

This summary is provided as a resource for committee members and the public to have brief highlights following SEC meetings. In addition to this summary, detailed meeting minutes, question and answer documents and full meeting video will be available on the [dcdca.org](http://dcdca.org) website.

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The ninth meeting of the Stakeholder Engagement Committee (SEC) was held remotely via video conference on June 24:

- DCA legal counsel provided a Ralph M. Brown Act refresher.
- The DCA team presented information about Delta-wide soil management and transportation logistics, provided updates on the siting concepts that have been adjusted based on feedback from SEC members and other stakeholders, and provided updates on the development of a virtual tour of the proposed project corridors.
- DWR provided an update on their Tribal engagement process and explained the Section 404 permit application submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

*The meeting video, agenda, presentation and supplemental materials are available for review on the [dcdca.org](http://dcdca.org) website.*

## MEETING OVERVIEW

- **Brown Act Refresher & Update:** DCA Legal Counsel Josh Nelson reminded members about basic Brown Act requirements governing public bodies, such as the SEC. Adjustments to the Brown Act as a result of "Stay at Home" mandates and best practices for virtual meetings were also reviewed.
- **DWR Updates**
  - ◆ DWR Environmental Manager Carolyn Buckman updated the SEC on DWR's environmental process and noted that she anticipates releasing the Draft Scoping Report during the summer.
  - ◆ Ms. Buckman also noted that DWR has submitted the [application](#) for the Section 404 permit for a proposed Delta Conveyance project. Submittal of this application formally engages the USACE regulatory team and will allow federal regulatory agencies to identify the lead for the National Environmental Policy Act compliance. No permit will be issued until environmental processes are complete.
  - ◆ The application's project description could only include one alignment, and DWR included the Eastern Corridor for this application. It is important to note that the project description should not be construed as a decision by DWR regarding a preferred alignment; no decision will be made until after the environmental process is complete.
- **Soil Transportation and Management:** DCA Levee and Forebays Lead Graham Bradner gave an [overview](#) of soil conditions, testing, drying, potential uses, and preliminary estimates for anticipated quantities. The conceptual plans for transporting soil to and/or from project sites were also shared for SEC feedback.
- **DCA Conceptual Plans Modified Based on SEC Feedback:** DCA Engineering Manager Phil Ryan provided [updates](#) on eight major changes in siting the proposed project in response to feedback from the SEC and their associated stakeholders and outlined the benefits of those modifications.
  - ◆ The siting has been shifted for the proposed Glanville Shaft onto the proposed Twin Cities site, eliminating all construction activities associated with that shaft, eliminating the need for a new I-5 bridge and condensing construction logistics with all tunneling operations on a single site.
  - ◆ The DCA engineering team streamlined construction logistics for the proposed Intakes, minimizing construction within Stone Lakes Refuge boundary, eliminating the needs for a Hood Franklin Road expansion, eliminating a new interchange on I-5 at Lambert Rd, and utilizing routes with less existing traffic.
  - ◆ Based on SEC feedback, current plans eliminate a Barge Landing on Bouldin Island.
  - ◆ The team is proposing to widen Hwy 12 to four lanes and expand Potato Slough Bridge, providing a permanent infrastructure asset for the region.
  - ◆ The team is proposing shifting Brack Tract Maintenance Shaft north to Canal Ranch Tract, farther away from Woodridge Ecological Reserve, with easier access to I-5.
  - ◆ The DCA proposes eliminating the Barge Landing at Lower Roberts, which would eliminate aquatic and terrestrial effects of barge construction along the San Joaquin River and reduces construction impacts on the island.
  - ◆ Engineers are also proposing shifting the Southern Complex Launch Shaft to the north, eliminating the Byron Tract Shaft on the Central Alignment, reducing truck traffic on Hwy 4 and eliminating construction truck traffic on Victoria Island bridges.
  - ◆ All changes straightened the proposed alignments, in some cases decreasing the total amount of tunneling that would be needed, potentially decreasing construction time and effects.
- **DWR Update on Tribal Engagement**
  - ◆ DWR Tribal Policy Advisor Anecita Agustinez provided an overview of DWR's Tribal consultation process and the status of Tribal engagement on Delta Conveyance. She provided links to the laws governing the process of consultation and discussed Assembly Bill 52, the CEQA Amendment and its applicability to Tribal consultation. She explained the changes to these processes due to COVID-related Executive Orders, and provided a review of the Tribes currently engaged in the consultation process regarding the proposed project. Ms. Agustinez noted that formal government to government consultation is meant to ensure confidentiality of information sharing and AB52 consultation ensures the protection of Tribal Cultural Resources unique to each Tribe. She emphasized that consultation meetings are currently being conducted, including providing technical and advisory assistance to a Tribal Engagement Committee. In addition, DWR is continuing to schedule quarterly regional update meetings throughout the State. The information gathered through these meetings is being integrated into DWR's environmental process as appropriate.

## NEXT MEETING

### DATE\*:

July 22, 2020

### TIME:

3-6 p.m.

### LOCATION:

RingCentral Video Conference; info TBD

### POSSIBLE MEETING TOPICS:

- Scoping Update (DWR)
- Rehabilitation of construction impacted land
- Final temporary and permanent boundaries
- Intakes Update

*\* DCA will comply with public health recommendations regarding public meetings and social distancing efforts. Any meeting changes or cancellations will be communicated to members.*

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

**David Gloski**

*At Large - Contra Costa*

**Douglas Hsia**

*At Large - Sacramento*

**Gilbert Cosio**

*Ex-Officio*

**Isabella Gonzalez Potter**

*Environment NGO - Aquatic*

**Jim Cox**

*Sports Fishing*

**Jesus Tarango**

*Tribal Government Representative (Alternate)*

**James (Jim) Wallace**

*Delta History/Heritage*

**Karen Mann**

*South Delta Local Business*

**Lindsey Liebig**

*Agriculture*

**Mel Lytle, Ph.D.**

*Delta Water District*

**Michael Moran**

*Ex-Officio*

**Malissa Tayaba**

*Tribal Government Representative*

**Peter Robertson**

*Recreation*

**Phillip Merlo**

*At large - San Joaquin*

**Sean Wirth**

*Environmental NGO - Terrestrial*

**Mike Hardesty**

*At large - Solano*

## MEETING OVERVIEW (continued)

- **Next SEC Report to Board:** The SEC were asked to volunteer up to four SEC members to provide an SEC report to the DCA Board of Directors at their July meeting.
- **Tracking Packet:** The cumulative tracking packet, capturing questions and comments submitted by SEC members, is also on the [website](#); sortable Excel versions of the documents are available as well.

## COMMITTEE FEEDBACK:

- Mr. Hsia said the "Soils/RTM" presentation seemed to alleviate the earlier SEC concerns about soil excess and usability, but various SEC members expressed persisting doubts about soil quality and the potential effects of soil conditioners.
- Ms. Giacoma requested information about the composition of the soil conditioners that will be used. The question has been addressed in the Q&A matrix (ID#4.78) in the following manner:

*Many different types and brands of conditioners are used in tunneling based upon soil conditions present along the alignment. Conditioners are generally categorized as foams, polymers and bentonites. On recent projects, DCA consultants have observed the use of Soilax S surfactants (i.e. detergents), available from the manufacturer Boraid Products, mixed with clean water as a foaming conditioner. Sometimes, a cellulose product, like Soilax C, is added into the conditioner mix to provide added strength to the soap bubbles, which helps when the conditioner is injected into certain soil formations. Thickening agents, such as polymers and a bentonite (a naturally occurring clay), are also used for different soil conditions. These*

*include such products available from Mapei Products. These are just examples of some products that could be used. The construction specifications would require any conditioners to be inert (chemically inactive).*

- Dr. Lytle said that the South Delta Agencies RD's are planning a large project that may produce additional dredge materials that might be utilized in case there is a shortfall of RTM for the proposed project.
- Mr. Gloski thanked the DCA team for removal of the proposed barge landing in The Bedrooms and for the changes to Highway 4.
- Mr. Moran said regular updates from DCA on how SEC feedback is incorporated is helpful.
- Mr. Wallace said the change to Glanville Shaft site creates a second crossing of the I-5 that needs to be more carefully coordinated with the transportation agencies in that area.
- Ms. Barrigan-Parrilla said the work to modify the proposed alignments is appreciated and said it should be further assessed to determine whether the shift creates new or bigger environmental concerns.
- Mr. Wirth said he will further evaluate

the new proposed positioning of the Glanville Shaft to determine how it might affect efforts to increase the continuity of the Greater Sandhill Cranes in the area.

- Ms. Swenson suggested a targeted stakeholder presentation for the community of Hood, which has limited WiFi access, to help community members better understand the project.
- Mr. Robertson asked for an analysis of the existing infrastructure of bridges and ferries and also mentioned the importance of notifying and coordinating with the Coast Guard in order to provide waterway navigation notices to mariners.
- Ms. Tayaba reported continued concern by Tribes in the region, noting that cultural resources are in danger of being destroyed by the proposed infrastructure. She added that the Tribal Engagement Committee meeting with DWR this week went well. Tribes would like DWR to provide regular updates to the SEC and for DCA to provide engineering presentations directly to tribes, also requesting printed materials for distribution to Tribal representatives. Ms. Parvizi offered to coordinate presentations and materials with Ms. Tayaba as often and as much as needed.

## NEXT STEPS

- DWR will notify SEC members if there are any changes to the NEPA public engagement process as a result of federal Executive Orders.
- DCA will provide as much info as possible on chemicals commonly used in soil conditioners. DCA will re-issue the Material Data Safety Sheets in an updated version of the Tracking Packet and upload it to the website for SEC 9 Meeting Materials at [https://www.dcdca.org/June\\_24\\_2020\\_StakeholderEngagementMeeting.htm](https://www.dcdca.org/June_24_2020_StakeholderEngagementMeeting.htm).
- DCA will update the PDF version of the presentation to address omitted text due to formatting on Item 2 of the SEC Updates section presented by Mr. Ryan.
- DCA will evaluate the two proposed crossings of the I-5 near the Glanville Shaft mentioned by Mr. Wallace and will provide further information at a subsequent SEC meeting.
- Traffic Consultant Don Hubbard will connect with Ms. Barrigan-Parrilla for further information about specific traffic effects in particular areas represented by her organization that want to ensure proper mitigation and funding offset any anticipated effects.
- DCA will be providing updated map books to reflect the changes discussed in this meeting.
- Ms. Parvizi will provide links to the June DCA Board Meeting video and minutes so the SEC can review the SEC member reports to the DCA Board.
- DCA will coordinate with Ms. Swenson, Mr. Hsia and Ms. Whaley to provide more information to stakeholders in Hood about the proposed project.
- Ms. Parvizi will connect with Ms. Tayaba to coordinate presentations and materials to tribes as needed.

### SEC Informational Tours

- Virtual tour will be done in next two weeks. It has been delayed due to the updates to the proposed conceptual alignments to reflect SEC member input.
- The SEC-member T-screen factory tour is tentatively scheduled for the morning of July 16. SEC members are asked to respond to Ms. Parvizi with their availability. If needed, a second meeting date will be identified to avoid a quorum. The in-person tour will be outdoors to ensure safety & social distancing. Members will need to transport themselves to the facility.

## SEC AD-HOC COMMITTEE

Up to four different SEC members are invited each month to present to the DCA Board of Directors about the SEC process. Mr. Gloski volunteered to serve on the ad-hoc committee that will present at the July DCA Board Meeting. Ms. Whaley was also invited to serve and will let DCA know if she is available. Additional members interested should contact [nazliparvizi@dcdca.org](mailto:nazliparvizi@dcdca.org).

