

## MEDIA ADVISORY

For immediate release | April 16, 2013  
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### Woodland Park Zoo Society elephant task force

**WHAT:** The board of Woodland Park Zoo has appointed a panel of community leaders to evaluate the zoo's elephant program and exhibit, the health and care of its three elephants, and the value of the zoo's program to the zoo's education and conservation objectives.

The task force is co-chaired by Jan Hendrickson, co-founder of Denny Hill Capital and a former WPZ board chair, and Jay Manning, an environmental attorney and former chief of staff to Gov. Christine Gregoire.

**WHEN:** The first meeting of the task force will be Thursday, April 18, 4:00-7:00 p.m. The meeting, and subsequent meetings, will be open to the public. Written comments from the public will be accepted and made part of the record; there will not be a public hearing. The meetings also will be videotaped and posted on the task force website.

**WHERE:** Seattle Public Library □ Central (downtown) branch  
Washington Mutual Foundation Room (Level 4, Meeting Room 1)  
1000 - 4<sup>th</sup> Ave.

**WHO:** Members of the task force, in addition to Hendrickson and Manning, include: Marianne Bichsel, founder and president of Bichsel Public Affairs and former senior advisor to Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels.

Grant Degginger, chair of the Construction and Environmental Practice Group at Lane Powell PC in Seattle and former Bellevue mayor and city council member.

Gene Duvernoy, president of Forterra, a regional organization dedicated to land conservation.

Ellen Ferguson, director of community relations at the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture.

Annette Laico, executive director of the Progressive Animal Welfare Society (PAWS).

Jeff Leppo, a law partner in the Seattle office of Stoel Rives LLP, specializing in environmental, wildlife and natural resources law, and related complex litigation.

Rob Liddell, M.D., medical director for Center for Diagnostic Imaging Seattle, and founding member of Woodland Park Zoo's Conservation Committee.

Jeannie Nordstrom, community volunteer and YWCA board member  
Bryce Seidl, president and CEO of the Pacific Science Center.

Andrew Shouse, Ph.D., associate director of the University of Washington Institute for Science and Math Education.

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Lyn Tangen, former Senior Director, Corporate Communications, for Vulcan Inc., and legal advisor to Mayor Paul Schell.

Suzanne Walsh, senior program officer in education at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Bryan Slinker, D.V.M. Ph.D., dean of the college of veterinary medicine at Washington State University.

Bichsel, Leppo, Liddell and Slinker are members of Woodland Park Zoo's board of directors.

The task force is expected to name a separate panel of experts to focus on the health and care of Woodland Park Zoo's elephants. Slinker will head that panel.

More complete biographical information on the task force members and other materials will be available Thursday on the task force website:  
[www.elephanttaskforce.org](http://www.elephanttaskforce.org)

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