

TOWN OF FAIRFIELD – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

RECLAMATION YARD

October 20, 2017
Update No. 17

The following is the bi-weekly status update for the Public Works Yard remediation and reduction of the existing material pile. The Town will be providing bi-weekly updates of the status and progress to remediate the isolated area of contaminated fill materials at the site while also working on the long term goal of reducing the size of the existing pile. All status updates and related information will be posted to the Town website located at: <http://www.fairfieldct.org/pwyard>

The most recent Public Meeting was held Tuesday October 10, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the Fire Training Center. A copy of the presentation and meeting minutes are posted on the PW Yard website

ENVIRONMENTAL

- The final 110 tons of PCB impacted material was removed on October 11th, 2017. Confirmatory soil samples were collected from the “hot spot” areas after the excavation was completed to determine compliance with the PCB RSR criteria. No further action is required at this time.
- A final Remedial Action Report (RAR) of the project will be prepared and provided to the Town ensuring compliance with the CT DEEP PCB Division requests. The Remedial Action Report will be submitted to the CT DEEP PCB Division and will be posted on the Town’s website after the completion of the work. This is expected to be completed by 11/8/17.
- Design of capping, proposed groundwater monitoring wells, and grading plan for this area was submitted to Fairfield TPZ and Conservation Dept. on 6/21/17. The application was presented at the Fairfield Planning & Zoning meeting of 8/22/17. Due to the comments received, the application has been withdrawn until the outstanding concerns (letter attached) are addressed. The Town is working with a small group of neighborhood leaders to revise the plans as requested. The application will not be resubmitted until the neighbors have had a chance to review and comment on the revised plans. A Certificate of Wetland Compliance Permit # 2016-17-119 has been issued for this project.

LEGAL

- The Town has engaged a law firm for legal action. All public information on this matter is available and on the website of the State of Connecticut Judicial Branch. This is frequently updated with any new information.

<http://civilinquiry.jud.ct.gov/CaseDetail/PublicCaseDetail.aspx?DocketNo=FBTCV175032827S>

OTHER

- The Yard Waste site continues to be monitored to eliminate potential fire risks. Responses to RFP #2017-78 for a successor to the current Harvest New England operations were received on June 7, 2017. A proposed new contract is expected to be executed this month.
- The design and permitting application of the Town's Flood Control Barrier around the WPCF / Fire Training Grounds / Conservation Garage / Animal Control Facility was submitted to CT DEEP on April 7, 2017. The Town has received comments on 10/18/17 and will be addressing them. This project will be scheduled for a Town Planning & Zoning Public Hearing this fall. A Certificate of Wetland Compliance Permit # 2016-17-115 has been issued for this project.
- A landscaping plan for screening trees consisting of 40 14' tall white pines (*Pinus Strobus Fastigiata*) located at the rear property line of the training grounds has been developed. Bid prices will be received this summer. This will be funded by the State of Connecticut Department of Administrative Services. The installation of the landscape/ screening will be coordinated with the construction of the above referenced Flood Control Barrier. If CT DEEP approvals for the Flood Barrier are received shortly, the construction can begin this calendar year.
- The Town will begin the development of a five year plan for the Fire Training Grounds, Mulch Operations, and the PW Yard.

If you have any questions or comments, or would like to be added to the distribution list for future project updates, please send an email to kfournier@fairfieldct.org

Town of Fairfield Points of Contact:

Michael Tetreau, First Selectman
Joseph Michelangelo, Public Works Director
Denis McCarthy, Fire Chief
Brian Carey, Conservation Director

Status Update No. 18 will be issued on November 3, 2017.



Connecticut Fund
for the Environment

Save the Sound®

Meeting with First Selectman Tetreau September 29, 2019

Outstanding Issues With The Berm and Landscaping

1. The cross sections of the Prof. Miniutti's landscape berm plan depict a minimum 50' width between the edge of the marsh and the road. This is not consistent with the town's berm plan view. Additionally, the Town of Fairfield's recommended buffer of 55 feet from the edge of water should be used.
2. The cross section of the Prof. Miniutti's landscape berm plan depicts a rendering of trees, shrubs and grasses. The trees proposed will be planted in 3 gallon containers and take many years to reach their full size. Sassafras is a 9-18' tall shrub. Eastern red cedar is a conical shaped conifer. These species are appropriate for this location. Neither of these species, however, will look like the large canopy trees depicted in the cross section.
3. Neither the town's CMZ application to the TPZ or the landscape berm plan describe the depth of top soil on the berm or the type of plant medium (compost, fertilizer, mulch, etc.) to be used.
4. There are requirements for ph, planting depth, and soil depth for the successful establishment of trees and shrubs. These should be included in the plans or specifications and have not been provided by the applicant. It is also unclear how the berm will be planted. Does the town intend to use machines? Is the slope too steep for the equipment? Is the proposed plan to use 6"-8" of top soil in the areas where trees are to be established? Is there a plan for watering and removal of invasive species until the plantings are established?
5. Native, coastal seed mix for disturbed sites is an appropriate seed mix.
6. Best practices would suggest use of a varied slope (terracing or back-benching) over the surface of the berm to allow for the establishment of trees on the flatter sections (back-benches) and the coastal grasses on the steeper

sections, as opposed to a uniform 2.5:1 slope. In a coastal area subject to wind-blown sand, terracing would allow for the collection of material.

7. The town's CMZ application to the TPZ does not address erosion control measures to be used during the construction of the berm and during the time needed for the plantings on the berm to become established.
8. The town's CMZ application to the TPZ lacks a grading plan describing the means and method of how the berm will be constructed by DPW employees.
9. The landscape berm plan indicates that the walking path will control the flow of storm water. It does not discuss the depth of material to be used in the construction of the path. The town's CMZ application also fails to depict how the direction of storm water flow will be controlled.
10. The storm water retention basin should be designed to retain a volume of storm water greater than 1 inch. Because the aggregate pile operation and the historic landfill are located less than 500 feet from a tidal wetland and, in light of the contamination in this area, an alternative retention volume should be used pursuant to the DEEP's Industrial Activity General Discharge of Stormwater Permit.
11. An operation and maintenance plan needs to be developed for the proper functioning of the storm water retention basin.