

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 OVERVIEW

The 11th meeting of the Stakeholder Engagement Committee (SEC) was held via video conference on August 26. The meeting video, agenda, presentation and supplemental materials are available for review on the [dcdca.org](http://dcdca.org) website.

### SEC Member Open Forum- Reflection on Status

Members were asked to share comments about their SEC work, indicate if they'd like a review of information previously discussed in SEC meetings, share recommendations for outreach activities, and recommend topics for future SEC meetings.

- ◆ Ms. Mallon, DCA Executive Director, thanked SEC members for their time and dedication to the process, reviewed the changes made with SEC feedback and outlined what is left to discuss with the SEC.
- ◆ Mr. Cox indicated he cares most about Clifton Court, and he has been told it is not within the scope of this committee, which is frustrating. Ms. Buckman clarified that the Clifton Forebay is not a part of the Proposed Delta Conveyance Project and therefore it is not a topic the DCA, therefore the SEC, can address.
- ◆ Mr. Robertson said he has been presenting to small groups of boaters due to the issues surrounding the gathering of large groups. The map books and thumb drives have been very helpful. Most questions continue to be about the interruption of vessel traffic, especially given some current operational challenges of Delta bridges. Stakeholders would also like to know if there will be a system of communication established to notify boaters about construction activity dates and times. Mr. Ryan said the intake construction and operation requires a Coast Guard permit and coordination through the US Coast Guard is expected. Also, he expects that there will also be public information websites established to help inform the public of where active work is taking place.
- ◆ Ms. Gonzalez-Potter indicated that she and her colleagues at The Nature Conservancy would like DCA to give presentations to The Nature Conservancy and related organizations.
- ◆ Mr. Wirth would like to talk more about refining the usage of the haul roads to the intakes. Also, a regional approach to mitigations is appropriate and would be very useful. DWR's alternatives presentation about the filters used to eliminate alternatives was unsatisfactory and not to the technical level of information typically provided to the SEC.
- ◆ Ms. Swenson said there are still questions about tunneling beneath the Sandhill Cranes roosting sites, impacts on the communities such as Hood, noise impacts and mitigations, and impacts on Twin Cities' recreational boating and farming traffic. Farming stakeholders to whom she has spoken do not concur with the initial plans for land restoration.
- ◆ Mr. Gloski said he would like to hear more about benefits of the project. He was surprised that there were no line items for benefits in the budget that recently came out and is concerned the community benefits issue will never be addressed. An Opportunity Matrix would be helpful to see who is putting something into the process and what they are getting out of the process. The Delta residents need to know how they are benefiting and start asking for what they want out of the project.
- ◆ Mr. Wallace concurred. He said he appreciates the engineering design details that have been shared. There is an opportunity to identify a process to address community benefits. The SEC and DCA should take the lead to establish a way a Community Benefits Analysis could be reached.
- ◆ Ms. Barrigan-Parrilla said she is concerned about the rationale for DWR dismissing a no-tunnel alternative; not enough information was provided. Water quality is still a major issue that should be proactively addressed in order to build the good faith in the community required to justify further input into the proposed project. The problem with the whole process is that DWR has key information that has not been provided to SEC members. There are also concerns about air quality around the Port of Stockton. Are there updates? Ms. Mallon responded that port-related traffic will be better known once it is determined who the contractors are, where they are located and the routes they will use for transporting materials.
- ◆ Ms. Liebig said it is a struggle to get information out to people. In the past month, she has worked directly with landowners whose properties are depicted in the map book. The agricultural community still needs more information about overall impacts, especially regarding impacts outside of the actual project footprint. The community is still not convinced about the tunnel muck, how and where it can be used and whether it will contaminate other areas. SEC members have received a lot of pushback for participating in the project design conversations. It has been very difficult to keep discussions within the scope of the SEC. It's also hard to talk about current alternatives when other alternatives have been dismissed.

## NEXT MEETING

**DATE\*:**

September 23, 2020

**TIME:**

3-6 p.m.

**LOCATION:**

RingCentral Video  
Conference; info TBD

**POSSIBLE MEETING TOPICS:**

- Bethany Alternatives Updates
- TBD

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

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Anna Swenson

*At Large - Yolo*

Angelica Whaley

*North Delta Local Business*

Barbara Barrigan Parrilla

*Environmental Justice*

Cecille Giacomia

*Public Safety*

David Gloski

*At Large - Contra Costa*

Douglas Hsia

*At Large - Sacramento*

Gilbert Cosio

*Ex-Officio*

Isabella Gonzalez Potter

*Environment NGO - Aquatic*

Jim Cox

*SportsFishing*

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*

## SEC Member Open Forum- Reflection on Status continued...

- ◆ Mrs. Hsia said he has appreciated being a part of the process because it provides an opportunity for dialogue. From the perspective of legacy communities such as Locke, their fate is tied to the well-being of the entire Delta. He encouraged the DCA and DWR to be mindful of the impacts to communities.
- ◆ Mr. Moran said the major concern is maintaining Delta character, and it has been a good experience to see the reflection of SEC feedback in DCA's plans. What is most important to stakeholders is how this project will affect the whole Delta after it has been completed. Community benefits that may require engineering fixes could perhaps be discussed in this committee. This has been a heartening step, one in a multi-step process.
- ◆ Mr. Hardesty said it is challenging to get an audience in Solano County about the design and placement of the project without talking about community benefits and anticipated impacts. This community also wants to discuss water quality, alterations in flow north and south of Rio Vista, water surface elevations and farmers' ability to continue water siphoning.
- ◆ Mr. Gloski would like to know about a taskforce regarding harmful algal blooms (HABs). Ms. Buckman said the State Water Resources Control Board is devoted to discussing HABs.
- ◆ Mr. Lytle said it would be productive to develop a condensed presentation that could be circulated by SEC members to local stakeholders. Ms. Parvizi said if there are suggestions for condensed presentations, please contact her with specific requests as the information interests vary by group.
- ◆ Mr. Cosio said the alternatives screening criteria presented at the July SEC meeting were subjective and he would like to see more data. Maintenance Area 9 is at the intakes contains some of the weakest levees of the North Delta; he had experience with soil so sandy that it was impossible to get compaction. The North Delta Water Agency has a contract to oversee water quality that may be affected by the project; there should be coordination to further discuss.
- ◆ Ms. Tayaba said tribes have still been meeting with DCA and DWR to receive presentations. The next virtual statewide meeting is scheduled for September 16 and there is also an annual Delta Conveyance meeting scheduled for September 27 that DCA and DWR will attend. In the last meeting, tribes asked about impacts to plants, fish and water quality. The tribes are still asking about the no-project alternative and the anticipated impacts to Stones Lake Wildlife Refuge. It is difficult to share materials with tribal members in a timely manner when they are not receiving the presentations the week before the SEC meeting. Ms. Parvizi said DCA is providing printed materials to all tribes who request them, and is providing the presentations as soon as they are ready for public discussion, which is often right before the SEC meetings.

## DWR General Update

- The United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) released a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and information is available on their [website](#).
- Soil investigation work is beginning on publicly owned lands this fall. Just as an FYI, there are soil investigations already being done that were approved under a previous process.
- The USACE process timeline considerations are reflected in some changes seen in DWR's updated project schedule.
- Ms. Mallon said DCA plans to have the conceptual project engineering reports for the Central, Eastern and Bethany Alternative Alignments to DWR in February 2021.

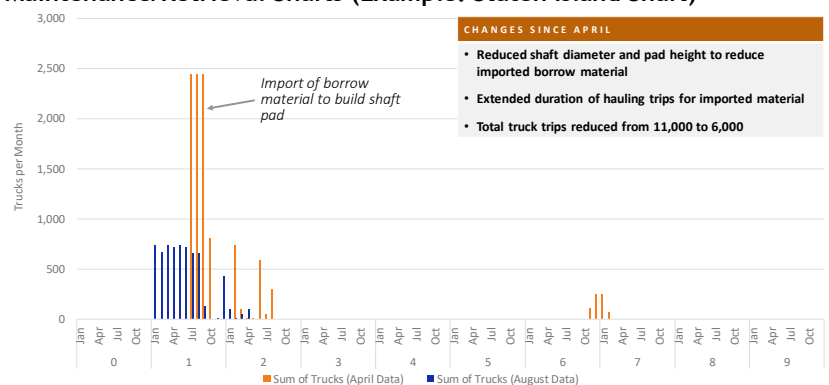
## Intake Refinements

- Mr. Ryan, DCA Engineering Manager, presented information about changes to the proposed intake sites.
- Intake 2 would only be utilized if DCA selects the 7,500 cfs capacity option for the proposed project. Intake 5 would be included in all options.
- The sedimentation basin was revised from what was shown to the SEC in January. The benefit of the redesign eliminates thousands of truck trips along Stone Lakes and reduces the overall impacts to the refuge.
- Piledriving at the intake sites has been reduced to only about 10-20% of the previously required effort through the redesign of the intake coffer dam walls, significantly reducing noise and the duration of that noise.
- The overall schedule of construction has been reduced by 6 months as a result of design changes to the structure.

## Traffic Reductions

- Further traffic reductions have been made to various sites throughout both Alignment options.
- Examples included reducing transport of borrow material to build shaft pads at each of the shaft sites.
- Reductions of traffic on Hwy 4 by reducing borrow material transport and eliminating sites.
- Reductions in traffic on Byron Hwy by building bridge across the highway to transport material from south to north and shifting more materials to rail.

## Maintenance/Retrieval Shafts (Example: Staten Island Shaft)



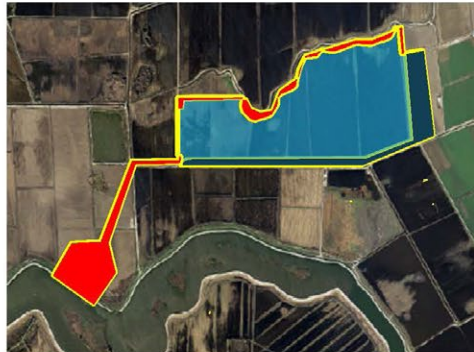
## Made great progress....

- Reduced site footprints throughout
- Maximized reclamation of impacted agricultural land
- Shifted facilities away from natural areas including Stone Lakes and Woodbridge Reserves
- Eliminated barging and associated affects to recreational boating
- Reduced traffic along Hwy 4 by eliminating structures
- Reduced traffic along Byron Hwy by adding infrastructure and shifting material to rail
- Reduced borrow requirements to reduce traffic loads
- Added rail and expanded roads to maintain acceptable levels of service

*Moved shaft one mile from Woodbridge Reserve Boundary to Canal Ranch Maintenance Shaft Site*



*Eliminated the Barge Landing at Bouldin Island Launch Shaft Site*



Disclaimer: These pages are for Stakeholder Engagement Committee discussion. Locations are shown for conceptual, preliminary purposes only. Final decision about the project will be made by DWR and will NOT be made until concluding stages of the CEQA process. DWR and DCA have NOT begun real property acquisition, and DWR will follow state law for land acquisition if a site become part of an approved project, including procedures for property owner notification and outreach.

AUGUST 26, 2020

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## Bethany Alternative

- Mr. Ryan provided an overview of the Bethany Alternative, which is still in preliminary development.
- The key benefits of the Bethany Alternative are the elimination of the balancing reservoir and ability for the State to more easily take Banks Pump Station or Clifton Court forebay temporarily out of service for maintenance or repair.
- The key challenges of the Bethany Alternative are navigating the pipelines around conservation easements, managing a reduced need for RTM and, at this point, having little geotechnical information available.

## NEXT STEPS

- Ms. Mallon said DCA will develop a map of area waterways noting areas of noticeable anticipated affects to boaters.
- Ms. Parvizi will work with the SEC to identify representatives to report out on SEC activities to the DCA Board of Directors at their September meeting.
- Ms. Mallon said DCA can work with Ms. Gonzalez-Potter to arrange presentations to The Nature Conservancy about the proposed Staten Island Shaft construction activities and schedule.
- Ms. Mallon said the histograms for traffic on each site are currently in development and will be made available within the next 2 weeks.
- Ms. Buckman will connect with Ms. Barrigan-Parrilla for further discussions about the existing water quality issues and the appropriate avenues for addressing them.
- Ms. Parvizi will reach out to Ms. Liebig to further discuss addressing property owners whose land appears in the map book for the proposed project footprint, even though it is very early in the process and no decisions have been made yet.
- The DCA team will explore how to develop condensed presentations that can be hosted on the [dcdca.org](https://www.dcdca.org) website. The DCA team will explore how to develop condensed presentations that can be hosted on the [dcdca.org](https://www.dcdca.org) website.

## VIRTUAL TOURS NOW AVAILABLE

- [Virtual Tour](https://www.dcdca.org/August_26_2020_StakeholderEngagementMeeting.htm) video links are now available on the website at [https://www.dcdca.org/August\\_26\\_2020\\_StakeholderEngagementMeeting.htm](https://www.dcdca.org/August_26_2020_StakeholderEngagementMeeting.htm).
- A video of the SEC's T-screens facility tour is being developed and will be made available for SEC members to share with stakeholders.



## 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. SEC members interested in presenting at the September Board of Directors meeting should contact [nazliparvizi@dcdca.org](mailto:nazliparvizi@dcdca.org).