



American Society of Civil Engineers

Our web site: <http://sections.asce.org/columbia/index.html>

Columbia Section

Since October 10, 1950

Newsletter

October 2007

Columbia Section Board

Paul Harmsen
President
(509) 374-4248 (B)
pharmsen@mackaysposito.com

Allan Evans
Vice President and President Elect
(509) 735-9149 ext 215 (B)
Allan.Evans@CH2M.com

Jay Marlow
Secretary/Treasure
Phone: (509) 942-7540 (B)
JMarlow@CI.RICHLAND.WA.US

Darral Moore
Past-President
Phone: (509) 783-2144 (B)
dsm@jub.com

Theodore W. Pooler
Yakima Branch President
(509) 966-7000(B)
tpooler@hlacivil.com

Bernard (Ben) W. Volk
Director- TriCities
(509) 783-2144 (B)
bvolk@jub.com

Walla Walla Director - Open

Dave Krumbain
Director-Pendleton/LaGrande
(541) 278-5748
DKRUMBEIN@Bluecc.edu

Yakima Director – Open

Julie Nelson
Newsletter Editor
(509) 546-2044(B)
julie.nelson@hdrinc.com

Historian - Open

Structural Group Chairman - Open

Donald P. Kurkjian
Webmaster
(509) 371-2218(B)
Dkurkjian@yahoo.com

Columbia Section Meeting

Date: October 17th, 2007

Place: Shilo Inn, George Washington Way, Richland

Meal: Buffet (Chef's choice) \$15 per person.
Please pay cash or check to treasurer at the meeting.

Topic: Duportail/Stevens Corridor Project

Speaker: Steve Stairs, Transportation Engineer, City of Richland

Lunch will start at 11:30, and the presentation will begin at 12:00.

RSVP: Paul Harmsen, pharmsen@mackaysposito.com or
509-374-4248 by October 16th, 2007.

President's Remarks:

Dear Members:

This month marks the beginning of the 2007/2008 ASCE Columbia Section fiscal year. As summer winds to a close, the ASCE monthly meetings resume. At our section meeting this month we will be inducting new officers. I will be moving into the past-president position and Jay Marlow will be moving into the Vice President position. Our current Vice President, Allan Evans was to become the section president this year, however, his job will take him out of town for most of the term. Dr. Bill Kinsel, KID Board of Directors and WSU Professor, has been nominated as a candidate to fill the president's position in Allan's absence.

Since a direct appointment of an individual to the president position contrasts the recent history of the Columbia Section policies, the board felt that for the 2007/2008 year, the position of president should be elected by the membership. Additionally, the section will be electing a Secretary/Treasurer at this monthly meeting. Paul Smith, MacKay & Sposito, Inc. has been nominated for the position of Secretary/Treasurer. An official ballot is attached at the end of this newsletter. Write-in votes will be accepted. Please bring your ballot to the Oct. 17th lunch meeting; if you wish to vote and will not be present at the meeting, please mail your ballot to Jay Marlow, P.E., City of Richland, Civil and Utility Engineering, 840 Northgate Drive, Richland, WA 99352.

ASCE Scholarship Update

The ASCE Columbia Section awards two Preston Howard Scholarships annually to engineering students in the Mid-Columbia. This year the section received three applications for the scholarships. Applications are reviewed, by a committee of ASCE Columbia Section volunteers, and evaluated based on needs, leadership and professionalism, scholastic achievement, and community involvement. After careful evaluation, the scholarship committee selected two recipients; these scholarships were awarded in July and the funds were made available to the students for the beginning of this school year. A big thank you is in order for Darral Moore, Travis Marden, Drew Woodruff, and Alex Fazarri for all of their work on the scholarships committee and support of ASCE.

President's Remarks (cont.):

After elections and inductions, we will have Steve Stairs, City of Richland, speaking about the future Duportail Bridge project. This bridge would connect Duportail across the Yakima River to south Richland.

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this month's Columbia Section lunch meeting. I look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

Paul Harmsen, P.E.
Columbia Section, President

TOPIC:

“Duportail/Stevens Corridor Project”

The core area of Richland is bounded by the Yakima and Columbia rivers and SR-240 and I-182. Core Richland can only be accessed from State highways and has four access points via SR-240 and I-182. Many of these access points are congested in the peak hours and have high accident rates. In August 2006, the Richland City Council authorized a study to define an additional corridor that would link the core area of Richland and the downtown to the southern areas of Richland. The City hired a transportation planning consultant, The Transpo Group, and formed an ad hoc committee to guide their work. Through the months that followed, the City developed and evaluated four alternative routes. Several public meetings were held and a final recommendation of the Duportail/Stevens Corridor was presented to Council in February 2007. In May 2007, Council adopted staff's recommendation, along with some specific guidance on sequencing of the different phases. The presentation will describe the steps taken to develop the project; public and evaluation processes; and the path forward to complete the Duportail/Stevens Corridor project.

SPEAKER:

Steve Stairs, P.E.

Transportation Engineer, City of Richland

Steve Stairs was an army kid growing up and traveled throughout the United States and various parts of the world, including Italy, Germany and Panama. After serving three years on Active Duty in the Army from 1985-1988, he attended Washington State University where he earned a Bachelors of Science degree in Civil Engineering in 1993. Upon completion of his degree, he moved to Spokane where he worked for the Spokane County Engineering Department as a Pavement Management Technician and eventually the Pavement Management Engineer for two years. He then moved within the County Engineering Department to lead a newly developed transportation planning section that was responsible for transportation modeling and route studies for County road projects, including the South Valley Arterial project and the County Beltway projects.

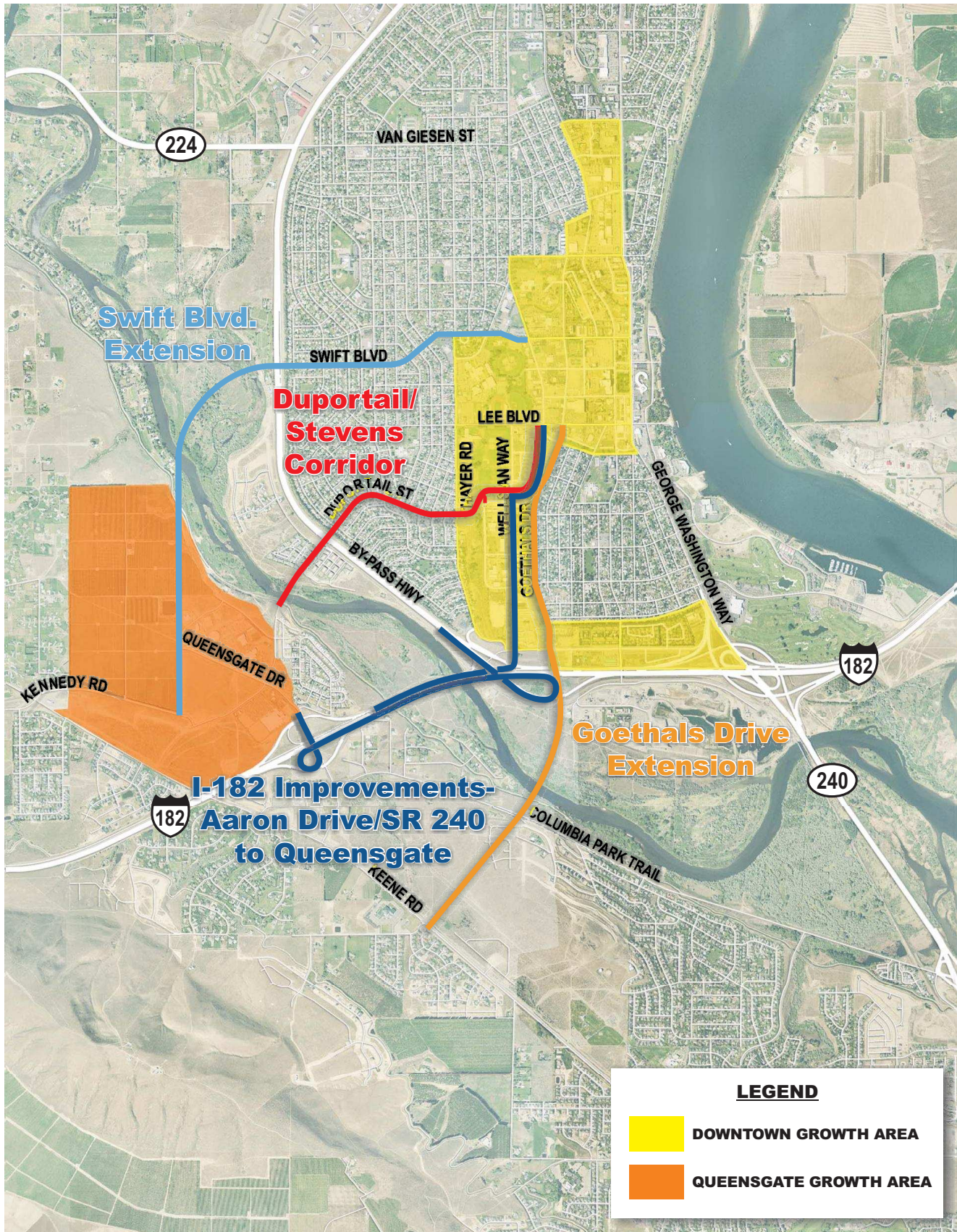
In August 2002, Steve moved to the Tri-Cities to become Richland's Transportation Engineer. In November 2004, he was mobilized to Active Duty for two years, where he was assigned to the 309th Military Intelligence Battalion to expand the Military Intelligence training throughput at Ft. Huachuca, Arizona. He returned to Richland last November. With the reorganization of the Richland Public Works Department, in addition to transportation activities, Steve also manages the Traffic, Surveying, Development Review and Streets Maintenance Divisions within the Department. Steve is married to Belinda, his wife of 13 years. They have two children, 4 year-old twins – a boy, Joshua and girl, Samantha.

Potential Transportation Improvement Projects

City of Richland - Downtown Mobility Study



The
Transpo
Group

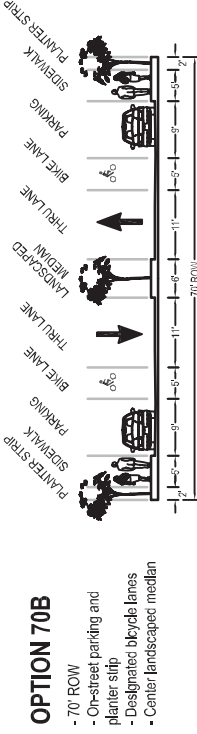
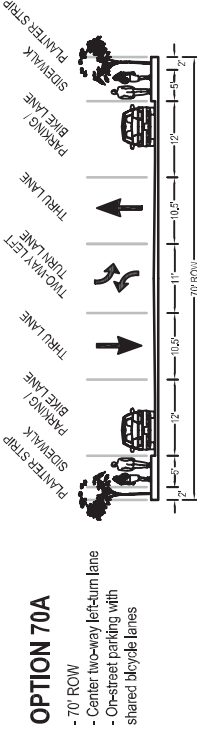
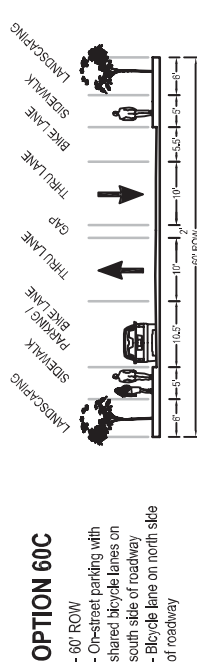
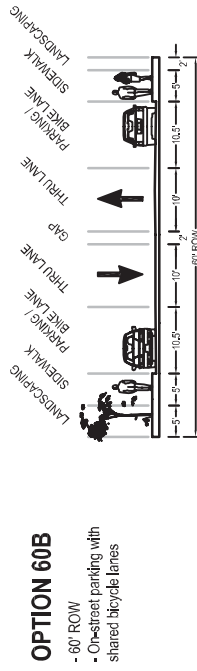
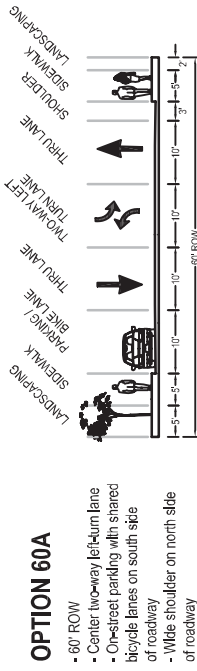


Duportail/Stevens Corridor Improvements Potential Roadway Cross-sections



City of Richland - Downtown Mobility Study

Existing Right-of-Way Widths along Duportail Street



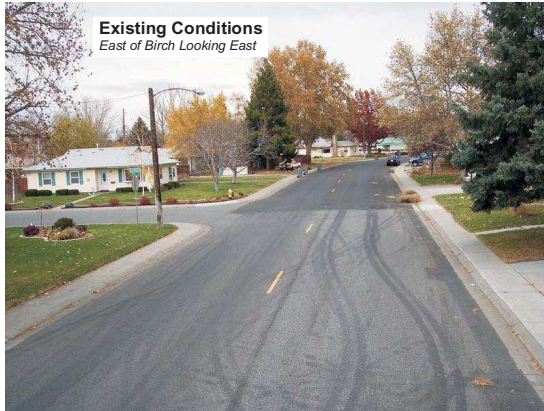
Duportail Street Roadway Visualizations

City of Richland - Downtown Mobility Study



The
Transpo
Group

60' Right-of-Way Options



70' Right-of-Way Options



ASCE Columbia Section

2007 – 2008 Ballot

Office: President (One-year Term)

Nominee: Dr. Bill Kinsel

Write-In: _____

Office: Secretary / Treasurer (One-year Term)

Nominee: Paul Smith

Write-In: _____