

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 website.

MEETING OVERVIEW

The seventh meeting of the Stakeholder Engagement Committee (SEC) was held remotely via video conference on April 22:

- The SEC discussed how to move forward with committee work and community outreach in light of the Governor's and counties' Stay at Home orders due to the novel coronavirus.
- DCA highlighted how feedback from the SEC has been incorporated into some of the siting concepts that were presented at the last meeting.
- The engineering team presented information about the Southern Delta Complex, what features it would contain, how much space would be required and approximately how much construction traffic would be generated in the area.
- SEC members agreed to develop a process where they would provide presentations to the DCA Board regarding the SEC process and results thus far.

The meeting video, agenda, presentation and supplemental materials are available for review on the dcdca.org website.

HIGHLIGHTS TO SHARE



- **Adjustments to Proposed Project in Response to SEC Comments:** DCA staff outlined adjustments to conceptual plans that were a direct result of SEC feedback. Examples included refined traffic routes between intakes from I-5 and adjustments to the placement of the proposed Staten Island Maintenance Shaft, a result of coordination between Mr. Wirth and DCA staff in consideration of the Greater Sandhill Crane habitats, roosting sites and foraging areas (see above).

- **SEC Work During Quarantine:**
 - ◆ SEC Members initially called for a halt to the project, expressing great frustration that project design and environmental clearance are still moving forward despite limitations created by the global pandemic and Delta internet connectivity.
 - ◆ DWR explained that infrastructure projects deemed critical to the future and safety of the state, this one included, continue to move forward to actively protect the state's resources.
 - ◆ SEC members discussed ways to advance the work of the committee and conduct outreach given poor internet connectivity in Delta communities, while also adhering to the statewide mandate for social distancing.
- ◆ Members noted that they preferred that project design and CEQA process pause, which would also allow the SEC to pause their efforts. Despite this, there was consensus to continue meeting regularly to provide feedback on the proposed conveyance design, as well as an acknowledgment that engagement needs to be innovative and adaptive to be effective.
- ◆ DCA staff committed to work directly with Ms. Barrigan-Parrilla and other members to identify effective outreach tactics using remote tools.
- **DCA Support for Members' Outreach Efforts:** Executive Director Kathryn Mallon expressed that DCA is willing to accommodate all reasonable and legal requests for outreach assistance such as webinars, small group presentations, educational videos, and virtual or in-person tours that adhere to social distancing restrictions.
- **South Delta Complex:** DCA Engineering Manager Phil Ryan presented sample schematics, conceptual site plans and visual renderings for the proposed project's facilities in the South Delta. Mr. Ryan shared construction timeline and construction traffic estimates.
- **Proposed Siting Overlay Maps:** DCA staff provided updated proposed Facility Siting Maps for each corridor overlaid with recreation areas. Sensitive receptors such as schools and emergency services can also be added. DCA will provide enlarged versions of the maps to SEC members upon request to JasmineRunquist@dcdca.org.
- **Steering Committee Formation:** The SEC reached consensus that a series of ad-hoc committees would provide a report to the DCA Board of Directors on behalf of the group. They will also set up a report review process that will be used for each meeting, with members rotating.

NEXT MEETING

DATE*:
May 27, 2020

TIME:
3-6 p.m.

LOCATION:
RingCentral
Video Conference;
information TBD

PURPOSE:

- Final Proposed Siting and Access
- Regional Effects and Reduction Measures

** 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 THOUGHT EXCHANGE

• SEC Member Engagement in Process

- ◆ While members noted challenges with internet connectivity and disappointment that the overall proposed project planning could not be slowed or halted in light of the global pandemic, the general consensus was for SEC members to continue providing input to the extent possible rather than have DCA move forward with engineering plans that do not reflect their input.
- ◆ Mr. Wirth indicated touring the potential project sites is critical to providing feedback to DCA.
- ◆ Staff noted that DCA continues to broaden outreach efforts to diversify ways of distributing information and receiving feedback from stakeholders. This week DCA established a [Facebook](#) page and [YouTube](#) channel to provide greater access to meeting materials, project maps and animations, and conceptual corridor plans.
- ◆ Ms. Barrigan Parrilla suggested innovative approaches to tours, such as self-guided tours aided by walkie-talkies.
- ◆ Mr. Moran asked if SEC members can get state and/or county issued documentation indicating that their participation in such tours is considered essential. DCA legal counsel will investigate the legality of tours and related questions.

• SEC Outreach to Broader Delta

- ◆ Mr. Robertson asked if DCA staff is flexible in time of day and day of the week when accommodating outreach requests for SEC members and their respective communities. Mr. Mallon assured SEC members that DCA staff will accommodate any and all requests to any extent possible, including nights and weekends.
- ◆ Ms. Swenson noted that lack of broadband in the Delta is an issue that may prevent less affluent stakeholders from engaging and providing feedback on the proposed project.

• Post-Construction Use, Refinements and Potential Project Benefits

Glanville Tract Launch Shaft Site

- ◆ Mr. Gloski suggested that a visitor center may be appropriate as a post-construction usage for the Glanville Tract launch site.
- ◆ Ms. Mann noted local efforts to put a visitor center at Hwy. 12 & Hwy. 160 to disseminate information about the Delta.

- ◆ Ms. Barrigan Parrilla suggested that any visitor center planned here include habitat restoration as well as biking and hiking trails.
- ◆ Ms. Swenson advised coordinating with the Delta Protection Commission to avoid duplicate visitor centers.

Intake Traffic Routes

- ◆ Mr. Wirth's conversation with Stone Lakes Refuge indicated the North-South roads as shown in the conceptual plans would be detrimental to the ecosystem services to roosting bird species in the area.
- ◆ Mr. Wirth suggested splitting the traffic to multiple routes would reduce impacts.

Bouldin Island Barge Landing (Central Corridor)

- ◆ Mr. Gloski suggested moving the proposed barge landing site westward and ensure it is in deeper water in order to lessen the potential effects on the beautiful habitat in that area.
- ◆ DCA indicated the barge landing would likely be removed after construction unless the community wanted it for post-construction use.
- ◆ Ms. Mann indicated the proposed barge landing is in Little Potato Slough, a major anchorage and recreation site utilized for decades by Delta residents. Nearby residents will be affected by construction noise, which is amplified on water.
- ◆ DCA requested that committee members provide suggestions regarding possible post-construction uses of the proposed barge landing, such as Reusable Tunnel Material (RTM) storage area for use by local Reclamation Districts.

RTM

- ◆ Mr. Cosio noted that the RTM utilized on Bouldin Island may exceed what is produced by the tunnel. He also indicated that local Reclamation Districts face challenges in cost-effective ways to transport burrow material from storage areas to the levees where they are used.
- ◆ Ms. Mallon provided clarification about the Independent Technical Review (ITR) remarks on RTM. The ITR team provided input based on their prior project experience, not on the specific RTM anticipated from the proposed project.
- ◆ DCA indicated RTM calculations and balances will be presented at a future meeting.

South Delta Complex

- ◆ Mr. Cox indicated the greatest concern to fisherman is the preservation of fish and suggested that the fish screen solutions being considered for Clifton Forebay are incorporated into the design for the proposed Delta Conveyance project.
- ◆ Mr. Gloski suggested using some of the Delta water to flush into Italian Slough during times of harmful algal blooms.
- ◆ Ms. Mann mentioned the emergency services in the area would need to be increased in order to provide adequate protection to the project's construction workers in addition to the existing residents and businesses.

• Steering Committee Formed for Future SEC Reports to the Board

- ◆ An initial ad hoc committee of four SEC members will create a process, template and initial report to the DCA Board of Directors on behalf of the SEC: Ms. Liebig (Agriculture), Mr. Wallace (Delta History/Heritage), Ms. Mann (South Delta Local Business), and Mr. Moran (Ex-Officio).
- ◆ DCA will provide the committee members with some guidelines and deadlines. The resulting report should reflect consensus from the remaining committee members.
- ◆ Subsequent committees focused on different stakeholder groups will provide an opportunity for all members to participate.
- ◆ The next committee will include SEC members who represent Delta cultural and/or heritage interests. Steering committee members will be selected at the next SEC meeting.

SEC Informational Tours

In consideration of current public health recommendations, DCA will work with the SEC to develop possible ways to accommodate self-guided tours.

