

## **Terminal 91 Neighbors Advisory Committee Annual Report 2010**

The Terminal 91 Neighbors' Advisory Committee (NAC) is pleased to provide the Port of Seattle Commission with this report of its activities for the year 2010.

### **Composition of NAC**

NAC community representation is comprised of eight voting members, and up to two alternates per community. Representatives serving their communities for the 2010 term were:

#### Magnolia Community Club

Diana Dearmin, President  
Nancy Bainbridge Rogers  
Fred Rapaport  
Gene Hoglund  
Kevin Patrick, Alternate  
Steve Erickson, Alternate

#### Queen Anne Community Council

Ellen Monrad, Chair  
Don Harper  
Kirk Robbins  
Jim Smith  
Glenn Avery, Alternate

Bruce Laing served as NAC Chair and Cecil Gray served as Interim Chair during 2010. Their services were provided through Executive Services Corps of Washington, a non-profit organization. Christa Dumpys, City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods, Coordinator for the Queen Anne and Magnolia District, provided a valuable link between NAC and the City. Pam Xander, of Xander & Associates, provided environmental consulting services and prepared summaries of each NAC meeting. Marie Fritz is the primary Port representative and staff support for NAC. Additional Port staff that attended one or more meetings in 2010 are: Dave Amble, Kathy Bahnik, George Blomberg, Monica Bradley, Dan Burke, Fred Chou, Rosie Courtney, Sally del Fierro, Joseph Gellings, Mark Griffin, Eric Hanson, Michael McLaughlin, Joe McWilliams, Mike Merritt, Paul Meyer, Vicki Watts, and Christine Wolf. Marni Heffron, Heffron Transportation, briefed NAC on traffic studies prepared for the Port.

### **Meetings**

NAC met monthly on the third Wednesday of the month. The principal activity was dialog among NAC members and between NAC and Port staff regarding Terminal 91 including the North Bay area. NAC also discussed issues geographically adjacent, or outside NAC's purview, that could affect Port operations within the NAC area. Staff participation included briefings, updates, and responses to NAC questions and concerns. Detailed summaries of each meeting are available.

### **General Value of NAC**

The Magnolia Community Club and the Queen Anne Community Council affirm that NAC has a constructive and positive value to both the Port and neighboring communities. Participants all view the committee and its meetings to be informative, cooperative, and a desirable forum for discussion and consensus building. The underlying Short Fill Redevelopment Agreement (NAC Agreement) has proven effective for its purposes to date.

### **Ongoing Issues for NAC**

During 2010 the issues below were the most significant to NAC. Further details on several of these subjects are described in the next section "Of specific interest to the Commissioners".

1. **The Viaduct Replacement.** NAC has continued and substantial concern that the proposed replacement solution, with its ancillary alterations to related arterials, is not adequate to serve the Port's interests and those of the Magnolia and Queen Anne Communities in general and specifically not adequate to accommodate Terminal 91 truck traffic.
2. **Cruise Operations.** NAC continues to be concerned with the following aspects of Cruise operations: Noise levels of ship public address systems; impact of cruise generated vehicular traffic on parking at Terminal 91 and on peak traffic volumes in the vicinity of Terminal 91.
3. **Terminal 91 Uplands Development.** NAC seeks to stay abreast of, and influence, any plans that potentially alter or guide development of the "uplands" (North Bay).
4. **Emergency Access to Magnolia.** NAC continues to support the Magnolia Community's longstanding request for the designation of an emergency access route through Port property that would be available in the event the Magnolia Bridge is closed due to natural disaster or new construction.
5. **Traffic.**
  - a. Traffic studies have been reinitiated in conformance with the NAC agreement and at the request of the communities.
  - b. The latest study confirmed that several traffic thresholds continue to be exceeded during cruise ship operations.
  - c. NAC members have continued concern over traffic volumes and flows within Terminal 91, on external arterials and at intersections that affect Port interests in the area.
  - d. NAC has had continuing discussions on the appropriateness of current trigger levels and the advisability of adopting alternative methodologies for traffic studies.

### **Of Specific Interest to the Commissioners.**

1. Regarding amendment of the existing NAC Agreement, NAC members continue to believe that Port Commissioners and staff have agreed the

following approach is desirable and will be implemented: Port staff will informally “scope” specific issues and use the scoping process as a basis for discussion with NAC. Informal dialogue will be completed prior to any formal triggering or proposal for amendment.

2. NAC community members continue to urge the Commissioners to exercise due diligence in their review and discussion of SDOT and WSDOT viaduct replacement plans and actions. NAC believes the facilities proposed in the replacement plans are inadequate to fulfill the transportation needs of the Port in general and most specifically the Terminal 91 area both for current operations and probable expanded operations in the future.
3. Discussions continue on a proposed placement of a combined sewer overflow (CSO) installation and a concomitant potential of land exchange in the lower Smith Cove Area involving a Seattle owned playfield which is used for up to U10 soccer and is open for other uses. This subject is complex for a) the number of “players” (Port, City, County and communities) and b) the details of valuation, equity, uses, design, construction, mitigation, etc. It is essential that a full and complete public process be initiated having the combined participation of all the “players” in order to develop a comprehensive understanding and acceptance by all parties.
4. In June 2007 Port staff and City staff published a paper entitled “Magnolia Community Access Strategies – Summary of City/Port Staff Discussions”. The paper identifies five alternative strategies for providing emergency access through Port property to the Magnolia Community in the event of the closure of the Magnolia Bridge due to natural disaster or construction of a new bridge. Two of the five alternatives are no longer relevant because they rely on the Port constructing a new road and bridge between Port property and 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue West along the Armory Way right of way, a project the Port is no longer considering. NAC requests that Port and City staff update the strategies for emergency access and formalize a preferred alternative in a manner that would facilitate the rapid implementation of access to the Magnolia Community in the event of an emergency.
5. The Magnolia and Queen Anne Communities have responded to a Port invitation to suggest means for the Port to celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Specifically those communities have proposed that the easterly strip of land along the West Yard be converted to a waterfront park to become an expansion of the existing Smith Cove Park.

## **Other Matters**

NAC appreciated the participation of Commissioner Rob Holland in our January, 2010 meeting and the participation of Commissioner John Creighton in our June, 2010 meeting. We invite each and all Commissioners to attend a NAC meeting at your convenience. Meetings are usually on the third Wednesday of each month at 4:30 PM in the Port's third floor east conference room.

NAC thanks the Port Commissioners for the opportunity to provide this annual report on behalf of the Magnolia and Queen Anne Communities. We will be happy respond to any questions or concerns you might have.