



Red Hook Recreation Area Community Update Meeting

October 25, 2018

Parks

AGENDA

1. **Introductions and Opening Remarks** – Martin Maher, Brooklyn Parks Commissioner, NYC Parks
2. **Overview of Project** – Margaret Gregor, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA)
 - A. Site History & Background
 - B. Soil Investigations and Testing Results
 - C. Cleanup Process
 - D. Community Involvement
3. **Status of Capital Projects** – Eric Mattes, Brooklyn Landscape Architecture Director, NYC Parks
 - A. Phase 1 – Ball Fields 5-8
 - B. Phase 2 – Ball Field 9 & Soccer Field 2
 - C. Phase 2A – Henry Street Basin Bulkhead & Plaza/Picnic Area
 - D. Phase 3 – Ball Fields 1-4, Soccer Field 3 & Track
4. **Question & Answer**





Columbia Smelting & Refining Works Construction Update

October 25, 2018

Public Information Session

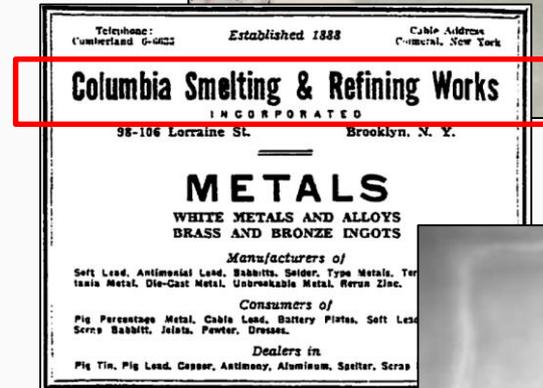
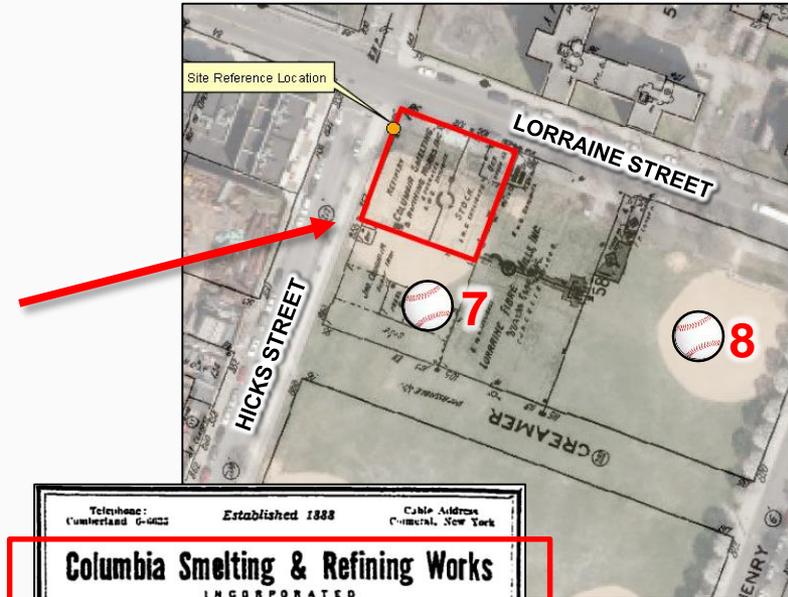
Margaret Gregor, US EPA



1938

Site History/Background Refresher

- Late 1920s-late 1930s: Columbia lead facility
 - Lead dust, fumes and waste released into air & soil
- Lead stays in soil; exposure can occur from:
 - Touching lead-contaminated soil, then accidentally ingesting it
 - Kids putting dirty hands & objects in their mouths
- Children - especially under age 6 - are most sensitive to the health effects; NYC Health can answer questions



1931



Typical secondary smelter.
(Source: USA Today)

2014: New York State DEC referred this site to EPA with almost 40 others



EPA Soil Investigation Results



Ball Fields 5-8 and 9: Elevated contaminants related to Columbia lead facility

- EPA removal action (cleanup) required; NYC Parks completing under EPA oversight

Average Lead Levels per Area (parts per million)

DEPTH		BALL FIELDS 5-8	BALL FIELD 9	SOCCER FIELD 2	SOCCER FIELD 1	SOCCER FIELD 6
<p>2' DEEP</p>	0-1"	1,580	140	285	474	254
	1-6"	2,240	179	508	587	367
	6-12"	2,590	698	618	496	535
	12-18"	2,847	1,209	875	389	387
	18-24"	3,795	1,222	1,431	781	467

smelter-related

not smelter-related

400 ppm = EPA & NY standard;

1,200 ppm = immediate action if in surface soil (0 to 6")

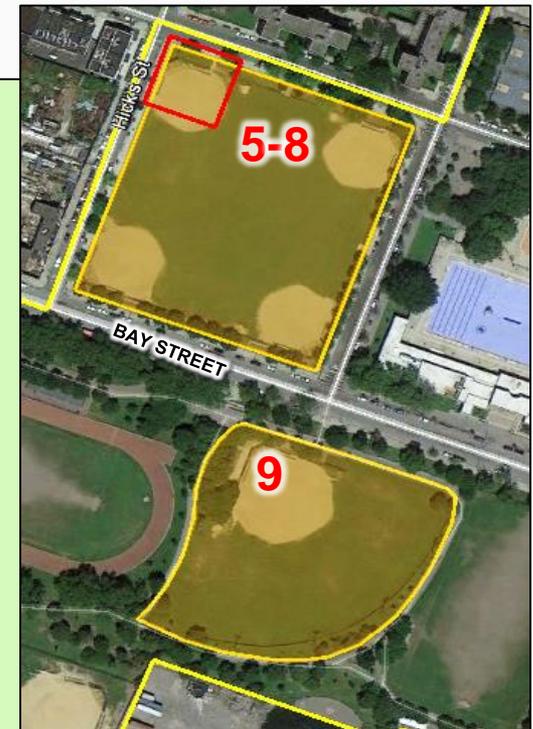


Cleanup Process

NYC Parks conducting removal action (cleanup) at Ball Fields 5-9 under formal EPA oversight with July 2016 Enforcement Agreement

Work includes:

- ✓ **Prohibit access** to BF 5-8 until cleanup complete
 - ✓ **Post signs** to indicate closure of BF 5-8
 - ✓ **Maintain vegetation** on BF 5-9 until cleanup complete
-
- Provide **≥12-inch cover of clean material** (soil, fill, etc.) to eliminate exposure to contaminants
 - **Restore site** to park usage as part of cleanup
 - Establish **long-term controls** to prevent future exposures to any site-related contaminants left in place

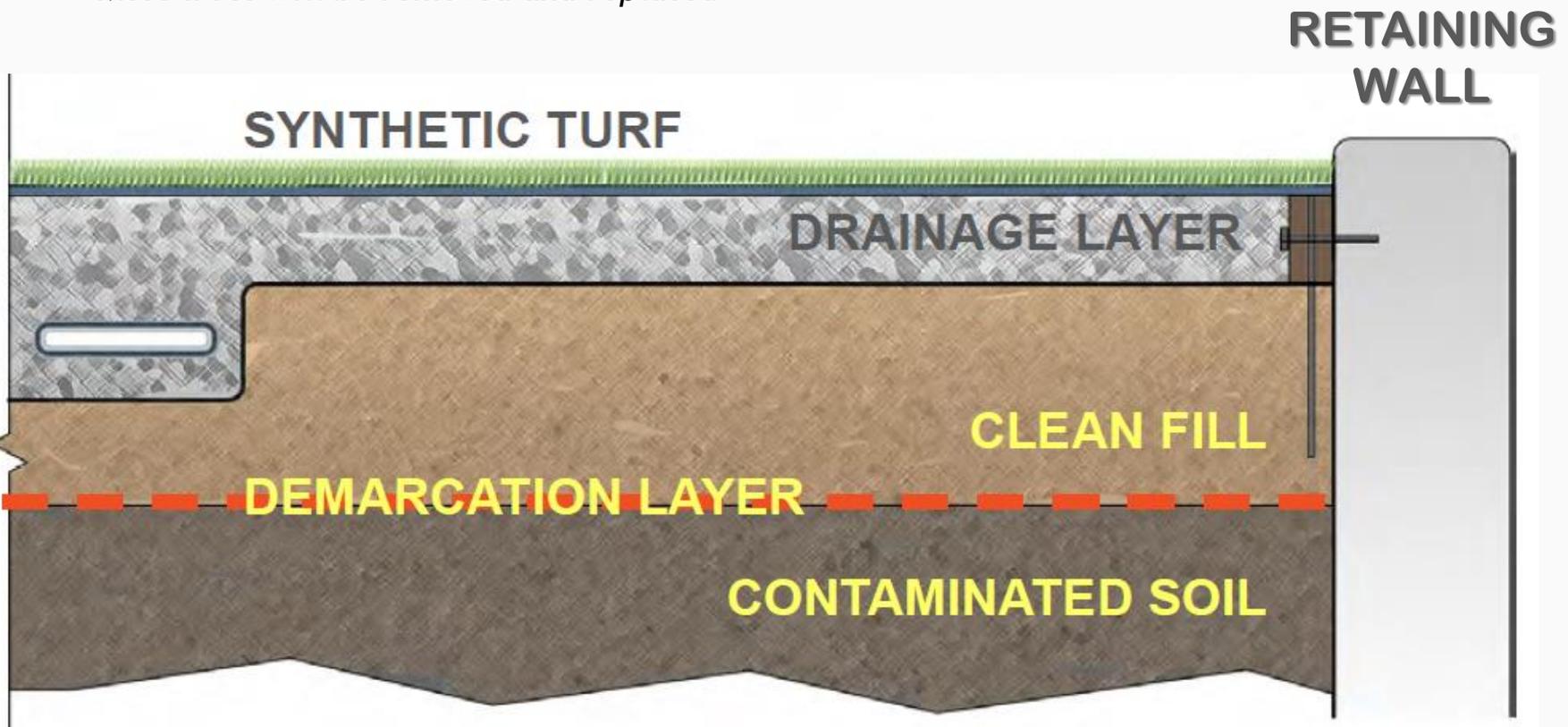




Cleanup Approach of Ball Fields

12" barrier to contaminated soil left in place = **capping with limited excavation**

- Series of plans; steps are design/engineering, procurement, construction
- Removal of all park features, grading, installation/restoration (many new features)
- *Most trees will be removed and replaced*





Community Involvement

EPA COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN

- Public document for the community that discusses:
 - Site history and background
 - Community issues and concerns
 - Community involvement action plan - methods for communicating with EPA
- Incorporates community concerns captured during EPA's interviews with community members & comments
- Comments/questions: **Natalie Loney**, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator: Loney.Natalie@epa.gov, 212-637-3639



COMMUNITY UPDATES

- Public meetings, periodic fact sheets, Mailing List (← email Natalie to be included on list)
- EPA website: <https://www.epa.gov/ny/columbia-smelting>
- NYC Parks websites:
 - Red Hook Recreation Area Remediation - overall: <https://www.nycgovparks.org/about/whats-happening/red-hook-park-remediation>
 - Ball Fields 5-8 Capital Projects Tracker: <https://www.nycgovparks.org/planning-and-building/capital-project-tracker/project/7192>
 - Ball Field 9 & Soccer Field 2 Capital Projects Tracker: <https://www.nycgovparks.org/planning-and-building/capital-project-tracker/project/8528>

INFORMATION REPOSITORY

- Red Hook Library, 7 Wolcott Street (at Dwight Street), Red Hook (phone: 718-935-0203)
- Contains technical record supporting cleanup decision/remedy selection (Administrative Record) and other documents (i.e., Community Involvement Plan)

ANTICIPATED CLEANUP TIMELINE

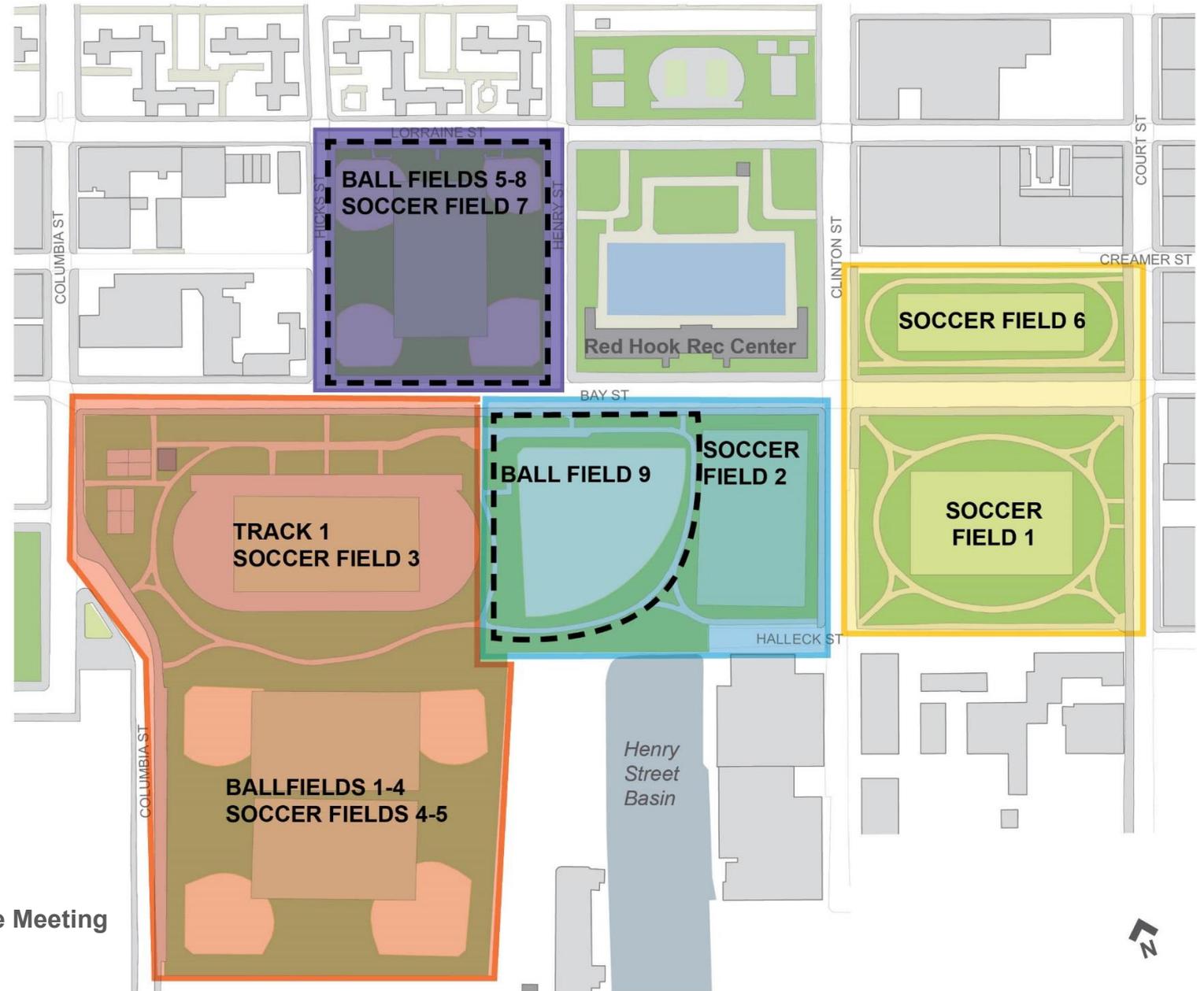
PHASE 1
 Design Completion: Spring 2017
 Construction Completion: Spring 2020

PHASE 2
 Design Completion: Spring 2018
 Construction Completion: Spring 2021

PHASE 3
 Design Completion: Spring 2019
 Construction Completion: Fall 2021

PHASE 4
 Completion: Spring 2023

INCLUDED IN EPA CONSENT ORDER



Phase 1: Ball Fields 5-8



Phase 1: Ball Fields 5-8 Resilient Design Features

- **Fields will be raised above flood elevation:** New perimeter fencing on raised curbs
- **Bioswales/Planting:** 62 new trees, 900 shrubs, 5000+ perennials & ornamental grasses



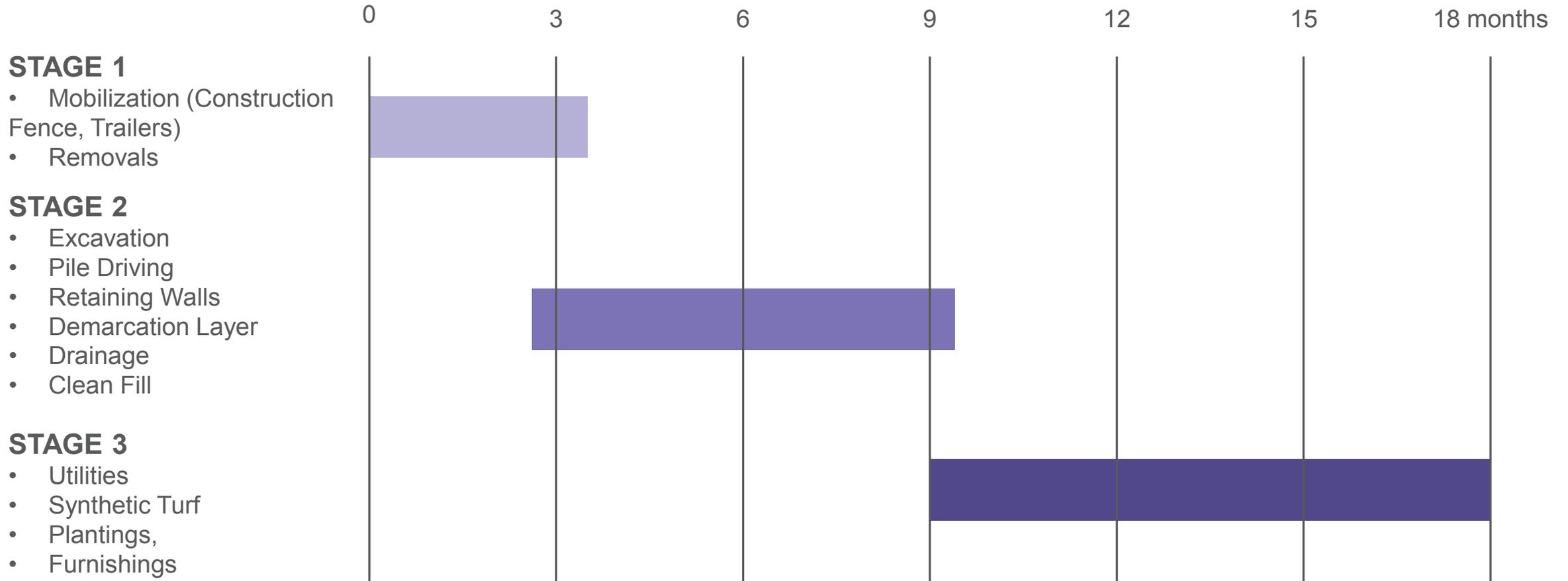
Phase 1: Ball Fields 5-8 Updates

Construction

- Construction/Health & Safety Plans: in process of approval
- Site Construction Start: Late Fall 2018
- Construction Completion: Spring 2020

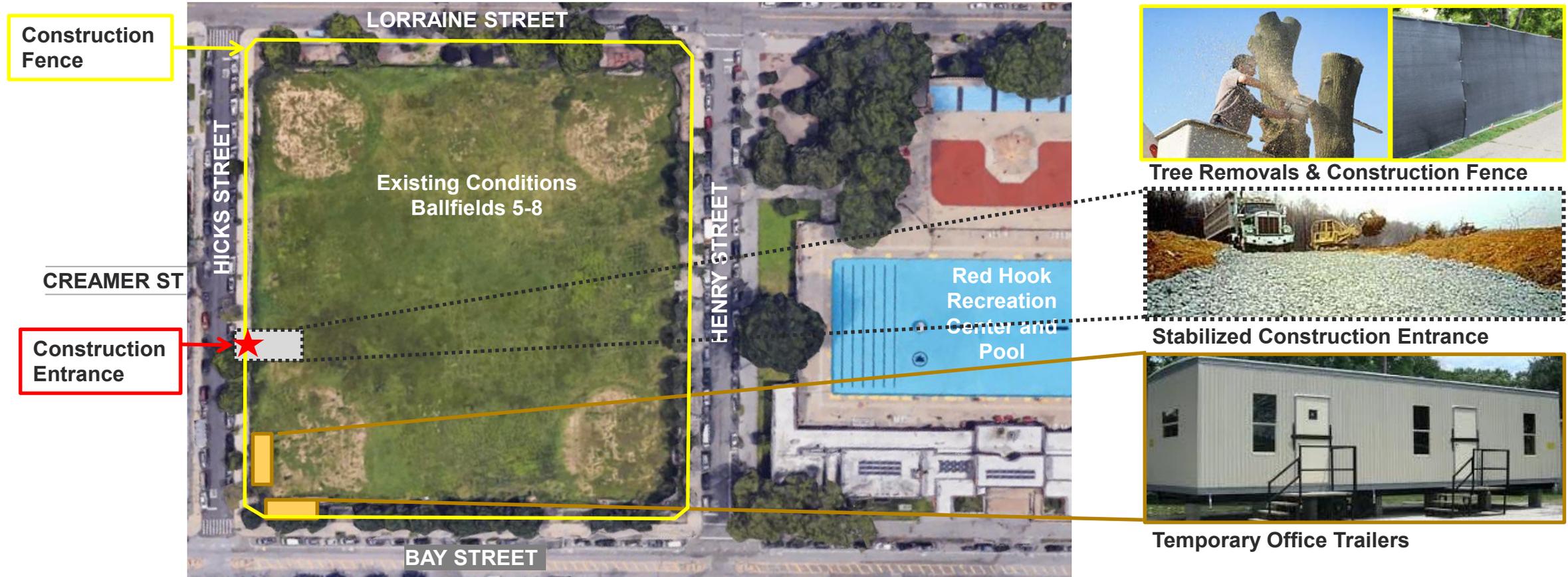


Phase 1: Ball Fields 5-8 Construction Stages



Phase 1 Construction: What to Expect

- Tree removals, installation of construction fence/entrance gate
- Placement of temporary office trailers
- Erosion control measures: stabilized entrance, catch basin inserts, silt fence



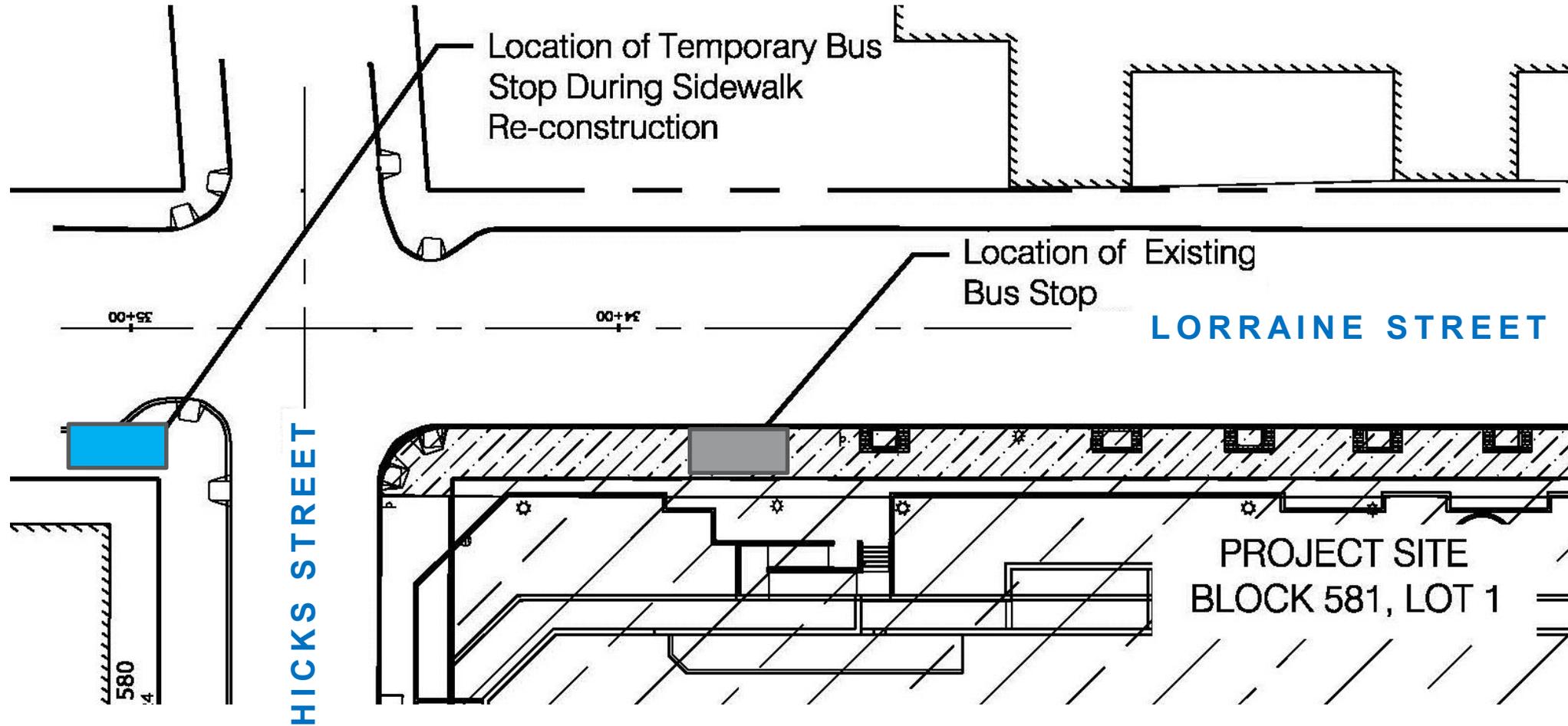
Phase 1 Construction: What to Expect

- Removal of trees, grass and clay infill, curbs and pavements, fencing, site furniture, etc.
- Disposal of excess material via licensed trucks to approved waste disposal facilities (estimated 4,900 cy of contaminated materials; 10,900 cy of clean fill and drainage aggregate)



Construction Public Safety Measures

Temporary relocation of bus stop until clean cover is in place



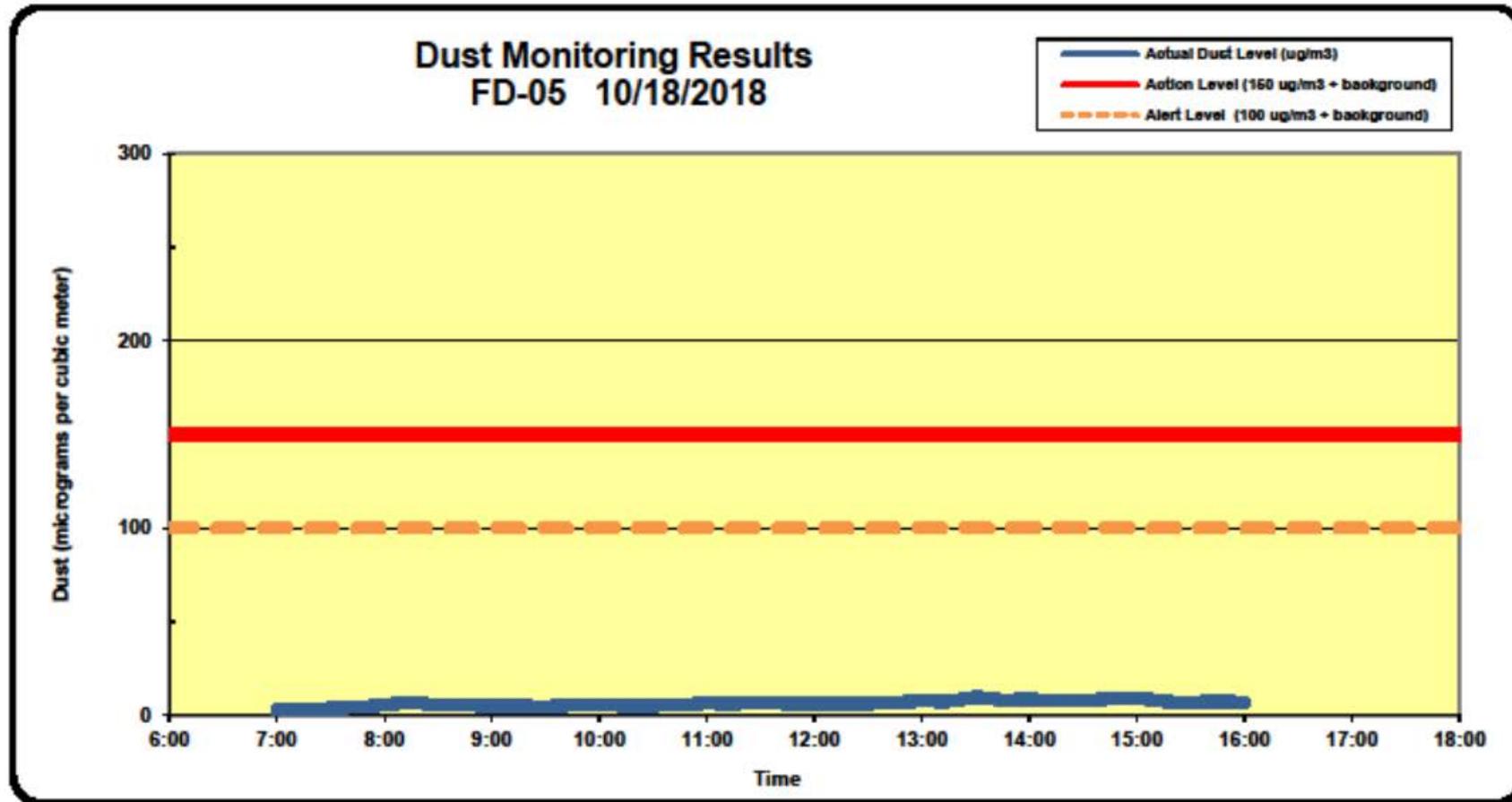
Construction Public Safety Measures

- Continuous perimeter dust monitoring during soil disturbance
- Summaries will be made available to the public at the Red Hook Public Library and on NYC Parks' Web site: <http://www.nycgovparks.org/about/whats-happening/red-hook-park-remediation>



Construction Public Safety Measures

Dust Monitoring Report example (Red Hook report format to be finalized shortly)



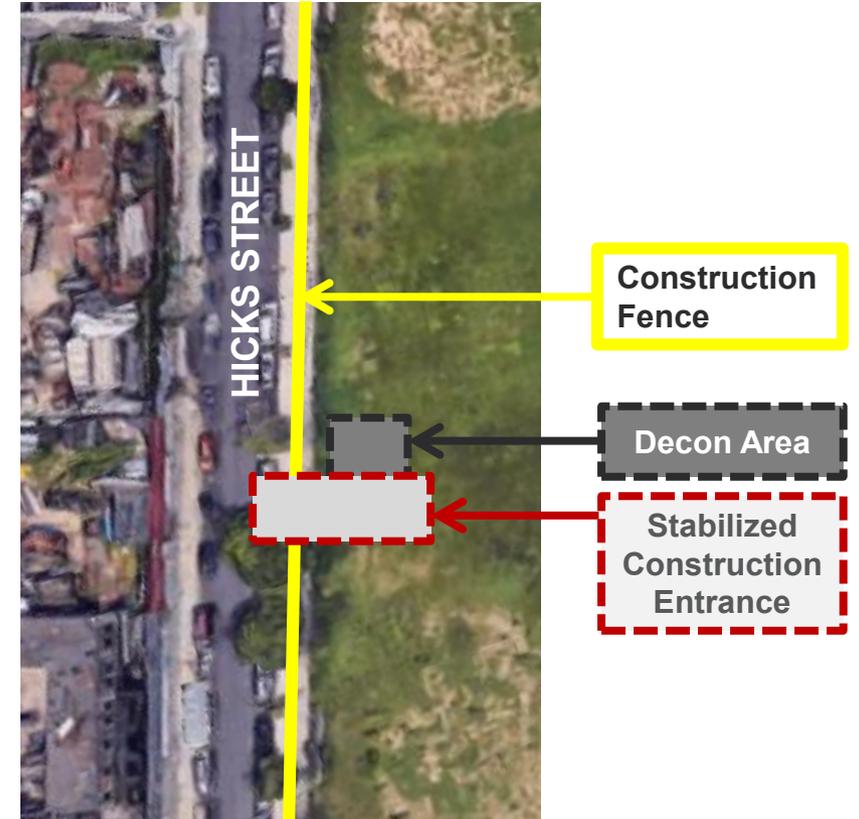
Construction Public Safety Measures

Dust Control – Soil pile tarps, frequent spraying of exposed areas with water, and perimeter fencing dust curtain



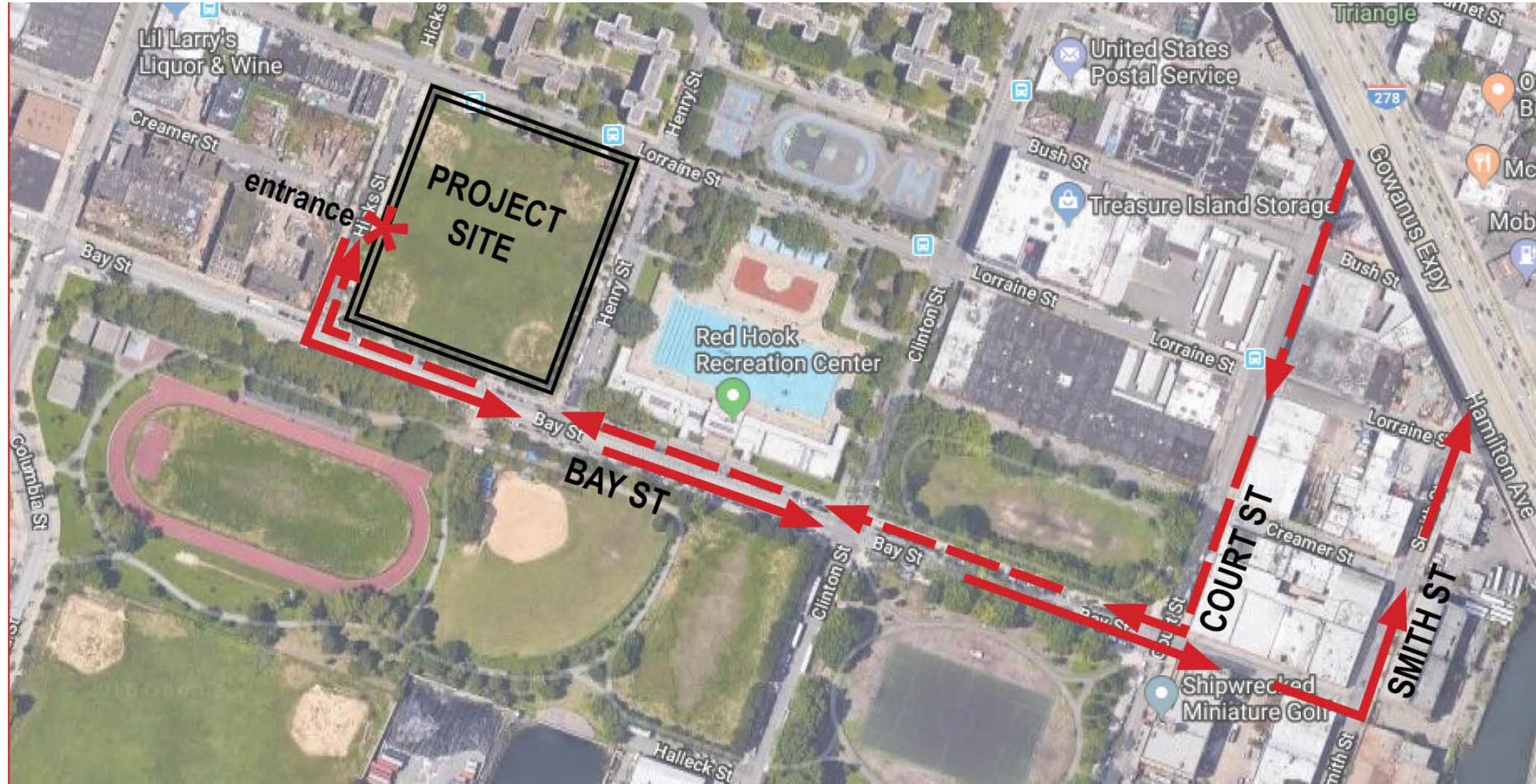
Construction Public Safety Measures

Equipment Decontamination – Washing down of vehicles and equipment before leaving site



Construction Public Safety Measures

Truck Routing: Via Bay Street, away from residential buildings



Construction Public Safety Measures

Is Barging Feasible?

- There are no publicly owned or appropriately licensed waste transfer piers near site
- Henry Street Basin:
 - Land beneath basin is privately owned
 - Water depth is shallow
 - City-owned bulkhead is in disrepair
- Double handling: load first by truck, transport on local streets, and then unload at a pier
- Additional transport insurance required; limited number of barge companies licensed to transport contaminated material

Parks' approach, which was approved by EPA, is to minimize the amount of materials to be taken off site to the greatest extent possible.



Phase 2: Ball Field 9 and Soccer Field 2



Phase 2: Ball Field 9 and Soccer Field 2 Updates

Design

- Design completion: June 2018

Procurement

- Bids due: Late Fall 2018

Construction

- Construction to begin: Fall 2019
- Construction completion: Spring 2021



Phase 2A: Henry Street Basin Bulkhead & Plaza/Picnic Area

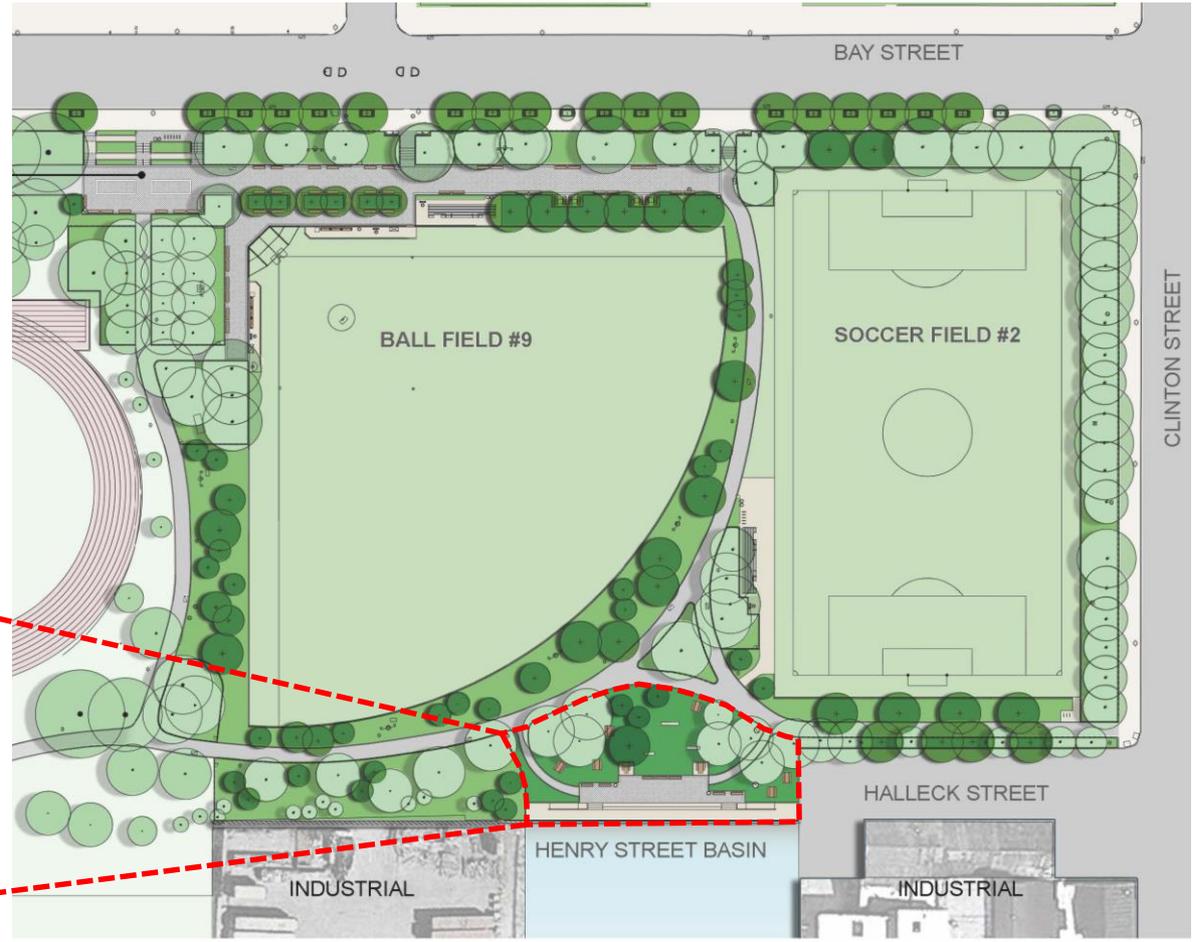
Design

- Design completion: December 2018

Construction

- Coordinate schedule with Phase 2

This area is outside of the EPA Consent Order. Due to additional testing required to assess existing condition of bulkhead and subsequent regulatory agency approvals this area will be remediated and reconstructed as part of a separate contract.



Phase 3: Ball Fields 1-4, Soccer Fields 3-5 and Track



Phase 3: Ball Fields 1-4, Soccer Fields 3-5 and Track Updates

Design

- Design completion: Spring 2019

Construction

- Construction completion: Fall 2021



Questions?

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Natalie Loney, Community Involvement Coordinator, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Email: Loney.Natalie@epa.gov

Hannah Bossio, Outreach Coordinator, Partnerships for Parks
Email: Hannah.Bossio@parks.nyc.gov

Brooklyn Parks Permits Office

Website: <https://www.nycgovparks.org/permits/field-and-court/request>
Telephone: 718-965-8912

Capital Tracker

Website: <https://www.nycgovparks.org/planning-and-building/capital-project-tracker>

