



**Meeting Minutes
Dredging of Delaware and Raritan Canal
New Jersey Water Supply Authority
Public Officials' Briefing
Township of South Brunswick
July 14, 2010**

ATTENDEES:

Carol Beske, ACT Engineers, clbeske@actengineers.com
Frank Gambatese, Mayor of South Brunswick Township, mayor@sbtnj.net
Sharmila Rahman, NJWSA, srahman@njwsa.org
Bob DeLorenzo, Urban Dredging Consultants JV, robert.delorenzo@obg.com
Matthew Watkins, South Brunswick Township, mwatkins@sbtnj.net

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

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

DISCUSSION

Carol Beske thanked Township of South Brunswick 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.

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.

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.

CONCERNS

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

- Questioned why D&R Canal needs to be dredged. It was not known that the canal is a source of potable water.
- Questioned why the lock tender's house was sold to a private entity.
- The Canal path should be cleaned up from debris.
- Concern with traffic impacts – South Brunswick needs to know proposed truck routes. Would like traffic limited to Route 27 and The Promenade (Route 522).
- South Kingston area group is very active. The group is a very thoughtful, intelligent group and needs to be reached out to.
 - Kingston Village Advisory Committee (Anne Zeman, Chair).
Robert von Zumbusch, Vice Chair – meet monthly as a group.
- Local stakeholders may ask what does town get out of disruption of neighborhoods, truck traffic, spoils smell, hours of operation, where the dredge materials will go/be stored.
- Does the dredging project help flooding?
- Concern with the material containing contamination.
- It was noted by the project team that the intent of the NJWSA to use the soil for beneficial reuse which will be determined after soil testing.
- The mayor suggested the Kingston Fire House as a good place near the project to hold the Public Meeting.

South Brunswick offered facility for Public Information meetings. They will provide a link to the NJWSA website for updated information on the project.