

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 15th meeting of the Stakeholder Engagement Committee (SEC) was held via video conference on February 24, 2021. The meeting video, agenda, presentation, and supplemental materials are available for review on the dcdca.org [website](#).

DCA UPDATES AND HOUSEKEEPING

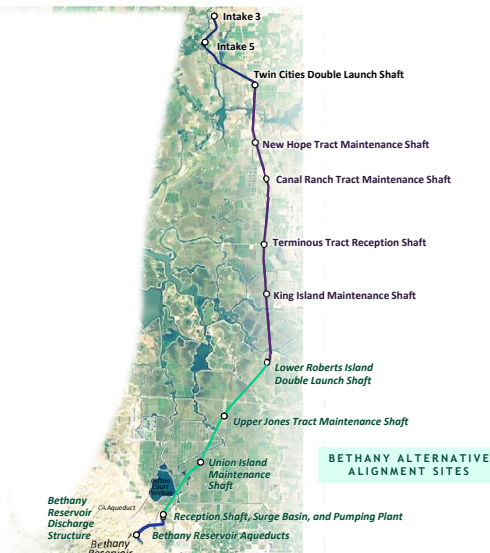
- Sarah Palmer, SEC Chairwoman, announced members Mr. Robertson and Mr. Wirth resigned from the SEC. She thanked them for their service in representing their communities.
- New [DCA Board Members](#) introduced themselves to SEC members.
- Josh Nelson, DCA Legal Counsel, advised SEC members of new law (AB 992) amending the Brown Act and its impact on social media activity by SEC members.
 - ◆ Conversations on social media between constituents and SEC members are permissible.
 - ◆ Under the new law, an SEC member is not allowed to respond to, react to, or share posts of another member on business related to the scope of the committee.
- The Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) that governs the DCA Board has been amended by the 16 involved water agencies. The Board has been expanded from 4 to 7 members. Ms. Palmer will continue as the SEC Chair and Ms. Keegan will continue as the Vice Chair of the SEC.

PRESENTATIONS

- Carrie Buckman, DWR, provided a CEQA Status Update. The EIR process is currently focused on development of the project definition. The Environmental Justice Survey has concluded, and results will likely be shared with the SEC at the April meeting.
- Phil Ryan, DCA Engineering Manager, provided a review of the Bethany Alternative. The presentation reviewed the corridor path, the approximate location and function for the related facilities, including an explanation overview of operations and the proposed RTM management strategy options.

Bethany Alternative - Basics

- Uses the same alignment as the Eastern Alignment up to Lower Robert Island Shaft.
- Two additional maintenance shafts would be needed:
 - Upper Jones Maintenance Shaft
 - Union Island Maintenance Shaft
- The tunnel reach from Lower Roberts extends to the Bethany Complex located near the existing Central Valley Project facilities.
- The Bethany Complex Pumping Plant diverts flow up to a discharge structure along the shore of Bethany Reservoir.



Disclaimer: These pages are for Stakeholder Engagement Committee discussion purposes only. They do not represent a decision by the DCA or DWR. Final decisions about the project will be made by DWR and will NOT be made until the concluding stages of the CEQA process.

FEBRUARY 24, 2021

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- Andrew Finney, DCA Field Work and Geotechnical Lead, provided an update on the geotechnical work performed thus far.
 - ◆ Twenty-one soil borings have been done thus far, and 65 borings are planned through 2022.
 - ◆ While planned geotechnical studies were originally intended to avoid private land, there were challenges that resulted in the boring sites being relocated for the upcoming field work.
 - ◆ Preliminary findings indicate all undetectable or extremely low levels of contaminants except for arsenic, which is common in California valleys and in agricultural soils. Arsenic levels were still within the range of background levels for California, slightly higher at the ground surface than at the planned tunnel depth.
 - ◆ The studies thus far have concluded that soils at tunnel depth have lower levels of contaminants than are present in surface soils. The soil tested to date has no hazards that preclude it from use.

NEXT MEETING

DATE*:
April 28, 2021

TIME:
3-6 p.m.

LOCATION:
RINGCENTRAL WEBINAR:
<https://webinar.ringcentral.com/j/1480658465>

POSSIBLE MEETING TOPICS:

- DCA Updates
- DWR Communications Plan 2021
- EJ Survey Summary
- Community Benefits 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 and the public.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Anna Swenson**
At Large - Yolo
- Angelica Whaley**
North Delta Local Business
- Barbara Barrigan Parrilla**
Environmental Justice
- Cecille Giacom**
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**
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
- Phillip Merlo**
At large - San Joaquin
- Mike Hardesty**
At large - Solano
- David Welch**
Ex-Officio
- Gia Moreno**
City of Hood



Meeting Overview Continued

- ◆ Further studies will continue, and more samples will be taken and tested to continue gathering soil data.
- As previously requested by SEC members, DWR Senior Attorney Chris Martin provided an informational overview of the financing of the

proposed Delta Conveyance project. He explained that State Water Project (SWP) construction projects, including the Delta Conveyance Project (if approved), are funded through bonds issued by DWR and repaid from SWP revenue. SWP revenue is money received by DWR from the public

water agencies that participate in the SWP.

- Due to a time overage, the Community Benefits Program Framework discussion originally on the agenda for this meeting will be discussed at a future SEC meeting.

SEC Member Thought Exchange

- Ms. Swenson asked for a memo regarding why the SEC is subject to the Brown Act and the text of AB 992. Mr. Nelson noted he would recirculate the AB 992 memo.
- Mr. Hsia requested a list of the 16 agencies that form the JPA of DCA.
- Dr. Lytle suggested a standing SEC agenda item for updates regarding substantive actions that have taken place outside of the SEC, such as in DCA Board meetings.
- Ms. Moreno said there are Spanish-speaking constituents who are not aware of what is going on with the project and said due diligence has not been done to include these marginalized communities.

- Mr. Cosio asked that Reclamation Districts be notified when there will be borings so they can help ensure that local conditions are being considered during that work.
- Ms. Swenson said a future meeting presentation about noise would be much appreciated. Providing flyers at post offices would be effective.
- Ms. Mann said it may be good to add a Mountain House representative on the SEC. Anush Nejad, a Mountain House traffic engineer, was in attendance and said he has provided information to DCA and their issues have been addressed. He will also be sending a follow-up letter.
- Ms. Swenson asked when the residents in the Twin Cities Rd. area will be notified of construction.

- Mr. Cox asked if the EIR will count on electric vehicles that do not yet exist. Ms. Buckman said the EIR will only include vehicles that exist at the time the EIR is compiled.
- Dr. Lytle suggested reporting the parts per million detection levels of soil contaminants and suggested testing for chloride contaminants. Mr. Cosio added that chloride content is a consideration for levy toe berms since it can affect groundwater.
- Mr. Gloski said he would like time on the agenda nearer the beginning of the meeting for members to raise topics important to them.

Next Steps

- Mr. Nelson will provide information about the Brown Act's applicability to the SEC.
- A list of DCA's JPA participating water agencies will be sent to the SEC, per Mr. Hsia's request. This information can also be found on the website here (see page 32).

- Ms. Mallon said updated map books and virtual tours will be provided to members soon. There will be English, Spanish, and Chinese versions of the virtual tours.
- Ms. Buckman said she will follow up about soil boring coordination with Reclamation Districts.

- Ms. Parvizi said she can coordinate repackaging of information for the noise monitoring and ensure it reaches SEC members.

Find Meeting Materials on our Website

Looking for meeting materials, presentations or videos? The new dcdca.org website contains a library of all information associated with SEC meetings as well as a database of questions and answers about the proposed Delta Conveyance project.

