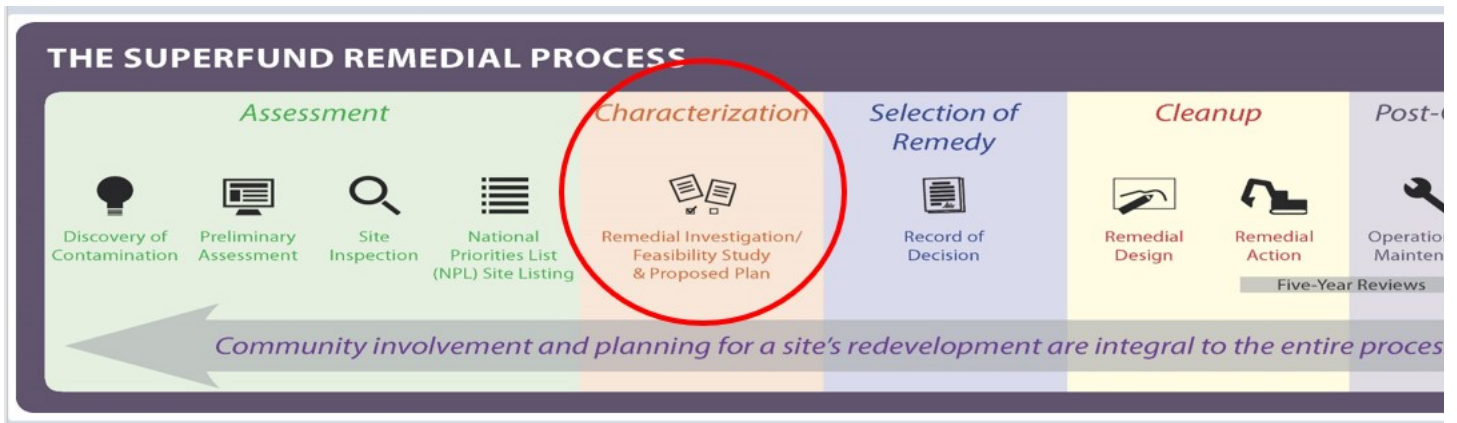

From: Purnell, Zanetta
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2024 1:45 PM
Cc: Burgo, Natalie (she/her/hers); Pluta, Alexander
Subject: EPA, Lower Neponset River Superfund Site Community Update - May 2024

Good afternoon!,

We hope that everyone is doing well and enjoying the Spring weather. The last time we all joined together was in late February for the [Lower Neponset River Superfund site](#) hybrid public meeting, so we wanted to provide a brief update to you all with some helpful information. 😊

SITE PROGRESS:

- EPA has officially begun the second part of the remedial investigation which will take place from the Tileston and Hollingsworth Dam down to the Walter Baker Chocolate Dam (we call this Phase II). The Phase II sampling will include a study of fish tissue, where we will be collecting samples from shellfish, bottom feeder fish, and predatory fish. The Phase II sampling will also include a bathymetric survey, which will tell us about the physical characteristics of the bottom of the river; it will also include environmental media sampling, which will include sediment, surface water, soil, & porewater.
 - The sampling crew is currently working along the riverbanks of the Phase II area to collect soil samples. Sampling hours will typically occur from **7:00am – 5:00pm, Monday through Friday** (no weekends or holidays). The crew will primarily be working from boat along the Lower Neponset River but may also access the riverbanks from land where needed. The crew will be wearing bright colored clothing or shirts with an AECOM logo and may be wearing Tyvek (white colored suits) along the shores in areas with dense vegetation to protect the crew from poison ivy. You may see the crew utilizing garden carts with equipment and picnic coolers to store samples.
- We are still in the [remedial investigation](#) phase of the Superfund process (see graphic below), where we collect sampling data to characterize the nature and extent of contamination. The site consists of a 3.7-mile stretch of the river, where we began initial sampling at the Neponset River/the Mother Brook confluence to the Tileston and Hollingsworth Dam (we called this Phase I).
 - To date we have completed a remedial [site reconnaissance](#) and environmental sampling for the first mile of the site. The data we collect about the first mile of the river will help inform an [Engineering Analysis/ Cost Evaluation](#) (← page 3-4) to support a potential a [Non-time critical removal action](#); the non-time critical removal action **may involve** dredging portions of the first mile to remove hotspots of highly contaminated sediment.



COMMUNITY:

- Starting this summer, we are aiming to have a location available for community members to come by and visit the site, more details to come on that!
- The [Community Advisory Group \(CAG\)](#) has commenced and meetings are currently taking place on a monthly basis during the evening. Two meetings have been held to date, the next one will be taking place during the first week of June. If you have any questions or have interest in joining to be a member of the CAG, feel free to reach out to me! The agenda for these meetings will be available soon on the website under Community Corner > Community Advisory Group > Meeting Agenda.
- Community events EPA has attended/plans to attend this year: 4/6 and 4/20 Hyde Park Neponset River Access Committee Workshops – 5/6 the Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health (MassCOSH) environmental justice youth public engagement event (MassCOSH was also a recipient of EPA’s Healthy Communities Grant!) – 6/15 Juneteenth Joy Hyde Park
 - Please feel free to share upcoming events or opportunities to connect more with the community/youth that live near or are impacted by the Lower Neponset River site with me.
- The next hybrid general site public meeting will take place in the late fall or early winter of 2024, notification/reminders will be sent out to the email list in advance.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- Phase II sampling is anticipated to occur from late May to November 2024.
- The Data Validation Report for Phase I is anticipated to be available this summer (anticipated in August 2024).
 - This report will tell us what contamination is in the first mile of the river and where.
- EE/CA Report should be available at the end of September 2024.
 - There will be a public comment period before it becomes final.

Best!,

ZaNetta Purnell
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“SMILE! ☺☺☺ It always makes people wonder what’s so Different about YOU, but the Truth is: Everytime you Smile-- its an Action of Love, a Gift to that person, a Beautiful thing.”