

**Spokane PFD Stakeholders Meeting for Convention Center Completion
December 12, 2012
Summary**

Thanks to everyone who participated in our recent combined Convention Center Completion open house and Spokane River shoreline Community Meeting. The December 12th events provided a comprehensive project update and a chance to comment on the overall \$65 million voter approved effort to complete the existing Convention Center, rehabilitate a portion of the Spokane River shoreline and add seats to the Spokane Arena. Your ideas, comments and questions are invaluable as we work to provide you a first-class project.

District CEO Kevin Twohig told the more than 50 people who attended the open house portion of the evening that a number of firms from around the Pacific Northwest are expected to meet the December 21st deadline to submit formal responses to the recently issued *Request for Qualifications*. Twohig says the information contained in the *RFQ's* will be used to select three finalists who will formally compete for the Convention Center and shoreline phases of the project.

The District is using a Design/Build (DB) construction model which will allow the District to sign a contract with a single organization; that firm will be responsible for completing the projects on time and on budget. Board chairman Mick McDowell said that the DB choice will help ensure the public gets the best possible design at the best value.

The open house was immediately followed by a formal Community Meeting which is required in conjunction with the shoreline permitting process. District land use consultant Jim Kolva said that several environmental and regulatory issues will be thoroughly assessed and addressed during this effort and that conditional use permits could be issued sometime during the first quarter of 2013.

Several questions were also asked during the meetings. Those questions and their answers are listed below.

You can also find the latest information, documents and public comment section relating to the Convention Center Completion on the [PFD's website](#).

Convention Center Completion Open House Q&A

Q: Will the Convention Center achieve LEED status when it's completed?

A: *Yes*

Q: Will geotechnical reports covering the building site be available?

A: *Yes*

Q: Will the Design/Build teams be given a list of local vendors available for the project?

A: *Yes*

Q: How far must the building be set back from the shoreline?

A: *75 feet*

Q: Doesn't the shoreline ordinance actually require a 200 foot setback?

A: *No. The ordinance allows a 75 foot setback in the Downtown core.*

Q: Is demolishing the vacant Shenanigans restaurant part of the project?

A: *Yes*

Q: Can the existing the Shenanigans building be retained and used in the overall design?

A: *No. The District feels the additional open space and public access created by removing the vacant building outweighs any potential design aspects.*

Q: Will the Design/Build teams have access to all of the comments, thoughts and ideas being generated for this project?

A: *Yes. All information is available at www.spokanepfd.org/completion/*

Q: When will the actual building parameters be decided?

A: *By the end of December.*

Q: Are there other opportunities to comment on the specific design aspects of the Convention Center itself?

A: *Yes. These would include the City of Spokane's Design Review process, additional stakeholders meetings that are being planned and the comments section on the Convention Center Completion project [website](#). Comments may also be directed to the Design/Build teams when they are announced.*

Q: Will the Centennial Trail remain open during construction?

A: *The District would prefer the trail to remain open. But if that is not possible then a similar route should be created and remain publicly accessible during construction.*

Q: Why isn't a dock part of this project?

A: *The City of Spokane's shoreline ordinance prohibits it.*

Q: Would something such as an elevated, cantilevered observation platform be allowed closer than 75 feet from the shoreline?

A: *Possibly. That is an excellent idea and should be explored.*