



TOWN OF STRATFORD

RAYMARK COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP

MEETING MINUTES

May 26, 2021

The Raymark Community Advisory Group, in conjunction with the Stratford Health Department, Environmental Protection Agency, Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection, and the United States Army Corp of Engineers, conducted a virtual meeting on Wednesday May 26, 2021 via GoToMeetings, pursuant to notice duly posted.

TOWN REPRESENTATIVE IN ATTENDANCE

- Alivia Coleman – Health Department Program Associate
- Kelly Kerrigan – Environmental Conservation Superintendent
- Raynae Serra – Director of Public Works
- Kaitlyn Shake – Town Council 2nd District

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

- Jim DiLorenzo
- Dan Keefe
- ZaNetta Purnell
- Karen McGuire

UNITED STATES ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS (USACE) MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

- David Heislein
- Michael Looney
- Carl Niemitz
- Robert Vanoer

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (DEEP) MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

- Tony Allevo
- Ron Curran

STATE REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDANCE:

- Allison Dodge for Congresswoman Rose DeLauro’s office
- Lillian McKenzie for Senator Christopher Murphy’s office

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

- Various residents

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Coleman called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.

II. INTRODUCTIONS -- Ms. Coleman introduced herself and others in attendance.

A. OVERVIEW OF VIRTUAL MEETING STRUCTURE – Ms. Coleman explained the process of conducting a virtual meeting per Governor Lamont’s Executive Order, and reminded everyone that the meeting was being recorded.

B. RULES OF CONDUCT – Ms. Coleman reviewed meeting protocol, noting that based on suggestions she received, participants would be allowed to ask questions after each individual presentation, if they were pertinent to the presented material.

C. PERIODIC UPDATE – Ms. Coleman explained that periodic updates are emailed to those who requested such, adding that those who would like to receive updates can provide their email addresses, and updates can also be found on the Town’s website: www.TownofStratford.com/Raymark.

III. STATUS

A. ONGOING REMEDIATION AT EAST MAIN STREET – Mr. DiLorenzo stated of the 24 properties in OU6, 7 have been completed. He noted the following:

- 380 East Main Street (Glynn Manufacturing) – Mr. DiLorenzo stated this was the first of the OU6 removals, and was completed by Sept. 17, 2020. It was estimated 40 yards of material would be removed, and 51.70 yards (4 trucks) was actually removed.
- 190 Ferry Blvd. (Karate Studio) – Per Mr. DiLorenzo, this work was completed in December 2020. It was estimated 100 yards of material would be removed, and 87.31 yards (10 trucks) was actually removed.
- 200 Ferry Blvd. (Liquor Store) – Mr. DiLorenzo explained this work was done in December 2020, It was estimated 500 yards of material would be removed, and 481.83 yards (64 trucks) was actually removed.
- DOT Exit 33 – Per Mr. DiLorenzo, work began Jan. 19 and is ongoing. The estimated volume is 420 yards. To date, 345.57 yards (19 trucks) has been removed via the Haul Road.
- 250, 304 & 340 East Main Street (Ashcroft - front, Dry Cleaner and Hair Salon) – Mr. DiLorenzo stated work at these locations began Feb. 2, and will continue through May. It was estimated there would be approximately 5,000 yards (700 trucks) with approximately 700 yard (80 trucks) of the total contained PHC (worst of the worst) waste going offsite. To date, 2,928 yards (251 trucks) has been removed. 794.60 yards (60 trucks) of the PHC waste has been removed. Mr. DiLorenzo noted they may have to return for 360 East Main Street because under 302, the contractor was not contracted to go onto the property where it is located.

- Mr. DiLorenzo explained the restoration of the East Main Street properties, including Ashcroft. He noted the chain link fence was removed, and border trees were added. The two piles of clean fill on the property, which were purchased by the previous owner, have been hydroseeded to keep the dust down until the owner determines what to do with the material. The sidewalk in front of Ashcroft has been replaced, and all plantings in front have been restored.
- Mr. DiLorenzo stated the Raymark waste at 360 East Main Street has been fully characterized. They are trying to find the edge at 302 East Main Street. He noted both are relatively small parcels.

B. OU6 PLANNED SITES

- Ashcroft Rear – Per Mr. DiLorenzo, approximately 4,500 yards (270 trucks) will be removed. Mr. DiLorenzo stated the area of Raymark waste in the back rear right corner is defined on three sides. They are working on the North and East sections of this area. There is no PHC waste therein. Mr. DiLorenzo explained the difficulty with this particular area is its proximity to the Housatonic River. They will likely have to deal with more groundwater than they had previously. That groundwater will have to be containerized, treated and discharged, so that will slow the process down somewhat. It will take approximately three to four months to remediate the area.
- DOT Right-of-Way Across from Karate Studio – Per Mr. DiLorenzo, this area is across from Hitchcock Marine and the car dealerships, as well as the former ski shop. There are three distinct areas and approximately 1,000 cubic yards (60 trucks) of material will be removed. Two of the areas are clearly defined, while sampling is being done by the convenience store to define that area. This work will begin sometime in mid-late Summer.
- Vacant Lot Behind Blue Goose Restaurant (326 Ferry Blvd.)– Mr. DiLorenzo noted this is a large wooded area that expands to some backyards along Willow Avenue and some on Housatonic Avenue. Of the approximate 4,400 yards (400 trucks), about 660 yards (60 trucks) is PHC waste. Work at this location will begin in either late Fall or early Winter 2021, and will take approximately twelve weeks to complete. Per Mr. DiLorenzo, they will host a public meeting for the residents of Willow Avenue and some on Housatonic Avenue prior to the work beginning.
- Beacon Point – Per Mr. DiLorenzo, there are three distinct areas of Raymark waste. One is along Beacon Point Road facing the waterfront opposite the water treatment plant. This is the primary area where there is Raymark waste at this location. The second area is behind the condo complex, as there is an area of Raymark waste in the grassy area between rear of condo complex and the parking lot for boat ramps. There is also a third small area by the boat ramps which entails gaining access to private property. Collectively, there is an estimated 2,400 cubic yards (200 trucks) of Raymark waste, of which 250 cubic yards (20 trucks) is PHC waste. Work will probably be done in Fall/Winter 2021, rather than during the busy Summer months, and will take approximately ten weeks to complete.
- Wooster Park – Mr. DiLorenzo explained the delineation line has been established, adding it is larger than was originally thought (5,000 yards rather than the originally estimate 1,500 yards). Final sampling will be done the first week in June, and brush

has to be cleared. Per Mr. DiLorenzo, there is no PHC waste at this location. The timeframe has changed from Summer to Fall/Winter 2021, when residents are less likely to be in their backyards while the work is being done and the park will be less active. Because the expected volume has increased exponentially, it will take approximately twelve weeks to complete. There was a virtual neighborhood public meeting on May 12 regarding this matter, and there will be another one prior to the work beginning.

C. RAYBESTOS MEMORIAL FIELD (OU4) UPDATE

Mr. Looney explained the primary Raymark Team consists of Mayor Laura Hoydick, EPA Project Manager Jim DiLorenzo, Ron Curran and Tony Allevo from CT DEEP, Robert Vanoer, Dave Heislein and himself from USACE, as well as Severson (environmental remediation construction contractor) and AECOM (lead remedial design). Mr. Looney noted the following Town personnel have been instrumental in getting this project going: Mayor Hoydick, Ms. Boissevain, Ms. Coleman, Ms. Serra, Ms. Kerrigan, Town Engineer John Casey, as well as Ms. Harvey from CT Dept. of Health.

Mr. Looney discussed OU4 ballfield work that has been completed or ongoing since April.

- Approximately 4,000 cubic yards of material has been excavated from OU6 and transported to the ballfield.
- The OU4 site and cap design is ongoing. Mr. Looney expects the design to be complete by the end of Summer.
- Stormwater control and conveyance system – Per Mr. Looney, this will handle all the clean stormwater expected to be shed at the ballfield. Clean stormwater will be shed and collected where the current parking lot is on Frog Pond Lane. That will be carried across East Main Street, through Ashcroft, to an open channel, and eventually to the Housatonic River. They will also be constructing a pump station as part of that effort. Mr. Looney noted the designs for this are complete.
- There are five perimeter air monitors at OU4 and two at East Main Street that are operating daily.
- Mr. Looney stated the site cameras can be viewed online at <https://www.ipcamline.com/5fc7c13309700>.
- OU4 Containment Structure – Mr. Looney explained it is to the west of the site, close to the former Contract Plating OU4 border. It is a structure meant to contain material that will be handled more than normal. Any wet material, or any material that needs additives for drying or other applications, will be handled in the containment structure. It is a temporary fabric structure, approximately 100'L x 130'W x 40'H, with an aluminum structural frame with PVC-coated fabric membrane. Used primarily for overly wet material, as well as materials which need additives prior to going into the ballfield or taken off-site, this is a closed system with air treatment. Air is pulled out at a fairly high rate, and filtered through high-efficiency filters. Anything coming out, therefore, is scrubbed and cleaned before it is discharged to the air. Mr. Looney noted there will also be a truck bypass around the structure.

D. OU4 STORMWATER SYSTEM

- Mr. Looney explained the stormwater system upgrades, which will prevent water from going through the waste and into the ground. Clean stormwater will be pumped through the new conveyance system. Construction will begin Fall 2021. Water will eventually go to the new stormwater pump station.
- The new pump station will replace the Platt Street pump station, which is undersized for all the stormwater which will be created. It will have four axial flow pumps, and a 200 CFS capacity. It will operate during significant storms and high-water events. There will be a masonry pumphouse.

E. OU4 AIR MONITORING RESULTS – Mr. Heislein stated since the April 28, 2021 public meeting, the Daily Average Dust level was 0.001 to 0.0010 mg/m³. There were no exceedances of the OU4 Dust Action Level criteria (0.014 mg/m³). He noted all five dust meters and sample collection systems are in operation, as well as one personnel chemical sample collection system. Per Mr. Heislein, there were no exceedances of chemical health and safety criteria. He is posting weekly air monitoring reports, chemical data and vibration monitoring reports on the Town Raymark website.

F. OU6 AIR MONITORING RESULTS – Per Mr. Heislein, there are two dust meters /chemical sample collection systems in operation at OU6, as well as one personnel chemical sample collection system. He discussed the site restoration at the 250 and 304/340 East Main Street properties, explaining no Raymark waste handling was conducted. Mr. Heislein explained perimeter air monitoring updates for the OU4 and OU6 restoration, noting all imported clean soil is tested every 500-1,000 cubic yards to ascertain it meets the CT Residential Soil criteria. He stated the dust action level was raised to 0.150 mg/m³ only while the site restoration work was being done, adding the same dust action levels were used during the Contract Plating and Haul Road construction.

IV. QUESTIONS

- Were the two piles on East Main Street sampled before being dumped? Per Mr. DiLorenzo, the piles were sampled for a broad variety of chemicals. The piles are being hydroseeded to prevent excess dust. The owner has yet to decide what he will do with the piles.
- Will the stormwater conveyance system include the Contract Plating site? Mr. Heislein explained a study was done of the different piping routes, taking into consideration the future use of the Contract Plating site. The stormwater will go through the ballfield, through the stormwater conveyance system using gravity and a culvert will take it out to the new pump station.
- What is the current watering plan for the plantings along the barriers? Per Mr. DiLorenzo, USACE and a local landscaper replaced fifty trees, which will be watered manually by the landscaper who replaced them. Mr. DiLorenzo is in discussions with USACE to develop a watering plan for the trees that were not replaced. He noted there are only three stressed trees along the boundary, and will have an update at the June 30 meeting.

- Can anything be done for the trees that have dead branches at the bottom? Mr. DiLorenzo everything remains under a one-year warranty, adding any will be replaced if there is a 50% or greater die-back.
- When discussing Wooster Park at the next meeting, can a slide with the street names be included? Mr. DiLorenzo agreed to do so.
- How often will the landscaper water the plantings? Mr. DiLorenzo stated they will be watered weekly rather than daily.
- A huge truck from Georgia with 8-10 huge rolls of material on it did not use the haul road. Mr. Vanoer will ask Severson to try to determine what it was and report at the next meeting.
- On slide 16 (DOT ROW along Ferry Blvd.), what do the yellow dots represent? Per Mr. DiLorenzo, clean samples were taken at those locations. Ms. Coleman noted sampling was also done in the 1990's, and residents were notified if lead was found in the soil. Mr. DiLorenzo explained the Morgan Francis cleanup, which is separate from the Raymark cleanup, has not yet begun.
- Has the pipeline been built, and will the pumping station have a generator? Mr. DiLorenzo stated construction will not begin until Fall 2021, and the new pump station will have a generator. Mr. Looney noted it will also have an extra pump.
- Who will maintain the new pump system? Per Mr. DiLorenzo, the Town will take ownership. Ms. Serra explained that since it is a stormwater system, not a sanitary one, the Highway division of the Public Works Department will maintain, not the WPCA.

Ms. Coleman noted anyone who has further questions may contact her via email.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Coleman noted the next meeting will be June 30, 2021. She then adjourned the meeting at 7:42pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Aileen Marsh
Recording Secretary