Representatives from each of the tables agreed to record action items during the breakout session tables. The Navy's goal for the evening was to have an effective meeting that would provide the community with a chance to

participate and have a more open exchange with the Navy and regulators. Mr. Forman stated that questions would be addressed at the end of the evening.

Mr. Forman said that while the Navy is completing the Draft Community Involvement Plan for Hunters Point Shipyard, new meeting formats and new ways to communicate with the community would be tried.

Some interim community involvement activities will include holding the meetings in new locations, sending the community an email at the beginning of each month, asking about ideas for agenda topics, and trying other new ways of communicating. The Navy is continuing to look for better ways to obtain community input and not have only one direction of communication. The Community Involvement Plan will be released as a Draft for the community to review later in spring. The community will have opportunities to provide the Navy with comments on the plan. The Navy recognizes a need to post meeting dates in advance and to build community involvement so that there is more community participation in the long term.

Future community meetings are currently being planned for February 23, March 23, April 2, and April 27, 2011. Mr. Forman encouraged the meeting participants to provide feedback about the agenda topics and new meeting locations during the breakout session. The Navy recognized that the Hunters Point community is made up of many faces and is diverse. The Navy is tasked with reaching the community at large. The Navy would like to figure out how to most effectively reach the community by trying different things.

An example of a recent change is that the fact sheets are now shorter. Another change is that the Navy has agreed to prepare a meeting summary and track action items to better address issues with past Navy community meetings. The summary and action items will be posted on the Navy Web site after the meeting. Mr. Forman also identified that he is tentatively scheduled to be interviewed during a Chinese radio station program on February 25.

Mr. Forman repeated that the Navy is in the process of developing a comprehensive community outreach plan. The Navy conducted interviews last summer and continues to analyze the input while developing the Community Involvement Plan. One of the biggest issues identified during the interviews was for the Navy to have better communication with the Hunters Point community.

III. History of Hunters Point Shipyard and Overview of 2011 Activities

Mr. Forman provided an overview of Hunters Point. He described how the site is divided into eleven parcels (B through F with sub-division of Parcels E, D and Utility Corridors) that are in various stages of cleanup. Mr. Forman stated that the Hunters Point Shipyard project is the largest Navy base closure based on dollar amount and that the Navy will continue the cleanup in 2011.

The cleanup activities for 2011 include ongoing cleanup at Sites 7 and 18 (in Parcel B), cleanup at the "PCB Hot Spot" (in Parcel E-2), and continued work under the Radiological Program. Sites 7 and 18 are what the Navy refers to as Installation Restoration Sites or "IR Sites" that are located within one of the parcels. Sites 7 and 18 are located near the entrance to the shipyard

close to the former Dago Mary's. The cleanup at Sites 7 and 18 was delayed because of bad weather and for the time being work has halted. The Navy is also continuing with cleanup at the PCB Hot Spot. "PCB" stands for polychlorinated biphenyls, which are a family of chemicals that were used in heat exchangers such as transformers. These chemicals are no longer used. The PCB Hot Spot removal consists of approximately 40 cubic yards of contaminated soil. Mr. Forman put that amount in perspective by noting that one truck can carry about 14 cubic yards of soil. The hole that was excavated during the removal is being filled in with clean dirt. The Navy will also continue work in 2011 under the Radiological Program. The Navy investigates the low-level radiation by digging up infrastructure (for example, buildings, underground pipes and wire, etc.), analyzing it, and removing it if necessary. The Navy is basically demolishing the infrastructure on the base to identify whether any radiological contamination is present. After removal, monitoring is also conducted to confirm that any potential radiological contamination has been removed. The Navy performs rigorous radiological screening of buildings and complies with a set of federal and state regulations. Once the Navy completes work, the federal and state agencies perform an independent survey to make sure the building is safe for release. Last year the Navy completed 15 buildings and only three more remain on Parcels B and G. There are a lot of other buildings that the Navy will be taking care of in 2011. This work is being done so that the property can later be transferred to the City. Finally, this year the Navy is removing piers where some radiation contamination may exist, in addition to posing a navigational hazard in the bay. In the 1920s, '30s, and '40s, the Navy used glow-in-the-dark paint on the piers that contained low levels of radium for night-time visibility.

The Navy is trying to diversify the way they do business by looking into more ways to transport materials (for example by barge). During future meetings, the Navy plans to discuss these and other cleanup activities during the breakout sessions to allow the community an opportunity talk with the Navy contractors doing the work.

Mr. Forman closed by inviting Melanie Kito, Lead Engineer, to provide an overview of the Navy's effort to protect the public's health during the environmental cleanup activities. Ms. Kito stated that every time the Navy conducts work on the Shipyard they ensure that everyone including the workers and community is protected. The types of things the Navy does to protect human health include wetting everything down so that any dirt and dust does not get airborne, not allowing the trucks to race through the Shipyard and throw up dust, and tarping the trucks that are full of material leaving the Shipyard. Additionally, the Navy tarps trucks with the clean soil that is being brought into the Shipyard even though this is not required. Any material with radiation contamination is placed straight into a sealed bin that is covered. All of the trucks are required to go to a wash station to have the tires cleaned before leaving the Shipyard. The trucks also are not allowed to sit idling in the streets outside of the Shipyard before 7 a.m.

IV. Summary of Community Comments from Breakout Session Tables

Community Partnering Table

Ms. Kito (Navy) reported that she received a question about the survey data for IR Site 23 (in Parcel B) and that the participant would like further information.

Cleanup at Sites 7 and 18 Table

1. One person who visited the table noted that she was new to the neighborhood and inquired whether the soil in this neighborhood was more contaminated than soil in other parts of the City. Mr. Ripperda (USEPA) said that the soil in the neighborhood has more serpentinite but he cannot describe the soil in one part of the City as being worse than another part of the City.
2. Mr. Hammon had asked for clarifications about the presentation. He inquired about the permanent fence to be placed at Sites 7 and 18 and whether it would be more attractive such as having a place where seeds could be planted. The Navy would need to monitor the fence and water the plants. Mr. Hammon also requested an update on the cleanup schedule and requested it be provided to the community. The response was that the work would resume in April and finished by mid-June.
3. Another person asked about the makeup of the topsoil being used as part of the cleanup. The response was that the topsoil would be mixed with a soil amendment.

Meet the Regulators Table

Mr. Ripperda (USEPA) stated that people who had been interviewed for the Community Involvement Plan last summer inquired why there was such a long turnaround (6 months) for getting the document.

Future Agenda Topics Table

1. Mr. Hammon suggested moving to a more comfortable meeting location. He stated that the Southeast Center building has better chairs and it would be nice to find a place that does not need to close at 8 p.m.
2. Mr. Hammon expressed that when a document is being distributed he would like an email notification with a direct link to the document so that he does not have to navigate the Navy's Web site.
3. Mr. Hammon also suggested that when something changes, such as an activity postponed that could affect the community, the Navy could send out an email.
4. Mr. McCarthy asked whether the fuel lines would be removed prior to the pier removals.
5. Mr. McCarthy inquired where the cranes that served the dry docks had gone.
6. Mr. McCarthy inquired what the City plans to do with the large 450-ton crane. He described it as a high value construction reuse investment.
7. Sudeep Rao recommends meeting with Melia Cohen (District 10 Supervisor).

V. Open Forum

Espinola Jackson commented that the City is asking residents living on Palou Avenue (near Ingall) to test their soil for toxins. Ms. Jackson believes the toxins are a result of Shipyard activities because of the close proximity to the Shipyard. She indicated that the residents cannot sell their houses and that they may have to be torn down. Some houses are stuck in escrow and cannot be sold because the homeowners cannot afford to pay for the soil testing.

Mr. Ripperda (USEPA) replied that he does know of the toxins in the soil in that area but if toxins are present in the soil it is highly unlikely that the Shipyard is the source.

Nyese Joshua asked whether meeting minutes would be prepared and who was responsible for summarizing the meeting. Additionally, she would like to know ahead of time what items are being discussed to track action items. Mr. Forman repeated what was discussed earlier in the meeting that this general meeting summary would be uploaded to the Navy Web site after each meeting. Ms. Joshua asked if she could review the meeting summary and comment before the summary is finalized. Mr. Forman explained that these meeting summaries were not that type of meeting summary but would consist of the general information and action items.

Ms. Joshua stated that the Navy cannot keep saying that they will decide something and then let the community know. She said that when she met with Mathy Stanislaus (USEPA) on December 7, 2010 she kept hearing that the Navy will decide and let them know. Ms. Joshua does not believe the Navy should make decisions without community input. She believes the Navy got rid of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) because they did not like what the RAB said.

Ms. Joshua objected to the use of the term "Site." Over a long time, the public has become familiar with what the term Parcel meant and now she believes the Navy's use of the term "Site" will be difficult to understand.

Furthermore, Ms. Joshua said that no one, including the Navy and USEPA, knocks on any doors of the houses that are next to the Shipyard. One place closer to the community where a meeting could be held is 100 Whitney Circle. It is closer to the neighbors and they could walk to the community meeting.

Ms. Joshua stated that she does not observe coveralls or respirators on the workers at the Shipyard. She asked whether the Navy had indemnity for when these workers are in their 50s and get sick. She stated that she believes the Navy is committing crimes against humanity.

Ms. Joshua indicated that the gate and the fence bordering the Shipyard has three to four holes. It is obvious that people are living next to the Shipyard and there is not one sign in compliance with Prop 65. Not one sign indicates radiation contamination and/or munitions are present.

Ms. Joshua said that an adequate representation of the community was not present during the meeting. She repeated that the Navy does not participate in door knocking especially in areas closest to the Shipyard. She believes the Navy needs to tell the community what is happening in emails, mailings, and postcards. She inquired how to find out about the exceedances at the Shipyard and indicated that it is an arduous process for a resident from the Bayview to find out what exceedances occur. Ms. Joshua suggested that community meetings be held at the Bayview Opera House or Joe Lee Gym.

Ms. Joshua stated that the Navy should help get the young people off the streets. She acknowledged that they are hard to hire because of their lack of a GED, but they have to get off the street.

She said that the Navy needs to have dedicated dates when reports are being distributed and communicate the dates to the community. Ms. Joshua said that the methane gas adjacent to the Shipyard is underneath buildings and people are not being told about it.

Mr. Tompkins expressed concern that the process to review and comment on documents must be inclusive.

Mr. Forman said that it is always a challenge for the Navy to obtain input on documents. He stated that the Navy cannot force people to submit formal written comments. Some people want to learn about the Shipyard at meetings and others from reading fact sheets. He said he hopes that as the Navy moves forward people make more written comments. He indicated that he does not have a solution for this difficult problem.

Mr. Tompkins said he would like a future presentation to include what requirements are addressed under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Cleanup, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process. Mr. Tompkins also said that he wanted to know the economics at the base, in particular the projection for upcoming total cost of the cleanup.

Mr. Forman said that after the community reads the Community Involvement Plan, he recommends the community submits comments. Mr. Tompkins said that the residents should possibly sit together and figure out how to collectively provide comments. Mr. Tompkins noted that this would take time and money.

Jaron Brown indicated that he did not like the informal meeting format. He believes that as there are important issues the Navy is presenting, the meeting should have a more formal hearing type of setting. He also suggested that the FOSET (Finding of Suitability for Early Transfer) is important and should be discussed more. He suggested that the Navy hold a meeting and present to the Board of Supervisors. The meetings would be clear, well facilitated, televised and minutes on the recording channel 26.

Comment Cards

The following comments were provided on comment cards:

Nyese Joshua

1. Stop Crime Against Humanity
2. Work Uniforms for Radiological Contamination
3. Where is dirt (contaminated) going?
4. Bay View Opera House for community meetings
5. Methane Gas Movement
6. Emergency Job Creation
7. FOSET released prematurely
8. Violation of Prop. 65
9. Exceedances accessibility for public
10. Not bought and paid for community - At table before decisions
11. Sites connected with parcels

Jessica Shau

1. Better outreach near Palou and Ingalls

Jaron Brown

1. I don't think the small group meeting format is useful for a meeting of this nature/substance
2. The FOSET should be on the next month's meeting agenda regarding the planning of early transfer for Parcels B and G
3. Follow up about scheduling the hearing at City Hall regarding the cleanup plan for each of the Parcels at the Shipyard (including B,C, D,E,E-2,UC-1,UC-2) about whatever phase of development is available

Action Items

1. The Navy will provide further information about the survey data for IR Site 23.
2. The Navy will look into alternative meeting locations for the community meetings such as the Southeast Community Center, Bayview Opera House and Joe Lee Gym.
3. The Navy will provide interested community members an email notification with a direct link to the document posted on the Navy web site when documents are released.
4. The Navy will provide notification to interested community members if an activity is postponed or delayed.
5. The Navy will find where the cranes that served the dry docks were taken.
6. The Navy will forward the inquiry to the City regarding future plans for the large 450-ton crane.
7. The Navy will contact the new District 10 Supervisor (Melia Cohen) to discuss the Shipyard cleanup activities.