

## **Final Meeting Summary for June 12, 2014 CAG Formation for the Colorado Smelter**

The following document is a summary of the discussions that occurred during the June 12, 2014 meeting of the Steering Committee of the Colorado Smelter Community Advisory Group (CAG).

### **Steering Committee Requests**

Although the CAG is not formally established yet, individual community members made some specific requests of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and others during this meeting and prior meetings. A running list of these recommendations and responses to date can be found in Attachment A at the back of this summary. The CAG will use this list as a way to hold itself and the agencies accountable to their work.

### **Next Steps for CAG**

The next meeting date for the CAG Formation Group is July 24, 2014. The group had talked about meeting at additional times in June and July, but agreed that one meeting a month is sufficient. Please remove June 27, July 17, and July 31 from your calendars.

Even though the CAG Formation Group is not meeting on June 26, all are invite to attend the premiere of the movie: Potica, Pints, and Prayers of Old Bojon Town starting at 6:00 p.m. at the library on this day.

### **Key Topics Discussed at the May 29 Meeting**

- EPA schedule and updates (slides from presentation in Attachment B);
- Brief update regarding plans for public health education regarding the site (slides from presentation in Attachment C);
- CAG mission statement (draft from discussion in Attachment D);
- CAG membership (slides and list from discussion in Attachments E and F); and
- Next steps and topics for future meetings.

The remainder of this summary provides an overview of each of the above topics.

### **EPA Schedule and Updates**

Chris Wardell of EPA briefed the slides included here as Attachment B. Other topics discussed include:

- Sampling. EPA is in the process of hiring Pacific Western Technologies as a contractor to conduct sampling in the area. This sampling will be used to help establish the perimeter of the Superfund site and determine appropriate cleanup approaches. EPA will seek landowners' permission to sample on their property by requesting they sign an access agreement. The Agency welcomes community input on determining the best way to seek this permission. Meeting participants asked if they could view and comment on the sampling plan prior to its finalization. Chris responded that there are a wide variety of laws and rules that dictate how EPA must sample, but that EPA would welcome input to correct any major errors or problems. A meeting participant encouraged EPA to take a local community member with them to ask permission to sample and to coordinate outreach to the public. Chris also stressed that sometimes scams develop around EPA Superfund sites and people will pretend to be EPA contractors requesting money to sample property. **EPA does not charge to do sampling. Any requests to pay are scams.**
- EPA Schedule. Chris noted that EPA is clear that an expedient cleanup is very important to the community. EPA is already six to eight months ahead of where the Agency would be on most sites and that he and the EPA Team plan to continue to move things forward quickly.
- CAG input. Some expressed concern that the EPA appears to have so many rules that they are unclear if the CAG can have any influence. The group discussed how their greatest influence is as an organized, cohesive group that can speak with one voice and apply pressure to the agency and other leaders as needed.

## Public Health Education

Chad Wolgram of the Pueblo City-County Health Department provided a short briefing on the planned education actions of the Health Department. His briefing can be found in Attachment C. Topics of interest following his presentation included:

Resources. Chad explained that these resources will be available to anyone who is concerned, even if they are on the border of the site.

Lead Paint/pipes. In response to a question, Chad noted that they will not be condemning houses that are found to have lead paint. They will work with the homeowner to remediate the situation. Chris Nevin-Woods

further clarified that houses that do have lead pipes usually only have them for carrying water **out** of the house.

### **CAG Mission Statement**

The facilitator revised the draft mission statement for the CAG based on comments from the last meeting. The new draft can be found in Attachment D. There was one suggested change at this meeting: to add small business owners. The group will use this document to talk to people about the potential role of the CAG. The CAG mission statement will be finalized by the eventual CAG.

### **CAG Membership**

James Williamson briefed the group on the efforts of the working committee, which consisted of Bob Blazich, Julianna Williamson, Kiera Hatton, and Nadine Triste. EPA staff, Chris Wardell and Michael Wenstrom, provided support to the group. The working group reviewed the possible participants list created at the last meeting and identified holes and possible additions. They further identified who might reach out to these additions. A copy of this list can be found in Attachment E. The working group also instructed the facilitator to draft a form for interested community members to fill out if they would like to serve on the CAG. This application of interest (and the suggest revisions) can be found in Attachment F. The thought is that the facilitator will send this application of interest, the mission statement and an EPA fact sheet to the full group and interested parties to seek formal interest in serving on the CAG. EPA will work with the facilitator to send out this package of information to others in the community who might be interested. To the extent that fewer than 30 people apply to serve on the CAG, the group will move forward with those members. If more than 30 are interested, the facilitator will work with the working group to make a recommendation to the current Steering Committee.

The group provided the following recommendations:

- Translate the information into Spanish.
- Kiera Hatton, Terry Hart, and Chad Wolgram will work to determine the potential for getting the application package out to those families who had children who tested high in lead. The group recognized that they are privacy issues that need to be protected, but thought that this could be done in an appropriate way.
- Share this information more broadly through the media and community groups.

- Change the name of the group to the Community Advisory Group—since there are lots of other groups named the Citizens' Advisory Group in the area.
- Terry Hart will contact the School Board to see if they are interested in serving on the CAG
- Pam Kocman will contact Joe DeHeart of the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) to determine CDOT's interest.

## Next Steps

The group agreed that they would NOT meet on June 26, but instead go to a monthly meeting schedule. The next meeting is scheduled for July 24 at the Rawls library. Topics for the next meeting will include:

- CAG membership
- Sampling plan
- Plans for the fence
- Access agreements
- Can CAG be formally established before the site is listed?

There was a discussion about whether the CAG can be formally established prior to the site being listed formally on the Superfund site. Kristi, the facilitator agreed to look into this and get back to the group.

There was a discussion about some individuals' perceptions that EPA is inflexible given all of their rules and regulations and that information is not readily accessible—particularly in regard to the health information. Most agreed that the best way to address this would be for the CAG to form a united community on many topics and to try to push forward in a way that makes the most sense for the neighborhood.

## Future Meetings

The CAG Steering Committee has keep a running list of topics that the group may wish to discuss after the CAG is up and going:

- Finalize mission statement
- Draft operating procedures
- Education process
- Tour of site
- Sampling data to date
- Health concerns
- Superfund process
- Collaborative Decision making

EPA timeline

Testing:

- Expedited testing?
- Priority of testing—health concerns?
- Review sampling of school

Cleanup Issues:

- How soon will a site boundary be drawn?
- Will a cap be used to remediate?
- Role of CAG in contractor selection
- Health issues for neighbors during cleanup?

Financial Issues:

- Support to homeowners, businesses?
  - Will CDOT appraisals be based on current house values?

## ATTACHMENT A

CAG Steering Committee Recommendations  
Updates from the June 20, 2014 in redline

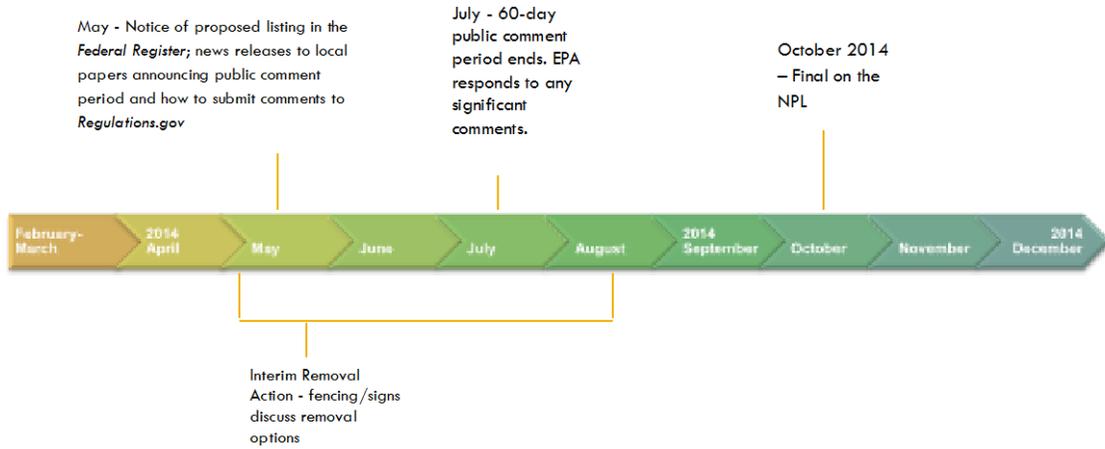
Given that the group is in the formation stages, many of these are individual requests at this time as oppose to formal requests of the CAG Steering Committee.

Date	Request	Agency Response	Action
5/1/14	<u>Warning Signs.</u> EPA should include the city ordinance for trespassing and the word "DANGER". Signs should be in English and Spanish. 5/29/14. Add a picture of a person walking a dog.	5/29/14. EPA will include language on no trespassing. This will be on a separate sign due to space limitations and municipal code is inappropriate for placement on EPA signs. Signs will be in English and Spanish. EPA cannot include the word "DANGER", but can use "CAUTION." There will be a picture of a person walking a dog. EPA hopes to have installed by mid to late summer.	
5/1/14	<p>1. <u>Sampling and Site Boundary.</u> EPA should conduct sampling and establish a site boundary as quickly as possible. Request repeated on 5/29/14.</p> <p>2. Can the community provide input into the sampling plan? (6/12/14)</p> <p>3. Take community members with you to request permission to sample, particularly when knocking of the doors of elders. (6/12/14)</p> <p>4. Coordinate the number of times you need to go door-to-door to the community. (6/12/14)</p> <p>5. When will the sampling plan be done?</p> <p>6. How deep will you sample?</p>	<p>1. 5/29/14. EPA reported that they are in the process of hiring a contractor to conduct sampling. Anticipate sampling will be conducted in mid to late summer. Sampling information is necessary to develop a site boundary.</p> <p>2. 6/12/14 EPA said that the community could comment on any major concerns regarding the sampling plan, but there are various rules and requirements that EPA must adhere to.</p> <p>3. and 4 6/24/14. Yes, EPA will appreciate having community members when going door-to-door, whenever coordination is possible.</p> <p>5. 6/24/14. EPA aims to have the sampling plan done in late summer.</p> <p>6. 6/24/14. Depth of sampling will be determined by the sampling plan.</p>	
5/1/14	<u>Removal Actions.</u> EPA priorities should be public education, warning signs, than perhaps fence. This work should not slow down the sampling or cleanup process. This was modified on 5/29/14 to advise to do all if funding is possible.	5/29/14. EPA believes it has funding to move forward with all three, with a focus on public education and warning signs, but a fence around Benedict Park was imported to several attendees.	
5/1/14	<u>Increasing Police.</u> The Police Department should increase patrols in the area.	5/1/14. Sargent Taylor agreed to seek increased patrols.	5/29/14. Sargent stated that patrols had been increased in the area.

Date	Request	Agency Response	Action
5/29/14	EPA should provide the group with possible contractor names prior to hiring so the community can ask about their reputations with other Superfund communities.	5/29/2014. EPA will do this to the extent appropriate with federal contracting law. EPA has contracted with Pacific Western Technologies. EPA has a limited number of contractors available to them. More information can be provided about this if desired.	
5/29/14	EPA should organize a tour of the site for the CAG and/or community	5/29/2014. EPA will do this once the CAG is formed. There will be various health and safety guidelines and EPA has learned the RAC can help get this done.	
5/29/14	Can ATSDR do more testing of residents?	5/29/14. No. ATSDR does not have the funds. However, the Pueblo City-County Health Department will.	

**ATTACHMENT B  
UPDATE AND SCHEDULE SLIDES BRIEFED BY CHRIS WARDELL OF EPA**

## Next Steps for the Colorado Smelter Site



**May 2014-2015:**

- \*EPA grant to PCCHD (funded)
- \*Form CAG (Facilitator funded)
- \*Continue outreach meetings/attend community meetings/develop community involvement plan
- \*Remedial Investigation planning
- \*Contact Landowners - sampling access
- \*Sampling, Priority Neighborhood Cleanups, Other Cleanups
- \*Risk Assessments
- \*Provide information to realtors/lenders regarding specific properties

# EPA Summer Focus

Task	Type of Input	Timing of Action
Put up warning signs	All ready received input	Install by late summer
Public education process	(Chad will discuss)	On-going
Benedict Park fence	Looking for input on height and type of fence.	Goal to install by late summer
Sampling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hire a contractor</li> <li>• Develop sampling plan</li> <li>• Seek access agreements to private properties</li> <li>• Conduct sampling</li> </ul>	Input on seeking excess agreements.  Share sampling plan	Ongoing. Hope to start sampling by late summer.

ATTACHMENT C  
PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION SLIDES BRIEFED BY CHAD WOLGRAM

**Public Health Practice:  
Lead Characterization and Risk  
Reduction through Education in  
Pueblo County**

Pueblo City-County Health Department  
Environmental Health Division  
101 W 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Pueblo CO 81003-4103  
(719) 583-4307  
[www.pueblohealthdept.org](http://www.pueblohealthdept.org)





**Approximate area of interest surrounding the Colorado Smelter site:**

**Arkansas River (Santa Fe Bridge culvert was where initial discharge was identified)(North)**

**E. Northern Avenue (South)**

**School Street (East)**

**E. Abriendo Avenue (West)**

## Focus Areas - Grant Year 1 & 2

- ▣ Public Outreach and Education
- ▣ Lead Testing and Characterization
- ▣ Staff Education
- ▣ Professional Outreach and Education
- ▣ Medical and Developmental Screenings and Follow-ups

- ▣ Create and provide education materials describing:
  - risks, proper cleaning methods, exposure reduction and upcoming testing opportunities
- ▣ Disseminate information directly to the community through:
  - partnerships, organizations, media outlets, social media, kiosk
- ▣ Partner with Colorado Legal Services
- ▣ Partner with Pueblo Board of Water Works
- ▣ Discuss hosting an Event

## Public Outreach and Education

- ▣ Partner with EPA to develop forms for
  - lead characterization of homes
  - indoor and outdoor home access
- ▣ Follow-up with families that have been reported to PCCHD with elevated blood lead levels
- ▣ Educational kits will be assembled
- ▣ Testing of homes and BLL



## Lead Testing and Characterization

- ▣ PCCHD Environmental Health staff will:
  - Complete Training and Certification of lead safety for renovation, repair and painting
  - Complete Training to utilize XRF for lead characterization
    - ▣ Indoor (paint, consumer products)
    - ▣ Outdoor (paint)



## Staff Education

- PCCHD staff and interns will partner with CDC/ATSDR, EPA and CDPHE to develop educational materials and tools for physicians and others in the medical profession
- Information will be presented to and disseminated to the medical community within Pueblo County



## **Professional Outreach and Education**

- PCCHD will set up a database to track medical and developmental screening results and follow-ups
- Clinical staff will conduct home visits with individuals identified in the initial investigations and those referred to PCCHD, as well as, provide care coordination



## **Medical & Developmental Screenings & follow-up**

# Environmental Health Division

## Division Director

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## Environmental Health Specialist I

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**ATTACHMENT D**  
(Draft as of 12 June 2014)  
**POSSIBLE MISSION STATEMENT**

The Colorado Smelter Community Advisory Group (CAG) is an independent, non-partisan group consisting of a balance of diverse interests affected by and concerned about the Colorado Smelter and its cleanup process. Participants include:

- **A diversity of the community**, including representatives from the Eilers and Bessemer neighborhoods and their associations, parents of small children, homeowners, renters, rental owners and business owners;
- **Local government**, including City Council and County Commissioners, Health Department, and local police; and others as needed;
- **Other interested community members from various organizations** such as the from the Saint Mary's and Saint Joseph's parishes, Better Pueblo, and the Sierra Club; and
- **Other interested community members with important expertise and knowledge** such as backgrounds in real estate, environmental cleanup, environmental law, environmental health, community organizing, community integration and many others.

The overarching goal of the CAG is to have an effective cleanup completed by 2019. The CAG defines an effective cleanup as:

- Not causing health damage to residents or animals, regardless of their age or desire to play in the parks, garden in their yards, or dig for pirate treasure in the neighborhood.
- Restoring the environment to its natural state;
- Promoting the economic vitality of the neighborhood; and
- Revitalizing and preserving the historical assets of the neighborhood.

The CAG intends to assist in achieving this goal of an effective cleanup by 2019 by:

- Providing input to the EPA and the other government entities that play a role in the cleanup to improve decision-making for all;
- Sharing information, ideas, and concerns; and
- Serving as a conduit to the larger community.

## ATTACHMENT E CAG MEMBERSHIP MATRIX (UPDATED AS OF 20 JUNE 2014)

Shaded names were added for the June 12 meeting. Names in parenthesis are those who agreed to call individuals and information them about the CAG. Edits in redline were added during the June 12 meeting.

Organization	Steering Committee Member	Possible Additions/Attending Meetings
Eiler Heights Neighborhood Association	Pam and Joe Kocman	
Bessemer Association	David Balsick	
Neighbors: (might want to break down by neighborhood and homeowners/renters)	Nadine Triste (Salt Creek) Karen Fortner (Eilers) Harric VanderValk (home and land owner) (Eilers) Pam Difatta Tony Perko Beritt Odom (Eilers) James and Julianne Williamson (homeowners) David Webb (Tenant) Pam and Joe Kocman (Eiler's homeowners)	Drew Baca (Eiler's Heights)  Robert Blazich  Charlotte Plutt (Sunset and property owner in Groves)  Ruth Trustee (Eilers)  Judy Kochaver (Bob Blazich)
Business Owners/Rental owners in area	Beritt Odom (rental owner?) Joe Kocman (rentals and Eiler's Place)	Joe Boitz (rental property)  Donna Redinger of Do Drop Inn (Michael Wenstrom)  Owner of King Taco (Pam Kocman)  Tamale House (Nadine)  Josephine Gagliano of Gagliano's (Sandy?)  Frank Matarocci of La Tronica's (Sandy?)  Tim Hawkins of the Steelworks Museum (Sandy?)

Organization	Steering Committee Member	Possible Additions/Attending Meetings
Young Parents/Schools /Day care in neighborhood	James and Julianne Williamson	(Pam Kocman ideas?) (Julianna ideas)  Boone early headstart (Michael Wenstrom)  Families that had children with high lead exposure (Chris Wardell will contact ATSDR and see if possible to have ATSDR inform them)  Terry Hart will contact School Board members.
City Council	Sandy Daff Chris Nicoll	
County Commissioners	Terry Hart	
Planning Department	Beritt Odom, if needed	
Pueblo City County Health Department	Ken Williams (Bessemer) Chad Wolgram	Christine Nevin-Woods
Police Department		SGT Dustin Taylor
Neighbor Works	Sandy Daff	
Colorado Progressive Coalition		(Michael Wenstrom will contact)
Sierra Club	Ross Vincent	
Southern Colorado Labor Council		Rudy Ortiz
Saint Joseph's Parish		Nadine Triste Father Joseph Vigil (Michael Wenstrom)
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel		Fr. Martin Frias-Guardado (Michael Wenstrom)
Saint Mary's		Father Basino(sp?) (Michael Wenstrom)
Better Pueblo	Kiera Hatton Sena	
Native Thundering Voices Community		Janet Altmann
Idle No More Pueblo		Matrina Arellano
Citizens for Clean Air		Margaret Barber (Michael Wenstrom)
Local real estate association	David Webb	
Others:	Merril Coomes Becky Sue Heald Janet Altmann	Ruth Trusty
University		Chris Messer Dr. Gerod
Lenders/Appraisers/Title Company		Brad Gillispe, Iver Hill
Skills:		
Science	Ross Vincent (Chemist, Chemical Engineer) Ken Williams (Environmental Health, Hazardous materials)	
Marketing	Pam Kocman	

Organization	Steering Committee Member	Possible Additions/Attending Meetings
Networking/Outreach		Charlotte Plutt (education and outreach skills) Nadine Triste (community integration, immigration, bi-lingual)
Historical Preservation	David Webb (renovator)	
Law and Policy	Terry Hart (lawyer) Tony Perko (lawyer) Ross Vincent (Environmental Policy Analyst, Health Environmental Advocate)	
Investigation	Joe Kocman (analytical skills, MBA). Drew Baca (business administration)	

Exofficio?

State and Federal Government Entities	Steering Committee Member	Possible Additions
EPA	Sabrina Forrest Chris Wardell Charlie Partridge* Michael Wenstrom*	
ATSDR	David Dorian*	
CDPHE	Jeannine Natterman Alissa Schulz	
HUD		Maybe local HUD, Ada Clark
CDOT?		Pam Kocman will contact Joe DeHeart
Railroad?		

\* Attendance as needed based on meeting topics.

**ATTCHMENT F**  
**Expression of Interest**  
**Colorado Smelter Advisory Group (CAG)**  
**Draft as of 11 June 2014**

**Changes suggest during the 6/12 meeting are noted in redline.**

Please send completed forms to: Kristi Celico, CAG Facilitator, at [kcelico@gmail.com](mailto:kcelico@gmail.com) or 1714 West Choke Cherry Drive, Louisville, CO 80027 by not later than July 18.

**Name:**

**Phone number:**

**Address:**

**Email address, if available:**

**Choose your desired role.**

**Please indicate what role you would like to play in the cleanup process of the Colorado Smelter.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Receive Information.** I want to be informed of cleanup issues around Colorado Smelter. I may attend an occasional CAG meeting and provide input. Please keep me on the list to get information.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Workgroup member.** I am interested in specific CAG topics and could serve on a workgroup. Please note the topics of most interest: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **CAG member.** I want to formally serve on the Community Advisory Group (CAG). I am committed to problem solving with a diverse group to help ensure the cleanup is done efficiently and effectively. I understand this group will address a wide diversity of issues including technical issues regarding cleanup, health issues affecting residents, and economic issues that affect the community. I am willing to participate in approximately three hours of meetings a month. I can help reach out to a community and gather their input and concerns to help ensure that the cleanup is done in a way that works best for the community.

**What would help you?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Please translate information/meetings into another language.

\_\_\_\_\_ Email doesn't work for me. Send information to my physical address.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would need babysitting to attend meetings.

\_\_\_\_\_ Change the meeting time. The group has been meeting from 5:30 to 7:30 on Thursday nights. Is this a good time for you? If not, please list days and times that would work best for you to attend meetings.

**Your skills**

Please note clubs or organizations that you are involved in and may be able to reach out to:

Please note skills or background that you could bring to the group:

Please note if you are a resident of the Eilers or Bessemer neighborhoods.

Please list anything else that you think will be of interest to the CAG formation group.

Topics for email:

Next meeting dates