

Multi-Purpose Technical and Trades Training Center Convenor Interview Follow Up Report

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Overview

The consultant interviewed the following members of the convenor organizations (The City of Olympia (City), LOTT Clean Water Alliance (LOTT) and the Port of Olympia (Port) to finalize which stakeholders should be interviewed or invited to attend the first retreat. In addition, the consultant interviewed the convenor representatives to better identify and describe the collective interests of the parties and how the consultant should represent these interests to stakeholders in interviews. Those interviewed included: Sam Gibboney, Lisa Parshley, Matt Kennelly, Lisa Dennis-Perez, Mike Reid, Clark Gilman and Dr. Pamela Braff.

Proposed Elevator Pitch

When the City of Olympia (City), LOTT Clean Water Alliance (LOTT) and the Port of Olympia (Port) met to explore issues unique to their workforce recruitment and training, they discovered they have a great deal more in common than finding and training skilled employees. They all have unique ties to water, the environment, and sustainability. They all recognize that innovative workforce development will be critical to meeting their future climate and sustainability goals. While they each need to address their workforce needs today and, in the future, they also believe they could serve as the strategic partner through which government can support the businesses and organizations that deliver water related technical workforce training and development services for the community and the region.

The convenors see that a regional Technical and Trade Training Center may provide unique opportunity to coordinate and connect the many programs and organizations that currently provide water related education and workforce training. Such a center could support efforts to not just create a healthier economy by bringing good jobs to the community, but also to support jobs that invest in the health and welfare of the community. They want to explore the possibility of a multi-purpose training center that will serve as the interface between industry and environmental sustainability.

The convenors recognize their own need to invest in the next generation workforce, but they are not educators. They want to collaborate to support educators and trainers who know how to prepare the workforce of the future and who understand the facility needs to support such as effort. The convenors want to explore the development of a center where the experts in education and training can partner together to expand and develop the programs needed to address today's and the future's maritime and water resource workforce issues. They envision a center that can foster not just education and trade training programs, but also, workforce development, economic development, and environmental sustainability.

The convenors believe a multi-purpose education and training center could be a vital community asset and serve as a hub to advance the shared interests of government and industry. The convenors want to explore

the potential benefits and challenges of this possible project with a small group of key stakeholders to identify interest and a pathway for possible implementation steps.

This interview is a first step in the process to explore this concept. Your insights, along with those of other key stakeholders, will help the convenors understand the level of interest, the potential needs, challenges, and benefits of developing this type of training center. If interest is sufficient, they will move ahead with a small group retreat for more in depth exploration. If interest indicates, a future larger group retreat would be held with more stakeholders in the future.

Convenor Agreements

Minor changes were recommended to the list of stakeholders to be interviewed and invited to the first retreat. Changes that all parties agreed upon were the inclusion of South Puget Sound Community College (SPSCC) and Pacific Mountain Workforce Development should be retreat attendees.

Two of three of the stakeholder groups suggested the Chamber be an attendee. Two out of three feel the Center for Sustainable Infrastructure should be an interview only at this time.

One stakeholder suggested moving New Market Vocational Skills Center to an interview. Finally, one stakeholder suggested adding the Chehalis Tribe to retreat attendees and upon review of this document, another person suggested adding the Tribe.

The consultant included any changes proposed by all or two out of three of the stakeholders which include adding SPSCC, Pacific Mountain Workforce Development and the Chamber of Commerce to the retreat and moving the Center for Sustainable Infrastructure to an interview. In the attached chart a red x shows a shift from the initial proposal to the current proposal.

Category	Organization	Contact Name	Retreat attendee	Interview
Signatory	LOTT	Matt Kennelly, Mike Strub, Lisa Dennis-Perez Staff, Lisa Parshley - Board	X	
Signatory	Port of Olympia	Sam Gibboney - Staff,	X	
Signatory	City of Olympia	Mike Reid - Staff, Clark Gilman - Council	X	
Business Workforce	Center for Sustainable Infrastructure	Rhys Roth or Ted Sturdevant		X
Business Workforce	EDC	Michael Cade, CEO	X	
Business Workforce	Chamber	David Schaffert, CEO Megan Fiess, Workforce Director	X	
Climate Change	City of Olympia	Dr. Pamela Braff, Climate Manager		X
Education	SPSCC	Tim Stokes, President Tanya Mote, Foundation CEO	X	

Education	TESC	John Carmichael, Interim President and/or Dexter Gordent Exec VP		X
Education	New Market Vocational Skills Center	Matt Ishler, Executive Director	X	
Education	OSD	Patrick Murphy, Superintendent Gretchen Maliska, CTE Program Director		X
Education	Tumwater School District	Casey Taylor, Board president		X
Education	North Thurston School District	Debra Clemens, Superintendent		X
Education	St. Martin's			X
Government	Squaxin Island Tribe	Ray Peters	X	optional if preferred over meeting attendee
Government	Nisqually Tribe		X	optional if preferred over meeting attendee
Trade Labor	State Building Trades	Contact from Clark is: Randall Friesen , (360) 529-6676 apprenticeship@wabuildingtrades.org	X	
Trade Labor	NWCI Carpenters Training Center, Dupont	Dustin Gregory		X ¹
Trade Labor	Laborers Local 252	Richie Myer - Business Agent		X
Trade Labor	ILWU 47	Robert Rose		X
Trade Labor	AFL-CIO			X
Workforce	Pacific Mountain Workforce Development	William Westmorland, CEO	X	

Project Rationale

One of the best reasons for the collaboration of the convenors is the proven track record with similar projects. The Energizing East Bay Project is an example of a collective redevelopment project of the three convenors that has resulted in significant improvements and benefits to community members and businesses. Similarly, the Port and the City came to develop the successful Olympia Farmer's Market and the three entities have collaborated on the Sea Level Rise Response Plan.

The size and scope of this project will require additional funds and support from state private and possibly national funding sources. Funders typically look more favorably on projects that are jointly shared by different levels of government and organizations which share common interests but serve different sectors. The collaboration will be able to leverage funds that individual agencies and organizations may not be able to access.

¹ Nancy will interview one of two of the labor unions, possibly not all four.

Interview Introduction and Questions

Consultant explains to the interviewee: Purpose of Interview. Themes will be captured and provided to the convenors.

Draft Interview Questions

1. What industries and/or organizations are involved in water related programs or services in the Olympia area?
2. What do you see as the current workforce needs for water related industries or programs?
3. What programs or assets does the Olympia area currently have in water related training and education?
4. Are there that gaps in current workforce training and/or education for existing industries or programs – both in terms of programming and in terms of facilities?
5. Looking to future economic, environmental and sustainability needs, are there gaps in current water related workforce training and education?
6. Is there anything that might excite or interest you or your constituents about this type of center?
7. What benefits, if any, might such a program have?
8. What concerns or problems might you or your constituents believe that such a center might pose?
9. Are there other groups or constituents that you believe will support this concept? Oppose the concept?
10. Does it make sense to you that these three organizations continue to explore this possibility? Why or why not?
11. Who do you believe are key stakeholders with an interest in this area that should be Interviewed?