Update: Tideflats Natural Gas to Methanol Plant

Northwest Innovation Works (NWIW) has proposed to build and operate a chemical plant in the nearby Tideflats to convert natural gas (methane) to methanol for export by ships in the Blair Waterway to China. This project has attracted much attention from NE Tacoma residents and others from across Tacoma. The project is now in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) analysis process. The Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) mandates this process for large projects. The first phase, the Scoping Phase, where the project’s “lead agency”, the City of Tacoma’s Planning & Development Services Dept., is to gather public input on issues that should be addressed in the comprehensive Draft EIS (DEIS). The City will likely engage expert consultants to carry out the DEIS development, at NWIW’s expense. The overall process is outlined further at the City’s web page for this project: https://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/city_departments/planning_and_development_services/proposed_methanol_plant.

Comments on the EIS scope can be submitted at any time up to the February 17th, 5pm closing date. Address them to tacoma.methanol.sepa@cityoftacoma.org.

NETNC’s Executive Committee is so far, “neutral but concerned and watchful”, becoming more informed on the issues, and evaluating the tradeoffs of such a project; that is, how could associated concessions benefit NE Tacoma. The full Board is expected to weigh in before the end of the scoping comment period, in discussions that will begin at the January 21st NETNC community and Board meeting. In the meantime, the Executive Committee has submitted a list of preliminary comments, including a strong recommendation to address the following points:

2. Emergency incident prevention and management: Elements should include failure mode analysis, including sabotage/terrorism, and detailed scenarios of resultant events (fire, explosion, release of toxic materials, etc.). In the case of an incident, elements should include prepared evacuation routes, with traffic flow enhancements, such as re-timed traffic lights, affecting the three roadways up the bluffs and away from the area as well as lower-level routes.
3. Fire/emergency response: volume of liquid and gaseous flammables, potential for explosions so close to residences (Pointe Woodworth houses a little over a mile away). ER/ITS Study recommendation implementation.
4. Control of hazardous substances: solids/liquids/gases, such as methanol itself,

Cont. on p. 3
**NE Tacoma Crime News**

Crimereports.com shows numerous crimes during December through January to date: drive-by murder (definitely out of the ordinary - there will be a Moment of Blessing for Dylan Oman led by Associated Ministries on Tuesday, 19th, at 11:30am at the Crescent Heights Grocery), burglaries/breaking and entering, car thefts, thefts from vehicle (break-in), and thefts and vandalism. The site is useful for seeing what kinds of things are going on, especially in your immediate neighborhood, but it tends to exaggerate some crime reports because of the simplicity of the description possibilities. For example, minor property theft often gets reported as a burglary, which we would usually associate with a house burglary with more major property theft.

CLO Brandon Showalter reviews crime trends and key events at the monthly (NETNC) Community Meetings — come to hear his take on crime in NE Tacoma. Residents are invited to send reports of incidents to netnews98422@hotmail.com for inclusion here.

If you have questions about any police issue, please direct them specifically to the TPD Community Liaison Officer for our area, CLO Brandon Showalter, at 253.594.7951 or brandon.showalter@cityoftacoma.org.

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**FISH Food Bank Is at BP United Methodist Church**

This is a reminder to let friends and neighbors who are in need of food assistance know that the weekly FISH Food Banks food bank Friday afternoons from 4:30pm to 6pm is now at the Browns Point United Methodist Church (5339 BP Blvd.). Recent experience shows a growth to 12-18 NE Tacoma families getting needed help from the service. Please help get the word out!

Donations of either non-perishable food, kitchen/baby supplies, or money are gratefully accepted. Money donations are very valuable: FISH can provide $7 worth of food for each $1 donated!

You can find out more about FISH Food Banks at: www.fishfoodbanks.org.

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**TV Tacoma January Highlights**

*From TV Tacoma (www.tvtacoma.org)*

Some recent and January neighborhood-oriented programming highlights include:

- **artTown:** Tacoma Art Museum’s (TAM) new western art collection, Comic Book culture, a long-lost film, featured local artists
- **Business Matters:** NW Stage, Jonz Catering, Dolce Si café at Point Ruston
- **CityLine:** Lively weekly review of current city activities, events, and services in our City. The December 31 show has the NE Tacoma Neighborhood Council year in review (along with the other NCs). You can stream this.
- **Inside Tacoma** presents elected officials: Mayor Marilyn Strickland, At-Large City Councilmember Ryan Mello
- **Tacoma Report:** Happenings in the community, City services and programs
- **Urban Green:** Pt. Defiance Park Master Plan, Apple Rose Pastry recipe, Solid Waste’s new compressed natural gas (CNG) and hybrid trucks, and brush-clearing goats.
- **Programming on “Northwest Indian News” and VA News, among other topics**
- **City Council:** Council meetings live Tuesdays, 5pm; study sessions live Tuesdays noon, Civil Service Board, and Public Utilities Board meetings (some broadcast only, City Council can be watched on-line works on your mobile, as well!).
- **Special:** Pt. Defiance 100th Anniversary.

TV Tacoma is available on Click! and Comcast on channel 12 (21 in Pierce County). If you can’t watch live, you can watch archived shows on your cable video-on-demand service or on the website (www.tvtacoma.org). Choose from Regular Programs, Special Presentations, and Meeting Coverage in the list on the left and above.

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**Place your ad or announcement for events, products, or services benefitting NE Tacoma here! Inexpensive!**

Write to netnews98422@hotmail.com

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Trade Center, with an open house opportunity to learn about the project from knowledgeable NWIW staff. At 6:30pm there will be a formal program, including opportunity for oral comment on the scope. There will be a second public meeting, on February 16th, 6:30pm (likely open house preceding) at Meeker M.S. Comments on scoping will close at 5pm on February 17th.

Various organizations around the city have gotten involved in the public part of this process. Tacoma’s independent environmental organization focused on Commencement Bay, Citizens for a Healthy Bay, has developed resource material on the project at http://www.healthybay.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=212:proposed-methanol-plant-in-tacoma&catid=42:news-and-events&Itemid=74. (If you can’t follow this as a hot-link or copy/paste, go to www.healthybay.org, click News and Events, and see the Methanol coverage.) NETNC has developed a list of reference sites and materials for this project, presented in current form below.

Opposition to the plant is getting organized. The RedLineTacomaCoalition has formed around community activists based in Central Tacoma. Claudia Riedener, a founder of that organization, partnered with Cindy Feist, a NE Tacoman, to hold a public meeting on Wednesday, January 13th, at the Center at Norpoint, filling a large meeting room with folks largely opposed to the chemical plant. Contacts: redlinetacomacoalition@gmail.com, and on Facebook, search for Cindy Feist.

From NETNC, City of Tacoma, and other sources

Resources for Learning More about the Proposed Methanol Plant

Northwest Innovation Works (NWIW) – Methane (Natural Gas) to Methanol Conversion Plant

Websites:
1. NWIW project description: http://nwinnovationworks.com/. Shows location, approximate schedule, more details.
2. Port of Tacoma project description: http://portoftacoma.com/northwest-innovation-works
5. Sightline Institute: A Seattle-based environmental watch-dog – no recent material, but see the site and sign up for newsletters http://www.sightline.org/research/thin-green-line/
6. Search “methanol plants in US” to see sites for existing and planned plants, technology involved, etc.

People to contact:
Ian Munce, Project Manager
City of Tacoma Planning & Development Services
Phone: 253-573-2478
E-mail: imunce@cityoftacoma.org
Charla Skaggs, Senior Associate
Enviroissues (an agent of NWIW)
Phone: (253) 572-2878

E-mail: cskaggs@enviroissues.com
Ryan Cruz, Research Assistant
Citizens for a Healthy Bay
Phone: 253-383-2429
Website: www.healthybay.org
RedLineTacomaCoalition
See NET News issues, meeting agendas, and more at NETNC’s page on the City’s website: [www.cityoftacoma.org](http://www.cityoftacoma.org). Search for “northeast tacoma neighborhood council”!

This QR code points to NETNC’s own website, still a work in progress.

Where Can I Get NET News?

Receive it in your e-mail: send a note to netnews98422@hotmail.com with the word “subscribe” in the subject line.

Paper copies are available at the Center at Norpoint; Kobetich Library; the Howards Corner and Crescent Heights grocery stores; the TPD substation; North Shore Thai near the Walgreens; the cleaners, dentist, the hair salon and MultiCare by the QFC; at Browns Point: the coffee shop, the Diner, the Cleaners, Ace Hardware, and the IGA; and at the four schools in NE Tacoma.

NORTHEAST TACOMA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

The NE Tacoma Neighborhood Council (NETNC) is focused on NE Tacoma, and seeks to coordinate with community groups in adjacent areas. This newsletter is an independent publication of NETNC and does not reflect the views or opinions of the City of Tacoma.

NETNC Board Members 2016-17

**Area 1—Northwood**
- Arill Berg  924.0701  arillberg@nventure.com
- David Mueller  952.9082  p.mueller929@gmail.com

**Area 2—Stonegate/Centennial**
- Dick Hayek  952.1210  richardhayek@aol.com
- Patti Warwick  568.1333  pattiwarwick@gmail.com

**Area 3—Northeast Tacoma**
- Carolyn Edmonds  952.0301  carolyn.edmonds@comcast.net
- Yvonne McCarty  yvonne.mccarty@comcast.net

**Area 4—Crescent Heights**
- Jim Philp  952.0509
- Sandy Leek  381.7313  sandy.leek@comcast.net

**Area 5—Northshore**
- Bill Thompson  425.785.7578  thompar4@juno.com
- Lois Cooper  925.5802  loiscooper@harbornet.com

**Area 6—Harbor Ridge**
- Hayes Alexander  952.5142  hayes18@nventure.com
- Jon Higley  569.0145  jondolar2@comcast.net

**Area 7—Upper Browns Point**
- Don Halabisky  927.4968  dhalabisky@nventure.com
- Karen Pischel  927.0656  karpisch@msn.com

**Area 8—Cedar Heights**
- Jim DeJung  927.0719  jfdjung@comcast.net
- Marion Weed  927.1735

**Members at Large**
- Sue Baldwin  927.2351  suzieb@harbornet.com
- John Thurlow  924.0288  johnthurlow@harbornet.com
- Faye Teel

NETNC Executive Committee

Co-Chairs: Carolyn Edmonds, John Thurlow
- Vice-Chair: Jim Philp
- Recording Secretary: Jon Higley
- Corresponding Secretary: Faye Teel
- Treasurer: Karen Pischel

NETNC Representatives to the Community Council of Tacoma
- Hayes Alexander
- John Thurlow
- Marion Weed alt.: Jim Philp

Neighborhood Council Coordination
- Carol Wolfe  591.5384  cwolfe@cityoftacoma.org

City Manager’s Office Liaison to NETNC
- Bradley Forbes  bforbes@cityoftacoma.org  591.5166

Tacoma City Councilmember (District 2)
- Robert Thoms  rthoms@cityoftacoma.org

Constituent services: Ann Chambers, 594-7848, achambers@cityoftacoma.org

Tacoma Police / Fire / Medical

Emergency - crime or threat in progress, fire, medical: 911
Police Non-Emergency: report crimes and suspicious behavior (wait for pickup) ........................... 798.4721 or 2

Tacoma Police—Northeast

Sector Commander: Lieutenant LeRoy Standifer
- lstandifer@cityoftacoma.org  591.5431

Community Liaison Officer: Brandon Showalter  594.7951  brandon.showalter@cityoftacoma.org

Police Substation: 4731 Norpoint Way NE  594.7970
Daily hours are 9am-9pm weekdays, but there are some shifts not filled, so call before visiting. If no one answers, call 911 or the non-emergency number. We hope that full volunteer coverage is resolved soon – join the volunteer cadre: call Jerry Pischel at 594.7970 (leave a message).
NETNC Board Elections Were November 19th

Elections for the 2016-17 terms for Board members were carried out at the November 19th, 2015 community meeting. NETNC’s board is broadly-based, with up to 16 elected members representing eight designated areas in NE Tacoma (map below), and three at-large members (who also represent the nearby Tideflats), totaling 19. Board members serve staggered two-year terms – there were 11 seats open for the 2016-2017 terms.

For the first time in a long time, all 19 Board positions are filled. NETNC thanks the community members who have volunteered to spend a few hours a month to ensure that the community is widely-supported on the Board. The Board members are listed in the contacts on page 4. From NETNC sources

NETNC Board:
Assigned Neighborhood Areas

Area 1: Northwood
Area 2: Stonegate-Centennial
Area 3: NE Tacoma open
Area 4: Crescent Heights
Area 5: Northshore
Area 6: Harbor Ridge
Area 7: Upper Browns Point
Area 8: Cedar Heights
At-Large: also covers adjacent Tideflats
A letter to the NE Tacoma community from the North Shore Golf Course:

At a recent NETNC community and Board meeting, NETNC agreed to become the lead contact for the NE Tacoma community for matters related to the North Shore Golf Course. We were contacted by the current management to forward offer this letter to our list. Councilmember Thoms informs us that there have been discussions with the City, and the City and golf course remain separate on the cost for North Shore to cede any residual development rights.

December 24th, 2015
A follow-up to the letter to the community,

Dear Community,

First and foremost I would like to thank all of the many individuals who have expressed overwhelming support for the North Shore golf course.

While most have supported our efforts, it is also apparent that there is some confusion as to what it is we are attempting to do and exactly what was the purpose of the original “An Open Letter to the Community” which was distributed exclusively to our opt-in email database. I would like to take this opportunity to clear up a few items and I would also like to thank those of you who forwarded and helped share our message.

Our first intention was to be transparent with our neighbors, customers and staff regarding the future of the golf course. There exists the very likely chance that the golf course ownership will be placing the golf course on the market in the coming months without any material change to our existing operational reality. Simply put, golf courses are expensive, capital intensive operations and require a lot of resources to maintain.

If a sale does become a reality I would hope to see the course passed on to a golf operator but even then there are golf operators who acquire golf courses as a “buy and hold” strategy.

Some have brought up the point that they thought the issue of development was already decided which in our understanding is not completely accurate. As I understand the situation, the City controls the future ability to allow development of the golf course property, subject to density and other land use issues. This information was given to me by the former president of the SaveNETacoma group who also let me know their attorney advised them they may have to deal with the issue of development again in the future.

Our second intention was to let the community know what we have done so far in order to solve our dilemma and ask for your support with the political establishment in Tacoma. Currently, there is no restriction to development on the deed to the golf course property. We have offered to sell this restriction to the City.

The potential development of this property and the likelihood of potential legal challenges and the associated legal fees are a very real possibility for all of the parties involved.

The questions I would ask you to consider:

Are you confident going forward, especially as buildable land becomes more and more scarce, that future City Councils will vote to maintain the property as open space?

Are you confident that any future owner of the property would be willing to offer a restriction on the deed to protect against development?

We have also asked the City to advise us as to whether it would be possible to re-design the golf course and offer a small portion of the golf course which abuts 33rd St. NE for sale, in order to raise needed funds to pay off the judgement against us and substantially reduce or eliminate the mortgage on the property. So far we have not heard from the City.

Thirdly, we asked for your help and ideas on how we might go forward given our current situation. I would like to stress, we were not and are not asking for money or handouts as I have heard from some, but were an angel investor to appear, we would certainly engage in a conversation with them.

Fourthly, we wanted to get people thinking about the very long-term future of the golf course. The golf course has been operated by the same families for over 54 years. That’s 54 years of paying our property taxes, purchasing water and power and other utilities from Tacoma, providing jobs and activities for residents and non-residents alike. We’ve been responsible for bringing non-residents to the city, collecting taxes including admission tax from the same out-of-towners that benefit the city and its residents. I have personally watched this community grow up around the golf course, from 2 homes to the multitude that now exist. The golf course has been good for this area and the City of Tacoma. It is our thought to perfect the protection of the golf course as open space and then as we continue to improve the facility, start having the conversation about the transition or succession to the next generation of operators.

As always your thoughts are most appreciated. Most sincerely,

David Wetli, North Shore Golf Course: dawewetli@hotmail.com, 253-927-1375
Northeast Tacoma Neighborhood Council
Treasurer’s Report - December 31, 2015

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<th>Description</th>
<th>Checking Acct</th>
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<th>Budget</th>
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<td>Re-imbursement for CCoT refreshments</td>
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<td><strong>Operations</strong></td>
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School’s Out

SCHOOL-AGE CHILDCARE PROGRAMS AT:
Browns Point Elementary School
Northeast Tacoma Elementary School
Crescent Heights Elementary School

Monday-Friday 6:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. ~ before/after school day

Safe, Quality Program • Reasonable rates (part-time available)
To enroll call Rainey Dhillon at 253-678-9020 or e-mail rainey.schoolsout@gmail.com

MOVING INTO LIFE’S NEXT PHASE?
I CAN HELP.

Ready to downsize? Thinking about a retirement community? These life-style choices can be overwhelming. Please call for a free consultation.

Carolyn Edmonds
SENIOR TRANSITIONS SPECIALIST
(206) 300-9828

Write to netnews98422@hotmail.com

Windermere Real Estate/South Inc.
Join a Great School-Age Childcare Team!

**Position: Site Coordinator**

School's Out Childcare offers an inspiring and engaging *before and after* school learning environment for children. We are onsite at Browns Point Elementary School in Tacoma, WA.

Currently, we are seeking to fill the position of Site Coordinator for our multifaceted learning environment. The Site Coordinator will be employed to manage and develop our before and after school program and curriculum. Duties for this full-time position include but are not limited to meeting the needs of up to 50 children between the ages 5-12, managing 3-6 Program Assistants, developing the schedule of activities, snack planning, working with parents, and working with children with and without special needs. The Site Coordinator will also cover Program Assistant duties when needed.

Site Coordinators must demonstrate the highest levels of professionalism, good judgment, understanding of children's needs, and an enthusiastic and positive approach to working with children. Additionally, they must be able to develop a team of Program Assistants who can work with minimal supervision as well as work well with each other.

**Our curriculum offers:** time and space for homework, team building/work, arts and crafts, given responsibilities, common sense learning values and techniques are used to encourage young curious minds.

School's Out Childcare follows regulations (also known as rules, Washington Administrative Code, WAC) to oversee the center.

**School's Out Childcare hours:**
- **Before** school hours are 6:30am to 9:00am
- **After** school hours are 2:00pm to 6:30pm

Visit our website at: [schoolsoutcc.com](http://schoolsoutcc.com) to learn more about School's Out before and after school childcare and the exciting learning environment we offer and download a job application.

**Compensation:** Hourly pay, sick pay, retirement benefits, and possible bonuses.

**Required:**
- Managerial experience a plus
- 2+years day care experience
- 30 college credit hours in child development
- Age 16 and over
- TB test as required under WAC
- Background check/Finger printing
- Current CPR and first-aid training
- Complete HIV/AIDS and annual blood-borne pathogens training
- Obtain a food handler's card
- The Child Care Basics, STARS training to be completed within 6 months of hire
- Be available Monday–Friday, 6:30am–9:00am and 2:00pm–6:30pm
- Reliable transportation/plan
- Experience a HUGE plus!
NE Tacoma Community Calendar

To help remind everyone of the community and Board committee meetings this year, as well as key community events, we prepared a calendar that we’ll update as dates firm up.

**If you have an event planned that’s open to the broad NE Tacoma community, please let us know, and we’ll include it.**

**NETNC Community Meetings are on 3rd Thursdays at 7pm, TPD NE substation Executive and Planning Committees meetings are on 1st Thursdays at 6:30pm at the substation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January 2016</th>
<th>21</th>
<th>Proposed natural gas to methanol chemical plant open house and program to discuss EIS Scope: 5pm/6:30pm, Greater Tacoma Convention &amp; Trade Center</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Community Meeting, 7pm, TPD NE substation – program: Pierce Transit Route 63 Downtown Express demo early results, plastic bag control, tax return preparation volunteers, Board officer elections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Board Annual Planning Workshop - all welcome: Recap 2015 accomplishments, set 2016 goals, and approve 2016 budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Executive and Planning Committees Meeting – all welcome</td>
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<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Community Meeting: program: NETNC feedback on methanol plant EIS Scope, ER/ITS study results and implementation (tent.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Executive and Planning Committees Meeting – all welcome</td>
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<td></td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Community Meeting: program tbd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further NETNC and NE Tacoma and community events will be posted after the January 2016 Board planning workshop.