



**Meeting Minutes**  
**Dredging of Delaware and Raritan Canal**  
**New Jersey Water Supply Authority**  
**Meeting with Franklin Township Officials**  
**September 20, 2012**

**PURPOSE OF THE MEETING**

To provide an update to Franklin Township representatives on the status of the Canal Dredging project which included a review of the design documents prepared to date. The agenda and sign-in sheet for the meeting are attached.

**DISCUSSION**

Robert DeLorenzo discussed the project and reviewed the design drawings addressing proposed access areas and staging areas. He noted that the project includes dredging 10.5 miles of the Canal from Route 27 to Amwell Road, that dredging would begin in the first quarter of 2014 and that the project would take up to 3 years to complete. He noted that the duration of the project was based on the contractor working from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm, five days per week. He asked if the Township would allow the contractor to work twelve hours per day, six days per week which might reduce the projected duration of the project. Robert Vornlocker, Special Projects Manager for the Township noted that the contractor attaining the Township's noise ordinance would limit the hours worked by the contractor. He noted that the ordinance allows for construction work to be performed between the hours of 7:00 am to 6:00 pm Monday through Friday and 9:00 am to 6:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday. Donna Viero, the Assistant Township Manager requested that the Authority submit a letter to the Township requesting that this issue be reviewed by the Township Council.

Donna Viero asked if information to the public had been provided. Robert DeLorenzo noted that three public informational meetings were held throughout the planning phase of the project. These included meetings with Canal stakeholder groups, held at the Griggstown Reformed Church meeting room, and two Public Open House meetings held at the Franklin Township Municipal Building. Donna Viero requested that all known impacts to public use of the Canal be provided to the Township. Robert DeLorenzo noted that as part of NJ Environmental Infrastructure Trust Funding requirements, a Level 2 Environmental Information Document was prepared and that a Public Hearing would be scheduled to discuss the contents of that document. Donna Viero requested that the Township be notified of the date of the Public Hearing so that the date and location of the hearing could be included in the January 2013 Township Newsletter to be distributed to township residents.

Robert DeLorenzo noted that Canal sediments would be dredged via a hydraulic cutterhead dredge. He noted that the dredged sediments would be pumped via the dredge and booster pumps to the staging area to be located at 1391 Canal Road, where the sediments would be dewatered using either geobags or belt filter presses. He noted that a series of booster pumps would be required to pump the slurry from the dredge to the staging area and that the booster pumps would be located on flexi floats sited along the towpath side of the Canal. He noted that service trucks would travel the Canal towpath in order to maintain and refuel the booster pumps as necessary.

Robert DeLorenzo noted that the property at 1391 Canal Road would be used for staging of the sediment dewatering equipment. He also noted that the installation of a sediment slurry pipe and return water pipe would need to be constructed under Canal Road in proximity to the 1391 Canal Road property. Based on discussions with Township personnel in attendance at the meeting, it was noted that the pipe crossing should be constructed via open cut construction. It was also noted that this issue should be included in a letter of request to the Township and that a Road Opening permit would be required for this work.

Robert DeLorenzo noted that the dewatered sediments would be trucked from the 1391 Canal Road site to the end use site using a short section of Canal Road from the 1391 Canal Road site to Washington Avenue to the end use site. He reviewed the design drawing prepared for the project, discussing how the Canal had been divided into six reaches (based on bridge/causeway/pedestrian footbridge and Griggstown Lock) and explained that at those structures it would be necessary to place and remove the hydraulic dredge from one reach to the next downstream reach.

Robert DeLorenzo reviewed the proposed site for access area 1 located at Route 27 (Flemer Preserve). He noted that at this location, the contractor would, in addition to placing and removing the dredge into and from the Canal, fusing the pipeline to be floated in the Canal to convey the sediment slurry from the dredge to the staging area. He noted that approximately 2 months would be required by the contractor to connect the pipe sections at both the beginning and end of the project. Donna Viero noted that using this property should be included in the letter of request to be submitted to the Township.

Robert DeLorenzo discussed and reviewed the location of access areas 2 through 6 noting that at these locations the contractor would place the dredge into and remove the dredge from the Canal. He noted that these access areas are located adjacent to Canal Road and that the road would need to be closed during these activities. He noted that the time required for dredge placement/removal activities is estimated at 6 to 8 hours. He also noted that while 7 access areas are shown on the design drawings, the contractor would only be permitted to use only 5 of the access areas in order to limit disturbance to existing vegetation. He noted that access area 7 was East Millstone Park, in proximity to Amwell Road. He noted that this location, might also be used by the contractor to fuse pipe and that the duration of use would be approximately 2 months.

Frank Vornlocker noted that the NJDEP is currently collecting samples from the site adjacent to access area 7 (Laurie Rubber Site) and provided Sharmila Rahman with contact information for the NJDEP individual working on that project. Sharmila Rahman noted that NJDEP had been in contact with the NJ Water Supply Authority and that analytical information of the sediments collected within the Canal in the area of the Laurie Rubber site, as part of the Canal dredging project had been submitted to NJDEP for their review.

Donna Viero noted that a meeting with the Township Council should be attended by NJWSA and UDC personnel to discuss the project. She noted that she had tentatively placed the date of this presentation at the December 11, 2012 Council meeting. Sharmila Rahman noted that she would provide the Township with the Authority's website which contains information on the Canal dredging project.

Robert DeLorenzo noted that a one-stop coordination meeting will be held with the NJDEP and those agencies having jurisdiction over the project, on October 29, 2012. He noted that a listing of the permits required for the Canal dredging project would be formalized at the meeting. He also noted that shoreline and debris surveys would be conducted within the Canal in November 2012, after which the draft design documents would be prepared.