

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: September 26, 2023

Re: Community Update #4 (Week of September 18, 2023)
Cypher/E Street Improvement Project
South Boston, Massachusetts
GEI Project No. 2302746

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 (Week of September 18, 2023)

During the week of September 18, 2023, DW White enabling activities for construction pending such as saw-cut of existing pavement, adjustment of castings in preparation for milling of pavement along Cypher Street and cleanup of trash and debris from Cypher Street perimeters. Soil excavation in the D-E Street Connector began (see Section 2).

Bait stations were put in place on Wednesday September 20, 2023 for rodent control. A concern was raised during the September 20, 2023 Community Meeting regarding rabbits being harmed by the rodent bait stations. DW White reached out to the pest control subcontractor and was informed that the rodent bait stations do not put rabbits at risk. They are not only heavily regulated by the EPA, but also tamper proof, with an opening only big enough to fit a rat or mouse. Other rodents (even chipmunks) are not typically attracted to the bait placed inside.

2. Soil Excavation

TSCA soil excavation was scheduled to start the week of September 25, 2023. Soil outside the TSCA area (D to E Street Connector) begin excavation on Thursday September 21, 2023.

Excavation was conducted in the D to E Street Connector. DW White loaded and disposed offsite railroad ties. They excavated, loaded, and disposed offsite a total of approximately 32 truckloads of non-TSCA soil on Thursday (9/21/23) and Friday (9/22/23). Soil was disposed at an in state landfill. See attached photo log.

Disposal of the TSCA soil at the permitted Michigan facility was approved on Thursday (9/21/23). DW White planned to start soil excavation in the TSCA area the week September 25, 2023; however, they were not able to arrange for train transport this week and will likely not be starting excavation in the TSCA area. Soil is loaded into trucks for offsite disposal and trucked to a rail yard for transfer to rail car for shipment to Michigan. Now that DW White has facility approval for disposal, they are working on reserving train capacity, which they plan to have for the week of October 2, 2023.

Test pitting to characterize soil for off-site disposal was not conducted during the week of September 18, 2023, but will likely be done during the week of September 25, 2023. When test pits are excavated for soil sampling, they will be backfilled on the same day.

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 temporary stopped until the project standards are met.

On Thursday September 21, 2023, there was a momentary exceedance of the response level (0.075 mg/m³) an on-site dust monitor during soil loading. DW White implemented additional dust mitigation measures with their water truck and the dust level dropped below the response levels. Tetra Tech continued to monitor the dust levels for the remainder of the day.

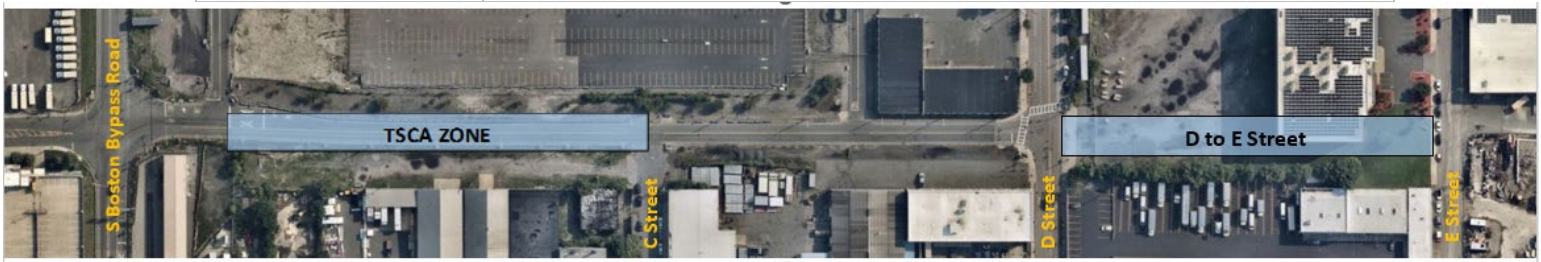
3.2 Community Parks

As requested by the community, Massport is conducting dust monitoring at the A Street Park, Flaherty Park and the West 2nd Street Park and Community Garden (Mahoney Community Garden). Recorded dust levels in the parks all week were substantially below actions levels.

4. Schedule

As 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 9/25/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of truck decontamination area. • Start installation of drainage in D to E Street Connector • Excavate and transport soil off site from D to E Street Connector
Week of 10/2/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excavate north shoulder in Cypher Street (TSCA Area) • Start installation of lighting conduit in Cypher Street (TSCA Area) • Continue drainage in D to E Street Connector
Week of 10/9/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue roadway construction in TSCA Area • Continue roadway construction in D to E Street Connector



5. Project Website

Massport and GEI have been collaborating on a project website, 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.

Presentation from September 20, 2023 Community Meeting has been uploaded to the website.

6. Upcoming Meetings

I will be attending the Fort Point Neighborhood Association's monthly meeting on Tuesday September 26, 2023.

Attachment

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Loading Brush



Excavation and Loading in D to E Connector