

Open Space & Brownfields

August 9, 2023

11:00am-12:00pm

Hybrid: Teams and In-Person at Am. Water



Notes

- I. **Welcome and Introductions.** Opening Question: What should be this working group's focus for the rest of the year?
 - a. Hazard mitigation plan- starting on an urban forestry plan
 - b. Transient communities in open space: Asiyah Kurtz will connect with Will Davis
 - c. Wonder if we can have a better handle on open space opportunities and where they stand from a brownfields inventory?
 - Send to DEP quarterly?
 - d. KIPP taking over the site at 6th and Kagin- will that be added to the inventory?
 - Approved at city council, moved on, no discussion
 - So likely will not be in the brownfields inventory
 - e. Yaffa remediation- still a priority... how are they notifying the community?
 - Rodent concerns, runoff from rain
 - Notification process? Will roads be an issues?
 - Need better/ more open communications with the process
 - f. Maybe we can work on an open spreadsheet of landfills and open spaces
 - What are CDCs plans for these areas? Considering them?
 - Invite leadership from neighborhood groups to this conversation
 - Might be getting the money as well as the wherewithal to do brownfields work

- II. **Opening Conversation:**
 - a. Water filling at Cooper Sprouts Success with CSSD
 - Regular filling of their water tanks when there is a lack of rain
 - b. [RCC](#) surveying and park program development
 - Great to get these people to the table (CSSD, DPW, County Parks, CCP, TPL, Not in Our Parks)
 1. TPL to do a presentation
 - NJCF- get them involved? Gateway to be open... community that advocated is left out of the future process that they have been
 - How has activation of parks been going? Well?
 1. This definitely needs community voice oversight if they are left out of the community events
 2. Communication about events needs to be at the forefront
 - c. Grant Opp:
 - The New Jersey Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry Program: assists in implementing local management plans for trees and forests (ex: community tree and forest inventories, risk tree assessments, tree planting, and reforestation). The grants are due on August 25th. More information can be found [here](#)
 1. Talk to Justin and Crystal about this- offline

- III. **Today's Focus: State of the city's brownfields portfolio**

- Judge Robert Johnson Park: DEP is in final review of a \$2million HDSRF grant application from CRA for Judge Robert Johnson Park - EPA has already committed \$1 million for park remediation and rehabilitation.
- Sadler Poynt Park: DEP (multiple programs) and local partners led by Camden County Parks has just submitted a \$1.5 million grant application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to remediate the Pyne Poynt Marine Services Site and restore natural shorelines and improve recreational access at Pyne Poynt Park and upcoming Sadler Poynt Park.
 1. Could be a basis for a shoreline conservation plan?
 2. Shorelines are a part of the DEP grant to CFET
- Yaffa: next steps removal of 50,000 tons of contaminated soil for the larger site. The plan is to have the contaminated soil removed disposed of to an appropriate facility. This is to be completed by end of year. The smaller sites where soil has been removed remedial assessments of what is underneath is underway.
- Elijah Perry Park funded by DEP HDSRF (~\$800,000) and EPA: Within weeks at Elijah Perry the remediation will be underway! More to come as the project schedule is now being developed and coordinated.

IV. Additional Information/Resources

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@camdencpinc.com

Next Meeting: All Working Group Meeting, September 13th 10 am-12 pm location TBD