



## Meeting Notes Summary

**Date:** October 11, 2018

**Time:** 1 to 3 pm

**Location:** Jefferson Building

**Topic:** CLLDW EIS: Funding and Governance  
Work Group (FGWG) Kick-off

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### Meeting Participants

#### *Work Group Members*

- John Doan, City of Tumwater
- Jeff Gadman, Thurston County
- Rich Hoey, City of Olympia
- Ray Peters, Squaxin Island Tribe
- Kristin Swenddal, Department of Natural Resources

#### *Department of Enterprise Services*

- Debra Delzell
- Ashley Howard
- Jamie Langford
- Carrie Martin

#### *EIS Consultants/Facilitators*

- Tessa Gardner-Brown, Floyd|Snider
- Jessi Massingale, Floyd|Snider
- Ray Outlaw, EnviroIssues
- Meaghan McClure, EnviroIssues

#### *Others*

- None

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Carrie Martin welcomed the group and thanked all for participating. All participants introduced themselves.

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## *Project Overview*

Jessi Massingale reviewed the meeting goals and purpose.

- Engage the Funding and Governance Work Group in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process and define expectations around their involvement.
- Discuss the purpose of the EIS and the milestones and timelines (including scoping).
- Discuss the scoping process where FGWG members can provide input on the EIS scope, especially related to the economic analysis, which will support the FGWG.

Jessi then described the project timeline through spring 2019, referencing the Process Roadmap (all attendees were provided a copy).

- Scoping began on Sept. 26, 2018, during which public comments are being accepted, online and at public meetings.
- The scoping process will help to define the scope of the EIS.
- The scope of technical analysis and outreach will be further defined as the project moves forward.
- The Roadmap is more detailed through 2019, additional details will be added as scoping is completed and the analysis of the EIS is underway.

A scoping report will be prepared and made available in early 2019. We expect to meet with the FGWG again before the document is issued.

Enterprise Services is committed to a transparent, inclusive process. Due to the complexity of this project, public engagement will exceed legal requirements. For example, the scoping period is 48 days instead of the 21 required by State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA).

The project team has already participated in local events such as Harbor Days, Olympia Arts Walk and flyering in the area to provide notice of the scoping period.

Tessa Gardner-Brown described the process for stakeholder briefings as additional opportunities to conduct early and substantive outreach. Five organizations requested to receive project briefings:

- Capitol Lake Improvement and Protection Association (CLIPA)
- Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team (DERT)
- Thurston County Chamber
- Recreational Boating Association of Washington
- LOTT Clean Water Alliance

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- *(Following the meeting a briefing was also scheduled with the Olympia Downtown Alliance)*

Jessi explained an additional outreach option is being considered, the Community Sounding Board (CSB).

- The CSB would include representation from various community organizations representing a diverse range of interests, such as those that requested briefings, to allow a forum for ongoing conversations around key issues.
- Discussions and feedback from the CSB will be communicated to the work groups throughout the EIS.
- This would help keep stakeholder groups engaged throughout process as well as offer opportunities to provide input on key topics.
- Members would be invited by the project team and invitations would, at minimum, be extended to those organizations receiving briefings. Tessa noted seats may be reserved for youth, students and other individuals identified through scoping. Carrie added the goal is to ensure a diverse set of members.
  - Jessi explained that briefings with individual legislators and the Governor's office are upcoming.

The Executive Work Group met on October 2 and will meet again on October 29. Those meetings are video recorded and documented, and both will be posted on the project website.

## ***FGWG Involvement in the EIS***

Jessi said the FGWG will be a valuable resource throughout the EIS process and explained the expected meeting format and details.

- Agendas will be sent for review in advance of each meeting.
- All meetings are open to the public; dates, times and agendas will be posted on the website.
- Summaries will be shared for review and final versions posted on the website.
- General themes for upcoming meetings are indicated on the Process Roadmap but are subject to change, as needed.
- The roundtable format will allow everyone an opportunity to contribute.

Rich Hoey invited the project team and other agencies to participate in a City of Olympia study session on October 23.

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- Jessi said the project team is planning to attend and provide a briefing on the EIS process.
  - John Doan noted the City of Tumwater would not be able to participate due to schedule conflicts.
  - Jeff Gadman said the Thurston County Commission may be interested in a similar briefing.
- Jessi explained the dynamics of the project's participation in Harbor Days. Moving forward, the team will be asking the EWG for feedback on potential outreach activities.
- Jessi noted the previous work by the FGWG in 2016 will be the starting place for future discussions with the FGWG.
- Jessi noted that interest has been expressed in incorporating LOTT into the work group process.
  - Kristin Swenddal said LOTT would be a welcome addition to the FGWG.
  - John added LOTT would bring the cities of Lacey and Tumwater to the table in a different and good way.
  - Jeff said LOTT would bring informed technical and financial perspectives.
  - Jessi noted it could be mutually beneficial for Phase 3 if LOTT were involved in the current phase.
  - The group generally agreed LOTT would be a strong addition to the FGWG.

## *Economic Analysis*

- John asked if the project has determined it will move forward with an economic analysis.
  - Jessi confirmed this would be included and noted there is a significant stakeholder interest in the economic analysis component of the EIS for this project.
- As the scope of the economic analysis is defined, it will be vetted with the FGWG. The study will likely include a benefit/impact analysis that includes impacts to commercial and industrial sectors and an ecosystem services valuation.
- Jessi asked the FGWG to share feedback if they have expertise in this area, particularly about any data that may be available already.

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- Jessi stated there is also an opportunity to think about how a shared funding model will tie to mitigation measures and asked the group to think about how to analyze/consider this.

Ray Peters asked if the scope of the economic analysis would also be discussed/vetted with the EWG. Jessi replied yes.

## *Scoping*

Tessa briefly described the scoping process (Sept. 26, 2018 - Nov. 13, 2018).

- A new project website and online open house went live on Sept. 26, 2018.
- The project team has been busy distributing flyers in the area, especially downtown Olympia.
- The first public meeting was completed on Oct. 10 with a second planned for Oct. 22.
- Work group meetings, like this one, offer an opportunity for participants to help ensure the EIS process meets the needs of individual entity's needs
- A scoping report will be published in early 2019 that summarizes comments submitted.

Jeff asked if the team would share what was heard at the open houses.

- Tessa explained all comments, including public meeting transcripts, will be posted on the project website.
- Jessi noted many comments from the first meeting were from students and active community members, and were thoughtful and sometimes a few steps ahead, which was appreciated.

Tessa shared some anecdotal examples from the public meeting that would intersect with future work by the FGWG:

- What about sediment?
- Where is sediment going and how much will it cost?
- What are the costs and who will make the decision?

Rich asked at what point will the list of alternatives be narrowed. Is it unusual to consider multiple alternatives in the EIS phase?

- Tessa explained the four primary alternatives currently being discussed in the scoping period, including the No Action alternative required by SEPA. She added that scoping is an opportunity for commenters to identify other options or alternatives.

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- The team recognizes that additional alternatives will be proposed and all suggestions will be documented in the scoping report.
- In early 2019 the project team will work with the Work Groups to develop measurable evaluation criteria. Evaluation criteria are typically developed by the project team, but this approach is more collaborative and will help the project team to deliver a community-supported EIS.
- Alternatives will be screened through these criteria to develop a range of reasonable alternatives that will move forward for evaluation in the EIS. The project team will document the reasoning behind screened alternatives that will no longer be considered.

Ray Peters asked, if questions about sediment flow are asked, are the responses comprehensive?

- Tessa explained questions during the verbal comment sessions are not responded to. Scoping is primarily about listening to the public.
- Jessi noted questions about the process are answered during the open house part of the scoping meeting, in a general sense as appropriate. For example, modelling will be completed to determine where sediment deposition will occur.

Ray Peters asked for clarification about alternatives, noting the no-action may be confusing, and expressed concern about adding additional alternatives to the analysis.

- Tessa explained the scoping process cannot preclude new alternatives, but the project team does not expect an entirely new alternative that is not otherwise similar to the existing primary alternatives to come forward.
- Jessi and Tessa clarified that the “no action” option is required in an EIS and is the baseline upon which to compare the action alternatives.
- Jessi noted the project must comply with SEPA and explained ESA, who has extensive experience with SEPA is part of the team.
- Jessi also noted a list of alternatives will not be carried into Phase3, as the Final EIS will identify a preferred alternative.

Jessi explained that hydrodynamic and sediment deposition modelling will likely be key elements for analysis, and that team members with Moffat and Nichol are experts in that field.

Ray Peters asked who would be part of this work group from the Port.

- Jessi responded that was still to be determined, but that conversations with the Port are ongoing.

## *Opportunity for Public Comment*

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- No members of the public present.

## *Closing Remarks and Adjourn*

Ray Peters stated that it was helpful to hear a review of what has been accomplished so far. He thanked the project team for the meeting. He asked for a copy of the table that had been prepared in Phase 1 to document the potential governance models.

- Tessa reiterated the team is dedicated to supporting the work of the FGWG as it focuses on the EIS process.

Jessi will send a doodle poll for availability in mid-January.

Jessi thanked the participants and ended the meeting.