

Open Space & Brownfields

October 12, 2022

1:00pm-2:00pm

Zoom



Notes

I. Welcome and Introductions

- a. 13 attendees; 4 Camden residents/businesses

II. Hot Topics

- a. North Camden Waterfront Park:
 - Project is fully designed and currently being packaged by the city and the engineer (T&M) for NJDOT authorization. Once DOT authorizes, then the city will go out to bid (likely this fall). Construction will likely start in Spring 2023.
 - Civic Commons Trips and Plans: CCP will be convening City, County, other major stakeholders to consider systems change options to realize a parks maintenance sustainability plan
- b. Ongoing issue sites:
 - Yaffa & Sons Property – Soil Pile: CRA/City, NJDEP updates
 1. Waste classification of the bigger piles; timeline is to get rid of these piles by Fall of 2023 then remediation/ env. assessment of remaining property
 - a. Continuum of solicitations for big pile, segregating northern lot from southern lot because they are so big
 2. CRA awarding for removal on two smaller lots; will be awarded for contract start date in Q1 2023
 3. Community meeting later this year to talk about what's going on and provide schedule for what is going on and get their feedback
 - a. Tentative meeting, will meet before soil is moved
 - Block 1 lot 1: CRA/City, NJDEP
 1. Owner non-cooperative
 2. Frank will reach out to enforcement folks to see when NJDEP will act
 3. TPL working with county to understand how to preserve space for public access
 - a. Found that a colleague is friends with this person's attorney

III. Park Planning, Security, and Maintenance

- a. Current Issues
 - Justin Dennis, Trust for Public Land:
 1. Mastery High School RFP: about to be street ready. TPL worked with students to identify vision for the space focused around GSI
 - a. Workforce development priority for the school related to stormwater managements, green trade jobs generally
 - i. Will be a need to get ahead of the green jobs
 - ii. On hold until entire charter network agrees
 - b. Demonstrated impact that this schoolyard can take
 - c. CCMUA identifying stormwater management possibilities
 2. Camden Parks and Open Space Plan Steering Committee

- a. Planned for Nov 2- in person at Camden County College city campus
 - i. (Pushed back to coordinate with Camden Co. College)
 - ii. Collective impact metrics needed, need to tell the great story in Camden effectively
 - 1. Will be in person to get those details straight
 - 3. Blue and green carbon sequestration grant (TPL, CCP, NJ Conservation Foundation, NJ tree Foudnation)
 - a. 1000 trees spread across three parks: Stockton, Revered Evers Park, and Gateway Park: trees must be protected in perpetuity
 - b. 215 trees in Centerville and Morgan Village housing
 - c. Approach to deal with heat island, tree equity, opportunity to manage stormwater in particular along creeks/rivers
 - d. Should hear back mid-December
 - e. If awarded, will start in full in early January
 - CCP + Rutgers Honors College park maintenance:
 - 1. 8 parks in the fall semester, and surrounding areas
 - 2. 30-50 volunteer students, on average
 - 3. CSSD and DPW helping assist with materials and logistics
 - 4. Let jade know if anyone is looking for internships; these students will have networking opportunities in return for their service hours
 - a. contact Jade Lopez: jlopez@camdencpinc.com
- b. Key Next Steps
 - To do: make lawn signs with QR code to quick survey about needs for park clean up, there should be an avenue for people to talk to someone who can do something about it
 - 1. Consider using a Google voicemail number for folks who may not have a smart phone to do an online survey

IV. Brownfields

- a. Current Issues
 - EPA funding available in Fall for [cleanups/ remediation](#); potential to apply with site owners (City/ CRA to realize these concept designs). City's applications are for:
 - 1. Federal St. on commercial corridor, assessment planning
 - 2. Cleanup grant for Judge Robert Johnson Park
- b. Key Next Steps

V. Programming

- a. Current Issues
 - Center for Aquatic Sciences [Calendar](#); Connect the Lots [Calendar](#)
 - NJ Free Fishing Day @ Cramer Hill Waterfront Park: October 22 10 am- 1 pm.
 - 1. And nj conservation foundation
 - 2. About 30 rods in total
 - Nov 19 potential event at CHWP for the state and Harrison EXPO project
- b. Key Next Steps

VI. Additional Information/Resources

- a. Walk and bike plan looking for DOT and city approval
 - Walkbikecamden.com

- DVRPC pursuing regional action plan that will set Camden and other towns up for implementation grants for safe street interventions
 - DOT hosting complete street trainings for free
 - <http://njbikeped.org/nj-complete-streets-training/>
- b. NJDEP Youth Inclusion Initiative
 - c. CCI Summit moving to Spring 2023
 - d. In-person end of year CCI celebration 12/14

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: CCI Open Space & Brownfields Working Group Meeting, November 9th at 1 pm