



CAPITOL LAKE – DESCHUTES ESTUARY

Long-Term Management Project Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting Summary

Date: Sept. 19, 2019

Time: 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Location: 1500 Jefferson St., Olympia, WA

Topic: Community Sounding Board Meeting

Meeting Participants

Community Sounding Board Members in Attendance

- Joel Hansen
- Clara Hard
- Bob Holman (alternate)
- Ali Johnson
- Jim Lengenfelder (alternate)
- Doug Mah
- Allen Miller
- Drew Phillips
- Steve Shanewise
- Nancy Stevenson
- Richard Wadley
- Bill Yake
- Bruce York
- Nancy Zabel

Community Sounding Board Members not in Attendance

- Sandy Cashman
- John DeMeyer (primary)
- Jeanette Lafoon
- Alanna Matteson
- Cory Miller
- Jack Mongin
- David Nicandri
- Gretchen Nicholas
- Kathi Rafferty
- Alicia Rose
- Robyn Wagoner
- Jenny Wilson
- Bob Wubbena (primary)

Department of Enterprise Services

- Carrie Martin

EIS Project Team Consultants

- Tessa Gardner-Brown, Floyd|Snider
- Ray Outlaw, EnviroIssues

Facilitator

- Susan Hayman, EnviroIssues

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Others/Members of the Public

- None

Meeting Summary

Opening Comments and Review of Agenda

Susan Hayman, facilitator, welcomed the Community Sounding Board (CSB) members and introduced her role as the neutral facilitator. Susan briefly described the format and process for participating in the online meeting using Zoom. All attendees were muted to begin and asked to raise a hand virtually to indicate a question or a comment. Susan explained that keeping phones muted enhances the experience for all participants by substantially reducing background noise and audio feedback.

Susan confirmed all attendees. Richard Wadley is replacing Emmett O’Connell. Richard briefly introduced himself. Susan will follow-up with Richard with CSB background information.

Carrie Martin welcomed and thanked the group for participating, reiterating how much the Department of Enterprise Services (Enterprise Services) values this engagement.

Susan reviewed the agenda and provided a brief tour of key Zoom features.

The presentation for this meeting is available on the [project website](#).

Project Update

Tessa Gardner-Brown thanked the CSB and noted how much participation is valued. She then provided an update of what has happened on the project in the last ten weeks (since the last meeting).

Tessa began with a review of the process map and noted the project is moving forward as described. The presentation provided updates for each element of the process map.

Environmental Impact Statement

At the time of the June CSB meeting, some of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) work had just begun and other work has started since. Tessa summarized activities over the last quarter.

The EIS project made substantial progress on Step 1 of the Measurable Evaluation Process to optimize alternatives.

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The EIS Project Team substantially developed and obtained agreement on numerous analysis methodologies (Water Quality, Economics, Numerical Modeling of Hydrodynamics & Sediment Transport, Fish & Wildlife, Wetlands & Vegetation, Land Use, Shorelines, & Recreation).

Enterprise Services completed third-party review of three methodologies (Water Quality, Economics, Numerical Modeling of Hydrodynamics and Sediment Transport). Carrie described how these reviews help Enterprise Services ensure technical analyses are using industry-recognized best practices and that a reasonable level of analysis will be completed to allow for comparison of alternatives. These third-party reviewers will also review the draft discipline reports for these disciplines. Carrie added that due to stakeholder interest, these methodologies were posted to the project website. Enterprise Services selected experts with subjectivity in mind, specifically using experts that did not have connections with the project area. Carrie pointed to where to find the methodologies in the [project library](#).

Tessa summarized fieldwork as follows:

- April: Began coordinating closely with Ecology’s spill response team who was very helpful in trying to get the EIS Project Team on to the lake.
- May: Began collecting monthly water quality samples; sampling continues monthly through October
- June: Initiated an ongoing recreation survey
- July: Attempted a bathymetric survey of Capitol Lake; this work is critical to understand the lakebed and support the project’s hydrodynamic and sediment modelling
 - Abandoned due to dense vegetation growth that could compromise data
 - Will reattempt in November after vegetation die-off
- July and September: Conducted initial site reconnaissance of wetlands and vegetation

Tessa encouraged the CSB to visit the [project website](#). It is updated regularly with meeting information and other details to help improve transparency around work being completed.

Work Groups

Tessa explained engagement with the work groups since meeting with the CSB last time. The Technical Work Group (TWG) provided feedback on study areas to inform technical methodologies. The Executive Work Group (EWG) provided feedback related to recreation, similar to the CSB. Both the Technical and Executive Work Groups provided feedback on the proposed measurable evaluation process.

The Funding and Governance Work Group (FGWG) has begun developing a workplan for a shared funding and governance framework for the Preferred Alternative. The EWG and FGWG will meet

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jointly on Sept. 20 to review economic foundations and potential options for shared funding and governance. EcoNW, who has strong economic, financial and policy skills, is supporting the FGWG work. Enterprise Services has always maintained that success for this project requires identifying a preferred alternative and a way to fund it.

Legislative Coordination

The EIS project team continues to maintain coordination with decision making bodies in this process. On Sept. 19, 2019 Tessa provided an update to the Capitol Campus Design Advisory Committee and State Capitol Committee. The team also continues coordination with key legislators and has heard consistent support for full project funding. Enterprise Services will be submitting a full funding request to the legislature and EWG members intend to submit a joint letter of support to the Office of Financial Management as part of the funding request.

Community Engagement

Community outreach has been consistent with what is shown on the process map, and the continued community interest in this project. In addition to the June CSB meeting, the EIS project team continues to send updates to the project email list on a quarterly basis. The project was also represented at Capital Lakefair, as team members were there collecting recreation survey results and also had project information and collected email addresses of those interested.

Community Sounding Board - Input into the EIS

Tessa summarized how CSB feedback has informed the EIS process to date.

When discussing the Measurable Evaluation Process, the EIS project team heard input from the CSB that evaluation of components should be comparative. This change was adopted.

The EIS project team also compiled input from the recreation exercise at the June meeting and will combine it with surveys to inform the recreational analysis. We heard a lot about values during this exercise, which have been part of the discussion around alternatives optimization.

Tessa reminded the group to refer to the [process map](#) if at any point they would like to check in on where the project is in the process.

Tessa thanked everyone for participating and emphasized the value of this group and the feedback provided.

Carrie thanked the team for the updates and coordination and all CSB members. Enterprise Services appreciates the input and time committed to participate.

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Next Meeting

Susan displayed a poll to help identify a preferred date for the next CSB meeting and will follow-up with CSB members not in attendance. The meeting will likely occur on Nov. 14, 2019 but Susan will confirm.

Questions/Comments

Susan offered an opportunity for CSB members to ask clarifying questions or share comments.

CSB question: How many legislators are involved and know what's going on? Carrie responded that Ann Larson, Enterprise Services Legislative Director is taking the lead on coordination with legislators. Ann has been briefing legislative committees, including District 22 and budget committees. Ann is also talking with legislators who have expressed interest but aren't directly involved.

CSB question: Is the railroad involved in this process? Tessa said the team reached out to the railroad during scoping (which is the first EIS milestone). The railroad did not provide comments during scoping, but it still on the team's radar. If a potential impact emerges, the team will reach out to them.

CSB comment: Please ensure that historic properties covered by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act are properly addressed as part of this process. Tessa confirmed this would be addressed, but the methodology is not yet developed.

CSB question: What is the expected request for the supplemental budget, and is it more than the difference from the original request? Has the Governor/Office of Financial Management (OFM) agreed to include this request in this year's supplemental budget request? Carrie reported the expected request is \$2.4 million, and is a bit more than the difference from the original budget request. Enterprise Services is in discussions with the OFM about this request.

CSB question: Is the funding specifically to complete the EIS, or are next steps included? Tessa responded that the funding is to complete the EIS and identify the preferred alternative, then develop a funding and governance model to implement the preferred alternative. Essentially, it includes all the steps identified on the [process map](#).

Closing Remarks

Carrie thanked the group for attending and for the great discussion.

Adjournment

Susan adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.