

**Urban Waterfront Action Group (UWAG) Meeting**  
**Tuesday, May 23, 2017**

**Participants:**

James Boyer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers(USACE); Joseph Musil, Andrew Quinn, Tyler Short, Urban Engineers; Sean Greene, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

**Meeting Summary:**

A project description and concept development plan were submitted to the committee in advance of the meeting. These documents are attached to these meeting notes. Prior to the meeting, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) emailed Sean Greene that DEP thinks that a Waiver 10 may be applicable for this project.

**1. Bartram's Garden / Schuylkill River Trail - Tide Fields & River Rooms: Presented by Stacy Levy**

Stacy Levy presented her plan for the installation of her project *Tide Field and River Rooms* which is being sponsored by the Mural Arts Philadelphia Program. The project involves anchoring buoys along the river to provide a visual indication of the tidal flow to better connect visitors with the river. The installation would be in place for four seasons and staff from Bartram's Garden would visually inspect and maintain the installation weekly.

An accompanying project, titled *River Rooms*, will provide two wooden platforms in the Bartram's Garden area to provide visitors viewing platforms for portions of the *Tide Field*.

The installation will occupy various locations in the Schuylkill River from above the Fairmount dam to Bartram's Garden.

The presentation accompanies these meeting notes.

Mr. Boyer from USACE provided the following comments and raised the following issues with the project:

- The project will require an individual permit, and it needs to be clear who the applicant is and what permission the applicant has to utilize the river bottom for this installation.
  - The applicant will probably require a letter from the Commonwealth granting permission for the installation that is separate from USACE and PA DEP permits. USACE expects this to be handled with a letter of permission.
  - The individual permit will require construction specifications of the installation and a scaled map of the locations that shows the installation will be outside the navigable channel. The plans in the permit should include high tide line, mean high water line, and mean low tide.
  - USACE anticipated a 30-60 day response to the permit application.
- The installation should avoid intertidal mud flats.
- There is no expected impact on Atlantic Sturgeon or other endangered species.
- There will be no seasonal restrictions on installation of the project and the applicant will have three years to complete installation. There is no permit required for removing the installation.
- The applicant should consult with the Coast Guard regarding the installation and safety concerns for boaters.
- The River Room portion did not seem to be a concern for USACE but the applicant should consult with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission regarding potential impacts to historical and archaeological resources.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00. The next scheduled UWAG meeting is July 18, 2017 at 10:00 AM at the DVRPC offices.