Opportunities, Challenges in Dredging, Dredged Material Management

IMPROVING PROJECT PERFORMANCE THROUGH STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

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This presentation compares benefits of Stakeholder Involvement vs Stakeholder Outreach in the planning and development processes of two dredged material placement site projects.

The comparison looks at planning and development processes for dredged material containment facilities at Hart-Miller Island (Path #1) and Masonville (Path #2), Port of Baltimore, MD; Path #1 preceded and inspired Path #2.

The planning processes for both facilities are summarized and presented in a typical 7 step planning process format, both projects were led by a local (port) sponsor.

The format broadly considers stakeholder activity from determination of project need to action plan implementation, and includes a summary of process benefits.
STEP #1
Identify dredging, placement need, planning path

Planning Path #1 - Outreach
Stakeholders informed after project perspectives, issues, dredging and placement needs, focus and scope are set (Hart-Miller DMCF)

Planning Path #2* - Involvement
Stakeholders are Involved in setting project perspectives, issues, dredging and placement needs, study focus and scope (Masonville DMCF)

*Involving Stakeholders at Step #1, Path #2 initiates stakeholder project ownership
**PATH #1**

*Project goals, objectives defined by port staff, consultants, **no direct public involvement***

**PATH #2**

*Form **Stakeholder Team**, involve communities, local jurisdictions, activists, maritime industry, NGO’s*

**Team agrees to project need, helps define goals, objectives, focus for feasibility study***

*Step #2 sets ownership perspective in both paths - **Us & Them** (Path #1) and **Us** (Path #2)*
STEP #3
Develop project scope, focus, define project components, conditions

PATH #1*
Developed in toto in Study process, no beneficial use, no direct Public Involvement

PATH #2
Team helps define project scope, components including beneficial use, site conditions, focus

Beneficial Use Components
Category | Example
---------|--------
Habitat  | Wetland, upland
Landfilling | Daily cover
Landscaping | Topsoil
Agricultural | Soil Amendment
Reclamation | Mines/brownfields
Engineered fill | Base for parking lots, roads
Building Material | Bricks, blocks, LWA, cement, flowable fill

*Last opportunity to go to Path #2 with minimal project delays
STEP #4
Develop, compare project alternatives

PATH #1
Alternatives developed, compared by Study, preferred option selected, no direct Public Involvement in the decision*

PATH #2
Team involved in comparing, ranking alternatives including Beneficial Use components; prefeasibility begins

*Path #1 now Locked into Us & Them for the duration
**STEP #5**
Select best options to meet project goals, objectives

**PATH #1**
*Public Outreach*
i.e., public meetings, hearings, review of selected options; EIS, PED, permit applications initiated

**PATH #2**
*Team involved in* selection of preferred options including beneficial use options; attend public mtgs, hearings; PED, EIS, feasibility starts

*Public outreach is not stakeholder involvement, stakeholder competition to control the project begins in Path #1*
Path #1 Process Setback at Step #5

**STEP #5 PATH #1**
Public mtgs, hearings, review of selected options; EIS, PED, permit applications initiated, **first real interaction with stakeholders on project goals, objectives**

Opposition to project coalesces for Step #6*

Path #1 regresses to Step #2 activity with stakeholders

**STEP #2**
Define project goals, objectives, Federal process

Stakeholders challenge project goals, objectives

*Project goals, objectives, focus resolved in Path #2, Step 2 through stakeholder involvement in the process of defining them*
STEP #6
Develop project engineering & design, permits, action plan

**PATH #1**
Selected options opposed; verification study performed, EIS, permits, design, action plan delayed, State permit issued after 5 years of controversy

**PATH #2**
Team involved in project design, Action Plan, permit apps; public supports project, no opposition at public hearings

*Path #1 stalled, Path #2 advances*
PATH #1*
Fed permit issued (6 years),
lawsuit delays project 5 more
Years; lawsuit to SCOTUS, refused

PATH #2*

Stakeholder Team provides
oversight for project
construction, operations;
about 4.7 years concept to
construction, action plan

STEP #7
Schedule, implement action plan

Citizens Committee created by legislation, beneficial use closure plan added, Governor’s committee created, 11 yrs. concept to construction, action plan

*Path #2 implements, Path #1 litigates
CONCEPT TO CONSTRUCTION

**PATH #1***
- Required NEPA public outreach performed
- *11 years, concept to construction due to local opposition, lawsuit*

**PATH #2***
- *Strong stakeholder involvement from Step #1*
- ~ *4.7 years, concept to construction due to local support for project*

*Stakeholder involvement saves time, minimizes conflict*
Benefits, Path #2 vs Path #1

- *Expedited project schedule by 6 years* ------- *6+ years*, project accelerated by PATH #2 compared to PATH #1

- *Expedited Port dredging, placement projects* - *6+ years*, Multiple dredging projects advanced by 6 Years

- *Returned costs of Stakeholder Involvement*---- *$10.7 M* in benefits - *$11.4 M* in costs; *86 jobs*, 80 short term + 6 long term, salaries, Taxes

- *Bypassed more expensive options* --------------- *$112 M* – saved over cost of next available option
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