



**Wishkah Road Comprehensive Flood Study  
Open House  
October 13, 2016, 6:00-8:00pm**

**MEETING LOCATION:**

The meeting was held at the Port of Grays Harbor Commission Room at 111 S. Wooding Street, Aberdeen, WA 98520.

**ATTENDANCE** (signed in)

- Commissioner Frank Gordon
- Mike Zawislak
- Jane Lauzon
- Tom Wright
- Becky Dombrowsky
- Nancy Perron
- Frank Kersh
- Don Lentz
- Brandon Answorth

Note – actual head count showed 14 non-project team attendees.

**Staff:**

Watershed Science and Engineering

- Larry Karpack, M.S., P.E., Hydrologist and Hydraulic Engineer
- Bob Elliot, M.S., P.E., Senior Hydraulic Modeling Specialist
- Mark Indrebo, M.S., L.G., Senior Geomorphologist
  
- Rob Wilson, Grays Harbor County: Assistant County Engineer
- Vicki Cummings, Grays Harbor Council of Governments: Executive Director

**AGENDA**

1. Welcome/Introductions
2. Kick-off meeting review
3. What activity has taken place since the kick-off meeting?
4. How can I help?
5. Meeting wrap up/What's next?

## **INVITATION**

308, pre-approved invitations (example below) were sent out on Monday September 26, 2016 to residents in the affected area as identified by WSE.



## **Wishkah Road Comprehensive Flood Study**

*Grays Harbor County has been funded by the Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority to identify cost-effective options to reduce or eliminate flooding along Wishkah Road between mile post (M.P.) 2.2 and M.P. 7.6.*

Please join us to discuss work to date on the project, including:

- 1) Data gathered
  - a. LiDAR and bathymetric survey
  - b. Flood frequency analysis, including river flow and tide
- 2) Hydraulic model of existing conditions
- 3) Potential alternatives to consider

Anyone who resides in the Wishkah Road area is invited to participate. Your knowledge of area flooding is key to developing a successful project. Please join Grays Harbor County and the project team to learn more about the Wishkah Road Project and your role in its success.



**Open House - Project Update & Alternates Discussion: October 13, 2016, 6:00-8:00pm**  
Port of Grays Harbor, 111 S. Wooding, Aberdeen

Project website – <https://www.ezview.wa.gov/?alias=1937&pageid=36729>

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The Open House began at 6:07pm.

### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Vicki Cummings welcomed the audience and discussed safety and building layout. She introduced Larry Karpack who introduced members of the Watershed Science and Engineering team.

### **2. Kick-off meeting review**

### **3. What activity has taken place since the kick-off meeting?**

Both of the above items were addressed in the associated PowerPoint presentation.

## **PRESENTATION (PowerPoint) - Project Updates and Alternatives Discussion**

### **➤ Study Purpose and Project Process Review**

- Assess existing conditions
- Verify model
- Define flood reduction alternatives

➤ Alternatives Analysis

- Screen for Feasibility
- Preliminary Designs
- Additional Analysis
- Hydraulic Modeling
- Geotechnical
- Other Considerations
- Benefit/Cost Analysis
- Preferred Alternative
- Scope & Schedule for Final Design & Permitting

➤ Hydrology

- Calibration events
  - January 9, 2015
  - December 8, 2015
- River flow and tide combinations
  - 10-year flow; 10-year tide
  - 2-year flow; 100-year tide
  - 100-year flow; 2-year tide
  - 2-year tide; low flow
  - Low tide; 2-year flow

➤ Model Extent and Project Area

Depicted calibration events, candidate 200-year events, candidate 100-year events, candidate 20-year events and candidate 2-year events at:

- Baretich Road
- Frosty Way
- Hoffman Road
- End of CHE Model
- Ellison Dip
- Long Swamp
- Monarch Creek
- Vienna Tracts

Water depth and water surface elevation for Vienna Tracts, Monarch Creek, Long Swamp, Ellison Dip and Baretich Road were also discussed. WSE displayed the model output interactively with the audience exploring different areas and flooding events as the discussion progressed.

➤ Tidal Data

Event-Elevation-Duration Data for Simulated Tide Record at Aberdeen

- Wishkah River Flow Quantiles
- Aberdeen Tide Quantiles (actual not predicted tides)

➤ Alternatives

- Raise Road
  - Fill

- Pilings

➤ Alternatives (continued)

- Improve culverts/bridges
- Levee
- Floodwall
- Relocate road
- Non-traditional
  - Helicopter pad(s)
  - Hovercraft/Amphibious Vehicle
- ?? Other

Larry Karpack explained that each site may have different set of alternatives.

**4. How can I help?**

After an in-depth presentation and explanation of depicted calibration events and tidal data, the project team asked participants for their feedback on the information. Larry Karpack carefully explained the difference between flow and tidal events. He asked the audience if they felt the data presented was what they actually experienced during flood events.

Members of the audience suggested the frequency of the tidal events were not accurate. They commented that the flooding was happening more frequently than represented. It was suggested that gages should be installed at various locations where landowners could mark/date high water marks.

**VERBAL COMMENTS:**

- Take care of flooding issues at Long Swamp, Baretich Flats and Ellison Dip and that will take care of the flooding issues on Wishkah Road.
- Miller Hill is the area referred to as the bus turn around.
- Several audience members confirmed that the December 2015 flood event caused 1 to 1 ½ feet of water over the roadway.
- Tom Wright shared pictures of the December 2015 event with the project team.
- In the Aberdeen Gardens area the water was 4 ft. deeper in the 2015 event than in the 2007 event.
- During the December 2015 flood the water was 4 to 5ft. over the road in the Long Swamp area not 2ft.
- Is this study going to influence the project on Baretich Road? Larry Karpack answered that some of the data and information from this process is being used to assist with the design of the project at Baretich Road.
- Audience members questioned the data showing that flood waters at Ellison were deeper than at Baretich flats.
- Why is this being studied again and more money is being spent? Larry Karpack answered the other project (Wishkah Road Flood Levee Project) is a site specific project and didn't take into account all of the other flood locations along Wishkah Road.

- There used to be two culverts at Baretich Road and now there is only one. There must be about 60 log trucks a day using Wishkah Road. That's a lot of weight on the road.

#### **5. Meeting Wrap Up/What's Next?**

- Preliminary Designs & Permitting Strategies  
November -December 2016
- Additional Analyses  
January –April 2017
- Preferred Alternative  
May 2017
- Next Steps
  - Select alternatives that warrant preliminary designs
  - Identify and carry out necessary analyses to assess alternatives
- Next Meeting
  - Present Results & Choose Preferred Alternative
  - April, 2016

#### **For more information:**

- EZ View website  
[www.ezview.wa.gov](http://www.ezview.wa.gov)  
Scroll down to Grays Harbor County –  
Wishkah Road Comprehensive Flood Study Project
- Call or E-mail WSE  
206-521-3000 or [mark@watershedse.com](mailto:mark@watershedse.com)
- Call or E-mail GHCOG  
360-537-4386 or [vcummings@ghcog.org](mailto:vcummings@ghcog.org)

#### **WRITTEN COMMENTS**

None

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The open house closed at approximately 7:50 the remaining attendees leaving by 8:05 p.m.