



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Portland District

Celilo Village Redevelopment Newsletter

June 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.

Temporary homes almost ready for occupancy

The 14 temporary homes will be ready for occupancy at the end of June, Corps project manager George Miller said. The Corps will then begin moving residents who are ready. The new modular homes have three bedrooms, two bathrooms and each comes equipped with a washer, dryer, stove, and refrigerator. Several are handicapped-accessible homes.

The contractor, Colville Tribal Services Corporation, is completing the final work needed to make the homes ready for occupancy: disinfecting the water tank, testing the home water taps, installing the backup generator, fencing the outdoor storage area, and activating the fire hydrants. Prior to the moves, the Corps will provide a pick-up service, allowing residents to dispose of items they no longer want.

The next phase of reconstruction will begin in July. The Corps issued a request for proposal to CTSC for Phase II and plans are being distributed to Wy-Am Board members. Contract negotiations begin June 18, and the Corps plans to award the contract July 9. The first step will be demolishing the existing structures.

For residents, living in the midst of construction creates inconveniences and safety concerns during the village's rebuilding process. "The Corps remains committed to maintaining safety and being responsive to the Wy-Am Board's and residents' concerns during construction," Miller said.



Gail Lovell, left, Antone Minthorn, and George Miller review a ramp on one of the handicapped-accessible temporary homes

Governance

At the May Wy-Am Board meeting, Umatilla Indian Reservation planner Jim Beard passed out a spreadsheet he created showing the current authorities that govern aspects of Celilo, including Resolution 76-01. This resolution defines how the Wy-Am Board outlined its membership, its relationship to the tribes, as well as the board's authorities. Because the land is held in trust for the three treaty tribes, those tribes hold the ultimate authority.



Jim Beard

638 Contract for Celilo Village operations and maintenance

When Celilo redevelopment is complete, the Corps will transfer about \$1.6 million to the BIA for the village's long-term operations and maintenance. The money will be invested and the earned interest will be used to pay for operations and maintenance.

The specific tasks and equipment included under operations and maintenance will be outlined in a 638 contract being drafted by Paul Young, BIA Superintendent at Warm Springs. These items could include equipment, weed control and trash pickup, janitorial and garbage services, monthly health visits from a tribal clinic nurse, water and sewer system maintenance, wildfire control, snow plowing and structural fire protection, Young said. The BIA will send a request for proposals to the tribes and others interested in bidding on the contract.

Residents might have to pay \$50 a month to cover other minor repairs, Young said. He added that the BIA is looking into getting insurance to cover BIA facilities in the village, which includes the permanent houses.

Residents will be responsible for insuring their personal property and be responsible for the normal wear and tear on their houses, said Lyle Fox, BIA realty officer for the Warm Springs Agency.



Resident Karen Whitford and BIA Superintendent of Warm Springs Paul Young discuss homes

Longhouse — BIA takes title

This spring the BIA accepted title to the longhouse from the Corps, which also transferred \$330,000 for the longhouse's operations and maintenance. The BIA is seeking a tribal entity to take ownership of the longhouse.

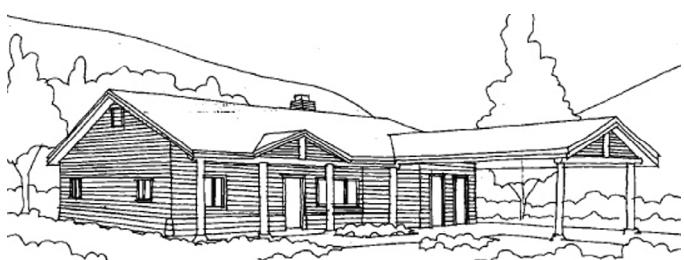


Celilo longhouse

Home leases for permanent housing

When the permanent homes are completed, residents will enter into a lease agreement with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The BIA's draft agreement was made available to the board, residents, tribes and any other interested parties. The BIA is now waiting for comments and suggestions, BIA realty officer for the Warm Springs Agency Lyle Fox said.

The lease agreement describes the terms between the resident and BIA. "It is important, because it is a legal document that defines what the BIA, as the owner of the property, is responsible for regarding the use and improvement to the property," said Jim Beard.



Architect's drawing of one of the permanent homes

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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Next Wy-Am Board meeting

Thursday, June 28, 2007, 10 a.m.

Celilo Village Longhouse, Elders Dining Hall

- Construction update
- BIA update: 638 contract and lease agreement
- Governance
- Proposed village approval process

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

Wy-Am Board Members

Celilo Village: Bobby Begay, Delilah Heemsah

CTUIR: Antone Minthorn, Leo Stuart

CTWS: Ron Suppah, Reuben Henry

YIN: Ray James, Sam Jim, Sr.