

Oak Ridge Priorities that Relate to DOE Environmental Management

April 29, 2015

I want to thank Sue Cange and the Department of Energy for organizing this workshop and for the opportunity to make a few comments. As the host community, it is important that Oak Ridge communicate its goals and interests to DOE and their stakeholders in the Environment Management program. Since a majority of you are not residents of Oak Ridge, you should also understand that the seven members of city council are elected city-wide; Not From Individual Districts. This means that every member, including myself, will have a city-wide view of what is in our city's best interest and will be an advocate for it.

Over the past decade, the City has invested significant resources in infrastructure and services to help leverage DOE and others' investment in the reindustrialization program. As evidenced by the recent CVMR announcement, these investments are paying off, and we want to continue our progress.

In January of this year, the Oak Ridge City Council unanimously adopted our 2015 Legislative Agenda, which includes support to finish the cleanup of the Oak Ridge Reservation.

In our legislative agenda, we urge DOE and OMB to request funding at levels needed to complete timely cleanup of the Oak Ridge Reservation.

In addition, we urge that cleanup solutions should minimize risk to Oak Ridge and avoid long-term institutional controls that have the potential to negatively impact our community.

As DOE prepares its FY17 budget request, two projects are of particular importance due to their time sensitive nature:

Oak Ridge General Aviation Airport

- Significant progress has been made as planning and approvals proceed for the general aviation airport to be located at the East Tennessee Technology Park.
- The proposed airport will be a major asset to the community and supports DOE's and the City's common goals of reindustrialization and land transfer.
- Therefore, we urge DOE to accelerate demolition of the two centrifuge buildings located next to the proposed airport runway. The removal of these buildings will facilitate federal review of plans for the airport.

Historic Preservation

- The DOE has a commitment under the National Historical Preservation Act to interpret the history of the former K-25 facility and site.
- With planning for the new Manhattan National Historical Park underway, it is important to move forward quickly with preservation activities that will support the new Park and promote visitation.
- Therefore, we urge DOE to accelerate the renovation of the Oak Ridge Fire Station at ETPP, which will incorporate the K-25 History Center. Moving forward on this project also enhances public and worker safety in the City's west end. City firefighters have been working out of portable buildings for eight years, and the history center renovation also helps us achieve the goal of moving our firefighters into the firehouse.

In closing, let me suggest that of all the DOE programs in our community, EM is the one in which we all have a common interest. We must communicate and understand each other's challenges and points

of view and support one another in order to complete the clean-up of the Oak Ridge reservation. Thank you.