

SITES RESERVOIR

Community Working Group | 2023 Interim Report



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sites Reservoir Local Community Working Group (LCWG) was established to connect with representatives of local community agencies, associations, businesses, and civic organizations. The LCWG has worked collaboratively with the Sites Project Authority to develop creative solutions to issues of local concern and identify opportunities of shared interest between the Authority and the local community through the development of the Sites Reservoir Project.

The composition of the LCWG was determined by the Project team, along with the availability to attend the following meetings. Approximately 15-20 members representing Colusa, Glenn and Yolo Counties came together at the Authority's office in Maxwell, Calif., for bi-monthly meetings beginning in October 2022.

- Meeting 1 – Oct. 6, 2022
- Meeting 2 – Jan. 19, 2023
- Meeting 3 – March 23, 2023
- Meeting 4 – May 18, 2023
- Meeting 5 – July 20, 2023
- Meeting 6 – Sept. 21, 2023
- Meeting 7 – Nov. 16, 2023

MISSION STATEMENT AND PRINCIPLES OF PARTICIPATION

The LCWG is a forum for the local community to provide vital input and feedback to Authority participants and staff to help inform project planning and development activities. Issues discussed with the LCWG focused on ones where the community can have some meaningful involvement, help to drive to solutions, and have a positive impact in the development of the Project.

LCWG expectations

- Provide specific local expertise, including identifying emerging local issues
- Attend all meetings possible
- Review all agendas and documents distributed by staff prior to the meetings
- Relay information to his/her respective constituency after each meeting and gather information/feedback as practicable before each meeting
- Articulate and reflect the interests that LCWG members bring to the table
- Maintain a focus on suggestions that benefit multiple interests or the overall project area
- Create a respectful, collaborative, and productive working environment

Authority expectations

- Provide LCWG members the opportunity to collaborate on input and ideas for the Sites Project Authority to consider
- Provide technical expertise
- Brief local decision makers and produce briefing materials and reports
- Provide early notification of LCWG meetings and provide any documents for review at least two weeks before each meeting
- Conduct public meetings or workshops if/when necessary to inform and engage the local community
- Manage logistics for LCWG meetings
- Provide feedback on how input from the LCWG influenced planned project design and construction activities



Attendees from Meeting 1 (Oct. 6, 2022) through Meeting 7 (Nov. 16, 2023)

Organization	Contact
Assemblyman James Gallagher	Juleah Cordi
Assemblymember Aguilar-Curry	Eliana Pimente
Assemblymember Aguilar-Curry	Elijah Navarro
Assemblymember Aguilar-Curry	Evan Cragin
Assemblywoman Cieclia Aguilar Curry	Rita Durgin
California Alliance for Jobs	John Hanna
California State Senate Candidate	David Fennell
Chabin Concepts	Vicki Doll
CMD West	Conner McDonald
Colusa County	Kent Boes
Colusa County	Wendy Tyler
Colusa County Agricultural Commission	Anastacia Allen
Colusa County Agricultural Commission	Don Kitamura
Colusa County Board of Supervisors	Gary Evans
Colusa County Chamber of Commerce	Jennifer Diaz
Colusa County Chamber of Commerce	Maria Gomez de Ramirez
Colusa County Community Development	Steve Geiger
Colusa County Fair Board	Laura Ford
Colusa County Farm Bureau	Monica Sankey
Colusa County Farm Bureau	Shandon Smith
Colusa County Office of Education	Michael West
Colusa County Public Works	Mike Azevedo
Colusa County Sheriff's Department	Sergeant Ruiz
Colusa County Sheriff's Department	Joe Garofalo
Colusa County Sheriff's Department	Mike Bradwell
Colusa County Sheriff's Department	Jose Ruiz
Congressman Doug LaMalfa	Brenda Haynes
Congressman Doug LaMalfa	David Morgan
Congressman Mike Thompson	N/A
Dunn Consulting	Keith Dunn
Dunnigan Fire District	N/A
Family Water Alliance	Nadine Bailey
Fugro	Jeriann Alexander
Glenn County	Scott DeMoss
Glenn County Agricultural Commissioner	Marcie Skelton



Attendees from Meeting 1 (Oct. 6, 2022) through Meeting 7 (Nov. 16, 2023): continued:

Organization	Contact
Glenn County Board of Supervisors	Jim Yoder
Glenn County Board of Supervisors	Tom Arnold
Glenn County Business Association	Marlena Spaticman
Glenn County Farm Bureau	Lisa Humphreys
Glenn County Office of Education	Ryan Bents
Glenn County Sheriff's Department	Barry Corbin
Glenn County Sheriff's Department	Jason Dahl
Glenn County Sheriff's Department	Justin Gibbs
Granite	Mark Shafer
Kanawha-Glenn Fire Protection District	Randal Toews
Maricopa Water Storage District - Wheeler Ridge	Robert Kunde
Maxwell Fire Protection District	Kenny Cohen
Maxwell Inn Bar and Grill	Eric Paden
Maxwell Parks & Recreation	Tish Nerli
Maxwell Public Utility District	Brooke Nerlie
Maxwell Public Utility District	Kurt Chambers
Maxwell Unified School District	Summer Shadley
Neil's Controlled Blasting	Wes LeRoux
NorCal Shoppers	Marlena Parkman
Observer	Mike Hester
Sacramento Valley Museum	James Pearson
Senator Brian Dahle	Sam Perkins
Sour Robs	Rob Timm
State Senator Brian Dahle	Breyden Coma
Stonyford Museum	Carline Stanton
Stonyford Museum	Liz Poulson
Stonyford Museum	Mary Hester
Stonyford Museum	Joyce Bond
UH Local Union 228	Beth Hammes
Willows Chamber of Commerce	Grace Wells
Yolo County	Stephanie Cormier
Yolo County Farm Bureau	Chuck Dudley
Yolo County Farm Bureau	Denise Sagara
Yolo County Sheriff's Department	Mike Ha
Yolo County Sheriff's Department	Tom Lopez



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Throughout discussions and meetings in Maxwell, Calif., the Authority listened intently to participants' recommendations and feedback. The Authority collected the information and sorted it into an Issues and Opportunities Matrix.

The Authority presented the results at Meeting 6 (Sept. 23, 2023) and facilitated a productive conversation to categorize the feedback into five categories:

- Local Effects: Financial
- Local Effects: Physical
- Partnering: Workforce Development
- Partnering: Economic Development
- Recreation

The outcome of these work sessions is broadly represented in four policy recommendations that are proposed for the Board's consideration and adoption. Meeting attendees and Authority staff finalized the policy recommendations during Meeting 7 (Nov. 16, 2023). The LCWG will continue working with Authority staff as the project moves from design into construction to best ensure community needs are acknowledged and addressed which may include additional policy recommendations.

Policy Recommendation 1 – Require all Construction Contractors to be responsive to the Maxwell community needs and develop standard provisions to be included in all Sites construction contract documents requiring all work to be performed in a manner compatible with local needs:

- Include a contract provision that would not allow construction traffic within the town of Maxwell. Construction traffic would be allowed on Old Highway 99 and Maxwell Colusa Road.
- Include contract provision requiring development of a traffic management plan to ensure that construction traffic and deliveries are made through designated routes established in coordination with the local community.
- Include a contract provision that would require all construction contractors to participate in the local community working group discussions (as needed) to foster collaboration and address issues of local concern during construction.
- Include a contract provision that would require construction contractors to abide by the “Respect for local community” value of the SPA.
- Include contract provision that encourages contractor personnel to patronize Maxwell businesses during construction.

Policy Recommendation 2 – Establish goals and incentives for local hiring – implement a program that trains and hires residents and set a goal for a specific percentage of the project workforce to reside Colusa, Glenn, Yolo, Sutter, Butte, Tehama, Shasta, Placer and Sacramento counties. Ensure that local businesses can compete for the contracts and purchase orders necessary to construct the project:

- The SPA should conduct a Local Labor Availability Study that covers counties represented by JPA Board agencies and/or within counties where project work is being performed. This study would focus on identifying the available, existing trained, construction labor pool (with consideration for seasonal agriculture workforce requirements). Study would be used to help establish a reasonable and achievable goal for local hiring.
- The SPA should set a local hiring percentage goal for the onsite project workforce.
- The SPA should support local and regional workforce training initiatives including training programs hosted by the Building Trades MC3 program and NorCal Carpenters Training Program—as well as training programs hosted by local community colleges, school district, and business. SPA should facilitate discussions with local stakeholders, as noted above.



- The SPA should establish goals for local contracting and purchasing. The program should dedicate a specific percentage, dollar threshold, and/or type of contracting opportunities—including labor, equipment, fuel, and materials/supplies—to make reasonable efforts to competitively procure from local businesses.
- The SPA should create a program to help connect local contractors/business/suppliers with larger companies and encourage local business participation in some of the project’s larger contract packages.

Policy Recommendation 3 - Recognizing that there are long term effects of the project on the provision of public services in the vicinity of the reservoir (e.g. emergency response, crime prevention, school population, etc.) the Sites Project should perform an analysis of the current public service staffing and equipment limitations and take steps in the Project planning to address these issues in the near term with the goal of achieving improved public service for all after the Project is in operation:

- The SPA should conduct a Local Public Service Staffing Study to assess the potential impacts on the level of public service due to project construction and operations. Study should be conducted with input from the locally affected agencies (police, fire, school, and public utilities)

Policy Recommendation 4 - Conduct a study to determine the existing capacity of local infrastructure (e.g. broadband, water, sewer) and implement needed improvements in a manner that supports the project and also provides for potential improvements in service to the local community. This study should be conducted in conjunction with the Maxwell Community Plan that is required in the Colusa County General Plan.

- The SPA should conduct a Local Infrastructure Study to determine the existing capacity of local infrastructure and identify any service gaps that are created due to the construction and operation of the project and identify potential improvements.
- The SPA should provide financial support to Colusa County for the development of the Maxwell Community Plan (MCP) and work with the County to implement the plan.
- The SPA should work with the affected counties, local government agencies, and the community to identify funding (Federal, State) opportunities to address local infrastructure gaps identified in the Local Infrastructure Study and the MCP.

At the November meeting, members agreed these recommendations largely reflected the discussions of the past year and agreed to actionable items for the LCWG. With this understanding, Authority staff will present these concepts to the Sites Joint Powers Authority Board and Reservoir Committee for review, consideration, and potential adoption in early 2024.

The LCWG will reconvene in Q1 2024, and will meet quarterly going forward, continuing to serve as an important connection for the Sites Reservoir Project with local agencies, associations, businesses, and civic organizations.

