

McLouth Steel Superfund Site Community Advisory Group (CAG)

INTERNAL WORKSHOP SUMMARY

January 13, 2022 | Virtual Meeting No. 5

MEETING IN BRIEF

On January 13, 2022, the McLouth Steel Superfund Community Advisory Group (CAG) held an internal workshop via Zoom. The objectives of the workshop included:

- Reviewing CAG membership
- Selecting the Leadership Board for 2022
- Reviewing CAG Operating Protocols
- Collecting input on the CAG Website
- Hearing Member Updates and Future Discussion Topics

Please see **Appendix A** for a list of CAG members and agency representatives who were present. The workshop was not recorded.

ACTION ITEMS

Responsibility	Item
CAG Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide feedback to improve the accuracy of the Draft January Meeting Summary• Share all relevant affiliations/representations with CBI to compile• Once finalized, disseminate final January Meeting Summary to community members
EPA/EGLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Share FAQ document
CBI	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Produce and distribute the Draft November Meeting Summary, integrate CAG feedback to refine, and send for CAG approval at February meeting• Coordinate with Leadership Board on any next steps for internal CAG work and agenda for February technical meeting to review the final report• Amend and share revised Operating Protocols• Update and share updated membership list• Request and compile CAG member disclosures of relevant affiliations /representations• Follow up with EPA on outstanding questions raised at the meeting

DECISIONS REACHED & PROPOSED TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Decisions Reached

- The following membership changes were approved by the CAG:
 - Additions to membership
 - Second Representative for Trenton: Jim Wagner and Wendy Pate, Appointed by Mayor
 - New Representative for Riverview: Councilman Chuck Norton, Appointed by Mayor
 - Representative from Downriver Community Conference: John D'Addona Brownfield Program Manager
 - Removals from membership
 - Past Employees of McLouth Steel: Elmer Trombley
 - At-Large Reps: Dick Whitwam
- The operating protocols were amended as follows:
 - Downriver Community Conference was added to the list of represented entities
 - The following clause was added to the section on decision-making –
 - “In cases where a decision needs to be made and consensus cannot be reached then a vote of majority in the quorum should have the decision.”
 - A requirement for members to disclose their organizational affiliations was added to the responsibilities of CAG members
- The next CAG meeting will be held on February 10, 2022.

Proposed Topics for Future Discussion

- Regular updates on the Public Health Assessment process, results, and recommendations
- Presentations from EPA on the final report of removal activities under the Settlement Agreement
- A presentation on the conclusion of Phase 1 and update on Phase 2 on the northern portion of the site

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

Consensus Building Institute (CBI) facilitator, Stacie Smith, welcomed CAG members, who also introduced themselves.

Review of CAG operating protocols

Stacie Smith led CAG members in a review of operating protocols.

The CAG considered a membership application from John D'Addona, who sought to represent the Downriver Community Conference (DCC). They began by discussing whether DCC should be added to the list of represented entities. DCC is a consortium of local communities, including

Trenton, Riverview, and Grosse Ile, which works together to develop the human, social and economic assets of the Downriver area, including raising funds for projects of mutual benefit to their areas. They support job training, economic development, brownfields, weatherization, and veteran affairs. DCC has also been involved in the Trenton/Gibraltar Jefferson Avenue Corridor and former coal sites.

The CAG interviewed John D’Addona to join the CAG as representative from DCC. He shared that he has been involved with the site for roughly 20 years, dealing with environmental matters. He was involved in DCC’s brownfield study, which informed some of Crown’s initial planning for the site. He has also been involved in DCC’s coastal engagement studies which has put proposals forward for ways in which sites like McLouth Steel can involve green projects, stormwater management, phytoremediation, and other initiatives. After some discussion, members agreed that DCC and Mr. D’Addona should be added to the CAG.

The CAG also agreed that Wendy Pate’s affiliation would also include being a second representative from City of Trenton, at the mayor’s request. There were concerns raised about CAG members representing multiple entities, which were resolved by an agreement that all members disclose all their relevant affiliations.

The CAG also welcomed Councilman Chuck Norton as the replacement representative for the city of Riverview and agreed to remove CAG members Elmer Trombley and Dick Whitwam who had not attended any recent meetings. They noted the importance of finding new representatives for past employees of McLouth Steel, and the International Wildlife Refuge, as well as the Trenton Business Association, which never had a representative.

Members also discussed clarifications to the language around decision-making. While consensus remains the primary method for decision-making, the CAG agreed that the following clause be added - “In cases where a decision needs to be made and consensus cannot be reached, then a vote of majority in the quorum should have the decision.”

Another item of discussion was public involvement at CAG meetings. Some CAG members raised concerns about disruptions to planned agendas from public questions about other topics, and suggested that questions and comments from members of the public should be limited to the public comment period, and that the Q&A function on Zoom should be closed. However, other CAG members felt that it was important that members of the public feel welcomed and have the opportunity to have their questions answered. After some discussion, the CAG decided that the Q&A function would remain open, and that speakers and the facilitator would address public questions that were relevant to the topic at hand to the extent feasible within the agenda’s time-constraints. Questions submitted and not answered in the session would be submitted to EPA or others who might be able to answer them in writing after the meeting. Members also supported identifying a ‘timekeeper’ to move the discussion along and encouraged the facilitator to help keep the conversation on time when needed. This would also ensure that the time reserved for public comment is maintained. EPA is also compiling a

FAQ sheet which should be able to orient members of the public, leaving the Q&A to questions and clarification on the agenda item being discussed.

CAG members offered the following comments and questions in addition to those expressed above (*answers in italics*).

- What term did we initially set for CAG membership?
 - *CBI: No term was set but we did enact that the protocols be reviewed annually. The protocols also state that members shall serve for at least one year and that members shall attend meetings regularly.*

Selection of 2022 Leadership Board

The CAG selected the following members to constitute the Leadership Board for 2022:

- Jim Wagner, City of Trenton
- Wendy Pate, City of Trenton
- Brian Webb, Riverview Brownfields Authority
- Doug Thiel, Grosse Ile Nature and Land Conservancy

Stacie Smith reminded the CAG that all members may propose agenda items and sit in on Leadership Board meetings, upon request.

CAG Website

The facilitation team led an overview of features and options for a McLouth Steel CAG website. The website will offer a way for members of the community to learn more about the CAG's work and the site and a location to house documents and other materials related to the CAG.

Potential features include:

- Announcement feature for meetings and posting of key documents and summaries
- CAG membership list and contact info
- Calendar of meetings and other events
- Resources and documents
- Site background

CAG members looked at samples of several CAG websites and offered the following feedback:

- Have key links to relevant pages up-front and readily accessible
- Include a mission statement on the homepage
- Post and arrange documents (agendas, meeting summaries, and presentations) chronologically by meeting date in a table
- Ensure that scaling is properly set
- Include a feature to sign up for an email list or get more information
- Include a feature for Q&A or proposed topics, along with public comment
- Include relevant pictures
- Where possible, link to cities and EPA's websites

CAG members noted that much of the broad public participation thus far has been centered on future uses for the McLouth site, which are in many ways outside of the scope of this CAG. They suggested that the website suggest avenues for people to express their concerns to the relevant authorities and city officials. The website should also make clear what is under the CAG and EPA's jurisdiction and what is not.

WRAP UP & NEXT STEPS

Ms. Smith thanked the CAG, presenters, and members of the public for their participation, questions, and comments. She reminded the CAG that the next meeting will take place on February 10 and will focus on the Phase I Completion Report (available for download [here](#)) and EPA's review of the report.

The meeting was adjourned.

Appendix A. CAG Stakeholder Representatives in Attendance

Primary and Alternate CAG representatives present at the **January 13, 2021** workshop are listed below.

Affiliation	Representative	Role
City of Trenton	Jim Wagner	Member
City of Trenton	Wendy Pate	Member
Grosse Ile Township	Kevin Langley	Alternate
Riverview Brownfields Authority	Brian Webb	Member
City of Trenton Brownfields	Robert Howey	Member
Gross Ile Nature and Land Conservancy	Doug Thiel	Member
Gross Ile Nature and Land Conservancy	Paul Gloor	Alternate
Gross Ile Civic Association	Greg Karmazin	Member
Gross Ile Civic Association	Bill Heil	Alternate
Friends of the Detroit River	Robert Burns	Member
DownRiver Waterfront Conservancy	Paul Frost	Member
Abutters	Robert V Johnson	Member
At-large Community Representative	Emily Hornbeck	Member
At-large Community Representative	Ryan Stewart	Member
At-large Community Representative	Judith Maiga	Member
At-large Community Representative	Edie Traster	Member
Liaison for Rep Debbie Dingell's Office (Trenton)	Bryan McMurrin	Member
Downriver Community Conference	John D'Addona	Member

Agencies represented

Kirstin Safakas, US EPA Region 5