

**McLouth Steel Superfund Site Community Advisory Group  
Meeting One**

**March 12, 2020  
Final Meeting Summary**

The first meeting of the McLouth Steel Superfund CAG convened in a virtual meeting -via Zoom and conference call – on March 12, 2020. The purposes of the meeting included:

- evaluating the applications of potential additional CAG members
- discussion of draft operating protocols for the CAG
- learning about EPA’s timeline for upcoming work and oversight on the site, and
- gathering information needs for future meetings

**Decisions Reached**

- Emily Hornbeck and Bob Burns were added as CAG members, representing At-Large (educators and young families) and the Friends of the Detroit River, respectively. Paul Gloor, Mary Bohling, and Kevin Langley were added as alternates for GINLC, Friends of the Detroit River, and Grosse Ile Township, respectively (see full list of CAG members and alternates in Appendix A.)
- The CAG will approve a Leadership Board of no more than 4 representatives, who will work with the facilitator and EPA to refine meeting agendas, develop work plans, prepare presenters, and assist with decisions about logistics. The Leadership Board will include representatives from the diverse range of government and civil society groups within the CAG.
- EPA will seek to provide status updates to the CAG on any outstanding requests or input, as practicable.
- EPA will update its timeline graphic to show that investigation of the southern portion of the site is likely to occur between 2021-2024.
- The next CAG meeting will include a presentation about the history and legal status of the McLouth Steel site.
- The next meeting of the CAG will take place on April 9 at 6:30 pm, via Zoom and conference call

**Action Items**

- All members are welcome to nominate themselves or other members (with those members’ approval) to serve on the Leadership Board, by sending an email to the facilitator by Friday March 20. The slate of nominations will be shared with the full CAG for decision at the next CAG meeting.
- By Friday March 20, members will share any concerns about sharing their email addresses with the CAG as a whole, as part of a contact sheet for all members. There is no need to reply affirmatively – lack of objection will be taken as consent. CBI will then

send members a contact list of CAG members, excluding addresses for anyone who expressed concern.

- CBI will poll members to better understand their views about recording of meetings, responding to media requests, and any other questions or concerns about the draft operating protocols, with the goal of finalizing the operating protocols at the next meeting.
- CBI will poll members about information needs, technical questions, and topics for future CAG meetings, and synthesize and share their suggestions at the next CAG meeting.
- EPA will update the Gantt chart on their timeline of Community Engagement Opportunities and Investigation and Clean Up Activities for the site to reflect the 3-4 year period to investigate the southern portion of the site.
- CBI and EPA will work with CAG volunteers to secure a presentation about the history and legal status of the site for the next CAG meeting.
- CBI and EPA will explore options for a CAG website.

### **Summary of Discussions**

CBI (Consensus Building Institute) facilitator Stacie Smith welcomed everyone and explained the features of using the Zoom interface for all on-line members. She reviewed the agenda, offered discussion guidelines, and invited all participants to introduce themselves. (A list of participants can be found in Appendix B).

The group then discussed and approved the applications of three (and then a fourth) new members or alternates (see decisions reached above for more details).

Discussion then turned to the draft operating protocols. The group discussed the pros, cons, and potential role of a Chair and Co-chair, a set of co-chairs, or a Leadership Board. While some members did not see the need for a chair if they were not going to run the meeting, others suggested a leadership board – made of diverse constituencies within the CAG – could be helpful for setting agendas and workplans and guiding other planning and logistical decisions. Participants noted that this would require a commitment of additional time for those people. The group decided on selecting a leadership board, with membership determined based on nominations (of self and others, with approval) to be sent to CBI and compiled for full group decision making at the next meeting.

The group discussed the question of recording meetings, and how this related to legal frameworks within the State of Michigan. It was determined that, because the CAG is not a public body, public meetings laws allowing recording did not apply, so additional discussion would be needed. Some members of the CAG felt that recording and posting those recordings of meetings would be helpful for transparency as well as memory of what occurred. Others

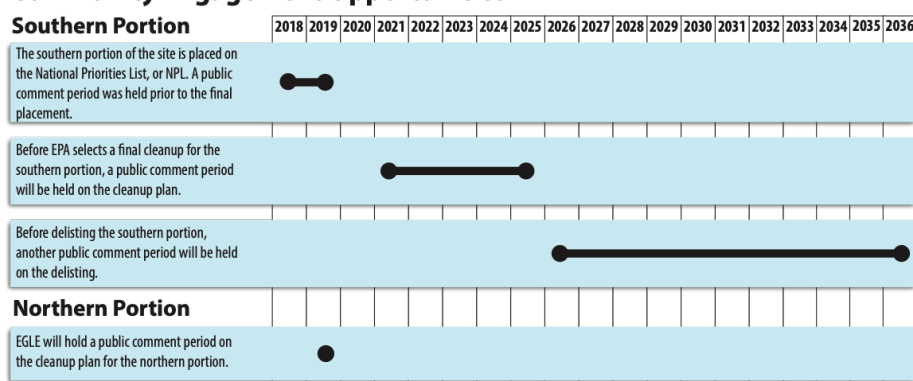
noted that it could impede open, frank, and informal dialogue, particularly in this start-up phase when mistrust might exist among participants. It was agreed that CBI would invite additional comments from members before the next meeting, and the group would revisit the question then.

Participants also discussed posting of CAG materials, and potentially recordings of meetings, and agreed to look into options. (In the meanwhile, meeting agendas, slides, summaries, , and materials about the site can be found at: [www.epa.gov/superfund/mclouth-steel](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/mclouth-steel))

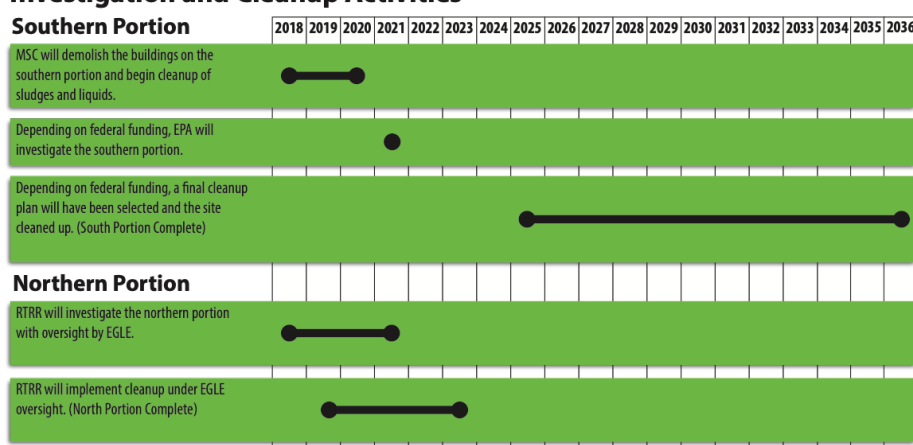
Later in the meeting, a member asked about how the CAG members should handle media requests, and noted that a suggestion for this was part of the draft operating protocols. CBI suggested soliciting additional input on that and any other comments on the draft protocols prior to the next meeting, so that the operating protocols could be finalized at that time.

The meeting then turned to EPA, who presented a timeline of Community Engagement Opportunities and Investigation and Clean Up Activities for the site. They discussed the following:

### Community Engagement Opportunities



### Investigation and Cleanup Activities



They noted that the EPA Removal Program expects to be complete summer 2020. Depending on funding, it is not expected for work to support the Remedial Investigation to start until sometime in 2021. Once that starts, EPA expects several years will be needed to complete the Remedial Investigation, take that information and identify possible cleanup options that will be put in a report called a “Feasibility Study”, and then issue a proposed cleanup plan that will seek public comment. All this work is depending on funding from the federal government and it can impact expected timelines. Given the amount of work expected after this summer, they noted that the CAG may want to think about the frequency of their meetings going forward and EPA facilitation support will be dependent on the level of work EPA is doing.

Participants asked the following questions (answers are in italics):

- When will we know whether funds will be allocated for the investigation of southern portion of the site? *The Federal budget for FY21 begins on October 1, 2020, so we should know by then if we will receive money for investigations from HQ. Sometimes we receive partial funding in any given year, with the expectation that investigation will take place over a number of years.*
- When can the CAG put together an application for a Technical Assistance Grant? *There are several steps involved for the awarding of a TAG grant. The group would need to determine who the host organization is. If an application were submitted, the Region would have to announce the TAG grant in the newspaper and evaluate any additional submissions. There are other forms of technical assistance that might be quicker and easier – for example, Technical Assistance for Communities. This would allow access for the community to existing EPA technical contractors, and could be executed quickly.*
- I’d like to use this image in my updates to constituents, but can you update the line showing investigation of the southern portion to show that it could be 2021-2024? *Yes, we will make that change.*
- Can we learn more about what the landowner plans to do on the land and any restrictions on use during the investigation phase? *The site owner must provide access to EPA to conduct its investigations, but EPA does not have jurisdiction over use of the site.*

This question and answer then segued into a discussion of information needs for the CAG. A participant suggested – and many others agreed – that it would be very helpful for the CAG to learn about the long history of the site, including the legal arrangements in place now. It was suggested that the County Treasurer’s Office and the Economic Development Agency of Wayne County might be the best parties to present on this, and Jim Wagner, from the City of Trenton, offered to help reach out to them.

Additional information requests included questions about EPA’s oversight of the demolition activities, and particularly about the approved work plan, the sampling approach, and the standards being used for evaluation. EPA noted that their weekly pollution reports about the current demolition work, created by Brian Kelly, might help answer some of the group’s questions, and others requested that all CAG members be added to the distribution list for those reports.

Another request was information about the history of what is known and unknown about the contamination at the site, as well as risks of spreading or increasing exposure of contamination to the river. They noted that there are many community misperceptions about this, and greater clarity would be helpful for CAG members.

Another participant suggested that the group could benefit from greater understanding about what kinds of redevelopment could occur under the “non-residential” cleanup standard, and how this differed from the residential standard.

Because time was running out, CBI suggested that they elicit additional information requests from participants before the next meeting, for further discussion.

The group then discussed the next meeting date and time, and agreed to hold their next meeting virtually on April 9, 2020 starting at 6:30 pm.

## Appendix A: CAG Membership

<b>Stakeholder Representatives and Alternates</b>		
<b>category</b>	<b>primary representative</b>	<b>alternate</b>
<b>City of Trenton</b>	Jim Wagner	
<b>City of Riverview</b>	Dean Workman	
<b>Grosse Ile Township</b>	Russell Bodrie	Kevin Langley
<b>Trenton Brownfields Authority</b>	TBD	
<b>Riverview Brownfields Authority</b>	Brian Webb	
<b>Trenton Visionaries</b>	Wendy Pate	Nicole Tank
<b>Gross Ile Nature and Land Conservancy</b>	Doug Thiel	Paul Gloor
<b>Gross Ile Civic Association</b>	Greg Karmazin	Bill Heil
<b>Friends of the Detroit River</b>	Bob Burns	Mary Bohling
<b>Downriver Walleye Federation</b>		
<b>DownRiver Waterfront Conservancy</b>	Paul Frost	
<b>Past Employees of McLouth Steel</b>	Elmer Trombley	
<b>Abutters</b>	Robert V Johnson	
<b>Trenton Business Association</b>		
<b>At-large Community Representative</b>	Ryan Stewart	
<b>At-large Community Representative</b>	Larry Ladomer	
<b>At-large Community Representative</b>	Judith Maiga	
<b>At-large Community Representative</b>	Dennis O'Brien	
<b>At-large Community Representative</b>	Emily Hornbeck	
<b>At-large Community Representative</b>	Edie Traster	
<b>At-large Community Representative</b>	Dick Whitwam	

## **Appendix B: Meeting Attendees**

### **CAG Participants:**

Robert Burns  
Paul Frost  
Paul Gloor  
Bill Heil  
Emily Hornbeck  
Bob Johnson  
Greg Karmazin  
Larry Ladomer  
Kevin Langley  
Judy Maiga  
Dennis O'Brien  
Ryan Stewart  
Douglas Thiel  
Edie Traster  
Jim Wagner  
Brian Webb  
Dean Workman

### **State and Federal Liaisons:**

Nabil Fayoumi  
Courtney Fung  
Andrea Keatley  
Bryan McMurran  
Dianne Russell  
Dianne Jacob Runge  
Jeremy Waechter

### **Facilitation:**

Stacie Smith

### **Public and Media:**

Mike Antio  
Mark Hicks  
Zach Russell