

## 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:** October 12, 2023

**Re:** Community Update #6 (Week of October 2, 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 (Week of October 2, 2023)

During the week of October 2, 2023, DW White continued excavation; loading and hauling soil in the D to E Street Connector (see Section 2). They also started excavation in the TSCA Area (see Section 2). They received and stockpiled deliveries of ¾" stone; the stone is uncontaminated material that will be used for backfilling.

Construction in the TSCA Area for the Truck Decontamination Wash Station, which will be enlarged.

### 2. Soil Excavation

Soil was excavated in the TSCA Area. Soil outside the TSCA area (D to E Street Connector) was not excavated for offsite disposal.

Work in the D to E Street Connector included removal of railroad ties, railroad tracks and granite curbing. Curbing was stacked, railroad tracks were stacked, and railroad ties loaded into an onsite dumpster which was removed offsite on Friday, October 6, 2023.

Excavation in the TSCA Area began on Thursday October 5, 2023. Soil was excavated for the Truck Decontamination Wash Station. The Wash Station was lined with poly and backfilled with clean stone (see photo log). Additional poly was placed adjacent to the Wash Station for a portion of the truck so that water would flow from into the Wash Station Pit. The adequacy of this approach was evaluated, and the Wash Station was enlarged (see photo log).

Soil in TSCA work zone was excavated (TSCA Area 1). A lower asphalt layer below the existing roadway was encountered at the planned excavation depth. This asphalt may be the TSCA cap that was installed during previous site remediation. An orange ID marker was installed at the final subgrade elevation and backfilled with clean dense grade material (see photo log). No portion of the excavation was left uncovered. Dust control monitoring, watering, and sweeping was conducted. Dust monitoring during excavation did not indicate additional action was required. Nine trucks of TSCA soil were shipped offsite on October 5, 2023.

### 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.

On Wednesday October 4 and 5, 2023 the dust response level (0.075 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) was exceeded once each day in the laydown area. DW White sprayed the path and the conditions improved quickly.

On Thursday October 5, 2023, the dust response level (0.075 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) was exceeded near the West Service Road as trucks were exiting. DW White sprayed water on the truck route conditions improved quickly.

#### 3.2 Community Parks

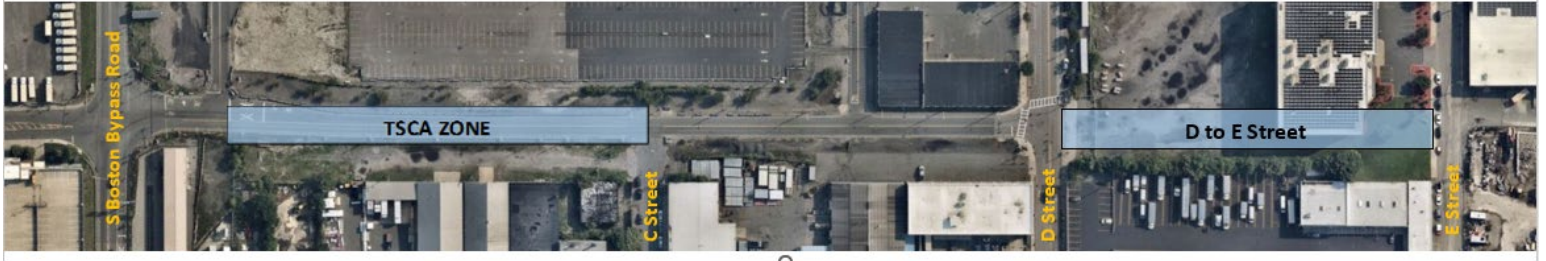
As requested by the community, Massport is conducting dust monitoring at the A Street Park, Flaherty Park and the Mahoney Community Garden. Recorded dust levels in the parks all week were below actions levels during the work week.

However, the dust level measures in all three parks were above response level (0.075 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) overnight on Saturday October 1 into Sunday October 2, 2023. The levels fell below the response level at approximately 4 am. Tetra Tech did not observe anything unusual during their inspections first thing in the morning. No work was being done during these hours at the construction site. As shown in the graph below in the photo log, all three monitors experienced the same general pattern of dust levels. General air quality was reportedly worse over the weekend than it has been for a few weeks (Boston Air Quality Index (AQI) and Massachusetts Air Pollution | IQAir), which may have been the cause of the elevated dust measurements.

### 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 10/9/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue roadway construction in TSCA Area is confirmed for Tuesday October 10 and Thursday October 12, 2023.</li><li>• Continue roadway construction in D to E Street Connector</li></ul>
Week of 10/16/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue roadway construction in TSCA Area confirmed for Friday October 20, 2023</li><li>• Continue roadway construction in D to E Street Connector</li></ul>
Week of 10/23/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue roadway construction in TSCA Area</li><li>• Continue roadway construction in D to E Street Connector</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.

## 6. Additional Activities

State Senator Nick Collins visited the site on Monday October 2, 2023, with two staff members. They were provided with a tour of the site by Massport personnel. I attended the site visit.

Members of the FPNA and the SVLEN observed the project site from the roof of the Channel Center garage on Thursday October 5, 2023. They were accompanied by Massport staff and me and were able to observe current site conditions after construction ended for the day. Mr. Tom Ready of FPNA observed construction activities early in the day from the rooftop and pointed out some practices that should be further evaluated. There was an issue with some of the TSCA trucks leaving the site and not turning left onto the Bypass Road, as directed, and heading to A Street. Additional signage is being posted and, moving forward, the TSCA trucks will be escorted from the work site and instructed to turn left to the bypass road.

On Friday October 6, 2023, Senator Collins, Congressman Stephen Lynch, State Representative David Biele, and City Councilor Michael Flaherty visited the site. The group discussed incorporating trees into the design outside and general construction practices.

### Attachment

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Original Truck Decontamination Wash Pit



Expanded Truck Decontamination Wash Pit





Excavation in TSCA Area



Marking Linear Before Backfilling in TSCA  
Excavation



Excavation in TSCA Area that has been  
Backfilled