



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

**Chevron 90619 Cleanup Site
Bellingham, WA**

Washington State Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
Toxics Cleanup Program
3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, Washington 98008

May 2018

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION.....	3
2	SITE BACKGROUND	3
3	CONTAMINATION.....	4
4	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES.....	4,5
5	POINTS OF CONTACT	6
6	FIGURES	
	Figure 1. Site map	7
	Figure 2. Aerial Site photo.....	8
	Figures 3,4.....	9

1 Introduction

Public participation is essential in reaching informed decisions when addressing community environmental issues such as cleanup of contaminated properties. The purpose of this Public Participation Plan (PPP) is to assist in promoting public understanding and participation in the Chevron 90619 Site cleanup. This PPP outlines a variety of tools and activities to encourage public involvement. Cleanups conducted under the Washington State Model Toxics Control Act (WAC 173-340; MTCA), require public notice and encourage public comment and participation. Required elements of public participation under MTCA are incorporated into this PPP as well as additional elements added to meet the needs of the community.

This plan has been prepared by the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology). The goal of this Public Participation Plan is to promote public understanding of the cleanup process, including opportunities for public involvement, so that the community can provide comments and be involved in a meaningful way throughout the process. The following sections provide background information on the site and the community and outline the public involvement tools and activities for the Chevron 90619 site.

2 Site Background

The Chevron 90619 Site is located within the City of Bellingham, Whatcom County at the intersection of Elm, Washington and Broadway. The 0.61acre site is located approximately 0.4 miles northeast of Bellingham Bay (Squalicum Harbor). Gas and service stations operated at the site from about 1930 until the late 1980's. The tanks, infrastructure and building were removed in 1991. A series of coffee shop/restaurants operated at the location until 2015. A new tenant is opened a butcher shop at the site in August 2017.

3 Contamination

1991 investigations showed gasoline range petroleum hydrocarbons at concentrations exceeding the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) Method A levels in soil and ground water samples.

Diesel and gasoline-range hydrocarbons, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes have been detected in soil and groundwater samples as free product and dissolved petroleum collected from the Site at concentrations above MTCA cleanup levels. These contaminants are hazardous substances under WAC 173-340-200, and may pose a threat to human health and the environment.

The most current ground water monitoring report submitted to Ecology dated January 10, 1995 details sampling results for four out of eleven Site ground water monitoring wells. One ground water monitoring well showed benzene above MTCA Method A cleanup levels.

Under the Agreed Order, the liable parties shall:

- Prepare a Work Plan to conduct a Remedial Investigation (RI).
- Implement the RI work plan.
- Provide Ecology with an Agency Review Draft RI Report
- Prepare a Feasibility Study Report (FS)
- Provide Ecology with an Agency Review Draft FS Report
- Prepare a preliminary cleanup action plan (DCAP)

4 Public Involvement Activities

Ecology will use a variety of methods to keep community residents and stakeholders informed and involved in the Chevron 90619 Cleanup Project. We will continue to try to find new ways to share project information and expand our audience. This plan will be edited and updated as appropriate. Public involvement activities include the following:

Public Meetings, Hearings, and Open Houses

Ecology will hold public meetings at key points in the cleanup process. In addition, Ecology may also hold smaller meetings and open houses for groups in the community who are affected and/or interested in the cleanup project. Public meetings will be held at locations convenient to the community. If 10 or more people request an additional public meeting, one will be scheduled. Otherwise, meetings will be scheduled as needed.

Information Repositories

Information repositories are places where the public may read and review site information. The Repositories Ecology will use for this cleanup site are:

Bellingham Public Library
210 Central Avenue
Bellingham, WA 98225
Phone: 360-778-7323

Ecology-Bellingham Office
913 Squalicum Way, Unit 101
Bellingham, WA 98225
By appointment, call 360-255-4400

Ecology-Bellevue Office
3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452
By appointment, call 360-649-7190

Ecology's Web Site:
<http://bit.ly/EcologyChevron90619>

Site Register

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program uses its bimonthly *Site Register* to announce all of its public meetings and comment periods, as well as many other activities. To receive the *Site Register* in electronic or hard copy format, contact CherylAnn Bishop (360) 407-6848 or email her at CherylAnn.Bishop@ecy.wa.gov. It is also available on Ecology's website: http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/pub_inv/pub_inv2.html.

Mailing List

Ecology has compiled a mailing list for the site. The list includes individuals, groups, public agencies, elected officials, private businesses, and other known interested parties. The list will be maintained at Ecology's Northwest Regional Office and will be updated as needed.

Fact Sheets

Ecology will mail fact sheets to inform the community and other interested parties of public meetings and important site activities, including project milestones and status updates.

Brochures and Posters

Ecology has developed brochures and posters that contain information about potential health risks associated with contamination. These materials are free to the community and can be requested by phone (425) 649-4486 or email at brad.petrovich@ecy.wa.gov.

Site signage

Large signs displaying information about construction status, traffic impacts and health risks will be installed near construction areas. These signs contain inserts which will be updated as needed (weekly or bi-weekly during construction season).

Community Group Meeting Presentations

Ecology staff will present information about the cleanup when requested. Residents can request an Ecology presentation for their neighborhood association or other community groups.

Ecology Website and Blog

Ecology will maintain a website with site information at <https://bit.ly/EcologyChevron90619>. This site will be updated regularly and will hold information available for comments and other relevant documents and information.

Newspaper Display Ads

Ecology may place ads in the Bellingham Herald to announce public meetings and other events related to the cleanup.

Plan Update

This public participation plan may be updated as the project proceeds. If an update is necessary, and constitutes a substantial change in the plan, it will be announced via site register and the website.

Public Participation Grants

As part of the Model Toxics Control Act, Ecology developed a public participation grant program to promote public participation during cleanups. Public Participation Grants provide funding to community groups that help involve the public in the cleanup process.

Non-profit groups, or groups of three or more unrelated individuals, can apply for grants to fund efforts for the community that is impacted by cleanup activities. Grant funds may be used to pay for technical experts who help people understand cleanup issues. They can also be used to hold meetings, workshops and other events. In addition, printing and distribution of reports, brochures and other materials may be covered.

For more information about this grant program, visit <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/grants/ppg.html>

5 Points of Contact

If you have questions or need more information about this plan or the cleanup project, please contact;

General project information or public involvement:

Brad Petrovich, Project Planner & Public Involvement
Washington State Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
3190 160th Avenue SE, Bellevue, WA 98008
Phone: (425) 649-4486
Email: Brad.Petrovich@ecy.wa.gov

Technical or construction questions:

Mary O'Herron, Project Manager
Washington State Department of Ecology
Ecology Bellingham Field Office
Phone: (360) 255-4380
Email: mohe461@ecy.wa.gov

Figure 1. Chevron 90619 Cleanup Site—Vicinity Map

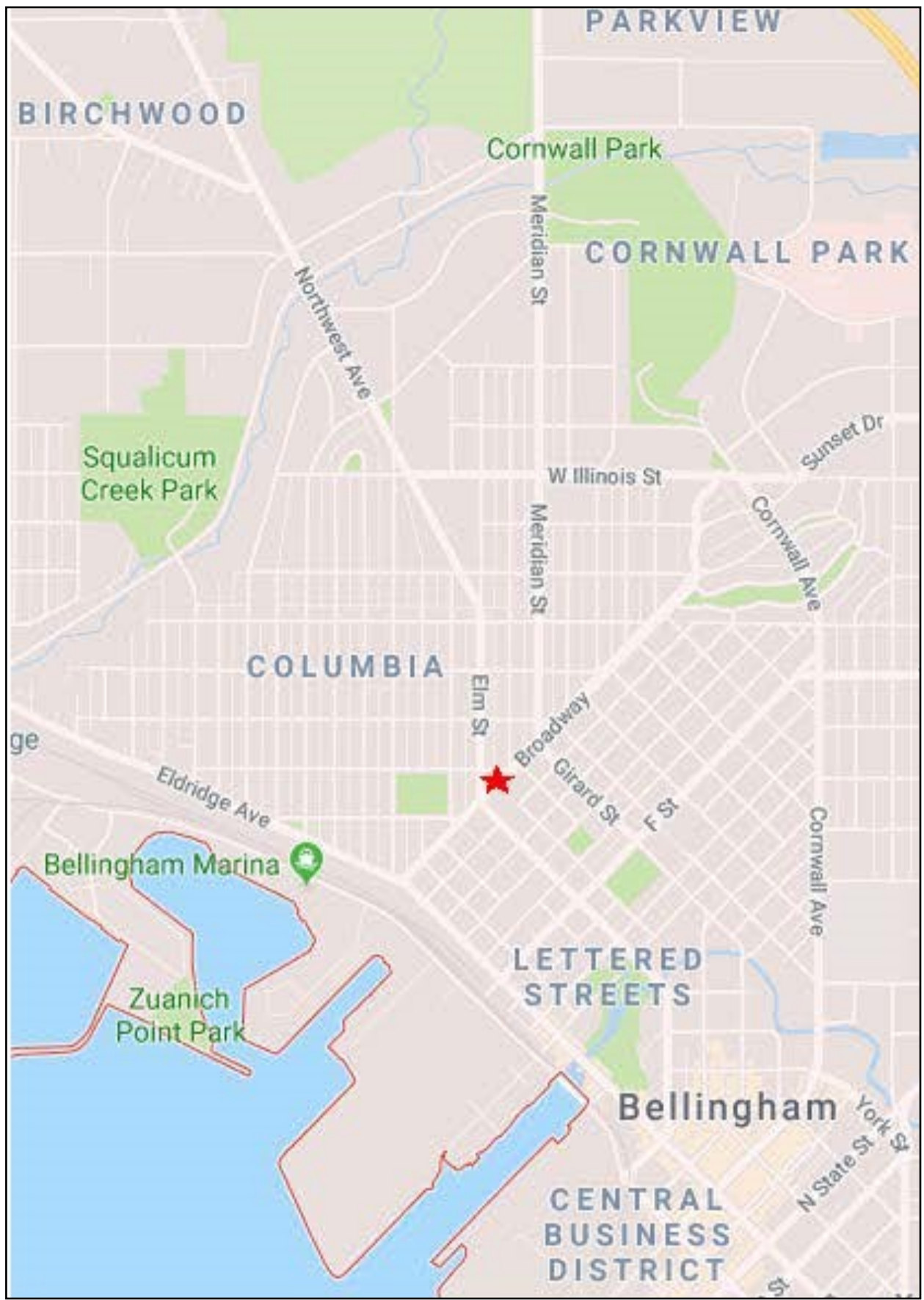


Figure 2.

Aerial view of Chevron 90619 Site



**Chevron 90619, Bellingham WA
Site and Vicinity**

Figure from: Environmental Site Assessment: Phase II Limited Soil and Groundwater Sampling Investigation (Stratum Group, Dec. 2016)



Chevron 90619 Site; 2012 Google street view



Chevron 90619 Site; 2018 site photo