



# Metropolitan Water Tunnel Program

## Meeting Minutes

**Contract Number:** N/A

**Contract Name:** N/A

**Meeting Title:** Working Group Meeting No. 5

Date	June 15, 2022	Revision	R0
Time	2:00-3:00 PM	Revision Date	N/A
Location	WebEx	Recorded By	Meg Langley (CPP)

**Attendees:**

Name (organization)	Initial	Name (organization)	Initial	Name (organization)	Initial
Sean Navin (MWRA)	SN	Mike Retzky	MR	Lexi Dewey (WSCAC)	LD
Kathy Murtagh (MWRA)	KMM	Kristin MacDougall (MWRA)	KM	Meg Langley (CPP)	ML
Paul Savard (MWRA)	PS	Rebecca Weidman (MWRA)	RW	Christopher Dzidek	CD
Colleen Rizzi (MWRA)	CR	Nancy Vigneault	NV	Jay Hersey	JH
Anne Canaday (MWRA)	AC	Weeraya Orwatthana	WO	Katie Ronan	KR
Vivian Chan (MWRA)	VC	Lou Taverna (Newton)	LT		
Carmine De Maria (MWRA)	CDM	Mike Chiasson (Waltham)	MC		
Brad Miller (MWRA)	BM	Martin Pillsbury (MAPC)	MP		

**Purpose:**

The purpose for the fifth meeting of the Metropolitan Tunnel Working Group was to present the three short listed alternatives and the criteria that was used to fully evaluate them.

**Summary:**

The following is a summary of items covered including next steps as applicable:



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1. Sean Navin, MWRA Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, opened the meeting, went over the meeting agenda which included an update to the Metropolitan Water Tunnel Program, Alternatives Evaluation Refresher, Alternative Shortlist (3 Tunnel alignments and shaft sites), Upcoming Meetings, and Questions and Comments. SN introduced Paul Savard, MWRA Director Design and Construction, who continued the presentation.
2. PS gave an update to the program schedule with preliminary design thru Jan 2024, final design in 2024, and the target for construction to begin in 2027. He advised that there were ongoing property acquisition discussions with MassDOT, DCR, and DPH.
3. PS gave a refresher on the alternatives, explaining what an alternative is, shaft sites, functions, tunnel direction and length, and the connections along the tunnel segment. He noted that the key locations for construction shaft sites include the Fernald Property in Waltham, the 190/I95 Interchange in Weston, Highland Ave/I95 Interchange in Needham, and the American Legion site in Mattapan. Connection Shaft sites include Lexington St. Pump Station and Cedarwood Pump Station in Waltham, Hegarty Pump Station in Wellesley, St. Mary Street Pump Station in Needham, Newton Street Pump Station in Brookline and the Southern Spine Mains connections in Boston. PS reminded the group of how the MWRA assembled the alternatives and narrowed the selection from 30 alternatives, down to 10 (discussed in Dec 2021) and has now narrowed to 3 alternatives which will be evaluated equally in the DEIR.
4. PS provided a summary of how the Program assembled alternatives and narrowed the selection and gave a high-level overview of the 10 alternatives, highlighting the differences between the alternatives and the thinking behind the selections.
5. PS gave a high-level overview of the shortlist alternatives Alternative 3, Alternative 4, and Alternative 10. He noted that the three alternatives are very similar, utilizing the same sites.
  - a. Alternative 3: North Tunnel – Launch from Tandem Trailer Parcel & Receive at Fernald Property. South Tunnels – Launch from Bifurcation & Receive at NW Cloverleaf, Launch from NE Cloverleaf & Receive at American Legion;
  - b. Alternative 4: North Tunnel – Launch from Tandem Trailer Parcel & Receive at Fernald Property. South Tunnels – Launch from NW Cloverleaf & Receive at Park Road, Launch from NE Cloverleaf & Receive at American Legion;
  - c. Alternative 10; North Tunnel – Launch from NW Cloverleaf & Receive at Fernald Property with a large connection at Park Road Site. South Tunnels – Launch from NE Cloverleaf & Receive at American Legion.
6. PS continued the presentation by explaining the Next Steps for the final three alternatives. He advised that conceptual designs and construction phasing plans were being prepared for each shortlisted alternative, which will form the basis for the impact assessment in the DERIR
7. SN spoke to the upcoming meeting to be held in Summer 2022 where Community Outreach and the Preferred alternative and two backups will be discussed. He noted that future meeting topics included



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environmental protection at shaft sites, community engagement opportunities, costs & financing, site visits and other topics that the Working Group would like to discuss. SN reiterated that the Program will come speak to any group who asks and that the next steps would be for the Program to post the meeting notices, agendas, presentations, and meeting minutes.

8. SN opened the floor for questions;
  - a. Mike Retzky, Water Source Representative for Needham, asked if a copy of the presentation will be posted. SN replied that a link would be shared after this meeting and PS explained that all of the meeting notices, agendas, presentations, and minutes were available on the website.
  - b. Lou Taverna asked about the time frame for the acquisition of the sites needed for the Alternatives. Kathy Murtagh explained that timing of land acquisition is important because you do not want to acquire the parcel before it is confirmed to be part of the Program following the alternative selection. Many of the properties that will be needed are MWRA owned and conversations are ongoing with MassDOT and DCR.
  - c. LT asked if the current phase of the geotechnical survey will be done this Fall. Vivian Chan responded that she believed that the bulk of the Phase should be done around Labor Day 2022. LT asked about the timeline for geotechnical services and KMM explained that there would be multiple, year-round phases, and that another geotechnical consultant will be brought on later this year so that there can be two sets of data collection happening at the same time.
  - d. LT asked if there was still only one boring contactor in the New England area, KMM explained that there is still one in the New England area but that there are more across the country. Outreach is ongoing.
  - e. SN asked for further questions, there were none.
9. SN thanked the Working Group for their time and continued partnership. The meeting adjourned at 3:02 pm.

### Action Items:

MWRA will send out presentation and meeting minutes.

MWRA will post agenda, presentation, handouts, and minutes to the Tunnel Program website:

<https://www.mwra.com/mwtp/resources.html#workinggroups>

### Attachments:

None.

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