

April 2022

## GREENWICH HIGH SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION UPDATE

### Phase II Remediation Implementation

#### Highlights:

- **The school continues to be safe.** Parking areas and most athletic fields are available for use during the school year.
- A Remedial Action Plan (RAP) for Phase II of site cleanup was submitted to the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in January 2021.
- DEEP and EPA approved the plan for the Town to proceed with remediation in the area of Field 4 and are reviewing the remainder of the plan, which addresses remediation in Fields 2, 3, and 5. The Town is in discussion with EPA and DEEP to obtain approval for remediation in the area of Field 3, so that work in that area may start in Summer 2022.
- **Phase II activities for Field 4 of the Greenwich High School property (the Site) commenced in June 2021 and were completed in April 2022.** This work included the replacement of the artificial turf for Field 4. **Field 4 is open for use during the remainder of the Spring 2022 season.**
- **Fields 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 and the Western Parking Lot will be closed to the public over the Summer 2022 school break.**
- **Phase II site work will impact availability of Field 3 and related areas of the Site through 2023** including the grass area outside the Field 5 outfield fence and one row of parking.
- **School facilities are otherwise open and safe for use.**

#### Current Status

The environmental investigation and remediation activities that began at Greenwich High School property (the Site) in July 2011 have progressed to the second phase (Phase II) of remediation under the Connecticut Voluntary Remediation Program, and remediation of the athletic fields is ongoing. The first phase (Phase I) of remediation, which allowed for the replacement of Fields 6 and 7, was completed in 2020.

#### Remedial Action Plan for Phase II

The Town submitted a Remedial Action Plan (RAP) for the second phase of cleanup at the Site in January 2021. The RAP describes the planned cleanup activities to be conducted over an anticipated three-year period. The RAP focuses on protecting human health and the environment over the long term while accommodating school activities and other uses of the Site while cleanup is underway.

This second phase of work focuses on Fields 2, 3, 4, and 5 and a few smaller areas located west of the school building. In June 2021, the Connecticut Department of Environment and Energy (DEEP) and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved the remediation activities around Field 4, and the Town continues to work with the agencies to reach agreement on the remaining remediation activities for the Site. Excavation and material removal activities are primarily being conducted over the summer months, while restoration and construction of the athletic fields are being

performed during the school year. The project schedule has been sequenced to minimize the loss of use of school facilities and athletic playing fields during the project. However, access to the playing fields will be limited at times, particularly during the summer months. The overall plan includes:

- Excavating and disposing of approximately 36,000 tons of contaminated soil;
- Constructing an impermeable cap beneath and around Fields 3 and 4;
- Installing a new stormwater management system to prevent rainwater from contacting impacted soil beneath Fields 3 and 4;
- Establishing clean soil caps beneath Fields 2 and 5; and
- Long-term monitoring and maintenance of the remedy.

The impermeable cap, athletic fields, Western Parking Lot, and clean soil will be used as a series of Engineered Controls to prevent human contact with deeper soils.

#### Field 4 Cleanup Activities

Cleanup work beneath Field 4 was completed in Fall 2021 and was followed by artificial turf field construction performed through the Winter and early Spring 2022. On April 8, 2022, Field 4 opened for use during the Spring 2022 season, and construction activities are paused until June

2022. The temporary barrier set up between the fields will remain in place until the completion of Field 3 in 2023. The staging area outside Field 5 will remain in place to facilitate the planned future work. A map showing the layout of the Site during Spring 2022 is presented below.

### Field 3 Cleanup Activities

Work on Field 3 is expected to commence in June 2022. Work during the 2022 summer recess will include the excavation and disposal of contaminated soil from beneath and adjacent to Field 3. Installation of the impermeable cap and stormwater management system beneath Field 3, replacement of the Field 3 playing field, and construction of a new spectator area will begin in Fall 2022. Starting in June 2022, site work will be performed Monday through Friday between the hours of 7:00 AM and ending at 6:00 PM and Saturday between 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM, weather permitting.

During Summer 2022, Fields 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 and the Western and Northern parking lots will be unavailable for use. The goal is to complete restoration of Field 3 in time for

the Spring 2023 sports season. However, the work is weather dependent and the timeline could be extended if bad weather prevails during the restoration work. Aspects of field construction are weather and temperature-dependent, and those constraints must be respected to provide the Town with a high quality field upon completion of the work.

### Safety of the Community

The health and safety of students, faculty, neighbors, and the public is paramount to the Town during the performance of this work. To ensure public safety:

- Work areas are demarcated with fencing and signage, and access to work areas is restricted.
- Truck traffic will continue to be carefully managed throughout the project to prevent queuing of trucks on Hillside Road and avoid the start and end of the school day.
- Sediment and erosion controls are installed and will be inspected and maintained routinely to protect West Brothers Brook and other natural resources.

**For all information requests, please contact:**  
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**OR, please visit our website for further information:**

<https://www.greenwichschools.org/departments/facilities-rentals/building-grounds-projects/ghs-fields-remediation-project>

