



2022-2023 RiverRenew Stakeholder Advisory Group Meeting Summary

Meeting No. 6: January 18, 2023

Meeting Attendees:

RiverRenew Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG)	Alexandria Renew Enterprises
Dan Bradfield	Karen Pallansch
Mark McNutt	Justin Carl
Steven App	Caitlin Feehan
Morgan Babcock	Nicole Bushnell
Liz Birnbaum	
Erik Olson	

The meeting convened at 7:05 p.m.

The highlights of the presentation included:

- A report from each SAG member on community feedback received since the last meeting
- An update on RiverRenew Tunnel Project construction progress and six-month look-ahead
- An update on RiverRenew community outreach initiatives

The following is a summary of the questions asked by the SAG members and the answers provided by the RiverRenew team:

Dan Bradfield asked if another tunnel boring machine intervention will occur before production mining.

Justin Carl, RiverRenew Program Manager, explained that RiverRenew crews will perform another intervention to check and replace Hazel’s tooling prior to production mining.

Mr. Bradfield asked if the RiverRenew crews working in the Waterfront Tunnel received any training in the event of an emergency.

Mr. Carl explained that an MOU (Memo of Understanding) was established with the Alexandria City Fire Department for AlexRenew to purchase the equipment necessary for emergency response and complete training. Tunnel Rescue Training was conducted with the Fire Department in Summer of 2022.

Erik Olson asked if any work activity at the Pendleton Street site would stop in February due to sturgeon spawning.

Mr. Carl explained that previously installed sheeting at the Pendleton Street site separates the work site from the Potomac River; thus, activity can continue as normal without endangering spawning sturgeon.

Morgan Babcock asked if using a hydraulic impact hammer instead of a diesel impact hammer would reduce the duration of pile driving activity.

Mr. Carl explained that while a hydraulic impact hammer operates more efficiently than a diesel hammer, it would not have a noticeable impact on the overall duration of pile driving activity.

Liz Birnbaum asked about the diction on the presented informational pile driving flyer, suggesting that “clang” would be a more accurate description of pile driving sounds than “ding” or “whoosh.”

Mr. Carl agreed, adding that this change would be made to the flyer before it is distributed to the public.

Ms. Birnbaum asked if AlexRenew has communicated with the Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee regarding the upcoming closures on Jamieson Avenue, as bikers will be impacted.

Mr. Carl said that AlexRenew would reach out to BPAC regarding impacts and bike detours.

Mr. Bradfield asked when the microtunneling operations would begin.

Mr. Carl answered that microtunneling would start at AlexRenew in March 2023.

Mr. Bradfield asked if RiverRenew is running on schedule, excluding delays associated with TBM delivery.

Mr. Carl explained that tunnel construction is about 30–40 days behind construction due to the delay in TBM delivery. He explained that this could impact overall project schedule, but that time would be recovered during production mining and re-sequencing of activities.

Mr. Bradfield asked about the tunnel project’s mandated completion date.

Mr. Carl answered that substantial completion must occur by July 1, 2025.

Mr. Bradfield asked about potential ramifications if the project runs late.

Mr. Carl explained that AlexRenew would need to have conversations with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality to determine impacts of a late finish.

Mr. Olson asked if Waterfront Tunnel Tours will be open to adults only.

Mr. Carl said that the tours will only be available to those 18 years of age and older.

No comments or questions were submitted during the Public Comment period.

Other discussion points:

- Mr. Carl expressed his gratitude to Karen Pallansch for her years of service to AlexRenew.
- The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.
- The first meeting of the 2023-2024 Stakeholder Advisory Group will take place on March 16, 2023.