

COMMUNITY CONSIDERATE CLEANUP COLLABORATIVE (C3C) Meeting Minutes

Orientation & Planning Meeting #1

Date: May 22, 2025 Time: 2:05–255 PM

Location: Microsoft Teams

Attendees

1. Maryam Tasnif-Abbasi – Brownfield Development Manager (Facilitator)
2. Devin Hutchings – Community and Communications Strategist (Facilitator & Primary Contact)
3. Rana Georges – Project Manager, Technical Lead
4. Vivian Huynh – Office of Environmental Equity, Logistics & Engagement Lead
5. Cheryl Prowell – Assistant Deputy Director
6. Ryan Dominguez – Supervisor, Hazardous Waste Management Plan Unit
7. Kayla Kuhl – Hazardous Waste Management Plan Unit
8. Benjamin Stanphill – Southern California Division Chief
9. Ingrid Brostrom – Board of Environmental Safety
10. Lisa Hanusiak – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Community-Based & Advocacy
11. Aleja Cretcher – Communities for a Better Environment (CBE)
12. Ivana Castellanos – Physicians for Social Responsibility – Los Angeles (PSR-LA)
13. Deja McCauley – Physicians for Social Responsibility – Los Angeles (PSR-LA)
14. Kaya Allan Sugerman – Physicians for Social Responsibility – Los Angeles (PSR-LA)
15. Xavina Walbert – Making Hope Happen Foundation (San Bernardino) Technical Experts & Consultants: Keith Etchells – SCS Engineers
16. Danielle Stevenson – Center for Applied Ecological Remediation
17. Deepa Gandhi – EKI Environment & Water, Inc.
18. Markus Niebanck – Environmental Consultant / Brownfield Navigator
19. Marty Walters – Environmental Risk Consultant, Environmental Bankers Association
20. Sebastian – Environmental Engineer, Center for Creative Land Recycling (CCLR) Local Government:
21. Colette Monell – City of Los Angeles, Brownfields Program
22. Jordan Wooten – LA Sanitation, Brownfields
23. Emma Morris – Siskiyou Economic Development Council

Welcome & Purpose

Maryam Tasnif-Abbasi (DTSC) opened the meeting by welcoming attendees and introducing the C3C as a continuation and evolution of the Treatment Technology Council (TTC). The C3C aims to co-create guidance with community and technical voices on how DTSC approaches cleanup projects, especially those involving excavation and disposal. The intent is to move beyond technical fixes and center community impact, equity, and innovation in cleanup practices. “This is a paradigm shift for us—

acknowledging that dig-and-haul is often used, but we need to do it better, communicate it better, and center real communities in the process.” – Maryam Tasnif-Abbasi

C3C Core Team Introductions

- Devin Hutchings (DTSC) – Primary point of contact, coordinator, and meeting facilitator
- Rana Georges (DTSC) – Technical advisor and experienced project manager
- Vivian Huynh (DTSC) – Lead on logistics and community engagement
- Sebastian (CCLR) – Engineering and technical strategy support
- Maryam Tasnif-Abbasi (DTSC) – Oversight and framing support

Introductions & Themes

Participants were invited to share their name, organization, and why they joined the C3C. Themes that emerged:

- CBE, PSR-LA, and others stressed the need to reduce toxic exposures, promote transparency in voluntary cleanup agreements, and include community voices from the start.
- Environmental consultants and engineers expressed interest in learning from DTSC and each other to implement more thoughtful, community-sensitive cleanups.
- Siskiyou Economic Development Council highlighted the legacy of mill sites and the long-standing need for brownfield reinvestment in rural Northern California.
- Environmental Bankers Association brought attention to how risk management in finance intersects with cleanup timelines and decision-making.

Review of Collaborative Goals

Maryam reviewed the history of the Quick Reference Guide (QRG) on Community Considerate Cleanups—developed during the TTC—and how this collaborative will expand on that work through a series of thematic meetings.

Interactive Logistics Poll via Canva Whiteboard Facilitated by Devin Hutchings, participants provided input on logistics:

Preferred Meeting Format

- Hybrid: 7
- Online-only: 2
- In-person-only: 0
- Participants supported a hybrid model with rotating in-person hubs (e.g., Sacramento, Berkeley, Cypress, LA, and Siskiyou County).

Meeting Duration Preference

- Responses ranged from 60 to 180 minutes.
- Consensus: Begin with 110-minute meetings and adjust based on topic depth.

Topics Proposed for June Meeting (Community & Equity Focus)

- Impacts of excavation/disposal on communities
- Voluntary cleanup agreements and access issues (CBE)
- Case studies to ground the discussion (requested by Marty Walters)
- Plain language in public-facing communications
- Who makes decisions and what tools communities need to engage

Next Steps For DTSC / Core Team:

- Send calendar invitations for 110-minute meetings (hybrid format)
- Follow up with Aleja on voluntary agreement background materials
- Invite participants to propose case studies
- Update the meeting roadmap based on whiteboard and transcript themes
- Upload materials and maintain C3C website

For Participants:

- Indicate if attending in person and suggest preferred locations
- Suggest case studies or community stories for Meeting #2
- Continue adding insights to the whiteboard through the end of the week

Closing Reflections

- Ben Stanphill and Cheryl Prowell closed by thanking participants for their time and contributions, underscoring the value of collaboration across sectors and the importance of earning and honoring community trust.
- “Hearing from the communities we serve—how we can do our jobs better—is so important.” – Cheryl Prowell