

Air Quality

June 9, 2021

11:00am-12:00pm

Zoom



I. Welcome and Introductions

- 17 attendees; 7 Camden residents/businesses

II. Hot Topics

a. Camden Iron & Metal Air Pollution Control Permit Construction of New Source Application, Front & Pine Streets, New Facility:

<https://www.state.nj.us/dep/aqpp/epr.htm>

- This permit application is the result of two NJDEP inspections which identified scrap metal transfer operations at the Pier Facility that were not covered by a permit for handling more than 50 lbs. of material per hour.
- Camden Iron & Metal does not agree that their operation is covered by these provisions; however, they have submitted the permit application as directed by the Department after receiving a Notice of Violation.
- Not ordered to cease operations:
 - Only an estimation of operations prior to permitting
 - Cessation could be appealed which would require an injunction necessitating proof/evidence of significant environmental impact; this would be difficult and risky.
- **Next Step:** Meet with DEP within the next month to learn more about this project. Should request a meeting with DEP to discuss projects
 - Provide a list of questions/ comments to DEP beforehand which they should look into

III. Air Quality

a. Current Issues

- EMR Fire Update:
 - CFET met with liaisons and had a conversation about how to move forward.
- Covanta Update:
 - Completed last round of procurement (4 bids)
 - Contract timeline: 4-6 weeks of getting a contract, letters of intent, etc.
 - Late summer/early fall application to NJDEP
 - a. Working with NJDEP on modeling protocol; using protocol from Essex facility

b. NJDEP Air/Odor Complaint Report

- DEP conducted 15 odor particulate surveys in the waterfront south area since April 1. There have not been any noted violations.
- Since April, there have been 3 odor complaints all for a plastic odor.

- Camden County responded to 1 of 3 of the complaints; could not confirm source in any case
- Picked up vinegar (cocoa bean storage), plastic, sewage (CCMUA), and metallic odors
 - Neither observations nor complaints had particulates present upon investigation.
- For NJDEP to react, the source needs to be traceable and confirmed by complaints to do anything.

IV. Environmental Justice

a. Leading with Lead:

- Towards the end of the summer/ early fall, Leading with Lead will subcontract an entity to plan for dust mitigation and greening of vacant lots and open space in Camden.

V. Traffic Management

a. Current Issues

- City-wide truck route issues

b. Key Next Steps

- Determine best public figure to champion traffic management issues
 - Dr. Ed Williams, Director of Planning & Development *or* 2nd Ward Councilperson (2nd ward includes Newton Avenue Bus Garage, designated future electric bus garage)
- Identify pertinent information and key stakeholders relevant to truck route issues to have neighborhood level discussion
- Port Access Truck Route Design Project stakeholder meeting Wednesday June 23rd at 6 pm open to the public
 - Zoom Virtual Meeting at www.Zoom.us
 - a. Meeting ID: 955 4463 5613, Passcode: 396268
 - b. Or, dial in: 1-312-626-6799
 - Direct any questions to Kathy Cullen at kcullen@coopersferry.com or 856.757.9154

VI. Additional Information/Resources

a. Rutgers School of Nursing and Urban Promise: grant for institution for population health applied to for \$20,000

- Concept: connecting nursing students and high schoolers with air quality monitors and resources such as DEP

b. DEP air quality warnings: kind of like an amber alert

- Want to get more residents/ communities aware
- Share these blurbs with your constituencies:
 1. *"Did you know that you can report environmental complaints to the NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection through an app? Download the app today!*

apple: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/warn-njdep/id1133675885>
 android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details...>

Environmental incidents, abuses and complaints can also be reported by calling toll free 1-877-927-6337. (1-877-WARNDEP)."

2. *"How often do you check the weather forecast for Camden? How about the air quality forecast?"*

Exposure to high levels of air pollution can aggravate heart disease, asthma and other respiratory diseases which is why knowing Camden's air quality is so important. Enviroflash (a partnership between the USEPA and NJDEP) is a program that sends out alerts to your mobile device or email which notify you on days when poor air quality is forecast to occur so you can take precautions to protect yourself and your family.

Sign-up now to receive either an e-mail or a text message to your mobile device!

Sign up here: www.enviroflash.info/signup.cfm

For more information:

www.enviroflash.info/assets/pdf/EnviroFlash_factSheet.pdf"

DISCLAIMER: This is a summary of the meeting and is based upon the written notes and memory of individuals from Cooper's Ferry Partnership and members of the CCI Core Team. The notes are intended to capture only the main points made in the meeting, and they reflect comments on work-in-progress. The notes do not imply a specific opinion or commitment on the part of any individual or organization represented at the meeting. Report any corrections to camdencollaborative@coopersferry.com

Next Meeting: CCI Community Meeting, July 14th at 11 am