



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Portland District

Celilo Village

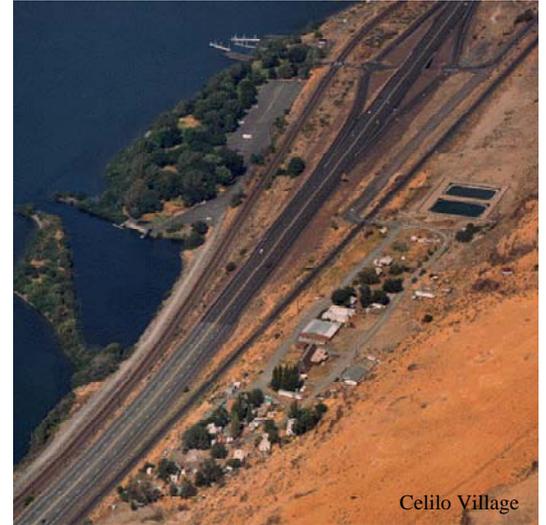
Redevelopment Newsletter

Volume I, Number 1

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Redevelopment history

For millennia, the Celilo area has served as a trade center, sacred fishing ground and gathering place for the Northwest Indian tribes. Celilo Village, itself, currently supports 13 dwellings and about 50 people, but inadequate sanitary and water systems have caused public health and safety problems that concern federal, tribal, state and local health officials. To resolve these problems, the tribes formally requested the Portland District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to rebuild the village under the Columbia River Treaty Fishing Access Sites (CRTFAS) Project. Celilo Village Redevelopment was authorized by Pres. George W. Bush on March 2, 2004, as part of Public Law 108-204, provides for the reconstruction of the village and associated structures and systems, repairs to the longhouse, and operation and maintenance of the rebuilt village.



Celilo Village

The Corps continues to work with the tribes, agencies, residents and other stakeholders to make redevelopment a reality.

First edition of Celilo Village Redevelopment Newsletter

This is the first issue of a monthly newsletter created to keep interested stakeholders informed of the Celilo Village Redevelopment Project's progress. The Corps is scheduling and facilitating monthly meetings with the reconstituted Wyam Board. Discussion topics from these meetings will be outlined in the newsletter. This issue will cover topics discussed during the May and June meetings.

Corps' Project Management Plan

At the meeting, George Miller, the Corps' project manager, summarized the key steps necessary for Celilo Village redevelopment. The Bureau of Indian Affairs and Tribal Governments must take several steps. These include confirming legal residents and allocating housing units, re-constituting the WYAM Board, adopting a governance structure, adopting codes and regulations, and preparing a Self Determination Act contract for operation of the new village. The US Army Corps of Engineers will take other steps. These include cultural resources compliance, real estate acquisitions and relocations, engineering and design, construction, and transfer of improvements and funding to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. All parties must work cooperatively to ensure that this important project proceeds.

Wyam Board reconstruction

The Wyam Board will serve as an advisory body to the tribes and agencies during and after village redevelopment. Reflecting the traditional interests at the village, the board is composed of one representative from each of the three treaty tribes (Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Indian Nation, and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of

the Umatilla Indian Reservation), and two elected village residents. The three treaty tribes have appointed representatives and alternates to the Wyam Board. The tribes moderated a village election process to nominate and elect the two village representatives. Stanley Speaks, Regional Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), sent a letter endorsing the new board. The members of the Wyam Board, by tribal or village affiliation are:

Umatilla:	Antone Minthorn (delegate)	Leo Stewart (alternate)
Yakama:	Leo Aleck (delegate)	Davis Washines (alternate)
Warm Springs:	Ron Suppah (delegate)	Reuben Henry (alternate)
Village Residents:	Bobby Begay (delegate)	Delilah Heemsah (delegate)

Cultural resources

Because of the historical use of the area, it is highly probable cultural resources will be encountered during the redevelopment process. The goal of USACE, the tribes and the agencies is to insure these items are dealt with in a careful, sensitive manner. The Corps is beginning the consultation process with the tribes, BIA and the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office. The objective is to avoid impacts to known cultural resources and to create a Memorandum of Agreement, which will provide guidance and procedures for dealing with any inadvertent discoveries as the project proceeds.

Municipal Code Development

The Corps has contracted with *Berryman & Henigar*, a Seattle firm with experience working with Native American tribes and specialized expertise in developing rural residential codes, to aid in creating a Celilo Village Municipal Code. The code is envisioned as a combination “manual” and “rule-book” that will provide direction and guidance for facility managers and the community. The code will have provisions for Village administration, housing and community facilities management, and utilities and common areas maintenance. Additionally, an appendix to the code will provide information regarding public health, law enforcement and other resources available to village residents. Work on the municipal code will begin in early July with the Corps and the contractor interviewing individual village residents regarding their expectations and perceptions of needs for village governance. After the code is created, it will be presented for consideration by the Wyam Board and the tribes. Ultimately the BIA will be responsible for ratification and will begin its own internal process to promulgate the regulations.

Upcoming activities

- **Thursday, July 29.** The next scheduled Wyam Board meeting will be held at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center, 5000 Discovery Drive, The Dalles, OR 97058. The meeting will focus on the Corps’ understanding of Celilo Village residency status.
- **July 2004.** Resident interviews regarding Celilo Village Municipal Code needs.
- **August 2004.** Tribal and agency interviews regarding Celilo Village Municipal Code needs.

The Celilo Village Redevelopment Newsletter is designed to provide information about Celilo Village Redevelopment. It is published monthly by the Celilo Village Redevelopment Project Delivery Team of the Portland District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. For information about this project, please contact George Miller at (503) 808-4704 or by email at george.j.miller@usace.army.mil. For more information about this newsletter, please contact Jeremy Weber at (503) 808-4735 or by email at jeremy.j.weber@usace.army.mil.

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