



MEMO

Date: July 16, 2015
To: Burlington Residents
From: Jesse Bridges, Director Burlington Parks, Recreation & Waterfront (BPRW)
Chuck Schwer, Director Vermont Waste Management and Prevention Division
Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
RE: Update on Temporarily Stockpiled Soils at Leddy Park
Cc: Councilors Ayers, Hartnett and Wright

This update on the Bike Path Rehabilitation project, and the temporary stockpiled soils at Leddy Park, comes jointly from BPRW and VT DEC in a cooperative effort to keep the community informed of the current project status. For several months, both BPRW and VTDEC have been working together to coordinate the storage and security of the temporarily stockpiled soils from the bike path project at Leddy and potential options for reuse and/or disposal of these soils. BPRW and the VTDEC are unified in their approach to manage the soils in the best interests of the community and the environment with health, security and transparency at the forefront. Livability projects, like the Burlington Bike Path Rehabilitation, are shared priorities that support the quality of life in our great city, and in our amazing state of Vermont. Recent updates and clarifications follow:

➤ Soil Management

- Per the bike path project's Soil Management Plan, the stockpiled soils are encapsulated in plastic to exclude direct soil contact.
- The soils present a direct contact risk to humans, which is managed by the proper plastic cover described below, pending disposal decisions.
- Because the stockpile is exposed to the elements, occasional tears in the plastic may occur. The stockpile is monitored regularly by staff and supporting contractors so that minor tears are quickly repaired and do not pose a long term risk.
- Staff and contractors who manage the stockpile wear protective clothing to limit direct contact with the soil when inspecting and making repairs and to limit the spread of any of the soil outside of the protected areas.
- Piles are inspected weekly with repairs completed when necessary. An inspection checklist and photo log is created each week and issued to DEC.
 - Because of exposure to sunlight and moisture, vegetation growth is a normal occurrence in stockpiled soils such as this. An additional dark tarp cover will be installed to deter further plant growth. This is to stop the likelihood of rips in the tarp, due to vegetative growth.
 - BPRW is in the process of hiring an additional consultant to perform weekly inspections and execute emergent repairs.



- In light of recent vandalism, BPRW and DEC are collaborating on additional methods to limit access to the space. This may include the installation of rigid fencing around the perimeter of the stockpile site.
- BPRW staff will continue to visually monitor the stockpile on a daily basis.

➤ **Soil Composition**

- The stockpiled soils are not considered clean soils.
- The soil testing results confirm that the concentrations of contaminants in the soils pose a direct contact risk, managed by the polyencapsulation and inspection measures.
- Per the request of the EPA, all piles require additional testing to determine jurisdiction to advance reuse and/or disposal. BPRW is working in cooperation with EPA and VTDEC regulation to complete the testing and advance the removal of the stockpiles soils.

➤ **Movement of pile**

- The stockpile may not be relocated until these tests are completed and analyzed. All parties are working expeditiously to ensure that there is timely testing and that reuse and/or disposal options are properly assessed.
- The current schedule timeline includes:
 - Soil sampling is scheduled to take place no later than September 30, 2015
 - Analytical results will be received no later than October 30, 2015
 - Disposal or Reuse decision will be possible no later than December 15, 2015
 - All efforts will be taken to complete these tasks within an earlier timeframe.
- EPA, VTDEC and BPRW have made this project a top priority.
- Timeline for reuse/removal may be adjusted pending further tests and design work on the bike path project.

BPRW and DEC are aware of citizen concerns and wish to communicate to the public that we are working together to uphold, improve and protect human health and the environment, while advancing livability projects critical to the viability and sustainability of Burlington. All parties have continued to work together to ensure proper disposal, reuse, and management as expeditiously as possible. Citizens are encouraged to reach out directly with any specific concerns or questions. BPRW will continue to post project updates on btvbikepath.com.