

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 17th meeting of the Stakeholder Engagement Committee (SEC) was held via video conference on June 23, 2021. The meeting video, agenda, presentation, and supplemental materials are available for review on the dcdca.org [website](#).

DCA UPDATES AND COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

- Chair Sarah Palmer provided updates from the DCA Board of Directors meetings:
 - Graham Bradner was confirmed as the Executive Director.
 - The Board of Directors (BOD) will meet bi-monthly instead of every month. A monthly staff summary will be provided to the board. The meeting cadence will be reassessed in Spring 2022.
 - The BOD approved a resolution to change the size of the SEC from 20 to 17 members. There are two vacant ex-officio seats currently available on the SEC. This enables meetings to proceed without interruption.
- Vice Chair Barbara Keegan said there is a seat on the SEC for a liaison who represents the perspective of boating, recreation, and Delta businesses.
- Josh Nelson, DCA General Counsel, announced that the remote attendance exceptions to the Brown Act enacted as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic will expire on September 30. The October SEC meeting will be in person pending further clarification or orders from Governor Newsom.
- Carrie Buckman, DWR Environmental Manager said DWR is currently working on technical reports and impact analysis. Technical workshops are upcoming and are on the calendar on the DWR [website](#).

PRESENTATIONS & COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

- Phil Ryan, Engineering Manager, provided an overview of the South Delta Connection conceptual plans that would be utilized if the USBR participates in the project which would be the case if the 7,500 cfs design capacity option is selected. He clarified that these conceptual plans would only be utilized if Central or Eastern alignment is selected, but a comparable configuration was also considered for the Bethany Reservoir Alternative. DMC structures layout and updates were made for external flooding and include external flood resiliency to 200 year flood plus projected sea level rise and climate change assumptions.
- The following updates on the conceptual plans were provided by Graham Bradner, Executive Director:
 - Ring levees at the proposed Twin Cities Complex have been realigned, which resulted in remove the connection to Dierssen Road ramp to allow better overland surface water runoff flow to the existing culverts under I-5.
 - The temporary and permanent footprints of the Southern Forebay Footprint have been reduced to reflect updated soil material balance information.

Changes to Southern Forebay Footprint

Revised Configuration

- Soil balance indicates less remnant RTM for north stockpile than originally considered
- Use north stockpile area for permanent peat stockpile (w/ cover), temporary topsoil stockpile, and remnant RTM stockpile
- Reduced temporary footprint ~250 acres and permanent footprint ~150 acres



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.

JUNE 23, 2021

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NEXT MEETING

DATE*:
September 22, 2021

TIME:
3-6 p.m.

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

POSSIBLE MEETING TOPICS:

- Community Benefits Framework
- Engineering Updates
- Subsurface Investigation Updates

* 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
Sports Fishing

Jesus Tarango
Tribal Government Representative
(Alternate)

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



PRESENTATIONS & COMMITTEE DISCUSSION, cont.

- Nazli Parvizi, Communications Director, reported a Hood community meeting was conducted to provide an overview of the project and listen to specific concerns. If other SEC members have need for a community meeting, please let the DCA team know.
- Janet Barbieri, DWR Communications Director, provided an update of the Community Benefits Program framework effort:
 - ◆ Report of the Community Benefits Program framework efforts is available on the website at <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/Delta-Conveyance/Environmental-Justice>.
 - ◆ The executive summary is available on the website in English and Spanish.
 - ◆ A presentation of the results can be provided by Ag Innovations upon request.
 - ◆ CBP workshops finished. Materials are all on website.

Upcoming DWR informational [webinars](#); see calendar on website [here](#).

Operations of the State Water Project and Delta Conveyance

Wednesday, July 14, 2021 | 6:00pm – 8:00pm | [REGISTER HERE](#)

Fisheries

Tuesday, August 3, 2021 | 6:00pm – 8:00pm | [REGISTER HERE](#)

Climate Change

Wednesday, August 25, 2021 | 6:00pm – 8:00pm | [REGISTER HERE](#)

Environmental Justice

Thursday, September 16, 2021 | 6:00pm – 8:00pm | [REGISTER HERE](#)

- ◆ Input provided will be utilized to create the Community Benefits Framework—essentially a preliminary approach to community benefits—and the framework will be included as an appendix in the DEIR.
- ◆ Next steps include using the framework concept, including further work with the community, to develop the full program.
- ◆ More education and information to the community is being planned, including an additional tribal workshop.
- ◆ Workshop on case studies is being considered, hopefully for this fall.

SEC MEMBER THOUGHT EXCHANGE

- Mr. Gloski asked if the project would be able to deliver fresh water to the South Delta. Ms. Buckman said they have discussed a redundant system but it would increase the environmental effects, so it is not being considered at this time.
- Ms. Barrigan-Parrilla said it would be helpful to have the zip code of EJ survey respondents to overlay with maps that show EJ communities.
- Ms. Swenson said the Twin Cities area experiences high water events; a ring levee could potentially increase the flooding in an area that is already flood-prone. Mr. Bradner said the existing hydraulic modeling indicates the ring levee would not have a substantial impact on the flood risk.
- Mr. Hsia said DWR should increase protection of existing levees in the region and not just levees to protect operations.
- Dr. Lytle said the levees near Twin Cities caused flooding in 1986, and he would be interested in the modelling and potential impacts on farms in the area and up to Elk Grove. A 100-year flood standard is insufficient.
- Mr. Cosio said the team should talk to Sacramento County about ring levee in Twin Cities and their flood insurance area.
- Mr. Gloski asked if there is consideration to benefits of the project itself, such as greater access to emergency services. Ms. Buckman said DWR is analyzing potential benefits such as increasing internet access.
- Ms. Moreno said levees and drinking water should be mandatory and not part of the Community Benefits Programs (CBP). Ms. Buckman clarified the difference between mitigation and community benefits. CEQA requires any impacts identified in the EIR to be addressed through mitigation that would reduce or eliminate the impact. If a project is not done or there are not significant impacts, then these types of activities could be included in the CBP. Ombudsman program would establish a single point of contact for any issues that might develop related to the project. That individual would connect Delta residents to the resources and resolutions in response to their concerns. The program would be run by DCA.
- Ms. Barrigan-Parrilla said the project cannot be justified if the drought continues. Ms. Buckman said she understands the frustration that Delta Conveyance is only a small part of the overall water picture. While HABs are a concern to DWR, solving the problem is outside of the scope of the DCA project. One of the upcoming technical [webinars](#) is about climate change.
- Mr. Moran said presentations over Zoom have been remarkable; the graphics and information has been great. Before COVID, site visits were considered. As restrictions begin to lift, he would be interested in site visits and tours for SEC members and DCA staff to turn abstractions more reality-based.
- Dr. Lytle said he had hoped the September meeting would be in person. Ms. Palmer said it is advisable to make a determination closer to the meeting time in case there are some COVID-related concerns that manifest between now and then.

NEXT STEPS

- Provide info about ring levee at proposed Twin Cities site based on hydraulic modeling at future SEC meeting.
- Committee members can email specific concerns to the DCA team about the ring levees so the team can develop a more in-depth presentation for a future SEC meeting.
- Survey SEC members to ascertain interest in driving tours and of tunnel driving operations in progress at an active site in the Bay area.

