

# Memo

**To:** Fort Point Neighborhood Association and  
St. Vincent's Lower End Neighborhood Association

**From:** Ileen Gladstone, P.E., LSP

**c:** Tommy Butler, Massport

**Date:** November 30, 2023

**Re:** Community Update #12 (Weeks of November 13 and 20, 2023)  
Cypher/E Street Improvement Project  
South Boston, Massachusetts  
GEI Project No. 2302746

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As the community's Licensed Site Professional (LSP) representing its interests on the Cypher/E Street Improvement Project, I am providing regular updates on project activities. The site Contractor is DW White and the LSP and Environmental Consultant representing Massport is Tetra Tech.

## 1. Recent Activity (Weeks of November 13 and 20, 2023)

Work was not conducted on Thursday, November 23, 2023. During the weeks of November 13 and 20, 2023, DW White excavated and transported offsite soil in the TSCA Area, (see Section 2). Soil was not excavated off-site from the D to E Street Connector or from between C and D Street. They received and stockpiled deliveries of ¾" stone; the stone is uncontaminated material that will be used for backfilling.

## 2. Soil Excavation

### 2.1 D to E Street Connector

Soil was not excavated and transported offsite. Continued placement and roll compaction of imported dense gravel borrow and grading.

### 2.2 TSCA Area

Five trucks of PCB contaminated soil were excavated and transported off-site on Thursday, November 16, 2023. Excavation of PCB contaminated soil in the TSCA Area for roadway construction is complete. If trees are planted in the sidewalk, additional PCB contaminated soil will need to be excavated. The soil and gravel in the TSCA decontamination pad was excavated and placed in the last truck for offsite disposal. Continued placement and roll compaction of imported dense gravel borrow and grading.

Dust control monitoring, watering, and sweeping was conducted.

### 2.3 Cypher between D to C Street

Continued excavation, installation of trench box, placement of imported gravel bedding, installation of drainage structures and backfill (see photo log). Continued placement and roll compaction of imported dense gravel borrow and grading.

### **3. Dust Monitoring**

#### **3.1 Work Site**

Dust monitoring is being conducted at the perimeter of the project work zone. Real time monitors are in place at the work site. The dust monitoring will assess the contractor's ongoing dust control measures and if additional controls are needed. The contractor will be controlling dust in the TSCA area by only exposing soil in an area that can be excavated in one day, covering the exposed soil at the end of the day, and using water misting. If the dust readings exceed the project standards, the contractor will increase their dust control measures such as additional water sprays or other measures. If necessary, work will be temporarily stopped until the project standards are met.

The dust Response Level (0.075 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) and the Action Level (0.150 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) were exceeded on Friday, November 17, 2023. The dust Response Level (0.075 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) only was exceeded on Wednesday, November 16, 2023, Thursday, November 17, 2023, and Wednesday, November 22, 2023. The dust Response Level and Action Level were not exceeded in the TSCA area.

On November 17, 2023, between 6:45 and 9:15 am, the Response Level and Action Level was exceeded at both the on-site and off-site monitors. Foggy conditions resulted in dust monitor alerts during the first half of the morning. Tetra Tech inspected the stations and recalibrated them. Conditions improved by 9:00 am. No work-related spikes above background were observed during this time.

On November 17, 2023, the Response Level was exceeded on Cypher Street, near C Street. Work vehicles were driving on Cypher Street, work ceased, dust control was employed and conditions improved quickly.

On November 22, 2023, the Response Level was exceeded on Cypher Street, near C Street. DW White was using an excavator to remove asphalt from Cypress Street. The work site was wet from ongoing rain.

#### **3.2 Community Parks**

As requested by the community, Massport is conducting dust monitoring at the A Street Park, Flaherty Park, and the Mahoney Community Garden. Dust monitoring continues at each of the parks. The dust monitors are being deployed daily during the work week. Tetra Tech places a monitor in each park at the beginning of the workday and remove it at the end of the workday.

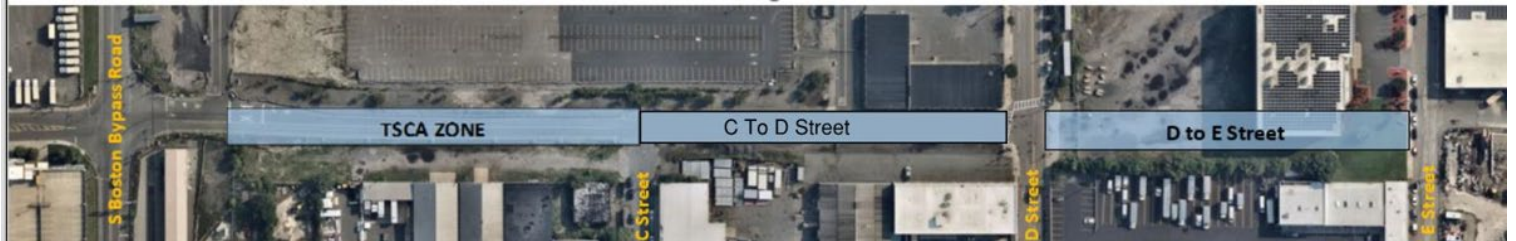
On November 17, 2023, the Response Level and Action Level were exceeded during foggy conditions as described above. Foggy conditions resulted in dust monitor alerts during the first half of the morning. Tetra Tech inspected the stations and recalibrated them. Conditions improved by 9:00 am. No work-related spikes above background were observed during this time.

Recorded dust levels at the A Street Park, Flaherty Park and Mahoney Community Garden were below actions levels during the rest of the work week.

### **4. Schedule**

As is typical on construction projects, the contractor provides a look ahead schedule. These schedules often get modified based on field conditions, but they provide a good estimation of upcoming activities. According to DW White's look ahead schedule, the following activities are planned:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Week of 11/27/2023<br>(Thursday through Saturday) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Placement of subbase and binder in TSCA Area</li><li>• Placement of subbase and binder in D to E Street Connector</li><li>• Placement of subbase and binder from C to Bullock Street</li></ul> |
| Week of 12/04/2023                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Curb installation in TSCA Area and D to E Street Connector</li><li>• Continue roadway construction between Bullock and D Street</li></ul>  |
| Week of 12/11/2023                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue street light installation and other elements in sidewalks.</li></ul>  |



## 5. Project Website

Massport and GEI have been collaborating on a project website, [cyphereproject.com](http://cyphereproject.com). The website includes contact numbers for Massport, the PowerPoint presentations from the community meetings, and traffic management and environmental controls information. The Community LSP page includes my background and contact information. I will be posting regular Community Updates on the website to keep you informed on the project progress, soil excavation, trucking, dust monitoring results, schedule, and other project activities.

GEI's presentation from November 21, 2023 for the Fort Point Neighborhood Association has been uploaded to the website.

The construction schedule has been updated on the website.

## 6. Additional Activities

Massport is still evaluating options for planting trees as part of the project. Massport will be planting additional trees as part of this project.

### Attachments

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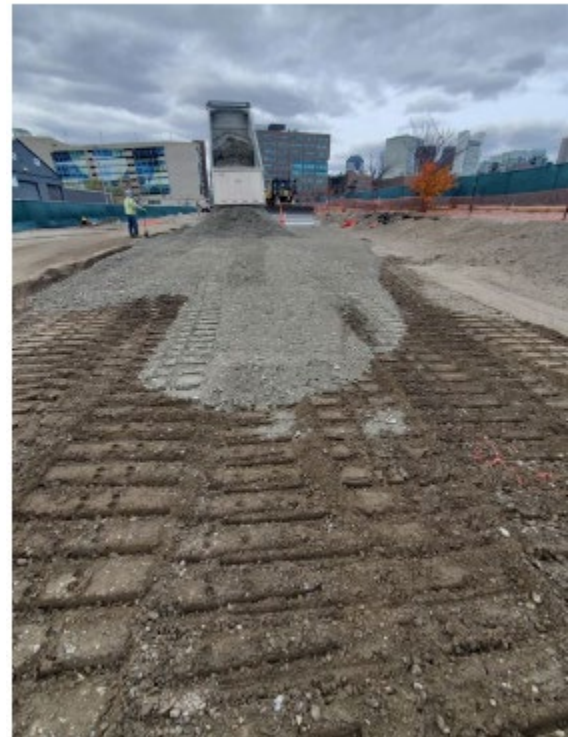
Excavation in TSCA Area



Backfill of decontamination TSCA  
Area after excavation



Drainage installation in trench box



Placement of dense gravel