

AAPA/Corps QPI Webinar

November 29, 2016

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AAPA QPI Leader

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Quality Partnership Initiative (QPI)

- AAPA, Corps and Assistant Secretary of Army for Civil Works
- Discussions began after the Corps 2002 reorganization announcement
- Memorandum of Agreements signed in 2004
- Goal: Improve processes and working relationships as cost sharing partners
- Recommitment to MOA principles in Jan 2012
- Issued QPI Recommendations Report in 2012
- 25 Recommendations established under 3 teams
 - major focus was Planning studies

Action Teams and Leaders

- Communication and Collaboration
 - Hope Moorer for AAPA
 - Naomi Frankel, Corps
- Project Delivery
 - Joe Miller for AAPA (retired)
 - Ray Russo, Corps
- Authorities
 - Grady Bryant for AAPA
 - Larry Prather, Corps (retired)

Communications and Collaboration Recommendations

	RECOMMENDATION	STATUS
CC-1	Identify Corps and Ports POC's; conduct regular discussions	Complete
CC-2	Schedule strategic communications discussions	Complete
CC-3	Establish virtual navigation library	Complete
CC-4	Fully utilize the Deep Draft Navigation Planning Center of Expertise, DDNPCX	Complete
CC-5	Develop communication plans and joint messaging focusing on 'We are a maritime Nation'	Complete
CC-6	Identify and share Best Practices	Complete

Product Delivery Recommendations

	RECOMMENDATION	STATUS
PD-1	Present Planning Modernization Initiative to H&N community via webinar	Completed
PD-2	Evaluate and adjust Independent External Peer Review process.	Completed
PD-3	Implement guidance for Section 2045 of WRDA 2007 – suspenses for NEPA environmental reviews	Ongoing
PD-4	Establish programmatic assessment of navigation studies	Ongoing
PD-5	Treat partners as partners	Ongoing

Product Delivery Recommendations

	RECOMMENDATION	STATUS
PD-6	Enable Port reps participation in Corps planning training courses	Completed
PD-7	Grandfather studies and methodologies during the conduct of Civil Works planning activities	Ongoing
PD-8	Develop pre-approved economic models for navigation studies	Completed
PD-9	Allow sponsor to 'Act as Agent' for Corps construction and O&M activities	Ongoing
PD-10	Conduct webinar to explain Harbor Sym economics model, lessons learned and future plans.	Ongoing

Authorities Recommendations

	RECOMMENDATION	STATUS
A-1	Allow Sponsors to hire the Corps for Feasibility Study economic reviews	In WRDA 2016
A-2	Address cost-sharing credit for Port's in-kind work at dredged material placement facilities, DMPF	Ongoing
A-3	Enable Corps Districts to retain user fees collected at DMPF	Ongoing
A-4	Eliminate the 10% amount	Ongoing
A-5	Re-establish Continuing Contracts clause for Corps work	Drop
A-6	Deleted associated costs from Benefit-to-Cost Ratios	Drop

Authorities Recommendations

	RECOMMENDATION	STATUS
A-7	Establish guidance for in-kind credit valuation and approval	Ongoing – to PD team
A-8	Advanced funds authority for studies and maintenance dredging	WRDA 2016
A-9	Eliminate Initial Reconnaissance Study for existing Federal Navigation Channels	WRRDA 2014 Ongoing
A-10	Modernize the cost-share depth brackets	WRDA 2016
New	Non-Federal Use of Dredged Material Placement Facilities	Ongoing
New	Explore Alternative Financing	Ongoing
New	WRRDA Section 7001 New Study Starts and other efforts	Ongoing

New QPI Actions

	ACTION ITEM	TEAM
1	Beneficial uses of dredged material and the Federal Standard	PD
2	Project Partnership Agreements and pipeline relocations/removals	A
3	Dredged Material Management Plans (DMMP) streamline process	PD
4	Contributed Funds – pursue annual Congressional report rather than pre-acceptance notice	PD
5	Improve coordination of Sections 404 and 408 reviews	PD

New QPI Actions

	ACTION ITEM	TEAM
6	Sponsor funding for Corps Section 214 (Regulatory) and Section 408 (Engineering) analysis	PD
7	Stakeholder engagement checklist – identify best practices	CC
8	Dredged material placement area tipping fees – construction cost versus market value	A
9	Pursue Section 408 guidance specific for Navigation	PD
10	Sponsor notification of when new guidance issued	CC

New QPI Actions

	ACTION ITEM	TEAM
11	Establish delivery and acceptance of Federal responsibility for maintenance of Sponsor channel improvements	PD
12	Establish process to engage Sponsor in disposal of real estate easements no longer needed for the project	PD
13	Clarification of the authority for Post-Authorization Design Changes	

New QPI Actions – Nov 29

	ACTION ITEM	TEAM

Summary – Seeking your support

- Engage in QPI efforts, consider joining an action team
- Encourage others to participate in QPI efforts, especially AAPA/Corps webinars
- Additional QPI info available on [the AAPA website](#)



Thanks for all you do!

Notes from Aug 31 QPI Workshop

Aug 31 New Items

- Federal Standard – Big issues and series of small actions over the years.
- PPA's have removed clauses related to pipeline removals. Removals are cost shared under GNF as construction cost. Guidance on who pays? Section 10. PGL 44 when is it an owner or sponsor responsibility. Obstruction to a channel subject to navigational servitude. Navigation has pre-eminent right. Owner cost – removal; sponsor performed relocations. Determination written by Chief Counsel, Corps is trying to get final guidance. Rich: Adverse decision on definition of a utility.

Aug 31 New Issues

- DMMP – streamline cost and schedule. Needs special addressing. Currently viewed like a feasibility study. Planning Guidance Notebook (PGN) provides guidance – reads like a feasibility study. Review economics but HarborSym not required. PGN being updated – identify areas of concern.

Aug 31 New Issues

- Expedite contributed funds notification process, ideally annual report after the end of FY, not before funds received.
- 214 agreements – pay for review for 214 (Regulatory) and 408 (EN) as 1 transaction. Funds to do the 408 or expedite the 408?
- Look at coordination of NEPA document – 404 and 408.

Aug 31 New Issues

- Stakeholder engagement checklist – best practice. Solicit input early; explain processes; including economic impact; 401(c) at DCW - not delegated; navigation servitude; consideration of the greater good.
- Authorities item: Determination of tipping fees based on actual cost of construction versus market rate. Guidance on 401c and 217b

Aug 31 New Issues

- 408 guidance specific to Nav
- Notify AAPA/Corps of new items released – guidance, etc. For example: New implementation guidance issued.
- Delivery aspects on non-Federal modification of channels. At what point does assumption of maintenance occur?
- Disposal of real estate easements no longer required for the project.