

McLouth Steel Superfund Site Community Advisory Group Workshop

Proposed Convening Process

EPA held a workshop on Thursday, January 23, 2020 to propose next steps for how to convene a Community Advisory Group for McLouth. Participants offered suggestions and comments throughout. While there was not agreement among meeting participants about the approach to follow, the following represents an attempt by the facilitator to integrate the different points of view and propose a pathway forward.

Purpose

The purpose of the CAG is to provide a way for members of communities and stakeholders potentially affected by the McLouth Steel Superfund Site to:

- Receive and discuss up-to-date information regarding the site, including timeframes and action plans;
- Get questions clearly answered in ways responsive to community priorities and needs;
- Present and discuss their needs, concerns, and priorities related to the site;
- Have their input seriously considered and addressed by EPA and EGLE in the agencies' oversight of the site; and
- Encourage and promote transparency, disclosure and accountability of all parties involved

The CAG is not a decision-making or regulatory body, and does not set policy or make decisions regarding project design and implementation. However, the CAG shall serve as a forum for information-sharing and providing input by:

- Providing individual comments and suggestions to regulatory agencies;
- Identifying topics for further discussion and specific action items for follow-up at later meetings; and
- Developing joint input and making recommendations, as appropriate.

Membership

The CAG will be comprised of representatives of relevant jurisdictions, community stakeholders and residents, and other institutional stakeholders with a stake in the Site, with the goal of ensuring broad, diverse representation from communities with an interest in the Site.

The CAG seeks diversity of background, interests, and skill sets among members. Relevant desirable attributes include a commitment to the process, communication skills, critical thinking skills, pertinent technical expertise, and representation of affected communities.

To ensure the CAG is open, inclusive, and representative of relevant stakeholders, but not too large to be functional, the CAG will have 15 -20 members. Representatives should be sought for the following seats:

- City of Trenton

- City of Riverview
- Grosse Ile Township
- Trenton Brownfields Authority
- Riverview Brownfields Authority
- Trenton Visionaries
- Gross Ile Nature and Land Conservancy
- Gross Ile Civic Association
- Friends of the Detroit River
- Downriver Walleye Federation
- International Wildlife Refuge
- Past Employees of McLouth Steel
- Abutters
- Trenton Business Association
- Up to 5 additional Trenton, Riverview, Gross Ile residents or businesses who can represent a constituency that is not otherwise represented

Criteria for Member Selection

All Members should:

- Represent a constituency that is affected by the clean up (rather than an individual who represents just him or herself), and/or interests that improve the balance among various stakeholder groups on the CAG
- Willingness to attend monthly meetings, do background reading and preparation, and participate actively in discussions.
- Willing and able to participate constructively in the meetings, thoughtfully listen to and voice public and constituent perspectives, engage in respectful, good-faith dialogue with other members of the group, seek to bridge gaps in understanding, and seek creative resolution of differences
- Avoid making the CAG ineligible for TAG assistance grants
- Act as liaison with their constituencies, neighborhoods, or groups, to bring concerns and information to meetings and help ensure constituents and the public are kept informed and involved in site information and CAG efforts

Method for Selecting Representatives

- All individuals interested in serving on the CAG should complete an Application form (attached) indicating which of the above seats they seek to represent, and how they meet the criteria above.
- For the seats representing institutions and organized groups, priority will be given to individuals who are nominated by the leadership or membership of the group, provided that individual meets the criteria above.
- For at large seats or seats where the organized group has not nominated a representative, interested applicants will present themselves at a public meeting on Thursday February 13 at 7:00 at the Westfield Activities Center. With process assistance from the facilitator, all interested members of the community will work together to determine representation for those seats.