



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Public Health Laboratories

1610 NE 150th Street • Shoreline, Washington 98155-9701

**Risk and Safety Assessment - Community Involvement Program
May-October 2008**

Overview

The Public Health Laboratory, located in the City of Shoreline, is embarking on a risk and safety assessment. This assessment will be conducted by an independent firm with specialized expertise in performing this type of an evaluation. Although the Laboratory is inspected and certified every year by a number of local and federal agencies and organizations, this assessment process provides a unique opportunity for the greater Shoreline community to learn more about the Laboratory and its operations.

Components of the risk and safety assessment will include:

1. An analysis of the materials used and the types of tests performed at the Laboratory and a look at the physical features of the building as they pertain to safety.
2. An evaluation and series of recommendations related to the day-to-day operations of the Laboratory, including procedures and safety protocols adhered to by Laboratory professionals.
3. An evaluation and series of recommendations related to emergency procedures in place at the Laboratory. This will include an evaluation of the types of procedures that would be used internally at the Laboratory during an emergency, as well as an evaluation of those procedures that would be used in the case of a wider emergency affecting the surrounding area.

The risk and safety assessment will begin in June, and is anticipated to be complete by September 2008.

Community Stakeholder Group

The Department of Health is forming a community stakeholder group to participate in the risk and safety assessment process. The group will meet approximately five times between May and October 2008, and will be guided by a neutral facilitator. The stakeholder group will be made up of representatives from neighborhood associations, area schools, the Shoreline Emergency Management Council, and the City's Fire and Police Departments.

The stakeholder group will be asked to perform the following tasks:

1. Review and comment on the consultant scope of work for the risk and safety assessment.
2. Participate in the interviews used to select the consultant team.
3. Meet with the consultant once the assessment has been completed.
4. Advise the Department of Health on the best way to inform the greater community about the risk assessment process.

The first meeting of the stakeholder group will be held on Tuesday, May 20, at a time most convenient to the participants; likely to be late afternoon-early evening.

Community Outreach and Involvement

In addition to the community stakeholder group, the Laboratory will keep the broader community informed throughout the risk assessment process. This outreach program will include community meetings, printed fact sheets, website updates, and briefings to any interested individuals and groups.