

Meeting Minutes
Dredging of Delaware and Raritan Canal
New Jersey Water Supply Authority
Public Officials' Briefing
Montgomery Township
June 28, 2010

## ATTENDEES:

Carol Beske, ACT Engineers, <a href="mailto:close-equation-equatio

## PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

To open dialog between Montgomery Township and the NJWSA project team, Urban Dredging Consultants concerning the proposed dredging of the D&R Canal.

## DISCUSSION

Carol Beske thanked Montgomery Township personnel for meeting with the team and explained the purpose of the introductory meeting for the dredging of the D&R Canal from Route 27 in Kingston to Amwell Road in Franklin Township.

Donato Neiman, Township Administrator, expressed his appreciation for the meeting and for the project. He noted that the Canal offers great recreational opportunities.

Bob DeLorenzo identified the consulting firms that make up the joint venture project team, Urban Dredging Consultants, JV. He noted the project objective is to remove an estimated 250,000 cubic yards of sediment from the Canal in an environmentally protective manner to increase flow capacity. He reviewed:

- Technical approach considering cultural and recreational significance, source of water, and visibility.
- Scope of Work Landside and bathymetric survey, sediment sampling and characterization, staging areas, dredging and dewatering, disposal options, and environmental issues.
- Schedule -Evaluation of dredging methodologies by December 2010, design by July 2011, funding November 2012, with construction estimated to span two construction seasons, depending on weather.

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Carol Beske explained the public outreach program to be conducted to develop a dredging plan acceptable to the stakeholders. Components of the program include:

- Outreach to state, county and municipal officials, and local businesses and residents.
- Conducting three public officials' briefings and three public participation meetings with stakeholders.
- Providing information on the project on NJWSA website with links to municipal website.

Township personnel suggested that stakeholders groups should include members from Montgomery and Franklin Townships that make up a scenic corridor group and a historic group. It was also noted that the State Park Ranger needs to be included in the outreach process.

## **CONCERNS**

Issues/comments raised by Montgomery Township public officials to be addressed during the project include:

- Truck traffic on local roads and 518 West
- Work with a landscape architect to replant trees removed during dredging process
- The closure of Canal Road as a result of dredging activities
- Protection of fish during dredging
- Possible contamination due to dredging
- Possible odors from the dredged material or the site

Mr. Nieman expressed the willingness to make available Montgomery Township Municipal Building for public meetings.