



GREENWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Daniel Watson
Director of Facilities

HAMILTON AVENUE FIELD PROJECT UPDATE

19 June 2019

As part of the BET approved Hamilton Avenue Field Project the civil engineering and landscape architecture firm, Milone & MacBroom (M&M) was directed to design additional paved play area for the site. At approximately 2,000 square feet, this paved area is to be located adjacent to the existing basketball court. While under review by the Planning & Zoning Department (P&Z) it was determined that the amount of impervious surface area exceeded the allowable standards established in the Town's Drainage Manual and that an underground infiltration system to handle storm water would be required. This requirement led to the need for additional design and test pits (to determine if the existing subsurface conditions would allow for the system). The results proved that the infiltration was not feasible and that a redesign was needed. P&Z recommended that a waiver request also be submitted as the entire site may not be supportive of a retention system.

As the test results were not available until late April the time allowed for P&Z permit application had expired and we are now, unfortunately, forced to restart the permitting process. M&M representatives are working diligently on this issue and we hope to have answers in place soon.

Another issue that has recently brought up concerns are the twenty-four trees that have been identified by the Design Team as needing to be removed. In order to achieve the proposed end result of a "flatter field", the fill material to be brought onto the site in order to make the field more level, would cover the base of the trees, thereby limiting their capacity to absorb water, oxygen and other elements and resulting in serious dieback or death. The plan is to remove the trees, level the field and then plant new trees. There were no concerns expressed at earlier meetings when the project first went public. However, now that the trees have been tagged for removal, objections have been heard which will probably result in a Public Hearing.

The process that this project has gone through is typical with projects that require certain regulatory approvals and this is no exception.

Next Steps

- M&M to complete environmental review of soils - week of 24 June
- Public Hearing on Tree Removal – (if required) – date to be determined
- M&M to progress the refiling application with P&Z – date to be determined
- M&M to complete documents for Public Bid – week of 8 July
- BOE to release documents to begin bid process– week of 8 July

Sincerely,

Daniel M. Watson

cc: Ralph Mayo, Interim Superintendent, Lorianne O'Donnell – BOE