

## **Pig's Eye Dump Task Force**

### **Agenda for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #4**

**Friday, June 7, 2024**

10:30-11:30 a.m.

Virtual, in-person option for the public if requested

- 1. Welcome, introductions, agenda (10:30 a.m.)**
- 2. Re-cap last meeting and Art in the Hollow (10:35 a.m.)**
- 3. Interactive presentation on public engagement (10:40 a.m.)**
- 4. Task Force discussion (11:05 a.m.)**
- 5. Public questions/comments (11:15 a.m.)**
- 6. Final Task Force comments (11:25 a.m.)**
- 7. Adjourn (11:30 a.m.)**

# Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

## Notes for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #4

**Friday, June 7, 2024**

**10:30-11:30 a.m.**

Virtual

Optional: Lower Level - MPCA 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

### Members in Attendance

- Dan Scollan, Water Resources Ecologist, Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- Sam Paske, Planning Assistant General Manager, Metropolitan Council
- Jimmy Francis, Mayor, City of South St. Paul
- Bill Sumner, Council Member, City of Newport
- Melanie McMahon, Executive Project Lead – Mayor's Staff, City of St. Paul
- Victoria Reinhardt, Commissioner, Ramsey County
- Dave Magnuson, Waste Regulation Supervisor, Dakota County
- Caleb Johnson, Environmental Program Manager, Washington County
- Nathan Wallerstedt, Project Management Branch Chief, Army Corps of Engineers - Saint Paul District
- Kirk Koudelka, Assistant Commissioner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)
- David Bell, Environmental Research Scientist, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)

### Other Contributors

- Hunter Vraa, MPCA
- Cliff Shierk, MPCA
- Aneesha Marwah, Zan Associates
- Kara Van Lerberghe, Zan Associates

### Presenters

- Cliff Shierk, MPCA
- Aneesha Marwah, Zan Associates

### 1. Welcome, introductions, agenda

As attendees joined the virtual meeting, Aneesha Marwah (Zan Associates) introduced Mentimeter, an online survey tool that would be used during the meeting to gather feedback. Attendees started using the tool by entering words that came to mind when envisioning the future of the Pig's Eye Dump site. Some of the words submitted include: protect water, fully cleaned, accessible, wildlife refuge, and safe.

Cliff Shierk (MPCA) kicked off the meeting, thanked everyone for being in attendance, and introduced himself. Task force members followed by introducing themselves and Cliff went over the agenda.

### 2. Re-cap last meeting and Art in the Hollow

Cliff Shierk (MPCA) recapped the March meeting by briefly explaining the superfund process, remedial options, and the comparison table. He touched on how these topics fit into the Task Force Charter and overall goals. Cliff then shared about the recent public engagement event at Art in the Hollow where project staff gave an overview of Pig's Eye Dump and gathered contact info for project updates.

### 3. Interactive presentation on public engagement

Aneesha Marwah (Zan Associates) transitioned back to Mentimeter and had attendees answer who they were there representing, including a community organization, Task Force Member, Community Member, or Government Agency. The next question asked attendees to rank what their priorities for engagement are in this stage of the project. The top answer was “potential remediation solutions” followed by “potential restoration solutions”. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) mentioned that he wants to make sure the wood waste collection site near Pig’s Eye Dump that is vital to disposal of emerald ash borer continues to be recognized as they move forward. The next question asked attendees to rank which engagement activities are most important. The top answers included a public meeting, smaller meetings with stakeholders, and presentations at neighborhood and district council meetings. Jimmy Francis (South St. Paul) mentioned that if there is a public meeting, it should be shared on other community platforms through Task Force members. The next question asked which type of communication activities should be prioritized. David Bell (Minnesota Department of Health) asked for clarification on what type of communication and Aneesha responded that this is looking at outreach about how members of the public can get involved. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) shared that MPCA email and website updates are most important. Melanie McMahon (City of St. Paul) mentioned that partnering with the agencies that the Task Force members represent can help with the communication efforts to cross promote how people can get involved. Jimmy shared that he has received feedback from South St. Paul residents that they are not on social media, so other types of outreach are important as well. The final question asked which stakeholders or community groups would be helpful to hear from to inform decision making. Some of the answers included local school districts, district councils and neighborhood organizations, scientists, and the Native American community. Victoria mentioned that she sees a lot of great organizations that were added to Mentimeter and doesn’t see any that are missing.

### 4. Task Force discussion

Cliff Shierk (MPCA) kicked off the discussion portion of the meeting by asking when feedback would be important to gather between now and when the final report is due in February 2026. Melanie McMahon (City of St. Paul) started off by saying that feedback before and after the recommendation is important, but how the feedback is collected can be strategic. Stakeholder outreach, popups, and small group outreach are great for leading up to the recommendation since they can be targeted and get a wide variety of feedback. After the recommendation, a larger public meeting would make sense to provide more detail and background. David Bell (Minnesota Department of Health) said that he agrees with Melanie and it would be good to listen to the people who have been engaged with Pig’s Eye Dump for a while and hear their thoughts on remediation and restoration before the recommendation. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) agreed as well, and said that once they have remediation and restoration options, it will be important to share the feasibility with the public since some options are more costly and timely. Dan Scollan (DNR) added that an important element is educating the public on the history of the site and what has been done so far. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) asked the Task Force if they think a public meeting should happen before or after recommendations are made, and what other ways there are to reach audiences that do not use social media. David responded that he envisions doing the public meeting after having draft recommendations so they can receive feedback. He mentioned that he would like to make the information as accessible as possible. He also shared that he wants to make sure they are being clear on how they are using the feedback and show that their input was incorporated into the decision-making process. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) emphasized that the task force members are a good avenue to go through to reach certain audiences. Victoria said she would like to see an opportunity for discussion at the public meeting and have it be structured as more of an open house.

## 5. Feedback from March Meeting

Cliff Shierk (MPCA) provided a recap on the feedback they received from the March meeting. He went over the total votes for each remedial option and highlighted some of the comments received. He noted that there were requests for more information on costs and targeted waste removal from the task force. Cliff shared that the July meeting will look at case studies and seeing what is possible for restoration of the site. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) asked if there was a certain remediation option that will be moved forward. Cliff clarified that all remedial options are still on the table but they want to pivot to exploring restoration options to see which remedial options are realistic. Dan Scollan (DNR) emphasized that case studies would be very helpful to understand the possibilities. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) shared that it would be useful when looking at case studies to know if the restoration desires had any influence on the remediation options chosen or vice versa.

## 6. Public questions/comments

Cliff Shierk (MPCA) kicked off the public comment section of the meeting. One member of the public emphasized that it is very important to look at restoration due to the long history of the site. They would like to see the dump restored into a wetland and habitat for wildlife. They shared that from their perspective, this can only be done by removing all of the waste, even if it does take a lot of money and time. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) said that not only will they bring forward case studies, but also looking into what some of the previous planning documents and summaries are out there.

## 7. Final Task Force comments

Cliff Shierk (MPCA) opened it up to task force members to make any final comments. Dan Scollan (DNR) suggested doing more pop-up events this summer. Aneesha Marwah (Zan Associates) asked how the task force felt about the hybrid format of the meeting. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) said that it is very convenient. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) said that once she got past some technical issues, it has been great.

A member of the public asked if they would be doing widespread sampling of contamination across the site in the soil and water. Cliff said that they have already started and will continue to move forward with sampling. He suggested looking at the Minnesota Groundwater Contamination Atlas for some of the data.\* The member of the public responded that they have tried reaching out to people about the last five years of data that was not on the site, but also curious about the soil. Cliff said there have been some sediment sampling and they are working to build out the sampling plan for the next year. ***\*The MPCA is working to get historical investigation reports onto the MPCA Pig's Eye Dump website***

A member of the public asked if there is a place online they plan to share the soil pollution as well. Cliff clarified that all sampling information, including soil, would be posted on the Minnesota Groundwater Contamination Atlas.

Jimmy Francis (South St. Paul) wondered if the landfill has been tested in accordance to other landfills in Minnesota to see how it compares to other sites. Cliff responded that yes, but no two site are alike but they do follow the same testing protocol.

## 8. Adjourn

Cliff Shierk (MPCA) adjourned the meeting and said they would provide updates in the future about the next meeting and engagement opportunities.



## Pigs Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #4

June 7, 2024

# Welcome, introductions, agenda

# Welcome and Introductions

- Consultant introductions
- Taskforce members to share:
  - Name
  - Title
  - Organization



# Agenda

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda
2. Re-cap last meeting and Art in the Hollow
3. Public engagement Mentimeter
4. Task Force discussion
5. Public comment
6. Final Task Force comments





# March Meeting and Art in the Hollow Recap

# March Meeting Recap

- Superfund Process
- Remedial Options Presented:
  - Option 1 – No Action
  - Option 2 – Leave Waste in Place
  - Option 3 – Targeted Waste Removal
  - Option 4 – Total Excavation of Landfill, Waste Hauled Offsite
  - Option 5 – Total Excavation of Landfill, Build New Landfill Onsite
- Option Comparison Table

## From the Task Force Charter:

“The report will outline the contamination history and delineation, the risks of the contamination, and the **various remediation and restoration options** that can be taken at the Pig's Eye Dump Superfund site.”

“Develop an **overall recommendation for a remediation strategy** to address human health and environmental risks.”

# Art in the Hollow – June 1

- Interacted with more than 100 event-goers
- Many were familiar with the site and its history





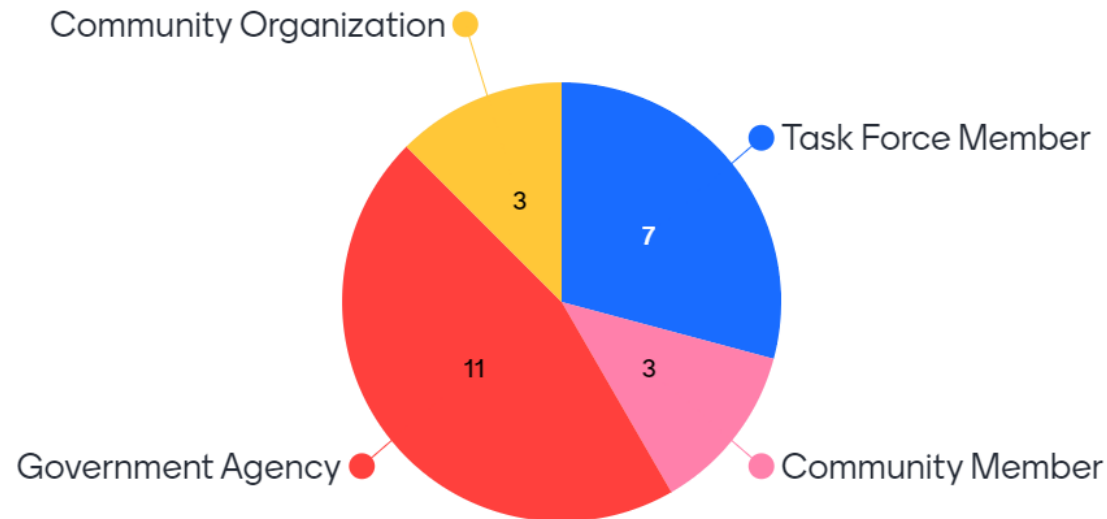
# Mentimeter Question 1

What word(s) come to mind when you envision the future Pig's Eye Dump site?

29 responses



What "hats" do you wear in your community?



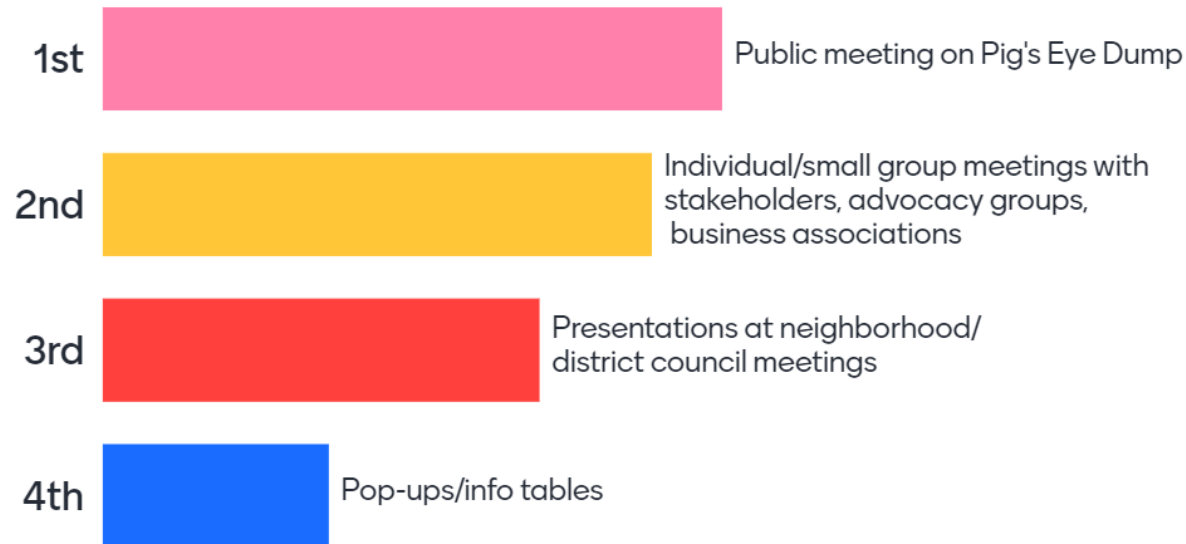
# Mentimeter Question 3

**Rank: What are your priorities for engagement at this stage?**



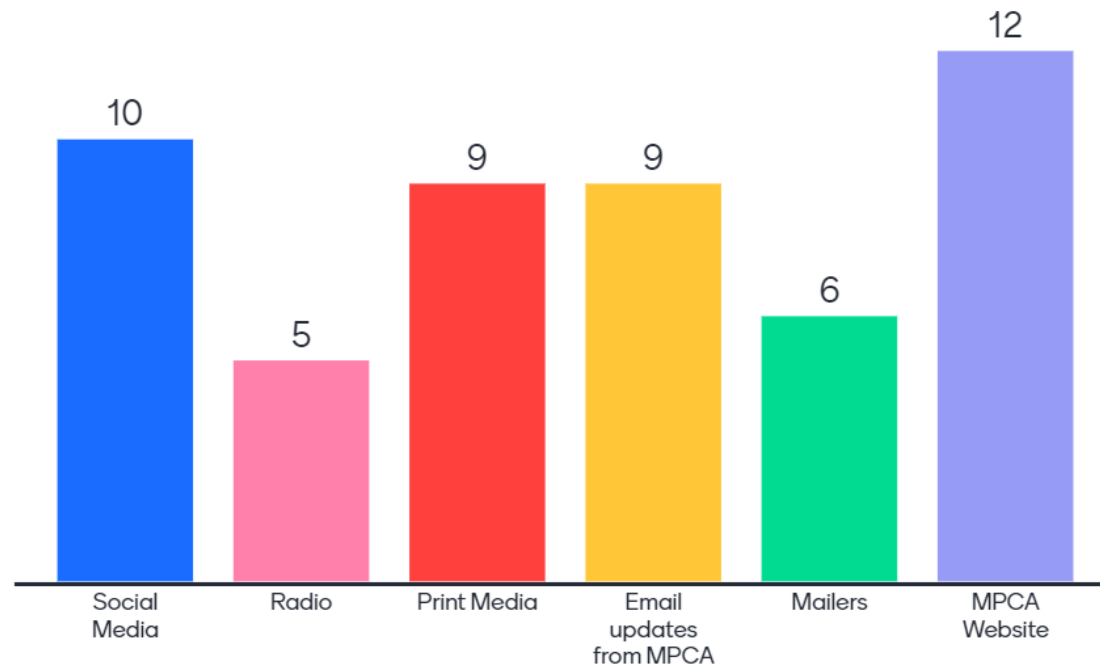
# Mentimeter Question 4

Rank the following **ENGAGEMENT** activities in order of importance:



# Mentimeter Question 5

Which of the following **COMMUNICATION** activities do you want prioritized?





# Mentimeter Question 6

Which stakeholders, community groups, outreach would be helpful to inform your decision-making process for remediation and restoration of the site?

0 responses with votes

District Councils and neighborhood organizations.

Native American community

Ecologists, chemists, scientists

Youth organizations

Friends of the Mississippi River  
Wakan Tipi Awayankapi  
Great River Passage Conservancy  
Neighborhood councils

Pigs Eye Park Friends

Lions Clubs and Rotarty Clubs.  
Rotary is big on water, but the lions club has deep community roots

Local school districts near the River corridor.

Neighbors, nearby communities, nearby businesses, Tribes and Tribal Stakeholders, Federal legislators (funding)

U of M Long Term Ecological Research Group, Great River

Urban Roots

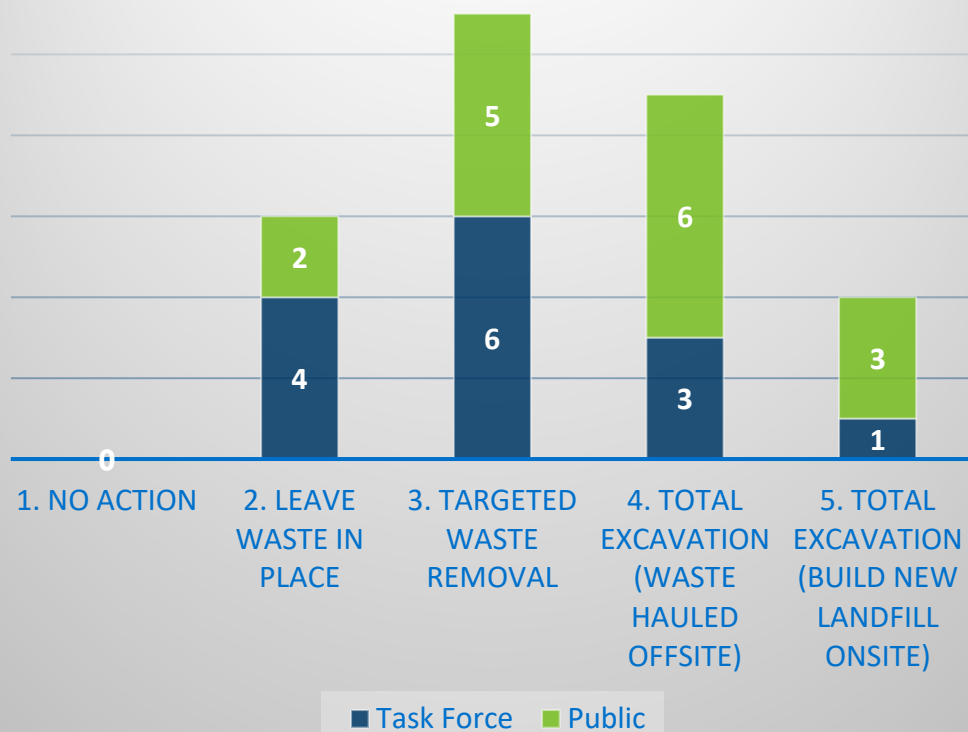
Minnesota Brownfields

- The final Task Force report is due in February 2026. When would feedback from the public be important to have on:
  - General awareness and concerns?
  - Remediation options?
  - Restoration options?
- What other thoughts or questions do you have regarding public engagement?



# Feedback from March Meeting

## Interest in Remedial Options



### Task Force Exit Slip Comments:

“I’m not qualified to select a remediation strategy.”

“The Task Force is not scoped to [select a remediation strategy].”

More information on...

- Cost (3)
- Hot spots (where, how to address)

### Public Exit Slip Comments:

- Need / collect more data
- Need to consider future land use / restoration outcomes

# Public Comment

- Please limit your comments to two minutes.
- Start by sharing:
  - Your name
  - Your interest in the project



## Contact us

**E-mail:** [pedtf.pca@state.mn.us](mailto:pedtf.pca@state.mn.us)

**Website:** <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/local-sites-and-projects/st-paul-pigs-eye-dump-task-force>

# Final Task Force comments

# Thank you!