

**Harriet Tubman Middle School**  
**Environmental Technical Advisory Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

**February 7, 2018**

**4:00 – 6:00 pm**

**Attendees**

Director Paul Anthony, Brett Borgeson, Dr. John Burnham, Dr. Raul Cal, Dr. Jae Douglas, Dr. Elliott Gall, Dr. Linda George, Roger Kirchner, Virginia Laforte, Mary Peveto, Tom Roick, Amber Shoebridge, Steve Simonson, Cameron Vaughan-Tyler, Jerry Vincent.

**Agenda**

**Introductions**

Each attendee gave their name, title and organization.

After introductions, Jerry Vincent gave a brief overview of the middle school conversion plan and the importance of Harriet Tubman (Tubman) in the plan.

**ETAC Schedule**

Two handouts were provided to members. The PSU proposed project schedule and the ETAC Charter. ETAC's current schedule is based on Option 1 in the PSU proposed project schedule which includes conducting outdoor monitoring, data analysis and planning for indoor/outdoor monitoring in Option 2. Three meeting dates have been set on this basis: 2/7/18; 4/4/18; 7/17/18. During the meeting a proposal (see minutes below) was made to move the April meeting to later in the month. It has now been changed to 4/25/18.

**PSU Proposal and Planning**

Dr. Elliott Gall presented PSU's "Proposal for the evaluation of indoor and outdoor air quality at Harriet Tubman Middle School and the design of mitigation measures". This Power Point presentation had been provided to all ETAC members in advance and is available for review at [INSERT WEBSITE LINK](#) or by contacting John Burnham @ [jburnham@pps.net](mailto:jburnham@pps.net).

The following questions, answers and comments arose during Dr. Gall's presentation. These notes are an attempt to accurately paraphrase each of these.

## Questions, Answers and Comments<sup>a</sup>

**Question:** Director Paul Anthony - The prevailing wind is from the west, could the pollutants be coming from the west side of I-5?

**Answer:** Dr. Linda George - It is possible that pollutants are coming from that side of I-5, but the major source of pollutants originate from mobile sources on I-5.

**Question:** Amber Shoebridge - We are measuring particulates PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> to compare outdoor and indoor to the Portland urban background. What is our goal for indoor?

**Answer:** Dr. Gall - Our goal is situation dependent. We need more info for HVAC design.

**Comment:** Jerry Vincent - We are hoping to develop a model that can be applied to other PPS schools near highways.

**Question:** Virginia Laforte - Is the monitoring plan taking into account emissions from industrial sources?

**Answer:** Dr. Gall - We are monitoring a broad range of pollutants including some that could originate from nearby industrial sources. Many of these toxins are organic and PSU is looking at technology to remove indoor volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

**Question:** Amber Shoebridge - Do we have an estimate of the timing to begin the wind tunnel study?

**Answer:** Dr. Cal - We need to build models first. They should be built by sometime in April. There are two scenarios – current freeway logistics and moving freeway two lanes closer to southwest corner of Tubman.

**Question:** Virginia Laforte - Where is the primary monitoring site?

**Answer:** Dr. Gall - The greenhouse tip out on the southwest corner.

**Question:** Amber Shoebridge - What is a passive NO<sub>x</sub> sensor?

**Answer:** Dr. George - Many air monitoring devices use a pump to suck the air past the sensor. A device with a passive sensor depends on air currents and diffusion to expose the sensor to the air.

**Comment:** Dr. Jae Douglas - I was not aware that the PSU proposal recommends that Multnomah County assist with conducting the risk assessment for the monitoring data.

**Response:** Dr. John Burnham - PPS will make arrangements to meet with Multnomah County and Oregon Health Authority to discuss this topic.

**Question:** Virginia Laforte - Will other health and safety issues, e.g. mold, be evaluated?

**Answer:** Jerry Vincent and Dr. John Burnham - Several other potential health and safety issues have been or will be evaluated. PPS Risk Management is overseeing this project.

**Comment:** Dr. Jae Douglas - The project schedule is not going to allow for evaluation of seasonal effects. Concerned about residential wood fire emissions during the winter months.

**Response:** Dr. Gall - To open Tubman in the fall 2018 we must make HVAC decisions in the very near future without seasonal emissions data on residential wood burning.

**Question:** Amber Shoebridge question - How do the metrics in studies on health effects from living near freeways compare to our metrics in terms of exposure times?

**Answer:** Meeting notes do not indicate this question was answered.

**Question:** Dr. John Burnham - The next meeting is scheduled for April 4. Should we move this meeting later in April?

**Recommendation:** Dr. Gall - Move it to the last week in April to provide more time to conduct monitoring. There were no objections so meeting will be scheduled for April 25

<sup>a</sup> These notes are an attempt to accurately paraphrase each monologue and dialogue. Members have been given the opportunity to review and clarify.