



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Portland District

Celilo Village Redevelopment Newsletter

February
2007

A newsletter keeping you informed about upcoming meetings and providing updates as the Corps continues Celilo Village redevelopment.

Celilo Falls long served as a trade center, sacred fishing ground and gathering place for the Northwest Indian tribes. When The Dalles Dam was constructed, the falls were flooded. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers provided a new location near the original falls, where about 50 people live in Celilo Village. Inadequate maintenance, as well as sanitary and water systems, caused public health and safety concerns to village residents.

To resolve these problems, the Tribes requested the Portland District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to rebuild the village under the Columbia River Treaty Fishing Access Sites Project. Congress authorized the reconstruction of the village in March 2004, and the Corps expects construction to be completed by 2009.

Town hall meetings on relocation

Feb. 6 and 7

Corps and BIA real estate staff held a town hall meeting Feb. 6 and explained the upcoming relocation process to residents. They met individually on Feb. 7 with residents to address concerns specific to each household.

At the Feb. 6 meeting, Corps and BIA staff told residents that they may be moving into the temporary housing as soon as the infrastructure is complete, moves could begin as early as July or August, but could be as late as October. BIA representatives handed out copies of the lease agreements for permanent housing.

Phase I construction

Two new sewage lagoons have replaced the field east of the village. The lagoons are part of the Celilo Village redevelopment Phase 1, which includes building the sewer and water systems and installing residents' temporary housing. Construction is on schedule, said Corps project manager George Miller.

During February, construction activities will begin in the village itself. The Corps' onsite quality assurance representative, Ed Saldaña, explained what will happen this month. The contractor, Colville Tribal Services, is making final preparations to install liners in the sewage lagoons. Also scheduled:

- Installing new sewer pipe and manholes in the area of the two new sewage lagoons
- Running new sewer lines from the existing pump house to the temporary housing site
- Constructing the new water pump house (south of the longhouse)
- Installing new water lines from the pump house to the temporary housing site and to the permanent housing area

As part of the increased construction activity, the contractor will hold a hiring call in Celilo Village, Miller said.

Phase II specifications are being finalized, according to Gail Lovell, Corps design team leader. She expects a final package by the end of February. Copies will be sent to the Wy-Am Board, each of the Tribes, and the BIA.

Preparing for temporary relocation

Susan Hill, Corps relocation specialist, asks that any resident who has not already scheduled a meeting with her do so as soon as possible.

She will help residents coordinate moving day activities and keep residents informed about relocation schedules.

Contact Susan Hill: Cell: 206-450-3777

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Email: susan.m.hill@usace.army.mil



CTSC crews install a bypass line in the west sewage lagoon, one of two being constructed at Celilo Village.

Funding for Celilo Village restoration

The Corps, with support from the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, will allocate approximately \$13.9 million from the fiscal year 2007 appropriation for the Celilo Village redevelopment project, Miller said.

This appropriation will fund FY 08 construction of permanent housing as well as relocation of residents into the permanent housing. The construction of the BIA administration building and classroom and other support facilities would be completed in FY 09.

Cultural resources

A small number of artifacts were found during excavation of the sewage lagoons, but no burials, Miller told the Wy-Am Board. Warm Springs Government Affairs Director Louie Pitt said they will be returned to Celilo Village.



Sam Jim, Sr., (YIN) left , and Ron Suppah (CTWS) talk after the February Wy-Am Board meeting

Next Wy-Am Board meeting

Thursday, Feb. 22, 2007, 10 a.m.

Celilo Village Longhouse, Elders Dining Hall

- Review Cultural Resource Survey
- Look at artifacts found to date, visit site where items found
- Phases I and II updates
- 50 Year Celilo Falls flooding commemoration
- Report on Feb. 6 Celilo Community meeting
- Dance shed design
- Update on BIA acceptance of longhouse transfer

The Wy-Am Board invites Celilo Village residents to attend meetings, participate in the process and provide comments.

Wy-Am Board Members

Celilo Village: Delilah Heemsah, Bobby Begay

CTUIR: Antone Minthorn, Leo Stuart

CTWS: Ron Suppah, Reuben Henry

YIN: Sam Jim, Sr., Ray James, Leo Aleck

Longhouse administration will transfer from Corps to BIA

In March, the Corps will transfer \$334,000 to the BIA for operations and maintenance of the Celilo longhouse, Miller reported.

According to the Memorandum of Agreement between the Departments of Army and Interior, the Corps is responsible for design and construction and the BIA is responsible for long-term operation and maintenance of the facilities.

The agreement further indicates that the Corps will make a one time transfer of funds for operations and maintenance. The \$334,000 represents the Corps' contribution for the longhouse portion of the project. After reconstruction is complete in 2009, the Corps will transfer its contribution for long term operations and maintenance for the remaining facilities to the BIA.

A combination of freezing weather and lack of heating in the longhouse kitchen in January caused its water pipes to freeze and burst. It is clear that an operating entity must be established for the longhouse, Miller said. The Corps has repaired the kitchen and will fill the propane tanks until mid-April. At that time, the BIA will assume maintenance.

Dance Shed

The Ford Family Foundation awarded a grant for a planning session on a new dance shed, John Chess, Tamástslikt Cultural Institute development director said. Architect Chuck Archer facilitated the session with residents on Feb. 6.

Celilo Falls 50 year flooding commemoration

- CRITFC's Celilo Legacy blog has information about upcoming events: <http://web.mac.com/fivecrows/iWeb/Celilo/Blog/Blog.html>.
- Center for Columbia River History is sponsoring a public conference about Celilo Falls at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center in The Dalles, Oregon March 17 - 18. www.ccrh.org/calendar.php
- Maya Lin will attend a blessing of the land at Celilo Park on March 18 at 3 p.m.

The Celilo Village Redevelopment Newsletter is published by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District, to keep residents and other interested members of the public informed of the Celilo Village redevelopment.

For more information about this project, please contact George Miller at (503) 808-4704 or email george.j.miller@usace.army.mil.

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