

FINAL
SUMMARY OF THE DREDGED MATERIAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
November 17, 2021, 10:00 AM
Virtual Meeting

Attendees:

Angie Ashley Consulting: Angie Ashley
Citizens Advisory Committee: Adam Lindquist (Chair)
Council Fire: George Chmael II
EcoLogix Group: Steve Pattison
Maryland Environmental Service (MES): Marni Dolinar, Olivia Gullede, Jeff Halka
Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE): Matt Rowe
Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT): John Denniston, Sandy Hertz, Tyler Lane
Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA): Bertrand Djiki, Kristen Fidler, Margie Hamby, Katrina Jones, Kristen Keene, Holly Miller
University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES): Dr. Peter Goodwin, Dave Nemazie
US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District (CENAB): Graham McAllister, Katie Perkins
US Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District (CENAP): Michael Hart

Action Items:

1. MDOT MPA will share the Mid-Bay Resiliency Workgroup meeting invitation for the 11/22 meeting with Ms. Perkins.
2. Ms. Fidler will send out the updated Section 125 guidance to the Management Committee.
3. CENAB will provide update on the Section 125 guidance and next steps at the spring Management Committee meeting.

1.0 Convene and Welcome

Ms. Kristen Fidler, MDOT MPA

Ms. Fidler welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order. All meeting materials can be found at the following link: [11/17 DMMP Management Committee Meeting](#)

Ms. Fidler requested comments on the September 22, 2021 Dredged Material Management Program (DMMP) Management Committee meeting summary. With no changes, a motion to accept the meeting summary passed unanimously.

2.0 Discussion and Approval of DMMP Annual Report

Dr. Peter Goodwin, UMCES

Dr. Goodwin summarized the DMMP 2021 Annual Report (Report). Upon DMMP Executive Committee approval, a downloadable version of the Report will be available on the [DMMP Website](#).

Dr. Goodwin suggested adding a briefing of workgroup activities, such as the Mid-Bay Resiliency Workgroup, to the Outreach and Education portion of the Report, in terms of clarifying strategies. Ms. Fidler stated that clarity and updates of workgroup activities in the Report and in DMMP meetings can assist with communication and possibly additional collaboration with community members and others.

Dr. Goodwin stated that he will be presenting the 2021 highlights and the 2022 recommendations from the Report at the 12/8 virtual 2021 DMMP Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting will feature a virtual exhibit hall to provide visual project information for attendees. This year's meeting will also feature breakout rooms that attendees can select based on which topic is most important or relevant to them.

The Report was accepted by the Management Committee with the minor edits addressed above.

3.0 Mid-Bay Resiliency Workgroup

Matt Rowe, MDE

Kristen Fidler stated that the Management Committee has worked for the last two years to decide on the most effective way to obtain stakeholder input on the design and advancement of the Mid-Chesapeake Bay Islands project (Mid-Bay). A Mid-Bay Resiliency Workgroup was developed and has met twice in 2021, with a third meeting scheduled for 11/22.

Mr. Rowe stated that the Mid-Bay Resiliency Workgroup is currently reviewing lessons learned from the Poplar Island project to ensure that the Mid-Bay Island Project is completed in the most efficient and beneficial way possible. A mission statement and goals for the workgroup have been drafted. The draft mission statement is as follows: The group will identify, evaluate, and recommend design and habitat features that enhance climate resiliency, mitigate for and adapt to climate change, and strengthen carbon sequestration, while contributing to the ecological improvement in and or near the Mid-Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project.

The draft workgroup goals are as follows:

- Review existing project information for opportunities and constraints related to the Mid-Bay project.
- Compile a list of effective climate resilient restoration projects using the latest science and considering nature-based design features.
- Develop a decision-matrix to bring ideas into an evaluation and prioritization process.
- Identify social and environmental justice issues.

Ms. Fidler explained that the workgroup is in its infancy and currently includes representatives from Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA), University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES), Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Maryland Geological Society (MGS), Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF), and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Ms. Fidler stated that the workgroup is developing a monthly meeting schedule with the first half of the meeting including a subject matter expert presenting on a selected topic, while the second half is the working portion of the meeting.

Ms. Perkins requested to be involved with the Mid-Bay Resiliency Workgroup. She specifically expressed interest in how input from the various groups will potentially be incorporated in the design of the Mid-Bay Island project. She stated that the USACE is currently heavily involved in the design of the islands. She asked for more clarity on the timelines of the workgroup to keep USACE and their partners in coordination. MDOT MPA will share the Mid-Bay Resiliency Workgroup meeting invitation for the 11/22 meeting with Ms. Perkins.

4.0 Round Table Discussion

Committee Members

Ms. Fidler stated that she and Ms. Keene presented on the reuse of dredged material at the 11/16 BlueTech Maryland Conference and Ms. Keene presented at the 11/16 Department of Planning Inaugural Brownfields Redevelopment Conference.

Mr. McAllister provided USACE, Baltimore District (CENAB) updates. The Section 125 implementation guidance was recently received, which addresses a variety of topics related to beneficial

reuse and new guidance for channel draft dredged material management plans. Guidance related to dredged material management plans with a focus on beneficial reuse options was issued at the end of October 2021. The guidance will allow more flexibility when it comes to beneficial reuse placement options. Ms. Fidler will send out the updated Section 125 guidance to the Management Committee. She suggested that CENAB provide a detailed update and next steps at the spring Management Committee meeting.

Mr. Rowe stated that Maryland's innovative and beneficial reuse pilot project at the Conowingo Reservoir should be completed by Spring 2022. He explained that the State of Maryland funded a pilot study to explore dredging Conowingo as a solution to the many issues at the reservoir and to reuse the dredged material as a potential way to reduce the nutrient impacts from the Conowingo infill material to the Chesapeake Bay. Part of the project required a robust data collection of the soil composition of the reservoir. Additional data and information about the project can be found [here](#). One of the reports will include the different end uses of the dredged material that were tested and a market analysis.

5.0 Closing Remarks and Adjourn

Kristen Fidler, MDOT MPA

The Executive Committee Meeting will be held in person on 12/2 at 1pm at MDOT Headquarters. The DMMP Annual Meeting will be held virtually on 12/8 at 9am.