

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force final report

Task force recommendations to remediate and restore Pig's Eye Dump

FEBRUARY 2026

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Legislative charge

Legal citation: MN Laws 2022, ch. 94, Sec. 2, subd. 10j

Appropriation language: $800,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency to establish a Pig's Eye Landfill Task Force to coordinate efforts to remediate and restore the Pig's Eye Landfill Superfund site and address perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination of Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, and nearby groundwater. The task force must be made up of at least the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency, the commissioner of natural resources, the commissioner of health, a representative from the Metropolitan Council, a representative from the city of St. Paul, a representative from the city of South St. Paul, a representative from the city of Newport, a representative from Ramsey County, a representative from Dakota County, a representative from Washington County, and representatives from relevant federal agencies. The task force is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059, subdivision 6. The task force must submit an annual report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the environment and natural resources on the status of the task force's work. The final report is due February 15, 2026. The task force expires June 30, 2026. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2026.

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Executive summary

Background

Pig's Eye Dump, located in Saint Paul, Minnesota, is the state's largest unpermitted dump. From 1956 to 1972, the 200-acre site received household and industrial waste before modern disposal regulations existed. Positioned within the Mississippi River floodplain near Battle Creek and Pig's Eye Lake, the site is surrounded by sensitive natural areas and critical infrastructure.

The large, unlined waste deposit at the Pig's Eye Dump is an ongoing source of contamination, with contamination migrating beyond the waste footprint into groundwater, surface water and the bottom sediments in Pig's Eye Lake. Additionally, landfill gas consisting primarily of methane is being released into the atmosphere. Although there were clean-up efforts between 2000 and 2005, significant environmental concerns remain. The waste continues to be an uncontrolled source of contamination in the environment. The most significant contaminants of concern are per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and 1,4-dioxane.

In 2022, the Minnesota Legislature established the Pig's Eye Dump Task Force, a Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)-led multi-agency task force charged with developing a plan to remediate and restore Pig's Eye Dump. The Task Force was funded by an appropriation from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF).

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

From 2022 to 2026, the Pig's Eye Dump Task Force, comprised of state, federal, and local partners provided input for the development of this plan to guide remediation and restoration of the site. Throughout this time, task force members built their understanding about the site history and neighborhood, contaminants of concern, and potential risk to human health and ecosystems. The task force also reviewed similar case studies nationwide. While none of the other sites faces Pig's Eye Dump's unique challenges, the case study examples demonstrated that comprehensive clean-up could reduce risks and restore land for ecological and public use. The task force explored remediation and restoration strategies, potential funding options, and incorporated public input into their analysis of the potential options for the site.

Community engagement

To assist task force members in developing the plan, the Pig's Eye Dump project team conducted public engagement to educate people about the dump and gather input on the public's vision for the future of the site. Throughout 2024 and 2025, the team connected with community members and stakeholders through meetings, surveys, tours, and attending public events. This input helped shape task force priorities, emphasizing health and safety of nearby communities, environmental restoration, and public access.

Remediation and restoration options

Several strategies were evaluated to reduce environmental and health risks. Future land uses considered included keeping the site as a natural area, adding recreation opportunities, or limited commercial/industrial reuse.

Two remediation options emerged as most protective of the environment:

- **Dig-and-haul-no-backfill:** Remove all waste and transport it off site for proper disposal with no backfilling of the excavated area.
- **Dig-and-line:** Excavate and rebuild a new modern, engineered landfill with a liner on the property to contain the waste.

Other options, such as covering waste in place or partial relocation on the property may reduce some risk but not as effectively.

Task force recommendations

Remediation and restoration recommendations

- Pig's Eye Dump holds a large volume of uncontained waste directly adjacent to Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, and is located in the Mississippi River floodplain. Based on past investigation activities, the volume of waste is estimated to be at least 4.5 million cubic yards. The preferred remediation options are the dig-and-haul-no-backfill and dig-and-line options because they are the options most protective of the environment and public health.
- Remediation and restoration efforts should protect local and downstream communities and ecosystems, protect wildlife and natural habitats, and improve water quality.
- Remediation and restoration actions should be as consistent as possible with existing planning work including City of Saint Paul plans, Great River Passage plan, and other relevant plans without excluding any remediation options the task force has recommended.
- The remediation and restoration options pursued need to be implemented in a way that addresses aviation regulations and concerns related to the St. Paul Downtown Airport.
- If the dig-and-haul-no-backfill option is implemented, decisions about where the excavated waste is ultimately disposed of could impact 1) the existing capacity of metro area landfills, and 2) local community revenues. Both issues should be studied further.
- If the dig-and-haul-no-backfill or dig-and-line remediation options are implemented, safety protocols should be strictly followed during excavation and transportation to protect nearby communities and construction workers from potential risks. It is not expected that waste will be able to be treated on the property; however, recoverable hazardous materials should be segregated to the degree possible and sent to appropriate facilities for safe containment.
- Future use of the site should provide for a safe and accessible natural area for passive recreation, such as walking trails and wildlife observation. This recommendation is consistent with Ramsey County's Pig's Eye Unit of the Battle Creek Regional Park Long Range Plan Amendment, approved by the Metropolitan Council in April 2021.
- The remediation and restoration plan should ensure continued operation and allow for potential future expansion of the Metropolitan Water Resource Recovery Facility, a critical regional public utility infrastructure that protects water quality, public health, and the environment across the metropolitan area. It operates under and is regulated by state and federal permits.
- The remediation and restoration plan should allow for future expansion and ongoing operation of the Environmental Wood Supply facility which serves a public purpose and has an environmental benefit. Any future expansion will need to comply with applicable ordinances and regulations.
- The MPCA should complete a feasibility study of the remediation and restoration options presented to the task force, including possible impacts to existing nearby facilities. The

feasibility study analysis should prioritize the dig-and-haul-no-backfill and dig-and-line remediation options.

Funding recommendations

Remediation funding recommendation

- There is no one funding source that is able to provide the needed funding for remediation and restoration of Pig's Eye Dump. To be able to fund a remediation approach that is fully protective of the environment and public health, a combination of existing and new funding sources should be pursued.
- Federal funding should be pursued where remediation and restoration efforts for Pig's Eye Dump are an eligible use.
- Federal funding should be pursued by creating a new funding structure. For example, a funding source that is similar to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative or adjustments to the Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative proposal.
- State funding should be pursued. Both the creation of new state funding mechanisms as well as existing state funding such as the Metropolitan Landfill Contingency Action Trust (MLCAT) account and state bond funding.
- The Superfund responsible party identification process should not be utilized. Instead, a fee should be assessed on all waste disposal to cover/contribute to remediation expenses since haulers, industries, and residents in the surrounding area all contributed waste while the dump was open.
- Voluntary public-private partnerships could be explored to fund remediation efforts. Private parties include haulers, industries and residents in the surrounding area who contributed waste to the facility would contribute funding.

Restoration funding recommendation

- For restoration efforts, pursue other federal or state sources of funding such as the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR), Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Fund, the Clean Water Fund or other new or existing potential sources.

Background of Pig's Eye Dump

Site history

Pig's Eye Dump is a closed, unlined waste disposal site in Saint Paul, Minnesota. From 1956 to 1972, the site operated as a dump without a permit and accepted municipal, commercial, and industrial waste. During this time, Pig's Eye Dump became the largest unpermitted dump in Minnesota with a fill area spanning more than 200 acres. From 1977 to 1985, the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) disposed of wastewater treatment sludge incinerator ash on 31 acres of the site under a Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) solid waste permit (Permit SW-189). The MCES placed the ash on top of existing waste and covered the ash and waste with approximately two to three feet of soil.

Since the 1970s, multiple phases of environmental investigation have been carried out at the dump site, Battle Creek, and Pig's Eye Lake. In 1989, the MPCA placed Pig's Eye Dump on the State Superfund List. Groundwater, surface water, and sediment samples have shown the presence of contaminants including

per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), 1,4-dioxane, metals, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

From approximately 2000 to 2005, initial clean-up actions were carried out at the site, including:

- Removal and disposal of over 200 drums of hazardous waste.
- Clean-up of contaminated surface soil in a battery disposal area next to Pig's Eye Lake via in-situ solidification and stabilization.
- Filling of areas where water was pooling on the landfill surface.
- Reshaping the side of the landfill near the eastern railroad drainage to reduce erosion and reduce the discharge of landfill leachate.
- Installing a two-foot soil cover over the dump's waste footprint.
- Removing and relocating waste to help stabilize the bank and shoreline along a portion of Battle Creek and Pig's Eye Lake.
- Installing an engineered "select fill" material in key areas between the waste and surface water to reduce metals and VOC contamination in landfill leachate from entering Battle Creek and Pig's Eye Lake.

These initial clean-up actions were an important first step that led to modest environmental improvements. However, additional work is still needed to address contamination from the Pig's Eye Dump. The previous clean-up work completed between 2000 and 2005 took place before PFAS and 1,4-dioxane were identified through sampling. In addition, recent evaluations have identified the need to better understand the volume of waste, groundwater flow patterns, and the contribution of contaminants from upstream contamination sources.

Pig's Eye Neighborhood

Figure 1. Pig's Eye Dump with city and county boundaries.



Pig's Eye Dump and the surrounding area have several important shared uses, including diverse communities, businesses, and ongoing projects. The area is within the East Side River District, which is an area of the Mississippi River that has many shared uses, including Dakota homeland and sacred sites, industrial areas, parks and recreation, and natural habitats that serve as key bird migration routes. Current uses and projects directly on or adjacent to Pig's Eye Dump include the following:

City of Saint Paul – Pig's Eye Regional Park

Pig's Eye Regional Park is located on the waste footprint of the Pig's Eye Dump and also includes areas to the south around Pig's Eye Lake and adjacent to Pig's Eye section of Ramsey County's Battle Creek Regional Park. The area is a large, ecologically significant natural area managed by the City of Saint Paul. Located adjacent to Pig's Eye Lake on the northern shore with Battle Creek running through the park, the park features trails, bird watching areas, and opportunities for nature observation. It provides important habitats for migratory birds and other wildlife, and is a popular destination for birders, especially during spring and fall migration seasons.

Ramsey County – Pig's Eye Section of Battle Creek Regional Park

The Pig's Eye Section of Battle Creek Regional Park is located immediately adjacent to the south of Saint Paul's Pig's Eye Regional Park. The Pig's Eye Section surrounds nearly the entirety of Pig's Eye Lake. The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers undertook an island-building project in Pig's Eye Lake, which was the

subject of the Battle Creek Regional Park Plan amendment approved by the Metropolitan Council in 2021.

Saint Paul Downtown Airport

The Saint Paul Downtown Airport (Holman Field) is located just west of Pig's Eye Dump, across the Mississippi River. The airport is operated by the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) and serves general aviation, corporate, and military aircraft. Its proximity to the site means close coordination with the airport regulatory authorities will be necessary in both the design and implementation stages of future clean-up or restoration activities, especially activities that would result in topography changes or changes in bird populations and bird habitat that could be a concern for aviation safety. Also, compliance with airport zoning restrictions during construction activities need to be followed. The airport is a long-standing feature of the East Side River District and plays a role in regional transportation and economic activity.

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services Water Resource Recovery Facility

The Metropolitan Council Environmental Services Water (MCES) Resource Recovery Facility is located directly southwest of the Pig's Eye Dump. It is the largest wastewater treatment facility in Minnesota and serves 1.8 million residents in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, treating over 180 million gallons of wastewater per day. The plant plays a critical role in protecting public health and the environment by treating residential, commercial, and industrial wastewater from across the region and returning clean water to the Mississippi River.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Ramsey County Habitat Restoration project

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in partnership with Ramsey County, has completed a habitat restoration project on Pig's Eye Lake. The project consisted of reusing dredged material to build islands within the lake with the goal of restoring backwater habitat and improving water quality: (ramseycounty.us/residents/parks-recreation/planning-construction-restoration/pigs-eye-lake-island-building-project).

Canadian Pacific and Kansas City Southern Railway

A large railroad switching yard, owned and operated by Canadian Pacific and Kansas City Southern Railway, is located adjacent to the Pig's Eye Dump to the north and northeast. This facility is a critical part of the regional freight transportation network, serving as a hub for rail traffic moving through the Twin Cities and beyond. The yard supports significant industrial activity in the area and contributes to the region's economic infrastructure. Part of the previous remedial actions from 2000-2005 included waste removal from railroad property and grading along the waste interface with the railroad drainage ditch.

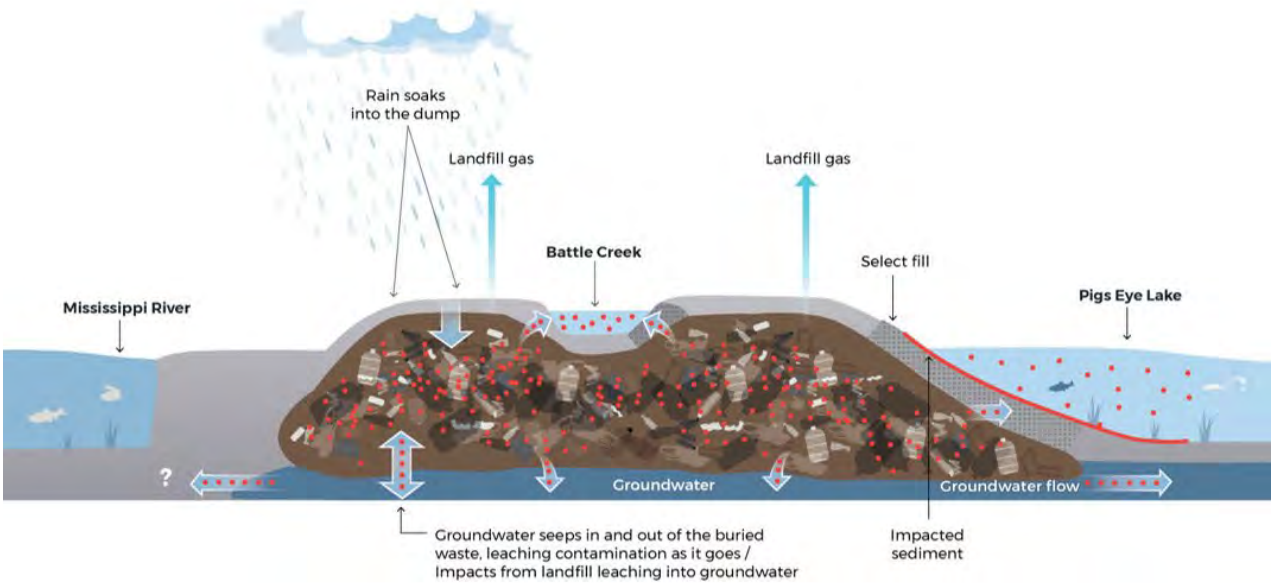
Environmental Wood Supply

Environmental Wood Supply is located directly adjacent to the Pig's Eye Dump to the west. Environmental Wood Supply processes and recycles wood waste collected from city operations and public drop-offs. The facility supports urban forestry and sustainability efforts by diverting wood debris from landfills and producing mulch and other reusable materials. Currently there is no data that shows the Pig's Eye Dump waste footprint extends beneath the Environmental Wood Supply facility.

Department of Natural Resources – Pig's Eye Island Heron Rookery Scientific and Natural Area

Located in the southern portion of Pig's Eye Lake, the Pig's Eye Island Heron Rookery is managed as a Scientific and Natural Area (SNA) by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). SNAs are set aside to protect rare and sensitive natural features; this site is particularly notable for its ecological significance within an urban environment. The area contains the largest and longest-occupied site for colonial nesting birds in the metro area, and among the largest in the state.

Figure 2. Contamination process at Pig's Eye Dump. ***Note: This image is a simplified conceptual drawing.***



The contamination story

Pig's Eye Dump is a large, unlined waste site unfortunately situated near water. Battle Creek enters the site from the north, flows through the center of the dump, and continues into Pig's Eye Lake south of the landfill before eventually entering the Mississippi River. Additionally, the Mississippi River is located about 800 feet west of the dump, which often causes the waste area to become saturated with floodwater and groundwater during flood events. The large unlined waste deposit is an ongoing source of contamination, with pollutants migrating beyond the original waste footprint in both groundwater and surface water. Additionally, landfill gas consisting primarily of methane is being released into the atmosphere.

As rain and flood water seeps through the waste and groundwater infiltrates into the waste from below, contaminants are transferred into the water, creating landfill leachate. As the leachate moves out the bottom and sides of the unlined waste area, contaminants are released into groundwater. Some of the contaminated groundwater then flows into Battle Creek and Pig's Eye Lake. This allows the contaminants to spread into surface waters and the bottom sediments of Pig's Eye Lake.

Contamination in Battle Creek comes not only from the Pig's Eye Dump but also from upstream sources that contribute contamination. Additionally, the Fish Hatchery Dump is a smaller dump site in the area to the north of Pig's Eye Dump that is being investigated by MPCA due to contamination.

As is typical with unlined dumps of this era, the Pig's Eye Dump has a wide variety of contaminants. However, the primary contaminants of concern are PFAS and 1,4-dioxane. Other contaminants detected include VOCs, SVOCs, cyanide, metals, and PCBs.

The initial clean-up efforts in the early 2000s attempted to reduce the spread of contaminants by installing an engineered "select fill" material in some areas between the waste and surface water. The select fill is permeable to allow leachate to flow through the fill material and contains organic matter that can absorb some contaminants. Monitoring data suggests the select fill material may be reducing some of the VOCs and metals contamination, but it is less effective in absorbing the primary contaminants of concern, PFAS and 1,4-dioxane.

Contaminants of concern and scope of contamination

Since the initial clean-up actions were implemented, monitoring has shown that some contaminants, specifically VOCs, SVOCs, and PCBs, are trending downward, in some cases falling below groundwater and surface water quality standards. Despite this decrease, there is still contamination at concerning levels.

Groundwater

Environmental monitoring shows that contaminated groundwater is moving from the dump toward Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, and the Mississippi River. In some areas, the waste is perpetually in contact with groundwater while at other depths and locations waste is sitting in groundwater only during flood events. Monitoring has not yet fully identified how far PFAS and 1,4-dioxane contamination has spread.

Groundwater Contaminant	Explanation	*Maximum Concentration (2025)*	*Health or Environmental Guidance*
PFAS	*PFAS are present tens of thousands to millions of times above guidance values*	*565,000 ng/L (PFOA)* *23,500 ng/L (PFOS)*	*0.0079 ng/L* *2.3 ng/L*
1,4-Dioxane	Detected concentrations exceed the applicable guidance level by approximately **40 times**.	*40 µg/L*	*1 µg/L*
VOCs	Benzene concentrations exceed the applicable guidance level by approximately **25 times**.	*50 µg/L (Benzene)*	*2 µg/L*
SVOCs	Detected concentrations exceed the applicable guidance level by approximately **10 times**.	*3.28 µg/L Bis(2-chloroethyl) ether*	*0.3 µg/L*

Note – Metals have been detected below health guidance values and PCBs are present below the laboratory method detection limits.

Surface water

The MPCA has developed site-specific water quality criteria (WQC) for application in a portion of Pool 2 of the Mississippi River, as the basis for remediation and other efforts to reduce PFAS contamination. The WQC address PFAS with Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) toxicological values and health-based guidance. The Pool 2 criteria is specific to Pool 2 water bodies and although not applicable to

Battle Creek, the Pool 2 criteria was utilized as a reference to provide context to detected PFAS concentrations.

Surface water monitoring in Battle Creek upstream of and within the dump has detected PFAS compounds (PFHxS, PFOA and PFOS) at concentrations that exceed applicable MPCA water quality criteria. As water flows through the dump and eventually reaches Pig's Eye Lake, it picks up additional contaminants from the dump, resulting in additional PFAS contamination in both Battle Creek and Pig's Eye Lake. Pig's Eye Dump is a source of contamination in Battle Creek and Pig's Eye Lake, and there are upstream sources that also contribute contamination to Battle Creek and Pig's Eye Lake.

Surface water Contaminant	*Explanation*	*Maximum Concentration (2025)*	*Health or Environmental Guidance*
PFAS	*Detected values are* approximately 15 times above *Mississippi River Pool 2 criteria* for PFOA and more than 5,000 times for PFOS	*1,300 ng/L (PFOA)* *274 ng/L (PFOS)*	*88 ng/L* *0.05 ng/L*

Note –

1. For PFOA and PFOS Pool 2/Class 2B WQC were used for reference.
2. VOCs, SVOCs, and PCBs are present below the laboratory detection limits.
3. Although 1,4-dioxane and select metals were detected, there are no WQC.

Sediment

While there are no published Sediment Quality Targets (SQTs) for PFAS, several PFAS compounds were detected above laboratory reporting limits in both Pig's Eye Lake and Battle Creek bottom sediments. Similarly, although VOCs were detected, no SQTs exist for VOCs. Metals such as cadmium, copper, lead, and zinc were detected above the applicable Level I SQTs in Pig's Eye Lake. Additionally, copper was found exceeding the Level I SQT in one sediment sample collected from Battle Creek, and in 2025, select Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) were identified above Level I SQTs. Notably, 1,4-dioxane and PCBs, were not detected in any of the sediment samples collected from Battle Creek.

Sediment Contaminant	*Explanation*	*Maximum Concentration (2025)*	*Health or Environmental Guidance*
PFAS	*Several PFAS were detected in sediment samples collected from Battle Creek*	*120 µg/kg (PFOA)* *11 µg/kg (PFOS)*	*No published criteria*
SVOCs	*Several SVOCs were detected multiple times above the Level 2 Sediment Quality Targets*	*141 µg/kg (Acenaphthene)* *1,580 µg/kg (Benzo[a]anthracene)* *143 µg/kg (Dibenz[a,h]anthracene* *1,410 µg/kg (Phenanthrene)* *1,990 µg/kg (Pyrene)*	*89 µg/kg* *1,100 µg/kg* *140 µg/kg* *1,200 µg/kg* *1,500 µg/kg*
Metals	*Several metals detected above Level 1 Sediment Quality Targets*	*45.5 µg/kg (Lead)* *39.7 µg/kg (Copper)*	*36 µg/kg* *32 µg/kg*

Note –

1. 1,4-dioxane, and PCBs were detected below the laboratory detection limits.
2. VOCs were detected but there are no established criteria.

Soil

Soil samples were collected at the dump from both surface soil cover (0 to 2 feet) and beneath the soil cover.

PFAS compounds, specifically PFOA and PFOS, were consistently detected at levels exceeding both residential and industrial Soil Reference Values (SRVs) in both the surface soil cover and in the waste material underneath the cover.

Metals in shallow cover soil were mostly found on the eastern side of Battle Creek above residential SRVs, though all remained below the threshold for industrial SRVs. Also, metals were detected in deeper intervals below the cover soil above the SRVs in both sides of the landfill.

VOCs and SVOCs in both cover soil and deeper samples and were present but did not surpass residential SRVs.

PCBs were not identified in the cover soil but were identified in select samples on the western side of Battle Creek landfill at concentrations above both residential and industrial SRVs.

Soil Contaminant	*Explanation*	*Maximum Concentration*	*Health or Environmental Guidance*
PFAS	*Detected values are multiple times above the Industrial SRV*	*23.6 µg/kg (PFOA)* *305 µg/kg (PFOS)*	*0.86 µg/kg* *18 µg/kg*
SVOCs	*Detected values are multiple times above the Industrial SRV*	*11,100 µg/kg (1-methylnaphthalene)* *392,000 µg/kg (Benzo[a]pyrene)*	*260 µg/kg* *23,000 µg/kg*
Metals	*Detected values are multiple times above the Industrial SRV*	*28.4 µg/kg (Arsenic)* *45.6 µg/kg (Cadmium)* *1,290 µg/kg (Lead)*	*9 µg/kg* *23 µg/kg* *460 µg/kg*
PCBs	*Detected values are above the Industrial SRV*	*10,600 µg/kg (PCB-1248)* *10,700 µg/kg (PCB-1254)*	*10,000 µg/kg* *10,000 µg/kg*

Note –

1. 1,4-dioxane is present below the laboratory detection limits.
2. VOCs were detected below the residential SRVs.

Landfill gas

The waste material generates landfill gas, which consists of methane and other gases produced by decomposing waste. In some areas of the dump, methane was detected at high levels. Methane fractions ranged from 0 to 69.7% during March 2025 sampling, and from 0 to 73.0% during June 2025 sampling. Methane concentrations exceeded the lower explosive limit (LEL) for methane of 5% by volume at seven gas probes in March 2025 and ten gas probes in June 2025. In addition, all seven of the March 2025 exceedances and eight of ten exceedances in June 2025 exceeded the upper explosive limit (UEL) for methane of 15% by volume. Although the highest methane levels were observed in the waste area, elevated methane levels were also found along the landfill's western perimeter, indicating

potential gas migration. No significant methane levels were detected along the landfill's eastern perimeter.

Wildlife and health impacts

PFAS and 1,4-dioxane are chemicals that once in the environment do not break down and can build up over time in plants and animals. This accumulation can result in greater negative impacts on the ecosystem.

Contaminants from the Pig's Eye Dump are a significant source of PFAS contamination in groundwater. As discussed previously, contaminated groundwater is migrating towards Battle Creek and Pig's Eye Lake, impacting these surface water bodies. Pig's Eye Lake also drains to the Mississippi River. Additionally, decades of contaminated surface water flowing from Battle Creek has led to sediment contamination in Battle Creek and Pig's Eye Lake.

Fish consumption advisory

MDH has issued fish consumption guidance for Mississippi River Pool 2. This advisory was issued by MDH due to the presence of PFAS in fish tissue from Pool 2. Pig's Eye Lake is connected to the Mississippi River and is considered part of Mississippi River Pool 2 for fish management purposes. MDH has also issued fish consumption guidance for Mississippi River Pools 3 through 6, which are the consecutive pools downstream, due to the presence of PFAS in fish tissue. Additional information on the guidance can be found here: health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/fish/index.html

Pig's Eye Island Heron Rookery impacts

The DNR has designated Pig's Eye Island Heron Rookery as an SNA. Based on the most recently available data, the heron rookery in the SNA is the largest and longest-occupied site for colonial nesting birds in the metro area, and among the largest in the state. While most waterbird nesting colonies naturally change over time, this site has a long history of consistently high occupancy suggesting it may be an important site for the bird species who use it.

PFAS contamination has also been found in the wildlife at this site, including birds and fish. Particularly, the concentrations of perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS, a type of PFAS) found in most of the Great Blue Heron eggs tested at Pig's Eye Heron Rookery in 1993 were high, and consistent with levels associated with physiological and neurological effects in other bird species. Additionally, a few of the Great Blue Heron eggs tested had PFOS concentrations high enough to also be associated with immunological effects in other birds. Repeat sampling of the site has shown a 60% overall reduction in PFAS in its biota over time, however, a small number of samples continue to have the highest levels of some PFAS reported in bird eggs.

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

In 2022, the Minnesota Legislature directed the MPCA to establish a task force to coordinate efforts to remediate and restore the Pig's Eye Dump and address PFAS contamination in Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, and groundwater. To support this effort, the Legislature appropriated $800,000 to the MPCA from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF).

The authorizing legislation specified that the task force was to be made up of at least the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency, the commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources, the commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Health, a representative from the Metropolitan Council,

a representative from the City of Saint Paul, a representative from the City of South St. Paul, a representative from the City of Newport, a representative from Ramsey County, a representative from Dakota County, a representative from Washington County, and representatives from relevant federal agencies.

The task force was also directed to submit an annual report on the status of the task force work to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the environment and natural resources. The final report is due February 15, 2026; the task force expires on June 30, 2026.

Additionally, remediation and restoration activities at the Pig's Eye Dump are governed by existing local, state, and federal requirements. The task force work has taken this into account when forming its recommendations. Building upon task force recommendations, more detailed plans will be needed to comply with local, state, and federal regulatory oversight and permitting processes.

Figure 3. Southern part of Pig's Eye Dump near Battle Creek and Pig's Eye Lake.



Pig's Eye Dump Task Force work summary

Work plan development and approval

For the ENRTF funds to be appropriated, the MPCA developed a project work plan for the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR). LCCMR is the commission that makes funding recommendations to the Minnesota State Legislature for special environment and natural resource projects from the ENRTF. Details of how ENRTF funds for this project were spent are documented in LCCMR project status reports available from LCCMR.

The MPCA submitted its Pig's Eye Task Force work plan on August 12, 2022, and presented it to the LCCMR on August 16, 2022. The LCCMR approved the work plan the same day.

Task Force representatives

The Task Force included the following representatives:

State Agency, Local Unit of Government, or Federal Agency	Representative
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency	Kirk Koudelka (Assistant Commissioner)
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	Dan Scollan (Hydrologist)
Minnesota Department of Health	Dave Bell (Research Scientist)
Metropolitan Council	Sam Paske (Assistant General Manager)
City of Saint Paul	Melanie McMahon (Department of Planning and Economic Development)
City of South St. Paul	Jimmy Francis (Mayor)
City of Newport	Bill Sumner (Councilmember)
Ramsey County	Victoria Reinhardt (Commissioner/Ramsey County Board of Commissioners Representative)
Dakota County	Dave Magnuson (Supervisor)
Washington County	Caleb Johnson (Senior Manager)
United States Army Corps of Engineers	Nathan Wallerstedt (Chief)

Timeline of Task Force work

The table below summarizes the timeline of task force events.

Milestones	Actual completion date
Contact federal, state, and local entities	February 15, 2023
Federal, state, and local entities select task force representatives	March 13, 2023
Submit 2023 annual report to the legislature	March 31, 2023
East Side River District Convening-stakeholder meeting	December 14, 2023
Task Force Meeting #1- introductions, review charter, goals, timelines.	September 25, 2023
Task Force Meeting #2- site history, contaminants of concern, remedial investigation update.	January 12, 2024
Task Force Meeting #3- Superfund process timeline, remediation options, feasibility of remedial strategies.	March 8, 2024
Art in The Hollow Event- share information, progress and how to get/stay involved with the task force.	June 1, 2024
Task Force Meeting #4- review remedial options, public engagement updates, Task Torce input on public engagement.	June 7, 2024
Task Force Meeting #5- engagement update, case studies presented.	July 18, 2024
Pollinator Festival- share information, progress and how to get/stay involved with the task force.	August 11, 2024
On the Road Again, South St. Paul- share information, progress and how to get/stay involved with the task force.	October 5, 2024
Pig's Eye Dump Walking Tour- Partnered with Pig's Eye Park Friends to host the public tour to discuss the site's future.	September 10, 2024
Virtual Community Meeting- Presentation and discussion about the site's future and community involvement.	September 12, 2024
In Person Community Meeting- a facilitated discussion on the future of the site.	September 16, 2024
Task Force Meeting #6- guest speakers from Doyne Park and Big Marsh, MPCA state funding overview.	September 23, 2024

Milestones	Actual completion date
Task Force Meeting #7- public engagement update/next steps, remediation vs. restoration goals, bring remediation and reuse strategies together.	December 6, 2024
Task Force Meeting #8- guest presentations: Cuyahoga National Park, Met Council, City of SaintPaul, Ramsey County.	February 13, 2025
Community Survey	March 7, 2025
Submit 2024 annual report to the legislature	April 2025
Task Force Meeting #9- review community survey results, discuss remedial options.	April 17, 2025
Stakeholder Meeting: CPKC Rail	May 2, 2023
Stakeholder Meeting: Prairie Island Indian Community	June 16, 2025
Task Force Meeting #10	June 24, 2025
Stakeholder Meeting: US Fish and Wildlife	July 23, 2025
Stakeholder Meeting: FAA and MAC	August 7, 2025
Task Force Meeting #11	August 21, 2025
Stakeholder Meeting: FAA, MnDOT, MAC	September 17, 2025
Task Force Meeting #12	October 10, 2025
Pop Up: University of Minnesota Research Afternoon at Pig's Eye Park	October 25, 2025
Task Force Meeting #13	December 2, 2025
Task Force Meeting #14	January 13, 2026
Legislative Report Submittal	February 15, 2026

Figure 4. Task Force Meeting Phases.



Figure 4 shows the three main phases of the Pig's Eye Task Force's work: Education, Decision-making, and Documenting & Review. The first phase of task force meetings was focused on building task force members' understanding of the site, reviewing case studies from projects with similar elements to the Pig's Eye Dump, and building public awareness of the project through various public engagement efforts. The second phase focused on exploring potential remediation and restoration strategies and goals, gathering and analyzing public input on the strategies, and exploring potential funding options. Finally, the last phase focused on finalizing recommendations and developing the final report.

Detailed recaps of task force meetings held in 2024, 2025 and 2026:

Task Force meeting date	Topics covered	Outcomes/Discussion topics
January 12, 2024	• Site History/Background • Contaminants of Concern	• What contaminants are sampled

Task Force meeting date	Topics covered	Outcomes/Discussion topics
	• Regulatory Framework • Remedial Investigation Update • Superfund Process/Timeline	• Considerations for nearby properties (fish hatchery, wastewater treatment plant, etc.) • Public access to task force meetings
March 8, 2024	• Superfund process timeline • Remediation options to address contamination • Feasibility of remediation strategies	• Leading with remediation vs. restoration • How to get the public involved (add a virtual option) • Infrastructure feasibility due to floodplain • Interest in possible future uses
June 7, 2024	• Re-cap of remedial options • Public engagement update • Task Force input on public engagement efforts	• Task force priorities for engagement (remediation options and restoration future uses) • Interest in types of engagement activities (public meetings, individual small group meetings) • Stakeholders/community groups to reach out to
July 18, 2024	• Public engagement update • Case studies (Washington County Landfill, WDE Landfill Andover, Doyne Park Milwaukee, Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Puente Hills Landfill Park, Big Marsh Park Chicago)	• Interest in hearing funding opportunities and sources available • Considerations for neighboring properties • Uniqueness of Pig's Eye Dump site • Waste disposal and impact to Metro landfills
September 23, 2024	• Doyne Park guest speakers • Big Marsh guest speakers • MPCA state funding overview	• Discussion on other funding options that may be available for remediation or restoration (federal sources, lottery dollars, settlement funds, etc.) • How Pig's Eye Dump compares to case studies and specific challenges (floodplain, amount of waste, cost, etc.)
December 6, 2024	• Public engagement update and next steps • Remediation vs. restoration goals • Bringing remediation and reuse strategies together	• Task force interest in getting public input on both remediation and restoration, not just future use. • Potential for federal dollars if backfill is needed • Concern for available space in permitted landfills and the cost • Utilizing legislative process to gather funding • Report development and including multiple options • Interest in hearing more input from the public on remediation and restoration options
February 13, 2025	• Presentations from Cuyahoga National Park, Met Council, City of Saint Paul, Ramsey County	• Task force discussion on community survey, discussion on remedial options and potential costs.
April 17, 2025	• Remediation options and cost estimates • Public engagement update and survey results	• Task force discussion on remediation options and costs associated with each option • Discussion on survey results and public engagement
June 24, 2025	• Updated map of Pig's Eye Dump area • Information on sorting waste • Information on moving waste	• Task force discussion on sorting and moving waste and on the final remediation options

Task Force meeting date	Topics covered	Outcomes/Discussion topics
	• Discussion on new landfill cover and dig and line remediation options	
August 21, 2025	• Update on stakeholder conversations • Initial funding information provided	• Task force members ranked their top remediation and restoration options based on how the options aligned with established desired outcomes • Task force discussion on funding
October 10, 2025	• Reviewing and discussing draft recommendations for restoration and remediation and funding	• Task force members reviewed draft recommendations, edited language, and brainstormed new potential recommendations.
December 2, 2025	• Finalizing recommendations and report review	• Task force members reviewed and discussed changes to the report and draft recommendations.
January 13, 2026	• Discussion on final edits to the final report • Review feasibility study process	• Task force members reviewed final edits and approved the final report

Case studies

During the education phase of the task force work, case studies of landfills and dumps that have been remediated or restored in Minnesota and across the United States were reviewed. The task force considered how each site was addressed, noting similarities and differences to Pig's Eye Dump, as well as associated costs and funding sources. A key takeaway from these examples is that no single case closely matches Pig's Eye Dump, given its size, the nature of the waste materials, and its proximity to water.

Washington County Landfill

The Washington County Landfill is a solid waste landfill located in Lake Elmo, Minnesota and is an example of reconstructing a new modern landfill with a bottom liner at the site of an old unlined dump. This unlined dump was operated by Washington and Ramsey County from 1969 to 1975. It was added to the US EPA Superfund list in 1984 and was delisted in 1996 when it entered the MPCA's Closed Landfill Program. Similar to Pig's Eye Dump, this site's groundwater is impacted with VOCs, 1,4-dioxane, and PFAS. From 2009 to 2012, significant reconstruction activities occurred, including consolidating waste, installing a liner system beneath the waste, installing a new cover system on top of the waste, installing an active landfill gas extraction with landfill gas condensate management system, improving the leachate collection system, and improving surface water management.

- **Waste Volume addressed:** 1,900,000 CY
- **Owner:** City of Lake Elmo/ State of Minnesota
- **Landfill reconstruction cost:** $24M over 3 years
- **Funding Source:** State bond funding/3M Company

Waste Disposal Engineering Landfill

The Waste Disposal Engineering (WDE) Landfill in Andover, Minnesota is an example of a hot spot removal of hazardous waste. This municipal solid waste landfill was operated between 1963 and 1983 and contained a permitted asphalt-lined hazardous waste pit. It was added to the US EPA Superfund list in 1983 and was delisted in 1995 when it entered the MPCA Closed Landfill Program. The site's groundwater is impacted with 1,4-dioxane, vinyl chloride, and PFAS. Following earlier attempts at clean-up, the hazardous waste disposal pit was excavated in 2019. The excavation of the 1.4-acre hazardous waste pit was performed inside a temporary structure to maintain control of hazardous vapors. Waste was transported by truck and by rail to multiple disposal facilities, some out of state.

- **Waste Volume addressed:** 30,000 CY
- **Owner:** MPCA
- **Cost:** $22.3 M
- **Funding Source**: State bond funding

Doyne Park

Doyne Park is an approximately 40-acre waste disposal site located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Remediation activities did not involve excavating the waste. The waste was left in place, and the focus was toward repurposing the space for public use. The site was purchased by City of Milwaukee in the 1930s for disposal of demolition waste. The site operated until 1973 and was redeveloped as a golf course in 1976. Environmental monitoring has identified minimal groundwater impacts. Remediation efforts included installing groundwater monitoring wells, a new clay landfill cap, and a landfill gas control system. The former dump site has been redeveloped into a multi-use recreation area including basketball courts, a soccer field, walking trails, and a playground.

- **Waste Volume addressed:** 0
- **Owner:** City of Milwaukee
- **Funding Source:** City of Milwaukee

Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Cuyahoga Valley National Park in Ohio was a former dump site remediated through excavating waste and transporting it to a permitted disposal facility. The site was previously the location of the Krejci dump, which operated as a salvage yard and dump from mid-1940s to late 1970s. It was closed and designated a Superfund site in 1986 after initial EPA investigation identified around 5,000 leaking drums of waste. Groundwater impacts included PCBs, dioxin, PAHs, pesticides, benzene, and metals. A settlement with companies responsible for the contamination under Superfund law was reached in 2002. The clean-up activities began in 2005 with excavation of waste material and contaminated soil. The clean-up was funded and led by companies identified as the Superfund responsible parties. The site has since been restored and includes thriving meadows, and wetland habitat.

- **Waste Volume addressed:** 375,000 tons
- **Owner:** National Park Service
- **Cost:** $50-$60 M
- **Funding Source:** Superfund responsible parties

Puente Hills Landfill Park

The Puente Hills Landfill, once the largest landfill in the United States, operated from 1957 to 2013 in southeastern Los Angeles County. At its peak, it spanned 700 acres and rose over 500 feet high, accepting millions of tons of waste from the greater Los Angeles area. Since its closure, efforts have focused on reuse rather than remediation. The area has been redeveloped into Puente Hills Landfill Park. Reuse plans include habitat restoration, recreational trails, and environmental education. A gas-to-energy plant still operates on-site, converting landfill gas into electricity for thousands of homes. The first phase of the park, which will reclaim roughly 140 acres of the overall landfill for public use, is expected to open in 2027. The long-range planning for phased development has been designed to account for future settlement of waste and landfill gas production.

- **Waste Volume addressed**: 0
- **Owner:** Los Angeles County

Big Marsh Park

Big Marsh Park site in Chicago is a good example of community involvement in remediation and restoration activities. The Marsh Park site is located in an area that has been heavily industrialized since the 1800s. The site was used for disposal of industrial waste from nearby steel mills. Chicago Park District acquired property in 2011, installed a soil cap and did limited contamination hot spot removal as restoration activities progressed. Many partners were involved in the restoration of the park including Friends of Big Marsh and REI Co-op. The site was restored with marsh wetlands, a mountain bike skills park, and biking and walking trails. The Ford Calumet Environmental Center was completed in 2021 as an educational center for the history and ecology of the area.

- **Waste Volume addressed:** 30,000 CY over 14 acres
- **Owner:** Chicago Park District
- **Funding Source:** Chicago Park District

Summary of local and regional land use planning

Metropolitan Council area plans

The Metropolitan Council Environmental Services shared information with the task force on the wastewater system in the Twin Cities and the role of the water recovery facility located next to the Pig's Eye Dump. The Metropolitan Council requires the ability to expand the water resources recovery plant in the future to accommodate growth and to enhance services to meet future regulatory requirements, which may involve expansion of the current facility. The timeline for any future expansion will be determined in part by changes to permit requirements. Impacts to the Metro Water Resources Recovery Facility, state and federal air permits and nearby local communities were also discussed.

City of Saint Paul area plans

The City of Saint Paul presented to the task force on the Great River Passage Long Range Plan, which was adopted by the Saint Paul City Council in 2013. The plan outlines broad goals for the floodplain region where Pig's Eye Park is located, including expanding park access, creating buffers around natural areas, and strengthening connections to nearby lakes and rivers. For Pig's Eye Park specifically, the plan highlights potential improvements such as enhancing recreational access through trails, protecting natural resources, and offering nature-based recreation opportunities. Current efforts at the site focus on improving park access and signage, which were installed in 2024.

Ramsey County area plans

Ramsey County shared with the task force two area plans that are relevant to Pig's Eye Dump: The Battle Creek Regional Park Plan and the Pig's Eye Lake Plan Amendment. The Battle Creek Regional Park Plan was created to guide long-term development and vision for the park including opportunities for expansion and preservation. A primary goal of this plan is to improve connectivity and access to the park system, including connection to Pig's Eye Lake Park. This plan was developed by understanding issues and hearing concerns from the local community and stakeholders to guide future park improvements.

The Pig's Eye Lake Plan Amendment is an update to the Battle Creek Regional Park Plan that focuses on restoring natural resources rather than expanding recreation. The central project involves building islands in the lake using dredged material to improve habitat for wildlife, stabilize shorelines, reduce erosion, and enhance water quality. The Pig's Eye Lake Island project is a collaboration among Ramsey County, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC). The LSOHC funded the construction of the islands. Because it is located within the Regional Park, the Metropolitan Council reviewed and approved the project and its potential for impacts as part of an amendment to the plan for the Regional Park. This plan includes the construction of seven islands to improve aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. The island project, completed in 2024, involved the beneficial reuse of approximately 400,000 cubic yards of dredged river sand to create seven islands that will provide critical habitats for migratory birds and aquatic species. The total project footprint is about 40 acres. The dredge material used in the project met MPCA soil reference value criteria at the time of placement.

Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area (MRCCA) and Mississippi River and Recreation Area (MNRRA)

Pig's Eye Dump and Pig's Eye Regional Park are located within the Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area (MRCCA) and the Mississippi River Recreation Area (MNRRA). The MRCCA was designated as a state critical area to protect its natural, cultural, and scenic resources. The MRCCA program is a state, regional, and local program that guides land use planning and zoning regulations for the 72-mile stretch of the Mississippi River. The MNRRA is a unit of the National Park System that was established to protect and enhance the Mississippi River corridor. The boundary of the MNRRA is identical to the Mississippi River critical area. Through the MNRRA, the National Park Service awards competitive grants to local governments and public partners for projects that protect the river and improve public access, recreation and education. The MRCCA does not provide funding but establishes the land use and resource protection standards that projects must meet to be eligible for MNRRA funding. Future uses of the site should be consistent the City of St Paul's 2040 Comprehensive Plan, and subsequent plans.

Stakeholder and community engagement

The MPCA hosted a project website for the task force (pca.state.mn.us/local-sites-and-projects/st-paul-pigs-eye-dump-task-force), which included the site history, background of the task force, and information on the task force meetings. Task force meetings were open to the public and recorded, meeting materials (agenda, recording, and notes) were posted to the project website. A project-specific email address (Pig's.Eye.Dump.Task.Force.Mailbox.MPCA@state.mn.us) was also created to ensure a consistent repository for public questions was available.

In 2024, the Pig's Eye Dump project team focused on raising public awareness of Pig's Eye Dump Task Force through attending community events and hosting stakeholder events to facilitate deeper stakeholder conversations. The team held pop-ups at three community events to share information about the site, the task force, and opportunities to attend meetings and get involved. In September

2024, Zan Associates (MPCA's contracted engagement/outreach contractor) and MPCA staff set up three stakeholder events to engage the public and targeted stakeholder groups. The three events included a walking tour of Pig's Eye Park/Dump coordinated with Pig's Eye Park Friends, an evening virtual presentation and discussion to allow for people to join after their workday was over, and an in-person coffee meeting at Swede Hollow Café in East Side Saint Paul. Overall, the project team interacted with over 300 people at these events. A summary of each event is below:

1. Pop-ups (3) – Project staff attended three community events throughout the year to share information on the site history, task force efforts, how to attend meetings, and other opportunities to stay involved. Pop-ups were hosted at the following events:
    a. Art in the Hollow in Saint Paul's Swede Hollow neighborhood on June 1, 2024
    b. Wakan Tipi Pollinator Festival at Lake Phalen Park and Pavilion on August 11, 2024
    c. On the Road Again in South Saint Paul on October 5, 2024
2. Pig's Eye Dump Walking Tour – Community tour of Pig's Eye Park and Dump site that was open to the public. The event partnered with Pig's Eye Park Friends to host the tour during their usually scheduled weekly walking time, with Pig's Eye Park Friends as tour guides.
3. Virtual Community Meeting – A virtual meeting was held at night for community members to join. The project team shared an overview and background information on Pig's Eye Dump, the task force, engagement plan, and discussed the future of the site and attendees' visions. Attendees shared that they would like to see increased accessibility and awareness of the park, a focus on biodiversity, and restoring the site as a wetland.
3. In-person Community Coffee Discussion – Provided background information on Pig's Eye Dump and facilitated a discussion on the future of the site. Attendees shared their visions for the dump at a neutral location away from the MPCA offices. Attendees shared that they would like to see the sites history preserved, opportunities for youth involvement, and full remediation and restoration of the site.

Community survey

To assist task force members in incorporating public input into the development of remediation and restoration plans, the Pig's Eye Dump project team developed a public outreach survey that launched in March 2025. The survey included a 10-minute video that outlined potential remediation and restoration options along with the steps needed to achieve them. The survey was open from March 4 through March31, and 359 total responses with 134 open-ended responses were received. Below are key takeaways from community input the team received through the survey. The full public engagement report can be found in the Appendix.

- People who took the survey are most comfortable with the future use of the site being restored as a natural area with the waste being fully removed and the excavated area not being backfilled. Examples include future uses such as lake/wetlands, wildlife sanctuary conservation area, wildlife viewing, pollinator habitat, and walking trails.
- People who took the survey are least comfortable with industrial or commercial future use and having most of the waste remain as it currently is.
- Of the 134 people who participated in the survey by providing specific comments:
    - 46% mentioned a strong preference for restoring the site with a focus on restoring wildlife, habitat, and wetlands to a natural state.
    - 17% wanted to see a complete removal of the waste.

    - 10% were interested in passive recreation opportunities like walking trails, birdwatching, and kayaking.
    - Some comments also mentioned clean water being a top priority, wanting to see Native communities' input being considered, and the site being difficult to access.
    - A few comments shared a preference for keeping overall costs low, preference towards a more limited clean-up due to feasibility, or preference to leave the dump as is.
- The demographics of survey participants were not representative of the nearby neighborhood demographics.
    - 89% of survey respondents identified as White, which is much higher than the 29.5% White population in the surrounding neighborhood.
    - Over half of survey respondents (54%) reported being over 55 years old, whereas only 20.4% of the neighborhood's residents are in that age group.
- When comparing responses by age group:
    - The future uses that received the highest comfortability rating among all age groups were passive use park and natural areas.
    - All age groups were least comfortable with industrial/commercial future use paired with targeted waste relocation and filter.

Tribal input on remediation and restoration options

The Pig's Eye Dump site is located on Dakota homeland and is a site of significance for the Dakota people. The project team reached out to Prairie Island Indian Community and Mille Lacs Band to share information about Pig's Eye Dump and receive feedback from their communities.

Adjacent property outreach

The Pig's Eye Dump project team had multiple meetings with various stakeholders to discuss their involvement, concerns, and potential to collaborate on development of the Pig's Eye Dump site. Summaries of the meetings are included below.

Canadian Pacific Kansas City Southern Railway (CPKC)

The Pig's Eye Dump project team met with Canadian Pacific Kansas City Southern Railway (CPKC) to discuss the St. Paul Yard and proximity to Pig's Eye Dump. The team shared remediation options that were being considered by the task force and discussed the logistics of transporting waste by rail.

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES)

The MPCA met with Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) to discuss the Metropolitan Water Resource Recovery Facility and proximity to Pig's Eye Dump. Meeting attendees discussed facility needs and the potential to coordinate on remediation and reuse efforts at the Pig's Eye Dump.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

The team met with U.S Fish and Wildlife Service to share information on the Pig's Eye Dump project. They discussed the agency's priorities and how they have historically managed similar projects with various stakeholders.

Aviation stakeholder group

The Pig's Eye Dump is directly in the flight path of the St. Paul Downtown Airport. Remediation of the Pig's Eye Dump could involve a significant construction project extending over many years. Some remediation options would result in significant changes to the landscape and could have an impact on bird populations, all of which present aviation concerns.

The Pig's Eye Dump project team reached out to the FAA in April 2025 to begin conversations with aviation stakeholders. That outreach resulted in follow up meetings with aviation stakeholders including the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT).

The issues communicated by aviation stakeholders are issues related to aviation safety including:

- Airport zoning including height restrictions – There are height limitations in the Pig's Eye Dump area that will need to be addressed during the remediation design and project permitting process.
- Bird populations – There are concerns about an increase in bird populations, specifically large waterfowl that would create hazards for aircraft. New bird populations can be attracted during the construction process and could also increase in response to changes in habitat from restoration projects.

Continued conversations with aviation stakeholders will be critical, especially during the design and permitting stages of any future remediation and restoration effort.

Remediation and restoration options evaluated

Contamination sources and contamination impacts requiring remediation and restoration

Environmental impacts that need remediation include:

- Over 200 acres of waste in Pig's Eye Dump (estimated to be at least 4.5 million cubic yards)
- Groundwater.
- Surface water in Pig's Eye Lake and Battle Creek.
- Sediments in Pig's Eye Lake and Battle Creek.
- Upstream sources contributing contamination to the area.

A phased approach to the multiple remediation and restoration needs is the most beneficial approach. Addressing the source of contamination (waste material) first would allow for more effective remediation of groundwater, surface water, and sediments. Removing the source of contamination could also reduce the amount of groundwater remediation needed long-term. Additionally, remediation of the sediments in Pig's Eye Lake before addressing the sources of contamination that caused the sediments to be contaminated could result in future contamination of the remediated area. As a result, the task force focused on developing a remediation plan for the waste as the best first step.

Restoration options

Several restoration options were considered in conjunction with the remediation options. Restoration options considered by the task force included both active and passive recreational uses, future use as a natural area, and industrial/commercial uses.

Active recreational use

This option could include the development of active recreational facilities to expand public use of the area. Active recreation typically involves the construction of built amenities such as hiking and biking trails, sports fields, playgrounds, or other infrastructure for organized activities. These enhancements would provide structured opportunities for physical activity and community engagement.

The primary benefit of expanding active use is increased public access and enjoyment of the space through more dynamic and accessible facilities. However, some active recreational options may be limited due to the site's location in a floodplain.

Passive recreation use

Future use for passive recreation would build on the area's current function, which primarily consists of walking trails. This option could focus on enhancing these passive recreational opportunities while maintaining a natural area focus.

Passive recreation would include minimally built infrastructure and would aim to preserve ecological features. Future improvements might include expanding trail networks, adding picnic areas, and birdwatching spots, that integrate with the existing landscape.

This approach supports an environmentally sensitive use of the area, balancing recreational access with conservation goals. The success of expanding passive recreation would depend on the effectiveness of remediation efforts and the future environmental condition.

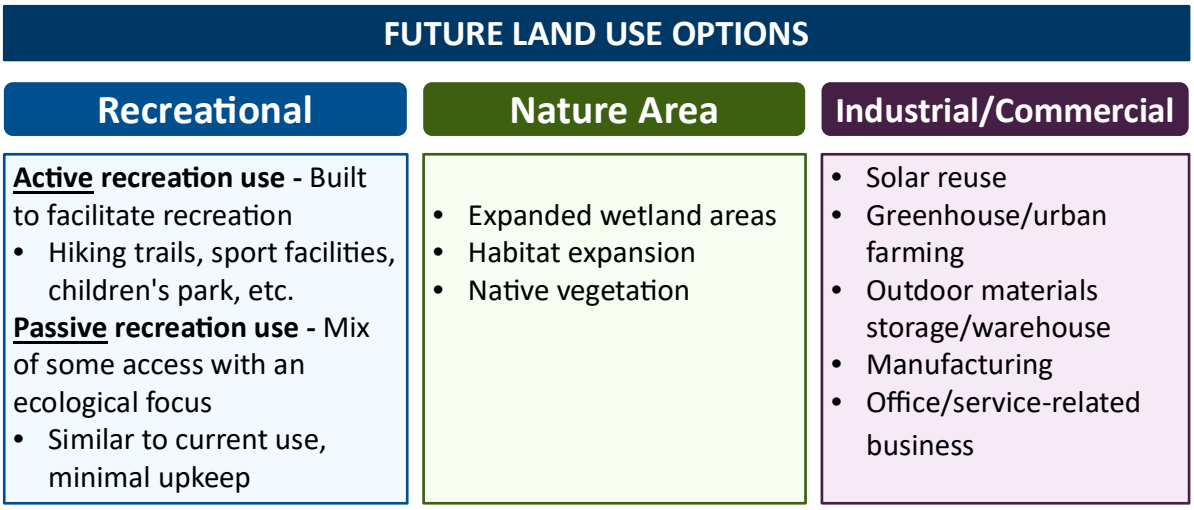
Natural area

Future use as a natural area would expand lake and wetland areas and would develop additional wildlife habitat. Focusing on development of a natural area could offer limited opportunities for passive recreation, examples include paddling activities and wildlife observation. The effectiveness of reuse as a natural area would depend on the success of the remediation efforts and the level of contamination that remains following remediation. Attracting additional wildlife where some level of contamination remains may be counterproductive. The community engagement survey identified that restoring the site as a natural area was the preferred option for those who completed the survey.

Industrial/Commercial use

Future use of the area for industrial or commercial purposes is also an option. This includes solar reuse, greenhouse farming, outdoor material storage, warehouse uses, remanufacturing, and office/service-related businesses. Some industrial/commercial use would be limited by the location in the floodplain. Some future industrial uses may conflict with existing land use plans. The community engagement survey identified that expansion of industrial/commercial uses was the least preferred option for those that completed the survey.

Figure 5. Future land use options.



Remediation options

The primary contamination issue that needs to be addressed at the Pig's Eye Dump is the generation of landfill leachate and release of landfill leachate into the environment. Landfill leachate is generated when precipitation, flood water, and groundwater come in contact with the waste allowing contaminants in the waste, primarily PFAS and 1,4 dioxane, to transfer into the water. The landfill leachate then moves beyond the waste footprint into the environment.

A secondary issue is the release of landfill gas into the environment. Landfill gas is generated as organic materials in the waste decompose over time. This decomposition process generates a gas containing methane (a potent greenhouse gas), carbon dioxide, and volatile contaminants released from the waste.

Additionally, there is concern with contamination identified in surface soils in some areas.

Remediation options evaluated by the task force focused on addressing the waste, which is the source of contamination. Addressing the waste will cut off the source of contamination into groundwater as well as Battle Creek and Pig's Eye Lake.

A range of remediation concepts were evaluated by the task force, including:

- **Targeted waste relocation and filter:** Moving a limited amount of waste that is directly adjacent to Pig's Eye Lake and Battle Creek to create a space that would be backfilled with a filtering material designed to capture contaminants.
- **New cover:** Regrading and installing a new impermeable cover to prevent precipitation from percolating through the waste which is one of several ways landfill leachate is generated.
- **Dig-and-haul:** Excavating all the waste and transporting it to a permitted facility for disposal.
- **Dig-and-line:** On the property, constructing a new modern landfill with modern landfill systems, including a bottom liner and impermeable cover to contain the waste at the current dump site.

Targeted waste relocation and filter

This option involves creating a separation between the waste and the water. This would be done by excavating and relocating some of the waste material in areas where the waste is closest to surface water and installing filtering material designed to filter contaminants in the leachate coming out of the waste. This method would attempt to reduce contaminant concentrations in landfill leachate that is discharged into Battle Creek and Pig's Eye

Lake but would not address the waste itself.

Figure 6. Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter concept drawing.



Cost and timeframe

The estimated cost is approximately $30 million (-50% to +100%) with a construction timeframe of approximately 5 years and a 30-year operation and maintenance (O&M) cost of approximately $6 Million (-50% to +100%). The O&M cost includes regular landfill maintenance such as mowing, maintenance of the filtering material, and routine environmental monitoring. This approach is generally lower in cost and allows for phased implementation.

Effectiveness

Overall effectiveness of this approach depends on the filtering material used and the ability to get leachate to flow through the material. Depending on the type of filter used, it may need to be replaced once it can no longer effectively absorb contaminants. This approach does not clean up the groundwater itself; instead, it focuses on filtering contaminants from the leachate before it reaches Battle Creek and Pig's Eye Lake.

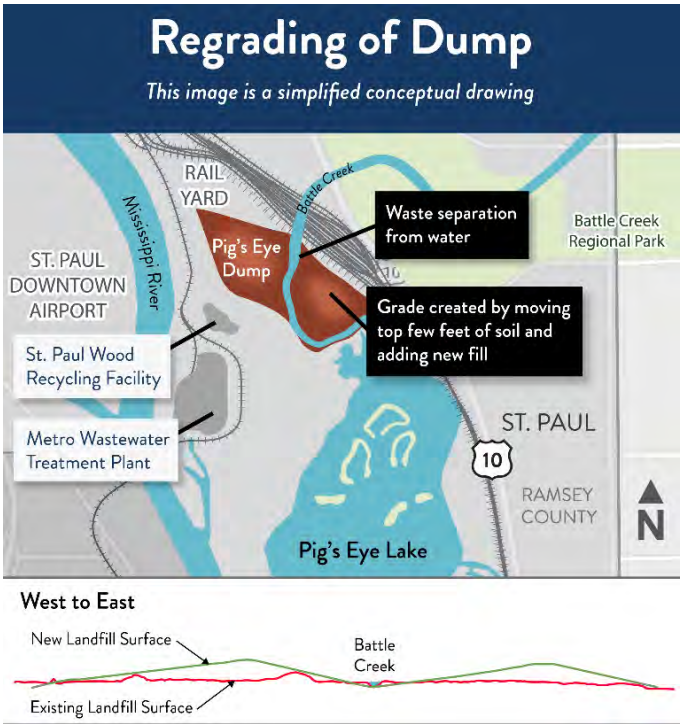
Future uses

This strategy would result in minor changes to the topography; overall the site would look similar to the current conditions. With this approach, future site use could remain similar to its current use, supporting passive recreation activities such as trails and bird-watching areas. Active recreation could include more developed facilities, such as sports fields or playgrounds, but these would be limited to account for environmental conditions at the site. Use as a natural area would be limited by the effectiveness of the remediation in reducing contaminant concentrations in Battle Creek and Pig's Eye Lake. This strategy is less suited for future industrial/commercial use due to potential need for future remedial activities. Limited industrial/commercial future use could be considered but would need to be designed to be flood tolerant and account for the possible need for additional future remediation.

New cover

This option involves regrading the cover and installing an impermeable cap to prevent precipitation from percolating through the waste, which is one way landfill leachate is generated. This option would involve regrading the landfill to a 5% grade to ensure proper surface drainage. The new cap would include several layers: topsoil, a soil drainage layer, a clay cap, and a geomembrane. Also, this option would include a landfill gas collection system. This option would require reconsolidation of the existing waste and require obtaining additional clean fill to obtain necessary sloping grade.

Figure 7. New Cover concept drawing.



Cost and timeframe

The cost of implementing this new cap is estimated to be around $100 million (-50% to +100%) with a construction timeframe of 5 years, and a 30-year operation and maintenance cost of $7 million (-50% to +100%). The O&M cost includes regular landfill maintenance such as mowing and cap maintenance, pollinator habitat maintenance, and routine environmental monitoring.

Effectiveness

The new landfill cover would prevent future infiltration of precipitation on the land surface. However, this option does not include waste excavation nor installation of a bottom liner, landfill leachate would still be generated from groundwater intrusion into the waste, especially during flood events. Although there would be less leachate generated there would continue to be leaching of contaminants out the bottom of the waste.

Future uses

Restoration options for this strategy would be limited to activities that can be conducted on or around a landfill cap. This might include trails, picnic areas, and possibly some sports facilities. The presence of the landfill would limit the extent of recreational development. Future use as a natural area would focus on creating habitats on and around the landfill cap. This could include pollinator habitats and other types of vegetation that are compatible with landfill conditions. This strategy supports limited industrial and commercial uses, primarily those that are flood-tolerant and compatible with the presence of a landfill. Solar energy installations are a potential use for closed landfills.

Dig-and-haul options

These options involve excavating all the waste and transporting it to a permitted landfill facility for disposal. These options move the waste from the current unlined facility in an environmentally sensitive area to an existing permitted landfill facility. One of the options includes backfilling the excavated area with clean fill material (dig-and-haul-and-backfill), with the second option the excavated area would not be backfilled (dig-and-haul-no-backfill).

Waste disposal considerations

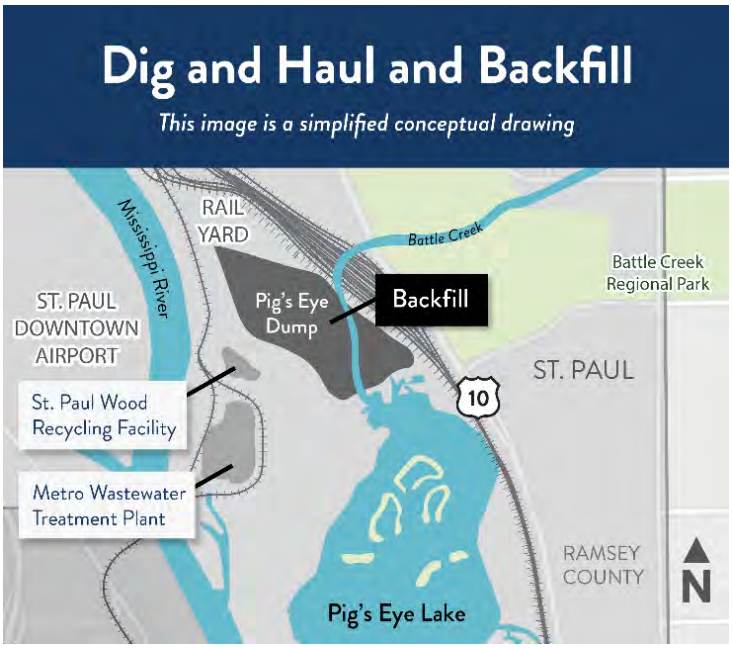
The 200-acre waste footprint at the Pig's Eye Dump represents a significant volume of waste (the current estimate is at least 4.5 million cubic yards). If the waste was moved to existing metro landfills, it would consume a portion of remaining metro area waste disposal capacity. The scope of the impact would need to be determined by collection of additional data to refine the estimated volume of waste in Pig's Eye Dump, as well as an analysis of remaining metro area landfill capacity. If the final disposal locations were existing metro area landfills, implementing one of the dig-and-haul options would have an impact on the larger waste disposal system in the metro area.

Environmental monitoring has demonstrated that waste material at Pig's Eye contains elevated levels of PFAS. Although municipal and industrial landfills currently accept waste materials containing PFAS, as more is learned about how PFAS in landfill leachate impact the environment, future regulations and policy decisions may constrain options for disposal of waste containing elevated levels of PFAS. This could impact both the cost and feasibility of the dig-and-haul options.

Dig-and-haul and-backfill

This option involves digging up all the waste and hauling it to a landfill that would accept PFAS impacted waste, followed by backfilling the excavated area. With the waste excavated and transported offsite, this option would address the source of contamination from the site and would resolve future landfill leachate issues at the site. Excavated waste would best be moved using a combination of truck and rail transport. The task force evaluated transport by barge and determined it was not a viable alternative to truck and rail transport. Additionally, suitable clean fill sources would need to be identified for backfilling the excavated area making this option significantly more expensive due to the backfilling operation.

Figure 8. Dig and Haul and Backfill concept drawing.



Cost and timeframe

The cost is estimated to be $830 million (-50% to +100%), with a construction timeframe of 10+ years, and a 30-year operation and maintenance cost of $6.0 million (-50% to +100%). The O&M cost includes regular maintenance of the backfilled area including activities such as mowing, pollinator habitat maintenance, and routine environmental monitoring. This approach is significantly higher in cost due to transportation and backfill cost.

Effectiveness

This option would remediate the source, eliminate landfill gas issues, and eliminate future leaching of contaminants from the waste into the groundwater. This would also reduce the concentration of contaminants discharging into Battle Creek and Pig's Eye Lake and ultimately the Mississippi River. The construction activities would need to consider neighboring properties, permitting requirements, and the location of the site in a flood zone close to Pig's Eye Lake and St. Paul Downtown Airport.

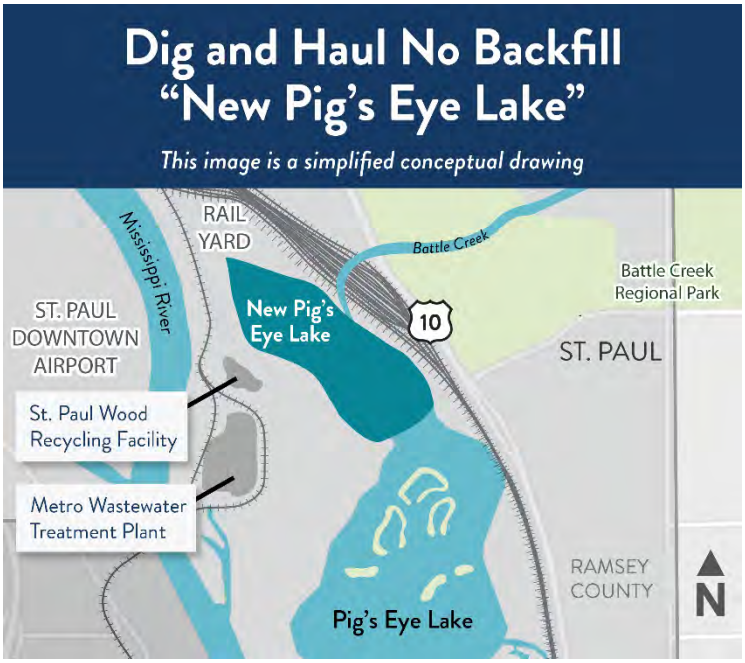
Future uses

The size of current wetland and Pig's Eye Lake would change depending on the amount of backfilling. This remediation option offers the widest range of potential future uses. Viable options for future use are determined by the amount of backfill. With sufficient backfill, the area could support many different industrial, recreational, or natural area future uses. Both active and passive recreational facilities would be possible including sports fields, playgrounds, and trails. The extent of natural area restoration would depend on the amount of backfill. More backfill would create upland habitats, while less backfill would allow for more wetland habitats. This strategy could include a diverse range of natural area restoration options. With adequate backfill, the area could support various industrial and commercial uses. This might include limited light industrial facilities, solar energy generation, warehouses, or commercial developments, and would need to be designed to be flood tolerant and account for environmental impacts.

Dig-and-haul no-backfill

This option involves digging up all the waste and hauling it to a permitted landfill but without backfilling the site. With the waste excavated and transported offsite, this option would address the contamination source material and any future landfill leachate issues. The waste would best be moved using a combination of truck and rail transport. The remediation concept would enlarge the existing Pig's Eye Lake.

Figure 9. Dig and Haul No Backfill.



Cost and timeframe

The cost is estimated to be $720 million (-50% to +100%), with a construction timeframe of 8 to 10 years, and a 30-year operation and maintenance cost of $1.5 million (-50% to +100%). This approach would cost less and take less time than the dig and backfill option due to not having to backfill the excavated area. The O&M cost includes environmental monitoring and limited maintenance of the new expanded wetland area which results in lower O&M costs than the dig-and-haul-and-backfill option.

Effectiveness

This option would remediate the source, eliminate landfill gas issues, and eliminate future leaching of contaminants from the waste into the groundwater. This would reduce the concentration of contaminants in groundwater migrating into Battle Creek and Pig's Eye Lake and ultimately the Mississippi River. Similar to the dig and haul and backfill option, the construction activities would need to take into consideration neighboring properties and permitting requirements given that the site is in a flood zone and close to Pig's Eye Lake and St. Paul Downtown airport. Additionally, expanding Pig's Eye Lake and wetland area could attract new wildlife and bird populations to the area which could be a concern for aviation safety.

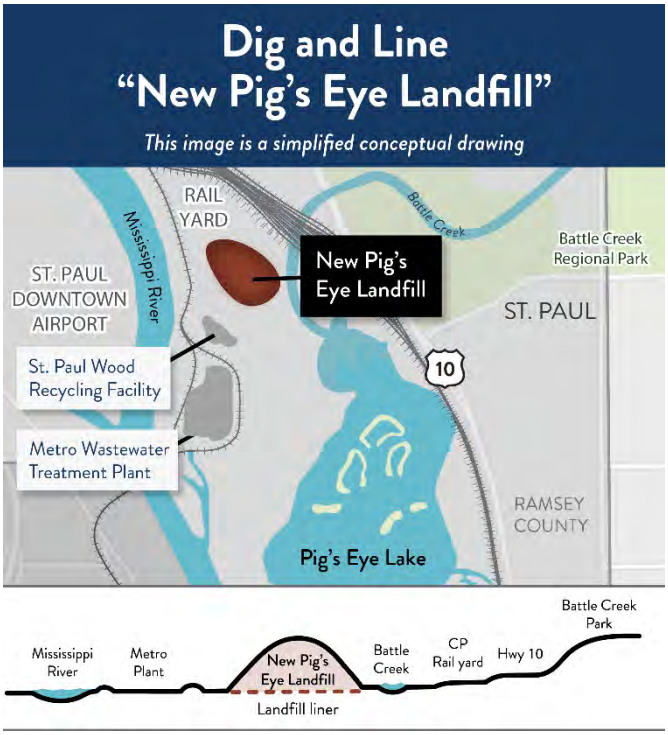
Future uses

The landscape would change significantly by expanding Pig's Eye Lake. This strategy offers limited recreational uses such as paddling activities and wildlife observation. This strategy would mainly focus on natural area restoration by expanding the current Pig's Eye Lake. With no backfill and the site expanding into a larger Pig's Eye Lake, the capacity for expanded future industrial/commercial use on the property would be limited.

Dig-and-line

This option involves building a new, state-of-the-art landfill on the property, featuring an impermeable engineered cap, bottom liner, and leachate collection system and a storm water management system. The waste would be excavated and stacked to form a steep, cone-shaped mound, resulting in the waste footprint being smaller and the top of the landfill being much higher. This remediation option keeps the waste on the property conserving the available space at existing landfills and does not incur the financial and environmental cost of transporting and disposing of large volumes of waste.

Figure 10. Dig and Line concept drawing.



Cost and timeframe

The estimated cost is around $570 million (-50% to +100%), with a construction timeframe of about 10 years, and a 30-year operation and maintenance cost of $45 million (-50% to +100%). The O&M cost includes operation of the leachate collection and treatment system, landfill gas management, landfill cap maintenance, and routine environmental sampling

Effectiveness

This strategy relies on the impermeable cap and bottom liner and a leachate collection system to contain and control leachate and a landfill gas system to address landfill gas. While the footprint of the waste area is reduced, the overall height of the waste mound would increase noticeably (100 to 150 feet). This remediation option preserves existing landfill capacity. However, this approach also poses significant challenges, such as the difficulty of building a landfill in a floodplain, its location within the flight path of the St. Paul Downtown airport, and the need for long-term operation and maintenance.

Future uses

Restoration options for this strategy would be limited to activities that can be conducted on or around a landfill. This might include recreation facilities including trails, picnic areas, and possibly some sports facilities. The presence of the landfill would limit the extent of recreational possibilities. Natural area restoration would focus on creating habitats on and around the landfill cap. This could include pollinator habitats and other types of vegetation that are compatible with landfill conditions. The adjacent areas could be restored to wetlands or uplands, depending on the amount of backfill. This strategy supports limited industrial and commercial uses, primarily those that are flood-tolerant and compatible with the presence of a landfill. Solar energy installations are a common use for closed landfills.

Additional technologies

The task force also considered other technologies to address the waste material. These included in-situ stabilization, gasification, pyrolysis, incineration, and aerobic digestion. The options were discussed but eliminated because of limited effectiveness in treating the contaminants, cost, and ability to implement the technology with the Pig's Eye waste. Waste disposal at the Pig's Eye Dump occurred between 1956 and 1972. Since the time of waste disposal, the organic portion of the waste has degraded. Additionally, the waste has been subjected to multiple flooding events and ongoing groundwater intrusion. These factors limit the ability to effectively implement these technologies.

In-situ stabilization

In-situ stabilization (ISS) for treating waste involves mixing the contaminated waste directly in place with stabilizing agents. This process does not destroy contaminants in the waste but immobilizes them, significantly reducing their potential to leach into groundwater and surface water. The contaminants remain onsite, requiring long-term monitoring to ensure stabilization is permanent and effective. Also, achieving uniform distribution of stabilizing agents throughout a large, heterogeneous volume of a landfill would be difficult and expensive. ISS is highly effective for inorganic contaminants like heavy metals, transforming them into insoluble, low-leachable forms within a durable cementitious matrix. For organic contaminants, effectiveness varies, being best for non-volatile types that are physically encapsulated, while volatile compounds may off-gas. For emerging contaminants like PFAS, traditional binders are insufficient; effectiveness relies on specialized amendments like powdered activated carbon or organoclays that adsorb and immobilize the PFAS compounds, significantly reducing their migration.

Pyrolysis

Pyrolysis is a treatment technology that involves heating contaminated material, typically between 300°C and 700°C inside a sealed reactor, in an oxygen-free environment to break down and destroy the contamination. This technology presents significant technical and financial hurdles. There is a possibility that contaminants may not be fully destroyed requiring air permitting review to ensure minimizing hazardous air emissions and consuming substantial amounts of energy. Additionally, the wide range of waste types and elevated moisture levels present considerable difficulties, making it necessary to sort and dry the waste beforehand. Excessive moisture significantly lowers efficiency, raises energy requirements, and reduces the overall treatment efficiency.

Gasification

Gasification is similar to pyrolysis, heating contaminated material to break down and destroy contaminants. Unlike pyrolysis, it is done at higher temperatures typically between 700°C and 1400°C in the presence of a controlled amount of an oxidant, such as oxygen or steam. Similar to pyrolysis, this technology is still in development and there is risk of incomplete destruction, potential for hazardous air emissions requiring air permitting review to ensure minimizing hazardous air emissions and consuming substantial amounts of energy. Likewise, as with pyrolysis, the wide variety of waste types and the presence of high moisture levels present significant obstacles, necessitating both sorting and drying of the material. Excess moisture greatly reduces process efficiency, increases energy requirements, and diminishes the treatment efficiency.

Incineration

Incineration is a high-temperature chemical decomposition process used to break down and destroy contaminants. This process relies on combustion, which requires both heat and oxygen. Heat is applied directly to contaminated solids (such as soil, sediment, spent adsorbents, and solid waste) or liquids (including water, wastewater, leachate, and chemical solutions). The resulting vaporized combustion products can be captured using techniques like precipitation or wet scrubbing and may undergo further

oxidation at elevated temperatures. Incineration is more viable on waste that contains organic matter and combustible material. Most of the organic matter and combustible material in the Pig's Eye waste has since decomposed after decades in the dump.

PFAS compounds are notoriously resistant to breakdown due to the strong electronegativity of fluorine and the inherent chemical stability of fluorinated molecules. Incomplete combustion can lead to the formation of smaller PFAS derivatives or products of incomplete combustion (PICs), some of which may not be well studied. Per USEPA (2024), despite its challenges, incineration remains one of the few technologies with the potential to destroy PFAS, although the specific conditions required for complete destruction are still being researched.

Anaerobic digestion

Anaerobic digestion (AD) is a biological process in which microorganisms break down organic materials in the absence of oxygen. While a valuable technology for processing organic waste. AD is unsuitable for treating waste within old, closed landfills because the most readily digestible organic matter has already decomposed naturally over many years. The remaining aged waste offers minimal potential for biogas production. Furthermore, implementing the precise environmental controls (optimal temperature, pH, and nutrient balance) necessary for an effective AD process within a large, unmanaged landfill mass is logistically tough, making it hard to implement. Additionally, AD is not an effective method for the destruction of PFAS in waste material.

Specifically for remediating PFAS impacts, the extremely strong carbon-fluorine bond in PFAS is highly resistant to microbial breakdown. Anaerobic microbes, even with long residence times, are not capable of breaking the strong carbon-fluorine bonds in PFAS compounds like PFOA and PFOS. The fate of all PFAS and their precursors in AD is not fully understood.

Waste sorting

Excavating and attempting to sort waste from a closed landfill is a complex and often problematic process known as landfill mining. While there may be a desire to recover resources or better prepare waste for advanced treatment like incineration or gasification, the reality of working with decades-old, degraded waste presents significant and costly challenges. The Pig's Eye Dump waste is significantly degraded and is not a uniform material but a complex, compacted mixture of household garbage, construction debris, soil, and potentially hazardous materials. The potential to encounter hazardous materials, including asbestos, further complicates the logistics and cost of a waste sorting process. Additionally, many potentially recyclable materials are too degraded and contaminated with other waste and landfill leachate to be economically viable for recycling.

The markets for low-grade, contaminated, and co-mingled materials recovered from landfills are often limited and uncertain. This makes it difficult to find reliable buyers and secure funding for such projects. Landfill mining is almost always economically unfeasible if the only goal is resource recovery. The high costs of excavation, sorting, and processing far exceed the potential revenue from selling low-quality recovered materials. Projects are typically only justified if they also provide benefits like reclaiming valuable land space.

Funding options

It would be difficult to utilize a single funding source that would meet the funding need for remediation options that fully address the source of contamination into the environment. A diversified funding strategy will be needed to fully fund the preferred remediation and restoration options. A diverse funding strategy could include funding from existing federal, state, and local sources and/or funding from a new source that would address the Pig's Eye Dump and perhaps other historic dump sites.

State funding

Metropolitan Landfill Contingency Action Trust (MLCAT)

There is existing state funding available from the Metropolitan Landfill Contingency Action Trust (MLCAT), but it is insufficient to cover remediation costs for remediation options that are fully protective of the environment.

The MLCAT Fund was established by the Minnesota Legislature in 1999 to address environmental issues at mixed municipal solid waste (MMSW) landfills in the metropolitan area. It was created to manage costs associated with the long-term care of landfills. MLCAT is funded by a 25% share of the Metropolitan Solid Waste Landfill Fee on waste disposed of at metro landfills. As of January 2026, the balance in the MLCAT account was $64 million. Annual revenue and interest into the fund is approximately $2 million.

The purpose of the MLCAT Account is to ensure that long-term care of eligible closed landfills is adequately funded. The following are the seven landfills that are MLCAT-eligible:

- Pig's Eye Dump.
- Four closed demolition landfills that accepted small quantities of MMSW prior to being permitted as demolition landfills: Vadnais Heights Demolition Landfill (Ramsey County), Rosemount Demolition Landfill (Dakota County), Herbst and Sons Demolition Landfill (Hennepin County), and Begin Demolition Landfill (Hennepin County).
- Two open sanitary landfills will be eligible for the MLCAT Account after 30 years of post-closure: Burnsville Sanitary Landfill (Dakota County) and Pine Bend Sanitary Landfill (Dakota County).

State Superfund

The Pig's Eye Dump is a site in the state Superfund program. In 1983, the State enacted the Minnesota Environmental Response and Liability Act (MERLA), Minn. Stat. 115B, establishing the State Superfund Program. This law provides broad state authority to respond to releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants that endanger public health, welfare, or the environment.

Superfund law uses a "polluter pays" model to manage and clean up contaminated sites. This principle is expressed as Superfund joint and several liability which allows the government to hold any one responsible party liable for the entire cost of cleaning up a contaminated site, regardless of how much pollution they contributed. This legal framework can be powerful for advancing environmental clean-ups. However, when applied to former dump sites where there is a lengthy list of potentially responsible parties, it can result in a cascade of litigation involving the many parties who contributed waste to the dump site. Additionally, responsible parties who are pursued by regulatory authorities and pay for clean-up actions can file lawsuits against other smaller parties who contributed to the dump to force them to

share in covering the expenses. Overall, while joint and several liability ensures that someone is held accountable for environmental harm, it can be a blunt tool in the context of dump sites and is often less effective for dump sites like Pig's Eye where there may be hundreds or thousands of responsible parties.

Minn. Stat. § 116.155 establishes a state Remediation Fund, which provides funding to investigate and remediate releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants, and agricultural chemicals. The state can access money appropriated from the Remediation Fund to accomplish investigation and clean-up of hazardous substance releases at sites when pursuing responsible parties for the environmental clean-up is not a viable option (e.g. responsible party no longer exists or cannot be found). The Remediation Fund is needed to fund ongoing remediation work at a number of sites across Minnesota and does not have the capacity to fully fund a large-scale project.

State bond funding

State bonding is the process by which the state sells bonds to fund capital projects that serve a public purpose, such as environmental clean-up projects. Most of the state's bonding activity is financed through General Obligation (GO) bonds.

The state constitution and state statutes require bond funded projects to be publicly owned and used for the governmental program identified by the Legislature. This means there must continue to be a public ownership interest (fee ownership or a qualifying long-term lease or easement) in the site, and the sites must be operated in compliance with the government program. These conditions apply for a time period equal to 125% of the useful life of the improved project, which typically is 37.5 years. The requirements would attach to parcels when bonds are first spent on the property and remain in place for 37.5 years from the last date when GO bond funds were used.

State brownfield funding

Brownfield funding programs exist to encourage clean-up and redevelopment of contaminated properties so they can safely return to productive use. The Metropolitan Council, Hennepin County, Ramsey County, Dakota County, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, and U.S. EPA all have brownfield grant programs. These programs aim to protect public health and the environment, revitalize communities, and stimulate private investment by offsetting some of the cost of environmental clean-up. Unlike Superfund programs, brownfield funds are meant for redevelopment projects, not long-term remediation of major dump sites. Entities who are responsible parties under Superfund law are not eligible for brownfield funding.

Minnesota's brownfield grant programs are competitive, funds are awarded to projects that clearly advance redevelopment, housing, and economic goals while ensuring environmental protection. Priority is typically given to projects that:

- Create or retain jobs, increase the local tax base, or provide affordable housing.
- Leverage significant private investment or local matching funds.
- Are shovel-ready, with a clear redevelopment plan and timeline.
- Are located in distressed or high-need areas where clean-up would have strong community impact.

Brownfield programs typically exclude:

- Sites already being addressed under state or federal Superfund programs.
- Projects without a redevelopment component.
- Properties where a responsible party is already obligated to perform the clean-up.

Creation of a new state funding source for dump clean-ups

The creation of a new, dedicated funding source for legacy dumps could provide funding.

One example is creation of the MPCA Closed Landfill Program. As an alternative to attempting to utilize federal and state Superfund authorities for landfills, where there may be hundreds or thousands of responsible parties, the Legislature created the Closed Landfill Program and a revenue source to fund long term care of 114 permitted closed landfills in Minnesota. One model to generate revenue to address historic dumps would be to assess a similar tax or fee on solid waste management or disposal activities.

Federal funding

Federal funding opportunities for the remediation and restoration of the Pig's Eye Dump site are limited. Pig's Eye is not a federally designated Superfund site.

Federal Congressional community project funding

The Congressional "community project" funding process allows members of Congress to request funding for specific local initiatives. Projects must have a connection to an existing federal program and align with the federal program guidelines. Congress determines which federal programs are eligible for the community project process, such as clean water or drinking water infrastructure. Superfund and brownfields programs have not been designated as eligible programs in the past. Additionally, the process is subject to the broader appropriations cycle in Congress. No community project funds were awarded in the previous fiscal year due to a lack of a formal appropriations bill. When funds are available, awards generally are in the $1 million to $20 million range.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Civil Works Program projects

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Civil Works Program is responsible for planning, building, operating, and maintaining the nation's water-related infrastructure. Its mission areas include ports and waterways, flood risk management, and aquatic ecosystem restoration. USACE also has authorities that support water supply, hydropower, recreation, and environmental stewardship. Civil works projects typically require cost-sharing agreements with local sponsors, who contribute financially and provide necessary land access and long-term operation and maintenance commitments.

Examples of possible USACE Civil Works Projects at the Pig's Eye Dump could include:

1. **Beneficial use of dredge material –** Some of the remediation options will require fill material. Fill material could be provided through a beneficial use of dredge material project that utilizes material dredged in Pool 2. Fill material could also be used for some restoration projects. One example of this is the completed Pig's Eye Lake Island Building Project.

2. **Aquatic ecosystem restoration projects –** Aquatic Habitat Ecosystem Restoration projects under Section 206 of the Water Resources Development Act supports the restoration of degraded aquatic habitats such as wetlands, rivers, and lakes. The program provides an efficient path for smaller-scale aquatic ecosystem restoration projects that provide meaningful environmental benefits. The maximum federal limit is $15 million per project and there is no need for any specific authorization from Congress to pursue this program. Examples of possible projects include stream and wetland restoration and channel modifications. Funding under this program may be available to support wetland restoration and realignment of Battle Creek.

Additionally, funding may be available through the Specifically Authorized Project process. These projects require Congressional approval for both conducting feasibility studies and construction. There is no funding limit for these projects. These can be large projects that span multiple mission areas such as flood risk management, ecosystem restoration, and navigation. This program allows the Corps of Engineers to address large-scale projects such as basin-wide flooding issues or ecosystem restoration on a significant portion of river system. Although this funding process takes longer than other programs, it may be an option for funding multiple initiatives such as Pig's Eye Lake ecological restoration and shoreline stabilization, wetland restoration, flooding mitigation, and realignment of Battle Creek.

The use of any of any USACE ecosystem restoration authorities may be dependent on the level to which the site is ultimately remediated prior to restoration.

Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative (MRRRI)

Mississippi River Resilience and Restoration Initiative (MRRRI) is a federal proposal to coordinate efforts on conservation and environmental restoration along the entire Mississippi river corridor and open up grant opportunities for state and local governments, tribes, and nonprofit organizations.

MRRRI follows the successful model of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) to ensure coordinated and sustained federal investments to restore the Mississippi River and protect it as a healthy working river.

The current proposal excludes projects focused on the clean up of legacy contaminants that are defined as "hazardous substances" under federal Superfund. The MRRRI's design is intended to avoid duplication with point source clean-up programs like Superfund, focusing instead on nonpoint source pollution, habitat restoration, and water quality enhancements. While Pig's Eye Dump's proximity to the Mississippi River may make it geographically relevant, it does not currently meet the MRRRI program eligibility requirements. Although currently not eligible, one possible next step would be to work with the MRRRI author to determine if it makes sense to include the Pig's Eye Dump. A case for expanding the scope to include dumps is that although they are geographically a point source of contamination in practice, they are the result of past collective societal actions more characteristic of non-point sources.

Other funding

Public private partnerships

A public-private partnership model can offer an alternative to the traditional Superfund responsible party process. One public private partnership success story is the St. Louis River Area of Concern (AOC) project under the Great Lakes Legacy Act (GLLA) and Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). The St. Louis River AOC projects are voluntary, cooperative partnerships between the U.S. EPA, states, local governments, and other non-federal partners (industries or port authorities). The partners share clean-up costs through negotiated agreements. This approach avoids the sometimes adversarial and time-

consuming nature of Superfund enforcement, allowing projects to proceed faster and focus on achieving environmental restoration goals rather than liability resolution. The AOC projects could serve as a model for future clean-up at Pig's Eye Dump.

Local parks and recreational funding programs

Cities, counties, and Metropolitan Council operate programs to fund park and recreation projects and programs. These programs could be used to fund portions of the project that advances their entities' parks and recreational goals.

Restoration only funding

While full-scale remediation of contaminated sites like Pig's Eye Dump may fall outside the scope of certain funding programs, there are funding options that focus exclusively on restoration.

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) administers the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF). Approximately $100 million per funding cycle is available for projects that aim to preserve and enhance Minnesota's unique natural resources. Although LCCMR explicitly calls out remediation of contaminated sites as ineligible for funding, restoration projects that protect or restore wildlife habitat, air and water quality, and ecologically sensitive lands may be eligible.

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC)

Similarly, the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) oversees funding for projects under the Outdoor Heritage Fund, which supports efforts to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife. While each funding round includes a specific vision and focus that may limit eligibility in a given year, approximately $150 million is available per cycle. Restoration-focused initiatives that improve habitat connectivity, native vegetation, or water quality in the Pig's Eye area could be candidates, especially if aligned with broader conservation goals.

Task force recommendations

Remediation and restoration recommendations

- Pig's Eye Dump holds a large volume of uncontained waste directly adjacent to Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, and is located in the Mississippi River floodplain. Based on past investigation activities, the volume of waste is estimated to be at least 4.5 million cubic yards. The preferred remediation options are the dig-and-haul-no-backfill and dig-and-line options because they are the options most protective of the environment and public health.
- Remediation and restoration efforts should protect local and downstream communities and ecosystems, protect wildlife and natural habitats, and improve water quality.
- Remediation and restoration actions should be as consistent as possible with existing planning work including City of Saint Paul plans, Great River Passage plan, and other relevant plans without excluding any remediation options the task force has recommended.
- The remediation and restoration options pursued need to be implemented in a way that addresses aviation regulations and concerns related to the St. Paul Downtown Airport.
- If the dig-and-haul-no-backfill option is implemented, decisions about where the excavated waste is ultimately disposed of could impact 1) the existing capacity of metro area landfills, and 2) local community revenues. Both issues should be studied further.
- If the dig-and-haul-no-backfill or dig-and-line remediation options are implemented, safety protocols should be strictly followed during excavation and transportation to protect nearby communities and construction workers from potential risks. It is not expected that waste will be able to be treated on the property; however, recoverable hazardous materials should be segregated to the degree possible and sent to appropriate facilities for safe containment.
- Future use of the site should provide for a safe and accessible natural area for passive recreation, such as walking trails and wildlife observation. This recommendation is consistent with Ramsey County's Pig's Eye Unit of the Battle Creek Regional Park Long Range Plan Amendment, approved by the Metropolitan Council in April 2021.
- The remediation and restoration plan should ensure continued operation and allow for potential future expansion of the Metropolitan Water Resource Recovery Facility, a critical regional public utility infrastructure that protects water quality, public health, and the environment across the metropolitan area. It operates under and is regulated by state and federal permits.
- The remediation and restoration plan should allow for future expansion and ongoing operation of the Environmental Wood Supply facility which serves a public purpose and has an environmental benefit. Any future expansion will need to comply with applicable ordinances and regulations.
- The MPCA should complete a feasibility study of the remediation and restoration options presented to the task force, including possible impacts to existing nearby facilities. The feasibility study analysis should prioritize the dig-and-haul-no-backfill and dig-and-line remediation options.

Funding recommendations

Remediation funding recommendation

- There is no one funding source that is able to provide the needed funding for remediation and restoration of Pig's Eye Dump. To be able to fund a remediation approach that is fully protective of the environment and public health, a combination of existing and new funding sources should be pursued.
- Federal funding should be pursued where remediation and restoration efforts for Pig's Eye Dump are an eligible use.
- Federal funding should be pursued by creating a new funding structure. For example, a funding source that is similar to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative or adjustments to the Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative proposal.
- State funding should be pursued. Both the creation of new state funding mechanisms as well as existing state funding such as the Metropolitan Landfill Contingency Action Trust (MLCAT) account and state bond funding.
- The Superfund responsible party identification process should not be utilized. Instead, a fee should be assessed on all waste disposal to cover/contribute to remediation expenses since haulers, industries, and residents in the surrounding area all contributed waste while the dump was open.
- Voluntary public-private partnerships could be explored to fund remediation efforts. Private parties include haulers, industries and residents in the surrounding area who contributed waste to the facility would contribute funding.

Restoration funding recommendation

- For restoration efforts, pursue other federal or state sources of funding such as the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR), Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Fund, the Clean Water Fund or other new or existing potential sources.

Appendices (submitted as a separate document)

Public engagement

Trivia Board

Survey Flyer

Project Overview Handout

Public Engagement Final Summary

Communications

GovDelivery Examples

Social Media Examples

Task force meeting materials

9/25/23 Meeting #1 Agenda, Summary, Presentation

1/12/24 Meeting #2 Agenda, Summary, Presentation

3/08/24 Meeting #3 Agenda, Summary, Presentation

6/07/24 Meeting #4 Agenda, Summary, Presentation

7/18/24 Meeting #5 Agenda, Summary, Presentation

9/23/24 Meeting #6 Agenda, Summary, Presentation

12/6/24 Meeting #7 Agenda, Summary, Presentation

2/13/25 Meeting #8 Agenda, Summary, Presentation

4/17/25 Meeting #9 Agenda, Summary, Presentation

6/24/25 Meeting #10 Agenda, Summary, Presentation

8/21/25 Meeting #11 Agenda, Summary, Presentation

10/10/25 Meeting #12 Agenda, Summary, Presentation

12/02/25 Meeting #13 Agenda, Summary, Presentation

01/13/26 Meeting #14 Agenda, Summary, Presentation

Annual reports

Three annual legislative reports were completed in March of 2023, 2024, and 2025. These reports are available through the Minnesota Legislative Reference Library: Mandated Reports - Minnesota Legislative Reference Library

Appendices

Appendix A – Public engagement

Trivia Board……A-1
Survey Flyer……A-3
Project Overview Handout……A-4
Public Engagement Final Summary……A-5

Appendix B – Communications

GovDelivery Examples……B-1
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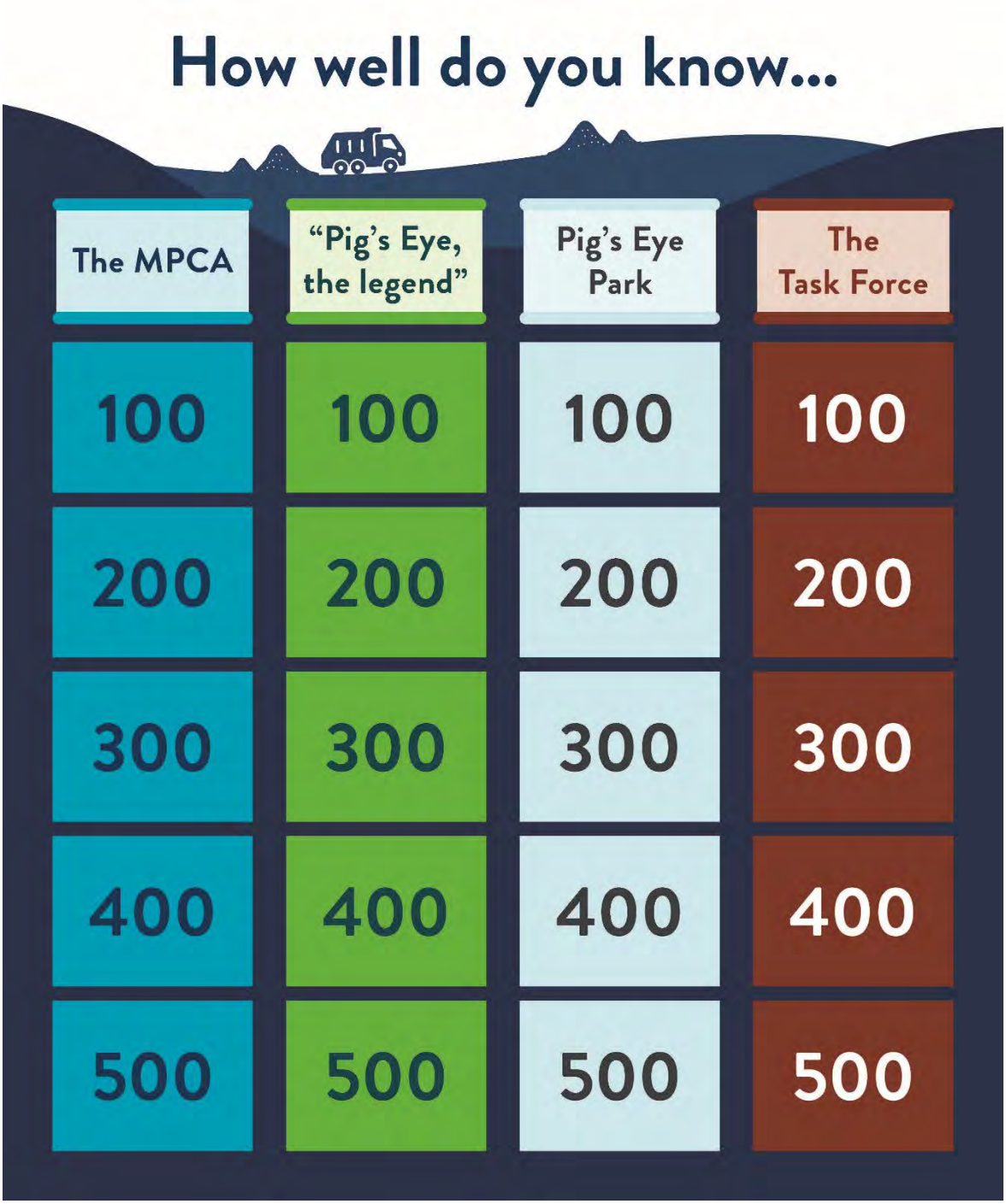
Appendix C – Task force meeting materials

9/25/23 Meeting #1 Agenda, Summary, Presentation……C-1
1/12/24 Meeting #2 Agenda, Summary, Presentation……C-32
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Annual reports

Three annual legislative reports were completed in March of 2023, 2024, and 2025. These reports are available through the Minnesota Legislative Reference Library: Mandated Reports - Minnesota Legislative Reference Library

Trivia board



What does the MPCA stand for?

How did Pig's Eye get his nickname?

A. He was blind in one eye
B. He had a pet pig

What activities can you participate in at Pig's Eye Park?

A. Bird Watching, B. Archery, C. Hiking, D. All of the above

True or False: Pig's Eye Dump Task Force meetings are open to the public.

The MPCA works to improve the health of...

A. Air, B. Land, C. Water, D. All of the above

What former St. Paul brewery was named after Pig's Eye?

Name two cities or counties that border Pig's Eye Park?

In what year did the first phase of cleanup occur at Pig's Eye Dump?

A. 2000 B. 2010, C. 2020

The MPCA has offices in seven cities across Minnesota. Name one city!

Where was Pig's Eye speculated to originate from, before docking in what is now the City of Saint Paul? *Hint: He's often referred to as a vagrant voyageur.*

A. Canada, B. Spain, C. Mexico

What creek flows through the central portion of Pig's Eye Park?

How many members are on the Task Force?

In what decade was the MPCA established?

A. 50's, B. 60's, C. 70's, D. 80's

Pig's Eye set up a small shack selling moonshine at the mouth of Fountain Cave. Where was Fountain Cave?

Pig's Eye Park contains one of the largest urban breeding areas in the Midwest for what birds?

A. Loons/Mallard Ducks
B. Heron/Egrets
C. Bald Eagles/ Red-tailed Hawks

Name one other agency that is involved on the Pig's Eye Dump Task Force, besides MPCA.

Who is the Commissioner of the MPCA?

What was Pig's Eye's real name?

How many acres is Pig's Eye Park?

Name one contaminant the MPCA is focused on addressing at Pig's Eye Park?

Pig's Eye Dump Cleanup

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Take the survey by March 31!

Help the Pig's Eye Dump Task Force understand your community's priorities as they develop a plan to clean up and restore the site.

In 2022, the Minnesota Legislature established the Pig's Eye Dump Task Force, a multi-agency task force led by the MPCA, to develop a plan for cleaning up and restoring Pig's Eye Dump. Community engagement is an essential part of the task force's work to develop this plan and they would like to hear your vision for the site's future. *To learn more about the project and the Task Force, visit: mnpca.info/pedtf*

What is Pig's Eye Dump?

Pig's Eye Dump was an unregulated municipal, commercial, and industrial waste dumping area from 1956 to 1972. Despite initial cleanup efforts in the early 2000s, significant environmental concerns remain at the site. The surrounding area has several important shared uses, including Dakota homeland and a site of significance, a regional park, a wastewater treatment plant, and natural areas that serve as a bird migration route.

Size: 200 Acres

Owner: City of St. Paul

Location:
800 feet east of the Mississippi River, north of Pig's Eye Lake

Characteristics:

- Within the Mississippi River's floodplain
- Battle Creek flows through the central portion of the site



Task Force Meetings

Task force meetings are open to the public and will continue every two months through January 2026. The cleanup and restoration plan will be completed in February 2026.

Past meeting information is available on the task force webpage.

Stay connected

Learn more about the Pig's Eye Dump Task Force and sign up to receive updates.

mnpca.info/pedtf

pedtf.pca@state.mn.us

Pig's Eye Dump Cleanup

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

Overview

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is leading a multi-agency task force charged with developing a plan to clean up and restore Pig's Eye Dump. The task force will provide recommendations on what actions should be performed for cleanup and restoration of the area and will consider public input. The task force will also address contamination of Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, and nearby groundwater.

What is the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency?

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) focuses on preventing and reducing pollution across the state. The MPCA monitors environmental conditions of the air, land, and water. The MPCA works with businesses, governments, organizations, and tribal nations to improve human health and protect natural resources.

What is Pig's Eye Dump?

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mnpca.info/pedtf

pedtf.pca@state.mn.us

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Engagement Summary

April 2025

Overview

In 2022, the MN Legislature established the Pig's Eye Dump Task Force, a multi-agency task force led by the MN Pollution Control Agency, charged with developing a plan to clean up and restore Pig's Eye Dump. This area served as an unregulated dumping ground for municipal, commercial, and industrial waste from 1956 to 1972. Although some cleanup efforts were made in the early 2000s, significant environmental concerns remain at the site. Meetings of the task force are open to the public and will continue every two months until January 2026.

To assist task force members in developing the plan, the Pig's Eye Dump project team has conducted public outreach to educate about the dump and gather input on their vision for the future of the site. In 2024, the project team focused on raising public awareness of Pig's Eye Dump Task Force through attending pop-ups and hosting events to facilitate deeper stakeholder conversations. In 2025, a survey was created to gather public input on the future of the Pig's Eye Dump site. It featured a 10-minute video and outlined potential uses for the site along with the steps needed to achieve them.

Engagement snapshot

359
Survey responses

250+
engagements at 3 pop ups

1 Tour
at Pig's Eye Dump site with 15 community members

3 meetings
with 14 community members

30+
social media toolkits shared with stakeholders



Pop up at Waḳaŋ Ṭípi Pollinator Festival

Key Takeaways

2024 Engagement Activities

- People envisioned the future of Pig's Eye Dump having:
    - Increased accessibility and awareness of the park
    - A focus on biodiversity
    - Site history preserved
    - Opportunities for youth involvement
    - A full remediation and restoration of the site

2025 Future Use Survey

- People who took the survey are most comfortable with the future use of the site being restored as a natural area with the waste being fully removed and the excavated area not being backfilled. Examples include a future use as lake/wetlands, wildlife sanctuary conservation area, wildlife viewing, pollinator habitat, and walking trails.

- People who took the survey are least comfortable with an industrial or commercial future use and having most of the waste remain as it currently is.

- Of the 134 people who participated in the survey by providing specific comments
    - 46% mentioned a strong preference for restoring the site with a focus on restoring wildlife, habitat, and wetlands to a natural state.
    - 17% wanted to see a complete removal of the waste.
    - 10% were interested in passive recreation opportunities like walking trails, birdwatching, and kayaking.
    - Some comments also mentioned clean water being a top priority, wanting to see Native communities' input being considered, and the site being difficult to access.
    - A few comments shared preference for keeping overall costs low, preference towards a more limited cleanup due to feasibility, or preference to leave the dump as is.

- The demographics of survey participants were not representative of the nearby neighborhood demographics.
    - 89% of survey respondents identified as White, which is much higher than the 29.5% White population in the surrounding neighborhood.
    - Over half of survey respondents (54%) reported being over 55 years old, whereas only 20.4% of the neighborhood's residents are in that age group.

- When comparing responses by age group:
    - The future uses that received the highest comfortability rating among all age groups were passive use park and natural area.
    - All age groups were least comfortable with industrial/commercial future use paired with targeted waste relocation and filter.

Engagement activities (2024)

Pop Ups

Project staff attended three community events throughout the year to share information on the site history, task force efforts, how to attend meetings, and other opportunities to stay involved. Pop-ups were hosted at the following events:

- Art in the Hollow in St. Paul's Swede Hollow neighborhood on June 1st, 2024
- Wakan Tipi Pollinator Festival in Lake Phalen on August 11th, 2024
- On the Road Again in South Saint Paul on October 5th, 2024

Pig's Eye Dump Tour

Community tour of Pig's Eye Park and Dump site that was open to the public and discuss the site's future. Partnered with Pig's Eye Park Friends to host the tour during their usually scheduled weekly walking time, with them as tour guides.

Virtual Community Meeting

A virtual meeting was held at night for community members to join. The project team shared an overview and background information on Pig's Eye Dump, the task force, engagement plan, and discussed the future of the site and attendees' visions. **Attendees shared that they would like to see:**

- Increased accessibility and awareness of the park
- A focus on biodiversity
- Restoring the site as a wetland

In-Person Community Coffee Discussion

Provided background information on Pig's Eye Dump and facilitated a discussion on the future of the site. Attendees shared their visions for the dump at a neutral location away from the MPCA. **Attendees shared that they would like to see:**

- Site history preserved
- Opportunities for youth involvement
- Full remediation and restoration of the site



In-Person Community Coffee Discussion



Pig's Eye Dump Tour

Future Use Survey (2025)

While the survey was open from March 4th to March 31st, it received 359 total responses with 134 open ended responses.

The survey was advertised through the following methods:

Outreach Method	Description	Reach
MPCA Communications	Promoted via the MPCA website, social media, and GovDelivery.	GovDelivery – 1,315 subscribers Instagram – 3k+ followers Facebook – 11k+ followers X – 1k+ followers
Social Media Toolkit Community Organizations	A social media toolkit, including a graphic, social media text, and newsletter content, was provided to community organizations to help share the survey. A list of recipients and examples are available in the appendix.	Shared with 2 community organizations
Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Members	Task force members were encouraged to share the survey on their organization's platforms how they see fit.	Shared with 10 agencies
MPCA Environmental Justice Advisory Group (EJAG)	Survey was shared directly with the EJAG.	15 members
Flyering	Project staff distributed flyers in the Battle Creek neighborhood near Pig's Eye Dump, providing residents with information about the task force and how to participate in the survey. A map of the area is included in the appendix.	100+ houses flyered
Virtual Community Meeting	A virtual meeting was held at night for community members to join and ask questions about the survey and share their vision for Pig's Eye Dump.	2 attendees

What we've heard

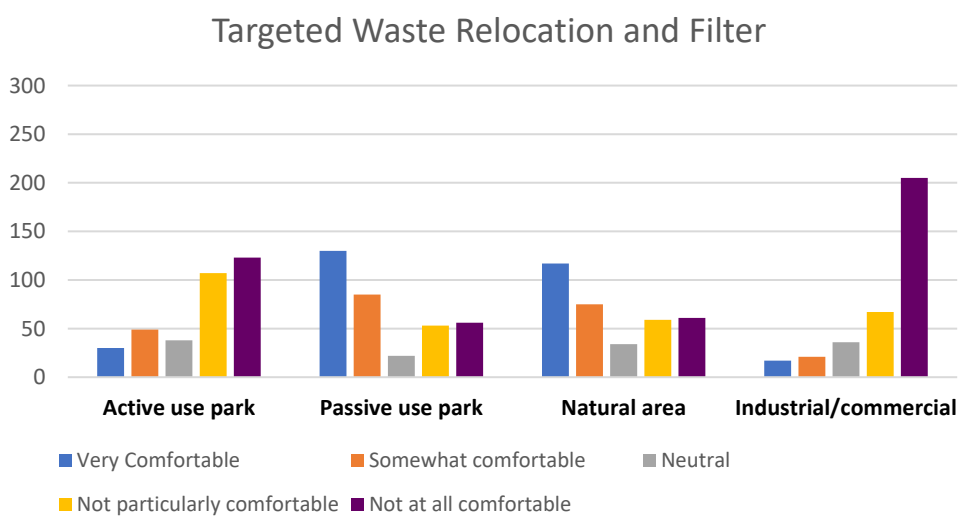
The online survey asked how comfortable people were with potential future uses for each remediation option. Future uses included active recreation use, passive recreation use, natural area, and industrial/commercial use. Users rated their comfortability through the following scale:

- 5 – very comfortable
- 4 – somewhat comfortable
- 3 – neutral
- 2 – Not particularly comfortable
- 1 – Not at all comfortable

The figures on the following pages show the comfortability rating for the four future uses for each remediation option and the overall average of each rating. Additionally, participants provided insights into their ratings, which are summarized below. Maps and tables showing the full ratings and comments are shown in the appendix.

Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter

Use Type	Average Comfortability Rating *5 – very comfortable* *4 – somewhat comfortable* *3 – neutral* *2 – Not particularly comfortable* *1 – Not at all comfortable*
Active use park	2.30
Passive use park	**3.52**
Natural area	3.37
Industrial/ commercial	1.78

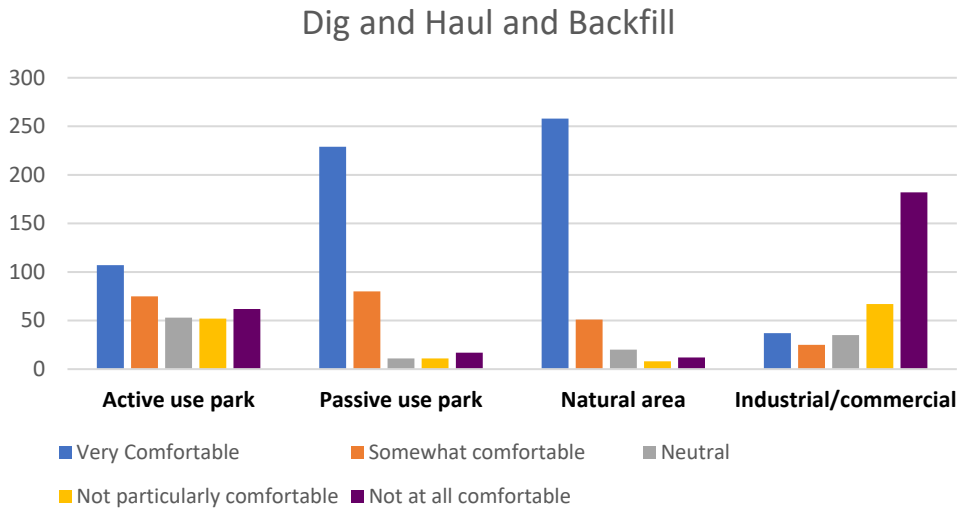


The figures above show comfortability ratings for each future use if the site was remediated using the targeted waste relocation and filter method. Respondents were:

- Most comfortable with passive use park
- Most uncomfortable with industrial/commercial uses
- The industrial/commercial future use paired with targeted waste relocation and filter received the lowest average comfortability rating across all remediation options

Dig and Haul and Backfill

Use Type	Average Comfortability Rating *5 – very comfortable* *4 – somewhat comfortable* *3 – neutral* *2 – Not particularly comfortable* *1 – Not at all comfortable*
Active use park	3.32
Passive use park	4.42
Natural area	**4.53**
Industrial/ commercial	2.04

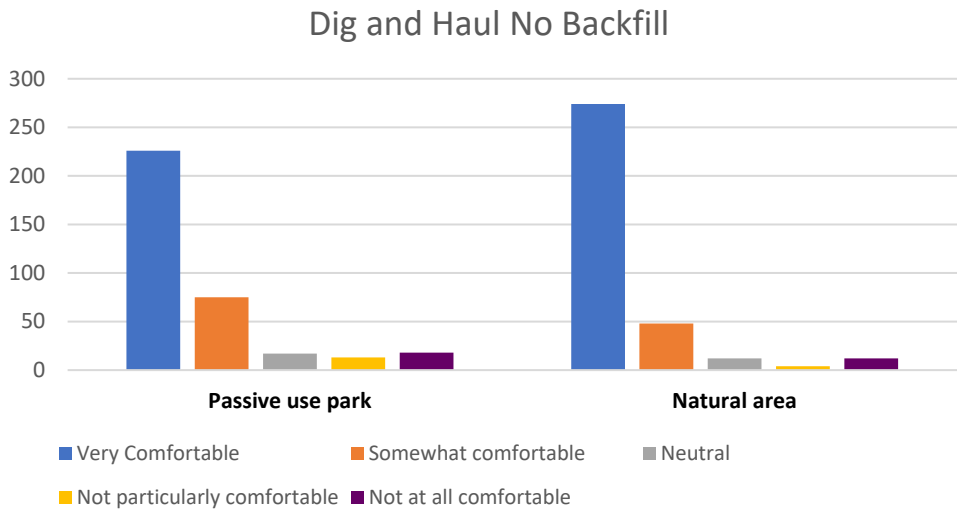


The figures above show comfortability ratings for each future use if the site was remediated using the dig and haul and backfill method. Respondents were:

- Most comfortable with natural area
- Most uncomfortable with industrial/commercial uses

Dig and Haul No Backfill

Use Type	Average Comfortability Rating *5 – very comfortable* *4 – somewhat comfortable* *3 – neutral* *2 – Not particularly comfortable* *1 – Not at all comfortable*
Passive use park	4.37
Natural area	**4.62**

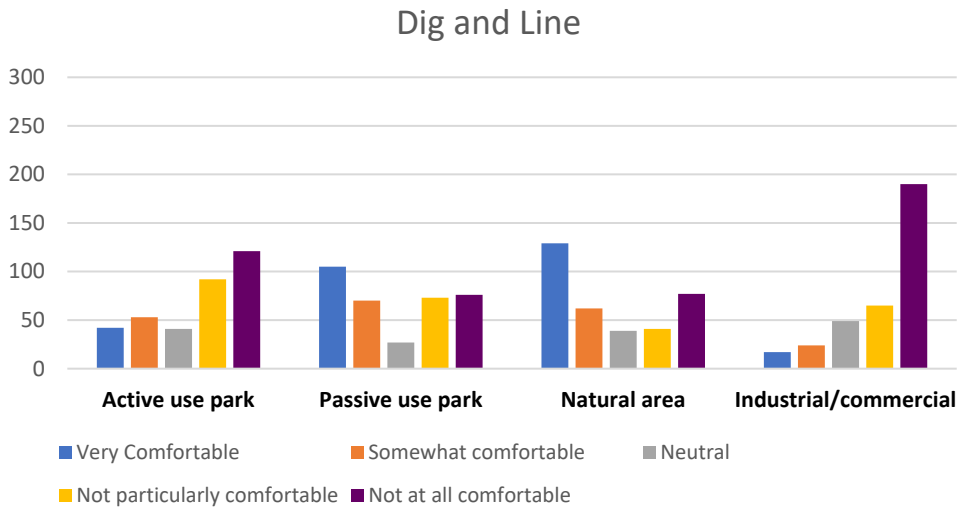


The figures above show comfortability ratings for each future use if the site was remediated using the dig and haul no backfill method. Respondents were:

- Most comfortable with natural area
- The natural area future use paired with dig and haul no backfill had the highest comfortability across all remediation options

Dig and Line

Use Type	Average Comfortability Rating *5 – very comfortable* *4 – somewhat comfortable* *3 – neutral* *2 – Not particularly comfortable* *1 – Not at all comfortable*
Active use park	2.44
Passive use park	3.16
Natural area	**3.36**
Industrial/ commercial	1.88



The figures above show comfortability ratings for each future use if the site was remediated using the Dig and haul no backfill method. Respondents were:

- Most comfortable with natural area
- Least comfortable with industrial/commercial uses

Additional feedback on ratings

Alongside their comfort ratings, 134 respondents shared additional thoughts. The key themes from these open-ended comments are summarized below:

- **Restoration and preservation of wetlands and wildlife:** 46% of comments expressed a strong preference for restoring the site to its natural state, with a focus on preserving wildlife, habitat, and wetlands. People emphasized the site's ecological importance and sensitive location within an industrial area.

- **Full removal of waste:** 17% of comments emphasized that they want to see a complete clean up of the waste to prevent future contamination and avoid long-term environmental damage. People shared concerns about the sites proximity to water and would prefer a long-term solution for the benefit of environmental and public health.

- **Desire for passive recreation:** 10% of comments were interested in restoring Pig's Eye to its natural state with passive recreation opportunities like walking trails, birdwatching, and kayaking while preserving its ecological value. Some suggest incorporating educational elements about the site's history and environmental impact.

- **Clean water:** Several respondents expressed that prioritizing water quality protection should be a top priority. People shared concerns about pollution leaching into the Mississippi River and groundwater and the negative impacts to local communities and ecosystems.

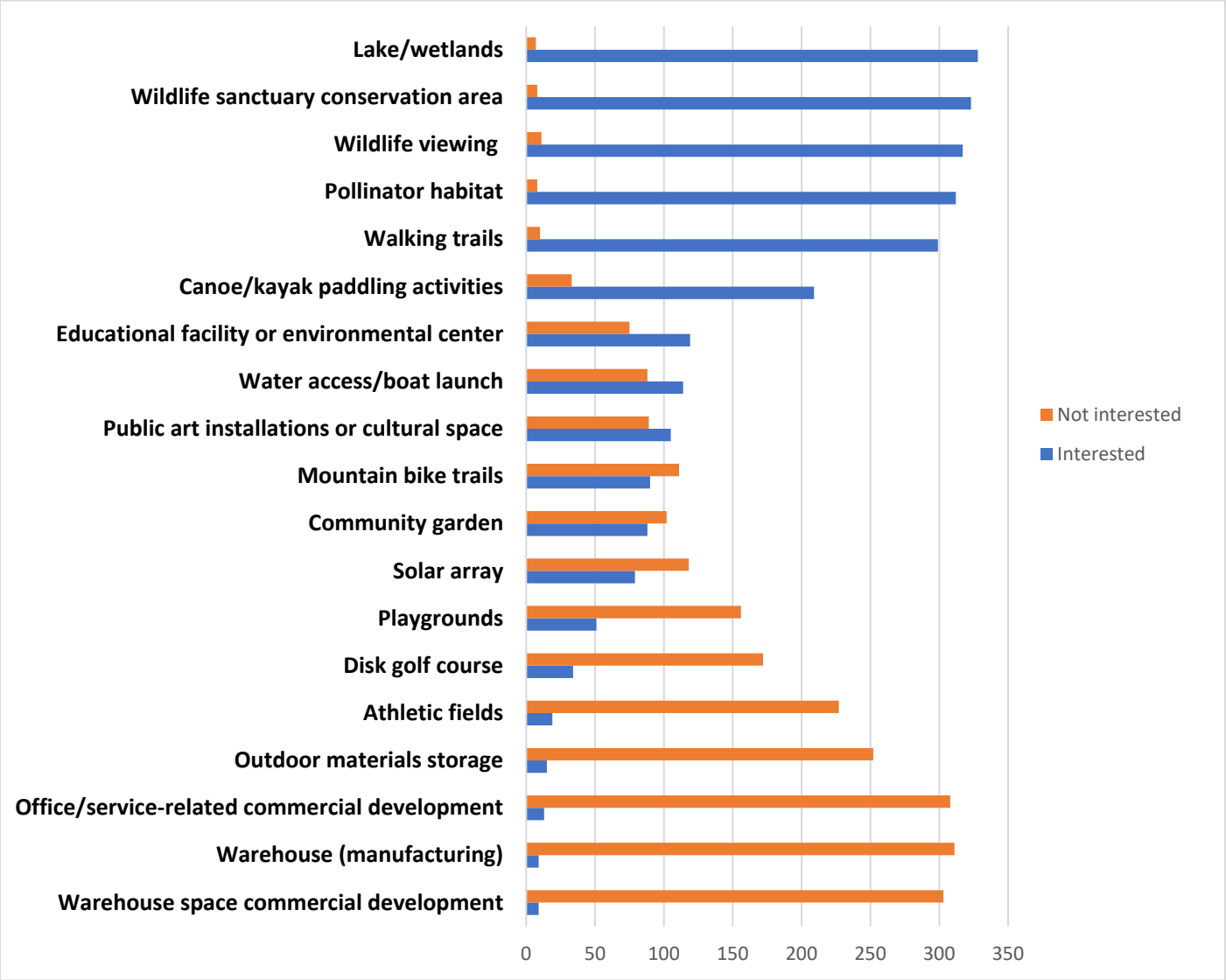
- **Native representation and Dakota site of significance:** People acknowledged that Pig's Eye Dump is located at a Dakota site of significance and would like to see Native communities' input be heavily considered in the planning process.

- **Access to the site:** Respondents noted that the location of Pig's Eye Dump is difficult to access due to the surrounding industrial area. They suggested that it would be better utilized as a natural area or for low-impact recreation.

- A few people shared preference for keeping overall costs low, preference towards targeted waste relocation due to feasibility, or preference to leave the dump as is.

Future uses

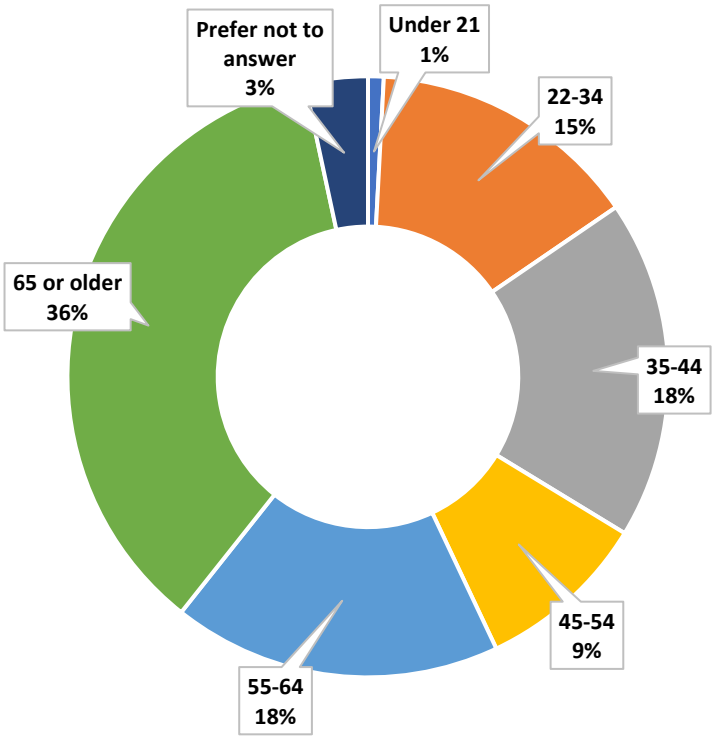
Respondents identified which types of future uses they are or are not interested in seeing in the future. The table below shows futures uses ranked by most interested to least interested.



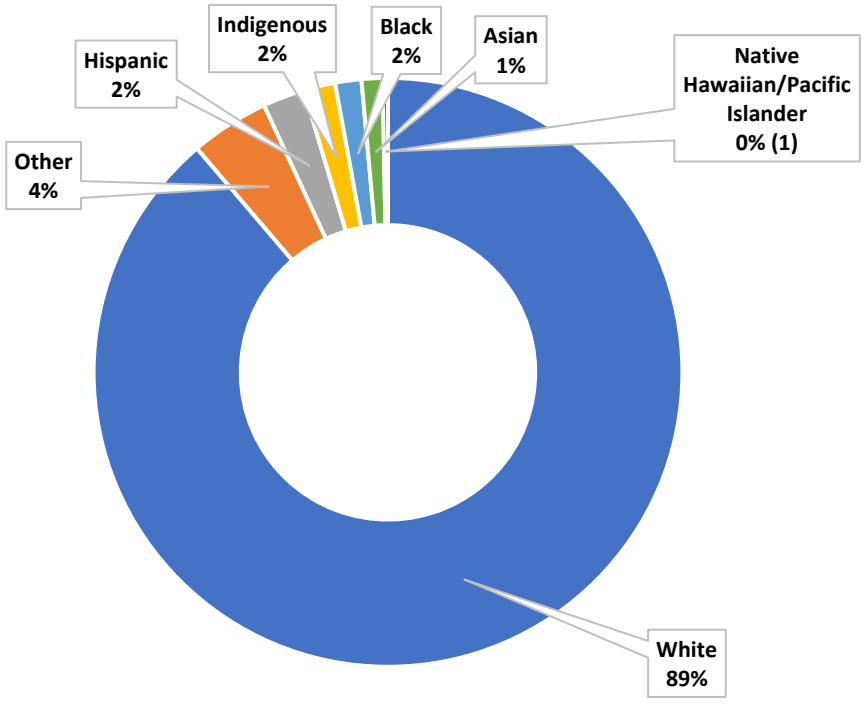
Other ideas people mentioned <u>they are</u> interested in seeing:	Other uses people mentioned <u>they are not</u> interested in seeing:
✓ Land management and cultural space operated by Dakota people ✓ Historical and educational signage ✓ Cameras to capture wildlife and eagle nesting ✓ Campground facilities ✓ Trails for users with disabilities ✓ Dog park ✓ Bathrooms	– Motorized boats – Housing – Facilities that contribute to pollution – Fitness courses – Dog park

Survey Demographics

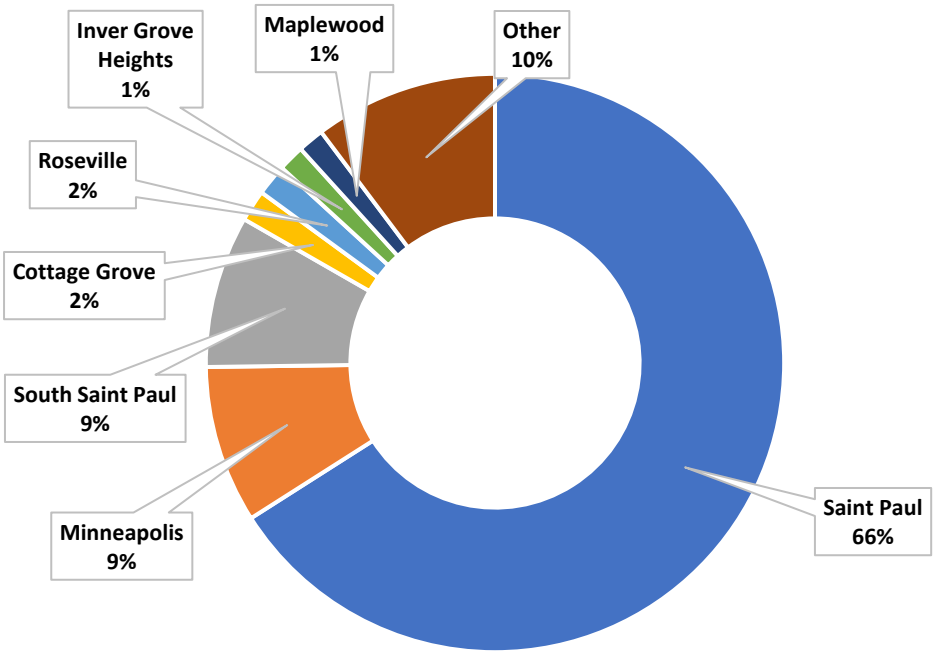
Age:



Race:

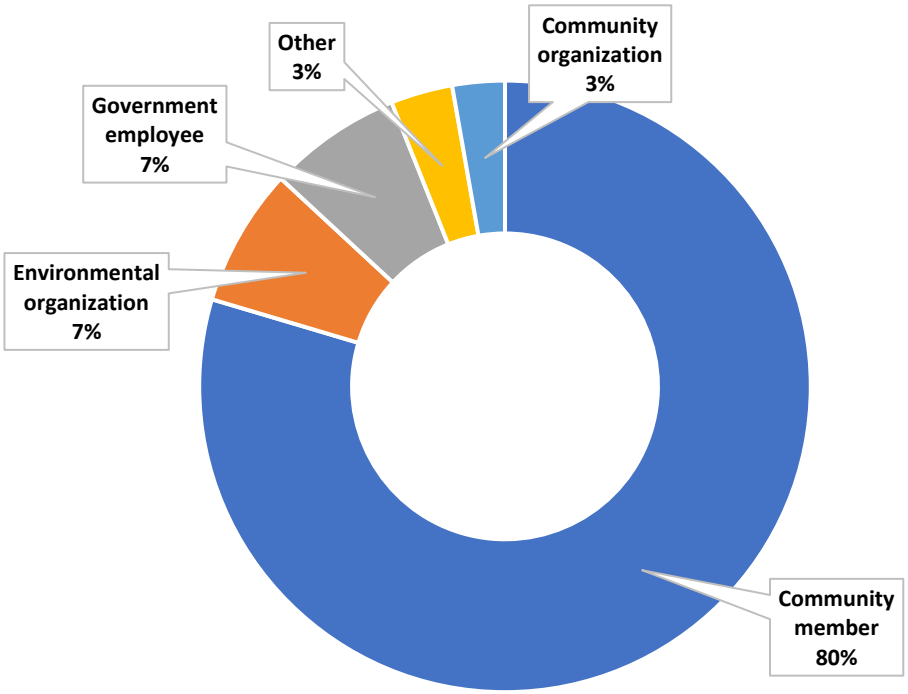


Where do you live? (Optional: 100 responses)



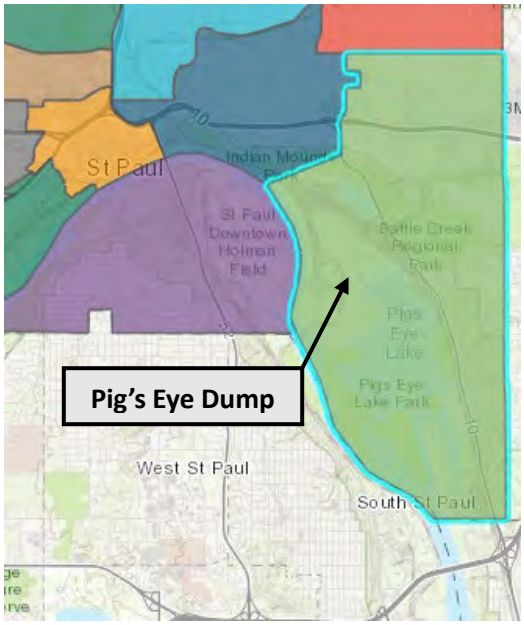
Other locations include: Shoreview, North Saint Paul, White Bear Lake, Arden Hills, Mounds View, Kettle River, Oakdale, St. Louis Park, Afton, Bloomington, Lindstrom, Little Canada, Mahtomedi, New Brighton, New Hope, Newport, Oakdale, Plymouth, Ramsey, Red Wing, and River Falls.

Which of the following best describes you?



Battle Creek-Highwood Neighborhood Demographics

The map to the right shows the location of the Battle Creek-Highwood neighborhood where Pig's Eye Dump is located. The demographics for the neighborhood are shown below, along with comparisons between the survey response demographics and those of the neighborhood.



Age	
Under 5	8.1%
5-9	9.1%
10-14	7.0%
15-17	4.8%
18-24	9.6%
25-34	17.2%
35-44	13.5%
45-54	10.3%
55-64	9.7%
65-74	7.1%
75-84	2.8%
85 and older	0.8%

Sex	
Male	52.5%
Female	47.5%

Race	
White	29.5%
Of Color	70.5%
Black or African American	30.0%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	N/A
Asian or Pacific Islander	25.6%
Hispanic or Latino	11.1%
Two or more races	3.5%
Other	N/A

Language	
English only	54.1%
Language other than English	45.9%
Speaks English less than "very well"	23.3%

Poverty	
With income below poverty	15.3%
With income 100-149 of poverty	14.1%
With income 150-199 of poverty	13.1%
With income 200 of poverty or higher	57.6%

Takeaways

The survey collected information on participant's age and race. Below are comparisons of the data collected by survey participants and the demographics of the Battle Creek-Highwood Neighborhood.

- **Race:** 89% of survey respondents identified as White, which is much higher than the 29.5% White population in the surrounding neighborhood.
- **Age:** Over half of survey respondents (54%) reported being over 55 years old, whereas only 20.4% of the neighborhood's residents are in that age group.

Results by Age Group

The data below shows how each age group responded to the survey and their average comfortability ratings. Key takeaways are highlighted both overall and by the individual age group.

5 – very comfortable
4 – somewhat comfortable
3 – neutral
2 – Not particularly comfortable
1 – Not at all comfortable

Key Takeaways

- Overall, the future uses that received the highest comfortability rating among all age groups were passive use park and natural area.
- All age groups were least comfortable with industrial/commercial future use paired with targeted waste relocation and filter.

Under 21

Three people under the age of 21 responded to the survey.

	Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter	Dig and Haul and Backfill	Dig and Haul No Backfill	Dig and Line
Use Type	**Average Rating**	**Average Rating**	**Average Rating**	**Average Rating**
Active use park	1.667	3.33	-	2.667
Passive use park	**3**	**5**	4.33	**3.667**
Natural area	2.667	**5**	**4.667**	3.33
Industrial/commercial	2	1.667	-	2

Takeaways

Respondents were:

- Most comfortable with passive use park and natural area if it was remediated using dig and haul and backfill.
- Least comfortable with an active use park if it was remediated using targeted waste relocation and filter and Industrial/commercial use if it was remediated using dig and haul and backfill.

22-34

52 people between the ages of 22 and 34 responded to the survey.

	Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter	Dig and Haul and Backfill	Dig and Haul No Backfill	Dig and Line
Use Type	**Average Rating**	**Average Rating**	**Average Rating**	**Average Rating**
Active use park	2.29	3.35	-	2.54
Passive use park	**3.60**	4.46	4.49	3.23
Natural area	3.54	**4.75**	**4.88**	**3.43**
Industrial/commercial	1.79	1.88	-	1.85

Takeaways

Respondents were:

- Most comfortable with a natural area future use if the site was remediated using dig and haul no backfill.
- Least comfortable with the site having industrial/commercial use if it was remediated using targeted waste relocation and filter.

35-44

65 people between the ages of 35 and 44 responded to the survey.

Use Type	Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter Average Rating	Dig and Haul and Backfill Average Rating	Dig and Haul No Backfill Average Rating	Dig and Line Average Rating
Active use park	2.39	3.81	-	2.68
Passive use park	**3.19**	4.52	4.43	3.05
Natural area	3.08	**4.55**	**4.65**	**3.19**
Industrial/commercial	1.92	2.32	-	2.03

Takeaways

Respondents were:

- Most comfortable with a natural area future use if the site was remediated using dig and haul no backfill.
- Least comfortable with the site having industrial/commercial use if it was remediated using targeted waste relocation and filter.

45-54

33 people between the ages of 45 and 54 responded to the survey.

Use Type	Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter Average Rating	Dig and Haul and Backfill Average Rating	Dig and Haul No Backfill Average Rating	Dig and Line Average Rating
Active use park	2.43	3.30	-	2.36
Passive use park	**3.73**	4.55	4.45	**3.23**
Natural area	3.67	**4.60**	**4.68**	**3.23**
Industrial/commercial	1.60	2.13	-	1.90

Takeaways

Respondents were:

- Most comfortable with a natural area future use if it was remediated using dig and haul no backfill.
- Least comfortable with the site having industrial/commercial use if it was remediated using targeted waste relocation and filter.

55-64

63 people between the ages of 55 and 64 responded to the survey.

Use Type	Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter Average Rating	Dig and Haul and Backfill Average Rating	Dig and Haul No Backfill Average Rating	Dig and Line Average Rating
Active use park	2.21	3.34	-	2.38
Passive use park	**3.66**	4.54	4.46	3.30
Natural area	3.56	**4.74**	**4.67**	**3.64**
Industrial/commercial	1.62	1.92	-	1.69

Takeaways

Respondents were:

- Most comfortable with a natural area future use if it was remediated using dig and haul no backfill.
- Least comfortable with the site having industrial/commercial use if it was remediated using targeted waste relocation and filter.

65 and older

128 people over the age of 65 responded to the survey.

Use Type	Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter Average Rating	Dig and Haul and Backfill Average Rating	Dig and Haul No Backfill Average Rating	Dig and Line Average Rating
Active use park	2.25	3.11	-	2.30
Passive use park	**3.57**	4.30	4.25	3.08
Natural area	3.34	**4.38**	**4.52**	**3.33**
Industrial/commercial	1.80	1.99	-	1.84

Takeaways

Respondents were:

- Most comfortable with a natural area future use if it was remediated using dig and haul no backfill.
- Least comfortable with the site having industrial/commercial use if it was remediated using targeted waste relocation and filter.

Appendix

Social Media Toolkit Distribution

Below is a list of community organizations the Social Media Toolkit was sent to advertise the survey.

- Wakan Tipi Awanyankapi
- Urban Roots
- University of Minnesota Long Term Ecological Research Group
- Great River Passage Conservancy
- Pig's Eye Park Friends
- Friends of the Mississippi River
- Hazel Park Congregational United Church of Christ
- Earth Club Harding High School
- Southeast Community Organization
- West Side Community Organization
- Payne-Phalen District Five Planning Council
- Dayton's Bluff Community Council
- Greater East Side
- East Side Neighborhood Development Company
- North East Neighborhood Development Coorporation
- East African Empowerment Center
- Neighbors Inc
- American Indian Family Center
- Hmong American Partnership
- CLUES - Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio
- Latino Economic Development Center
- HACER - Hispanic Advocacy and Community Emplorement Through Research
- League of Minnesota Cities

Survey Advertisements from Community Organizations

Washington County's Environmental eUpdate



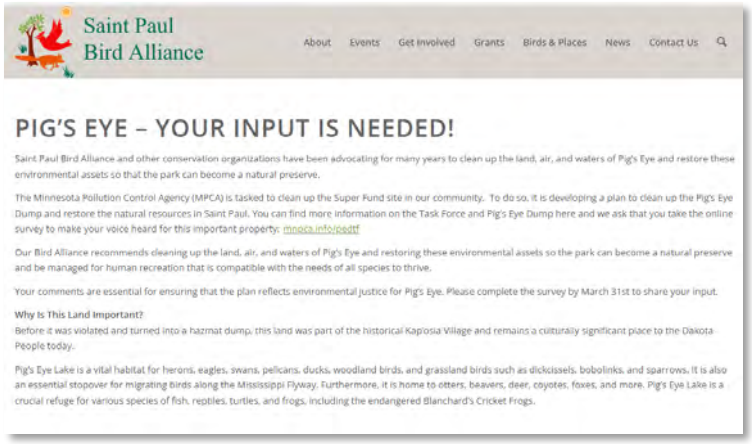
Wakan Tipi Instagram



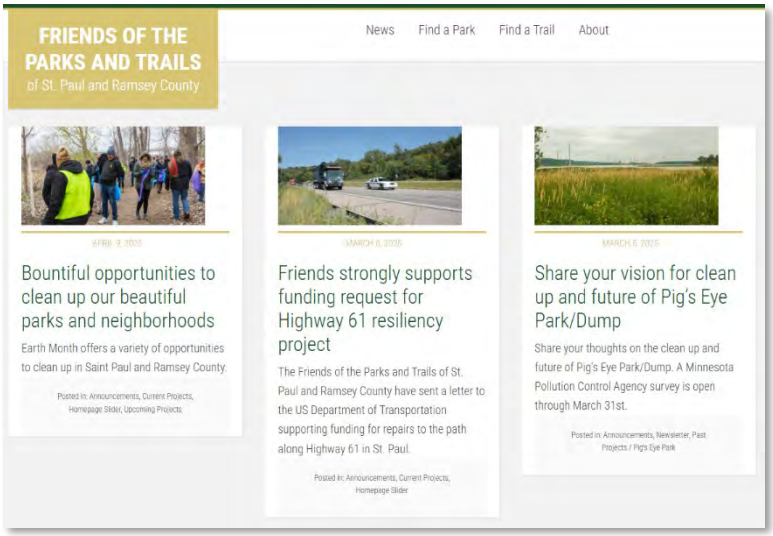
Great River Passage Instagram



Saint Paul Bird Alliance



Friends of the Parks and Trails of St. Paul and Ramsey County



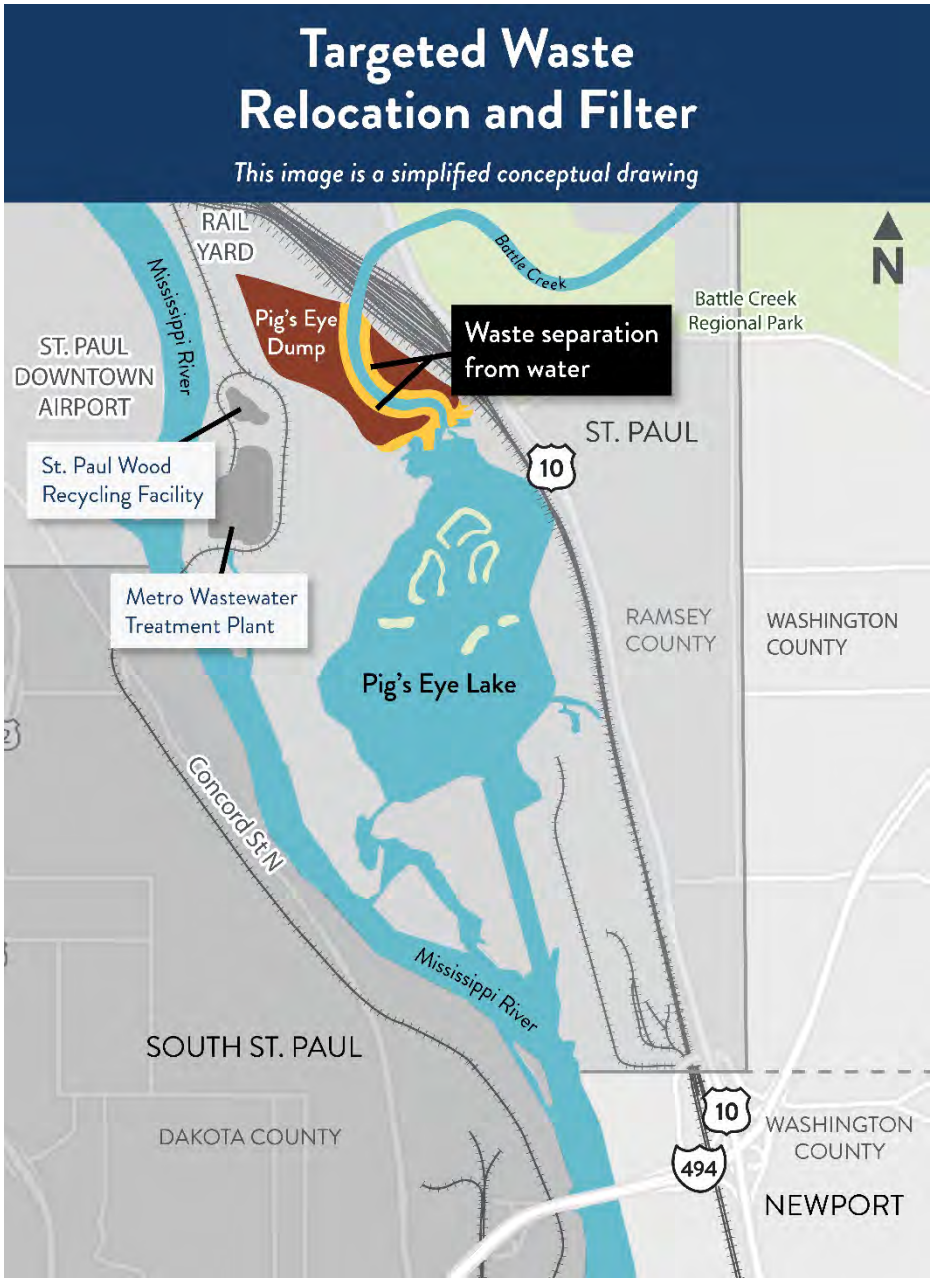
SouthEast Community Organization



Flyering Map

The map below shows the neighborhood north of Pig's Eye Dump where the project team distributed flyers to advertise the survey.

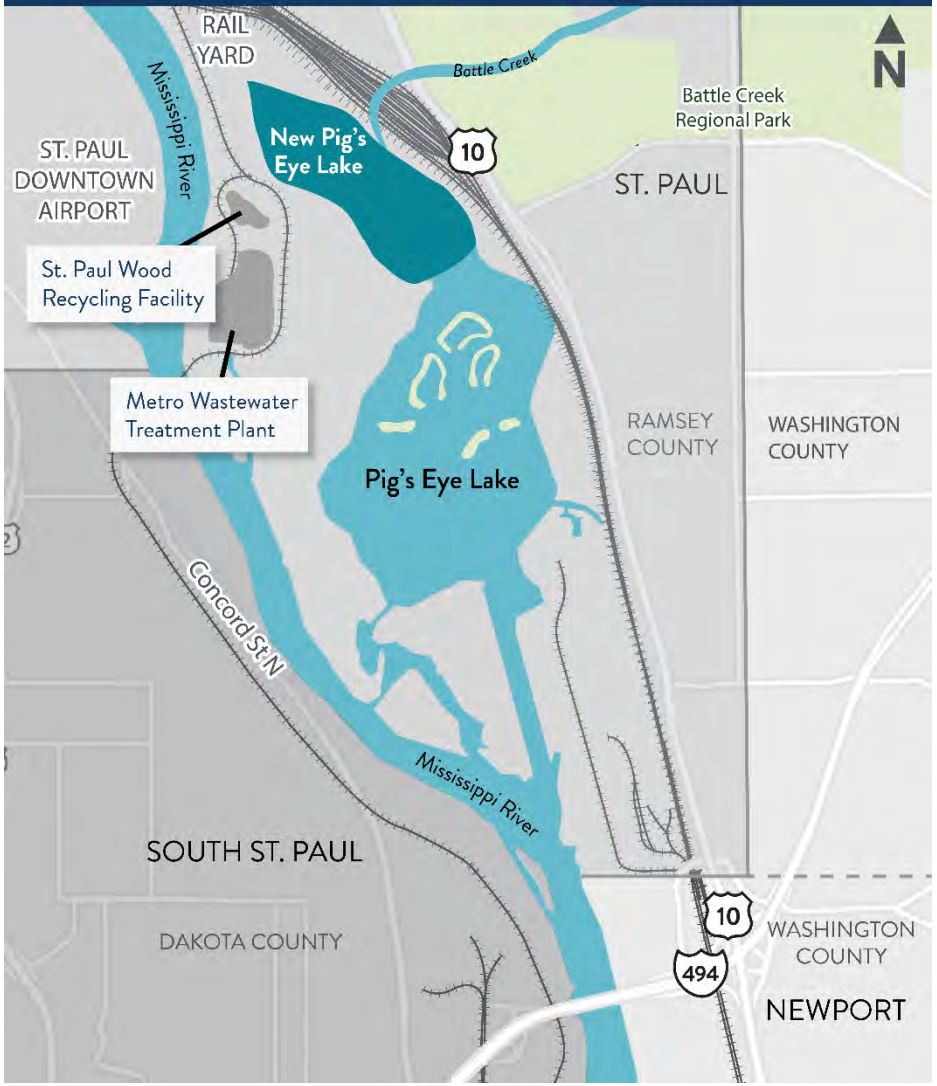



Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter
This image is a simplified conceptual drawing
RAIL YARD
Mississippi River
Battle Creek
Pig's Eye Dump
Waste separation from water
Battle Creek Regional Park
N
ST. PAUL DOWNTOWN AIRPORT
ST. PAUL
St. Paul Wood Recycling Facility
10
Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant
RAMSEY COUNTY
WASHINGTON COUNTY
Pig's Eye Lake
Concord St N
Mississippi River
SOUTH ST. PAUL
DAKOTA COUNTY
10
494
WASHINGTON COUNTY
NEWPORT


Dig and Haul and Backfill
This image is a simplified conceptual drawing
RAIL YARD
Mississippi River
Battle Creek
Pig's Eye Dump
Backfill
Battle Creek Regional Park
N
ST. PAUL DOWNTOWN AIRPORT
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St. Paul Wood Recycling Facility
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Pig's Eye Lake
Concord St N
Mississippi River
SOUTH ST. PAUL
DAKOTA COUNTY
10
494
WASHINGTON COUNTY
NEWPORT

Dig and Haul No Backfill
"New Pig's Eye Lake"

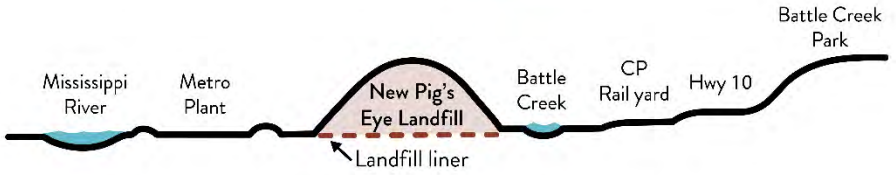
This image is a simplified conceptual drawing



Dig and Line
"New Pig's Eye Landfill"

This image is a simplified conceptual drawing



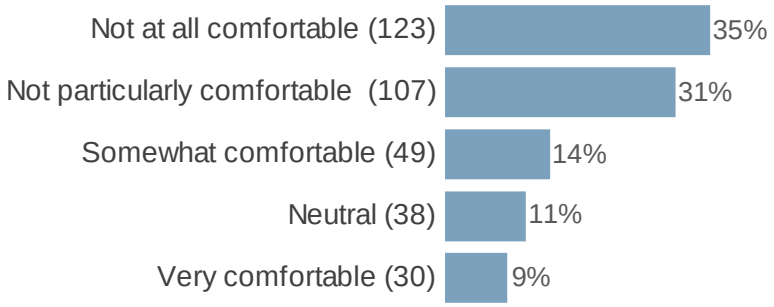


Pigs eye community opinion form 25

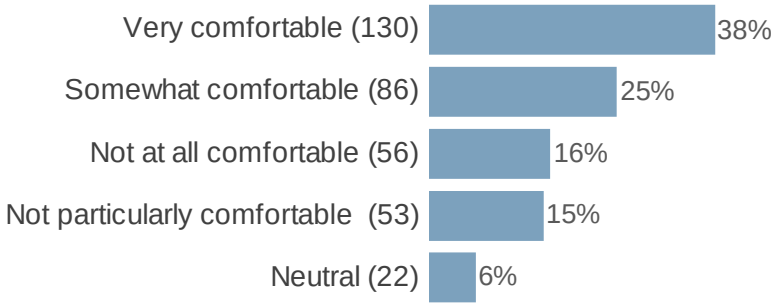
This report was generated on 03/31/25. Overall 359 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 359 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

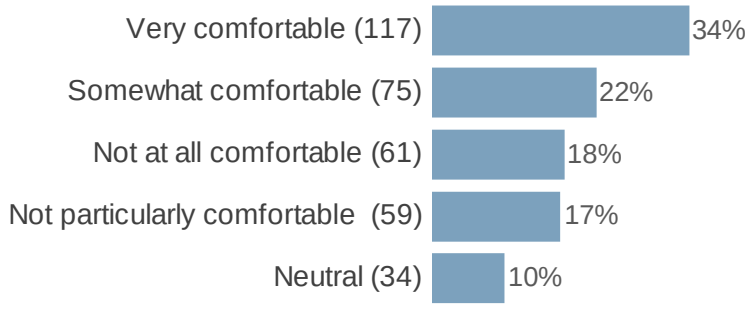
Please rank how comfortable/uncomfortable you are with each possible future use if the site is remediated through Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter. (Active use park (ex. playgrounds, disc golf course, mountain bike trails etc.))



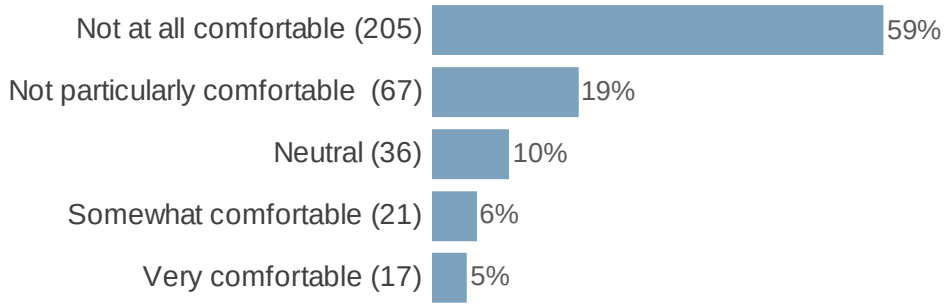
Please rank how comfortable/uncomfortable you are with each possible future use if the site is remediated through Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter. (Passive use park (ex. trails, wildlife observation, etc.))



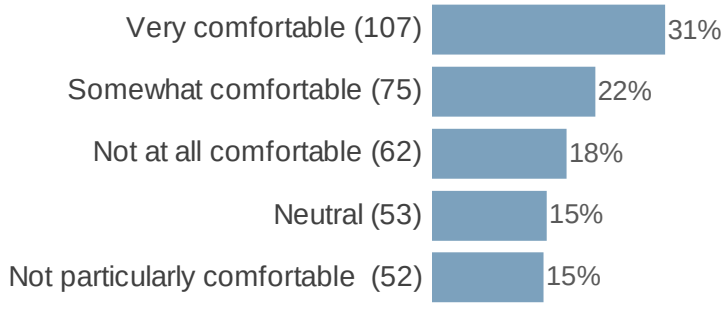
Please rank how comfortable/uncomfortable you are with each possible future use if the site is remediated through Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter. (Natural area (contamination may limit effectiveness))



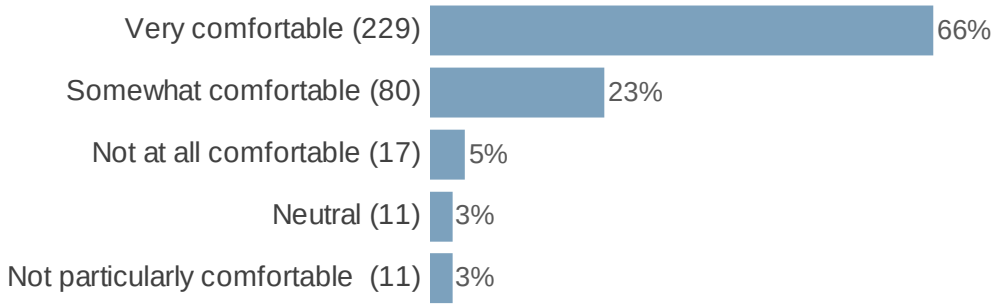
Please rank how comfortable/uncomfortable you are with each possible future use if the site is remediated through Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter. (Industrial/commercial use (only limited flood tolerant uses possible))



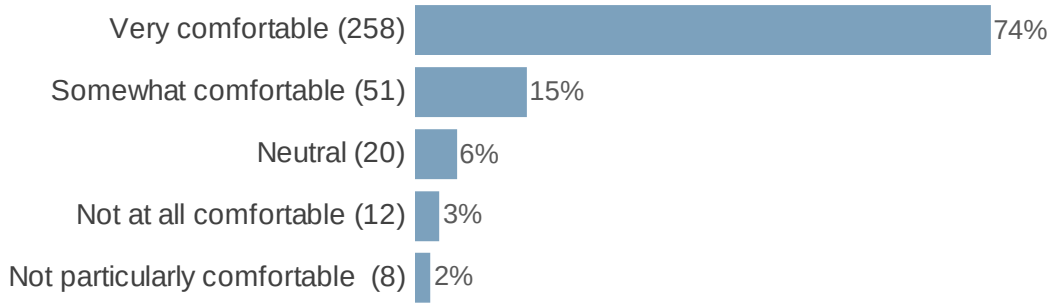
Please rank how comfortable/uncomfortable you are with each possible future use if the site is remediated through Dig and Haul and Backfill. (Active use park (ex. playgrounds, disc golf course, mountain bike trails etc.))



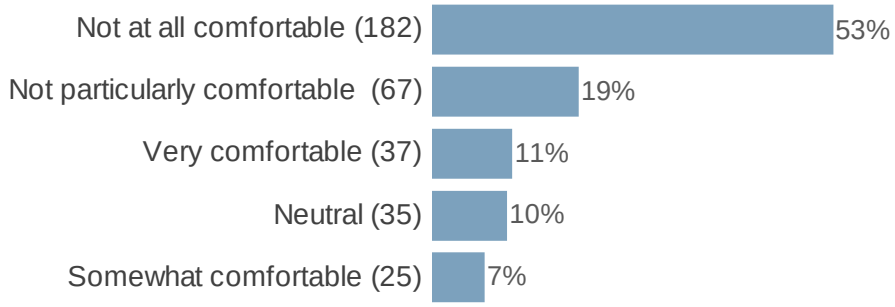
Please rank how comfortable/uncomfortable you are with each possible future use if the site is remediated through Dig and Haul and Backfill. (Passive use park (ex. trails, wildlife observation, etc.))



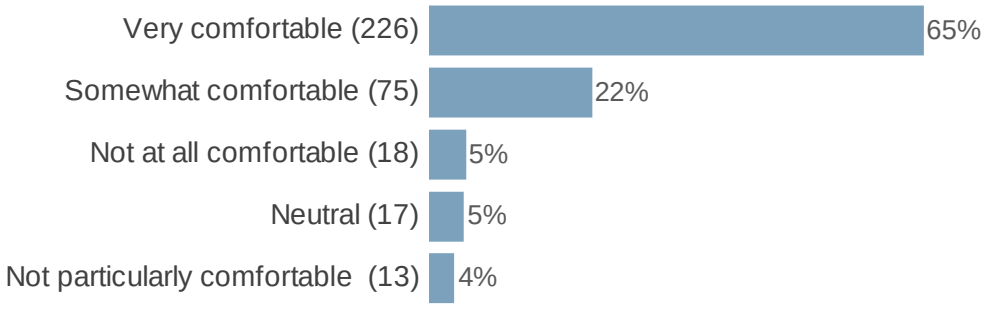
Please rank how comfortable/uncomfortable you are with each possible future use if the site is remediated through Dig and Haul and Backfill. (Natural area (ex.upland or wetland/lake habitat))



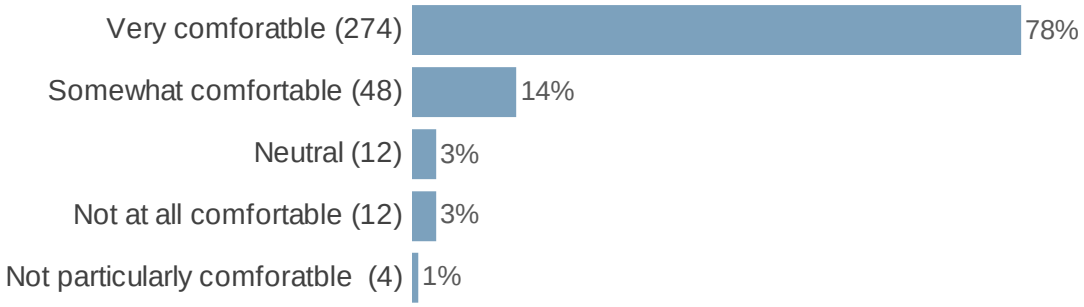
Please rank how comfortable/uncomfortable you are with each possible future use if the site is remediated through Dig and Haul and Backfill. (Industrial/commercial use (ex. solar, buildings, etc.))



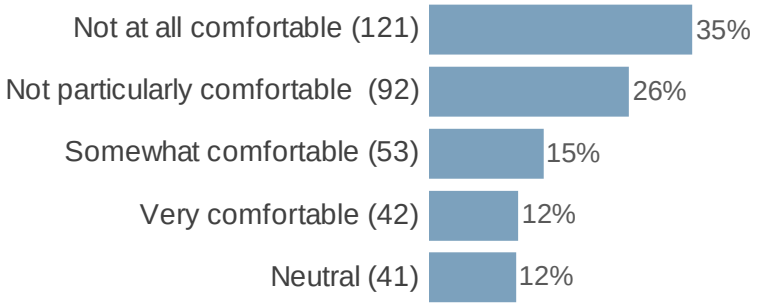
Please rank how comfortable/uncomfortable you are with each possible future use if the site is remediated through Dig and Haul and No Backfill. (Passive use park (ex. trails, wildlife observation, etc.))



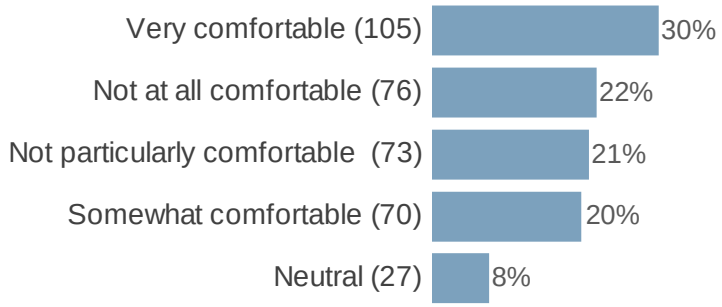
Please rank how comfortable/uncomfortable you are with each possible future use if the site is remediated through Dig and Haul and No Backfill. (Natural area (ex. lake and wetland))



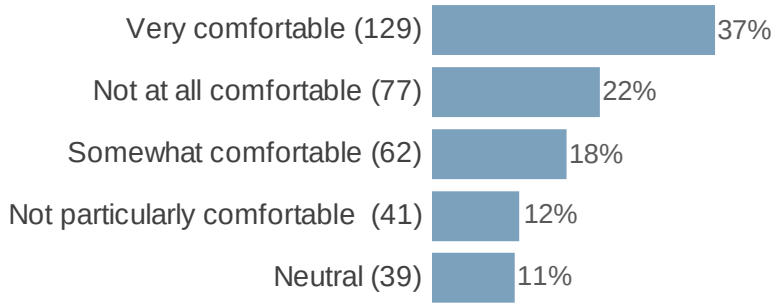
Please rank how comfortable/uncomfortable you are with each possible future use if the site is remediated through Dig and Line. (Active use park (ex. playgrounds, disc golf course, mountain bike trails etc.))



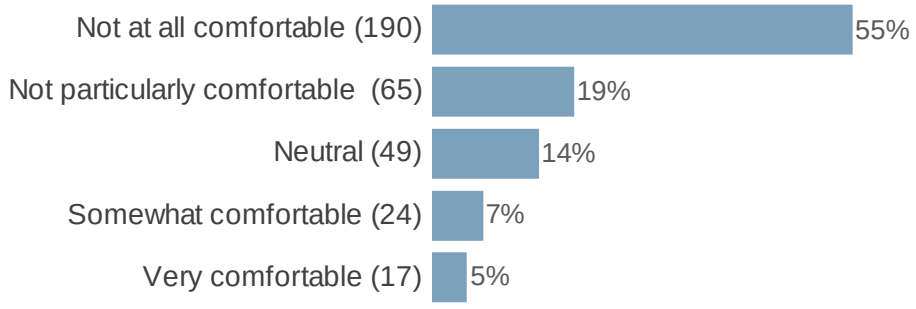
Please rank how comfortable/uncomfortable you are with each possible future use if the site is remediated through Dig and Line. (Passive use park (ex. trails, wildlife observation, etc.))



Please rank how comfortable/uncomfortable you are with each possible future use if the site is remediated through Dig and Line. (Natural area (ex. pollinator habitat, wetland))



Please rank how comfortable/uncomfortable you are with each possible future use if the site is remediated through Dig and Line. (Industrial/commercial use (ex. solar, buildings, etc.))



Please use the space below for any additional thoughts you would like to share about your ratings of the future use options:

We don’t need anymore industrial development polluting the east side! We already have a disproportionate burden of industrial pollution and activity creating unsafe environments for residents.
Include Native Americans perspective. This is very important.
I strongly support keeping the area predominantly natural, acting as a wetland to support local wildlife
I would like the pollution removed and it revert to natural habitat (as much as possible) but help wildlife flourish
I know this site is important to the Dakota tribe, and their input should be heavily considered for how to move forward.
We can’t afford expensive options. The first option is good enough.
Dig and haul - no backfill seems to make the most sense to me, considering both costs and future flexibility for use of the land
I would like to see the all of the waste removed. It doesn’t matter to me wether the area is backfilled or not.
In this current program slashing environment, the targeted waste and filter solution seems most possible.
Would like to see the site used for floodwater management and natural wetlands. This doesn't preclude other uses, but believe this use must be included at this location for this location.
Based on proximity to the river, lack of current usage, and comparative difficulty to access, it seems most important to have a space to rebuild vital wetland/native wild space, but I could be swayed based on data about equity needs for active/passive parks in this area in the city.
We need to preserve/return land to as natural a state as possible. The location is so connected to the river that removing existing and reducing future pollutants is critical
Replace removed trash with clean fill to support wildlife that is there now, and where there are wet areas now its OK to keep them wet.
Reaching out to indigenous groups to get opinions and ideas could be valuable.
I strongly believe all waste needs to be removed.
This park and lake is a hidden treasure / let’s please take care of it!
I think it is important to consider the City of Saint Paul's Pig's Eye Lake Park when deciding what to do with the dump. This park is adjacent to the dump and the two would be even more connected based on which plan is implemented. Right now there is limited access to Pig's Eye Park, and this might be an opportunity to expand access for use, or to at least connect the ecological benefits of both.
I'm concerned about the huge expense of options 2-4. Option 1 makes use of the area with minimal cost, which is such an improvement over the current almost inaccessibility of the property
I do not want to see this site used for industrial/commercial use, period.
I'd find solar the only reasonable industrial use for the area. I don't think playgrounds should be considered as an active use unless the area and entrance were drastically redone.
I feel the most appropriate state of Pig’s Eye is as a natural area for wildlife to live in and people to visit mindfully; while I wouldn’t be wholly opposed to active use activities if they bring more support to the cleanup effort, I think the whole area should be a wetland. I’m strongly in favor of New Pig’s Eye Lake for the benefit to wildlife.
Please remove contaminated soil

Please use the space below for any additional thoughts you would like to share about your ratings of the future use options:

Most of the surrounding area is odorous/dusty/noisy industrial, railroads, and wastewater treatment. Costly attempts to create a pristine park for the general public will generate more public dissatifaction and lead to even higher costs. The Federal government under Trump and his Republican successors cannot be counted on as a funding partner. Neither will highly taxed St Paul residents want to foot the bill for a park that the vast majority could never even find, let alone use.
If public funding is used for cleanup, I want to see the public benefit from the clean up and be able to use the site. Some clean energy generation on the site may be possible with public park access to help offset costs, but I would be disappointed if it was developed to create a tax base. I would also like park space to be designed around natural habitat areas so it is less of a lawn.
Let’s start with the lowest cost option to reduce waste entering the lake and have a research time period to have a recommendation for a better optiom
I'm mainly interested in having the natural area restored and protected.
I strongly prefer a natural area and restored wildlife habitat.
Thank you all for addressing this landfill, and working hard to find a solution to try and restore our land and groundwater. There are a variety of options for citizens to choose and vote on. The plan that stuck out to me is the dig and hall, no backfill. The others seem more like a temporary fix that we will need to readdress in the future. Let's spend the money now and fix the problem entirely. Let's restore our groundwater!
Prioritize habitat - few spaces exist for habitat preservation. East St. Paul already has too much industry and waste, fewer recreation and natural areas. There are already adequate mountain biking facilities, no more are needed.
I wouldn't like to have additional industrial/commercial use at the site due to possibility of release of any remaining pollution or addition to it.
Offset civilization's impact on open space, human health, and environmental health by avoiding any increase in the urban footprint, i.e., avoid any increase in the developed footprint. Dig and Haul - No Backfill accomplishes this best. Also, leave no hazmat within the river gorge, regardless of how well it's sealed off. Remove ALL potential for problems having to be remediated by future generations. Remove the problems, don't just encapsulate them. Thirty years is short-term thinking.
Hard to decide whether to go back to wetland or have people enjoy it as a recreational use such as hiking and cycling. I am comfortable with either. Prefer that if boats allowed, no motors
People who live down river from this site would appreciate it getting cleaned up and left natural so as to help eliminate future downstream and groundwater contamination.
What would the lining be made of for Dig and Line Option - is it safe and can you ensure it is a non-leachable hazard?
Kids like to eat dirt and dig as deep as they can, so I would be a bit wary of use cases that would allow a kid to be involved in contaminant
Prefer the nature model.
The targeted waste relocation and filter approach should be used as an interim first step to minimize the amount of ongoing contamination of surface waters.
What about archeological considerations? Do any of the proposals include archeological or historical evidence and evaluations?

Please use the space below for any additional thoughts you would like to share about your ratings of the future use options:

It seems you are presenting a cost-benefit analysis. That needs to include the liklihood of obtaining funding for the different options. It also needs to be more clear on the resulting natural, non-human restoration that will occur as acresult of the human efforts. This is very complex. My opinion is that it is a rare wetland in the Twin Cities Metro area. The vision needs to be to take the next steps needed to nourish a return to its natural state. Then build structures that allow people to walk, bike and bird watch above the restored area.above
More industrial planning seems like the wrong move if the idea is to reduce the amount of pollution going to the river. A buffer could be really beneficial if we want to continue to preserve our river, which would mean having plenty of space for a wetland or at least more natural plantings.
Who is responsible for the original dumping? Video doesn't say…
This land is needed as a natural area, supporting wildlife and water quality.
As the original stewards of the land, Dakota representation should be at the table of the Pigs Eye task force
The higher amount of $$ should be spent for public use and not industrial/commercial use.
How do you intend for people to get on site? Road crosses three railroad tracks and is extremely busy with large hauling trucks that seem dangerous for park visitors. Very small parking lot as well?
it would be useful to consider which option provides more ecological services such as cleaning water, preventing erosion and others. Consider the monetary value in your calculations
I am more amenable to the "dig and haul no back fill" or the "Dig and Line" options. The "cheapest" option's effectiveness seems questionable, thus throwing good money after bad. The "dig and line" option, although not the best, seems more apt to contain the waste. As for the possibility of future industrial use; this area floods. That is what it is meant to do. Keeping the area for recreational (paddle sport access, hiking, biking, bird watching, etc) is the better option all around. The Mississippi has lost enough of its spongy wetlands. Also, there is plenty of space for solar collection over the vast mount of parking lots in the area. Parking and solar go well together.
I really think the Dig and Haul No Backfill option makes the most sense. It is not a good area for a landfill. This option has the major additional win of adding additional wetlands to the area, which with a warming planet we are seeing shrink in general. Lastly, it seems like a bonus that it's much less expensive than the backfill option.
Area's location on the river as current open space lends itself best to passive recreation or natural area
Any installation must be floodable and have minimal post flood costs.
Targeted and Dig and line options still has toxic dump in flood plan. Let Mother Nature have the space as we all know, water wins. Thank you.
It would be wise to respectfully ask the Indigenous community for their input on how best to proceed, nd to include them at every step of implementation in the ways they wish to be involved.
I recently completed a student design project for Pig's Eye Lake as part of an MLA studio at University of Minnesota. My proposed design was most similar to option 4, and incorporated mycelium filters between properly capped mounds to address biofilm and heavy metal contamination in Battle Creek, and permeable reactive barriers of activated charcoal soaked in Pb and Lye surrounding capped mounds to filter groundwater seepage of PFA's. Happy to discuss more if at all helpful- durbi050@umn.edu
This area is already a valuable resource, and limited renovations are necessary for this area to be of passive use.
Focusing on cleaning and keeping the site clean with preventative planning should be the top priority for this area.

Please use the space below for any additional thoughts you would like to share about your ratings of the future use options:

Reducing emissions and creating a cleaner natural environment would be best if that land is being protected. It would be wrong to clean up the toxic waste only to replace it with industrial waste again.
Minimum cost as to not effect low income communities or raise taxes
No industrial
Because of the site's flooding history, only passive recreation or restoration to a natural area is sensible on this site.
I strongly prefer digging out the landfill (no preference for filled/not filled) and returning it to a natural area.
Amidst a literal global climate crisis... storing waste in a wetland area that drains directly into a river (which impacts how many communities downstream?), despite how "safe" the liner is, is not what I'd like to see $570 million spent on. Nor would expanding industry/commerce in an already suffering ecosystem. If it's going to be our responsibility to clean up our parents' mess, let our money go to restoring the wetland/floodplain so that the habitat can heal. It's not just for our sake in the MSP metro; it's for every family, human and non-human, downstream of this vital arterial water source, today and for future generations. Let's make sure we include them in these considerations.
I prefer pigs eye lake plan. also would like to see industry pay for it.
Concerned about long term viability of 'dig and line' for environment - future failure of lining 50-100 years from now impacting river, wildlife, etc. Better to remove the waste now.
I strongly advocate for the dig and haul options (either backfill or no backfill), and to prioritize restoring natural areas over other uses.
I prefer the returning of the area to wetland habitat. Ideally, these lands would be returned to the original stewards, the Dakota people.
Clean up best possible!
I'd love to see it as a wetland in this historical floodplain wetland. I think along with passive recreation trails around the area, it could serve as a great educational resource. Go into the history of the site, the downstream affects of the pollution, and now the ecological services and benefits a wetland provides.
I support whichever method of remediation is the most thorough, longest lasting, and poses the least risk to people and wildlife that may recreate in the area in the future.
should remain a wetland, let nature take its course
I think the waste should all be removed. Hard to tell what will happen in the future, high water, etc. , or if it will funded to maintain in perpetuity. I don't think you should bring in backfill. That introduces another soil, which may have its own issues. We need wetlands. They could be great habitat. The Twin Cities doesn't have alot of wetland areas
I feel this toxic waste needs to be removed and relocated much further from a water source. There is no world where toxic waste and water are safe together. I am most worries about water quality and aquatic life, I don't really care what the land gets used for after as long as scientists deem it safe.
Make sure the site cannot leak contaminants into the surronding water ever again.
Areas within the greater metro where one can peacefully enjoy bird watching and photography without speeding bicycles or scooters interfering are few. The Mississippi river flyway is an excellent spot to view many types of birds, as well as other flora and fauna. Migrating song, wading and raptors all use the area for a home and travel route. Many species are rare or endangered. It would be nice having a place of peace and quiet adjacent to busy city life.
This is an inappropriate location for a landfill of any kind. Any reuse/development of the property must be compatible with frequent flooding.

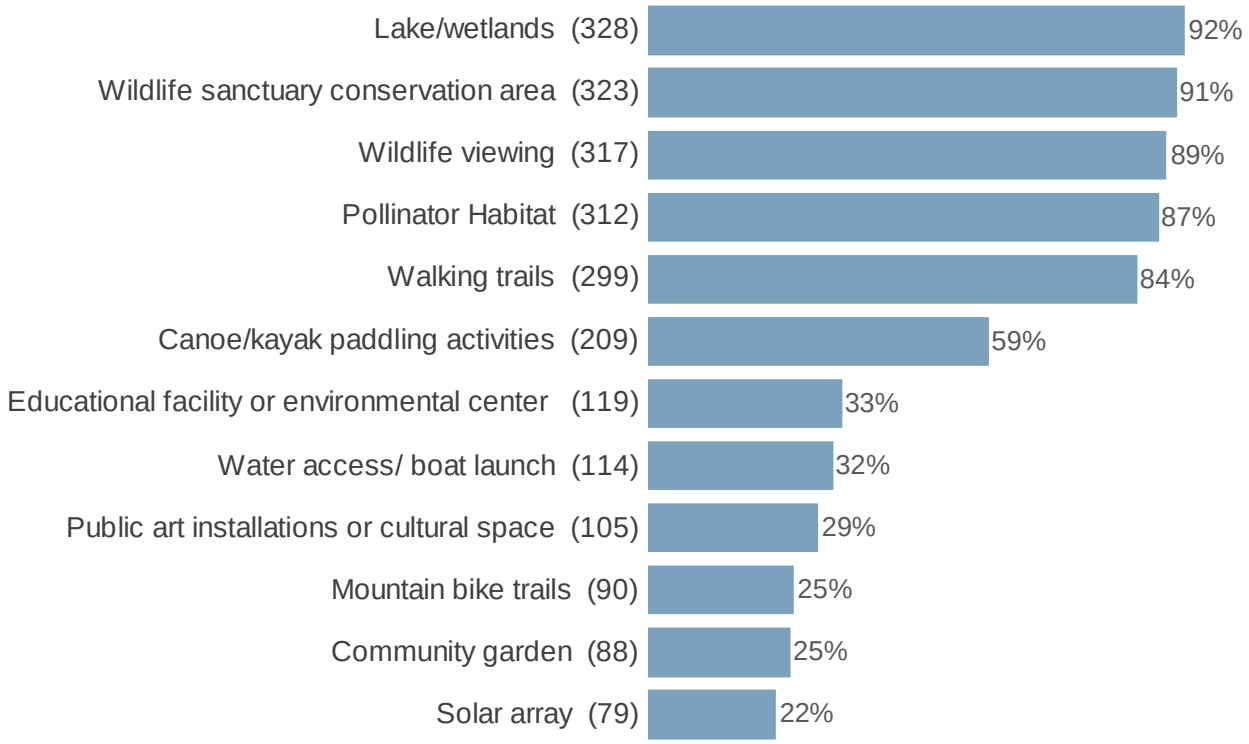
Please use the space below for any additional thoughts you would like to share about your ratings of the future use options:

First, a hard decision to balance the need for sound management of waste & the need to cover the associated costs. Second, a concern for who/how a decision is made for the use/benefactors of such an outlay of costs.
I see no concern for any of this as long as nobody is eating fish or drinking the water. Prefer cheaper option, since the groundwater and surface water in Pool 2 area will never be clean regardless of remediation techniques.
I would like to see this area cleaned up and returned to a natural area
I would prefer wetland or light use area to help restore the health of the river and water systems
What companirs dumped here and why are they not paying to clean it up????
Whoever is responsible for the waste, shiuld pay to clean it up.
When considering plan options, if the goal is to attract wild life back to their habitat then the job must be done to ensure optimal health for the whole ecosystem. If the job is done cheaply with the possibility of harm to people and the ecosystem, then it would be best to not invite humans and wildlife back to a site that is still potentially contaminated. Their needs to be more accountability to the industries who create these messes; the people are tired of picking up the bill.
Prefer restoration to nature and wildlife protection with minimal or no human use.
Anything less than complete cleanup is not acceptable regardless of the land plan use. We live close to the site and bike and walk through there regularly.
Mostly uncomfortable on industrial/commercial use because I would ultimately want to promote wildlife habitat and limit impervious surfaces next to the river. If that's the only option, something like solar would be the only thing I'd be comfy with because it helps address green energy needs.
State Critical Area plans and Saint Paul Great River Passage plans call for this area to serve as Natural Area with passive use trails and water access to view and enjoy wildlife. More than half a century of public planning have gone into these efforts. Using valuable wetland habitat in a National Park for a dump, industrial uses, or activities that require wetland filling and wildlife habitat loss are in direct conflict with park plans for this resource.
I wonder about the proximity of the rails and how that would affect the active use in any of the scenarios.
The two dig and haul are the only options that make sense to me. I'd love a pollinator area with trees and plants to attract pollinators and the birds that need them.
Removing pollutants is the number one thing.
Adjacent land use should be put into the decision - especially use of the are and Pigs Eye Scientific & Natural Area to the south. Expanding habitat for wildlife use of river bottoms such as heron rookery.
Don't like the idea of any industrial or commercial space on this land. If "the people" are paying to undo the past sins of commerce, this land should be kept for the "the people" in the form of a park or natural area.
1) I visited Pigs Eye with my toddler a few years ago, because I had heard that it was being turned into a park. I didn't realize it was a dumping ground and potentially unsafe. Signs should be posted warning people of the contamination. 2) If you are going to ask people to rate their comfort, more health information should be provided prior to doing so. Is it safe for a toddler to dig in the soil, as children do, if you do the targeted waste removal and filter option? Inadequate information was provided for people to have informed consent.
Clean it up make it natural and let Mother Earth repair herself. No cost it too great to fix our environment.
Keep industrial away from the parks. As much access as we have to the river, so much space is taken up by private industrys. People and plants.

Please use the space below for any additional thoughts you would like to share about your ratings of the future use options:

Pigs Eye Island and Lake need to be as wild as it can be. We don'tneed access everywhere, all the time for everyone.
Clean up Pig's Eye once & for all
My wife and I are expecting twins and would love to see this park cared for and maintained!
I think dig haul and no backfill is the best option because it restores the land to the previous state.
Although dumping the waste elsewhere seems like the best choice for Pigs Eye, I don't like it being made someone else's waste problem. Isn't there an option to safely dispose of the waste without putting it in a different landfill?
keeping this space natural and usable for wildlife and nature loving humans would be the best outcome
The river, its inhabitants--and all of us--need clean wetlands. This seems like a perfect opportunity to gain rather than lose a wetland resource.

Which of the following uses would you **be interested in seeing** at the Pig's Eye site?



Other uses you would **like to see** at the Pig's Eye site:

Educational experience for guided tours on clean up project once complete. Could be used as a great case study for others.
Expansion of EWS wood storage and processing facility.
Turner back to lake
Several eagles nesting areas with camera

Other uses you would **like to see** at the Pig's Eye site:

None, leave as is, do not spend any more taxpayer dollars on this low risk site. Any more time/money spent on this site is a complete waste of taxpayer resources
Do everything to protect the heron rookery!!
Landback
Land management and cultural space operated by Dakota people
Note: the boat launch I would like to see is for canoes, kayaks and other non motorized watercraft only, certainly not motor boats. This is a sacred space and everything should be done to restore the habitat of plants and animals to the natural area.
Green space
Paved bike trails.
Natural playground
As long as there is a Native voice we are safe and lucky
Wakan Tipi need access to it.
education facility with space that can be rented for community events/weddings/parties; camp ground/cabins - would love camping a close drive from St. Paul
I believe this was a special area for native Americans. Would be curious about input from that group.
Some land with trails set aside for users with disabilities.
Special attention to the heron rookery and to the bald and golden eagle population in this corridor would be good.
Outdoor stage or amphitheater?
Trails could possibly accommodate both walking and biking (not mountain biking); snowshoeing, cross-country skiing; N/A to me, but some might appreciate a dog park
Paddle boarding. Water dports.
campgrounds for tents and RVs with park
The less '
Historical signs, tick warnings, fishing rules and limits at both ends. Boats put in at existing S. end (old) exisitng launch with signs, roadside parking. Connect bike path with signs to park not in park.
To preserve nature please! 🙏
Dog park with water access
By checking the box for Educational facility, I am meaning that it would be interesting to have information about the history of the site, but I do not want a large facility taking up space at the site. A bathroom would also be a good addition.
Contextual signage about the history of the area and other educational information.
amenities such as parking and toilets
Floodwater mediation, state of the art present-day and future water quality protection
Please stop polluting our environment.
No Dogs allowed -
Train station with pedestrian crossing to regional airport.
Depending on the remediation plan, could methan be used to generate for an urban farming facility

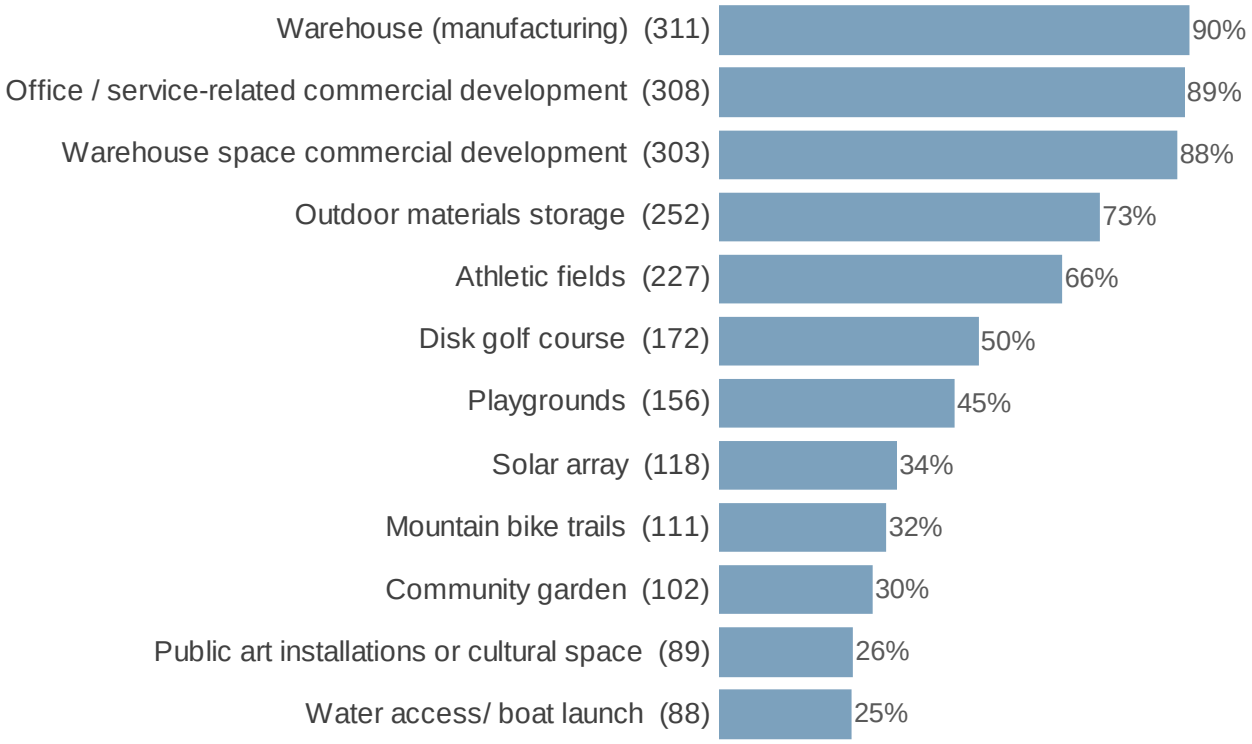
Other uses you would **like to see** at the Pig's Eye site:

I can envision limited hiking and maybe biking, but not dog walking or intensive recreational activities.
The ruver is too shallow there fir a boat launch. The land is too unique and valuable to continue with industrial use. It may take awhile to maje such a major transition. But, at age 75, I remember when the Minneapolis riverfront was train tracks. Keep moving towards the vision. The, suddenly, it emetges in full bloom. When the time is right. At this time, place more emphasis on the birding that it already happening, e.g. through the Audobon Society. They have deep knowledge about this land. It needs to be documented abd passed on.
Return it to its natural state prior to European contact
It would be helpful to know how large an area you're talking about (acres).
Diverse and well managed prairie
Can we encapsulate the dump site and send the plume to the nearby waste water treatment plant? Recognize that both Battle Creek and Beaver creek flow through the dump site next to the DNR headquarters offers a great opportunity for them to showcase the space. Working with the gorilla in the room (H20 treatment plant) future needs which will require a parkland taking ,can we give them the dump site?
Offerings of recognition of harms & active expression of remediaion, reparation, with regard to all our relatives whose home this once was.
This area could really use better access. Whether that be parking spaces, or alternative routes into the area.
Would like to keep this area as natural as possible. Cleaning up without adding too much infrastructure installed for recreation, industrial, etc. Minimal additions should be considered (trails, boardwalks, seating, maybe trash bags for dog waste)
More tree’s more diverse ecosystem conifers or hardwoods cedars and conifers would thrive in this area
Public space thats safe and not contaminated
Accessible birding boardwalks, trails, and viewing platforms.
Cultural space* if only to improve relations with the Dakota and Ojibwe
solar is the future riverboat gambling to relieve taxes in St. Paul
Restoration of natvie habitats
#LandBack
Bird habitat, other insect habitat, turtle logs.
no commercial use. parkland,nature trails, some picnicing
I would like the uses to not cause further harm to the rivers ecosystem or the possibility to introduce new contaminates. Everyone loved Scotchguard before we learned what it was doing to our water.
art if it is by indigenous artists
There is a great need for wildlife to have its own space in the Twin Cities, there is already enough multi-use recreational spaces.
Fat biking in winter.
nature trails, fishing piers, birding observation platform, nesting boxes and platforms, educational kiosks, habitat restoration, naturalist guided walks, restroom, trail connections to neighborhoods, tours of fish hatchery,
Picnic areas
Wildlife use eg h heronnrookery

Other uses you would **like to see** at the Pig's Eye site:

Dog park
Nothing else
Nature preserve - no hunting, no trapping
State involved SNA or WMA establishment. State Park potential as well.
Safe, easy parking
I would be ok with some kind of educational nature center that imposes minimal building on the land.
Farmers Market
Senior housing

Which of the following uses do you **not want** to see at the Pig's Eye site?



Other uses you **do not** want to see at the Pig's Eye site:

This land should be given back to the people, not sold off to private industrial users.
Do nothing. You must do this and remove the garbage. Doing nothing is dislike by me
Anything. Nothing. Just a lake
No commercial or industrial uses.
nuclear testing
as above, please no *motorized* boat launch. no outdoor materials storage if it diminishes visually the experience of the natural area for humans and wildlife, but it it's indoors then could be ok.
Given the level of contamination, high use areas make me feel uncomfortable

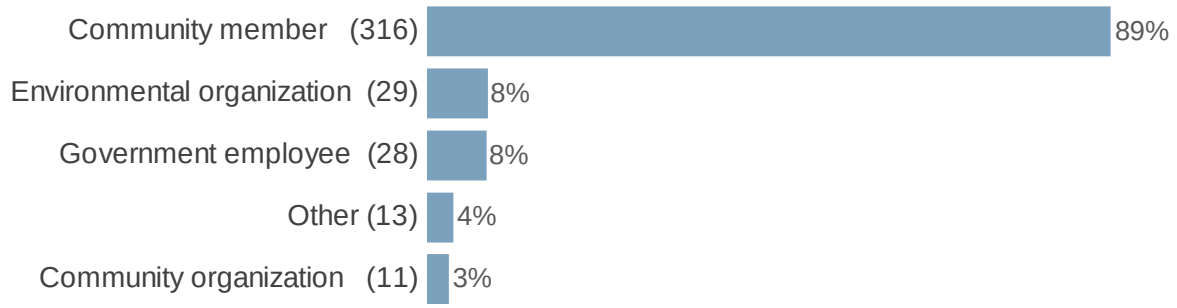
Other uses you **do not** want to see at the Pig's Eye site:

A park
It doesn’t seem to need any buildings at all to be used in a fun environmental way. Disc golf is fun for all and cheap and gets people outside
I don’t want it to revert to another landfill
Do not want it to become a magnet for drug/ illegal activity. It needs to be a safe and clean public space
No housing
The noise and vibration from the ever-larger planes going out of the airport and the national guard base increases the movement of all pollutants (Pig's Eye and otherwise). Doing expensive remediation at Pig's Eye without involving and working with the airport on its current and future environmental impacts would be counterproductive. Enlisting the support/assessing the needs of the barge people moving up and down the river would be important, too, especially if more drought creates low water conditions. Just saying.
Any type of manufacturing, recycling, processing, industrial uses that would increase the potential for additional pollution (air, water, ground water, noise) in the area.
Landfill
Fitness courses
Strong no on office/service/commercial development at this site. Too difficult to protect from extreme storms. Connect the development of this site to the city's climate action plan.
Any new construction or activities that degrade the natural ecosystem.
Treat as rusty-patched Critical Area with improvement, no degradation. Remove sludge pile, reduce and rotate wood chipping to other parks. Its remote and a flood plain so no homeless tent camps for everyone's safety - they are at dump area in north end today with no park use allowed.
Biking, or motor driven
A place for more dumping
No commercial activity in the river bottom area. It’s all flood plains!
Landfill
nothing commercial - we need places that are just for relaxing
The more people that you introduce to this site who lack an understanding of its complex history and the ongoing industrial nature of the surrounding area, the more complaints you will generate that politicians will resort to silence by spending more public dollars.
Heavy industry, light industry, anything which would contribute to urban density or industrial density, anything which would continue or increase potential water quality problems. All hazmat OUT of proximity to the main stem of the river
Motor boats. Snowmobiles
No Dog Park AND No Dogs allowed anywhere on-site whether on leash or off leash.
Vast paved parking lots. Vendors. If used for recreation, provide toilets and resting places
Soil is too wet for gardening. More importantbis planting to feed migrating birds.
Dog running
fenced off area with signs saying contaminated area that is not useful to anyone
I am not sure a community garden on top of so much contaminants is a good idea. As for industrial use, this area is an excellent wetland much needed for flood water absorption and water filtering: resources often undervalued for short term industrial gain.

Other uses you **do not** want to see at the Pig's Eye site:

In general I do not want to see more commercial infrastructure - solar array is the exception. We need more green spaces and wetlands.
It would be terrible for it to become another landfill. #notbetter.
No kind of manufacturing or business offices.
No loud manufacturing it’s already very loud from the train yard also the smell that comes from the water treatment plant in terrible
Soil and area will remain contaminated from battle creek across the road
I do not want any industrial or commercial use.
no or extremally little buildings of any sort
More contamination
I am opposed to water access/boat launch only for motorized boats. Canoe/kayak would be fine.
what are other flood prone choices?
no commercial building
No Dog Parks.
I would like the uses to not cause further harm to the rivers ecosystem or the possibility to introduce new contaminates. Everyone loved Scotchguard before we learned what it was doing to our water.
Industrial
It’s so close to the industrial use train yard and car transfer lot, it’s an important river corridor for wildlife.
Again, increased impervious surfaces or industrial uses such as the materials storage and train yards that are already such a component of the area.
Dump site for excavation material, dump site for construction debris, filling wetlands, commercial wood shredding, non-essential lighting, activities that threaten nesting of birds, pollution
Nothing commercial, period. "The people" are paying and they should get something useful or at least environmentally beneficial out of it.
No apartments please
The community was told this was being restored - which means PARK, not commercial space.
Clean up Pig's Eye once and for all. Keep it as a Nature preserve
Industrial or business

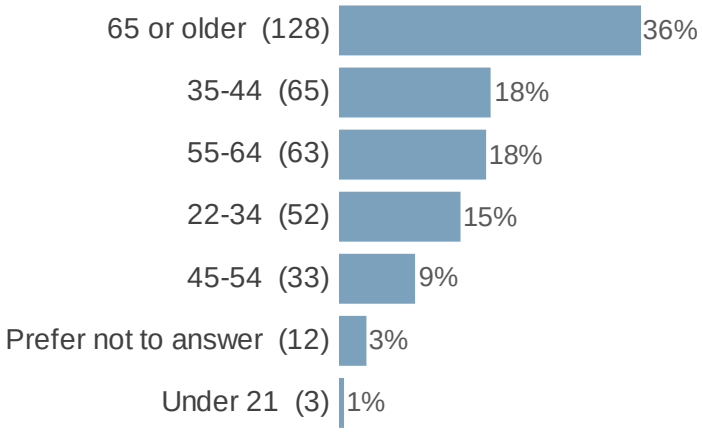
Which of the following best describes you?



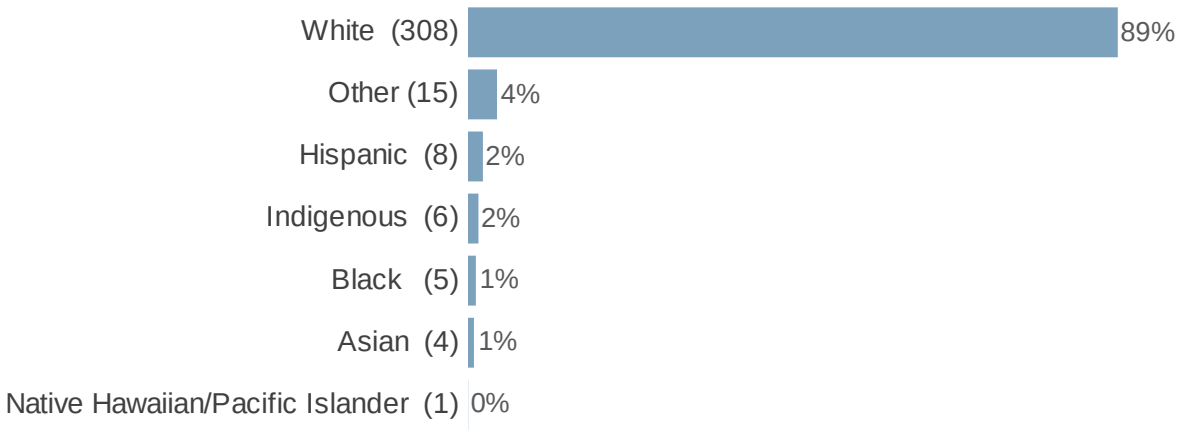
Please specify:

concerned citizen
I worked for the MPCA at the time of the first remediation action at Pig's Eye Dump in public affairs and the state Superfund program. This is one of most difficult cleanup challenges the state can undertake. Good luck and God speed.
Environmental advocate
district council board member
Concerned citizens
Small business owner
retired age 86
healthcare worker and St. Paul citizen

Age:



Race: (biological, an indication of the heritage with which you were born)



Please specify:

prefer not to answer	Iowan and Minnesotan	post-racial
Prefer not to answer	Prefer not to answer.	Middle Eastern
AMERICAN!!!	mixed	No comment

What city do you live in?

Saint Paul	Saint Paul
West St Paul	St Paul
Minneapolis	St. Paul
At paul	North Saint Paul
Minneapolis	Saint Paul
Saint Paul	minneapolis
Saint Paul	ST. PAUL
SAINT PAUL	St. Paul
Shoreview	Saint Paul, Burlington Rd right beside Pigs Eye
Mounds View	Saint Paul
St Paul	Saint paul
Shoreview	St. Paul
St Paul	Saint Paul
St Paul	St. Paul
St Paul	Saint Paul
Woodbury	Saint Paul
St. Paul	St Paul
Saint Paul	St. Paul
MENDOTA HEIGHTS	Saint Paul
Roseville	Birchwood
SAINT PAUL	Minneapolis
St. Paul	Bloomington
Maplewood	St Paul
St. Paul	St. Paul
Roseville	St paul
Saint Paul	Inver Grove Heights
New Brighton	St. Paul
North St Paul	South St Paul
St Paul	Ssp
Saint Paul	South St Paul
Mounds View	South St Paul
Saint Paul	St. Paul
St. Paul	St paul

What city do you live in?

Saint Paul	Saint Paul
South St Paul	South Saint Paul
South Saint Paul	St. Paul
SSP	Saint Paul (Highwood Hills neighborhood)
SOUTH ST PAUL	Saint Paul
South St Paul	St. Paul
Saint Paul	St Paul
Ssp	St Paul
South St Paul	Saint Paul
St. Paul	St Paul
South St Paul.	South Saint Paul
Newport	St.paul
St. Paul	Saint Paul
St. Paul	River Falls
St Paul	Inver Grove Heights
St Paul	South St. Paul
St. Paul	Saint Paul

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

UPCOMING EVENT

Final Pig's Eye Dump Task Force meeting #14

Open to the public
Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2026
9-10:30 a.m.

The Pig's Eye Dump Task Force, led by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), includes several state agencies and local units of government. The task force coordinates efforts to remediate and restore the Pig's Eye Landfill Superfund site and address perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination of Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, and nearby groundwater.

January task force meeting

The fourteenth and final Pig's Eye Dump Task Force meeting is **Tuesday, Jan. 13, from 9-10:30 a.m.** Please note the meeting duration has been adjusted to reflect the shorter agenda**.** The final task force meeting will cover discussion and approval of the final report details on potential elements of a future feasibility study and next steps for the project after the final report is submitted. Here's the agenda for the meeting:

- 9 a.m. – welcome, introductions, agenda
- 9:05 a.m. – summarize task force comments
- 9:15 a.m. – task force discussion of report edits and final approval
- 9:25 a.m. – feasibility study
- 9:45 a.m. – public comment
- 10:05 a.m. – next steps and reflection
- 10:30 a.m. – adjourn

Please note that this meeting will take place in person at the MPCA's St. Paul office in the lower level conference room. A virtual option is available. The meeting is open to the public.

To receive updates on the task force's activities, sign up for the Pig's Eye Dump Task Force mailing list.

To learn more, visit the Pig's Eye Dump Task Force website.

Join meeting

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is a state agency committed to ensuring that every Minnesotan has healthy air, sustainable lands, clean water, and a better climate.

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MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Share your vision for Pig's Eye Dump by March 31

Historically the site of unregulated dumping of municipal, commercial, and industrial waste, Pig's Eye Dump in Saint Paul, MN has been slated for cleanup and restoration. Despite initial cleanup efforts in the early 2000s, significant environmental concerns — including contamination from PFAS, 1,4-dioxane, metals, and methane gas — remain at the site. Today, the land is also part of Pig's Eye Regional Park, a large and under-utilized public green space with a 500-acre lake, archery range, and abundant wildlife.

In 2022, the Minnesota Legislature established the Pig's Eye Dump Task Force, a multi-agency task force led by the MPCA, to develop a plan for cleaning up and restoring Pig's Eye Dump. Community engagement is an essential part of the task force's work to develop this plan, and today they would like to hear your vision for the site's future. This survey, open through March 31, explores potential future uses, from active use parkland to industrial use and the possible steps to make them a reality.

Help the task force understand your community's priorities as they develop the plan. Be sure to hit submit on the bottom of the form so your response gets recorded.

Take the survey

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is a state agency committed to ensuring that every Minnesotan has healthy air, sustainable lands, clean water, and a better climate.

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Social media examples





Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Agenda for Pigs Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #1

Monday, September 25, 2023
2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Lower Level - MPCA 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

1. Welcome and Introductions (2:30)

2. Overview and Scope of the Pigs Eye Task Force (2:40)

- Presenter – Hunter Vraa
- Task force's purpose and objectives
- Review the Task Force charter
- History of Pigs Eye Dump

3. Break (3:20)

4. Task Force Members Vision and Goals for the Task Force (3:30)

- Members will be invited to briefly share their vision high-level goals and desired outcomes the Pigs Eye Dump.
    - Are there any specific types of contamination that are of particular concern?
    - Are there any populations or areas that are of particular concern?
    - What would future use Pigs Eye Dump look like?

5. Open Floor for Public Questions and Comments (4:10)

6. Adjourn (4:30)

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Notes for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #1

Monday, September 25, 2023
2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Lower Level - MPCA 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

Members in Attendance

- Kirk Koudelka, MPCA
- Hunter Vraa, MPCA
- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Dan Scollan, DNR
- David Bell, MDH
- Sam Paske, Met Council
- Jimmy Francis, South St. Paul
- Bill Sumner, Newport
- Melanie McMahon, St. Paul
- Victoria Reinhardt, Ramsey County
- Dave Magnuson, Dakota County
- Stephanie Souter, Washington County
- Nathan Wallerstedt, Army Corp

Presenters

- Hunter Vraa, MPCA

1. Welcome and Introductions (2:30)

Kirk Koudelka opened the Pig's Eye Dump task force meeting and welcomed task force members and the public. He explained that this group was pulled together from a legislative session to make recommendations for remediation and restoration of Pig's Eye Dump. He went over the agenda which included a background on the dump site, initial conversations about what the future of the site should look like, and finally how the task force can involve local communities. Hunter Vraa introduced himself as the task force coordinator and handed it off for each member of the task force to introduced themselves.

Kirk is the Assistant Commissioner with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Jimmy Francis is the Mayor of the City of South Saint Paul. Melanie McMahon is from the City of Saint Paul and works in the Mayor's office. Nathan Wallerstedt is a Project Management Branch Chief with the Saint Paul district of the Army Corps of Engineers. Victoria Reinhardt is the Ramsey County Commissioner. Sam Paske is an Assistant General Manager with Met Council. Dave Magnuson is the Waste Regulation Supervisor from Dakota County. David Bell is an Environmental Research Scientist with the Minnesota Department of Health. Dan Scollan is from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and is an Ecologist in the Water Resources division. Stephanie Souter is a Senior Program Manager with Washington County Public Health. Bill Sumner is a City of Newport Council Member and former liaison to the R&E Center.

2. Overview and Scope of the Pig's Eye Task Force (2:40)

Presenter – Hunter Vraa
Task force's purpose and objectives
Review the Task Force charter
History of Pig's Eye Dump

Hunter provided an overview of the Pig's Eye Dump Task Force and went over the history and background of the site. The history of Pig's Eye Dump started in the 50's and was the largest unpermitted dump in Minnesota. It was over 200 acres, and over a period of 20 years a variety of waste including municipal, commercial, and industrial waste was disposed of at the site from different parties. There was another period of about 10 years where Met Council Environmental Services disposed of wastewater treatment incinerator ash which was placed on top of existing waste and was done under a permit issued by the MPCA. Following that, there was another 20 years of investigation and research on the site into the pollution and was placed on the state superfund site in 1989.

After early investigations concluded, there was a period of early clean up between 2000 and 2005. There was a focus on a variety of specific pollutants that were discharging into the creek, lake and groundwater. There was removal of 230 drums near Battle Creek and a fill barrier was installed to prevent compounds from leaching into the creek and lake. They then installed 2-foot soil cap, cleaned up lead contaminated soil, and conducted filling and grading of a few ponds.

Hunter pointed out on a diagram that the dump is underground and near water, so rainwater that moves through the waste pulls contaminants out and into the larger body of water. He then explained that these compounds accumulate in organisms and move through the food chain, resulting in human health risks. There was interaction between humans and the waste at the site as people recreated nearby.

Hunter went through a diagram of the site and pointed out Battle Creek, the previous ash disposal site, the dump itself, where the investigations took place, and the Met Council treatment facility next door. He pointed out there is a current ongoing project of building islands in Pig's Eye Lake.

He went over a brief background on the contaminants and explained that there will be a future meeting that will cover the contaminants in more detail where the engineers will be in attendance. Early on there was focus on VOCs, SVOCs, PCBs, and metals. Groundwater and surface water sampling had been discontinued based on decreasing trends. The new contaminants that are being focused on are PFAS and 1,4-dioxane. He pointed out that metals haven't stopped being a problem, but just stopped being the focus of the investigation. Metals, PFAS, landfill gas, and 1,4-dioxane are all of concern to human health.

Hunter then went into some specific challenges of the site. The dump is within the floodplain of the Mississippi River which floods about every two years. Battle Creek also flows through the central portion of the dump, discharges into lake, and then the Mississippi River. There are many different interests in and around Pig's Eye, including the City of Saint Paul regional park, the large wastewater treatment plant next door, the ongoing Army Corps and Ramsey County habitat restoration project, a heron rookery that the DNR manages, historic indigenous sites, and nearby railroad properties.

Hunter went over the MLCAT (Metropolitan Landfill Contingency Action Trust) which was a fund established in 1984. It started out with more landfills that accepted solid waste, but many moved into the Closed Landfill Program (CLP) in 1994. Pig's Eye was added into MLCAT in 2001 and there are currently seven sites in MLCAT. In 2000-2005 the site went through the cleanup he previously mentioned, which was funded by MLCAT and remediation funds. From 2006-2018, MLCAT funds were used to conduct a remedial investigation.

Hunter briefly went over what funding and remediation efforts are being conducted outside of the task force. He explained that other remediation efforts are working in parallel with the task force goals, but that the task force

will also be looking at restoration. He added that the engineering team will attend future meetings to explain in greater detail their remediation efforts thus far.

He noted that there is one outstanding agreement between the City of Saint Paul and the MPCA from 2007. There are more modern problems with the site that were not known when this agreement was written. Overall, it is not robust enough to deal with the current state of the Pig's Eye Dump.

Hunter went over the background of the task force. The task force was established to remediate and restore Pig's Eye Dump. The goal is the creation of an advisory report that is due February 15, 2026, that outlines suggested remediation and restoration of the site. Each of the 11 members represent varying interests in the site. The draft charter was presented to taskforce members, but Hunter noted that it won't need to be approved until the next meeting in 2 months. Hunter said that the task force will ideally want to prioritize restoration since there is a lot of remedial action currently happening.

Feedback

Kirk opened the floor for any follow up questions or thoughts on the presented information or the charter.

Victoria noted that she was at one of the first meetings when the task force was discussed. She shared frustration with past discussions never gaining traction, and appreciated learning more about the remedial efforts that were presented during this meeting. She talked about funding and the inability to identify a responsible party due to the long history of the site and the large cost. She suggested looking into other funding opportunities from the federal government and had a question about how much money was currently in the MLCAT, what has been borrowed, and what has been paid back. Kirk responded to her question by explaining a brief history of the money that has moved in and out of MLCAT and said he would provide a more detailed write-up to the task force. Victoria had an additional question on the cost estimates that were presented, and Hunter followed up by saying there would be a future meeting with more details on funding and remediation. Hans Neve, the manager for this project, shared that the mission is to develop a plan to remediate and restore, and the remediation work is currently ongoing. He explained that there are two paths the site could go down, which is to remove waste from the site partially or completely, or the other path is to leave the waste on site and reduce leachate. They are currently on the path of just dealing with the leachate, but that no path has been decided yet. Kirk added that different types of uses will have different types of clean up. As they decide what the future of the site looks like, that will determine what types of remediation is needed.

Jimmy had a question on the projected budget and what a certain allocation would be used for. Kirk answered and explained that this allocation can be used for staffing, having a consultant on board, and possible future studies or estimates on cleanup costs.

Kirk asked if there were any follow up questions on the charter. Victoria asked if her understanding that they will first look at remediation and then look into restoration in 2024 was correct and Hunter confirmed it was. Hunter then transitioned into going over the member's future visions for cleanup of the site.

3. Task Force Members Vision and Goals for the Task Force (3:30)

Each member went around to briefly share their vision, high-level goals, and desired outcomes of the Pig's Eye Dump.

Victoria stated that PFAS is one that is of particular concern to her. She noted that there is potential for funding from the federal government to address them and she would like to take advantage of that. She explained that the interests she is representing are Ramsey County, but also the clean water council, other environmental and climate change groups, and equitable climate resilience. Her biggest point was that she wants to focus on making the remediation and restoration happen and not just talk about it.

Nathan stated that he doesn't have an opinion on which contamination is worse. He pointed out that the Army Corps has an important mission in keeping commercial traffic going up and down the Mississippi River. He noted that one of the primary reasons he is on the task force is that the Army Corps is working with Ramsey County on the restoration project in Pig's Eye Lake. He explained that a lot of that project has been created with dredged material from the channel, so they are always looking for opportunities to put that material to beneficial use. So, depending on what types of restoration the task force wants to move towards, there may be an opportunity there. He also mentioned that besides navigation, the Army Corps does a lot of ecosystem restoration, specifically aquatic, so there may be some opportunities to align with those programs.

Melanie wanted to echo what the commissioner said. She emphasized that with the history of the site there is no one particular entity would be able to take care of this issue on their own. She is interested in looking at what other resources are available including state, federal, and private resources for remediation and restoration. She pointed out that when considering restoration, the parks in the system plan have a recreational use for the site.

Jimmy started off by pointing out that the City of South Saint Paul is down river from the site, and they receive water downstream. He is in support of restoring the site and acknowledged that it has been studied for a long time. He wants to push for action, and said it is imperative of the group to do so. He added that the city had managed the Port Crosby landfill before his time, but in his opinion, it was short sighted what they could have done with the site. He wants the task force to push themselves to look at pulling contaminants out of the site, even if it takes longer on multiple cycles of funding. His goal is to make it much better than when they received it. He thinks now is the time to take great action and maximize what can be done there. He added that everyone, including the city, has turned their back on the river for far too long. He ended by acknowledging that he used to grow up recreating near the site and spent a lot of time on the river, Pig's Eye Lake, and the nearby land so he personally wants to see the restoration and remediation finished in our time.

Kirk thinks a vision for the site's future beyond the cleanup would be useful to discuss. The MPCA hears a lot of examples of specific additions to the site, but more coordination will be helpful. He wants to see a unified vision of what is going to be there, which will help the remediation plan and move the project froward. He provided the St. Louis River area of concern as an example. They have several contaminated sites there, the remediation is done, and the vision is set by the community for what the restoration looks like. He would like to see everyone at the same table come together with the same vision at the completion of this effort.

Bill started out by sharing that Newport is a small city with a long river front that they share with South Saint Paul. They have very strong and similar interests and see the potential of the river to be developed. Newport is trying to actively improve the outlook of the city and increase access to the river for recreational opportunities. He shared that they recently purchased land to put in a river front park. He pointed out that they are down river and have contributed in a minor way to the waste, and everyone was taking the opportunity to dump at the site location. He added that the contamination is of a very serious nature and acknowledged that they may find more contamination and negative impacts in the future, and provided PFAS as an example. Newport residents want the site to be cleaned up and provided access to the site and the opportunity to use the river. He added that Newport is a small city, and they are limited in what they can contribute financially, so decisions are very impactful for the residents. After his first meeting with this group, he went to the Battle Creek site and interviewed people there and asked their potential vision. He heard an interest in picnic sites, bike trails, and pickleball courts. He also noted that the information he learned in the presentation has already expanded his understanding of what is feasible at the site.

Stephanie shared that she is broadly representing Washington County who are also downstream. She is interested in minimizing downstream impacts and considering the unintended consequences that could happen from any action that takes place at the site. She also wants to consider what is unknown about the site and what they will discover during remediation.

Dan shared that the DNR has considerable and varied interests in the efforts of the group to remediate and restore Pig's Eye Dump. He shared that he is a hydrologist and has worked on projects in public waters like Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, and the Mississippi River. He pointed out that this site is within a Mississippi River

corridor critical area, and there are several significant resources near the dump including the public waters, a heron rookery, and significant habitat for migratory birds. There are also threatened endangered species including Paddle fish, mussels in the river, and more. He will try to bring in the various divisions and sectors of the DNR to provide some robust input to the group and consideration, for managing fish wildlife, nongame, game, endangered species, floodplains, and the critical corridor area.

David Bell echoed a lot of what was already said by task force members. He noticed a theme of action, recreational use, and unintended consequences the work. He pointed out that the health department focuses on protecting drinking water and he would like to see continued monitoring of the site to make sure drinking water is protected and safe for the nearby communities. He would also like to get community input in this as well and see visions from those who live nearby. The health department is concerned about all contaminants and understands focusing on the newer ones. He would like to see the focus be on supporting the community and their vision so that the space can be used recreationally as well. He noted that he will be pulling in MDH experts as needed.

Dave Magnuson shared that Dakota County is concerned about the health of MLCAT. They have multiple landfills in the MLCAT and are worried all the money will be spent on the Pig's Eye Dump project. They are supportive of high-end use but want to be reasonable, which would be looking at containment of the waste on site and reducing leachate and gas generation. He pointed out that if they are looking at moving waste and planting trees the cost could greatly increase. Dakota County is concerned about cost, they want to be practical. He doesn't want to come up with a concept that could lead to high costs, which could be possible with the size and amount of waste on site.

Sam from the Met Council wanted to reiterate a lot of the voices around the table. Met Council is interested and has a stake in the stewardship of the environment in and around that site. The wastewater plant owned by the Met Council is there to protect the environment and is aligned with the mission of the environment. The heavy infrastructure is also worth billions of dollars and might need expansion to serve Minnesotans. He pointed out that the plant serves over half the Minnesotans with water currently. The other role of Met Council is within the regional park system, where they are the approver of regional park plans. So, they are very supportive and looking forward to partnering. He also added that they are looking at a name change of the plant, since it is no longer a disposal system. They are looking at changing the name to the Water Resource Reclamation Facility.

After each member shared their thoughts, Hunter moved on to talk about restoration and asked each member's thoughts on their restoration vision.

Victoria sees the future as a recreational and natural area. She thinks trying to build on the site would be problematic due to the floodplain and other issues. She also shared that Ramsey County is looking at river front property. She added that historically things you would not want were placed on the river including the jail and the morgue. Now there is more activity and development, and you can have more of the economic drivers near the river. She added that this area could be used more for natural habitat. She acknowledged the difficulty with growing trees there but wants to investigate other options to provide people with the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors.

Sam acknowledged that there is a practical aspect to consider. It is currently a heavy industry area with railroads, and the safety of the public around there needs to be considered. He pointed out that anything in that area will be affected by flooding. He also added that the floodwall is one of Met Council's most critical assets, and they are reminded by their insurance company of that. They are protective of the floodwall so that the facility can continue to function and remain out of the water.

Dave Magnuson would refer to Ramsey and Saint Paul for the best end use of the site. He added that typically landfill covers are mowed to prevent trees from growing so it needs to be a use that works for that. He then asked Hans if there are other management that work better. Hans added that one of the things the MPCA looks at for closed landfills is reuse opportunities. They are limited but include options like pollinator habitat and solar.

David Bell said he has no grand vision for the site and wants to be present for support. He understands that turning it into a recreational area will take creativity but noted that they are all there together to figure that out. He reiterated that he wants to make sure there are no physical safety hazards for visitors and for those doing the remediation work.

Dan shared that the DNR is looking at consistency with flood management standards and Mississippi River corridor critical area standards for the future of the site.

Stephanie shared that Washington County would refer to Ramsey County and Saint Paul where the site jurisdictions are. She wants to be realistic about access to the site with the railroad there and any plans for the water plant expansion. She shared that it seemed like access would be a challenge and is unsure about how access is from the water as well. She would defer to others about what kinds of recreation is currently happening. She overall wants to be realistic about access and investment.

Bill wants to consider any type of recreational activities that could withstand flooding. He acknowledged that access is difficult currently and there are a lot of hazards. He also wants to consider any reclamation and the impact that would have on the waters. He shared that fishing might be currently restricted, but maybe that could be opened to catch and release and has potential to be expanded at this site in the future.

Kirk reiterated that solar is something that could be considered for this site. He also mentioned that this site is used for wood waste and is a processing area that could need to be expanded due to needs. He said this is just another consideration in addition to what can be done recreationally.

Jimmy Francis shared that it is key to consider Met Council's desire for facility expansion and this could be instrumental to the future of our state. He shared that South Saint Paul also has a capped landfill, and he is still pushing to include faux white pine trees for habitat for bald eagles and for fisherman for visual landmarks. He said this could be a consideration for this site as well.

Melanie shared that when looking at future uses, the group needs to be in alignment with whatever system plans exist within the park system and consider zoning and regulatory rules in the area. She added that in terms of recreation, it is important to keep in mind cost, use, and completion of the work. She wants to put together a recommendation that is actionable and can move forward, as well as identify what state, federal, and private resources are out there. She also wants to consider ownership of the adjacent land and practicality of use. She wants to incorporate public expectations and thinks the task force can do a good job of explaining and identifying those, as well as communicate what next steps will happen at the site.

Nathan didn't have any specific restoration goals but wanted to consider practicality. The site has a lot of constraints, and he wants to be realistic with growing costs so it can be achieved. He added that because they have done work in that area recently, he is happy to share any information on what they found or have been through at the site.

Hunter then talked about public engagement and asked the task force what ideas they have to engage members of the public.

Jimmy shared that a good outreach technique is public access television. He thinks they should invest in each county's public access channels to put out a 30 min video or Q/A about the project. Hunter followed up and shared that they are working on a video with drone surveys. Jimmy added that there is an opportunity for people to call in and ask questions to a panel or share ideas and their vision for the site.

Victoria said she would like to make sure this information is shared on the website with a fact sheet people can learn about the project. Hunter shared that there is a project website in the process where they are going to post all materials. Victoria added that task force members can share a link to the website on their own social media accounts. Hunter added it is useful to share the gov delivery link as well.

Kirk added that it would be helpful to hear from the task force if there are any local groups or neighborhood groups they could reach out to and how to best interact with them. If there are any opportunities to go where these groups are already meeting. He added that they are also looking to hear what has gone well that you have already done? It is helpful to have back and forth with these groups.

Melanie shared that the City of Saint Paul has a district council system with elected representatives from each neighborhood. She thinks a lot of them would be very interested and are welcoming to meeting with others and could be a great resource.

Hunter asked if the task force would be interested in a site visit and task force members nodded their head yes. Hunter then transitioned into a public comment period.

4. Open Floor for Public Questions and Comments (4:10)

Hunter transitioned the discission and opened the floor for public comment.

Tom Dimonds is a lifelong resident of Saint Paul and has been very involved with Pig's Eye and many of the parks along the river. He shared background on his past which included work at the legislature and provided examples of past issues relating to river health. He suggested working with the group, Friends of Pig's Eye Park.
He shared concerns about contaminants in the water and aquifer, and would like to see the dump cleaned up, material removed, and the site restored. He is also concerned with the negative impacts the contaminants have on human health and wildlife in the area. Tom provided an example of previous clean up done at a national park and in other cities. He finished by emphasizing that he would like to see change implemented for the benefit of future generations.

Kiki Sonnen shared her history with Pig's Eye Lake as a member of the public who pushed back against development there. She emphasized the importance of protecting natural resources in the park. She shared information on a grant that would provide more access and signage for people to recreate near the site. Kiki would like to see the site returned to the people and park system.

Bob Johnson is an amateur historian for the City of Maplewood and shared information on the history of the site. He would like to see the future use incorporate the site's early history of land use and its residents that is not currently well known.

Eric Sanderson is a private citizen from Minneapolis and has worked for Kandiyohi County Landfill. He shared his experience with landfills and knowledge of how water flows through sites and affects groundwater. He advocated for action beyond just restoration, and shared concerns about the pollutants' effect on human and environmental health.

Hunter asked if anyone else had any contributions and then asked if the task force had any responses. There were no further questions or responses.

5. Adjourn (4:30)

Kirk and Hunter closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending. Hunter shared that once the website is up, there will be an opportunity to submit emails and ask questions.

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #1

Hunter Vraa | Pigs Eye Task Force Coordinator

September 25th, 2023

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force – Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and Introductions

Each member please say :

- Name
- Title
- Organization



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force – History of Site and Background on Task Force

History of Pigs Eye Dump

Between 1956 to 1972

- Operated as a unpermitted dump - largest in Minnesota – over 200 acres of filled area
- Accepted over 8 million cubic yards of municipal, commercial, and industrial waste

Between 1977 to 1985

- MCES disposed of 31 acres if wastewater treatment incinerator ash on 31 acres
- Waste was placed on top of existing waste under MPCA permit SW-189

Between early 1970s to 1989 – Investigation and research

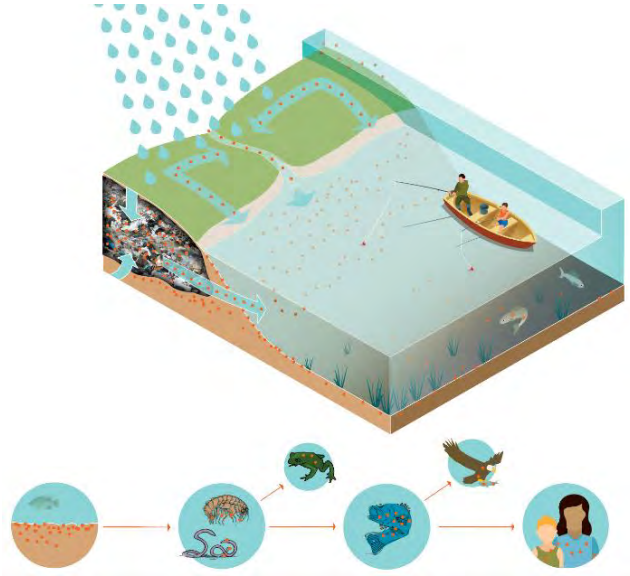
- Investigations were conducted into exposed drums, landfill leachate, and leachate movement underground
- Was placed on the State Superfund List in 1989



History of Pigs Eye Dump

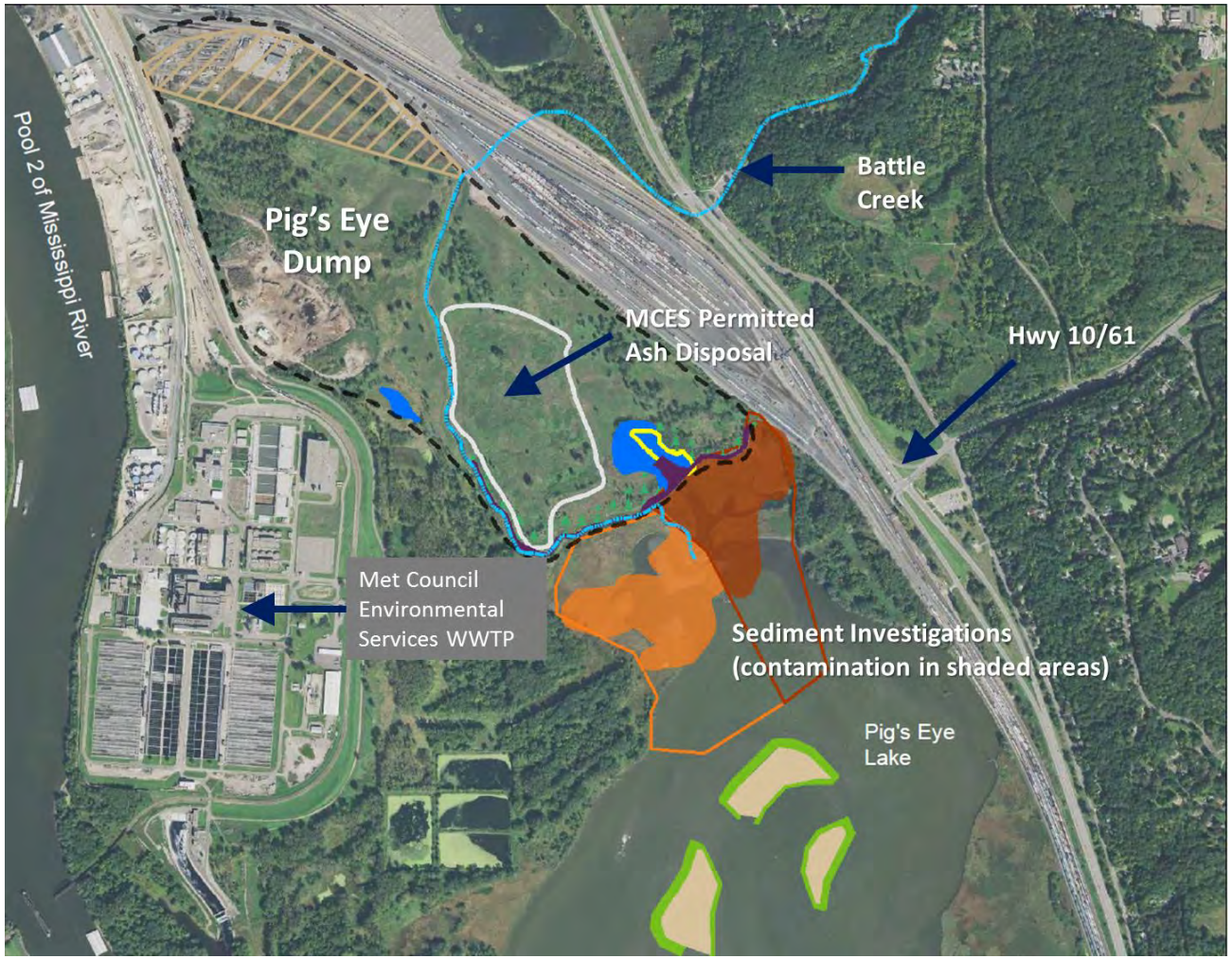
Between 2000 to 2005

- Metals, VOC, SVOC and PCB in the landfill leachate being discharged to Battle Creek, Pigs Eye Lake and groundwater. Also visible drums containing hazardous waste that was leaching into Battle Creek.
- Removal of drums of hazardous waste – 230 drums near Battle Creek
- Waste pullback and installation of engineered fill barrier in a section of waste/water interface along Battle Creek to adsorb contaminants
- Installation of 2 feet soil cap on waste footprint
- Cleanup of lead contaminated surface soil
- Filling and grading of ponds





Delineation of Pig's Eye Historical Events and Geography



Investigations at Pig's Eye – A Changing Story

- Early on VOCs, SVOCs, PCBs, and metals were the focus of investigations
  - Groundwater and Surface Water sampling has been discontinued based on decreasing trends below Surface Water quality criteria
- First cleanup was completed before the extent of sediment contamination was determined and before PFAS and 1,4-dioxane were sampled at the dump
  - Monitoring for PFAS begin in 2009
  - 1,4 dioxane was first sampled for in 2021



Investigations at Pig's Eye – A Changing Story

- Metals
  - SVOCs and metals (cadmium, copper, lead, and zinc) were detected above SQTs
  - Human-health related Sediment Screening Values (SSVs) were exceeded for cadmium
- PFAS
  - PFAS concentrations in well, creek, and lake water detected above MPCA surface water criteria.
- Landfill Gas
  - Methane is of special concern due to its potency as a greenhouse gas.
- 1,4-dioxane
  - 1,4-dioxane Groundwater concentrations detected above the MDH Health Risk Limit (HRL).

Pig’s Eye Dump - Challenges

- The Dump is located within the floodplain of the Mississippi River.
  - Major flooding is estimated to occur every two years in the wetland adjacent to the site
- Battle Creek flows through the central portion of the dump.
  - Discharges into Pig’s Eye Lake after running through the site.
- The Mississippi River is located approximately 800 feet west of the site.
  - Connected to Pool 2 of the Mississippi River

Varied Interests In and Around Pig's Eye

- City of St Paul – Pig's Eye Regional Park
- MCES – Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant
- US Army Corps of Engineers and Ramsey County Habitat Restoration Project
- Department of Natural Resources – Pig's Eye Island Heron Rookery Scientific and Natural Area
- Dakota homeland and sacred sites
- Railroad Properties



Pig's Eye Dump - MLCAT

- Metropolitan Landfill Contingency Action Trust (MLCAT) established in 1984
- Long-term care for certain metro closed landfills that accepted mixed municipal solid waste
  - Many of the MLCAT eligible landfills moved into CLP with its creation in 1994
- Pig's Eye Added in 2001 due to a language change to Minn. Stat. § 473.845.subd. 3.



Pig's Eye Dump – MLCAT – Past Work

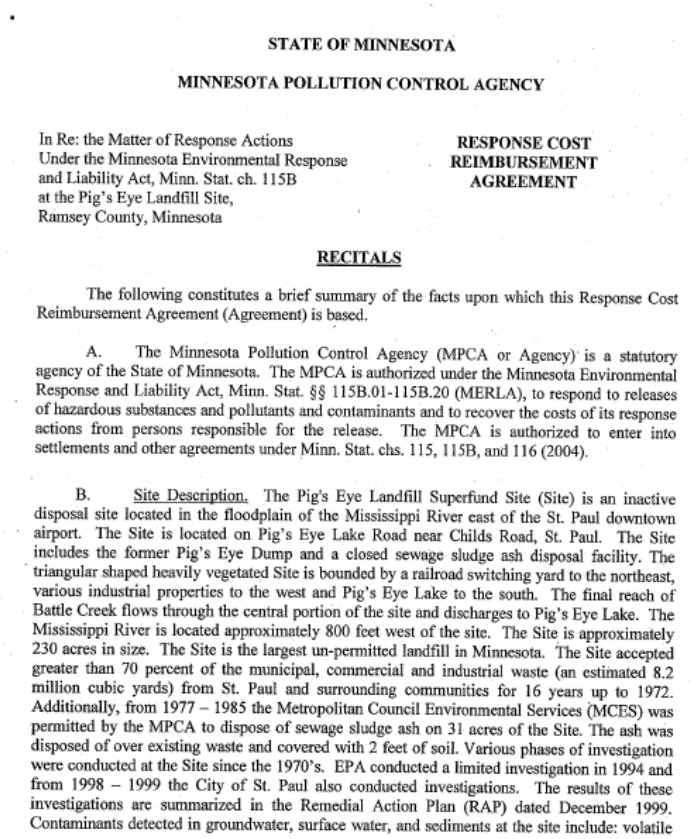
- **2000 - 2005 Cleanup**
  - MLCAT and Remediation funds spent removing drums of hazardous waste, cleanup soils in battery disposal area, filling low areas, placing 2 ft soil cover, installation of select fill along the southern reach of Battle Creek / north shore of Pig's Eye Lake, and bank stabilization/revegetation.
- **2006 - 2018 Investigations**
  - MLCAT funds spent to conduct a Remedial Investigation of soil, groundwater, surface water, and sediment, treatability studies to enhance select fill remedy for longevity/performance, and a Feasibility Study.

Pig's Eye Dump – MLCAT – Future Work

- **FY22-FY23 (Approximately $500k)**
  - Additional monitoring to fill data gaps, better understand water level changes, water interactions, and upgradient impacts
  - Update site models and evaluations to support best approach and remedy for long-term effectiveness
- **FY23-FY24 (Approximately $500k)**
  - Focused Feasibility Study to evaluate feasible remedial options
    - Potential options include: barriers, rerouting of creek, lining of creek, sediment dredging. Other options may be added to this list based on risks identified in risk evaluations.
  - Update Remedial Action Plan based on selected remedy
  - Remedial design
- **FY25 and beyond (Approximately $10M*)**
  - Procurement and implementation of remedial action
  - Long term monitoring

2007 MPCA City of St. Paul Agreement

- 2007 Agreement between St. Paul and MPCA
  - Based on 2006 maintenance and monitoring plan.
  - Largely out of date for current site concerns.
- Written before PFAS and 1,4-dioxane was discovered or understood at Pig's Eye Dump.



STATE OF MINNESOTA

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

In Re: the Matter of Response Actions
Under the Minnesota Environmental Response
and Liability Act, Minn. Stat. ch. 115B
at the Pig's Eye Landfill Site,
Ramsey County, Minnesota

RESPONSE COST REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT

RECITALS

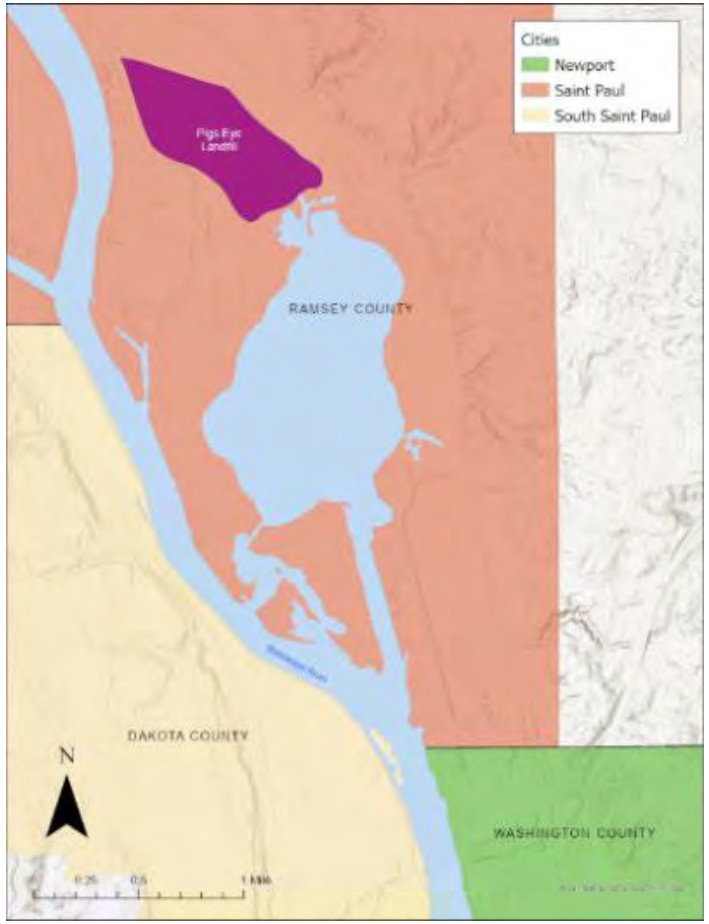
The following constitutes a brief summary of the facts upon which this Response Cost Reimbursement Agreement (Agreement) is based.

A. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA or Agency) is a statutory agency of the State of Minnesota. The MPCA is authorized under the Minnesota Environmental Response and Liability Act, Minn. Stat. §§ 115B.01-115B.20 (MERLA), to respond to releases of hazardous substances and pollutants and contaminants and to recover the costs of its response actions from persons responsible for the release. The MPCA is authorized to enter into settlements and other agreements under Minn. Stat. chs. 115, 115B, and 116 (2004).

B. Site Description. The Pig's Eye Landfill Superfund Site (Site) is an inactive disposal site located in the floodplain of the Mississippi River east of the St. Paul downtown airport. The Site is located on Pig's Eye Lake Road near Childs Road, St. Paul. The Site includes the former Pig's Eye Dump and a closed sewage sludge ash disposal facility. The triangular shaped heavily vegetated Site is bounded by a railroad switching yard to the northeast, various industrial properties to the west and Pig's Eye Lake to the south. The final reach of Battle Creek flows through the central portion of the site and discharges to Pig's Eye Lake. The Mississippi River is located approximately 800 feet west of the site. The Site is approximately 230 acres in size. The Site is the largest un-permitted landfill in Minnesota. The Site accepted greater than 70 percent of the municipal, commercial and industrial waste (an estimated 8.2 million cubic yards) from St. Paul and surrounding communities for 16 years up to 1972. Additionally, from 1977 – 1985 the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) was permitted by the MPCA to dispose of sewage sludge ash on 31 acres of the Site. The ash was disposed of over existing waste and covered with 2 feet of soil. Various phases of investigation were conducted at the Site since the 1970's. EPA conducted a limited investigation in 1994 and from 1998 – 1999 the City of St. Paul also conducted investigations. The results of these investigations are summarized in the Remedial Action Plan (RAP) dated December 1999. Contaminants detected in groundwater, surface water, and sediments at the site include: volatile

Pig's Eye Task Force - Background

- Established by Minnesota Legislature to coordinate efforts to remediate and restore Pig's Eye Dump.
- Goal is the creation of an advisory report due February 15, 2026 that outlines suggested remediation and restoration plan(s).
- Each of the eleven members represent the varying interests in the site
  - Three counties – Dakota, Ramsey, Washington
  - Three cities – St Paul, South St Paul, Newport
  - Five government organizations – MPCA, DNR, MDH, Met. Council, Army Corps



Pig’s Eye Task Force – Draft Charter

- Provides more detail on task force objectives
  - Lack of clarity in legislation
- Proposed 13 scheduled meetings
  - Each has individual topics, presentations, and action items
  - Timeline prioritizes restoration



May 2023

Pig’s Eye Dump Task Force
Draft Charter
May 2023

Mission

The Pig's Eye Dump Task Force is charged with creation of an advisory plan that outlines contamination history and delineation, the risks of the contamination, and details the various remediation and restoration options that can be taken at the Pig's Eye Dump Superfund site. Special attention will be paid in the report to address perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination of Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, and nearby groundwater.

The Legislative charge that led to the creation of this task force is as follows:
Legal citation: MN Laws 2022, ch. 94, Sec. 2, subd. 10j
Appropriation language: $800,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency to establish a Pig's Eye Landfill Task Force to coordinate efforts to remediate and restore the Pig's Eye Landfill Superfund site and address perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination of Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, and nearby groundwater. The task force must be made up of at least the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency, the commissioner of natural resources, the commissioner of health, a representative from the Metropolitan Council, a representative from the city of St. Paul, a representative from the city of South St. Paul, a representative from the city of Newport, a representative from Ramsey County, a representative from Dakota County, a representative from Washington County, and representatives from relevant federal agencies. The task force is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059, subdivision 6. The task force must submit an annual report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the environment and natural resources on the status of the task force's work. The final report is due February 15, 2026. The task force expires June 30, 2026. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2026.

Timeframe and Reporting

Task force meetings will take place every other month beginning in September 2023 with the task force expiring on June 30, 2026. A target date of November 2025 will be set for the last planned meeting of the Task Force to allow 2 months to finish the final advisory report due on February 15th, 2026.

Pig’s Eye Dump Task Force 1

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force – Task Force Members Vision and Goals for the Task Force

Task Force Members Vision and Goals for the Task Force

What is the members cleanup visions?

- Are there specific types of contamination that are of particular concern?
- Are there populations or areas that are of particular concern?
- What remediation strategies would you like to see implemented?
- How would a remediated Pigs Eye affect the interests you are representing?

Task Force Members Vision and Goals for the Task Force

What is the members restoration visions?

- What are your visions for the potential uses of Pig's Eye?
- What would restored Pigs Eye Dump look like?
- How would a restored Pigs Eye affect the interests you are representing?

Task Force Members Vision and Goals for the Task Force

What is the members visions for public engagement?

- What avenues of distribution or engagement would you like to see?
- What groups do we need to make sure we engage?
- Are there any novel ideas for public engagement? (Day at Pig's Eye, etc.)

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force – Open Floor for Public Comment

Thank you!

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Agenda for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #2

Friday, January 12, 2023
9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Lower Level - MPCA 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

1. **Welcome and introductions (9:30 a.m.)**
2. **Site visit re-cap (9:35 a.m.)**
3. **Presentation and discussion of roadmaps and timeline (9:40 a.m.)**
4. **Presentation on contamination and remediation (10:00 a.m.)**
5. **Discussion on contamination and remediation (10:30 a.m.)**
6. **Public comment (10:50 a.m.)**
7. **Adjourn (11:00 a.m.)**

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Notes for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #2

Friday, January 12, 2023
9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Lower Level - MPCA 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

Members in Attendance

- Dan Scollan, Water Resources Ecologist, Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- David Bell, Environmental Research Scientist, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)
- 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)

Other Contributors

- Hunter Vraa, MPCA
- Cliff Shierk, MPCA
- Narayanan Raghupathi, WSP
- Emma Driver, WSP
- Liz Wiggen, Zan Associates
- Kara Van Lerberghe, Zan Associates

Presenters

- Hunter Vraa, MPCA
- Narayanan Raghupathi, WSP

1. Welcome and Introductions

Hunter Vraa (MPCA) kicked off the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. He introduced himself as the Pig's Eye Task Force Coordinator and passed it off to the guests for introductions. Narayanan Raghupathi (WSP) and Emma Driver (WSP) are providing technical support to the MPCA on the Pig's Eye Dump site. Cliff Shierk (MPCA) is the supervisor of Closed Landfill Unit 2. Liz Wiggen and Kara Van Lerberghe are from Zan Associates and are working on communications and meeting facilitation for the task force. The task force members then introduced themselves by stating their name, title, and their organization.

Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) welcomed and thanked everyone for attending. He prefaced that the task force will be learning details about the site and building a strong foundation to move forward during the meeting. In the following meeting, the task force will start to look at remedial and restoration options for the site. Kirk said he is looking forward to the potential of the site and is excited to work with the task force.

2. Site Visit Recap

Hunter Vraa (MPCA) gave the background on the site visit to Pig's Eye Dump. He opened it up to the task force to provide any thoughts or comments on the site visit. David Bell (MDH) said it was his first time being at the site and noted that getting to the site is challenging and it is a nice area to walk around but can tell it needs some work. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) said that as a landfill inspector, he noticed a lot of areas of the site that need work and can clearly see what needs to be remediated. It helped him to see the location and understand how difficult it is to access. He also noted that the site is in an industrial area and was concerned to see Battle Creek running through the dump site and emphasized that a lot of work needs to be done. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) pointed out that the wood waste site was eye-opening to see in person and that it is also a beautiful natural area. He shared that the wood waste site is an important resource for the entire Metro wood waste disposal system. Bill Sumner (City of Newport) said he visited in the summer and that it was helpful to see how to get to the site and how the water runs through it. He is thankful to be working with the group on the future of this site.

3. Presentation of Timeline

Hunter Vraa (MPCA) gave a background on the East Side River District Convening, went over who attended the convening, and shared that the MPCA presented an overview of the work at Pig's Eye Dump and provided task force updates. He noted that there are currently master's degree students who are working on future use designs of the site. He said there is a lot of interest in doing a similar meeting with the public and the task force to share ideas.

Hunter went over upcoming deadlines for the final report, which the remediation and restoration plans will be a part of. He went over the timeline of the task force and pointed out that they are still in the background and foundation stage. During this meeting, the task force will be moving into the remediation strategy workshopping phase with WSP. Once the remediation strategy is finalized, the task force will discuss restoration and the future use of the park, and then funding in the final phase.

Hunter pointed out that the strategy that the task force comes up with will be a part of the final remediation plan. A task force member asked about the timing of the plan and Hunter clarified that that will be highlighted in WSP's presentation later in the meeting. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) noted that it will be helpful for the task force to have a clear vision of the site for when clean-up is conducted and will help guide that process.

4. Presentation on Contamination and Remediation

Narayanan Raghupathi (WSP) went over his background working on the Pig's Eye Dump project. He shared that they will go over site history, types of contaminants, regulatory framework, what remedial investigation has been done so far, and then discuss the Superfund process and timeline. He started by going over the site history and discussed what types of contaminants are found at the site, where they come from, and their effects on the environment and human health. Narayanan showed where they are in the Superfund process and what comes after the remedial investigation phase.

One member of the public shared concerns about the site, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), and health effects from the site. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) responded and said he would address MPCA's approach to PFAS after the meeting and highlighted that there would be time for public comment at the end of the meeting.

Narayanan continued the presentation and highlighted the complexities of the site including the contaminants, nearby sources, and the composition of the site. He shared information on what remedial actions have been conducted on the site so far, what data has been found, and what kinds of challenges there are with the remediation process.

5. Discussion on Contamination and Remediation

Liz Wiggen (Zan) kicked off the discussion portion of the meeting with a few questions for the task force to think about. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) asked about when parts of the feasibility study would be completed and the overall timeline. Narayanan Raghupathi (WSP) responded that the plan would be to have these parts of the study wrapped up in the next year or so and there will be data for the task force to look at.

Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) emphasized that this is a large issue, appreciated the detail in the presentation, and is hopeful that they will be able to address the issue together. She wants to make sure they stay on track and don't get discouraged from making progress depending on the problem or amount of information available. She pointed out that there is national attention following the site and their decisions of how to manage the site will make a difference.

Sam Paske (Metropolitan Council) shared some background on the wastewater treatment plant near the site and pointed out that they have concerns with the interaction of groundwater at Pig's Eye Dump. Narayanan expanded and emphasized the importance of understanding water flow at the site.

Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) clarified why some of the sampling that was previously conducted for certain contaminants was stopped due to current remediation activities. Narayanan said as they discuss remedial strategy, they may find that some of the previous sampling may need to be continued again for these contaminants depending on the data. Dave asked if the current data they have was enough to make decisions and Narayanan said they will be exploring if additional data is needed as more information is gathered. Kirk pointed out that some of the remedial action that has already been conducted was done to address these specific contaminants.

Dan Scollan (DNR) asked for details on how much sampling has been done on the nearby Fish Hatchery and what their understanding is of Fish Hatchery being a contaminant source. Narayanan said they are currently discussing the relationship between Fish Hatchery and Pig's Eye Dump with the MPCA, and it is a work in progress.

Melanie McMahon (City of St. Paul) asked for details on how they decide when to stop sampling for certain contaminants or when to start sampling for new contaminants. Narayanan explained that certain contaminants were dropped because they were meeting standards at the time sampling was stopped. He said this is something they could investigate in more detail in future meetings.

Caleb Johnson (Washington County) pointed out that there is a large private rail yard near the site and wondered what gap that causes in the data. Narayanan agreed that it is a challenge for the site and is something

they will work through as they collect data. Caleb asked a follow-up question on the geology of the site and Narayanan shared what data they have collected so far and how that relates to the geology of the site.

Bill Sumner (City of Newport) asked a clarifying question on PFAS contaminants, and if this site is one of the highest contamination sites in the country. Narayanan was unsure how it ranks nationally but said Minnesota is at the forefront of addressing PFAS.

Nathan Wallerstedt (Army Corps of Engineers) thanked WSP for the presentation and shared that it helped him get a better understanding of the site and what kinds of remediation efforts are feasible.

Jimmy Francis (City of South St. Paul) shared that he is wondering about the history of the site and what was there before the Fish Hatchery. Narayanan agreed that there are a lot of unknowns about the full history of the site but that this information is important to understand and see how it all fits together.

6. Discussion on Scheduling

Hunter Vraa (MPCA) briefly shared that there are discussions about scheduling task force meetings and public access to the meetings.

7. Public Comment

Liz Wiggen (Zan) kicked off the public comment portion of the meeting and went over guidelines for sharing comments.

One participant is a former city council member of St. Paul and shared that he appreciated comments from Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) on addressing the site. He shared concerns about the pollution at the site and how it affects human health and wildlife. He emphasized that he would like to see the site cleaned up and restored as a natural area.

One participant from the Wakan Tipi Awanyankapi non-profit organization in St. Paul and shared that their organization stewards a site upriver of Pig's Eye Dump. She would like more information on how Tribal Nations are being involved in the management of this site. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) responded sharing that the MPCA has more work to do on incorporating Tribal Nations on this type of work.

One participant shared that she lives near the site and frequently walks with the group Pig's Eye Park Friends. She would like to hear more information on the railroad contamination near the site and had concerns about some of the previous contamination and wood and construction waste. She would also like to get more information on the wildlife at the site and would like to see that be taken into consideration. Kathy shared that she would like to see the site restored and more easily accessed.

One participant from Urban Roots and wants more information on whether there is any signage about the current pollution and has concerns about public health and exposure.

Kirk said they can have more conversations with the Department of Health in terms of exposure and will follow up on them. He also asked that people share any information they have on restoration plans which will be helpful as they move forward. He also addressed the concern about railroad stormwater collection and would share more information after the meeting.

One participant shared his concerns that the contamination has on human health. He shared information with the task force on previous contamination. He ended by emphasizing concerns about PFAS throughout the entire state, beyond this project.

Kirk shared information on what the MPCA has been doing to address and manage PFAS across Minnesota. He highlighted some of the challenges that were brought up during the meeting and discussed some of the ways they currently know how to remove PFAS. He shared information on what research is being done to continue removing PFAS from our systems and finding ways to destroy them. He ended by going over what rulemaking is currently happening to address additional PFAS pollution.

Victoria emphasized the importance of paying attention to what is happening right now with managing these types of projects.

8. Adjourn

Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) adjourned the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. He wants to discuss how to promote more public participation in future meetings and looks forward to the next meeting and discussing solutions.

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #2

Hunter Vraa | Pigs Eye Task Force Coordinator

January 12, 2024

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force – Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and Introductions

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



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Site Visit Re-Cap

Site Visit Re-Cap







East Side River District Convening Re-Cap

EAST SIDE RIVER DISTRICT
2023 CONVENING

December 14, 2023

AGENDA:

9:30 - 11:00am: 10-minute updates from each presenter + brief question period

11:00 - 11:30am: Networking and Discussion

GOAL OF THE CONVENING:

To share updates, discuss implementation strategy, challenges and opportunities, all to be aware of and support one another's work and identify potential partnerships

2023 PRESENTERS:

Army Corps of Engineers
City of Saint Paul
Great River Passage Conservancy
MPCA Pig's Eye Task Force
Pig's Eye Park Friends
University of Minnesota
Urban Roots
Wakan Tipi Awanyankapi

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Presentation of Timeline

Scope/Deliverables

- Prepare and submit final report to the legislature
  - Due February 15, 2026.
- Develop recommendation for a remediation plan(s).
  - Will be included in final report.
- Develop recommendation for a restoration plan(s).
  - Will be included in final report.
- Submit annual reports to the members of the legislature detailing updates to the Task Force's Progress.
  - Due annually in March.



Overall Timeline

Dates	Content	Details
September 2023 – November 2023	Background and Foundation of Task Force	Process will be conducted using presentations from the MPCA on the background and foundation.
January 2024 – July 2024	Remediation Strategy Workshopping	Process will be conducted using WSP to present broad remediation strategies and refining each iteration with input from the Task Force and the MPCA.
September 2024 – July 2025	Restoration Plan Workshopping	Process will be conducted using ABT to present specific restoration plans and refining each iteration with input from the Task Force.
July 2025 – November 2025	Funding Plan Workshopping	Process will be conducted using the MPCA to present funding options and refining and adding to it with input from the Task Force.

Remediation Strategy vs Plan

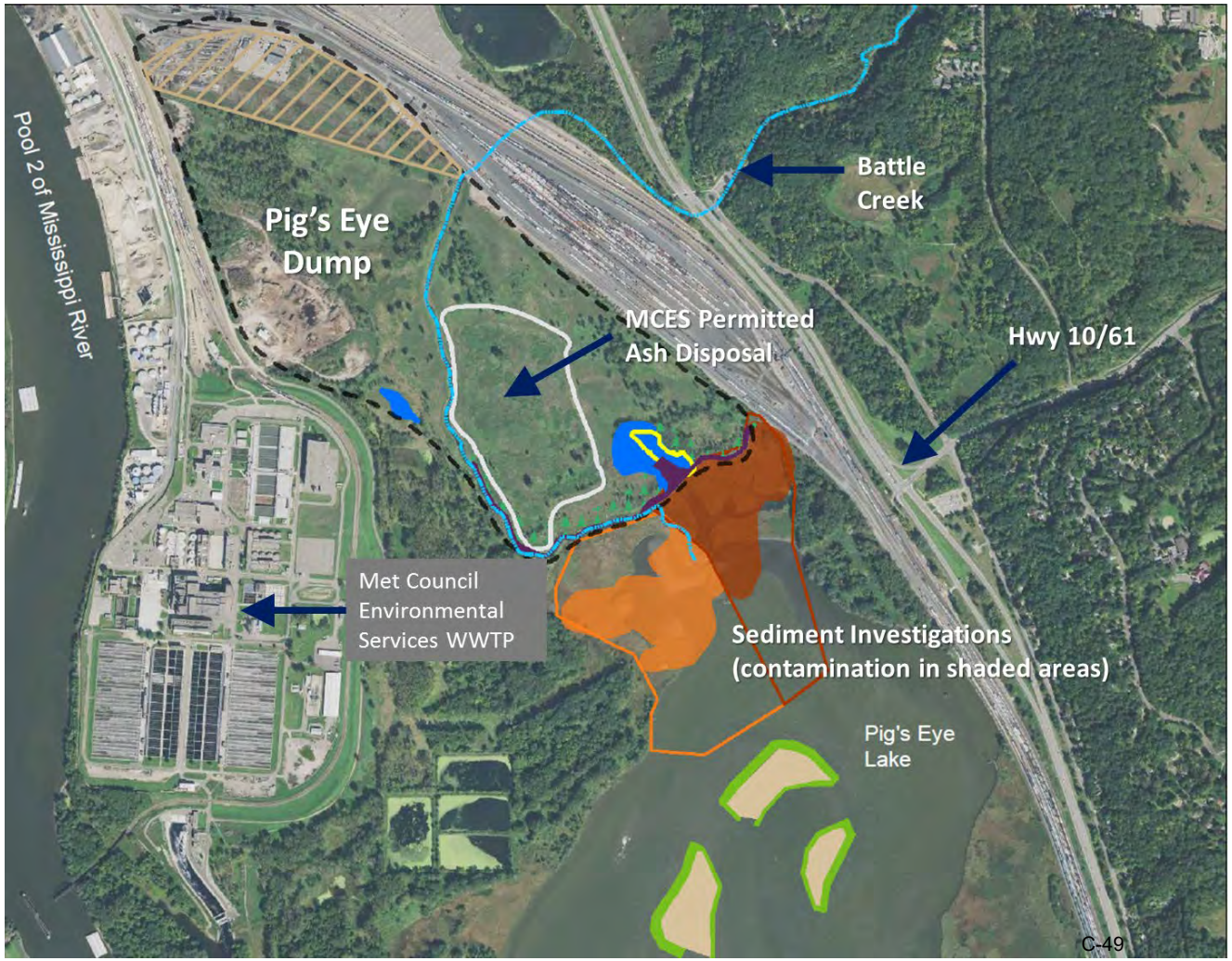
- The Task Force's recommended remediation strategy will be one of many elements that is used to make the remediation plan by the MPCA.
- The MPCA will use the remediation strategy to guide the final remediation plan.
- The final remediation plan must account for many variables, particularly funding and the Superfund process.



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force
Remedial Investigation Background & Update

Agenda


Pool 2 of Mississippi River
Pig's Eye Dump
Battle Creek
MCES Permitted Ash Disposal
Hwy 10/61
Met Council Environmental Services WWTP
Sediment Investigations (contamination in shaded areas)
Pig's Eye Lake

Pig's Eye – A Changing Story

- Early on VOCs, SVOCs, PCBs, and metals were the focus of investigations
  - Groundwater and Surface Water sampling has been discontinued based on decreasing trends below Surface Water quality criteria
- First cleanup was completed before the extent of sediment contamination was determined and before PFAS and 1,4-dioxane were sampled at the dump
  - Monitoring for PFAS begin in 2009
  - 1,4 dioxane was first sampled for in 2021



Pig's Eye – A Changing Story

- Metals
  - SVOCs and metals (cadmium, copper, lead, and zinc) were detected above SQTs
  - Human-health related Sediment Screening Values (SSVs) were exceeded for cadmium
- PFAS
  - PFAS concentrations in well, creek, and lake water detected above MPCA surface water criteria.
- Landfill Gas
  - Methane is of special concern due to its potency as a greenhouse gas.
- 1,4-dioxane
  - 1,4-dioxane Groundwater concentrations detected above the MDH Health Risk Limit (HRL).

Per-and polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) – Background





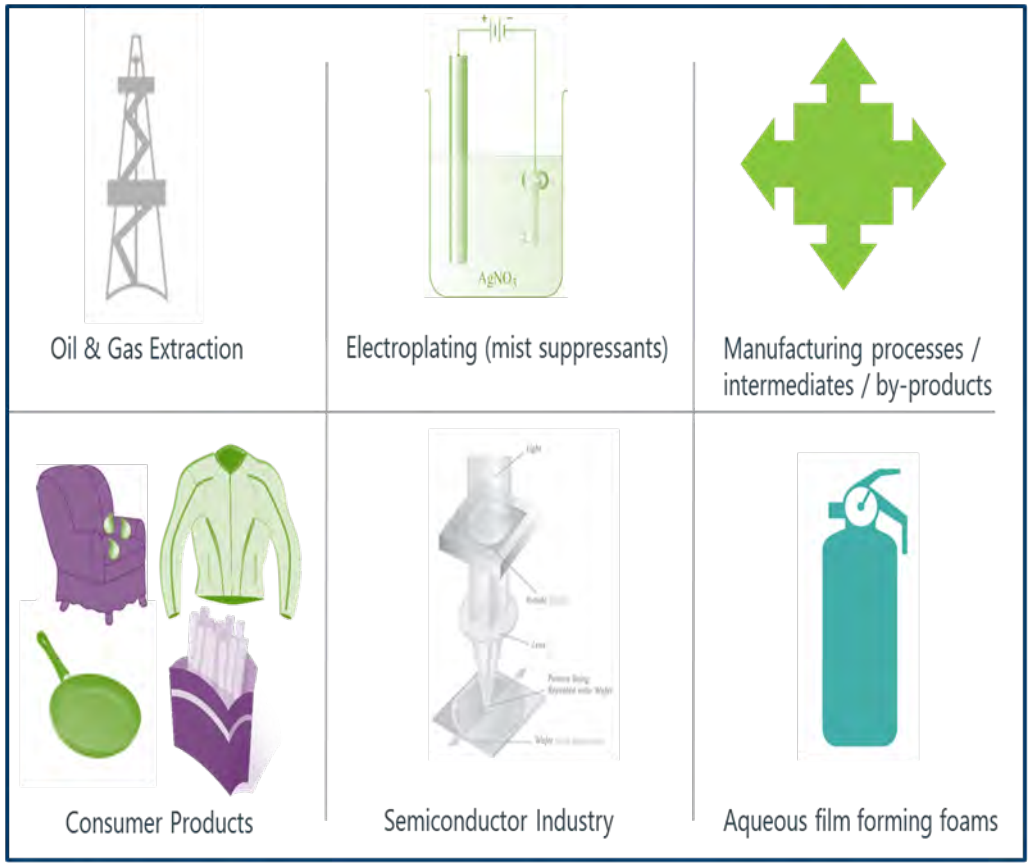




SCOTCHGARD™ PROTECTOR 3M

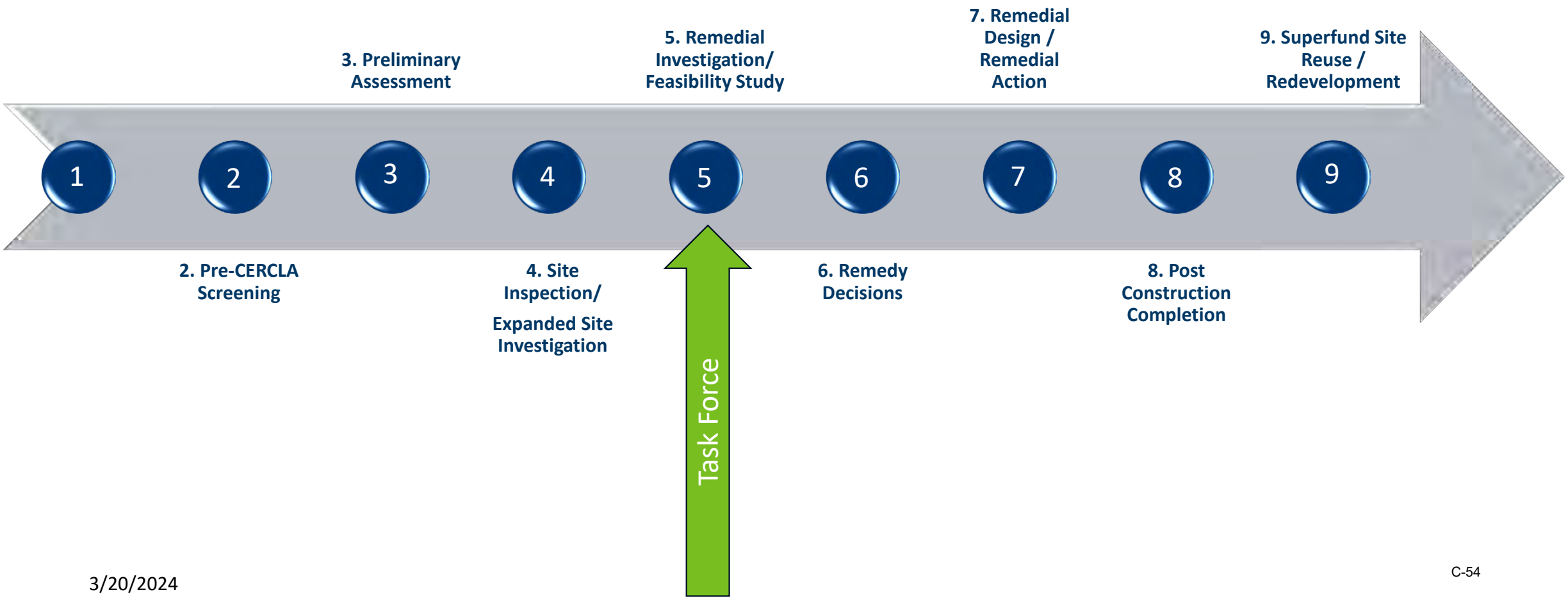
Pigs Eye Dump – Potential PFAS and 1,4-dioxane Sources

- Contaminated industrial waste
- Sewage sludge from wastewater treatment facilities
- Waste from site mitigation
- Consumer wastes

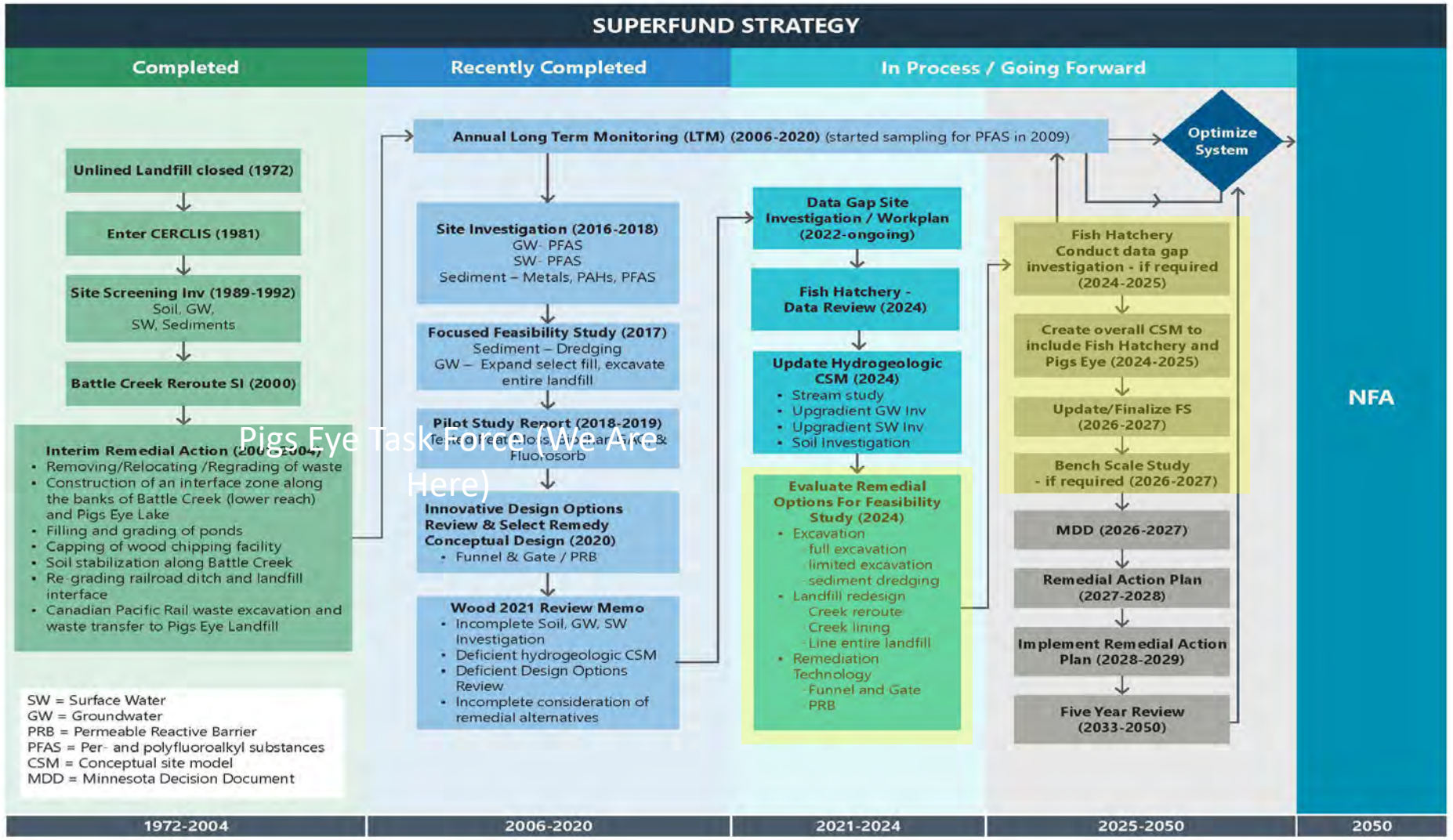


Superfund Process

Generalized Superfund Process



Pig's Eye Superfund Process -- Timeline



Pigs Eye Task Force (We Are Here)

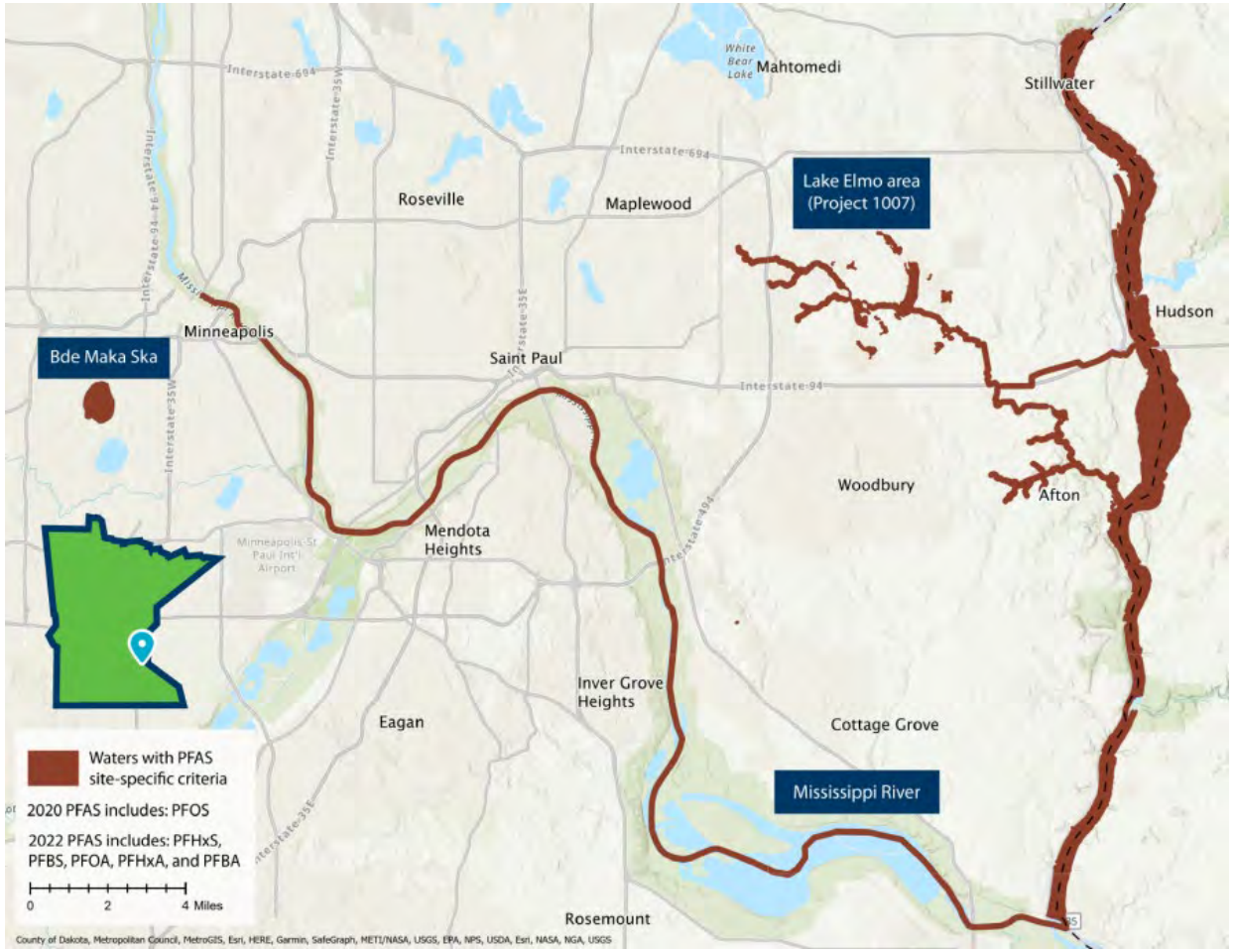
- Multiple contaminants (i.e., VOCs, SVOCs, PFAS, 1,4-dioxane, metals and PCBs)
- Upgradient source – Fish Hatchery
- Undefined area of impact – upgradient and crossgradient
- Complex hydrogeology – Battle Creek, Pigs Eye Lake, previous excavations/remedial actions
- Multiple impacted media – soil, groundwater, surface water
- Changing standards/regulatory environment

- MPCA and MDH Development of **Site-Specific Water Quality Criteria (2020 – 2024)**

- Not Statewide Standards – applicable to targeted waterbodies in metropolitan area water where PFAS have been detected at highest concentrations
  - Mississippi River Pool 2

- Standards developed for six PFAS (PFOS, PFOA, PFHxA, PFBA, PFHxS and PFBS

- Standards much lower than previous health risk limits. PFOS example:
    - Water 0.05 ng/L
    - Fish Tissue: 0.37 ng/g

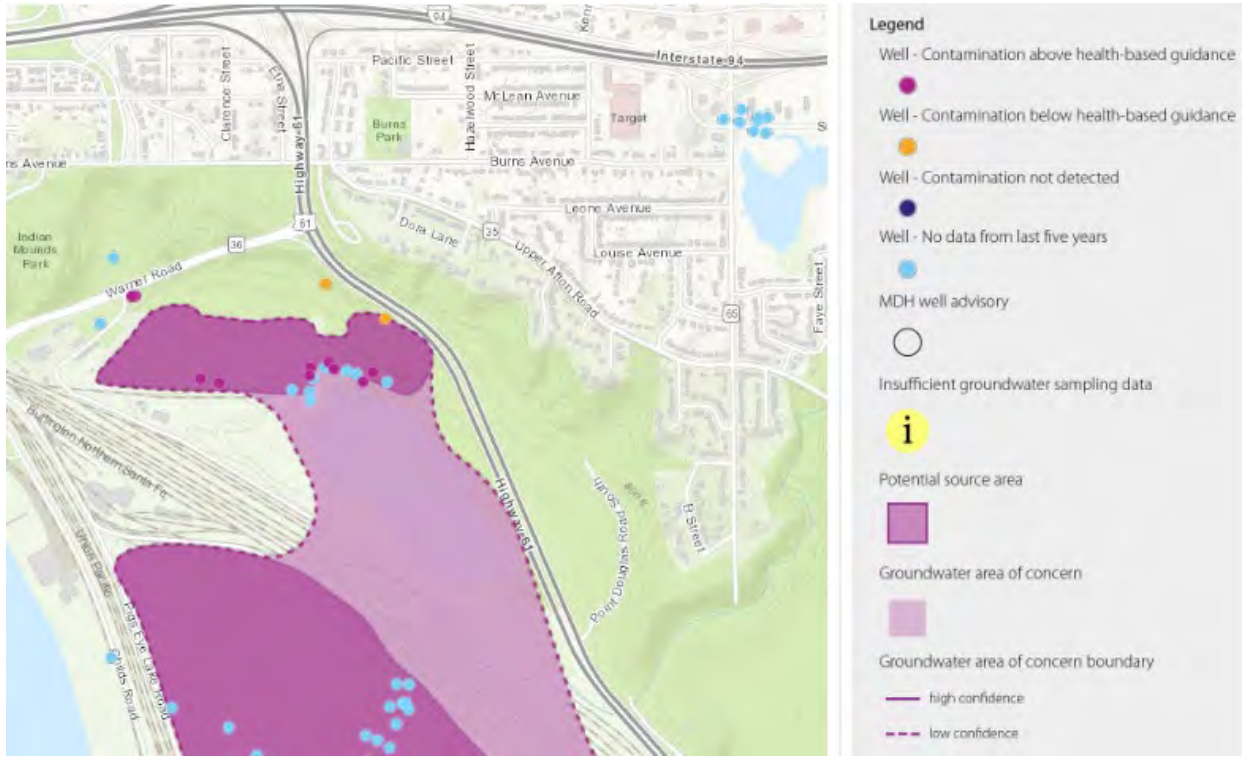


Source: https://www.pca.state.mn.us/business-with-us/site-specific-water-quality-criteria

Remedial Investigation Update

- Additional up-gradient /up-stream assessments to evaluate additional sources of PFAS contamination
- PFAS also detected at the adjoining Fish Hatchery Site

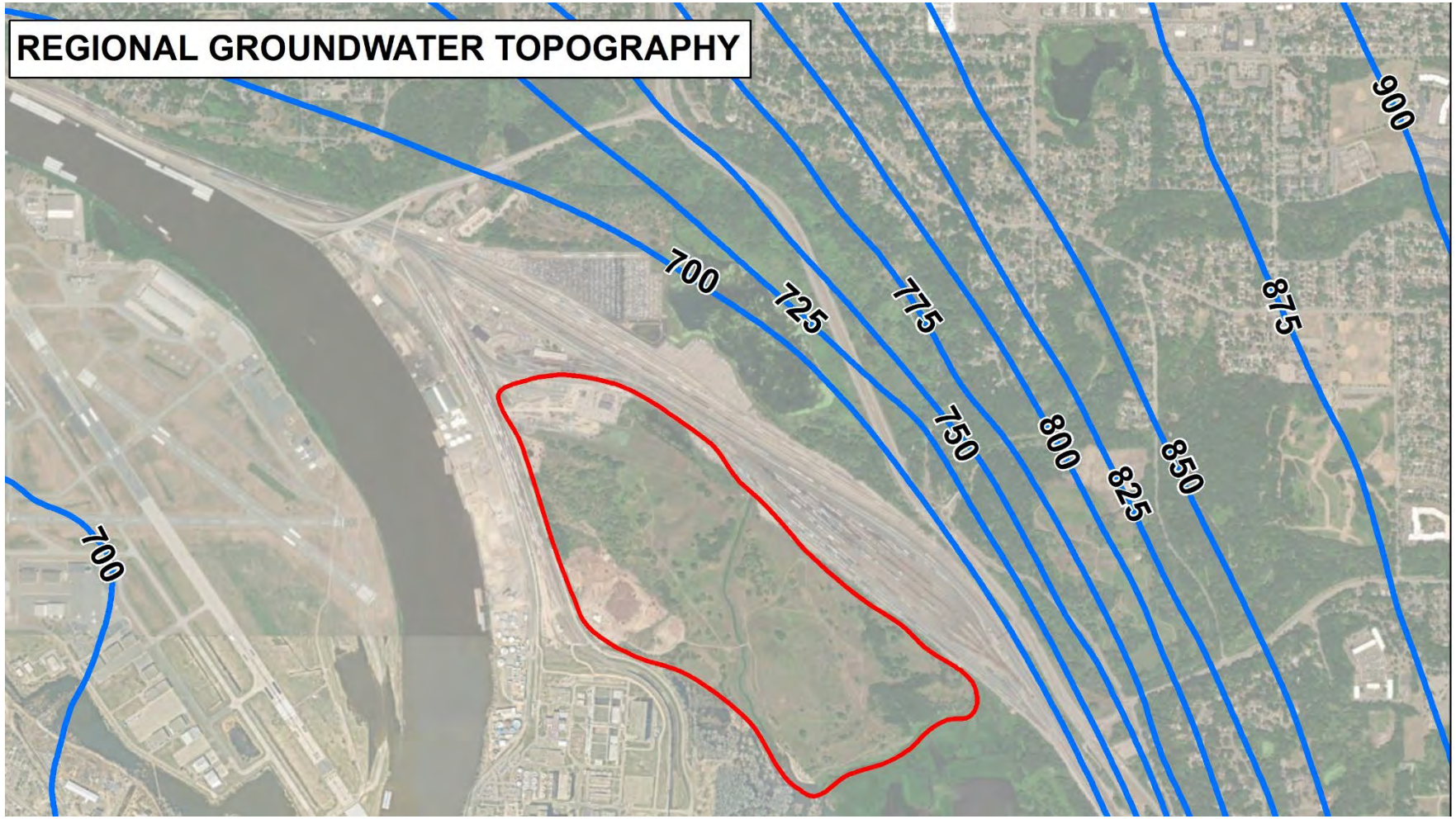
Overview from MPCA Groundwater Contamination Atlas



Source: https://webapp.pca.state.mn.us/cleanup/search/superfund?text=Fish%20Hatchery%20Dump&siteId=208492-AREA0000000003

Remedial Investigation Update – Current Activities

Regional Groundwater Flow



Pig's Eye Dump – Groundwater Flow

November 2022

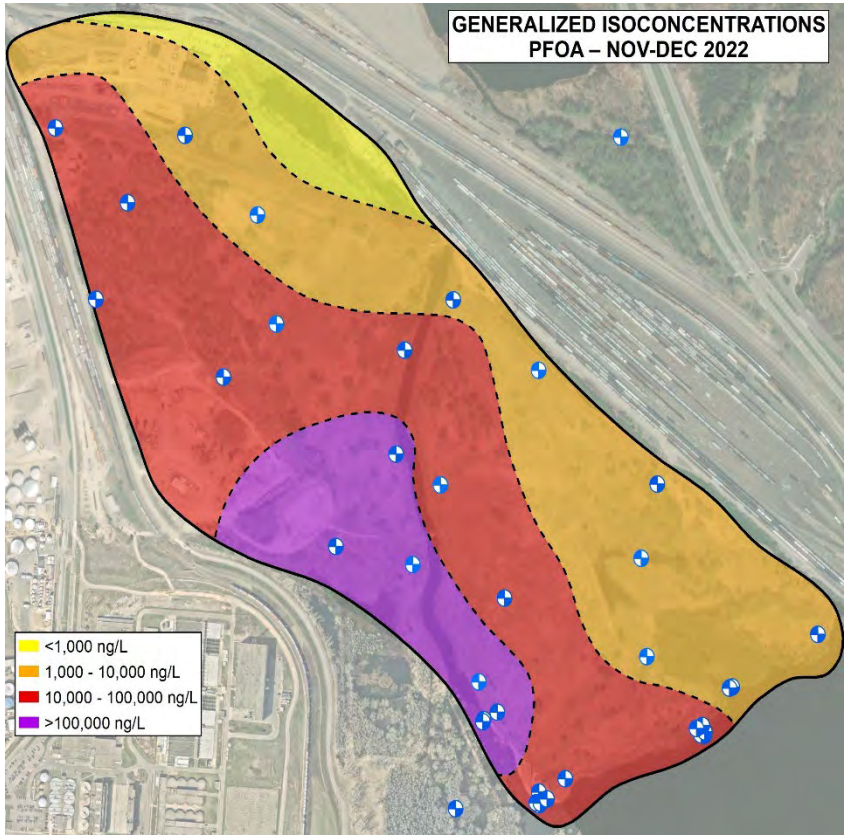


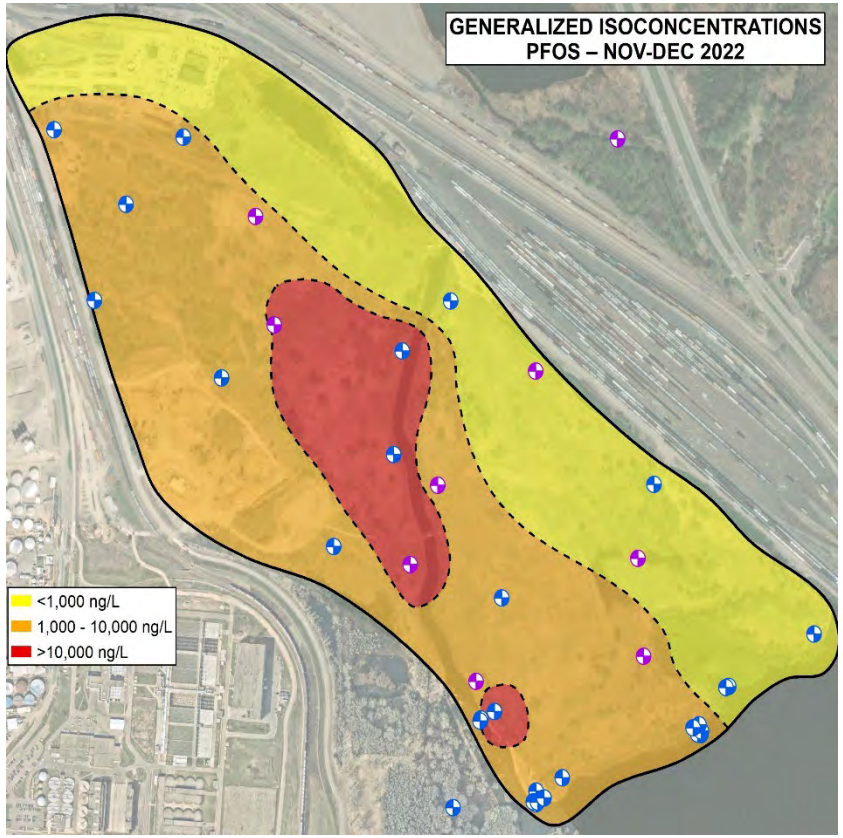


Groundwater Analytical Summary

Groundwater Analytical Summary

Groundwater Analytical Summary – On-Site Data Nov. 2022





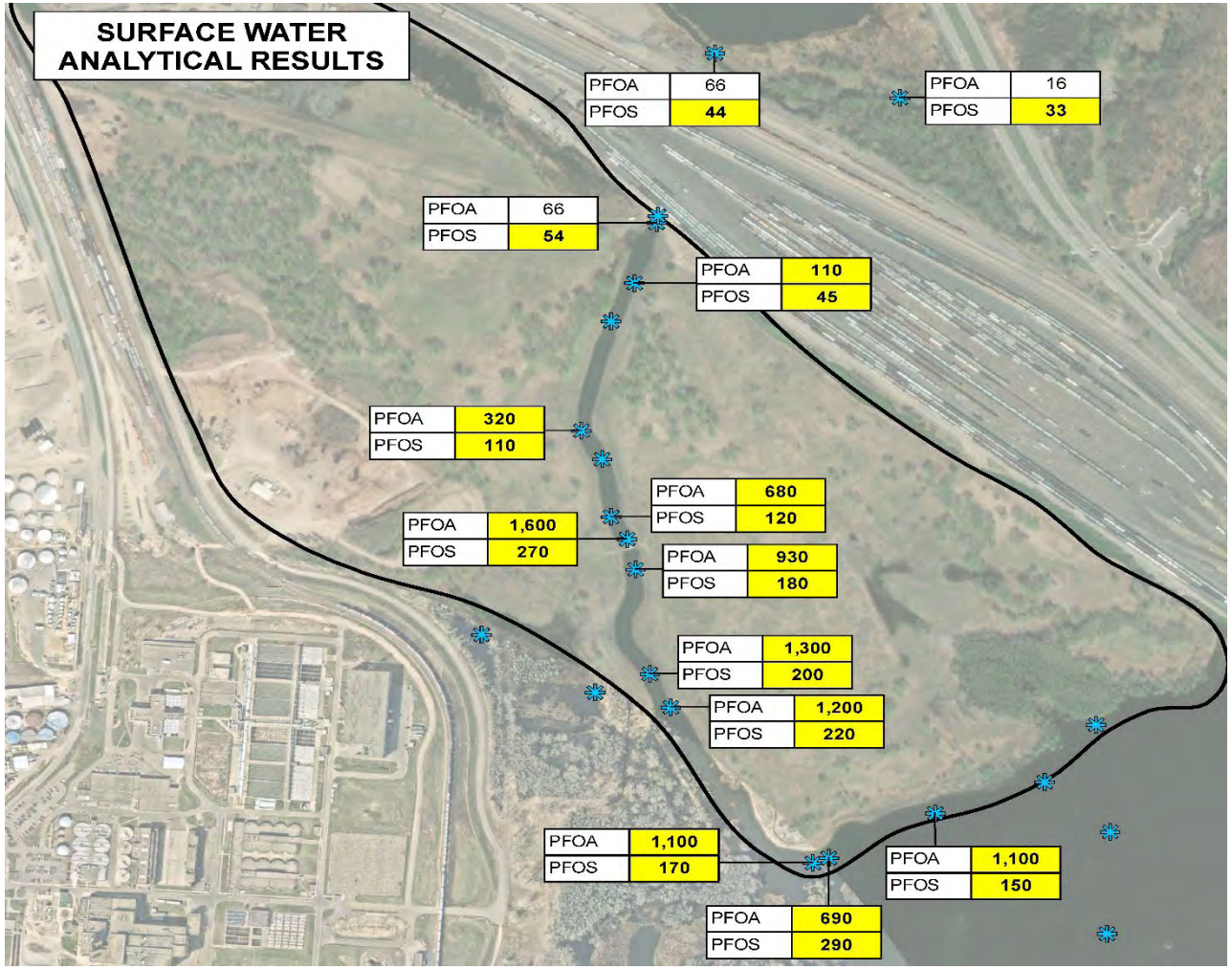
	MDH HRL/HBV (ng/L)	On-Site Min. (ng/L)	On-Site Max. (ng/L)
PFBS	100	5	1,000
PFHxS	47	26	4,100
PFOS	15	290	25,000
PFBA	7,000	120	290,000
PFPeA	n/a	5	12,000
PFHxA	200	14	27,000
PFOA	35	84	540,000
1,4-Dioxane	1,000	ND	30,000

Surface Water Analytical Summary

- Three PFAS (PFOA, PFOS and PFHxS) detected above applicable Site-specific water quality criteria (WQC)

- PFOS detected above WQC in two up-stream locations
- No other PFAS exceeded WQC in up-stream locations - Data Gap for Little Pig's Eye Lake and associated outfall to Battle Creek

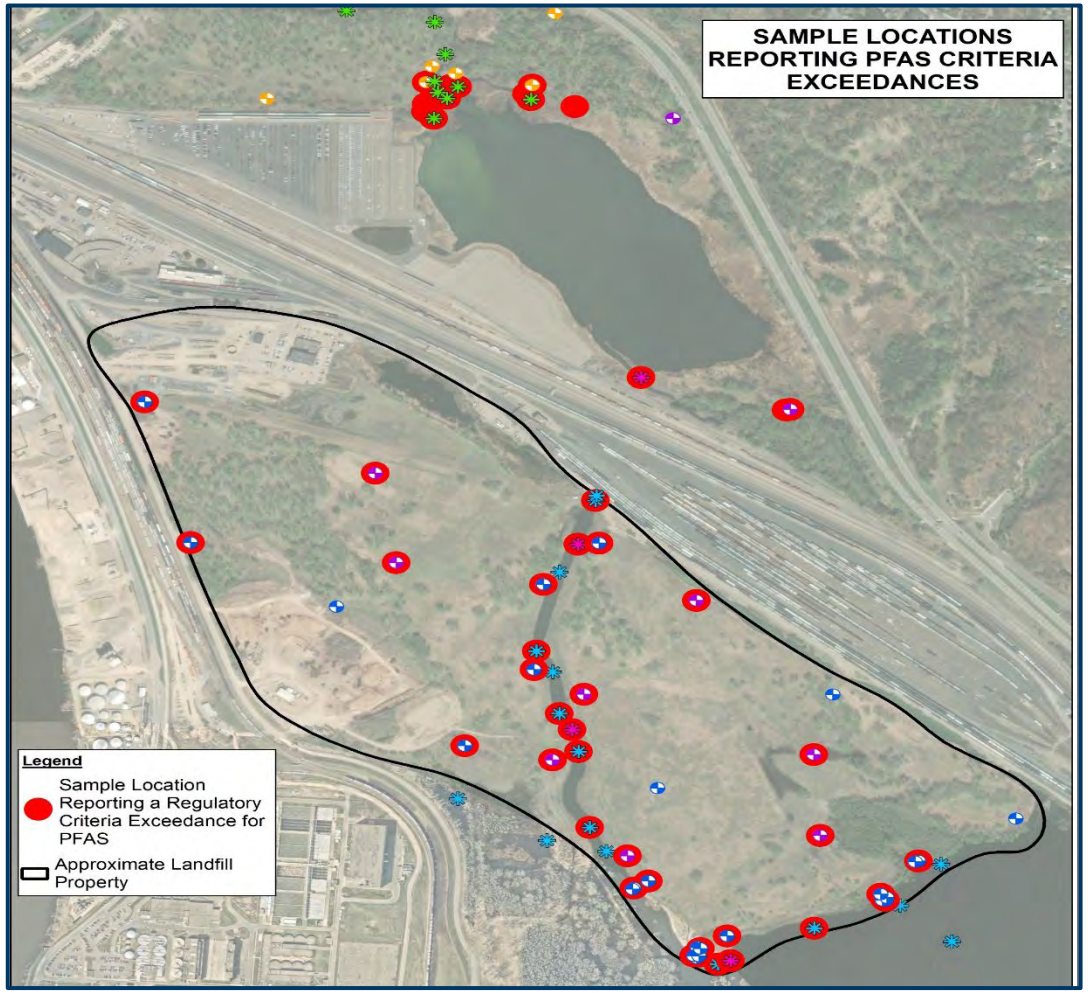
Surface Water Analytical Summary (Nov/Dec 2022)



Surface Water Analytical Summary – On-Site Data Nov./Dec. 2022

	WQ Criteria*	On-Site Min. (ng/L)	On-Site Max. (ng/L)
PFBS	140	8	31
PFHxS	20	12	49
PFOS	0.05	33	290
PFBA	5,700	200	980
PFPeA	n/a	ND	40
PFHxA	220	ND	92
PFOA	25	66	1,600
1,4-Dioxane	1,000 (HRL)	ND	210

Pigs Eye/Fish Hatchery Combined Analytical Summary



Contamination Pathways

Draft Supplemental Remedial Investigation Summary			
	PFAS	**1,4-Dioxane**	**Metals (Dissolved)**
Groundwater	Exceed SW Quality Criteria and MDH HRLs in MWs	Above MDH HRL in MWs	Dissolved metals last sampled for in 2016 and Mercury last sampled for in 2014, in which results were under SW Quality Standards in MWs
Surface Water	Exceed SW Quality Criteria and MDH HRL/HBV in Pig's Eye Lake and Battle Creek	Detected but below MDH HRL in Pig's Eye Lake and Battle Creek	Dissolved metals and mercury last sampled for in 2016. Dissolved metals were under SW Quality Standards in Pig's Eye Lake and Battle Creek except for Aluminum and Mercury (likely due to sediments in samples).
Sediment	PFOA and PFOS detected at concentrations exceeding laboratory reporting limits but well below SRVs in all of the samples analyzed in last sediment sampling (2014, 2016-2017)	Not evaluated	Multiple sediment samples above SSV and Level 2 SQTs for Cadmium, one sediment sample above Level 2 SQTs for lead, and multiple sediment samples above Level 1 SQTs for Copper/Zinc/Lead/Cadmium in last sediment sampling (2016-2017)

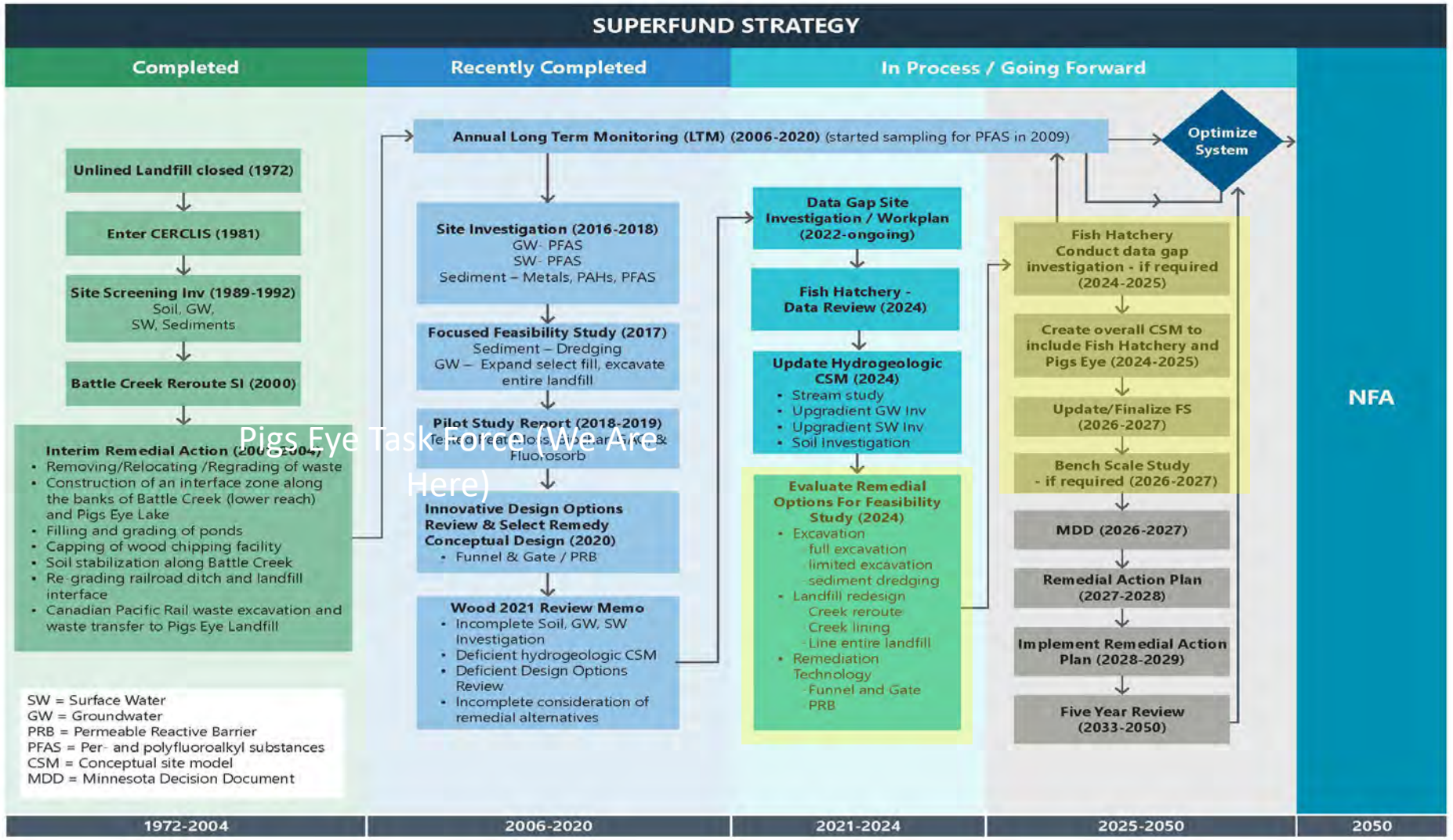
Remedial Challenges

- High PFAS concentrations across entire Pigs Eye Dump (200 acres)
- Upgradient PFAS source – Fish Hatchery
- Offsite contaminant migration
- Consideration of treatment technologies – one size does not fit all!
  - Foam Fractionation – proven effective for long-chain PFAS. Not effective for 1,4-dioxane
  - Activated Carbon – proven effective for PFAS removal (not destruction). Only marginally effective for 1,4-dioxane
  - Limited options wrt disposal of PFAS impacted soil
- Receptors – Pigs Eye Lake and Mississippi River
- Overall Remedial Goal – Reduce PFAS concentrations entering Pigs Eye Lake vs meeting regulatory Pool 2 criteria
  - Low PFAS criteria (ex - Pool 2 PFOS – 0.05 ng/L)

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Discussion

Pig's Eye Superfund Process -- Timeline



Discussion

- What are your thoughts or reactions on what was presented? Do you have any questions?
- Are there specific types of contaminants you have questions on?



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Task Force Meeting Scheduling Discussion

Scheduling Discussion

Scheduling decisions

- Meet outside of work hours for more public participation potentially vs. continue to meet during work hours
  - Could also be “supplemented” with specific public meetings not attended by full Task Force.
- Ongoing regularly scheduled meetings
  - e.g. **The last Monday of the month**, from 2:30-4:30 p.m., every two months
  - **Next Task Force meeting,** Monday, March 25th from 2:30-4:30 p.m.



Option to have an online meeting for public participation

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force – Public Comment

Public Comment

Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project



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

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Next Meeting & Wrap up

Thank you!

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Agenda for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #3

Friday, March 8, 2024
1:00-3:00 p.m.
Lower Level - MPCA 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

1. **Welcome, introductions, agenda (1:00 p.m.)**
2. **Re-cap last meeting (1:10 p.m.)**
3. **Task Force comments on last meeting (1:15 p.m.)**
4. **Presentation on range of remediation options to address contamination (1:20 p.m.)**
5. **Public questions/comment on presentation (2:20 p.m.)**
6. **Discussion on feasibility of different remediation strategies (2:40 p.m.)**
7. **Final Task Force comments and exit slip (2:55 p.m.)**
8. **Adjourn (3:00 p.m.)**

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Notes for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #3

Friday, March 8, 2024
1:00-3:00 p.m.
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 (Met 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)

Members Not in Attendance

- David Bell, Environmental Research Scientist, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)

Other Contributors

- Hunter Vraa, MPCA
- Cliff Shierk, MPCA
- Emma Driver, WSP
- Savannah Wunderlich, WSP
- Liz Wiggen, Zan Associates
- Megan Ryan, Zan Associates

Presenters

- Hunter Vraa, MPCA
- Emma Driver, WSP

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda (1:00 p.m.)

Hunter Vraa (MPCA) kicked off the meeting and thanked everyone for being in attendance. He noted that meeting materials will be posted on the website after a review process. Hunter went over the agenda for the meeting and introduced consultants from WSP and Zan Associates. Task Force members introduced themselves.

2. Recap last meeting (1:10 p.m.)

Emma Driver (WSP) went over a summary of the last meeting, the Superfund process, and discussed the importance of public involvement throughout the stages of the project. Emma reviewed the chemicals of

concern, complexities of the site, and highlighted the changing regulatory standards around some of the contaminants, specifically PFAS. Emma also reviewed the recent history of remedial activity.

3. Task Force comments on last meeting (1:15 p.m.)

Task Force members had no additional comments on the recap of the last meeting.

4. Presentation on range of remediation options to address contamination (1:20 p.m.)

Hunter Vraa (MPCA) opened the discussion by providing a few questions for Task Force members to keep in mind about the remediation and restoration options as they listened to the presentation.

Emma Driver (WSP) started by sharing that they are currently in the remedial investigation phase of the project. This process includes identifying the contaminants and the risks they pose, goals of remedial objectives, and possible technologies. She then went over the different types of criteria that are used to assess the remediation options in the Feasibility Study component of the Superfund process. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) asked if there would be cost information included in the option analyses. Emma responded yes, but mostly for construction.

Emma reviewed the five potential remedial options (further described below) and noted that options 2-5 would all include remedial technologies to address groundwater and surface water contamination. She noted that the differences in the options are focused on the ultimate disposition of the waste, but that the options for groundwater and surface water cleanup will require further evaluation depending on what option is selected.

Option 1. No action. Emma explained that option one would be taking no action, and that this option must be evaluated as part of the Superfund process. Dan Scollan (DNR) asked if there is a cost estimate for this option, and Emma noted that these costs are for normal operations and maintenance of the facility. She deferred to MPCA but noted that costs could vary from year to year depending on normal operations, maintenance, and sampling and analysis of groundwater.

Option 2. Leave Waste in Place. Emma described that this option would leave the waste in place and remediate it where it's located. She noted that costs would increase with this option because it requires ongoing management due to leakage. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) asked how they would use corrective actions to prevent contamination from entering groundwater. Emma said they can pump the contaminated water, clean it, and discharge it. Dan asked how the long-term cost of this is assessed when the source of contamination stays in the location. Emma answered that they project the annual costs, including any initial construction to install remediation systems.

Option 3. Targeted waste removal. Emma explained that this option is done by targeting the hotspots of contamination, excavating the waste materials, and transporting them to other facilities. This method will reduce the source area and migration of contaminants but does not address all waste or upgradient sources. Contamination would continue to be evaluated afterward. Kirk explained that previous work that removed drums and associated contaminated materials is an example of option 3.

Option 4. Total excavation of the landfill. Emma explained that this option completely removes all waste. She noted that the volume of the waste/contamination in the landfill is quite large. Previous studies have estimated 4.4 million cubic yards of waste which equals about 300,000 dump truck loads or 30 trucks per day for more than 38 years. She also noted short-term challenges of implementing this remedy, including concern for construction workers and the site being open and under construction for a long period. She also explained that with this option, the remediation and monitoring would be reduced after the waste is removed. Victoria shared

concerns about moving the waste to a new area. Emma responded that this would move the materials to a site that is better equipped/designed to handle this type of waste. Victoria mentioned that there may be regulatory challenges to site a new landfill to store this waste in Minnesota.

Caleb Johnson (Washington County) asked if the landfill footprint would need to be filled in after the waste was removed. Kirk responded that they could replace some of the fill and leave some empty to turn into a wetland area. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) shared concern that the number of trucks needed to remove all of the waste could be even greater than the estimate due to the excavated material increasing in volume when removed.

Victoria mentioned that Ramsey County is looking at anaerobic digestion of organic matter and a soil amendment to break down PFAS. She asked if WSP is looking at a solution where you can remove contaminants with a soil amendment. Emma responded that they are still in the data-gathering phase where they are analyzing and identifying contaminants in the area. Previously remedial actions were taken, and they must look back and see if those methods were successful or feasible for expanded use.

Option 5. Total excavation of landfill. Build new landfill onsite. This option is similar to option 4 but involves constructing a landfill and managing the waste on-site. This would consist of entombing the waste in a liner and adding a gas extraction system to remove the methane produced when the waste decomposes. Dan asked if option 5 had been implemented anywhere in Minnesota or elsewhere. Kirk responded yes, in Washington County and northeastern Minnesota. Melanie McMahon (St. Paul) asked if any were similar in size. Kirk answered no, the Washington County one is smaller, Duluth area is much smaller. Dan asked how this site is different considering it is in a floodplain area. Cliff Shierk (MPCA) noted that surface water criteria may have different regulations depending on the body of water. Melanie asked about option 3, and wondered if they could remove hotspots and keep the removed material onsite similar to what they are discussing in option 5. Emma answered that it would be a possibility and they would work out the details once an option is chosen. She said it may be a mixture of more than one option and these are guiding ideas/themes to start the process.

Emma noted that the goals for the site will also impact the remediation options. Victoria said that she thinks there are other options available beyond remediation including utilizing new technologies to transform contaminants. She would like to see an option that might include something more than moving contaminants from one location to another. Caleb asked if material recovery was possible with any of these options. Emma responded that she isn't certain since there is a wide variety of waste.

Emma described a table comparing the options on metrics of cost, long-term effectiveness, implementation, short-term risk, sustainability, and construction timeline and how each option varies. Jimmy Francis (South St. Paul) asked if Pig's Eye Dump is negatively impacting South St. Paul's groundwater. He wanted to know the magnitude of this site and how the contaminants impact the groundwater compared to other landfills. Kirk answered that the groundwater at this site is not the drinking water source for the area. The more immediate impact is on the ecological health of the area, specifically the lake and the Mississippi River, so it is challenging to compare to other sites. Emma noted that there are high concentrations of PFAS in the groundwater at this site, but there are no immediate risks to groundwater/drinking water at this site. Jimmy wondered how much of the groundwater in the area is filled by the Mississippi River and how it compares to other sites near rivers. Kirk explained that it is hard to compare. He noted that although options 4 and 5 remove the contamination, the groundwater will remain contaminated and will require ongoing cleanup. The goal is to reduce future impacts and clean up where they can.

Melanie asked about the short-term risk response action comparison for options 1 and 2. Emma said there may be an error in the presentation and those options should not show high risk. Melanie wanted to see more information about the environmental risk of digging up the landfill.

Victoria mentioned that option 4 may not be feasible, but she wanted to see a feasibility study to see what they could do with the materials there. She emphasized that as they move forward, they need to know more about what specific contaminants and waste are at the site and what new technologies there are to recycle it.

Bill Sumner (Newport) asked about technology using plasma and incineration to eliminate waste and wondered if that was an option. Victoria responded that the anaerobic respiration she mentioned previously is similar to what he's talking about. Kirk responded that the state has some history of looking at destructive technologies in addition to removal technologies. Those technologies do result in emissions and there are still a lot of questions about the effectiveness of those processes. Cliff noted that plasma is typically used for small batches and explained that those technologies are still being developed and improved.

5. Public questions/comment on presentation (2:20 p.m.)

Liz Wiggen (Zan) introduced the public comment portion of the meeting and explained how to proceed.

One member shared that they would like to see the Task Force focus on what the goals are for the site. They emphasized the importance of maintaining the environmental health of the area and shared concern about pollution at their well. They want to see more communication about the impacts of the contamination at the site and funding options.

One member of the public asked about meeting recordings being available to the public and the timeline of public engagement. Hunter Vraa (MPCA) responded that they are working on uploading the meeting materials and are working on a communications plan that will include public engagement.

One person shared concern that PFAS pollution is entering the Mississippi River and the length of time the site has gone unmanaged. They also shared concern that their personal health has been affected by the contamination of Pig's Eye Dump.

One member of the public shared concern about current pollution and would like to see information shared about the impacts of the railyard and wood recycling center.

Another member of the public shared that they would like to see more data about the kind of contaminants and where they are located to help guide decision-making on the remediation options. They emphasized the importance of protecting wildlife and ecological health.

One person asked if there was a plan to address contaminants on site and if any mapping would be completed before decision-making. Emma Driver (WSP) responded that there is currently remedial monitoring being done and there will be maps created to show groundwater, surface water, and where contaminants are moving. She emphasized that there is a lot of data collection currently happening and more information will be available this summer.

One person shared that they downloaded data on the MPCA website for contaminants in the area. Emma said that sampling data will eventually be posted online.

One member of the public emphasized the importance of ecological and wildlife health and would like the see the wetlands restored and wanted to know how these options fit into the long-term goal. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) responded that the options discussed in the meeting are high-level concepts and are building a base for future conversation. Emma mentioned that discussions about restoration and environmental and wildlife health, which is included in the feasibility study, are part of the upcoming project timeline.

6. Discussion on feasibility of different remediation strategies (2:40 p.m.)

Hunter Vraa (MPCA) kicked off the Task Force discussion with a question about restoration and remediation and which discussion should come first.

Melanie McMahon (St. Paul) said that she thinks it's important to start with remediation first to lay the groundwork on what the options are and the feasibility of those options.

Jimmy Francis (South St. Paul) agreed with Melanie and is supportive of listening to the public more as they go through this process.

Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) discussed the path of remediation and restoration and they go hand in hand. He brought up the idea of doing small listening sessions with the public going forward. He asked the Task Force what they think might work well for public engagement. Jimmy responded that he would like to hear from the people who have lived in the area for a long time.

Melanie said that it's important to give the public background information on what's going on at the site. She emphasized that it is a lot of technical information, and it would be helpful to break that down for them. She would also like to share that there are multiple ways to submit comments and wants to explore creative opportunities to get out in the community.

Bill Sumner (Newport) said that it can be difficult to get people to come in and comment on these issues and putting information online is helpful. Regarding remediation/restoration, he thinks it's better to start with remediation first, then restoration. He would like to see it become a beautiful place to visit, but getting there might not be feasible.

Caleb Johnson (Washington County) said that he generally agrees that remediation should be discussed first. He would like to be mindful of what potential infrastructure developments are feasible since it is in a floodplain.

Nathan Wallerstedt (Army Corps of Engineers) agreed with Caleb and wants to focus on remediation first but keep restoration in mind to achieve the outcomes they want.

Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) agreed that it is best to discuss remediation first to know what you are dealing with before you can discuss how to make it better. She pointed out that building the anaerobic respiration site in Ramsey County cost around 100 million dollars. She noted that similar projects have high costs to remediate these areas to the level the community wants. She emphasized that they can't go back and change what happened, and although projects like these are extremely expensive, they are worth it. The impacts are long-lasting, and not doing anything has large costs as well. Victoria noted that adding a virtual option is beneficial in increasing access to these meetings.

Sam Paske (Met Council) added that he appreciated the presentation and input given during the meeting. He noted that the Metro Plant was created to protect the environment and that having input into this conversation is important. He emphasized that Met Council will be a partner to the Pig's Eye Dump.

Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) said that they can't start with a restoration goal and have to look at the remediation options but still keep in mind what the public wants in the end. He emphasized that they need to look at the strategies and the costs and see what is feasible.

Dan Scollan (DNR) shared that it is important to look at what is possible for future use. He would like to know what the possibilities are for each remediation pathway for future use. He wondered what the possibilities are to improve the shoreline and the lake area, and how they can leave benefits to the area.

7. Final Task Force comments and exit slip (2:55 p.m.)

Task Force members and members of the public had the option of filling out their initial thoughts on the exit slip.

8. Adjourn (3:00 p.m.)

Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) thanked everyone and said they would work on an agenda for the next meeting based on the conversations in the meeting. He also shared that they are working on an outreach plan and will bring it to the Task Force for input in the near future.

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #3

Hunter Vraa | Pigs Eye Task Force Coordinator

March 8, 2024

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force
Welcome and Introductions

Agenda

I. Welcome, introductions, agenda (1:00 p.m.)

II. Re-cap last meeting (1:10 p.m.)

III. Task Force comments on last meeting (1:15 p.m.)

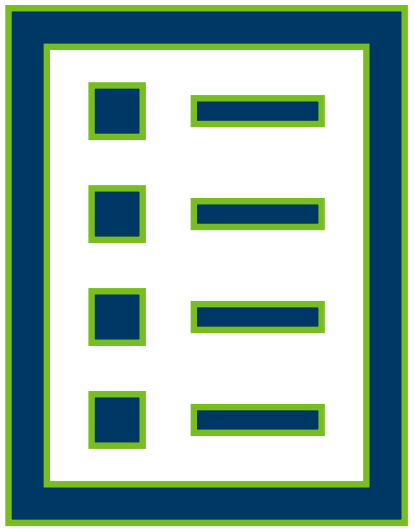
IV. Presentation on range of remediation options to address contamination (1:20 p.m.)

V. Public questions/comment on presentation (2:20 p.m.)

VI. Discussion on feasibility of different remediation strategies (2:40 p.m.)

VII. Final Task Force comments and exit slip (2:55 p.m.)

VIII. Adjourn (3:00 p.m.)



Welcome and Introductions

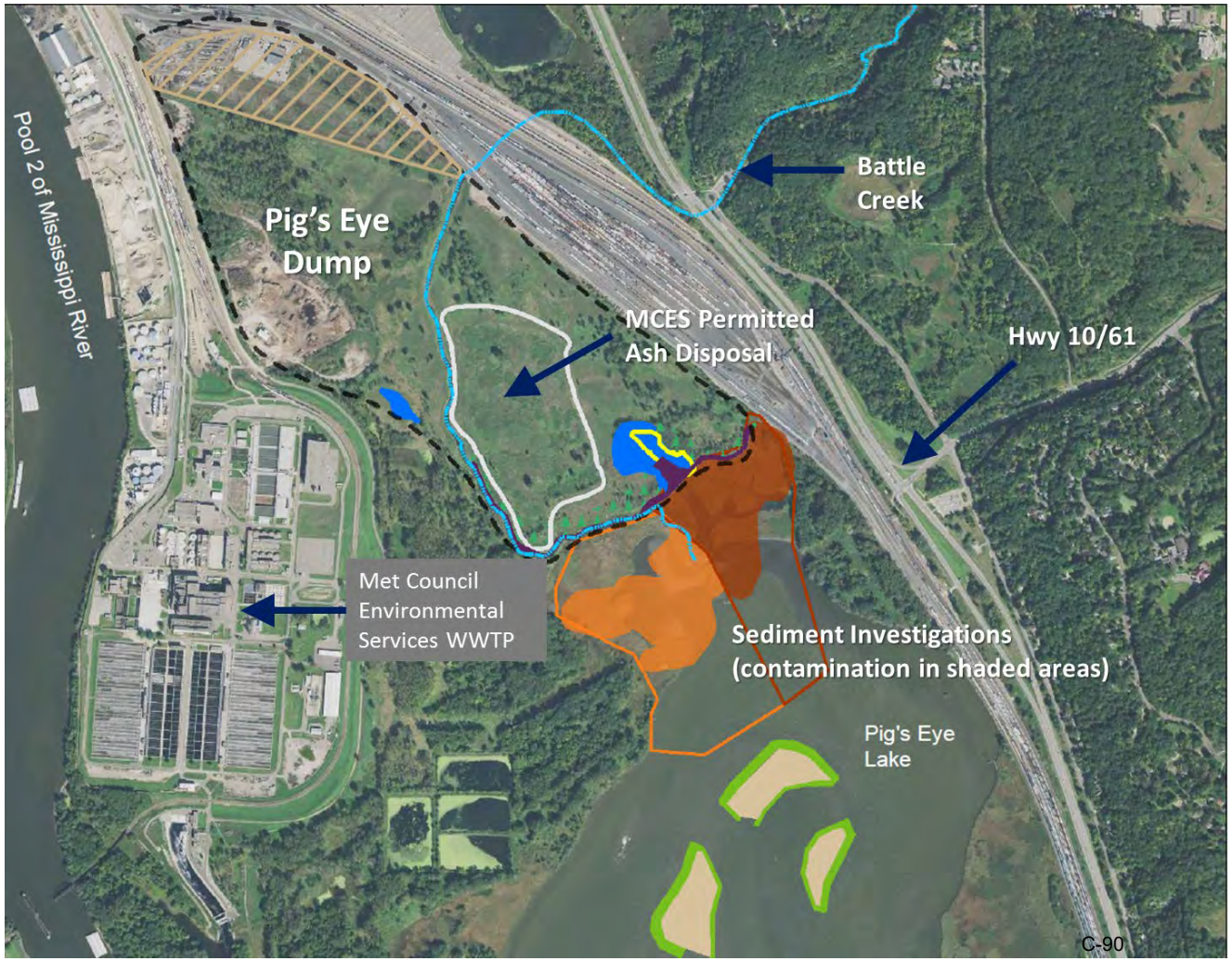
- Consultant introductions
- Taskforce members to share:
  - Name
  - Title
  - Organization



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

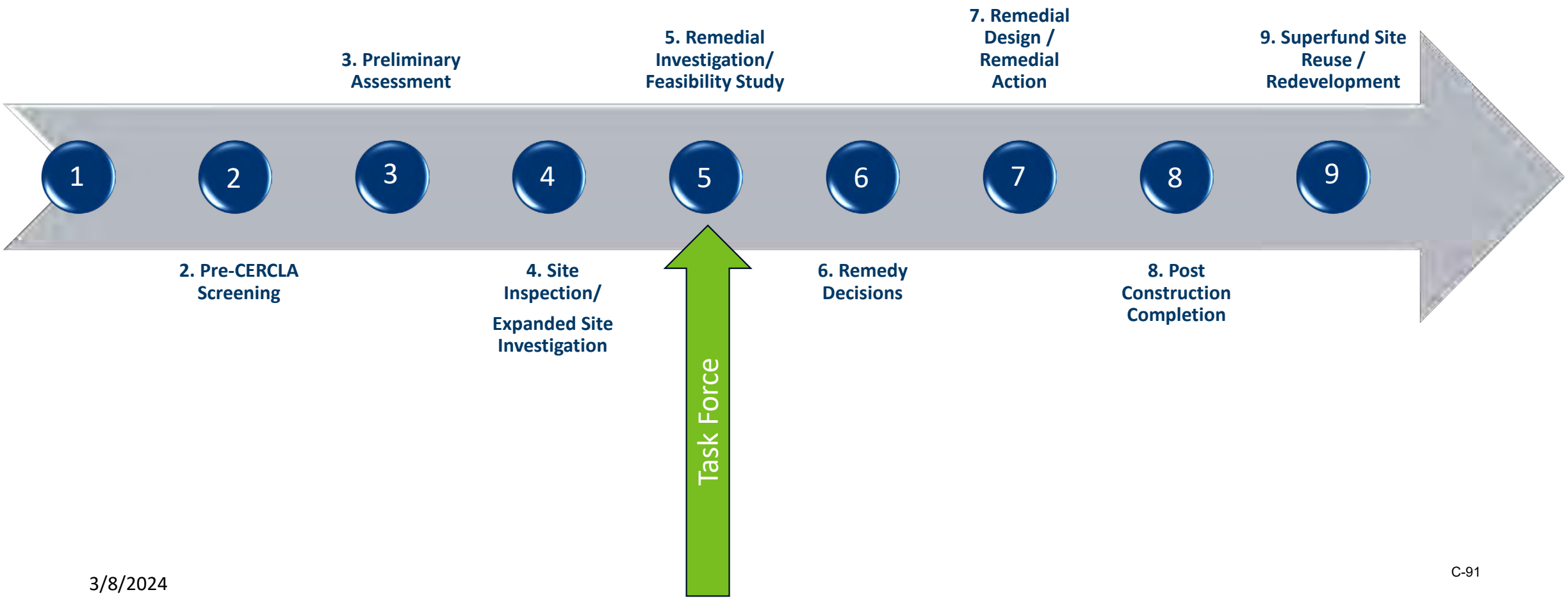
Recap from Last Meeting

Recap Agenda

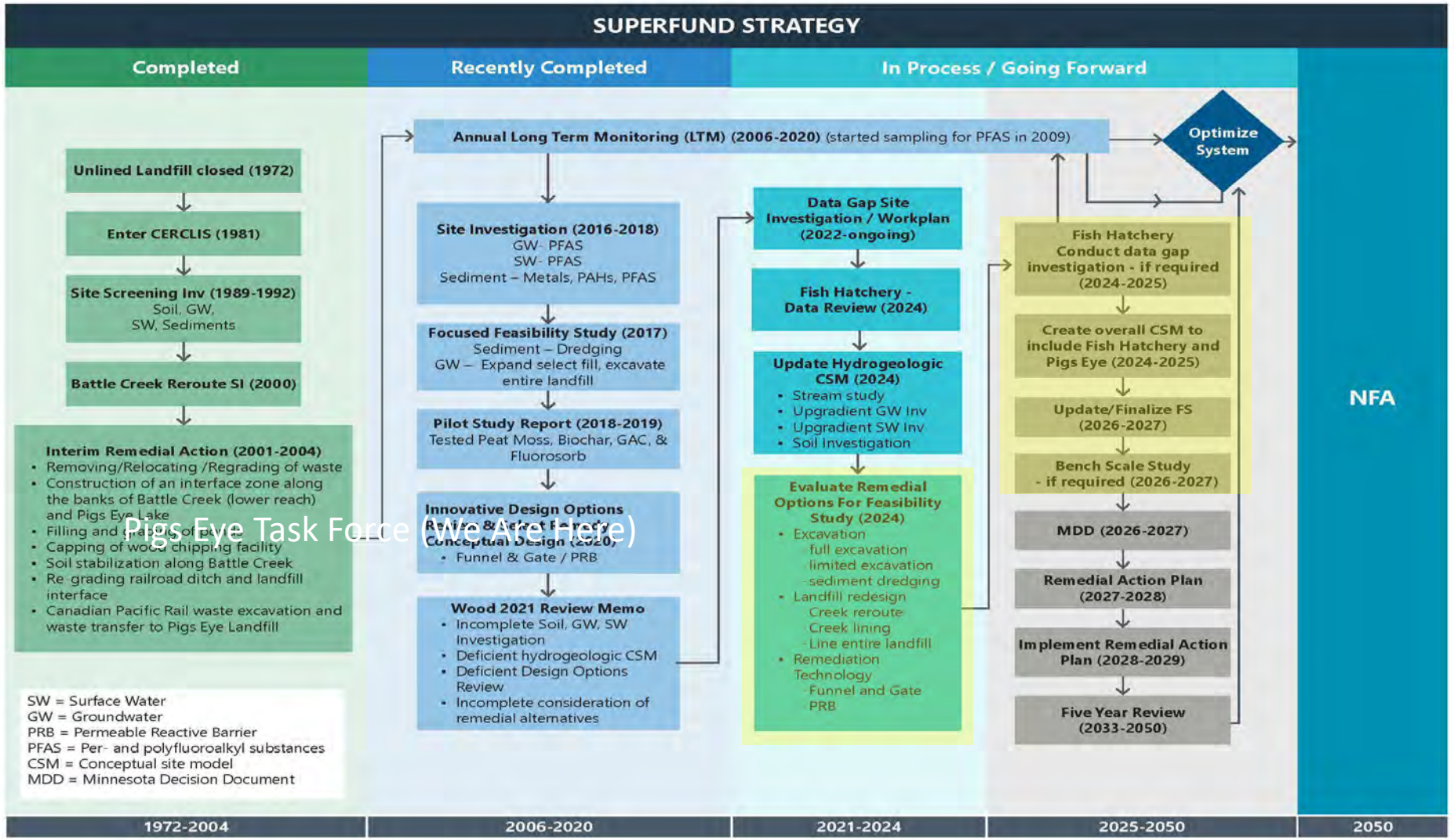


Superfund Process

Generalized Superfund Process



Pig's Eye Superfund Process -- Timeline



Pig's Eye – Potential Chemicals of Concern

- Metals
  - Metals (cadmium, copper, lead, and zinc) were detected above Sediment Quality Targets (SQTs)
  - Human-health related Sediment Screening Values (SSVs) were exceeded for cadmium
- PFAS
  - PFAS concentrations in well, creek, and lake water detected above MPCA surface water criteria for Pool 2.
- Landfill Gas
  - Methane can create explosive conditions and is a potent greenhouse gas.
- 1,4-dioxane
  - 1,4-dioxane detected above the MDH Health Risk Limit (HRL) in groundwater.

- Multiple contaminants
- Multiple impacted media – soil, groundwater, surface water, sediments
- Upgradient sources – Fish Hatchery, Battle Creek
- Undefined area of impact – upgradient and crossgradient
- Complex hydrogeology – Battle Creek, Pigs Eye Lake, previous excavations/remedial actions
- Changing standards/regulatory environment

Between 2000 to 2005:

- Removed drums of hazardous waste (~230 drums near Battle Creek)
- Pulled back waste and constructed an engineered barrier along a portion of Battle Creek to adsorb contaminants
- Installed a soil cap on waste footprint (two feet thick)
- Cleaned up localized area of contaminated surface soil and batteries
- Filled and graded ponds

Task Force Discussion

- Comments or thoughts from the last meeting?



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Remedial Strategies

As we hear about remediation options, keep these questions in mind:

1. What is the future use of landfill?
2. What is future use of Pigs Eye Lake and overall regional use?
3. How does future use affect cleanup goals?
4. Complete remediation of the landfill, or only partial?
5. Remediate all or certain media (soil/groundwater/sediment/ surface water/air)?
6. Remediate Pigs Eye Lake?



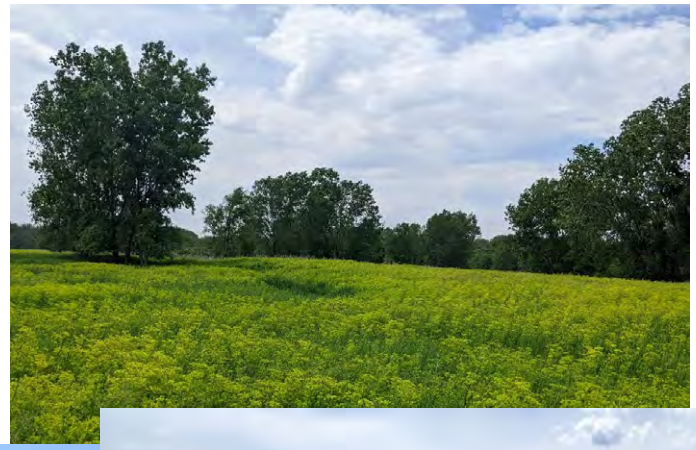
1. Site History/Background/Contaminants/Source Areas
2. Exposure Pathways – Soil/Groundwater/Soil Vapor
3. Remedial Action Objectives
4. Remedial Options Identification
5. Response Action Comparison – a) Protection of Public Health, Welfare and environment; b) Cost; c) Long term Effectiveness; d) Implementability; e) Short Term Risk; f) Community Acceptance; g) Sustainability
6. Recommended Response Action

- 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

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Option 1:
No Action

- Baseline Option for Superfund Process
- Implement institutional controls to restrict future land use
- Conduct routine groundwater, surface water, and landfill gas monitoring (indefinite)
- No source reduction
- Media addressed – None







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Option 2:
Leave Waste in Place

- Leave waste in place
- Conduct routine groundwater, surface water, and air monitoring (indefinite)
- Implement remedial technologies for groundwater, landfill gas, and/or sediments
- Media addressed – Groundwater, surface water, landfill gas
- Measures taken will reduce migration of potential chemicals of concern
- No source reduction
- Does not address potential up-gradient sources

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Option 3:
Targeted Waste Removal

- Limited excavation of waste materials or highly contaminated soils and/or sediments
    - May include excavating, lining, or rerouting Battle Creek
- Implement remedial technologies for groundwater, landfill gas, and/or sediments
- Media addressed – Soil, surface water, groundwater, landfill gas
- Measures taken will reduce migration of potential chemicals of concern
- Partial source reduction
- Does not address all waste in place or potential upgradient sources



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Option 4:
Total Excavation of Landfill, Waste Hauled Offsite

- Complete removal of waste materials, hauled to an offsite landfill
  - Battle Creek rerouted temporarily or permanently
- Implement remedial technologies for groundwater, landfill gas, and/or sediments
- Measures taken will remove the contaminant source and significantly reduce potential migration of chemicals of concern
- Media addressed – Soil, surface water, groundwater, and air (methane)
- Does not address potential up-gradient sources

Waste Volume Considerations

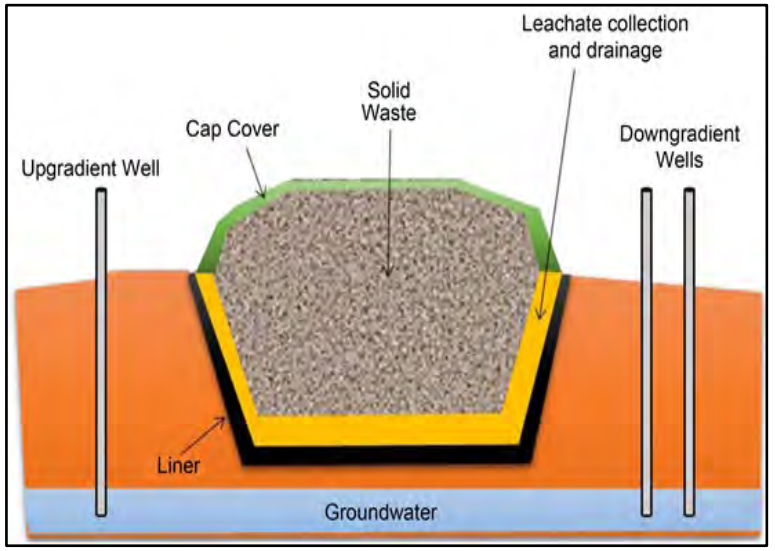
- ~4.4 million cubic yards of waste
- ~ 300,000 dump truck loads
- ~ 30 trucks per day for more than 38 years!!!



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Option 5:
Total Excavation of Landfill, Build New Landfill Onsite

- Complete Landfill Reconstruction
  - Reconstruct Landfill with Liner/Cap/Leachate Collection System/Gas Extraction
  - Waste Excavation/Staging/Replacement
  - Battle Creek rerouted temporarily or permanently
- Implement remedial technologies for groundwater, landfill gas, and/or sediments
- Media addressed – Soil, surface water, groundwater, and air (methane)
- Measures taken will control the contaminant source and significantly reduce potential migration of chemicals of concern
- Does not address potential up-gradient sources
- Location and site flooding make this challenging to implement



Waste Volume Considerations
~ 4.4 million cubic yards of waste
~300,000 dump truck loads

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Comparison of Remedial Strategies

Response Action Comparison	Option 1 (No Action)	Option 2 (Waste In-Place + GW Remedy)	Option 3 (Targeted Waste Removal + GW Remedy)	Option 4 (Total Excavation of Landfill /Waste Hauled offsite + GW Remedy)	Option 5 (Total Excavation of Landfill + Landfill Rebuild + GW Remedy)
Protection of Public Health	Lowest →				Highest
Cost (Construction Only)		$	$$	$$$$$	$$$$
Long Term Effectiveness	🔴	🔴	🟡	🟢	🟢
Implementability	🟢	🟢	🟡	🔴	🔴
Short Term Risk (Construction)	🟢	🟢	🟡	🔴	🔴
Sustainability (Env/Social/Economic)	🔴	🟡	🟡	🟡	🟢
Construction Timeline	🟢	🟢	🟡	🔴	🔴
Community Acceptance	??	??	??	??	??

🔴 Low
🟡 Medium
🟢 High

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Pigs Eye Dump Task Force – Public Comment

Public Comment

Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project



Contact us:
Hunter Vraa, Task Force Coordinator:
Pig's.Eye.Dump.Task.Force.Mailbox.MPCA@state.mn.us
https://www.pca.state.mn.us/local-sites-and-projects/st-paul-pigs-eye-dump-task-force

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Task Force Discussion

Task Force Discussion

1. How do our restoration goals align with remediation strategies?
2. Task Force planning: Does it make sense to focus more on restoration first or remediation first? What order do you want to tackle these in?



Task Force Discussion

3. What are the funding considerations or opportunities around these remediation options?



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Exit Slip Opportunity

Thank you!

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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.

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #4

June 7, 2024

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

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



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

March Meeting and Art in the Hollow Recap

March Meeting Recap

- 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

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







Mentimeter Question 1

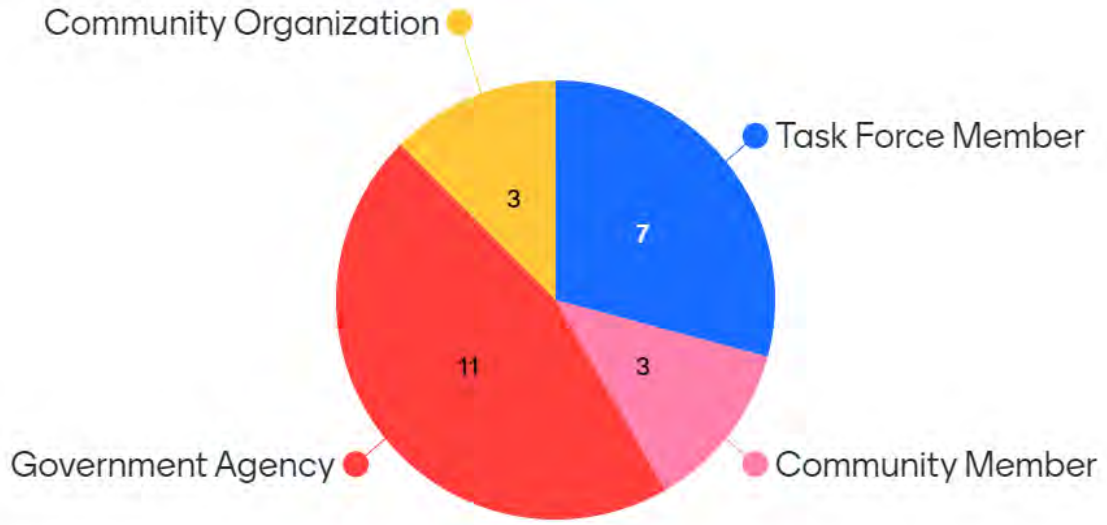
What word(s) come to mind when you envision the future Pig's Eye Dump site?

29 responses



Mentimeter Question 2

What "hats" do you wear in your community?



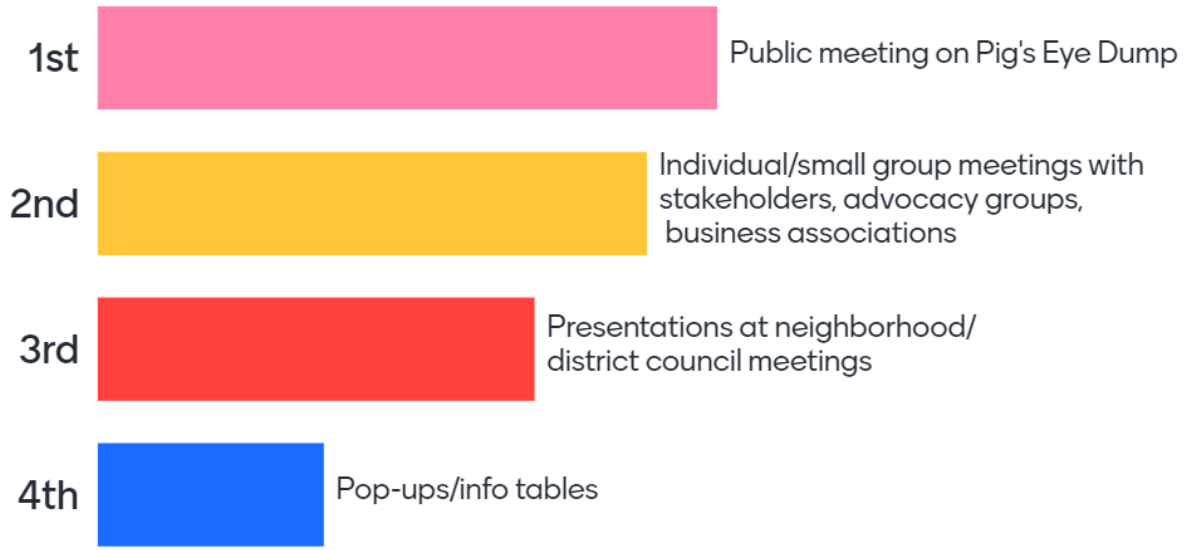
Mentimeter Question 3

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



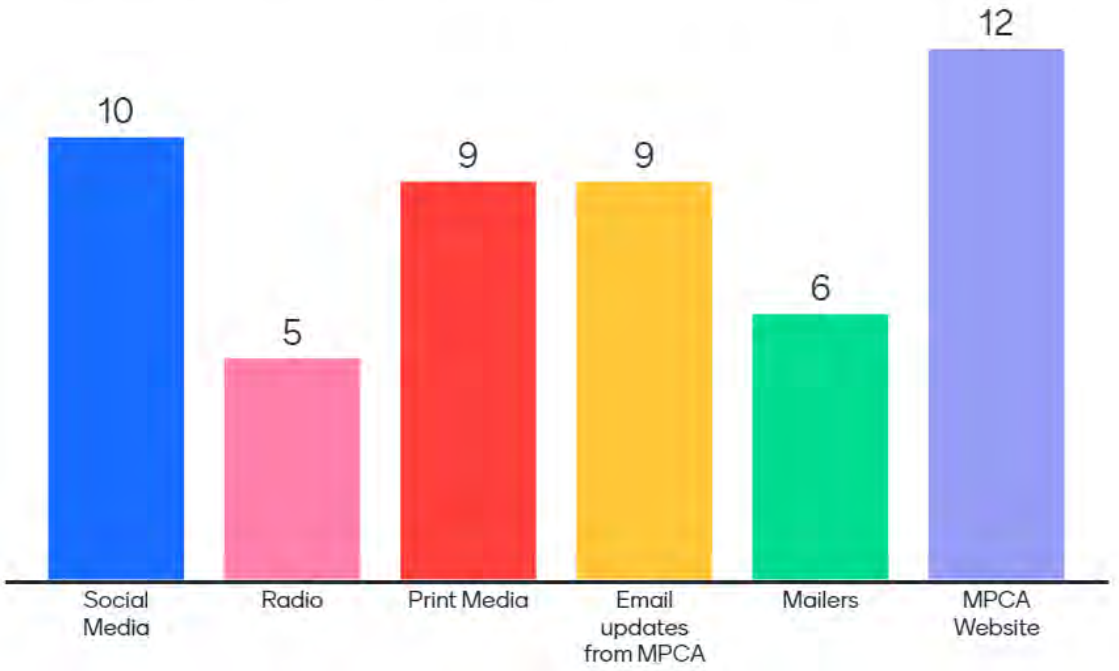
Mentimeter Question 4

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

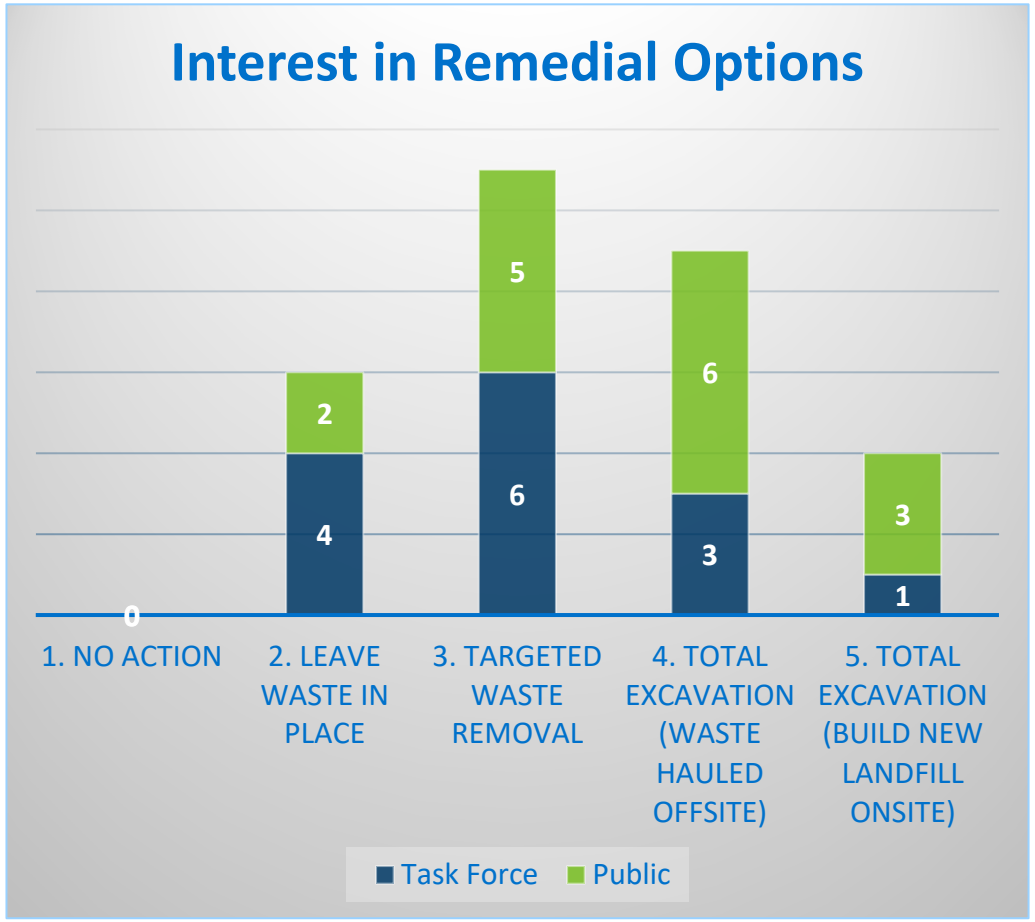
District Councils and neighborhood organizations.	Native American community	Ecologists, chemists, scientists
Youth organizations	Friends of the Mississippi RiverWakan Tipi AwayankapiGreat River Passage ConservancyNeighborhood councils	Pigs Eye Park Friends
Lions Clubs and Rotarty Clubs. Rotary is big 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

Discussion

- 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



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



pedtf.pca@state.mn.us
https://www.pca.state.mn.us/local-sites-and-projects/st-paul-pigs-eye-dump-task-force

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Final Task Force comments

Thank you!

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Agenda for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #5

Thursday, July 18, 2024
9:30-11:30 a.m.
Lower Level - MPCA 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

1. **Welcome, introductions, agenda (9:30 a.m.)**
2. **Re-cap last meeting and engagement update (9:35 a.m.)**
3. **Presentation on case studies (9:50 a.m.)**
4. **Task Force discussion (10:35 a.m.)**
5. **Public questions/comments (11:00 a.m.)**
6. **Final Task Force comments (11:20 a.m.)**
7. **Adjourn (11:30 a.m.)**

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Notes for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #5

Thursday July 18, 2024
9:30-11:30 a.m.
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

- Cliff Shierk, MPCA
- Pam Anderson, MPCA
- Aneesha Marwah, Zan Associates
- Kara Van Lerberghe, Zan Associates

Presenters

- Cliff Shierk, MPCA
- Aneesha Marwah, Zan Associates

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda

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

2. Re-cap last meeting and engagement update

Aneesha Marwah (Zan Associates) provided a recap of the June Task Force meeting which focused on public engagement. She explained how the feedback received from the meeting influenced the 2025 engagement plan and next steps. The engagement team is planning on two additional pop-ups for this summer to share information about the Task Force.

3. Presentation on case studies

Cliff Shierk (MPCA) explained that they would be looking at six case studies during this meeting that exemplify different types of remediation and restoration options. He started by providing a background on Pig's Eye Dump and then transitioned to the Washington County Landfill case study.

The **Washington County Landfill is in Lake Elmo, Minnesota** and was remediated through a Lift and Line action. Cliff provided information on the site history, cleanup process, and the type of contamination present. Bill Sumner (City of Newport) pointed out that this landfill is a dry site and Pig's Eye Dump is in a wetland. Cliff emphasized that the proximity to water makes Pig's Eye Dump more unique and could increase the cost of cleanup compared to this case study. Bill asked what the Washington County landfill looks like now and if the public can access the space. Cliff explained that part of the space has been reused as a dog park but most of the site is completely fenced off. Bill asked if there are plans to use the space in the future and make it available to the public. Cliff responded that it is challenging to anticipate how long it would take for a landfill to be reused due to leachate management requirements. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) asked if there was a material between the layers of liner at this landfill. Cliff explained that there is a leak detection system between each layer of liner. Caleb asked if there was any resource recovery when they lifted the waste out of the landfill or if that was ruled out. Cliff explained that they pull out obvious larger waste, but typically they do not recover materials due to cost or timing. Dan Scollan (DNR) clarified that this site is above the water table, and asked what the depth of the waste is compared to the water table at Pig's Eye Dump. Cliff shared that a significant amount of the waste is sitting at or below the water table at Pig's Eye. David Bell (MDH) asked what the depth of excavation was at the case study site. Cliff shared that he thinks it was about 40-60 feet, but some of the other case studies he would be going over during the meeting are larger efforts. Jimmy Francis (City of South St. Paul) asked for clarification on why this landfill was chosen in comparison to Pig's Eye. Cliff shared that this landfill is an example of the Lift and Line process which is a possible method for Pig's Eye Dump. This landfill is smaller in size but provides an idea of cost and effort needed if it was scaled to Pig's Eye's size. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) shared that it can be helpful to see what options there are for use of the site afterwards and restoration opportunities as well.

The **WDE Landfill in Andover, Minnesota** is an example of a hot spot removal of hazardous waste. Cliff provided background on the site history, contamination, and the cleanup process. The site is currently managed as a landfill and was not restored for public use. Nathan Wallerstedt (Army Corps of Engineers) asked if the waste was hauled elsewhere, and Cliff clarified that the waste was all hauled offsite and incinerated. Caleb asked if the location of the waste at this site made it easier to remove compared to Pig's Eye Dump. Cliff shared that the waste was not conveniently located, and it was a deep excavation. David clarified that even with hot spot removal there is continued monitoring of the site and Cliff confirmed that the site would need to be managed for a while.

Doyne Park is a site located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin that was used for waste disposal. There wasn't any major clean up at this site and the focus was on repurposing the space for the public. Cliff shared additional information on the site and how the waste is managed. They are currently doing public engagement to determine the use of the site. Possible options include a mountain bike park, dog park, or frisbee golf site. Melanie McMahon (City of St. Paul) asked if they were limited in the options they presented for reuse due to the waste staying in place. Cliff confirmed and said that most of the restoration options keep the area as open green space with some recreation use available. Dan asked Cliff to compare the site to Pig's Eye and to highlight some of the differences or similarities. Cliff shared that Doyne Park is a smaller site but that there is waste in

groundwater at this site. The big difference is the type of waste located at the site since Doyne Park's waste is not as complex as Pig's Eye Dump. Caleb asked if there was seasonal flooding at this site like Pig's Eye and Cliff shared that he did not think there is as much water level changes at Doyne Park.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park in Ohio was previously a dump site and was remediated through a dig and haul process. This process had a higher price tag and is smaller in size than Pig's Eye Dump. Cliff provided background on the type of contamination, how it was cleaned up, the companies that covered part of the clean-up cost, and how it was restored. Kirk asked if there was continued monitoring at this site and Cliff said he would check but he didn't believe there was continued monitoring needed. David asked how common it was for a landfill to not need continued monitoring and Cliff shared that it was uncommon. Melanie asked where they placed the contaminated soil and Cliff shared that it was placed in a landfill. Kirk clarified that this site is less of a landfill and more of a junkyard since most of the contamination was on the surface. Melanie asked if additional costs would be needed since they were focused on soil removal. Cliff said soil contamination can be tricky but solid waste is as well, so it can depend. Caleb asked if there is any wildlife monitoring or protection required at this site but Cliff was unsure.

Puente Hills Landfill in California was at one point the largest landfill in the country. No remedial action was taken at the site due to the size and amount of waste and is focusing on restoration instead. The current plan anticipates using decks over the site for recreation and reuse. Bill asked if the predicted landfill gas production was abnormally long, and Cliff said they would likely switch to passive gas management at the end of that period. Cliff shared that the comparisons to Pig's Eye may not be super strong with this case study, but it is an example of future use of a site without removing all waste.

Big Marsh Park is a site in Chicago that was remediated through hot spot removal. Cliff provided background on the site history and cleanup, partner organizations, and site use. The site was restored as a mountain bike park with biking and walking trails and an environmental center. Nathan clarified that this site wasn't a dump and instead was an industrial space with waste. Cliff confirmed and added that the area had clay caps added to cover the waste and allowed for different types of reuse. Cliff shared that this site is similar size to Pig's Eye Dump and they were able to reuse most of the space. Dan asked if there was gas extraction or management needed at the site and Cliff said there is not due to the type of waste. Caleb asked if the entire 300-acre site was disturbed or just portions, and Cliff confirmed that it was just the portions where there is not water. Bill mentioned that they frequently talk about the use of clay and if that was a resource that was available or limited. Cliff said that it may be limited near Pig's Eye Dump but there are other options.

Cliff shared a table comparing the six case studies with Pig's Eye Dump and discussed some of the future meeting topics the Task Force could look into.

4. Task Force discussion

Aneesha Marwah (Zan Associates) kicked off the discussion portion of the meeting and shared questions to go over. Cliff Shierk (MPCA) added that it would be helpful to know if the case studies were beneficial and what additional information they would like to see.

Melanie McMahon (City of St. Paul) shared that it was helpful to see the different types of sites, the scale, and types of remedial options that were used. She said it would be helpful to investigate funding opportunities and sources that are available and examples of pulling together funding for an effort like this. Cliff responded that

there is an example in Minnesota where large groups of people came together to gather funding and he would look into having a possible guest speaker.

Caleb Johnson (Washington County) thought it would be helpful to hear if there were any neighbor considerations at the sites in the case studies since Pig's Eye has the rail yard to consider.

Nathan Wallerstedt (Army Corps of Engineers) said they have talked about restoration some, but it could make sense to start discussing that during Task Force meetings. Cliff said that he thinks most of the case study sites were driven by remediation and restoration followed. Melanie mentioned that costs and funding could determine what types of remediation and restoration efforts are available.

Dan Scollan (DNR) mentioned that some of the case studies were urban or industrial sites, and is interested in learning about how they facilitated the restoration options there. Aneesha added that there was a lot of community groups that advocated to use the Chicago site as a park.

Caleb asked if there was a restriction on what type of plantings can be used on the sites that were remediated with hot spot removal. Cliff shared that they intentionally plant native plants that won't harm the landfill cover due to long roots. The sites are regularly monitored to prevent trees and other large plants that could damage the landfill cover.

Jimmy Francis (South St. Paul) thought it was helpful to see the case studies and shared that he is still interested in fully remediating the site. He added that it would be a good use of funds and there are plenty of people in the government that would want to be involved in a successful full remediation. He emphasized that engagement should focus on public access entities that can share information about this site.

David Bell (MDH) said that it was helpful to see the case studies as it reiterated how unique Pig's Eye Dump is. He asked if there are other examples of projects that were phased processes when dealing with a landfill. Cliff said he would look into examples of cleanups that occurred over different phases.

Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) emphasized that he doesn't want to lose site of the amount of waste and where that waste would be disposed of if they fully remediated Pig’s Eye Dump. He shared that the landfills in the metro area may not be able to hold all the waste from Pig's Eye Dump and would result in additional steps and costs to safely dispose of the waste.

Caleb mentioned that some of the costs seem large but comparing them to other infrastructure projects they may not seem as drastic. Cliff and Pam Anderson (MPCA) mentioned that costs have also inflated over time so that is a consideration as well.

Bill Sumner (City of Newport) asked if burning the waste and using plasma was an option. Cliff said that he has not seen it done at the scale needed for Pig’s Eye Dump, but they could look into it.

5. Public questions/comments

Aneesha Marwah (Zan Associates) kicked off the public comment portion of the meeting.

A member of Friends of the Mississippi River asked if the meetings could be announced to the public sooner and more clearly on the MPCA website.

A member of Pig's Eye Park Friends shared that there have been two floods recently at the site and thought it would be helpful to have a map that shows the flooding and waste at the site. She mentioned that the Pollinator

Festival would be a good place to host a pop-up and share information about Pig's Eye Dump. She would also like to see more surveys on wildlife in the area.

Another member of the public said that he appreciated the comments about how significant this site is and the importance of cleaning it up. He emphasized the importance of wildlife and habitat at the site. He would like to see the Task Force investigate federal funding and other sources to fully remediate the site.

6. Final Task Force comments

Aneesha Marwah (Zan Associates) shared the next task force meeting dates. The task force did not have any final comments.

7. Adjourn

Cliff Shierk (MPCA) adjourned the meeting.

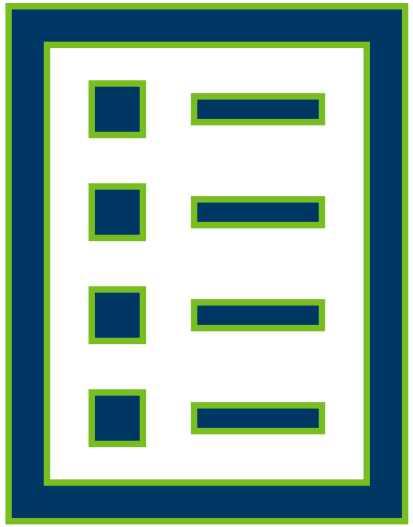
MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #5

July 18, 2024

Agenda

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda (9:30 a.m.)
2. Re-cap last meeting and engagement update (9:35 a.m.)
3. Presentation on case studies (9:50 a.m.)
4. Task Force discussion (10:35 a.m.)
5. Public questions/comments (11:00 a.m.)
6. Final Task Force comments (11:20 a.m.)
7. Adjourn (11:30 a.m.)



Welcome and Introductions

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



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Recap from last meeting and engagement update

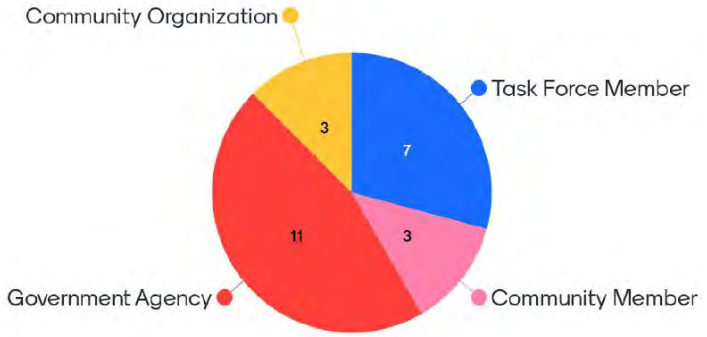
Last meeting recap

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?

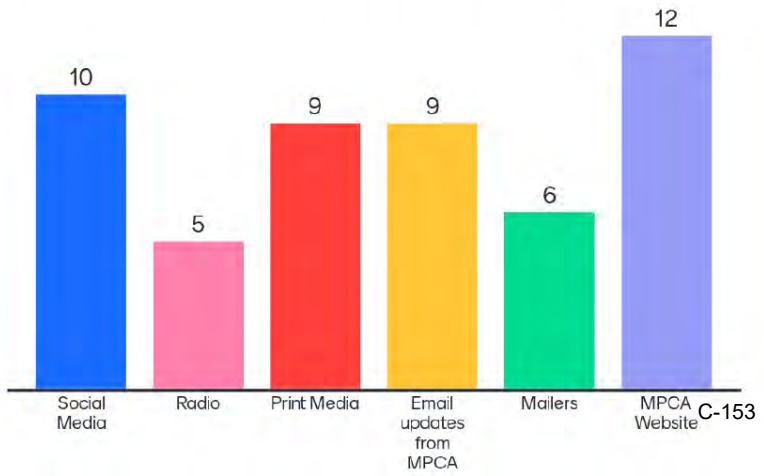


Engagement update

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

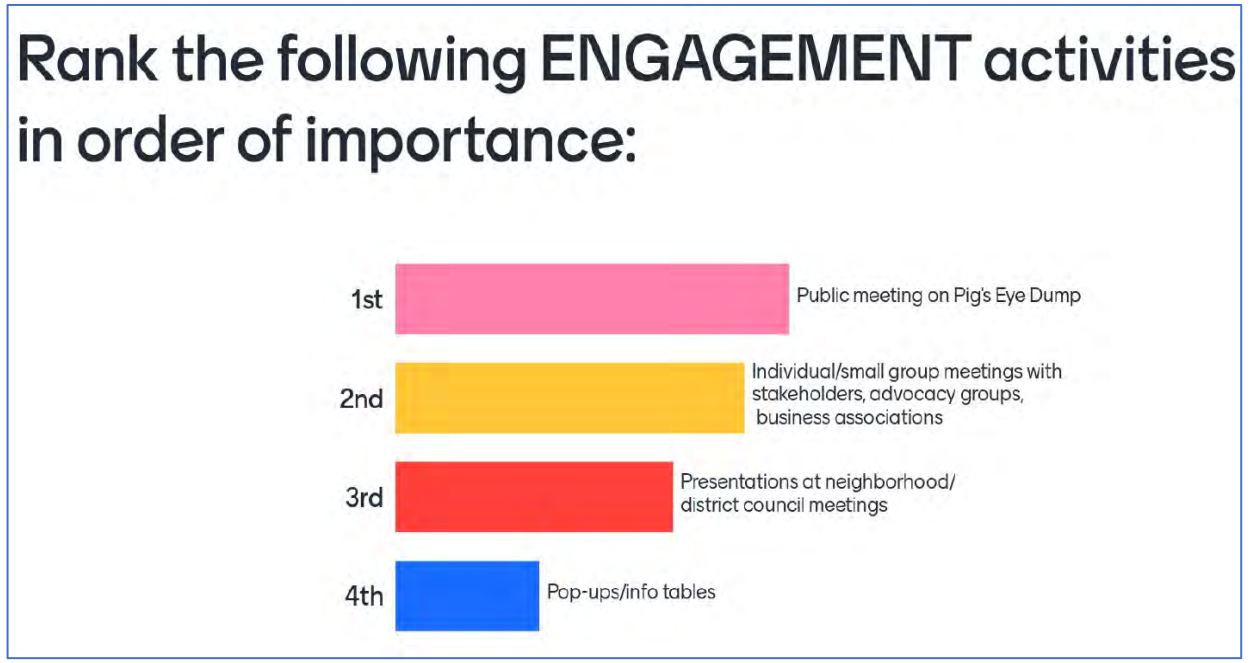


Which of the following COMMUNICATION activities do you want prioritized?



FY 2025 Engagement Plan

- Wakan Tipi
- Urban Roots
- Great River Passage Conservancy
- U of M Long Term Ecological Research Group
- Pigs Eye Park Friends
- Friends of the Mississippi River
- Lions Club
- Rotary Club
- **Others?**



FY 2025 Engagement Plan

- Art in the Hollow June 2024 – Completed
- Location 2 TBD (Summer 2024)
- Location 3 TBD (Fall 2024)
- Location ideas?



Pig's Eye Dump Cleanup

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Overview

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is leading a multi-agency task force charged with developing a plan to clean up and restore Pig's Eye Dump. The task force will provide recommendations on what actions should be performed for cleanup and restoration of the area and will consider public input. The task force will also address contamination of Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, and nearby groundwater.

What is the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency?

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) focuses on preventing and reducing pollution across the state. The MPCA monitors environmental conditions of the air, land, and water. The MPCA works with businesses, governments, organizations, and tribal nations to improve human health and protect natural resources.

What is Pig's Eye Dump?

Pig's Eye Dump was an unregulated municipal, commercial, and industrial waste dumping area from 1956 to 1972. Despite initial cleanup efforts in the early 2000s, significant environmental concerns remain at the site. The surrounding area has several important shared uses, including Dakota homeland and sacred sites, a regional park, a wastewater treatment plant, and natural areas that serve as a bird migration route.

Size: 200 Acres

Owner: City of St. Paul

Location:
800 feet east of the Mississippi River, north of Pig's Eye Lake

Characteristics:

- Within the Mississippi River's floodplain
- Battle Creek flows through the central portion of the site

Task Force Meetings

Meetings of the task force are open to the public and will continue every two months until January 2026. The cleanup and restoration plan will be completed in February 2026.

Past meeting information is available on the task force webpage.

Stay connected

Learn more about the Pig's Eye Dump Task Force and sign up to receive updates.
mnpca.info/pedtf

pedtf.pca@state.mn.us 651-757-2244

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Case Studies

Pig’s Eye Dump

Site Name: Pig’s Eye Dump

Owner: City of St. Paul

Location: St. Paul, Minnesota

Remedial Action: TBD

Year Completed: TBD

Cost: TBD

Volume / Acreage: 6+ million CY / 220 acres



Washington County Landfill (Lake Elmo, MN)

Site Name: Washington County Landfill

Location: Lake Elmo, Minnesota

Owner: City of Lake Elmo

Remedial Action: Lift and Line

Year Completed: 2012

Cost: $24 million ($8 million contribution from 3M)

Volume / Acreage: 1.9 million CY / 25 acres



Washington County Landfill (Lake Elmo, MN)

Site History

- Operated from 1969-1975
- Municipal solid waste landfill
  - Accepted wastewater sludge from 3M's Cottage Grove facility
- Added to USEPA Superfund list in 1984
- De-listed in 1996 when it entered the MPCA Closed Landfill Program
- Groundwater impacted with VOCs, 1,4-dioxane, and PFAS



Washington County Landfill (Lake Elmo, MN)

Cleanup

- Closed and covered with soil in 1975
- Groundwater treatment system installed in 1981; operated until 2009
- Cover upgraded in 1996 with landfill gas extraction system
- Lift and line performed from 2009-2012
- Legacy groundwater contamination remains
  - Part of larger East Metro PFAS groundwater area of concern



Washington County Landfill (Lake Elmo, MN)

Cleanup (continued)





Washington County Landfill (Lake Elmo, MN)



Washington County Landfill (Lake Elmo, MN)

Site Use

- Continuing obligations for landfill operations and maintenance:
  - Groundwater monitoring
  - Landfill gas collection and destruction (flare)
  - Leachate collection and disposal
- 40 kW solar array installed in 2016
- City of Lake Elmo municipal operations
- Dog park on northern portion (no waste present)



WDE Landfill (Andover, MN)

Site Name: Waste Disposal Engineering (WDE) Landfill

Owner: MPCA

Location: Andover, Minnesota

Remedial Action: Hotspot Removal

Year Completed: 2021

Cost: $22 million

Volume / Acreage:

- Landfill: 2.4 million CY / 76 acres
- Cleanup: ~30,000 CY / 14 acres





WDE Landfill (Andover, MN)

Site History

- Operated from 1963-1983
- Municipal solid waste landfill
  - Asphalt-lined hazardous waste pit from 1971-1974
- Added to USEPA Superfund list in 1983
- De-listed in 1995 when it entered the MPCA Closed Landfill Program
- Groundwater impacted with 1,4-dioxane, vinyl chloride, and PFAS





WDE Landfill (Andover, MN)

Cleanup

- Covered with soil in 1983; cover upgraded in 1993
- Groundwater pump and treat system operated from 1992-present
- Vapor extraction system installed in hazardous waste pit area 2009-2018
- Hazardous waste pit removal performed from 2019-2021
- Legacy groundwater contamination remains





WDE Landfill (Andover, MN)

Site Use

- Continuing obligations for landfill operations and maintenance:
  - Groundwater pump-and-treat system
  - Groundwater monitoring
  - Landfill gas collection and destruction (flare)
  - Leachate collection and disposal



Doyne Park (Milwaukee, WI)

Site Name: Doyne Park

Owner: City of Milwaukee

Location: Milwaukee, WI

Remedial Action: Manage in Place

Year Completed: Ongoing

Cost: Unknown



Volume / Acreage: 2.4 million CY / 60 acres

Doyne Park (Milwaukee, WI)

Site History

- Two former quarries from mid-1800s
- Purchased by City of Milwaukee in the 1930s for waste disposal
  - Not MSW (wood, appliances, C&D waste)
- Operated until 1973
- Redeveloped as golf course in 1976
- Minimal groundwater impacts observed
  - State requested that 1,4-dioxane and PFAS be sampled in 2020



Doyne Park (Milwaukee, WI)

Cleanup and Site Use

- Groundwater monitoring wells installed in 1990
- Clay cap (3 feet thick) identified in 1996
- Landfill gas migration control system installed in 1997-1998
  - 38 extraction wells, 25 monitoring points, and 3200 feet of pipe all below grade
- Golf course closed; currently soliciting public input for future use



Cuyahoga Valley National Park (Ohio)

Site Name: Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Owner: National Park Service

Location: Ohio

Remedial Action: Dig and Haul

Year Completed: 2020

Cost: $50-60 million

Volume / Acreage: ~560,000 CY / 48 acres



Cuyahoga Valley National Park (Ohio)

Site History

- Krejci Dump Site operated as salvage yard and dump from mid-1940s to late 1970s
- Became part of CVNP in 1980; property officially acquired in 1985
- Closed to public in 1986 after initial EPA investigation
  - ~5,000 leaking drums found
- Eligible for Superfund program after comprehensive investigation
  - Groundwater impacts included PCBs, dioxin, PAHs, pesticides, benzene, and metals



Cuyahoga Valley National Park (Ohio)

Cleanup

- Began in 2005
- First major excavation of material (225,000 tons of soil) completed in 2007
- Additional 150,000 tons removed in 2009
- Ford led the cleanup; recovered $24 million (~80%) from responsible parties
  - GM, Chrysler, Chevron, 3M were RPs







Cuyahoga Valley National Park (Ohio)

Site Use

- Restoration of the site largely completed in 2014
  - Includes meadows, pools, and wetland habitat
- USEPA awarded ‘Excellence in Site Reuse’ award



Puente Hills Landfill Park (California)

Site Name: Puente Hills Landfill Park

Owner: Los Angeles County

Location: Los Angeles, CA

Remedial Action: None Planned

Year Completed: TBD

Cost: TBD

Volume / Acreage:

130 million tons / 602 acres

(deepest fill area = 500 feet)



Puente Hills Landfill Park (California)

Site History

- San Gabriel Valley Dump opens in 1957
- Purchased in 1970 by Los Angeles County Sanitation District
- Stops accepting waste in 2013
- Master Plan for site published in 2016



Puente Hills Landfill Park (California)

Site Use

- Current proposal leaves waste in place and uses “decks” for park areas
- Long range planning for phased development to account for:
  - Settlement (30 years)
  - Landfill gas production (75 years)



Big Marsh Park (Chicago)

Site Name: Big Marsh Park

Owner: Chicago Parks District

Location: Chicago, Illinois

Remedial Action: Hotspot Removal

Year Completed: 2021

Cost: Unknown

Volume / Acreage:

- Site: 300 acres
- Cleanup: ~30,000 CY / 14 acres



Big Marsh Park (Chicago)

Site History and Cleanup

- Heavily industrialized area since 1800s
- Dumping ground for slag and other industrial waste from nearby steel mills
- Chicago Park District acquired property in 2011
- Soil cap (clay) was installed as restoration activities progressed
- Many partners including Friends of Big Marsh and REI



Big Marsh Park (Chicago)

Site Use

- Phase 1 of mountain bike park opened in 2016 (45 acres)
- Biking and walking trails constructed throughout the park
- 45 acres of hemi-marsh wetlands
- Ford Calumet Environmental Center completed in 2021 ($7.8 million)





Summary Table

	Pig's Eye LF	Wash. County LF	WDE LF	Doyne Park	Cuyahoga Valley National Park	Puente Hills Landfill Park	Big Marsh Park
Location	St. Paul, MN	Lake Elmo, MN	Andover, MN	Milwaukee, WI	Ohio	Los Angeles, CA	Chicago, IL
Owner	City of St. Paul	City of Lake Elmo	MPCA	City of Milwaukee	National Park Service	Los Angeles County	Chicago Park District
Remedial Action	TBD	Lift and Line	Hotspot removal	Landfill Gas Extraction	Dig and Haul	Ongoing Maintenance	Soil Capping
Volume Addressed (CY)	TBD	1,900,000	~30,000	0	~500,000	0	0
Cost	TBD	$24MM	$22MM	Unknown	$50-60MM	TBD	Unknown
Funding Source	TBD	State Bonding / 3M	State Bonding	City of Milwaukee	Public w/ RP contributions	TBD	Chicago Park District
Final Site Use	TBD	Landfill w/ dog park, solar	Landfill	Golf course (new use TBD)	Parkland	Park	Park w/ bike trails and env. center

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Task Force Discussion

Task Force Discussion

1. What type of **additional research** would you like the MPCA to do on these case studies?
2. Would you like to learn more about any of the case studies presented?
3. What was the **most surprising** thing about the case studies?
4. Public **engagement ideas** continued- places for pop-ups? Other groups for small group meetings?
5. **Next meeting topic?** Restoration, deeper dive into a few case studies? Guest speakers?



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Public Comment

Public Comment

Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Task Force Final Comments

Next Meeting Dates/Times:
Meeting #6 – September 23rd, 2:00-4:00 pm (In person)
Meeting #7 – December 6, 9:30-11:30 am (Virtual)

Thank you!

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Agenda for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #6

Monday, September 23, 2024
2:00-4:00 p.m.
Main Level Room 100 - MPCA, 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

1. **Welcome, introductions, agenda (2:00 p.m.)**
2. **Re-cap last meeting (2:05 p.m.)**
3. **Doyne Park guest speaker, Task Force and public questions (2:10 p.m.)**
4. **Big Marsh guest speakers, Task Force and public questions (2:30 p.m.)**
5. **Break (3:15 p.m.)**
    - **MPCA state funding, Task Force and public questions (3:20 p.m.)**
6. **Task Force discussion (3:40 p.m.)**
7. **Adjourn (4:00 p.m.)**

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Notes for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #6

Monday, September 23, 2024
2:00-4:00 p.m.
Main Level Room 100 - 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

- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Pam Anderson, MPCA
- Alexa Golemo, MPCA
- Aneesha Marwah, Zan Associates
- Kara Van Lerberghe, Zan Associates
- Ashley Thompson, Zan Associates

Presenters

- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Pam Anderson, MPCA
- Aneesha Marwah, Zan Associates

Guest Speakers

- Tony Giron, Doyne Park – Milwaukee County Parks
- Lauren Umek, Big Marsh - Chicago Park District
- Daniel Cooper, Big Marsh - Chicago Park District
- Luis Cabrales, Big Marsh - Chicago Park District

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda

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

2. Re-cap last meeting

Hans Neve (MPCA) provided a recap of the July Task Force meeting where they discussed six case studies and identified the two they would be learning more about during this meeting. He gave an overview of the five remedial options to keep in mind. Aneesha Marwah (Zan Associates) gave an overview of the community meeting, site tour, and stakeholder conversation that were held in September. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) mentioned that it was her first time at the site and that it was beautiful. David Bell (MDH) thanked Pig's Eye Park Friends for guiding the site tour and hearing their vision for the future. Aneesha highlighted some of the feedback themes the team heard from the community meetings including prioritizing ecological health of the area, increased accessibility, future generations, environmental justice, and preserving the history of the site. Aneesha highlighted the other engagement the team has been working on and asked for any recommended events. Jimmy Francis (South St. Paul) recommended an upcoming event in South St. Paul that the team could attend.

3. Doyne Park guest speaker, Task Force and public questions

Tony Giron (Milwaukee County Parks) introduced himself as the Community Engagement Manager and shared that he would be providing information on the future of Doyne Park and their engagement efforts. Tony provided background on the history of Doyne Park where it was previously a dump site and how it developed into a park. Tony shared how they collected the public's input on the future of the site, how improvements were funded, and what was feasible at the site since it was previously a landfill. Bill Sumner (City of Newport) asked for clarification of why some were and were not interested in disc golf. Tony clarified that there was a strong interest in disc golf from some residents, but nearby neighbors felt that there were better uses. David Bell (MDH) asked if the site is ever saturated from the nearby location of the river. Tony shared that there is a wall that prevents saturation and flooding. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) asked what the long-term remediation is and how they know if it is working. Tony shared that there is a two-to-five-foot clay cap on top of the landfill and that they are starting to see erosion in some areas. Bill asked for the size of the site and if there was a cost for the usage plan. Tony shared that it is about 40-acres and that he was unsure of the cost. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) asked how they decided which neighbors to include when doing door-to-door engagement. Tony shared that it had to do with the size of the park and staff time. David asked if they noticed any attitudes changed when residents learned that the site was previously a landfill. Tony said that most people only knew the site as a park for most of their lives and were not very affected when learning about the history of it being a landfill. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) asked for more detail on the methane management system on the site. Tony shared the location of venting pipes and a system that the pipes lead to. Caleb asked for clarification on the site ownership. Tony clarified that the City owned it and used it as a landfill and then passed ownership off to the County Park system. Victoria asked what type of waste was in the site and Tony shared that it was mainly wood, old appliances, and street sweepings. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) asked if there were any lessons learned or certain techniques that worked better than others for engagement. Tony shared that door-to-door was the best way to get authentic community feedback and that mailers have a poor success rate. Bill asked if there were specific answers they wanted answered when doing door-to-door engagement and Tony said it was very open-ended conversations about what they would like to see. David asked about cost, if the progress was

split into phases, and how they will be proceeding in the future. Tony shared that they are getting funding for specific parts of the project and will hopefully be starting those soon. A member of the public asked if any of the waste had been removed and what river protections are in place. Tony shared that no waste was removed and that the wall protects some of the river but there are some areas where the landfill is near the river. Caleb asked if they deal with seasonal flooding near the river and Tony said they do not. Victoria pointed out that it is helpful that they knew what waste was present when determining remediation. A member of the public asked if they have done any chemical or environmental sampling at their site. Tony responded that he is unsure on the details of if and what sampling has been done. A member clarified that this project looked more at how to reuse and restore the area and less about remediation and Tony confirmed.

4. Big Marsh guest speakers, Task Force and public questions

Aneesha introduced the Big Marsh guest speakers which included Daniel Cooper, Lauren Umek, and Luis Cooper from the Chicago Park District. Daniel provided background on how the Big Marsh site was previously an industrial dump and its eventual transition into park ownership who had the goal of creating a space for recreation and ecological improvements. Daniel shared that there were sensitive ecological areas that they did not want to destroy with traditional remediation, so they approached it by capping some areas and doing natural restoration in others. He shared that they developed a relationship with the bike company SRAM to create a bike park and gather funding. Lauren highlighted how they assessed the site to prioritize both recreation and restoration at the site by looking at potential habitat and where remediation was needed. Luis went over what types of recreation and events are currently occurring at big marsh, including a biodiversity festival, summer camps, and bike camps. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) asked if the site was landlocked and if it was challenging to access the site. Daniel clarified that there are roads that go along the site and they are looking into getting a bus route to increase accessibility. Hans Neve (MPCA) asked about what funding all went into the site and Dan shared that SRAM and REI were major contributors for the recreational features. Lauren added that there were also funding from a variety of grants and private donations depending on what improvements they went towards. David Bell (MDH) asked about the timeline of when they started to go after grants and how long it has taken to get to stages of development. Lauren shared that it happened in stages and they started seeking grants for restoration since 2014. Bill Sumner (City of Newport) asked if the water on site is connected to Lake Calumet and Tony answered that there is no recreation connection to Lake Calumet and that the site is more of a marsh. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) asked if they have any concerns about the industrial sites surrounding the site and if it is factored in. Daniel shared that it is a concern, that they would like to connect to a nearby marsh in the future, and that they try to communicate to park patrons to stay off of nearby landfills and to stay within Big Marsh. David mentioned accessibility and what works best to garner interest from the community to visit the site. Luis mentioned that there are a lot of cool features at the site and events that keep people coming back. Dan added that it has slowly built over time but people continue to revisit. Bill Sumner (MPCA) asked if they deal with anyone who isn't respectful of the park and how they deal with that. Luis shared that most people who visit the park are visiting for the recreation and environmental opportunities but they work with their local police force if needed. Dan Scollan (DNR) asked what types of ecological restoration they have done at the site and if they have ran into issues with contaminants. Lauren shared that they have done invasive plant removal and seeding and that the native plants are affected by heavy metals. A member of the public asked how the aquifer is protected and Dan shared that it is a very industrial city and there is currently not any potable groundwater in Chicago but this site is better than most areas. A member of the public pointed out that this project looks at managing the land differently and incorporating environmental justice and the Big Marsh team agreed.

5. MPCA state funding, Task Force and public questions

Pam Anderson (MPCA) gave an overview of how polluted sites are typically funded and what funds Pig's Eye Dump has access to. Pam provided a couple examples of projects in Minnesota that were funded by different sources. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) added that part of the Task Force's goals is to brainstorm funding opportunities since one party won't be able to fund the remediation and restoration themselves. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) added that not much has been done here yet because of the lack of funding and that there would be support for gathering federal funding to support the Mississippi River. Melanie McMahon (City of St. Paul) asked for clarification on if Pig's Eye Dump is eligible to some of the federal funds that the example projects used and Pam responded that they would not since a connection to the great lakes was required. Melanie asked Victoria if there are other federal sources that may be applicable. Victoria shared that it could have access to transportation funds since it is an important transportation route, possible funds for migratory birds, but they would need to tap multiple funds to make progress. Nathan Wallerstedt (Army Corps) added that as a federal partner they do ecosystem restoration so it depends on the remediation because they need a clean site to do restoration on. He added that if there is beneficial use of materials on the site the Corps may have access to funds for that. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) added that the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) is a good example of gathering funding in unique way. A member of the public mentioned that GLRI has funded local projects in the area through the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.***** A member of the public asked if the 3M settlement funds can be used towards the Pig's Eye Dump and Kirk explained that it would likely not be applicable. Victoria asked if there were separate funds out there in the Metropolitan Abatement Fund or if they have been moved into the Environmental Fund to used more broadly. Kirk Koudelka explained that the 25% of the funds go into MLCAT and 75% go into efforts for recycling.

6. Task Force discussion

Hans Neve (MPCA) kicked off the discussion portion of the meeting. Bill Sumner asked if either of the presidential candidates have mentioned environmental impacts and made any statements and Kirk Koudelka responded (MPCA) that they are not currently following any statements. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) pointed out that Big Marsh seemed like a more applicable example when comparing it to the Pig's Eye site and thanked both presenters. Jimmy Francis (South St. Paul) asked if the lottery dollars could be accessed for this project and Pam Anderson (MPCA) said that remediation work is not eligible for those funds. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) added that the remediation might not apply but its possible restoration efforts may be applicable. A member of the public mentioned that she would like the Task Force to keep in mind who was responsible for putting the waste in the dumpsite. Victoria clarified that they don't know who put what in the site since it was an unregulated dump. A member of the public added that Big Marsh is an impressive example of turning the area into a public park. Victoria added that she will be at the next Task Force virtual meeting but will be retiring soon and still plans to stay engaged in the project.

7. Adjourn

Hans Neve (MPCA) adjourned the meeting.

****** *Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding is intended for projects that occur in the Great Lakes basin or for projects that benefit the Great Lakes basin. Historically, per EPA, some projects were funded outside of the basin to support prevention of AIS spread into the basin. For dollars related to remediation activities, they are tied specifically to an Area of Concern within the basin and would not be available for remediation work outside of the basin.*

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #6

September 23, 2024

Agenda

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda (2:00 p.m.)
2. Re-cap last meeting (2:05 p.m.)
3. Doyne Park guest speaker (Milwaukee, WI) , Task Force and public questions (2:10 p.m.)
4. Big Marsh guest speakers (Chicago, IL), Task Force and public questions (2:30 p.m.)
5. Break (3:15 p.m.)
6. MPCA state funding overview, Task Force and public questions (3:20 p.m.)
7. Task Force discussion (3:40 p.m.)
8. Adjourn (4:00 p.m.)



Welcome and Introductions

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



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Recap from last Task Force meetings and engagement update

July Meeting Recap



March Meeting Recap

Response Action Comparison	Option 1 (No Action)	Option 2 (Waste In-Place + GW Remedy)	Option 3 (Targeted Waste Removal + GW Remedy)	Option 4 (Total Excavation of Landfill/Waste Hauled offsite + GW Remedy)	Option 5 (Total Excavation of Landfill + Landfill Rebuild + GW Remedy)
Protection of Public Health	Lowest →				Highest
Cost (Construction Only)		$	$$	$$$$$	$$$$
Long Term Effectiveness	▲	▲	■	●	●
Implementability	●	●	■	▲	▲
Short Term Risk (Construction)	●	●	■	▲	▲
Sustainability (Env/Social/Economic)	▲	■	■	■	●
Construction Timeline	●	●	■	▲	▲
Community Acceptance	??	??	??	??	??

● green ■ yellow ▲ red

Engagement Update





9/12 Virtual Community Meeting



9/16 Conversation at Swede Hollow

- 29 people attended participated representing various groups (community orgs, nonprofits, government, residents)
- Attendees shared their vision for the site and how to further community involvement

Engagement Update

- Signage, paths, etc.

- Dakota homeland
- Dump history



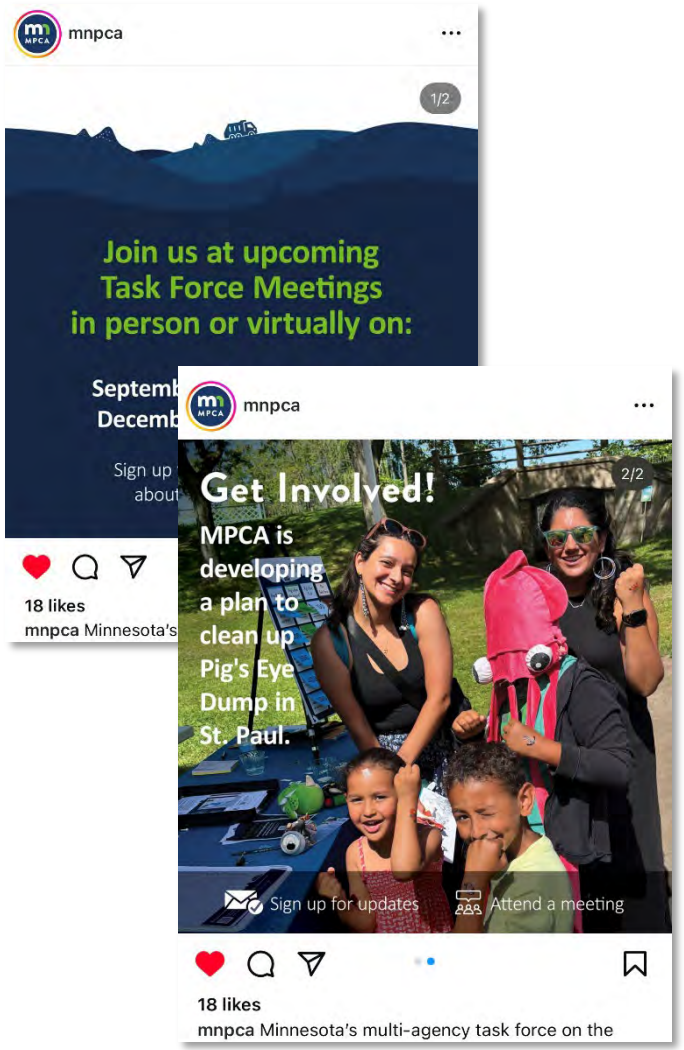


September 10 Community Tour

FY 2025 Engagement Plan



8/11 – Wakaŋ Tipi Pollinator Festival



- Art in the Hollow June 2024 – Completed
- Pollinator Festival August 2024 – Completed
- Location 3 TBD (Fall 2024)
- Location ideas?

- Reshares/reposts?

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Doyne Park
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Doyne Park (Milwaukee, WI)

Site Name: Doyne Park

Owner: City of Milwaukee

Location: Milwaukee, WI

Remedial Action: Manage in Place

Year Completed: Ongoing

Cost: Unknown



Volume / Acreage: 2.4 million CY / 60 acres

Doyne Park (Milwaukee, WI)

Cleanup and Site Use

- Groundwater monitoring wells installed in 1990
- Clay cap (3 feet thick) identified in 1996
- Landfill gas migration control system installed in 1997-1998
  - 38 extraction wells, 25 monitoring points, and 3200 feet of pipe all below grade
- Golf course closed; currently soliciting public input for future use



Public Comment

Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Big Marsh
Chicago, Illinois



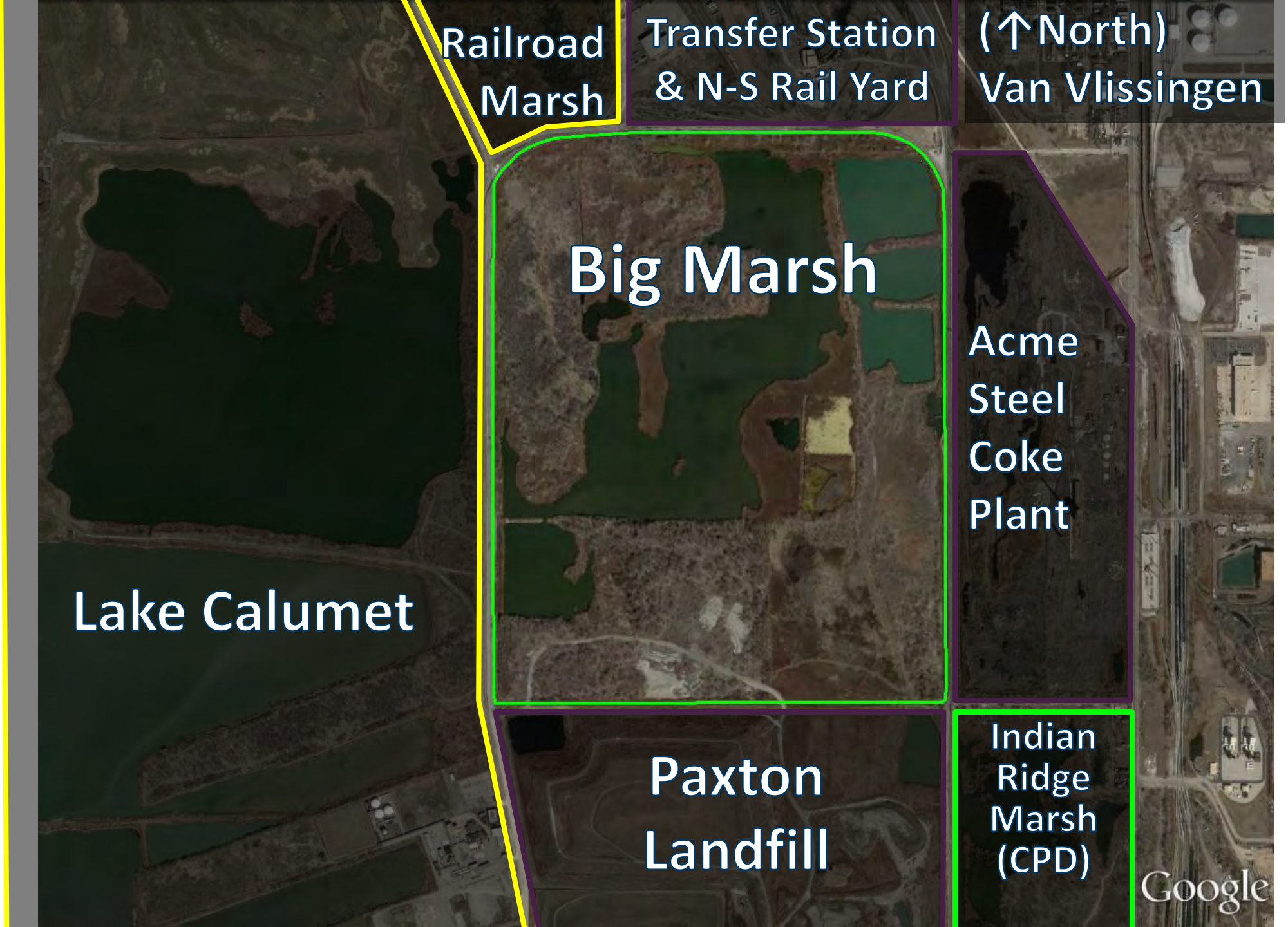









BIKE CONVERGENCE
2019

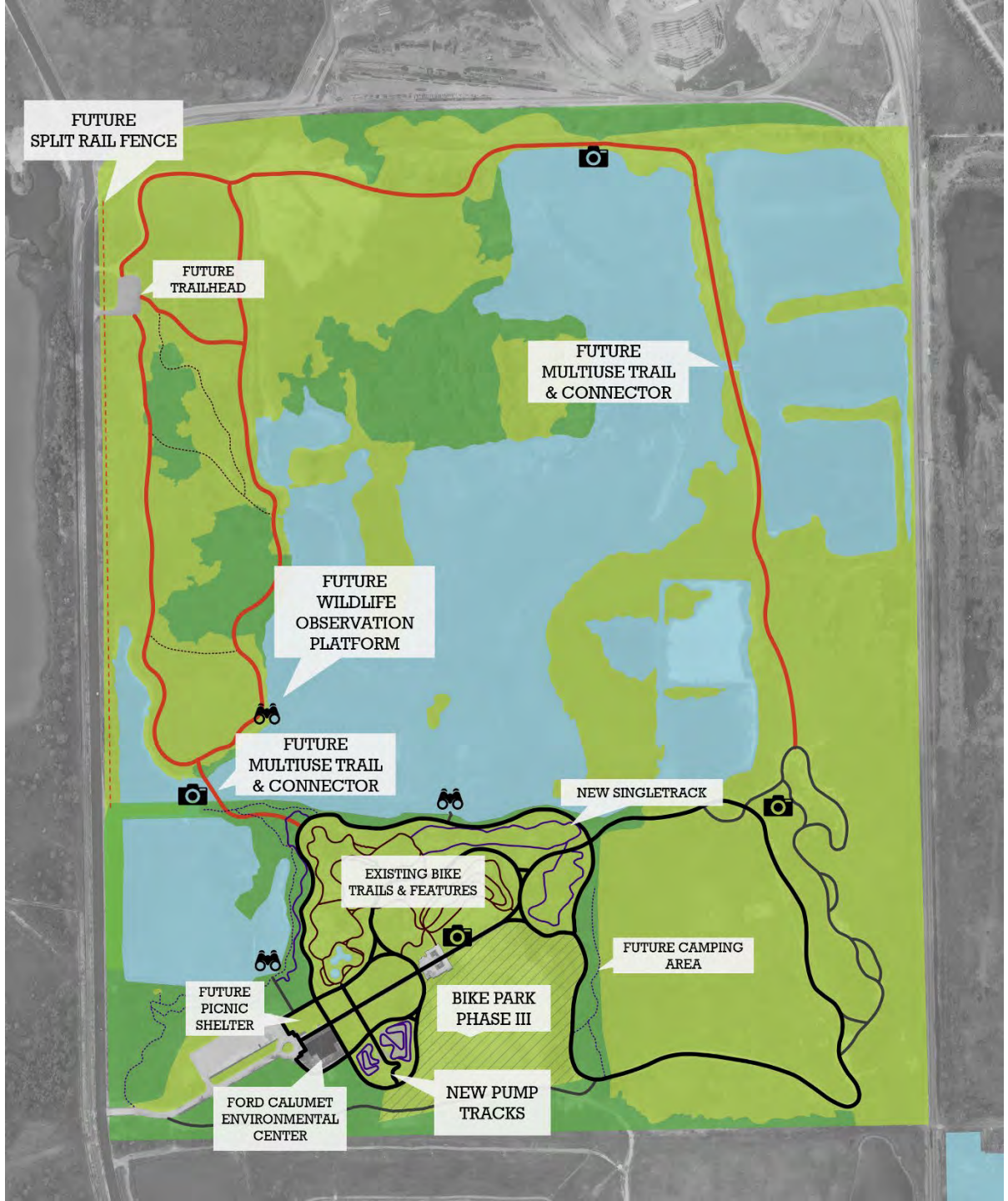

Railroad Marsh
Transfer Station & N-S Rail Yard
(↑North) Van Vlissingen
Big Marsh
Acme Steel Coke Plant
Lake Calumet
Paxton Landfill
Indian Ridge Marsh (CPD)
Google

Initial Conditions



- 98 Acres Open Water
- 68 Acres Emergent Wetland (Phrag)
- 64 Acres Wooded Upland (Buckthorn & Cottonwoods)
- 49 Acres degraded wet meadow, wet meadow & Old Field
- 25 Acres Exposed Slag


Slag and Industrial Legacy


FUTURE
SPLIT RAIL FENCE
FUTURE
TRAILHEAD
FUTURE
MULTIUSE TRAIL
& CONNECTOR
FUTURE
WILDLIFE
OBSERVATION
PLATFORM
FUTURE
MULTIUSE TRAIL
& CONNECTOR
NEW SINGLETRACK
EXISTING BIKE
TRAILS & FEATURES
FUTURE CAMPING
AREA
FUTURE
PICNIC
SHELTER
BIKE PARK
PHASE III
NEW PUMP
TRACKS
FORD CALUMET
ENVIRONMENTAL
CENTER

Public Comment

Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

5 Minute Break

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

MPCA State Funding Overview

Remediation and Funding

- Generally funded by a Responsible Party (RP)
- State led sites funded through our Remediation Fund (subset of the Environmental Fund)
- State led sites funded through bonding dollars (general obligation and appropriation bonds)
- Metropolitan Landfill Abatement Act – Fund established in 1984 to ensure that necessary and reasonable care would be adequately funded at mixed municipal solid waste disposal facilities in the 7-county metro area. Funded by a portion of the metropolitan solid waste landfill fee.

Sources of Funding

- Great Lakes Legacy Act - The Great Lakes Legacy Act provides federal funding to accelerate contaminated sediment remediation in Great Lakes Areas of Concern. The Legacy Act was authorized in 2002 with the first appropriation in 2004. The Act was reauthorized in 2008.
- Site clean up and redevelopment funding through the Department of Employment and Economic Development
- Other sources

Munger Landing

- 77-acre shallow sheltered bay
- Cadmium, copper lead, mercury, nickel, zinc and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, polychlorinated biphenyls and dioxins/furans present in sediment



Munger Landing

- Removed 107,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment and disposed it at an offsite landfill
- Placed 79,000 cubic yards of clean substrate over 38 acres
- Restored approximately 8 acres of aquatic habitat
- Restored MNDNR boat launch to modern standards
- Built a new, sandy kayak landing
- Additional Partners:
  - City of Duluth
  - Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

- Cost: $42M
- GLLA: $25M
- CWF: $387K
- State Bond: $2.1M
- Private Partner/Responsible Party: $14M
- State of WI: $355K

Thompson Reservoir

- 330-acre hydroelectric reservoir near Scanlon
- Dioxins/furans are the primary contaminants



Thompson Reservoir

- Remediate approximately 245,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediments by adding activated carbon amendment
- Improve and expand parking lot serving the National Kayak & Canoe Center
- Includes additional partners
  - Minnesota Power
  - U of M Duluth Recreational Sports Outdoor Program

- Cost: $34 M
- GLLA: $23M
- CWF: $420K
- State Bond: $4M
- Private Partner/Responsible Party: $6.7M

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Public Comment

Public Comment

Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Task Force Discussion





9/23/2024

September 10 Community Tour

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Upcoming:
Task Force Meeting #7
December 6, 2024
9:30-11:30 am (Virtual)

Thank you!

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig’s Eye Dump Task Force

Agenda for Pig’s Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #7

Friday, December 6, 2024
9:30-11:30 a.m.

Virtual

1. **Welcome, introductions, agenda (9:30 a.m.)**
2. **Re-cap of previous meetings and next steps (9:35 a.m.)**
3. **Remediation and restoration goals (9:45 a.m.)**
4. **Public engagement next steps (9:55 a.m.)**
5. **Bringing remediation and reuse strategies together (10:05 a.m.)**
6. **Task Force discussion (10:45 a.m.)**
7. **Public comment (11:10 a.m.)**
8. **Adjourn (11:30 a.m.)**

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force
Notes for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #7

Friday, December 6, 2024
9:30-11:30 a.m.

Virtual and Main Level Room 100 - 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

- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Alexa Golemo, MPCA
- Kara Van Lerberghe, Zan Associates
- Ashley Thompson, Zan Associates

Presenters

- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Kara Van Lerberghe, Zan Associates
- Ashley Thompson, Zan Associates

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda

Ashley Thompson (Zan Associates) kicked off the meeting, thanked everyone for being in attendance, introduced herself, and went over the agenda. Task force members and consultants followed by introducing themselves.

2. Re-cap last meeting

Hans Neve (MPCA) provided a recap of the September Task Force meeting where he went over the highlights of the case study guest speakers and funding strategies. Hans shared a timeline and went over the three phases: education, decision-making, and documenting and review. The task force is currently at the end of the education

phase and is transitioning into the decision-making phase. He went over some of the key voices in the decision-making process and how they influence different decision points for remediation and restoration.

3. Remediation and restoration goals

Hans kicked off the remediation and restoration goals portion of the presentation by sharing an overview of the contamination at the site and the remediation and restoration goals. The restoration goals can be grouped into a few future land use options: recreation, ecological, and industrial/commercial future uses. Jimmy Francis (City of South Saint Paul) asked if the industrial/commercial use would include keeping the site as a landfill. Hans shared that they would be discussing that as a possible future use option in today's meeting.

4. Public engagement next steps

Kara Van Lerberghe (Zan Associates) provided an overview of the public engagement pop-ups, community meetings, and online engagement that has been completed so far. The next steps include sharing an online survey, social media toolkit, and additional in-person engagement over the course of January through March. She shared the information that would be included in the survey to gather public input about what they would like to see as a future use option. Ashley Thompson (Zan Associates) paused to ask the Task Force members if they had any questions or initial thoughts. David Bell (Department of Health) asked how the specific future use options for the public were developed and Kara answered that some are options are ideas the team has heard from the public and others were brainstormed. Melanie McMahon (City of Saint Paul) shared concern about determining the future end use of the site instead of leading with remediation and wanted to make sure the public has context on what is feasible. Hans shared that they would talk more about the limitations when blending remediation and restoration together and he agrees that feasibility information should be communicated to the public. Commissioner Reinhardt (Ramsey County) asked if they had investigated other options for addressing the waste like pyrolysis or anaerobic digestion instead of moving the waste elsewhere. Hans shared that due to the type of waste on site, there aren't many options but that they could investigate pyrolysis and anaerobic digestion as an option*****. Sam Paske (Met Council) brought up concerns about how realistic some of the future use options are due to the difficulty accessing the site. Bill Sumner (Newport) asked how realistic some of the future use options are if they were to experience a larger flooding event. Hans responded that some uses are flood tolerant and some are not, so it would depend on how the site is remediated to make sure they are compatible.

5. Bringing remediation and reuse strategies together

Hans Neve (MPCA) shared they would be discussing how remediation and reuse strategies overlap and the considerations for each option. He gave a background on the remedial options that are on the table and shared additional information including estimated construction costs and timeline, landscape changes, and waste management impacts. He then went into the different future use options for each remediation option and how the waste would need to be managed to reach certain end use goals.

6. Task Force discussion

Hans Neve (MPCA) started off the discussion portion of the meeting by sharing some questions for the Task Force to answer. Nathan Wallerstedt (Army Corps) shared that the potential for backfill needs may be an opportunity from the Corps perspective to leverage federal dollars. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) shared concern that any option that removes waste from the site will have significantly high costs and would greatly impact the amount of available space in existing permitted landfills for future generations. Jimmy Francis (South St. Paul) shared that he feels there is still a way to effectively clean up the site by utilizing the legislature and

people in the Capitol who would want to support this cause and help solve this problem. Commissioner Reinhardt (Ramsey County) pointed out that the legislature were the ones that came together and requested the Task Force be formed. She added that they acknowledged the reason it has stalled in the past is due to high costs, and that they will be looking for answers from the Task Force on how to best address the dump and how to fund it. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) asked the Task Force how they would like to see the limitations shared with the public and if there were specific information they would like to see be shared. David Bell (MDH) confirmed that he would like to see the limitations shared in some format to provide people filling out the survey with more context. He also asked for clarification if they could provide multiple options in the final report that will be sent to the legislature. Kirk confirmed that the report can include multiple options, and it is up to the Task Force's discretion on what goes into the report. Jimmy agreed that he would like to have a few options in the report. Melanie McMahon (Saint Paul) confirmed that she would like to see the limitations be shared with the public and also supports having a report that shares multiple options and is actionable. Dan Scollan (DNR) agreed that he would like to see the considerations shared with the public in a video format. Dave shared that they would need to put forward more than one option since the remediation options will affect each of the Task Force member's organizations differently and it will likely not be a unanimous decision. He shared that he will ultimately refer to the communities directly impacted on the future land use option. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) asked how the changing climate and increasing rain events would overlay with the sustainability of keeping the waste in place in a floodplain. Hans shared that they have similar questions of how flooding would impact the site during construction and long-term maintenance of the facility. Caleb also asked about commercial neighboring properties and how that would be impacted by some of the remedial options. Hans shared that they haven't heard from some of those groups and that we will look into getting their input in the process. Kirk confirmed that the team would share the survey with the Task Force and some additional information on sharing the limitations with the public.

7. Public comment

A member of the public shared that they do not support turning the site into any form of an industrial site and would like to see the site be a natural area that supports wildlife. Another attendee shared that he would also like to consider the plans that have already been in development towards protecting the area for ecological purposes. Another member of the public shared concern for wildlife in the area, the severity of the pollution, and emphasized the importance of cleaning up the site for the health of the public. A member of the public shared concern about turning the site into an industrial site because it would turn back progress that has been made to clean up and care for the wildlife currently. A member of the public asked how deep the waste goes and Narayanan Raghupathi (WSP) shared that they know it goes at least down to 20-25 feet but that they are scoped to determine how far the water impacts go and that it is close to 8 million cubic yards of waste. The community member shared that they would not like to see the site turn into an industrial site and would like to see the area turn into a marshland area for water quality and wildlife benefits. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) asked the public if there was anything on the future site options list that is missing. One member of the public mentioned that lake access could be added. Another member of the public shared that she would like the area to serve the people for generations to come and does not want the cost to drive the public's perception.

8. Adjourn

Hans Neve (MPCA) adjourned the meeting.

***Pyrolysis** is a process where waste materials are heated in the absence of oxygen. This causes the materials to break down into gases, liquids, and a solid biochar residue. The gases and liquids can be used as fuel, while the biochar can be used for various applications. Pyrolysis requires specialized equipment and facilities and energy to maintain high operating temperatures making costs higher. Pyrolysis is currently being pilot tested to better understand PFAS destruction efficiency, gas emissions and cost considerations. When the technology is viable the*

cubic yard cost to remediate the PFAS contaminated waste is likely to be in the hundreds of dollars per cubic yard and depending on the capacity of the treatment plant the process could take decades to process the 8 million cubic yards of waste at the Pigs Eye Dump.

***Anaerobic digestion** is a biological process where bacteria break down organic waste in the absence of oxygen to produce biogas that can be used for energy and digestate a nutrient rich solid or liquid material that can be used as fertilizer. Anaerobic digestion relies on the presence of organic matter to produce biogas and digestate. This process has limited applicability at the Pigs Eye Dump waste because the waste has been in the ground for over 50 years and much of the organic matter has degraded. The low organic matter content of the waste would make it challenging to implement anaerobic digestion due to the low amount of viable organic material.*

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #7

December 6, 2024

Agenda

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda (9:30 a.m.)
2. Recap of previous meeting and next steps (9:35 a.m.)
3. Remediation and restoration goals (9:45 a.m.)
4. Public engagement recap and next steps (9:55 a.m.)
5. Bringing remediation and reuse strategies together (10:05 a.m.)
6. Task Force discussion (10:45 a.m.)
7. Public comment (11:10 a.m.)
8. Adjourn (11:30 a.m.)



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force
Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and Introductions

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



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Recap from Previous Meetings and Next Steps

Recap September Meeting

September meeting:

- Doyne Park in Milwaukee
  - Public engagement on future use
- Big Marsh in Chicago
  - Remediation of industrial site and transformation into a park
- Funding strategies



Timeline

Sept 2023-Dec 2024

Education

- Learning the site case studies from other sites
- Public awareness

Feb 2025-Jun 2025

Decision-making

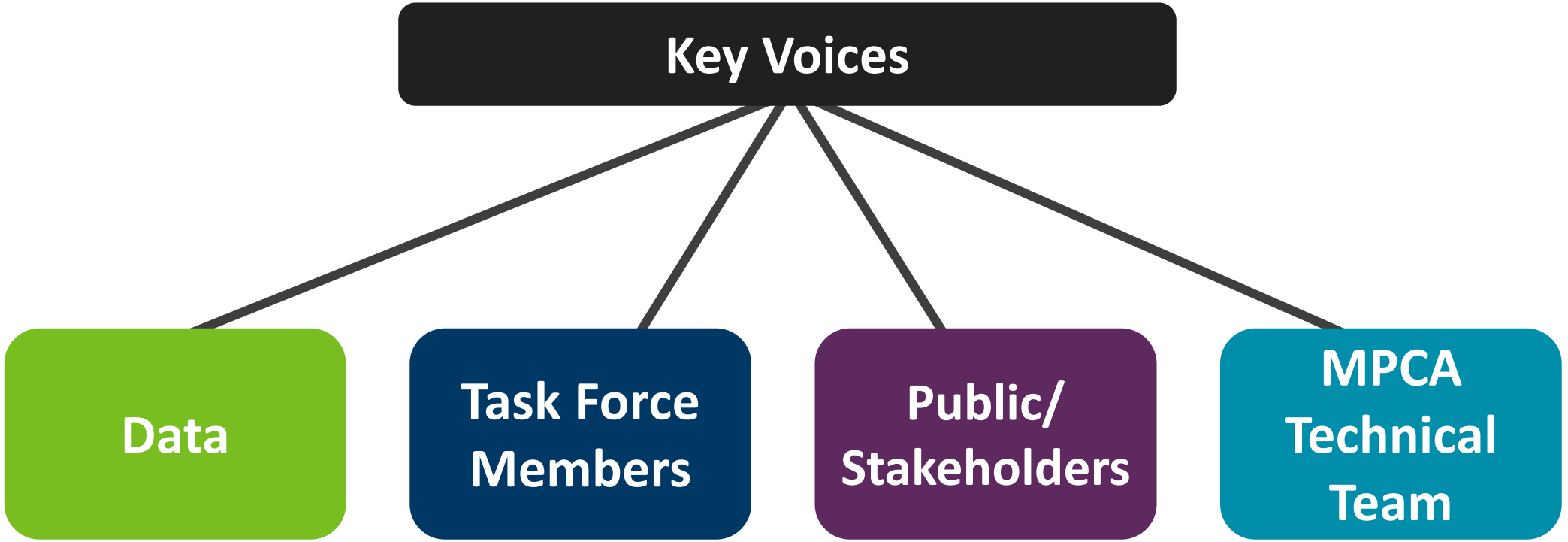
- Public Input
- Remediation and Restoration strategies and goals
- Funding options

Aug 2025-Dec 2025

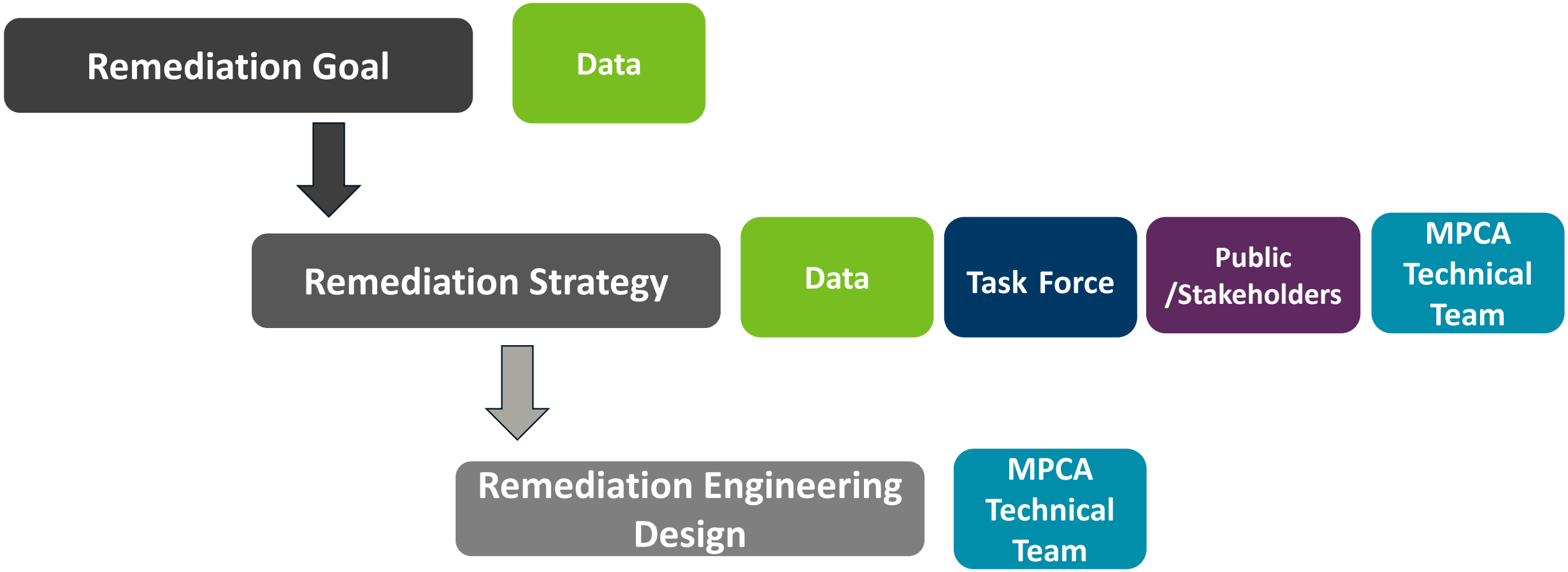
Documenting & review

- Develop legislative report
- Finalize funding options

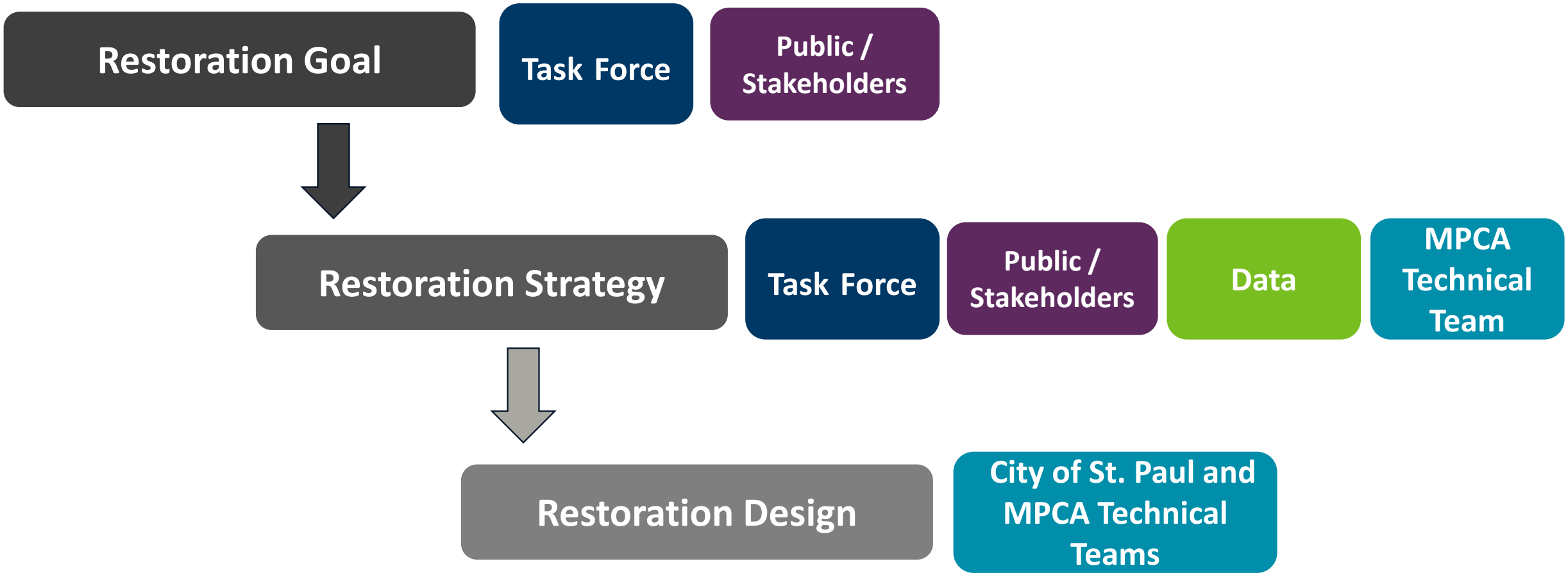
Informing Voices



Remediation Decision Points and Voices



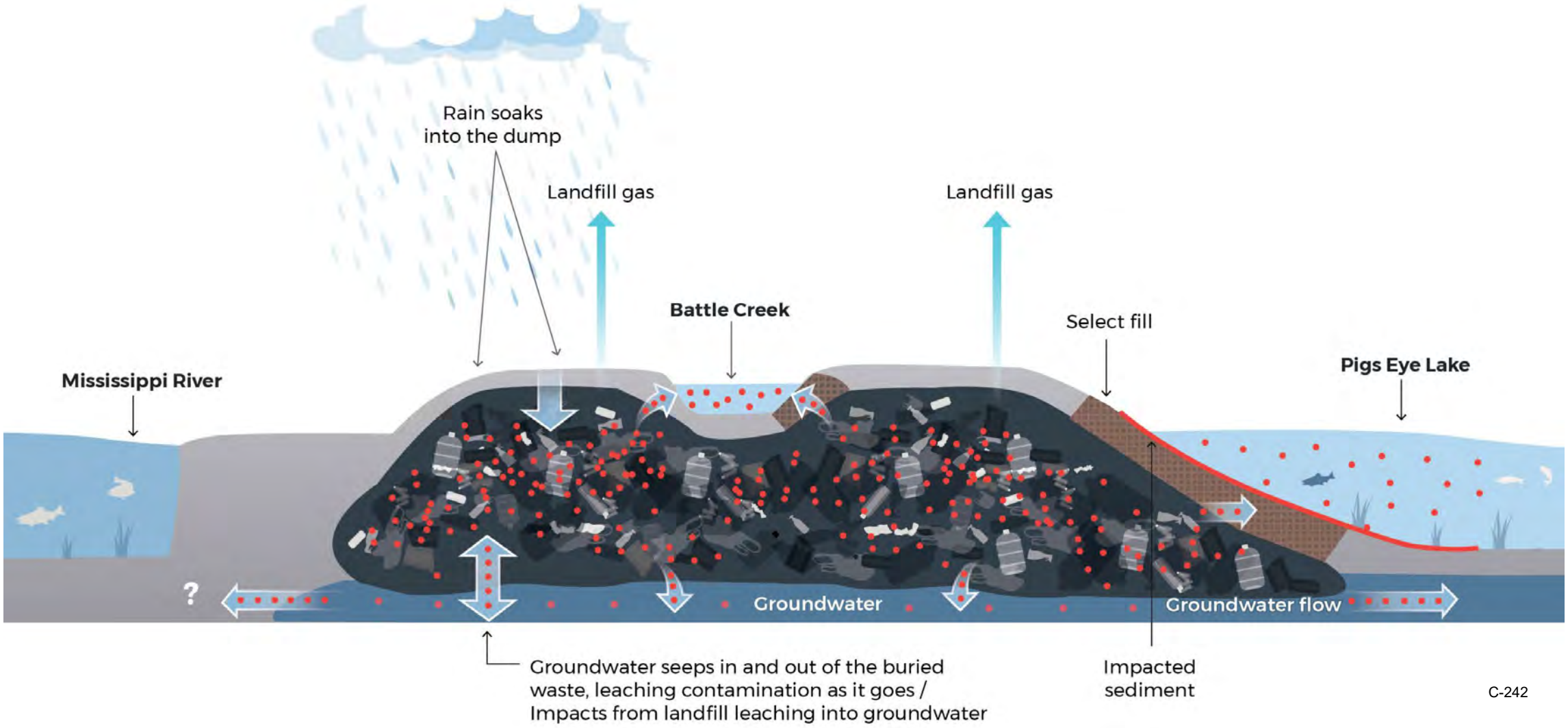
Restoration Decision Points and Voices



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Remediation & Restoration Goals

Contamination Overview



Remediation Goals

Remediation Goals:

- ✓ Address waste (source)
- ✓ Address Pig's Eye Lake sediments
- ✓ Address groundwater impacts
- ✓ Address upstream sources



Restoration Goal

FUTURE LAND USE OPTIONS

Recreational



Ecological



Industrial/ Commercial



Restoration Goal

FUTURE LAND USE OPTIONS

Recreational

<u>Active</u> recreation use - Built to facilitate recreation

- Hiking trails, sport facilities, children's park, etc.

<u>Passive</u> recreation use - Mix of some access with an ecological focus

- Similar to current use, minimal upkeep

Ecological

Ecological site

- Expanded wetland areas with focus on environment
- Habitat expansion
- Native vegetation

Industrial/Commercial

- Solar reuse
- Greenhouse/urban farming
- Outdoor materials storage/warehouse
- Manufacturing
- Office/service-related business

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Public Engagement Next Steps

Public Engagement Recap

- **Pop-ups**
  - Art in the Hollow, June 2024
  - Pollinator Festival, August 2024
  - South St. Paul On The Road Again, October 2024
- **Community Meetings**
  - Community site tour, 9/10
  - Community virtual meeting, 9/12
  - Community conversation at Swede Hollow, 9/16
- **MPCA Social media and Gov Delivery**
  - Advertising 2024 meetings and community events





10/5 South St. Paul On The Road Again

Public Engagement Next Steps

Goal of engagement: Gather input on public's comfort with future land use options

Methods:

- Online survey
- Social media toolkit
- Pop-ups/small group meetings
- Task Force member outreach

Audiences:

- Neighborhoods near Pig's Eye Dump
- MPCA followers
- Community groups
- Local government



Public Engagement Next Steps

January 2025

Survey Launch

- Survey posted mid-January
- Open four weeks

February 2025

Engagement Update

- Share survey update with Task Force
- Plan additional outreach

March-April 2025

Engagement report

- Final report on engagement prior to April Task Force Meeting

Public Engagement Survey

Four proposed future use options:

1. Active use – built to facilitate recreation
2. Passive use – basic recreation access ecological focus
3. Ecological site – no recreation, wetland restoration
4. Industrial/commercial – Solar, greenhouse/urban farming, outdoor materials storage/warehouse, manufacturing, office, service-related business or other industrial use





Public Engagement Survey

How comfortable are you with this future land use option? *[Rate 1-5]*

- 1 – Uncomfortable
- 2 – Somewhat uncomfortable
- 3 – Neutral
- 4 – somewhat comfortable
- 5 - Comfortable

Why did you rate it this way? *[open ended]*





Public Engagement Survey

What would you like to see the future site transformed into?
[select all that apply]

- ❑ Park or green space
- ❑ Sports or recreational facility (e.g., soccer fields, playgrounds,)
- ❑ Walking, biking, or nature trails
- ❑ Community garden or agricultural space
- ❑ Public art installations or cultural space
- ❑ Educational facility or environmental center with hiking trails
- ❑ Wildlife sanctuary, conservation area, wetlands
- ❑ Commercial development (Office / service related businesses)
- ❑ Solar
- ❑ Industrial use (Greenhouse, outdoor materials storage/warehouse, manufacturing)
- ❑ Other (please specify)



Public Engagement Survey

Demographics

- Age, gender, race, language, city, etc.

How did you hear about Pig's Eye Dump? *[select all that apply]*

- ❑ Newsletter
- ❑ Social media
- ❑ Word of mouth
- ❑ MPCA website
- ❑ Other _____



Public Engagement Survey

Task Force involvement:

- Social media toolkit advertising survey
  - Text
  - Images
  - Newsletter/email content
- Distribution on your organization's platforms



Task Force Discussion

Confirmation on:

1. Public engagement next steps



Is there additional information you would like to ask the public to assist in decision-making?

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Bringing Remediation and Reuse Strategies Together

Remedial Strategy Comparison

Considerations	Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter	Dig and Haul and Backfill	Dig and Haul No backfill	Dig and Line
Leachate Impacts	Reduced but not eliminated	Eliminated	Eliminated	Controlled using landfill liner and leachate collection system
Construction Cost	Tens of Millions	Greater than $500M	Greater than $500M	Greater than $500M
Construction Timeline	< 5 years	10+ years	8-10 years	10+ years
Landscape changes from Remediation	Minimal to moderate topography changes	Determined by amount of backfill	Waste area becomes wetland	Waste area footprint smaller but much higher, significant topography changes, backfill adjacent areas
Benefits	• Lower Cost • Allows for phased approach	• Eliminates waste from site	• Eliminates waste from site	• Waste remains onsite preserves capacity at other landfills. • Improved leachate collection
Disadvantages	• Leachate impacts reduced not eliminated	• Would consume significant capacity at existing landfills • High Cost	• Would consume significant capacity at existing landfills • High Cost	• Significant constructability unknowns • Required long term O&M • High Cost

Joining Restoration and Remediation Strategies

Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter



Possible Restoration Goals

Recreational

- Expand current passive recreational use
- Could include more active recreational uses

Ecological

- Remediation limitations may limit effectiveness

Industrial/ Commercial

- Limited flood tolerant uses

Joining Restoration and Remediation Strategies

Dig and Haul and Backfill



Possible Restoration Goals

Recreational

- **More backfill**- larger trail systems, buildings if above flood area, less aquatic use
- **Less backfill**- smaller trail systems, more aquatic use

Ecological

- **More backfill**- more upland habitat
- **Less backfill**- more wetland habitat

Industrial/ Commercial

- **More backfill**- Solar, commercial/industrial buildings if backfill above flood area
- **Less backfill**- limited flood tolerant uses

Joining Restoration and Remediation Strategies

Dig and Haul No backfill
"New Pig's Eye Lake"



Possible Restoration Goals

Recreational

- Limited recreational opportunities including limited paddling activities and wildlife observation

Ecological

- Area returns to wetland

Joining Restoration and Remediation Strategies

Dig and Line
"New Pig's Eye Landfill"



Possible Restoration Goals

Recreational

- Recreation on or adjacent to landfill cap
- Use in adjacent areas determined by amount of backfill

Ecological

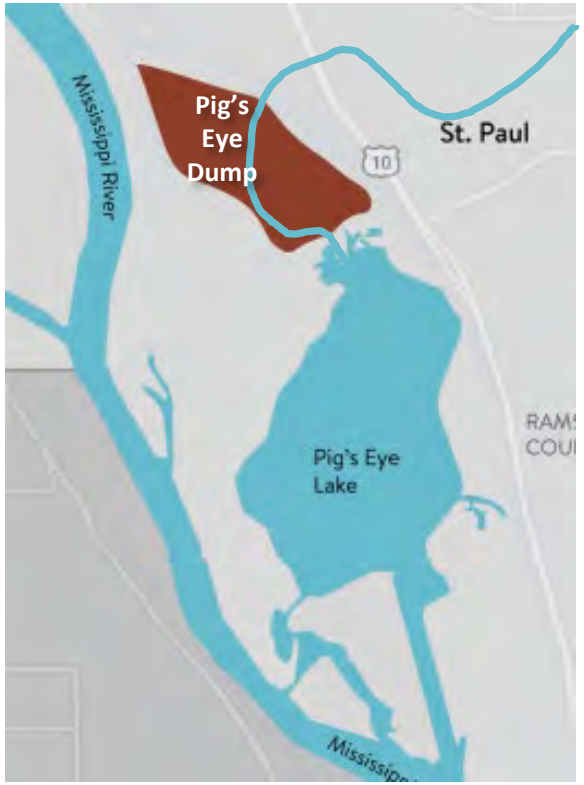
- Pollinator habitat on new landfill
- Wetland in adjacent areas depending on amount of backfill

Industrial/ Commercial

- Solar reuse on new landfill
- Limited flood tolerant uses in adjacent areas

Joining Restoration and Remediation Strategies

Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter



Dig and Haul and Backfill



Dig and Haul No backfill
"New Pig's Eye Lake"



Dig and Line
"New Pig's Eye Landfill"



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Task Force Discussion

Task Force Discussion

Confirmation on:

1. Decision-making timeline
2. Restoration/future use goals and remediation strategies



Do you have any concerns or questions? Is there additional information needed?

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig’s Eye Dump Task Force – Public Comment

Public Comment

Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project



Next Meetings

In-person:

Meeting #8: February 13th, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Meeting #9: April 17th, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.



Thank you!

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Agenda for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #8

Thursday, February 13, 2025
9:00-11:00 a.m.

1. **Welcome, introductions, agenda (9:00 a.m.)**
2. **Re-cap of previous meetings and next steps (9:05 a.m.)**
3. **Presentation from Cuyahoga National Park (9:10 a.m.)**
4. **Presentation from City of St. Paul on area plans (9:25 a.m.)**
5. **Presentation from Met Council on area plans (9:40 a.m.)**
6. **Presentation from Ramsey County on area plans (9:55 a.m.)**
7. **Public engagement update (10:10 a.m.)**
8. **Discussion (10:25 a.m.)**
9. **Public Comment (10:45 a.m.)**
10. **Adjourn (11:00 a.m.)**

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Notes for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #8

Thursday, February 13, 2025
9:00-11:00 a.m.
Virtual and 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 Saint Paul
- Bill Sumner, Council Member, City of Newport
- Melanie McMahon, Executive Project Lead – Mayor's Staff, City of Saint Paul
- Victoria Reinhardt, 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
- Pam Anderson, Remediation Division Director, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)
- David Bell, Environmental Research Scientist, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)

Other Contributors

- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Jenna Roberts, Zan Associates
- Kara Van Lerberghe, Zan Associates
- Megan Ryan, Zan Associates

Presenters

- Hans Neve, MPCA

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda

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

2. Re-cap previous meetings and next steps

Hans Neve (MPCA) provided a recap of previous meetings and reviewed the timeline that includes three phases: education, decision-making, and documenting and review. He went over the future land use options, remediation goals, and shared updated maps depicting remediation options.

3. Presentation from Cuyahoga National Park

Chris Davis from Cuyahoga National Park started his presentation by sharing background information on Cuyahoga National Park in Ohio and the Krejci Dump. He shared that the dump was significantly smaller than

Pig's Eye Dump, operated from the 1950's to the 1980's, and included a variety of junk debris including drums of paints, solvents, and miscellaneous garbage. There were six companies that were identified as parties who were responsible for the dumping and funded the cleaning up of the site. The contamination on the site was hauled and stored at a proper landfill. After the waste was removed, the cleanup goals were met, and the site was restored. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) asked why there were certain soil compaction requirements if it they were not the best fit for an ideal restoration and Chris shared that the project was treated as a typical construction project and there were not ecologists or biologists involved when the requirements were set. He shared the importance of having those staff involved early on in the process.

4. Presentation from Met Council on area plans

Mark Lundgren with the Metropolitan Council provided a background on the Metropolitan Council and the communities they serve. He shared information on the wastewater system in the Twin Cities and the role of the recovery facility that is located next to the Pig's Eye Dump. The Met Council has plans to expand the wastewater facility in the future to accommodate growth or enhance services to meet regulatory requirements which will require portions of the land near the current facility. He concluded the presentation by sharing history on the river health and how it has significantly improved after water quality improvements due to the facility. David Bell (MDH) asked if they have a timeline for the expansion and Mark responded that they are ready for expansion and are expecting that new requirements may be coming that would require the facility to grow. Jimmy Francis (City of South St. Paul) asked if they monitored for PFAS and Mark shared they do not and are not currently required to but if there is a regulatory requirement in the future, they will comply.

5. Presentation from City of St. Paul on area plans

Alice Messer and Yasmine Robinson from the City of St. Paul Department of Parks and Recreation presented on future City plans for the area near Pig's Eye Dump. They went over how the Pig's Eye area is zoned and what entities own what areas of land near the dump. The Great River Passage Long Range Plan which was adopted by City Council in 2013 includes high level goals for the floodplain region where Pig's Eye Park is located. Goals in the plan include expanding park access, establishing buffers for natural areas, and improving connections to the lakes and river. Possible improvements to Pig's Eye Park outlined in the long-range plan include improving recreational access through trails, protecting natural resources within the park, and providing nature-based recreation. Current work on the site includes efforts to improve access and signage to the park. Jimmy Francis (City of South St. Paul) asked how often the plan is updated and they shared that if additional funding was available they would take the plan the next level. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) asked how remediation options impact their plans or if their improvements are based on the landfill remaining in place. They shared that this plan is a high-level recommendation for how this area could be an asset to the City's Park System. A member of the public shared that if the waste was removed and the lake was restored, it may align with the goals in the Greater River Passage Long Range Plan. Another member of the public shared that this area is included in a critical corridor plan for wildlife and there are efforts to share a plan for wildlife safety with the City Council. Melanie McMahon (City of St. Paul) responded that those efforts are different from the Pig's Eye Dump Task Force, so she didn't feel comfortable providing comment on them during this meeting. David Bell (MDH) asked where signage would be installed at Pig's Eye Dump. They shared that a sign would be installed at the entrance and there would be some improvements to the parking area.

6. Presentation from Ramsey County on area plans

Scott Yonke is the planning and development director at the parks department in Ramsey County. Scott shared there are two plans related to the Pig's Eye Dump area that he would be providing an overview of, including the Battle Creek Regional Park Long Range Plan and the Pig's Eye Lake Long-Range Plan. The overall goal of the Battle Creek Regional Park Long Range Plan is to improve connectivity and access including connection to the Pig's Eye Lake Park. The Pig's Eye Lake Long Range Plan includes the addition of the Pig's Eye Lake Islands, other natural resource improvements, and additional public protection and safety planning. Hans Neve (MPCA) asked for confirmation that the starting point of those plans assumes that the waste is not relocated, and Scott confirmed. Dan Scollan (DNR) asked if the dump site is part of the regional park and Scott shared that it is not part of the regional park.

7. Public engagement update

Hans Neve (MPCA) shared an update on the public engagement timeline, which includes a survey and video that would be shared with the Task Force for review and then the public. After the survey responses are collected, the Task Force will receive a summary of the findings for discussion at the April meeting. The survey includes information on remediation and restoration options and will be shared with community groups and shared through social media. Hans asked if anyone had recommendations for another community event in March. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) asked if they were looking for existing event ideas and Hans confirmed. Jimmy Francis (City of South St. Paul) suggested looking into the State Hockey tournament as many community members attend those games. Hans shared that they want feedback from anyone who is interested in the Pig's Eye Dump, local community, and underserved members who we may have not heard from yet.

8. Task Force discussion

Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) shared that it is helpful to hear all of the parameters and expectations for the site and will be helpful to hear the public input to formulate next steps. She also shared that it would be good to hear more information on how they would target waste removal, concerns about where the waste would go if it was excavated and hauled away, and mechanisms for treating the waste to remove PFAS. Jimmy Francis (City of South St. Paul) added that he would like to hear possible places where the waste could be relocated in a future meeting and hearing more about how the site would be treated. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) shared that there are only two landfills in the Metro area that could store the waste, both of which are in Dakota County and have limited capacity. Once those landfills are full, waste from the metro area will need to be carried farther away and is harmful for the environment due to greenhouse gas production. Relocating the Pig's Eye Dump waste could take up 25% of the capacity left in these landfills. He added that these are also privately owned, and they may not be interested in accepting the waste from the Pig's Eye Dump. David Bell (MDH) asked what the projected timeline are for the landfills currently and Dave answered that they are projected to close in around 2100 but could close earlier depending on a few factors. Victoria added that landfills produce large amounts of greenhouse gases as well. Dave shared that the other landfill has a projected timeline of about 13 years of space left. Dave added that there is another dump in the Metro area that is also investigating moving the waste to a landfill which would also have a large impact on space left available. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) asked if the cost estimates for each remediation option included where the waste would be relocated to and Hans shared it is a high-level estimate did not take into account the secondary effects that Dave is discussing. Caleb mentioned that barge or rail could be utilized to move the waste for less environmental impact but was unsure about feasibility. Victoria shared that Ramsey and Washington County are moving forward with anaerobic digester to process organic waste that should be considered and may lessen the

reliance on landfills. Caleb shared that it would be helpful to hear about the economic return of some of the remediation and restoration options to understand how it could benefit the community near Pig's Eye Dump. Dan Scollan (DNR) asked for confirmation on where the targeted waste removal would be located within the dump and Hans Neve (MPCA) clarified that the waste would be targeted by location to create space between the waste and water and add a filter. Dave added that the waste would be moved around to better prevent contamination and Hans confirmed. David shared concern that the targeted waste removal option may need to be revisited again in 10-15 years, so if they moved forward with that recommendation, he would want to provide additional follow up steps. Dave added that all landfills are harmful to the environment and may have concerns about effectiveness in the future. He emphasized that he wants to make sure they are considering the regional impact and not only focusing on Pig's Eye. Victoria added that they really haven't done much to address the waste currently, so even the targeted waste removal option is an improvement. Nathan Wallerstedt (Army Corps of Engineers) asked if there is a way to better prevent flood water from penetrating the waste to prevent contamination during floods. Dave Magnuson added that the dig and line remediation option may be the best option to address that concern. Hans added that the filter that would be put in place during the targeted waste removal would help address contamination during flood events.

9. Public comment

A member of the public shared concerns about contaminated water and the impact to the nearby community and that they would like to see efforts to investigate the best place to process and store the waste beyond just moving it to another landfill. They shared additional concerns about the impact to wildlife if the waste stayed in place or if a new landfill was built. Another member of the public shared that they have memories of interacting with the dump when they were young and asked if there was a way to direct the water coming from the site to the Met Council water treatment facility so it could be treated before entering the river. Sam Paske (Metropolitan Council) responded that he is unsure about the feasibility of redirecting the water, but they would be open to exploring that if it was an option. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) mentioned that leachate from other landfills are treated by the water treatment facility, so if they moved forward with the building a new landfill it would be sent there. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) shared that she is looking into if the anaerobic digester could be utilized for this waste as well. Another member of the public asked if they could look into collaboration with other states along the Mississippi river. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) added that there is currently an effort before congress called the Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative (MRRRI) to coordinate conservation efforts along the entire river corridor. Another member of the public shared that she understands concerns about landfill capacity but doesn't want the Pig's Eye site restoration to be limited in anticipation of that. Jimmy Francis (City of South St. Paul) commented to add the League of MN Cities to the list of survey distribution.

10. Adjourn

Hans Neve (MPCA) adjourned the meeting.

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #8

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

February 13, 2025

C-274

Agenda

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda (9:00 a.m.)
2. Re-cap of previous meetings and next steps (9:05 a.m.)
3. Presentation from Cuyahoga National Park (9:10 a.m.)
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MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force
Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and Introductions

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



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Recap from Previous Meetings and Next Steps

Timeline

Sept 2023-Dec 2024

Education

- Learning the site case studies from other sites
- Public awareness

Feb 2025-Jun 2025

Decision-making

- Public Input
- Remediation and Restoration strategies and goals
- Funding options

Aug 2025-Dec 2025

Documenting & review

- Develop legislative report
- Finalize funding options

Restoration Goal

FUTURE LAND USE OPTIONS

Recreational

<u>Active</u> recreation use - Built to facilitate recreation

- Hiking trails, sport facilities, children's park, etc.

<u>Passive</u> recreation use - Mix of some access with an ecological focus

- Similar to current use, minimal upkeep

Nature Area

- Expanded wetland areas
- Habitat expansion
- Native vegetation

Industrial/Commercial

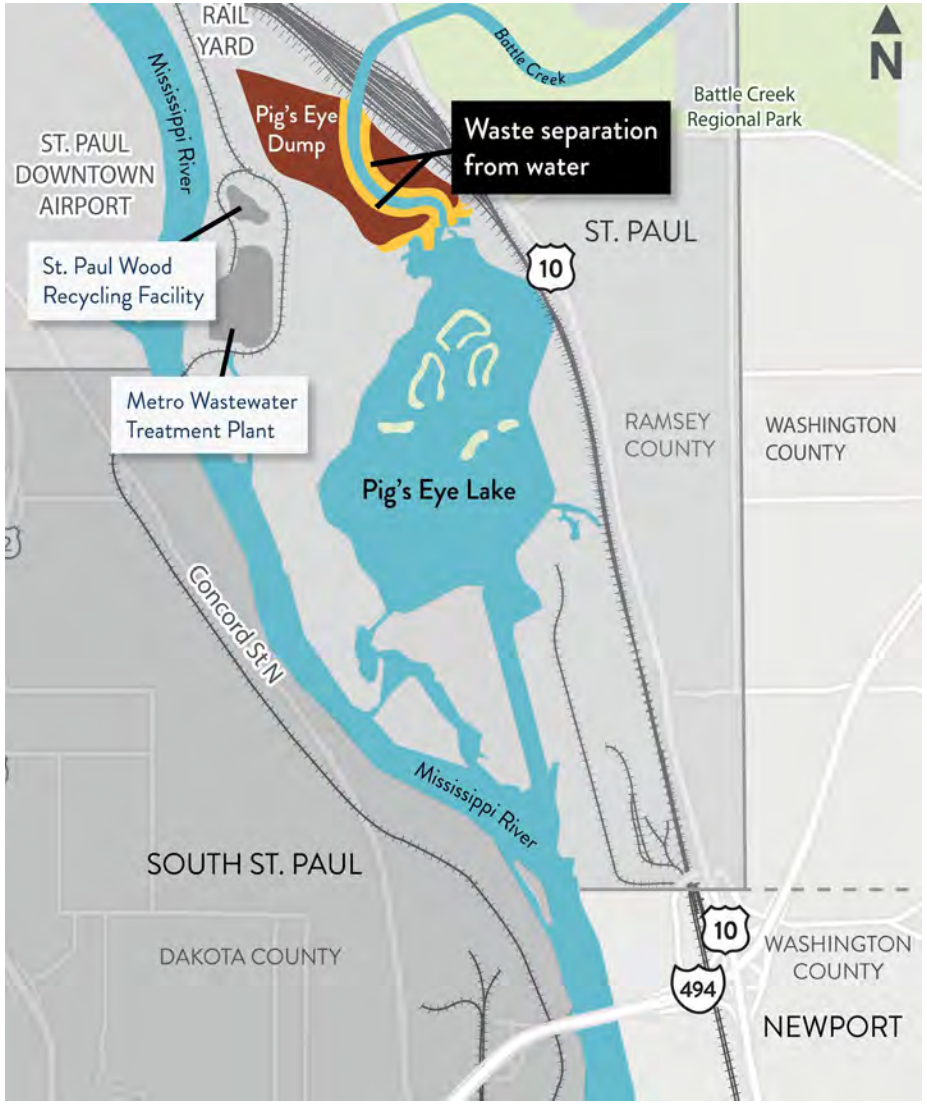
- Solar reuse
- Greenhouse/urban farming
- Outdoor materials storage/warehouse
- Manufacturing
- Office/service-related business

Remediation Goals

- ✓ **Address waste (source)**
- ✓ Address Pig's Eye Lake sediments
- ✓ Address groundwater impacts
- ✓ Address upstream sources



Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter



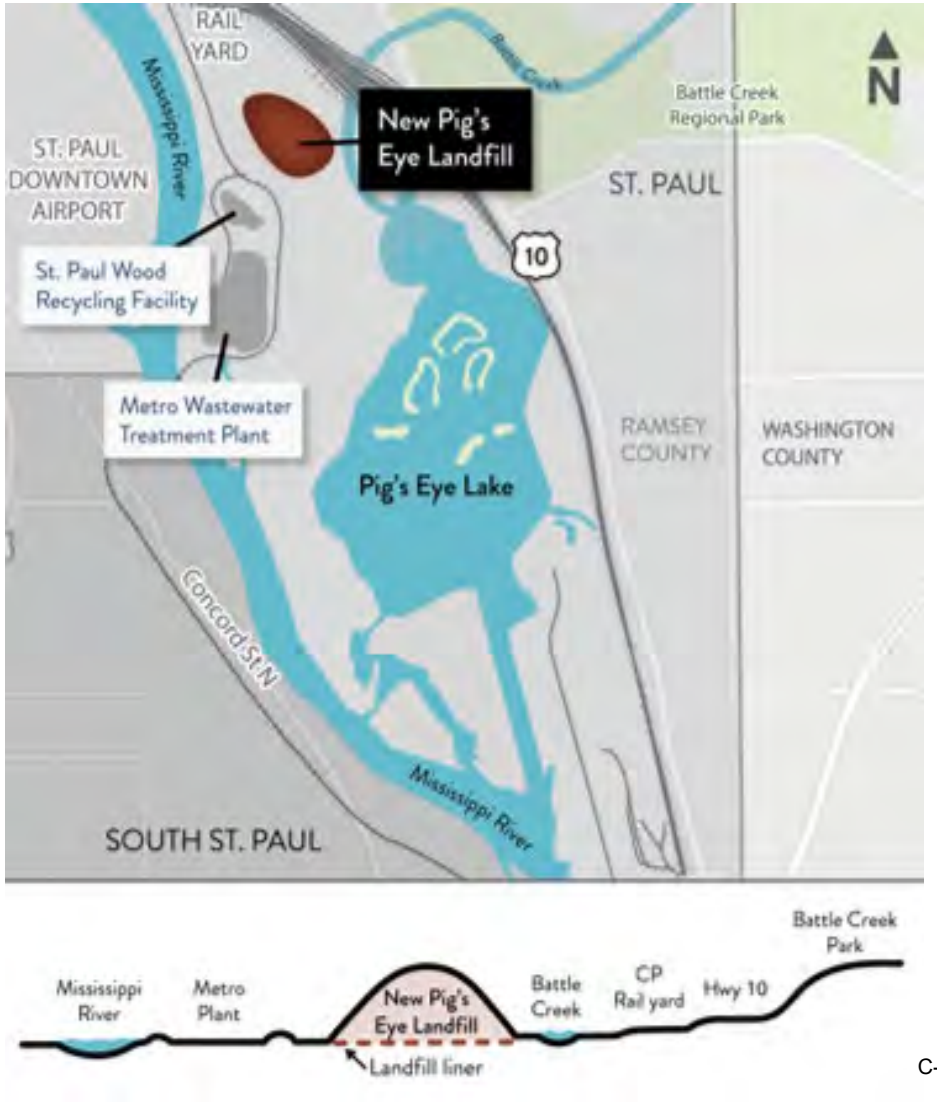
Dig and Haul No Backfill
"New Pig's Eye Lake"



Dig and Haul and Backfill



Dig and Line
"New Pig's Eye Landfill"



Cleanup Options

Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter	Dig and Haul No Backfill "New Pigs Eye Lake"	Dig and Haul and Backfill	Dig and Line "New Pig's Eye Landfill"
Construction Cost: $30M*	Construction Cost: $720M*	Construction Cost: $830M*	Construction Cost: $570M*
Timeline: < 5 years	Timeline: 8-10 years	Timeline: 10+ years	Timeline: 10+ years
30 Year Operating Cost: $6M*	30 Year Operating Cost: $1.5M*	30 Year Operating Cost: $6M*	30 Year Operating Cost: $45M*

*Estimated costs are –50% to +100%

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Cuyahoga National Park

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

City of St. Paul Area Plans

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Met Council Area Plans

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County Area Plans

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Public Engagement Update

Public Engagement Next Steps

February 2025

Engagement Update

- Share survey update with Task Force
- Plan additional outreach

March 2025

Engagement report

- Final report on engagement prior to April Task Force Meeting

April 2025

April Task Force Meeting

- Overview of results from report
- Discussion on results

Public Engagement Survey

Survey Includes:

- Video providing background on Pig's Eye Dump and explanation of future uses and remediation options
- Description of each remediation option with considerations (cost, timeline)
- Users rate comfortability with future uses for each remediation option
- Additional questions on future use preferences



Public Engagement Survey

Survey Distribution:

- Social media toolkit advertising survey to community groups
  - Text
  - Images
  - Newsletter/email content
- Task Force organizations share on their platforms
- MPCA distribution



Public Engagement Event

March Community Event

- Plan to attend a community event in March
- Any suggested events?



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Task Force Discussion

Task Force Discussion



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig’s Eye Dump Task Force – Public Comment

Public Comment

Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project



Next Meetings

In-person:

Meeting #9: April 17th, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.



Thank you!

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Agenda for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #9

Thursday, April 17, 2025
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

1. **Welcome, introductions, agenda (9:00 a.m.)**
2. **Re-cap of previous meetings and next steps (9:10 a.m.)**
3. **Remediation options and cost estimates (9:20 a.m.)**
4. **Public engagement update and survey results (9:50 a.m.)**
5. **Break (10:40 a.m.)**
6. **Public comment (11:00 a.m.)**
7. **Discussion (11:40 a.m.)**
8. **Adjourn (12:00 p.m.)**

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Notes for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #9

Thursday, April 17, 2025
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Virtual and 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 Saint Paul
- Bill Sumner, Council Member, City of Newport
- Melanie McMahon, Executive Project Lead – Mayor's Staff, City of Saint Paul
- Victoria Reinhardt, 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

- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Stephen Mikkelson, MPCA
- Corinne Stremmel, MPCA
- Jenna Roberts, Zan Associates
- Kara Van Lerberghe, Zan Associates

Presenters

- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Kara Van Lerberghe, Zan Associates

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda

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

2. Re-cap previous meetings and next steps

Hans Neve (MPCA) provided a recap of previous meetings and reviewed the timeline that included three phases: education, decision-making, and documenting and review. He went over the future land use options, remediation goals, and potential remediation options.

3. Remediation options and cost estimates

Hans Neve (MPCA) went over the potential remediation options and their roughly estimated projected costs. He gave a background on trenching that was done at the dump in 2000 and what the waste looked like. He provided an overview on what kind of methods can be used to address waste including topics that have previously been discussed in task force meetings including pyrolysis, gasification, and incineration and why it would not be as effective to address Pig's Eye Dump waste. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) clarified if pyrolysis had carbon emissions and Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) confirmed that the processes do need a permit due to emissions. Hans went over what assumptions went into calculating the estimated costs for each remediation option including the waste disposal transportation costs. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) asked if there was a conversion rate that was being used since landfills are charged by the ton and Hans confirmed the engineering team does. Victoria asked if they knew the fees from the landfills and Hans responded that they have not as these estimations are very preliminary, but a rough estimation is included in the overall projected costs.

4. Public engagement update and survey results

Kara Van Lerberghe (Zan Associates) started off by providing a background on public engagement efforts from 2024 and what messages the team heard from the public. She then went over the survey that was launched in 2025, how it was advertised, and the results. Overall, people were most comfortable with the site being restored as a natural area and least comfortable with industrial/commercial future use. People were most interested in seeing the site have a focus on restoration of the wetlands and preservation of wildlife and full removal of waste. She concluded by reviewing the demographic data that was collected by survey respondents.

Jimmy Francis (South St. Paul) asked if the survey results have been shared with Betty McCollum's office and Hans Neve (MPCA) responded that the report is still in draft form, so it has not been shared yet and Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) added that they check in with them periodically throughout the process.

A member of the public mentioned that creating a new lake would not be the same as restoring the historic lake for anyone who is less familiar with the site. Another member of the public asked about the maps showing different remediation options and the accuracy of where the creeks enter the site. Hans answered that the maps are not meant to be exact depictions, but they could touch base during the break to discuss. The member of the public asked if they have reached out to determine if there is any demand for more commercial or industrial uses at the site. Hans responded that they have heard some of the needs from the nearby Met Council water resource recovery facility and have done some outreach to other nearby industrial facilities. Another member of the public shared that they were pleased to see the results of the survey and that it is representative of the work that has been done so far to protect and restore the site. Another member of the public asked about the location of another nearby dump and Hans responded that they could touch base on the break about the maps.

Melanie McMahon (City of St. Paul) asked how the demographic data from the survey compared to the demographics of the neighborhood. Kara confirmed that the demographics of the survey were not representative of the nearby neighborhoods and shared that she would send out neighborhood demographics to review. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) asked about any official liaison process with the tribe and how that will be tied into the report process. Kara shared information on how Wakan Tipi has been involved in the public engagement process so far and Kirk added that they could involve their tribal relations staff. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) asked for clarification on whether the Pig's Eye Dump was part of the Superfund and if funding came along with it. Hans answered that it is part of the closed landfill program in Minnesota and Kirk

added that they will discuss funding options more at future meetings. David Bell (MDH) asked if there was any way to know how many people who answered the survey heard about it through flyering and Kara responded that they did not gather that information. A member of the public asked about why this site was not included in the 3M lawsuit and Kirk responded that they were identified as a responsible party for those other Washington County sites.

5. Break

The meeting paused for a 20 minute break. At the end of the break, Kara Van Lerberghe (Zan Associates) went over the demographics for the Battle Creek-Highwood area that was previously discussed during the public engagement portion.

6. Public comment

One member mentioned that they are more familiar with the other dump on the north side and suggested that the Pig's Eye Dump water plume could be collected and diverted to the wastewater plant for treatment. Hans Neve (MPCA) confirmed that there is another nearby smaller fish hatchery dump that is part of the Superfund program. Another member of the public talked about their experience walking around the site and asked if the waste from the wood chipping site and other trash would be addressed as well. Hans added that they are in the preliminary stages and have not gotten to looking at construction logistics and exact waste estimates. Another member of the public mentioned that the area is a designated park area and is in an area that should be considered for environmental justice. Another member of the public mentioned concerns for sewage sludge ash that was disposed of near the site and PFAS contamination. Hans confirmed that there are multiple sources of PFAS contamination to consider.

7. Discussion

Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) thanked the team for the public engagement survey and was surprised by the amount of responses over the age of 55. She added that she has concerns about digging the waste and moving it to another neighborhood and the possibility of extracting anything from the waste. She would like their recommendation to be more than just digging up the waste and moving it and would like to find other ways to make improvements. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) asked if there is asbestos and shared that there is a problem with mining landfills because of this. Hans Neve (MPCA) confirmed that there is asbestos in the waste. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) asked if it was possible to get cross tabs on demographics and usage of what represents the community compared to who is participating. Specifically, if younger groups believe in something else. He was surprised that active use was fairly low. Kara Van Lerberghe (Zan Associates) confirmed they could pull that data and add it to the report. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) clarified that campgrounds are prohibited in a flood plain since that was mentioned in the survey. Melanie McMahon (City of St. Paul) asked how the task force report fits into the overall MPCA work on the site. Kirk responded that it will be helpful to create one vision and goal to guide MPCA work and build support behind it and gather funding. Jimmy Francis (City of South St. Paul) asked if the task force can we recommend the state of Minnesota start another landfill and if that would that help this project. He is of the thought that the site needs to be dug out completely since it is toxic and wondered if it would be helpful to discuss this as part of the recommendations going forward. Victoria responded that they should look at all options and that she doesn't see opening a new landfill being feasible and getting approval state level. She mentioned that the waste management act stated by 1991 there would be no unprocessed waste into landfills. Dave added that the dig and line option is a new landfill, it will just be located at the current site. Bill Sumner (City of Newport) added that as a member of the over 55 white group,

he was pleased to hear about the young people supporting this. He asked if it was possible to use the waste material as a deep foundation on highway projects and seal it with concrete roadways as a reuse option. Kirk responded that you would need to build a liner system and Dave added that it isn't a stable surface to build on. Kirk added that it would be helpful to investigate what the visions are for industrial use. Some of the options include expansion of the current lumber yard for future environmental needs or further expansion for the water treatment plant. Jimmy added that there could be a good case for Met Council expansion since their water resource recovery facility is a positive service to the community and environment. He added that he is not interested in new industrial uses coming to that site. Sam Paske (Met Council) responded that the Met Council land has infrastructure there that is helping protect the environment from flooding. They plan to eventually expand the water treatment plan on the currently owned Met Council land to meet the needs of the community. He added that there is infrastructure owned by Met Council that goes under the dump. Caleb mentioned concerns around the railroads lack of engagement in this process even though they have been reached out to. He agrees that the current facilities located on the site will have to remain there and it is important to be mindful of that. Victoria requested more information on the designated parkland and the boundaries. Kirk added that they need to talk through what other things they want to get information on so they can start to narrow down priorities to help dictate later conversations. Sam mentioned that the highest comfortability from the survey was the natural area use and passive use as close second and that it stood out that the public wants the material gone. He asked if there is a way to open the scope of what that means, specifically regarding moving the waste with the nearby barges and railyard and if it can go beyond Minnesota. Victoria added that she would like to figure out if they can make the waste less environmentally destructive. Melanie added that she wants to make sure they are clear about the difference between active and passive use. Dan Scollan (DNR) asked for clarification on if the Met Council ash waste that was previously mentioned during public comment was part of the dump or if that was located elsewhere. Hans confirmed that ash disposal was in a separate area on the Pig's Eye Dump. Victoria clarified if they are expected to make recommendations on funding and wants to make sure they address financial aspects and how it will be paid for. Jimmy asked if it is the role of the task force to find funding or just to provide recommendations. Victoria clarified that they don't need to identify the source but want to be careful not to point fingers to make sure it can move forward and that they need to state the cost and figure out how to fund it. Kirk added that they will spend a meeting to discuss funding and the possibility of new programs. The report can include recommendations for potential funding sources. David Bell (MDH) responded that he is interested in having those conversations to support whatever recommendations they include in the report so it can be feasible. Dave asked if the Waste Relocation and Filter option includes regrading and capping. Hans responded that that the cover would be what is currently there which is a permeable soil cover, and the area would not be regraded to add a slope. Dan asked if there is the possibility of a hybrid option between the dig and line option and the targeted waste relocation and filter. Dave responded that to slow infiltration, the site would need a slope and a synthetic liner to cap it. The site would need to be mowed, and trees removed to better prevent infiltration. Kirk responded that they can look into an option that would reshape and cap the site. Dave added that he doesn't think the targeted waste relocation and filter will be effective enough for the effort. He mentioned that Dakota County does not want the waste to come to their landfills. Anything short of the dig and line option will not prevent infiltration into the future. He feels the dig and line is the only reasonable option and is not a proponent of the dig and haul option since it is in a very industrial area and is very complicated.

Nathan Wallerstedt (Army Corps of Engineers) asked if there was any benefit to just caping it. Dave responded that it would be cheaper and the waste that is currently in the water has been there for many years and has

likely already released most of the contaminants. Capping it would prevent water from flowing through the waste higher up and entering groundwater. It would not eliminate contamination, but it would reduce it. Kirk added that this site is challenging because water is coming up to where the enhanced cover is. Dave responded that he wouldn't recommend it for the site, but it would be better than the targeted waste relocation and filter. Kirk mentioned that the Dig and Line could include some natural area and walking trails, but the landfill would be quite tall. There was discussion on needing to look into airport restrictions due to the potential height of the landfill. Melanie asked if the operating and ongoing costs would be done by the MPCA. Kirk responded that the projected costs depend on who operates the facility, and they would have to find a funding source. Melanie mentioned that they can't assume the city can cover the cost so want to be mindful of who is operating and paying for it. Kirk mentioned that the dig and haul no backfill has more upfront costs to remove it, but less long term costs compared to the dig and line. David clarified if they were hoping to only put forward one recommendation or a couple. Dave shared he has no interest in presenting the targeted waste relocation and filter and the task force agreed that looking into a hybrid option of targeted waste relocation and filter and dig and line may be more useful. Nathan would like to include some incremental steps to make it better in the report. Dave added that the dig and haul with backfill is too high cost for recreation land and is interested in taking it off the table. Kirk added that it is up to the group to decide if they make one recommendation or multiple. Victoria shared that when they look at funding, it would be very challenging to get funding to move the waste to another location if they can't make it less toxic. She would like to come up with a recommendation that is considerate of the environment. Melanie added that it could be beneficial to recommend a new funding source, and that this is a larger issue than just Pig's Eye Dump so there needs to be more solutions. Victoria added that this isn't feasible for the county taxpayers and Melanie related it back to the resources of the residents based on the demographics in the area. Victoria added that she doesn't see this coming from little pots everywhere and that they need to expand an existing funding source or redirect.
Kirk added that the dig and haul with or without backfill and the dig and line provide the same level of protectiveness from an agency perspective. Looking at the results, the backfill option is only if they want active recreation which does not show through in the survey results. He would be supportive of the concept of eliminating some options. Dave shared that he doesn't think targeted waste relocation will work. He added that dig and line has the lowest cost that meets the needs. Toxic chemicals are going to come off the waste and it will be challenging to move it due to the methane, asbestos, and moisture. Caleb asked about the feasibility of the dig and line with the frequent flooding and Dave responded that you would add infrastructure to prevent flooding. Kirk added that they have looked at historical flooding information, knowing the future will be wetter and with more intense situations. Hans added that there is a flood risk during construction as well. Victoria asked about the timeline of the dig and line and the team responded that it is estimated at about 10 years.

Hans started wrapping up the meeting by asking each task force member how they are feeling and what additional information they need. Jimmy responded that he is interested in funding discussions, industrial uses, and recommending more than one option in the final report. Kirk added that they would focus on industrial uses that still have an environmental benefit. Victoria stated that she is interested in suggesting around two scenarios and wants to focus on what they are trying to accomplish. Dan shared that it was helpful to narrow down some options and that the backfill isn't in line with the goals of the public. He has questions about the two remaining options on how to haul and logistics for the dig and line. Sam shared that he would be happy to share more information on the future of the site, would like more clarity on tribal involvement, and appreciates the additional clarity on what the public wants. Dave appreciated how everyone is listening to the regional impact and the public engagement survey. Kirk confirmed that they could look into more information on the enhanced

cover with the task force. Bill shared that he would like to see how the funding compares to the environmental impacts. He suggested putting together a balanced sheet of two options. Caleb is interested in seeing how rail/barge options to move the waste and lower the cost, what green energy technologies can be a value add if the green mound is there, and if wood yard remains and commercial remains are there wood recovery or other sustainability options to look into. Melanie shared that the public engagement was helpful and emphasized that there is no special pot of money for this, so looking at potential future uses, and funding will be helpful. David seconded the idea of having around two options and hopes to get into a little more detailed discussions on funding, concerned about the size of the hill, and the possibility of a hybrid option. Nathan responded that the survey was great and helped the task force focus in, looking forward to funding discussions, and thanked the task force for the helpful discussion.

8. Adjourn

Hans Neve (MPCA) adjourned the meeting.

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #9

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

April 17, 2025

C-307

Agenda

- 9:00 – Welcome, introductions, agenda
- 9:10 – Re-cap of previous meetings and next steps
- 9:20 – Remediation options and cost estimates
- 9:50 – Public engagement update and survey results
- 10:40 – Break
- 11:00 – Public Comment
- 11:20 – Task Force Discussion
- 12:00 – Adjourn



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force
Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and Introductions

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



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Recap from Previous Meetings and Next Steps

Timeline

Sept 2023-Dec 2024

Education

- Learning the site case studies from other sites
- Public awareness

Feb 2025-Aug 2025

Decision-making

- Public Input
- Remediation and Restoration strategies and goals
- Funding options

Oct 2025-Dec 2025

Documenting & review

- Develop legislative report
- Finalize funding options

Restoration Goal

FUTURE LAND USE OPTIONS

Recreational

<u>Active</u> recreation use - Built to facilitate recreation

- Hiking trails, sport facilities, children's park, etc.

<u>Passive</u> recreation use - Mix of some access with an ecological focus

- Similar to current use, minimal upkeep

Nature Area

- Expanded wetland areas
- Habitat expansion
- Native vegetation

Industrial/Commercial

- Solar reuse
- Greenhouse/urban farming
- Outdoor materials storage/warehouse
- Manufacturing
- Office/service-related business

Remediation Goals

- ✓ **Address waste (source)**
- ✓ Address Pig's Eye Lake sediments
- ✓ Address groundwater impacts
- ✓ Address upstream sources



Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter



Construction Cost: $30M*
Timeline: < 5 years
30 Year Operating Cost: $6M*

Dig and Haul No Backfill
"New Pig's Eye Lake"



Construction Cost: $720M*
Timeline: 8-10 years
30 Year Operating Cost: $1.5M*

***Estimated costs are –50% to +100%**

Dig and Haul and Backfill



Construction Cost: $830M*
Timeline: 10+ years
30 Year Operating Cost: $6M*

Dig and Line
"New Pig's Eye Landfill"





Construction Cost: $570M*
Timeline: 10+ years
30 Year Operating Cost: $45M*

***Estimated costs are –50% to +100%**

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

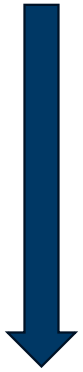
Remediation and Cost Estimates

Test Trenching June 2000





Thermal Decomposition



Process	Oxygen Level	Products
Pyrolysis	No oxygen	Char synthetic gas
Gasification	Low oxygen	Synthetic gas
Incineration	Excess oxygen	Ash carbon dioxide

- Air emissions
- High energy input
- Does not work for glass, metal, ceramics
- More research into PFAS effectiveness
- Less effective for old, wet, low-quality waste
- Incineration more tolerant of a wide range of wastes

Digestion

- Bacteria decompose waste under controlled conditions

- Old waste limits effectiveness
- Does not treat PFAS

Waste Disposal Cost Assumptions

- Estimated costs are –50% to +100%
- No hazardous waste
- Disposal location accepts PFAS impacted waste
- Disposal location within 50 miles
- Disposal location has sufficient capacity
- 4.5 million cubic yards of waste

Waste Disposal Transporation Costs

Distance from Pigs Eye	Estimated Transportation Cost for 4.5M CY
< 50 miles	**$270 Million**
50 to 100 miles	$338 M to $576 M
100 to 200 miles	$576 M to $1,183 M
200 to 300 miles	$1,183 M to $1,517 M

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Public Engagement Update

2024 Engagement

- **Pop-ups**
  - Art in the Hollow, June 2024
  - Pollinator Festival, August 2024
  - South St. Paul On The Road Again, October 2024
- **Community Meetings (29 total attendees)**
  - Community site tour, 9/10
  - Community virtual meeting, 9/12
  - Community conversation at Swede Hollow, 9/16
- **MPCA Social media**
  - Advertising 2024 Task Force meetings





10/5 South St. Paul On The Road Again

2024 Engagement

- Signage, paths, etc.

- Dakota homeland
- Dump history





September 10 Community Tour

2025 Engagement Update

Survey

- **359** responses
- Open for **28** days

Advertising

- Flyering
- MPCA social media platforms
- Social media toolkit for community organizations
- MPCA Environmental Justice Advisory Group
- Virtual community meeting



Social Media Toolkit

Washington County's Environmental eUpdate



Wakan Tipi Instagram

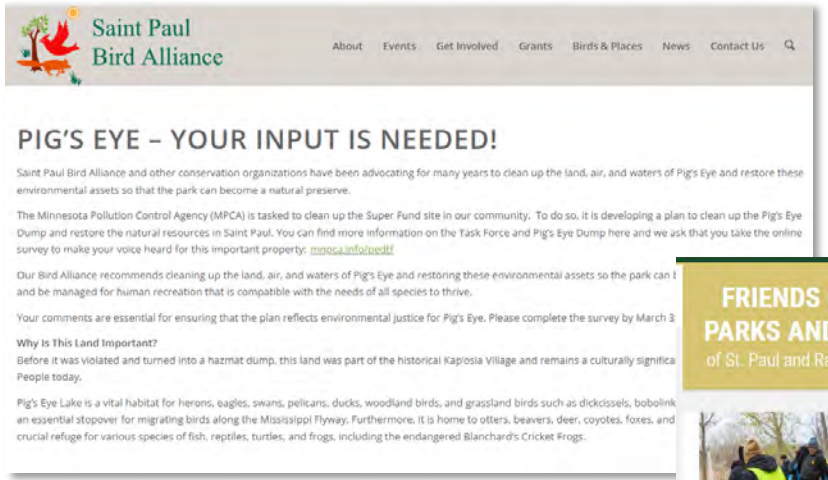


Great River Passage Instagram

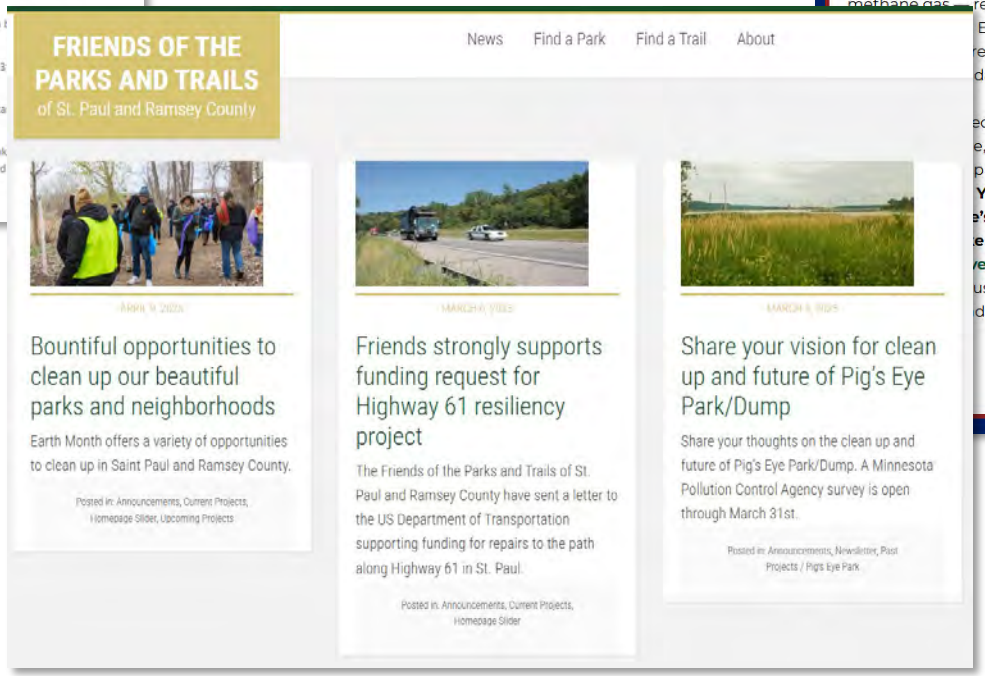


Social Media Toolkit

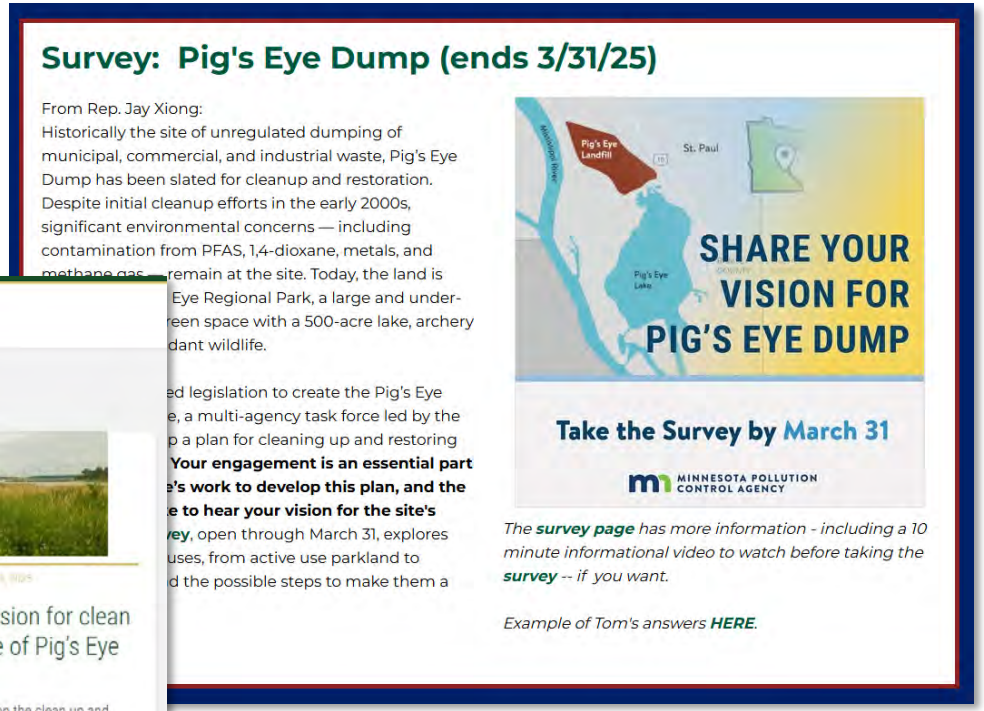
Saint Paul Bird Alliance



Friends of the Parks and Trails of St. Paul and Ramsey County



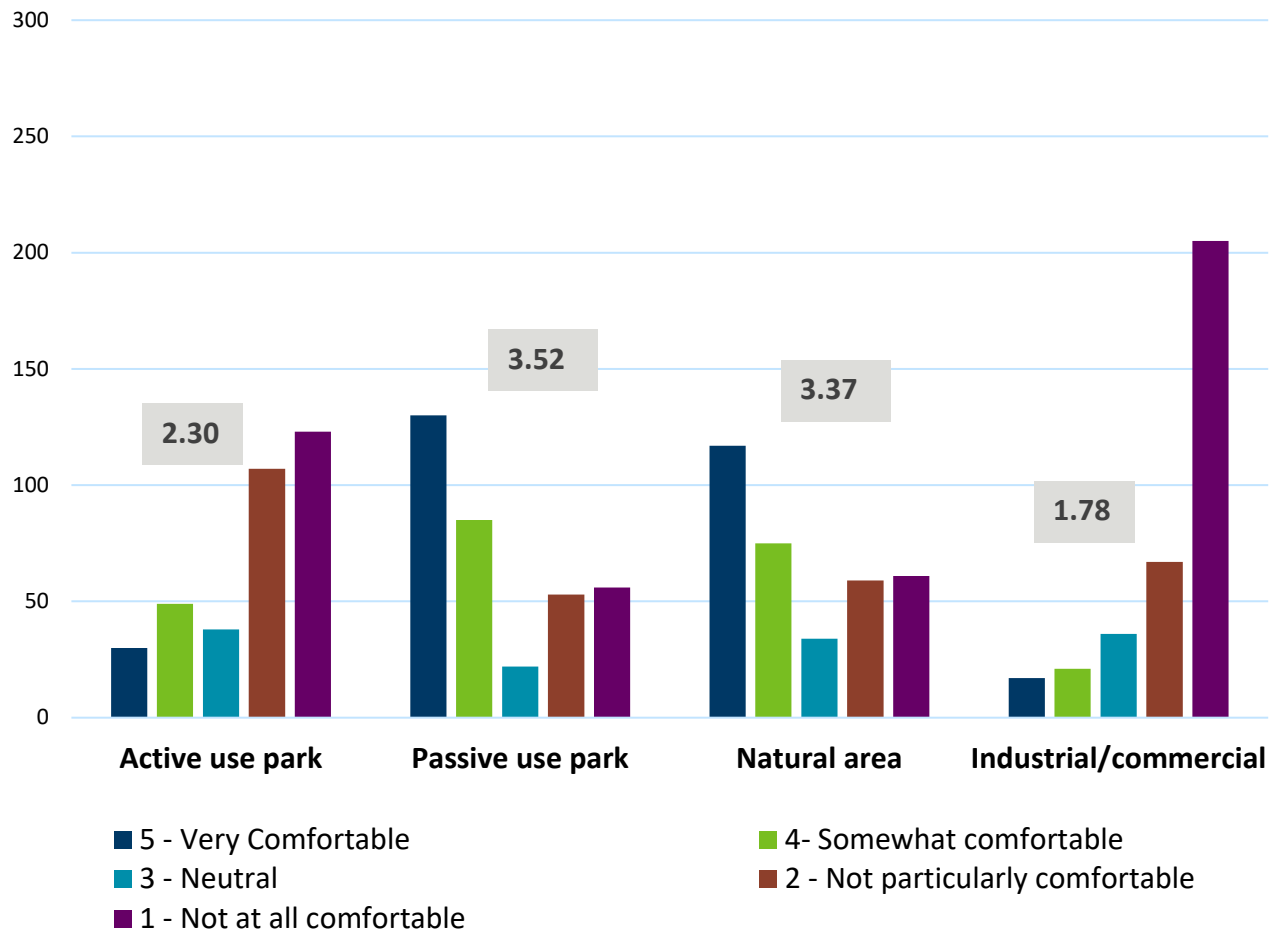
SouthEast Community Organization



Survey Results

Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter

- Most comfortable: passive use park
- Most uncomfortable: industrial/commercial uses
- The **industrial/commercial** future use paired with **Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter** received the lowest average comfortability rating across all remediation options

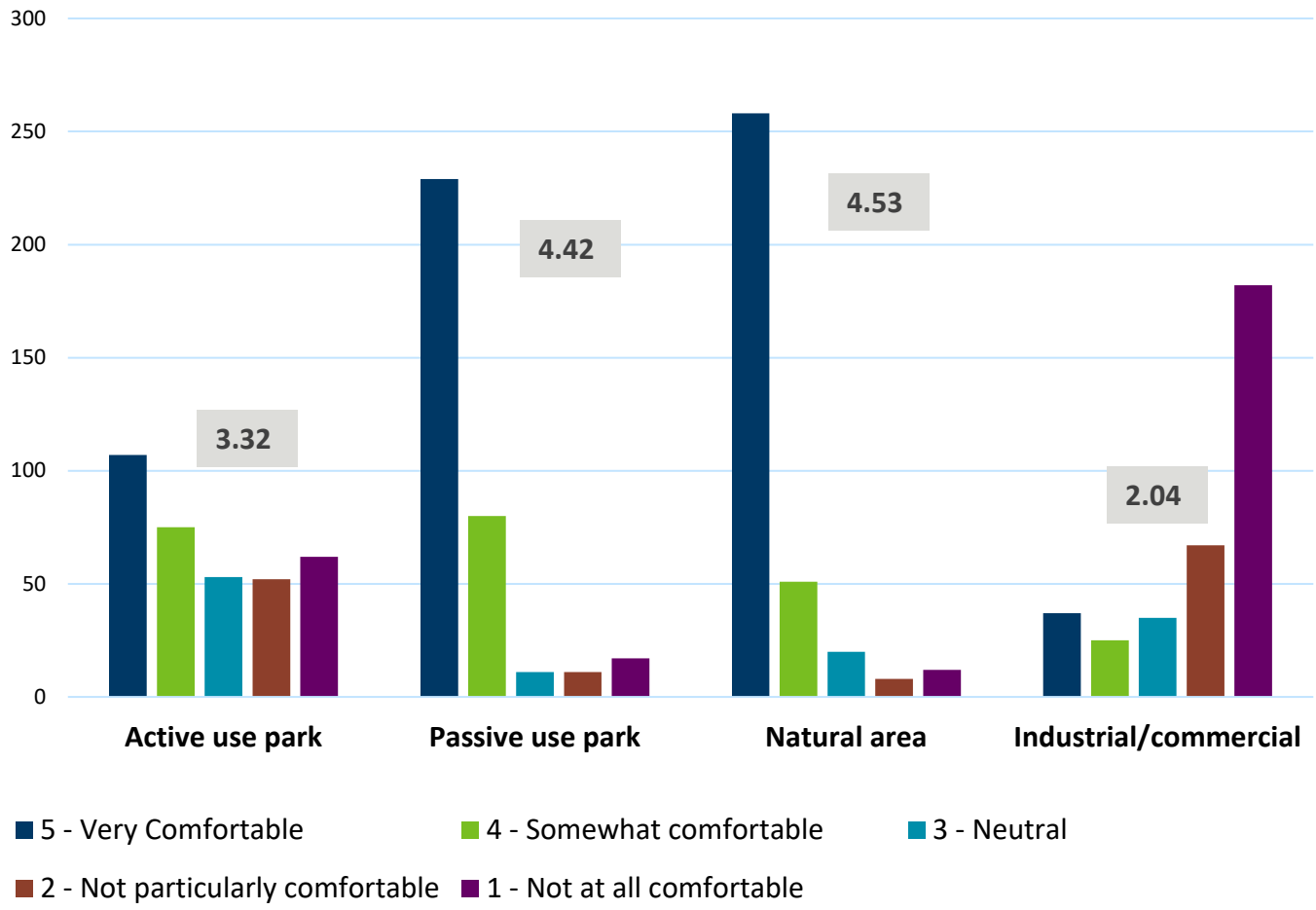


Average Comfortability Rating: overall average comfort rating of each future use

Survey Results

Dig and Haul and Backfill

- Most comfortable: Natural area
- Most uncomfortable: Industrial/commercial uses

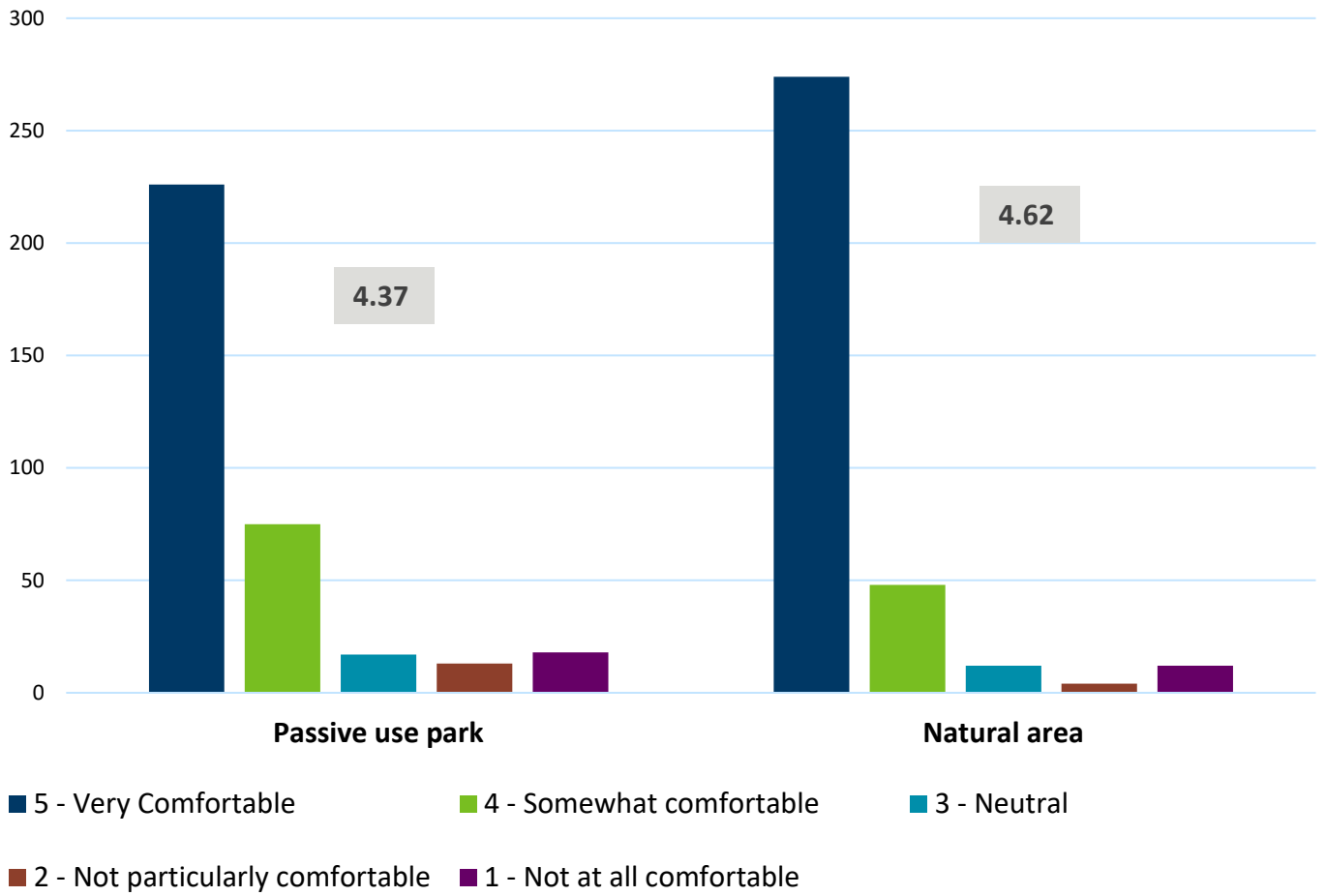


Average Comfortability Rating: overall average comfort rating of each future use

Survey Results

Dig and Haul No Backfill

- Most comfortable: Natural area
- The **natural area** future use paired with **Dig and Haul No Backfill** had the highest comfortability across all remediation options

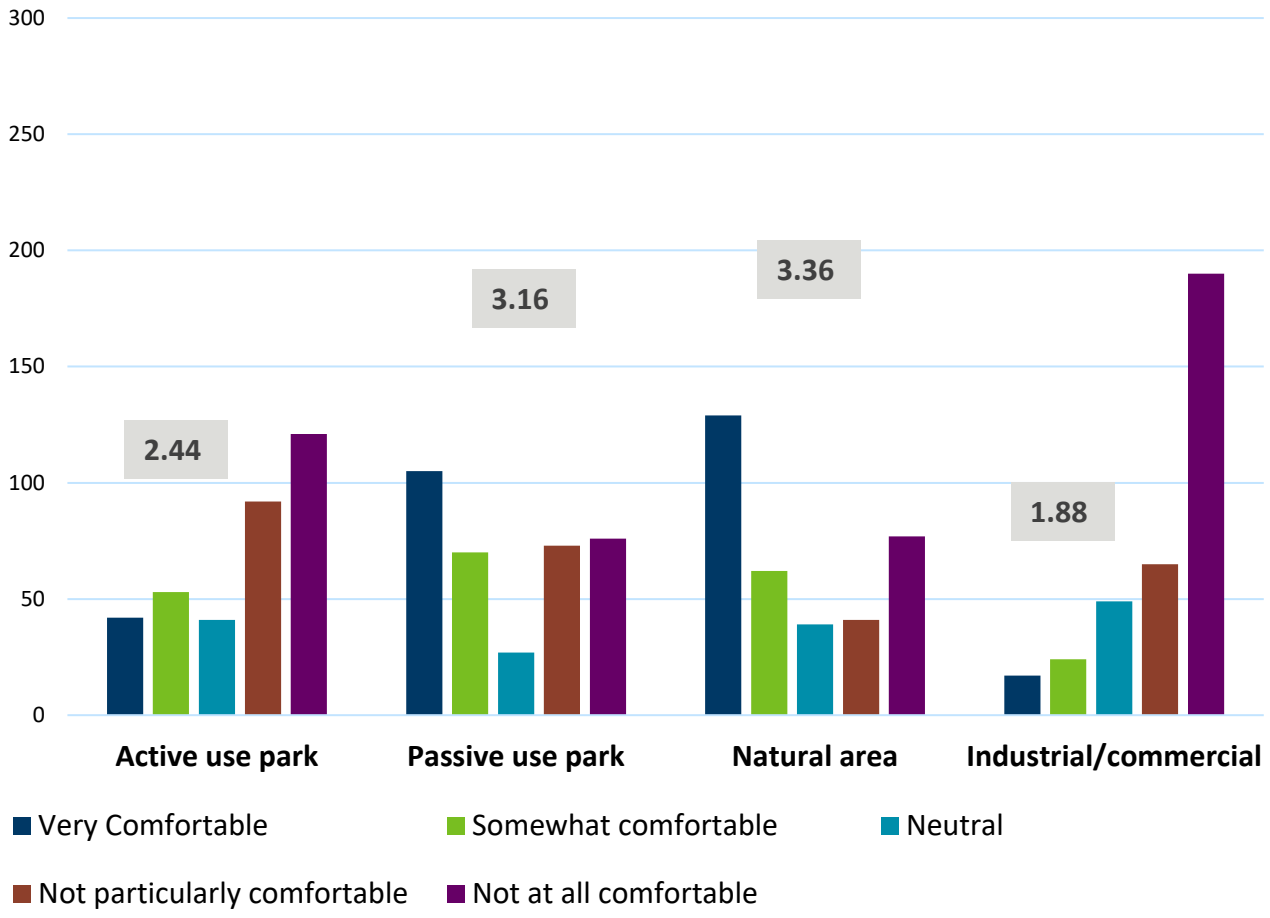


Average Comfortability Rating: overall average comfort rating of each future use

Survey Results

Dig and Line

- Most comfortable: Natural area
- Most uncomfortable: Industrial/commercial uses



Average Comfortability Rating: overall average comfort rating of each future use

Survey Results

Key Themes (134 open ended responses)

Restoration and preservation of wetlands and wildlife (46%)

- Strong preference for restoring the site to its natural state
- Preserving wildlife, habitat, and wetlands

Full removal of waste (17%)

- Complete clean up of the waste
- Prevent future contamination and avoid long-term environmental damage

Desire for passive recreation (10%)

- Desire for walking trails, birdwatching, and kayaking while preserving its ecological value

Survey Results

Key Themes (134 open ended responses)

Clean water (7%)

- Water quality protection should be a top priority
- Concerns about contamination of Mississippi River and groundwater

Native representation and Dakota site of significance (6%)

- Dakota site of significance
- Native communities' input should be heavily considered

Access to the site (5%)

- Site is difficult to access and better utilized as a natural area/passive recreation

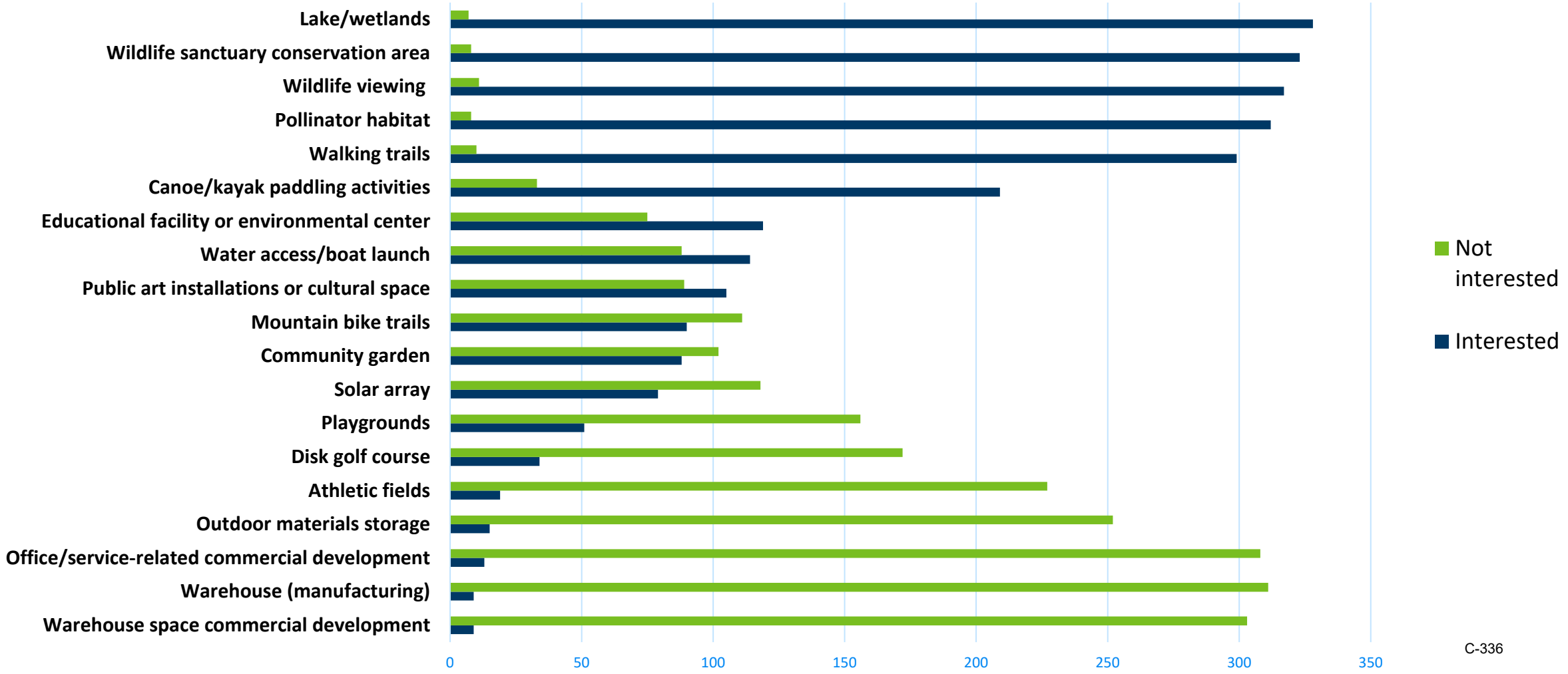
Survey Results

Key Themes (134 open ended responses)

A few people mentioned preference for:

- Keeping overall costs low
- Targeted waste relocation and filter due to feasibility
- Leave the dump as is

Survey Results



Survey Results

Future uses – Interested:

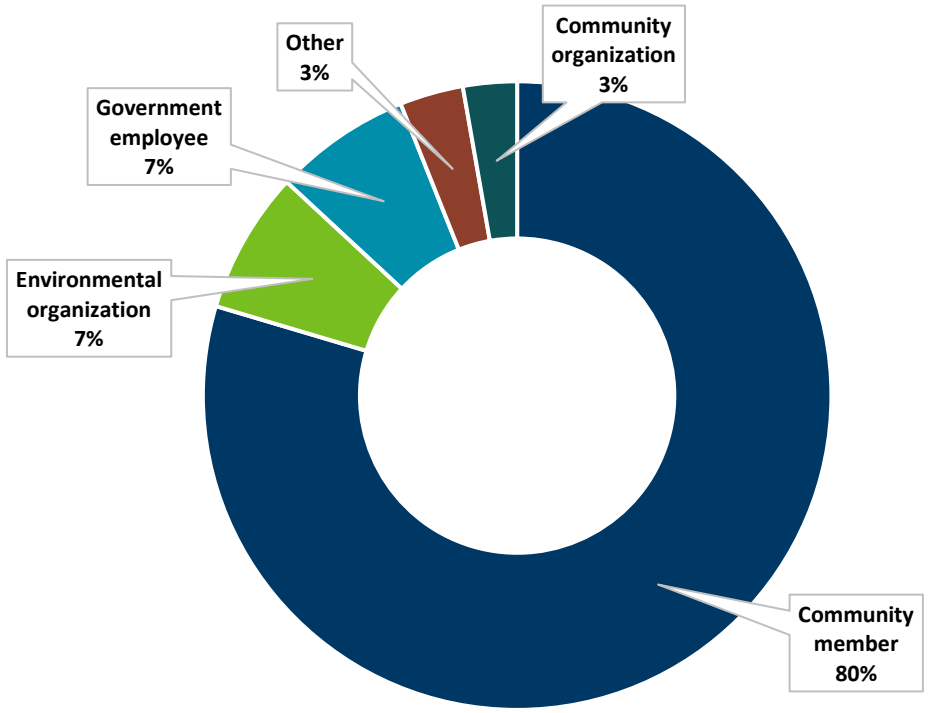
- Land management and cultural space operated by Dakota people
- Historical and educational signage
- Wildlife cameras
- Campground facilities
- Tails for users with disabilities
- Dog park
- Bathrooms

Future uses – Not interested:

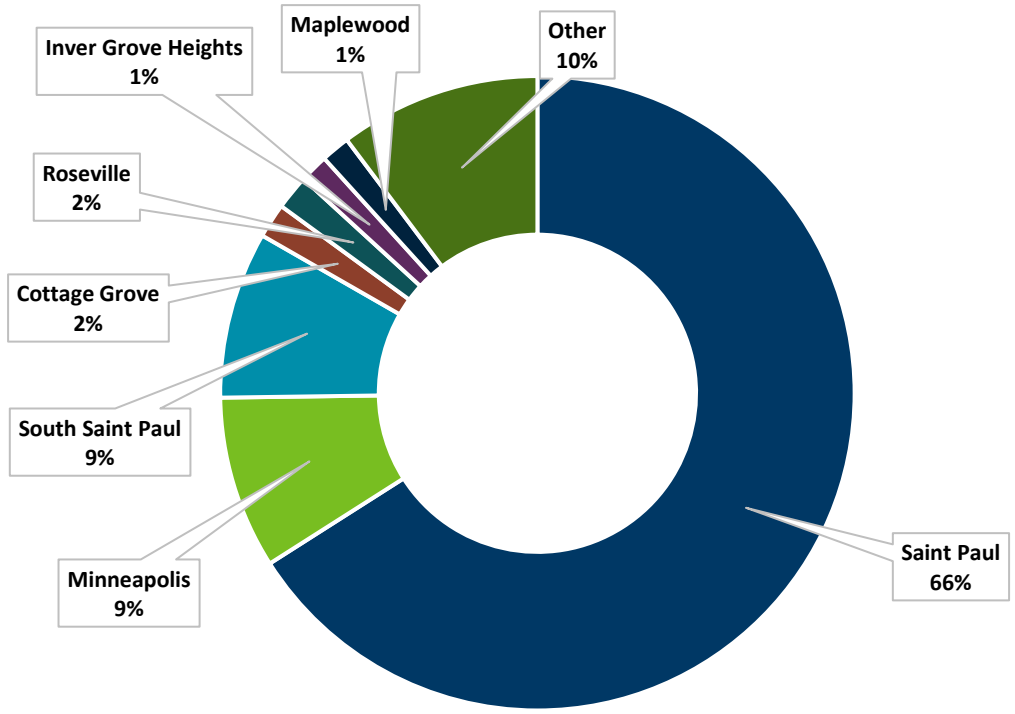
- Motorized boats
- Housing
- Facilities that contribute to pollution
- Fitness courses
- Dog park

Survey Results

Which of the following best describes you?

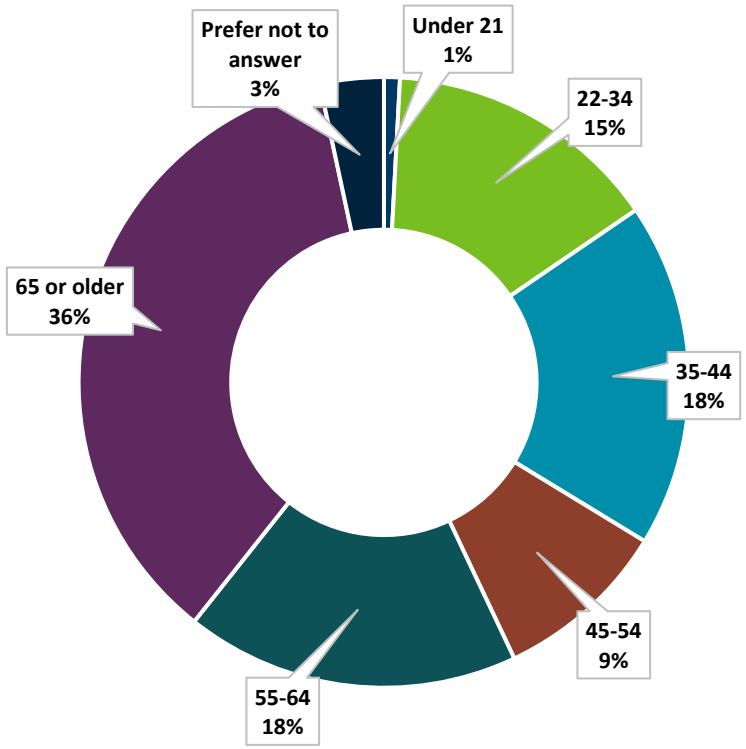


Where do you live? (optional: 100 responses)

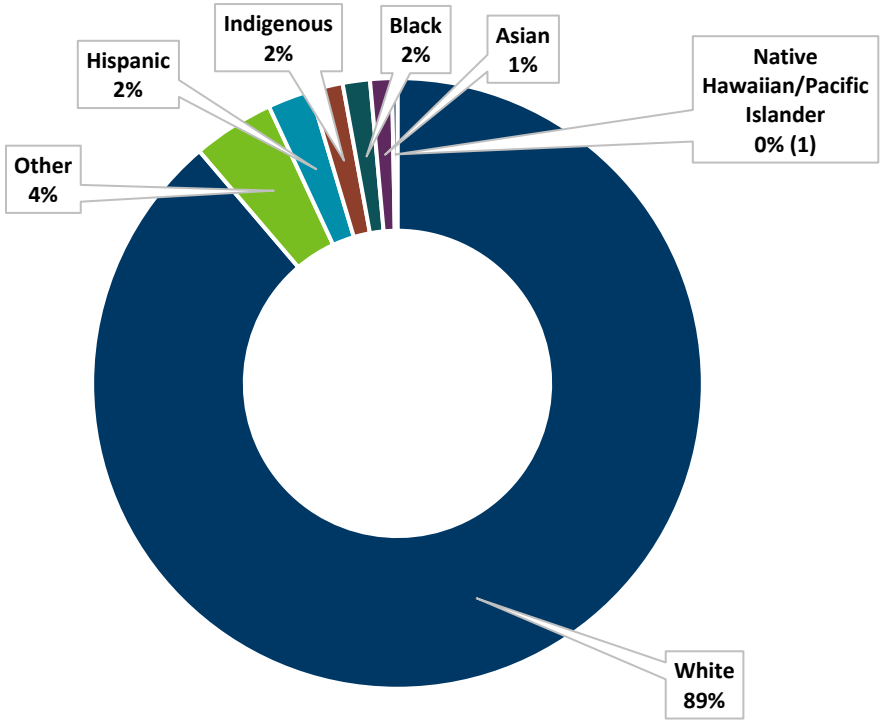


Survey Results

Age



Race



Battle Creek-Highwood

Population:

- 23,079

Age:

- Under 18: 29%
- 18-24: 9.6%
- 25-34: 17.2%
- 35-44: 13.5%
- 45-54: 10.3%
- 55-64: 9.7%
- 65+: 10.7%

Race:

White – 29.5%

Of Color – 70.5%

Language:

- English only – 54.1%
- Language other than English – 45.9%
- Speaks English less than “very well” – 23.3%

Income/Poverty:

- Less than 35,000– 21.2%
- Income under 200% poverty level – 42.5%

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig’s Eye Dump Task Force – Public Comment

Public Comment

Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force – Discussion

Task Force Discussion



Next Meetings

In-person:

Meeting #10: June 24, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.



Thank you!

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Agenda for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #10

Tuesday, June 24, 2025
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

1. **Welcome, introductions, agenda (9:00 a.m.)**
2. **Re-cap of previous meetings and next steps (9:10 a.m.)**
3. **Update on stakeholder conversations (9:20 a.m.)**
4. **Map of Pig's Eye Dump area (9:25 a.m.)**
5. **Sorting waste (9:30 a.m.)**
6. **Moving waste with guest speaker (9:45 a.m.)**
7. **Break (10:00 a.m.)**
8. **New landfill cover remediation option (10:10 a.m.)**
9. **Dig and line feasibility updates (10:30 a.m.)**
10. **Public comment (10:45 a.m.)**
11. **Task force discussion (11:05 a.m.)**
12. **Adjourn (12:00 p.m.)**

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Notes for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #10

Tuesday, June 24, 2025
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Virtual and 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 Saint Paul
- Bill Sumner, Council Member, City of Newport
- Melanie McMahon, Executive Project Lead – Mayor's Staff, City of Saint Paul
- Victoria Reinhardt, 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

- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Stephen Mikkelson, MPCA
- Corinne Stremmel, MPCA
- Ashley Thompson, Zan Associates
- Kara Van Lerberghe, Zan Associates

Presenters

- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Diane Ruddle, Clean Harbors
- Narayanan Raghupathi, WSP

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda

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

2. Re-cap previous meetings and next steps

Hans Neve (MPCA) provided a recap of the last meeting and what the task force discussed including waste sorting, disposal capacity, transportation costs, and ranking remediation options. He went over an update on the timeline of the task force and conversations the team had with other stakeholders.

3. Updated map of Pig's Eye Dump area

Hans Neve (MPCA) shared an updated map of the Pig's Eye Dump area that showed what land is owned by the Metropolitan Council, what are designated park areas, and where the wood recycling facility is located.

3. Sorting waste

Hans Neve (MPCA) provided more information on the feasibility of sorting waste in Pig's Eye Dump. He shared that large materials such as metals and debris can be removed during excavation, but it is likely not feasible to sort waste at a materials recovery facility due to cost, lack of market, and low recovery. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) shared concerns about worker safety as well due to hazardous material in the waste such as asbestos. Jimmy Francis (City of South Saint Paul) asked if they had any details about what type of waste is located within the dump and Hans responded that they do not have detailed information on what type of waste is located other than what they can see visually. Bill Sumner (City of Newport) added that some of the materials that are worth anything may have been scavenged back when there was still active dumping. Dan Scollan (DNR) asked if there has been any characterization of the waste and Narayanan Raghupathi (WSP) responded that they did recently complete soil sampling that should provide more information at the next task force meeting. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) asked if the task force wants them to spend more time looking into mining landfills and potential case studies and the task force responded that they do not. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) asked about details of how another landfill was managed in Olmsted County and how it compares. Dave added that this dump is unique due to its wetness and that in his experience he doesn't think the risk reward trade off would be worth it.

4. Moving waste

Diane Ruddle from Clean Harbors provided a background on the type of work Clean Harbors does with waste management. Diane went over the feasibility of moving Pig's Eye Dump waste via barge and the factors to consider. A barge is likely not a feasible option for moving this waste due to cost, volume, and hazardous material. Diane then went over transporting waste by rail which is a more feasible option and how it works. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) asked if there are any example projects Diane has worked on that are comparable, and Diane answered that there is one in the New York area, but they usually have data from soil borings that would inform how they manage it. Diane added that this would probably be a long-term project that is completed in a staged process. David Bell (MDH) asked what Diane viewed as the most complicated aspect of the project, and she answered that there is a lot of unknown data that would be helpful to inform how it is managed. Dave Magnuson asked if it is possible to build an incineration facility onsite so that you do not have to move it, and Diane responded that yes but there are multiple factors that need to be controlled including emissions.

5. Break

The meeting paused for a 20-minute break.

6. New landfill cover remediation option

Narayanan Raghupathi (WSP) provided a recap on the waste clean up options the task force has discussed so far. He then went over a new option that the task force discussed in the previous meeting that would include creating a slope and building a new cover over the dump to prevent infiltration from the top of the dump. He went over a graphic showing how it would look, potential costs, and factors to consider. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) asked for clarification on if the waste would still be sitting in groundwater during flood events and Narayanan

confirmed that would not change. Nathan Wallerstedt (Army Corps of Engineers) asked if they had an estimate of how much fill would be needed and Narayanan estimated that they might need up to 2 million cubic yards of clean fill. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) asked what the environmental benefit would be if you prevent infiltration and Narayanan answered that it is hard to know right now since they do not have the soil data right now.

7. Dig and Line

Narayanan Raghupathi (WSP) provided an overview of the Dig and Line considerations and more information on what factors went into the current cost estimate. He then went over the benefits and potential challenges of the Dig and Line option. Sam Paske (Met Council) asked when a discussion is feasible on how this option would impact neighboring properties. Narayanan responded that they would need to investigate how topography changes would impact neighbors such as the metro plant operations and drainage systems. David Bell (MDH) asked what the potential height of the landfill would be and Narayanan responded that it could range from 80 feet to 150 feet if all the waste stays on site. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) asked when discussions about impacts to neighboring properties would happen and Narayanan clarified that it would need to happen before the design phase. Sam added that before they were able to confidently say a specific option is a potential alternative, they would need to know the impacts or ways to mitigate them. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) asked if there are any studies on the impact to neighboring home values if a landfill was built. Kirk Koudelka said that it is not a well-researched area and that they run into those questions in other areas of work as well. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) asked for clarification on if this option would change the floodplain and Narayanan said they would not actively try to change the floodplain.

6. Public comment

One attendee shared that they believe the objective is to clean up and restore the area and that the options discussed today do not meet that objective. They added that these options would also conflict with existing plans for the future of the area. Another person suggested the waste be moved east of Highway 61 out of the water. Another attendee shared other factors to consider including a pipe, train spills, negative impacts to bird wildlife, and the unknown material in the dump. Another attendee shared that although the cost is higher, it is most feasible to remove the waste to mitigate environmental impact. Another member wants to ensure the solution is beneficial for future generations and encourages people to visit the site to see how it is an environmental asset.

7. Discussion

Hans Neve (MPCA) kicked off the discussion with suggesting task force members discuss the options with their organizations and start to consider how they would rank them or what factors are most important. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) shared that cost is not the only factor and wants to make sure they are focusing on the impact on the environment as well. She added that their charge is to deal with environmental and health concerns at the site. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) emphasized that they need to consider the impact if the material leaves the site on other landfills and the cost. Melanie McMahon (City of Saint Paul) added that there is no preordained outcome required from the legislation, but that cost is an important factor as many local entities including the City do not have the funds to deal with the waste. She added that she would like to see a preferred option for the report and another option as well due to the complexity. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) asked for more details about the pollinator habitat and Hans responded that adding pollinator habitat is a requirement for capping landfills but that generally the dig and line option would look like a large green hill. The

task force added that it would be helpful to see a model of what the dig and line option would look like in context of the area. Jimmy Francis (City of South Saint Paul) added that this is a difficult decision but would like to explore partnerships with nearby states and federal partners about addressing landfill capacity and waste management. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) added that if they moved forward with the dig and line option, they may have flexibility of how it is designed. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) added that it would be helpful if the task force considered what factors are most important to the task force member's organizations. Victoria Reinhardt (MPCA) added that it would be helpful to have materials they can take to their organization or have speakers come in to provide more information on the options. Kirk responded that they could pull together some of the materials that have been created so far. Bill Sumner (City of Newport) asked about the impact to communities downriver that could be utilized to help come up with funding. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) added that they will likely need to look towards federal funding for cleaning up the site. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) added that the next meeting will discuss potential funding options at a local, state, and federal level. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) emphasized that he does want to keep in mind the health impacts to downstream communities. David Bell (MDH) asked what the minimum height of the dig and line would be, and Narayanan Raghupathi (WSP) said that there are different options that would get more detailed during the design phase. David asked for more information on the next few meetings and when they need to determine their priorities as an organization, and Kirk responded that they would send out more information after this meeting about the next steps.

A member of the public added that although the costs are high the impacts to communities are dangerous and it needs to be addressed. Victoria Reinhardt responded that there is no perfect answer but feels decent about where the progress they have made so far. Hans confirmed with the task force that the Dig and Haul with Backfill option is not being considered anymore. A member of the public shared concerns about the dig and line option impacting the floodplain. Another attendee asked about treating the water and soil for PFAS and Kirk responded that most methods for addressing PFAS would not include treating the soil and water and putting it back. Diane Ruddle (Clean Harbors) added that there is some technology of on-site fixation but that it likely isn't a viable solution for the geology of this site.

8. Adjourn

Hans Neve (MPCA) adjourned the meeting.

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #10

June 24, 2025

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

C-352

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force
Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and Introductions

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



Agenda

9:00 – Welcome, introductions, agenda

9:10 – Re-cap of previous meetings and next steps

9:20 – Update on stakeholder conversations

9:25 – Map of Pig's Eye Dump area

9:30 – Sorting waste

9:45 – Moving waste with guest speaker

10:00 – Break

10:10 – New landfill cover remediation option

10:30 – Dig and line feasibility updates

10:45 – Public comment

11:05 – Task Force discussion

12:00 – Adjourn



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Recap from previous meetings and next steps

Recap

- Waste Sorting
- Waste disposal capacity and transport costs
- Ranking Remediation Options
  - Delete dig and haul with backfill
  - Targeted waste relocation not effective enough
  - Add an option that improves the cover
  - Want more info on Dig and Line option

Timeline

Sept 2023-Dec 2024

Education

- Learning the site case studies from other sites
- Public awareness

Feb 2025-Aug 2025

Decision-making

- Public Input
- Remediation and Restoration strategies and goals
- Funding options

Oct 2025-Dec 2025

Documenting & review

- Develop legislative report
- Finalize funding options

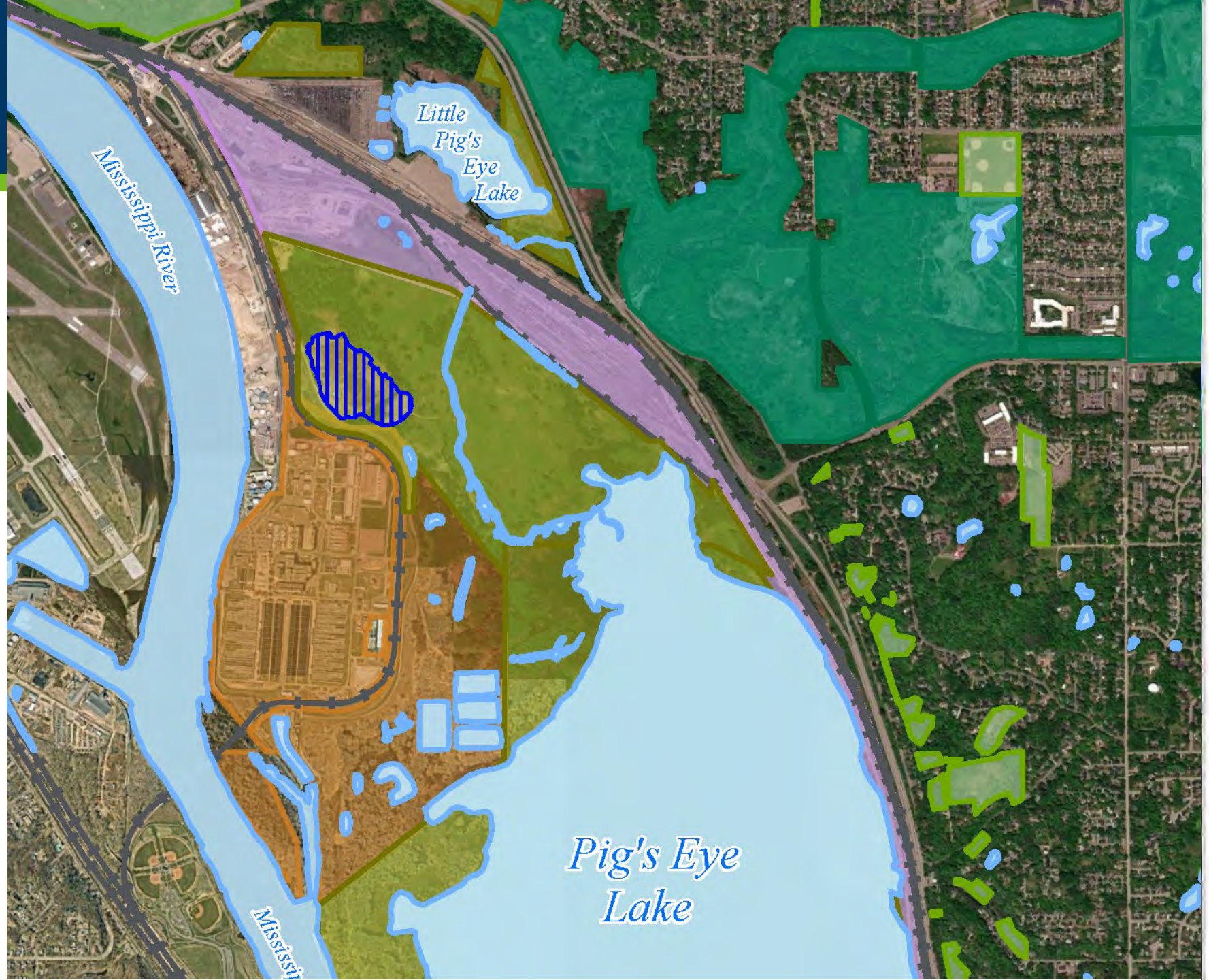
Stakeholder conversations update

- Canadian Pacific Railway
- FAA, MAC, USDA
- Prairie Island Indian Community



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Updated map of Pig's Eye Dump area



Legend:

Transportation

- Airport
- Rail Lines

Areas of Interest

- Pig's Eye Wood Recycling Fac.
- Parcels owned by Metropolitan Council
- Parcels owned by CP Railway (Soo Line Railroad Co.)

Parks

- Battle Creek Regional Park
- Pig's Eye Regional Park
- Other Parks

0 0.25 0.5

Miles

N

C-361

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Sorting waste

Sorting Waste

Types of sorting

Sorting at the excavation

- Metal large enough to be picked with an excavator
- Identifiable hazardous materials



Sorting Waste







Sorting of Pig's Eye Waste

- What percent recovery could be achieved?
- Would there be a market for recovered material?
- What would sorting cost?
- How long would it take?



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Moving waste

Clean Harbors Project Services



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Broad Asset Infrastructure

- **More than 100 Waste Management Facilities**
  - 9 Incinerator units
  - New Rotary Kiln in 2024 at Kimball, NE (70k additional tons)
  - 11 Landfill Sites, 5 Closed Loop
  - 18 Treatment, Storage & Disposal Facilities (TSDF)
  - 9 Wastewater Treatment Operations
  - 16,000+ Company Vehicles
- **Recognized as a Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporation**
- **Total PFAS Solution**
  - Remediation, Disposal, AFFF Transitions





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Waste Determination – RCRA Regulations

- **Land Disposal Restrictions (LDR)**
  - Federal Regulation under RCRA that governs disposal of hazardous waste in landfills.
  - Treatment Standards determine what is allowed for disposal technologies
- **Limited Information Pig's Eye Landfilled Materials**
- **Common Wastes in Landfill Excavations**
  - Drums
  - Cylinders
  - Areas of Hazardous Waste – required incineration
  - Non-Hazardous Landfill Materials
  - Hazardous Landfill Materials





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Disposal Options – Landfill

	PCB / TSCA	PFAS	Asbestos	Rail
Lone Mountain, OK		X	X	X
Grassy Mountain, UT	X	X	X	X
Buttonwillow, CA		X	X	
Lambton, ON		X	X	X

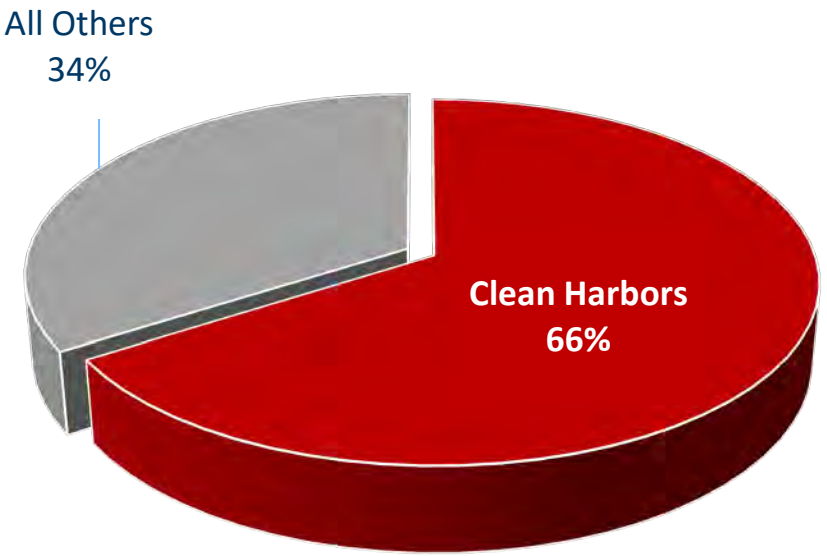


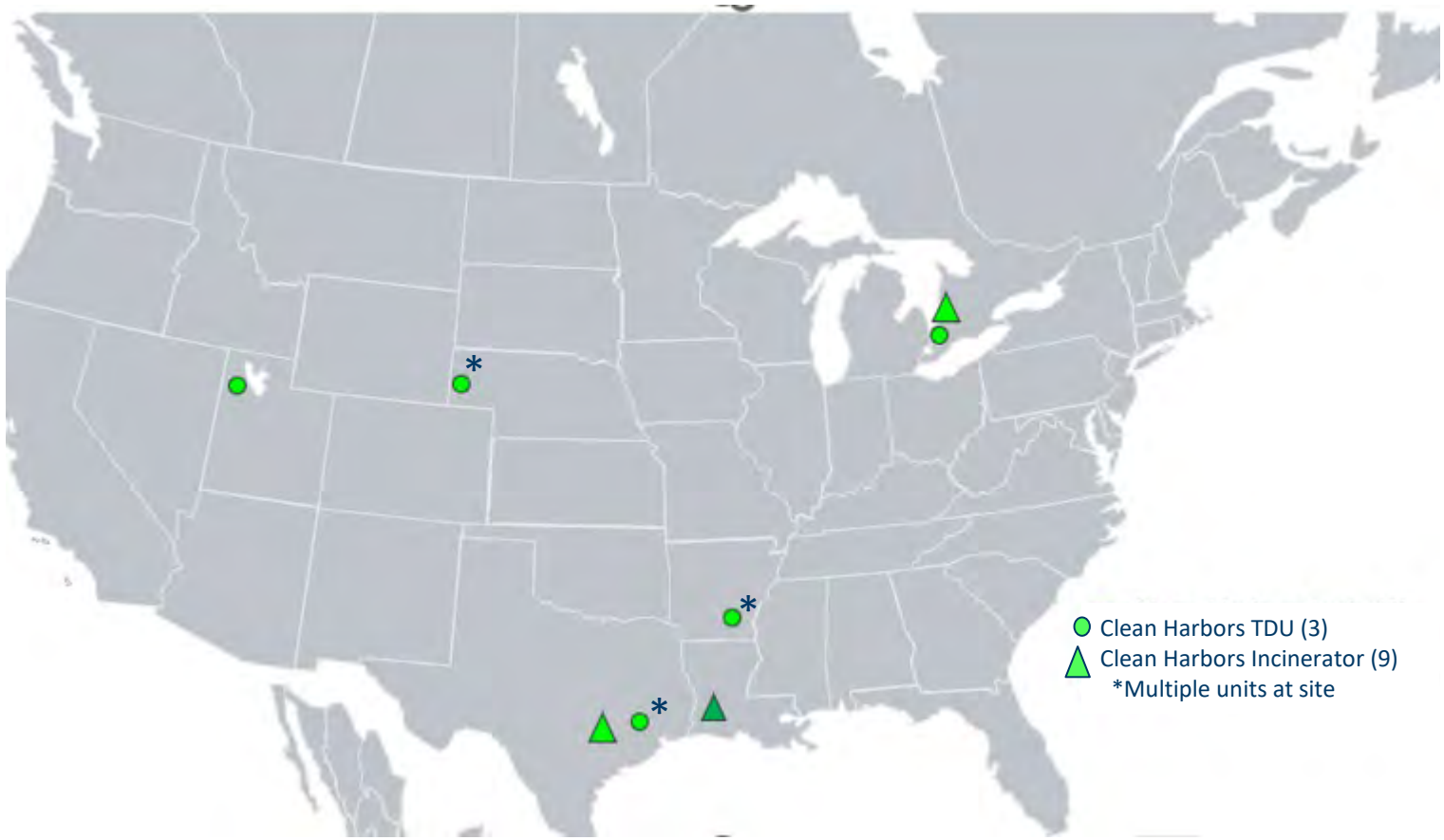
- Landfill waste acceptance varies by permit limitations and site capacity.
- Our USA hazardous landfill acceptance chart shows the different waste treatment capabilities for each site.
- Clean Harbors has a large disposal network for all types and concentrations of waste.
- Three Clean Harbors landfills have rail capabilities.
- 45 years of experience managing large volume projects.

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Disposal Options – Thermal Options

Commercial Hazardous Waste Incinerator Capacity





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Barge Transportation

- Requires large volume that can be shipped and end facility accepted at one time.
- Disposal facilities frequently have limitations on the volume they can accept each day.
- Costs for the containerization, ship slip, crew, demurrage, fuel and standby time in addition to front end transportation and receiving facility transportation expected to offset the transportation saving for using a barge.
- Barges carry a large volume of material, however loading directly into the container is not advisable for contaminated materials due to increased costs for cleaning, disposal and demurrage / delay charges for the vessel.



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Railroad Transportation



- Rail transportation on average saves $95 to $125/ton in transportation cost.
- Railroads are not a service-oriented company. They are like a utility.
- Clean Harbors is the largest shipper of hazardous waste by rail in North America. We manage over 10,000 rail shipments per year through our network
- We maintain a large privately owned fleet of over 2,500 rail tankers and 600 gondola rail cars. We have access to additional long-term leases through vendors we work closely with to size up as needed.

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Railroad Transportation – How It Works



- Agreement made with rail loading area near project.
- Design and build loading ramp. End dump trucks will load into the lined rail cars.
- Each rail car must stay under the legal weight limit of 286,000 lbs (gross).
- Once loaded, liner would be closed and proper DOT markings applied to rail car.
- Shipping manifests would be completed and signed. Rail car release completed with the railroad to notify the line they are ready to ship.
- In transit, cars follow railroad routing to various destinations before arriving at the end facility.
- Upon arrival, rail cars are dug out with an excavator and material placed in end dumps to transport to the landfill area or the incinerator feedline. Cars are cleaned before return.

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Case Study – WDE Landfill

- Remedial cleanup of an industrial waste pit located in the former Waste Disposal Engineering (WDE) Closed Landfill
- Oversight of installation and deconstruction of temporary building (sprung structure) over excavation area
- Removal of 397 intact and partially intact drums of RCRA and TSCA contaminated waste
- Overpacked and analyzed each intact or partially intact drum for hazardous characteristics to determine most suitable disposal facility
- Removal, transport and disposal of over 3000 debris drums to Clean Harbors' Lone Mountain disposal facility
- Excavated, sampled, transported and disposed of over 13,000 tons of RCRA contaminated soil. The soil was sent via rail to Aragonite and Kimball incinerators for disposal.
- Excavated 7100 tons of Subtitle D soil which was transported and disposed by a third party
- Backfilled excavation to grade in 25 one-foot lifts at 95% compaction.
- Managed vapor controls and media of the sprung structure.



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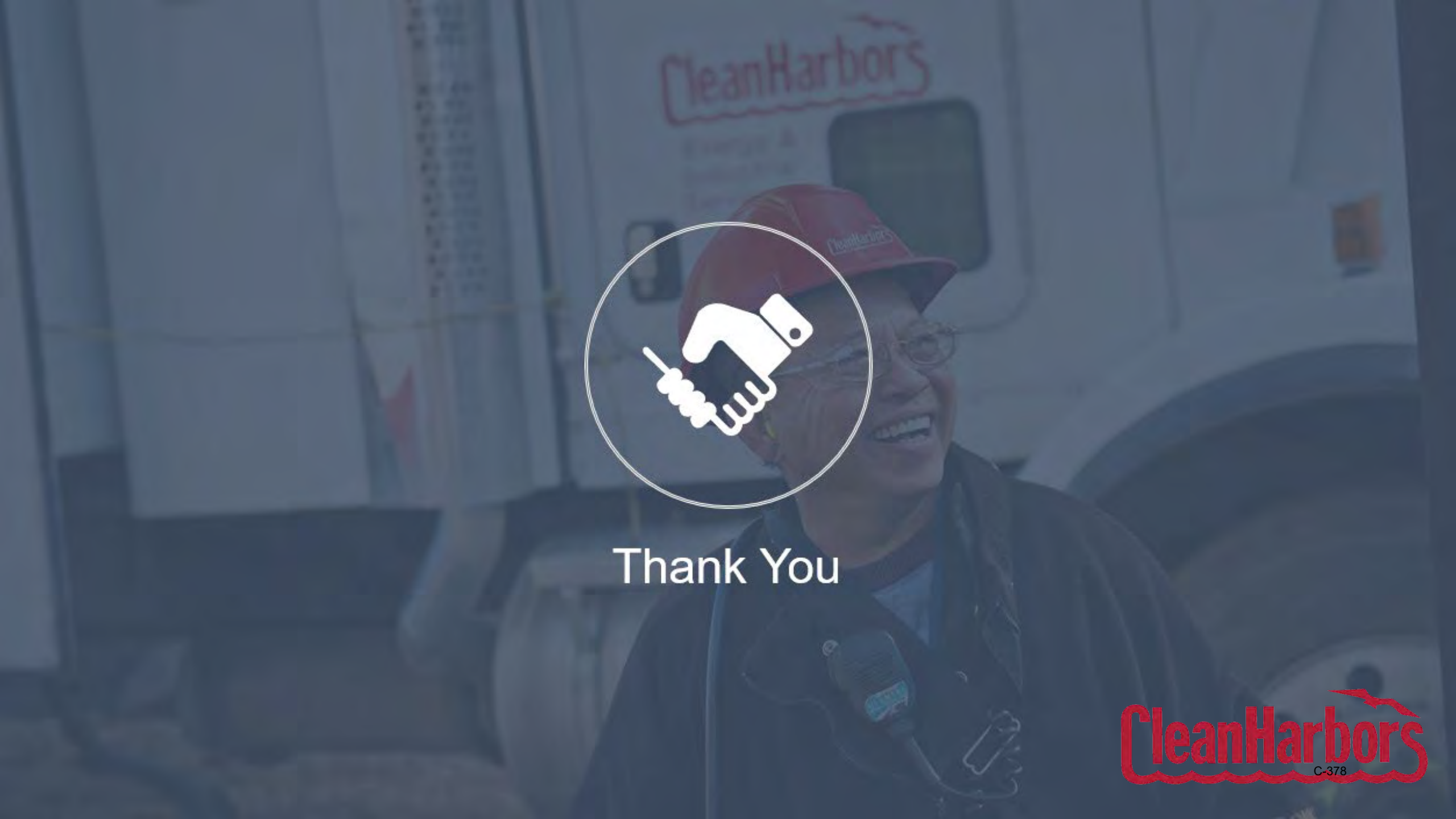


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CleanHarbors


CleanHarbors
Thank You

Case Study – Lower Passaic River Restoration Project

Large Engineering and Consulting Firm – USEPA Superfund

- Transportation and Disposal of 35,000 tons contaminated sediment
  - 24 / 7 waste shipments via rail
  - 8,000 tons for incineration, multiple waste codes
  - 27,000 tons for secure landfill
  - On site management of all shipments
- On site wastewater treatment
  - A fully automated treatment system
    - Clarifier, chemical treatment, sand filters
    - Filter bag screening, 240,000 lbs carbon
    - Direct discharge to Passaic River
  - Treated up to 1M gals per day
  - 700 gpm, 60M gal total

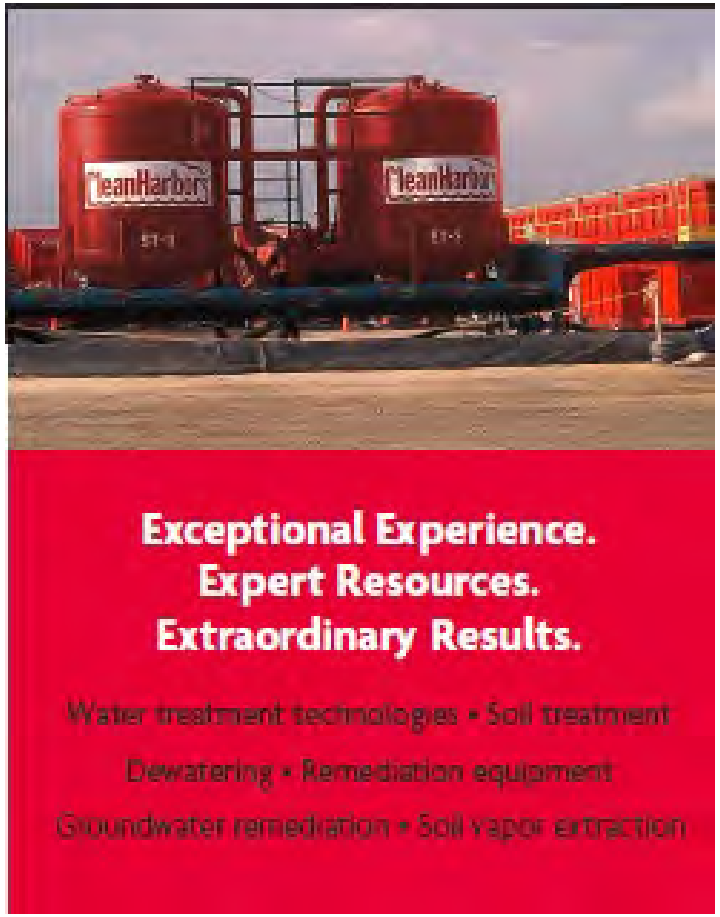




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Water and Remediation Technologies Group

- Dewatering & Remediation of Groundwater
- Mobile and Fixed Systems
- Industrial and Potable Water
- Treatment System fabrication in Kalkaska and Mt Pleasant, Michigan
  - Treatment of Contaminated Ponds, Lagoons or Tanks
  - Removal of Chemicals, Hydrocarbons, Metals, PCB's and PFAS
- Local CHES Water Treatment Branches provide Water Treatment Equipment Services and O&M Services of customer sites.
  - Bridgeport, NJ — East
  - Baton Rouge, LA — South
  - Benicia, CA — West
  - Kalkaska, MI / Mt Pleasant, MI — Mid-West
- Visit us at **www.RemediationEquipment.com**



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Soil Remediation and Transportation

As a **single-source provider**, one call anywhere in the continental U.S. and Canada

Our remediation services include:

- Sheeting and Shoring
- Dewatering
- Braced Excavations
- Technical Excavation
- On-Site-Soil Project Management
- In-situ PFAS Soil Remediation

Scalable – example: from 30 cubic yards of contaminated soil to 20,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil at a large manufacturing facility.



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Future Liability

Certificate of Disposal / Destruction from a hazardous facility creates a narrative that the generator is conservative in their approach. Leaves the least amount of potential for future liability.



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MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Break

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

New landfill cover remediation option

Waste Area Cleanup Options

Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter

- Remove and relocate a small amount of waste to create larger separation between waste and water
- Add a filtering material to capture contamination

Construction Cost: $30M*
Timeline: < 5 years
30 Year Operating Cost: $6M*

Dig and Haul No Backfill "New Pigs Eye Lake"

- Remove all waste from site and dispose of at a permitted landfill
- No backfill, area becomes lake and wetland

Construction Cost: $720M*
Timeline: 8-10 years
30 Year Operating Cost: $1.5M*

Dig and Haul and Backfill

- Remove all waste from site and dispose of at a permitted landfill
- Backfill excavated area with clean fill

Construction Cost: $830M*
Timeline: 10+ years
30 Year Operating Cost: $6M*

Dig and Line "New Pig's Eye Landfill"

- Excavate all waste
- Build a modern landfill to contain waste on the property

Construction Cost: $570M*
Timeline: 10+ years
30 Year Operating Cost: $45M*

***Estimated costs are –50% to +100%**

Pig's Eye Dump New Cover

New Cover

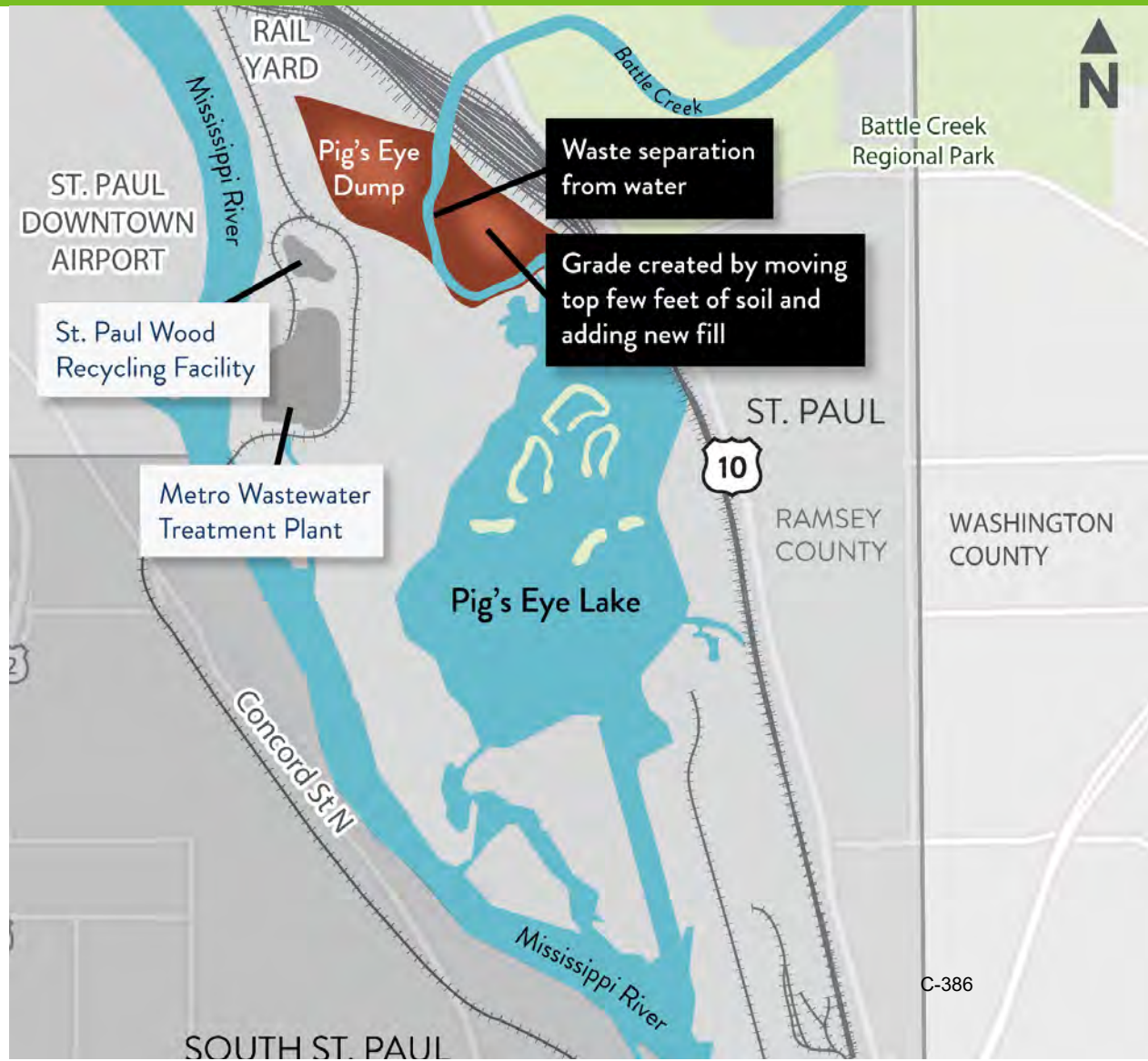
- Impermeable cover prevents infiltration from the top
- New cover with pollinator habitat
- No bottom liner
  - Groundwater intrusion during flood events
  - Leachate released from bottom

Cost: $100 Million (5%)*

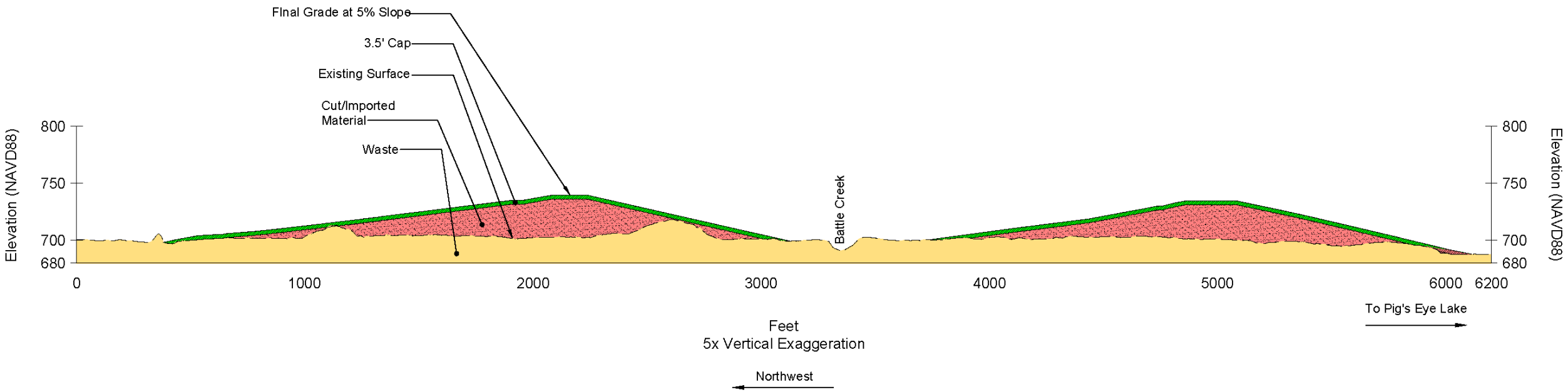
- Unsuitable material disposed of off site if required

30 Year O&M Cost: $6 Million*

***Estimated costs are –50% to +100%**



New Cover


Final Grade at 5% Slope
3.5' Cap
Existing Surface
Cut/Imported Material
Waste
Elevation (NAVD88)
800
750
700
680
Battle Creek
0
1000
2000
3000
4000
5000
6000
6200
To Pig's Eye Lake
Feet
5x Vertical Exaggeration
Northwest

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Dig and line feasibility updates

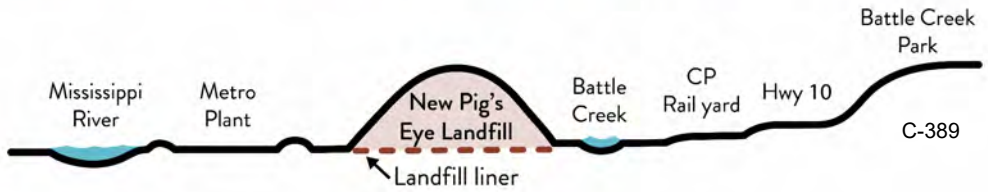
Dig and Line

Dig and Line
"New Pig's Eye Landfill"

Construction Cost: $570M*
Timeline: 10+ years
30 Year Operating Cost: $45M*

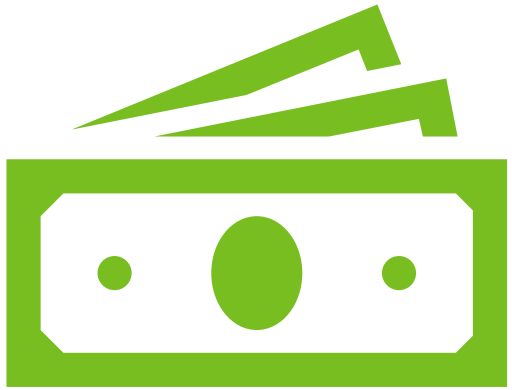
Estimated costs are –50% to +100%





Current Cost Estimate

- ✓ **Size**
  - Landfill waste volume is 4.5 Million cubic yards
- ✓ **Predesign investigation**
  - Site survey
  - Environmental investigation
  - Geotech investigation
- ✓ **Permitting and public meetings**
  - local/state/federal
- ✓ **Landfill cell development with liner**
- ✓ **Collection systems**
  - Leachate collection system and transfer to MCES treatment plant
  - Landfill cap and gas collection system



Benefits

- Keeps waste onsite
- Meets regulatory compliance
- Reduces/prevents leaching of contaminants into groundwater
- Controlled landfill gas emissions
- Landfill can be safely converted into park or recreational areas
- Reduced impacts to transportation network



Challenges

- Construction
  - Worker H&S
  - Drainage and surface water control
  - Slope stability
  - Settlement
  - Site coordination
  - Impacts to neighboring properties
  - Utility
  - Transportation planning



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig’s Eye Dump Task Force – Public Comment

Waste Area Cleanup Options

Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter

- Remove and relocate a small amount of waste to create larger separation between waste and water
- Add a filtering material to capture contamination

Construction Cost: $30M*
Timeline: < 5 years
30 Year Operating Cost: $6M*

New Cover

- Impermeable cover prevents infiltration from the top
- New cover with pollinator habitat
- No bottom liner

Construction Cost: $100M*
Timeline: <5 years
30 Year Operating Cost: $6M*

Dig and Haul No Backfill "New Pigs Eye Lake"

- Remove all waste from site and dispose of at a permitted landfill
- No backfill, area becomes lake and wetland

Construction Cost: $720M*
Timeline: 8-10 years
30 Year Operating Cost: $1.5M*

Dig and Line "New Pig's Eye Landfill"

- Excavate all waste
- Build a modern landfill to contain waste on the property

Construction Cost: $570M*
Timeline: 10+ years
30 Year Operating Cost: $45M*

*Estimated costs are –50% to +100%

Public Comment

Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig’s Eye Dump Task Force – Discussion

Homework

How would your organization rank the remediation options?



Next Meetings

In-person:

Meeting #11: August 21, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.



AGENCY LOGO HERE

Thank you!

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Agenda for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #11

Thursday, August 21, 2025
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

1. **Welcome, introductions, agenda (9:00 a.m.)**
2. **Plan for remaining meetings (9:05 a.m.)**
3. **Update on stakeholder conversations (9:15 a.m.)**
4. **Task Force homework report out (9:20 a.m.)**
5. **Break (9:50 a.m.)**
6. **Funding options (9:55 a.m.)**
7. **Public comment (10:55 a.m.)**
8. **Task Force discussion (11:15 a.m.)**
9. **Adjourn (12:00 p.m.)**

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Notes for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #11

Thursday, August 21, 2025
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Virtual and in person 2nd floor - MPCA 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

Members in Attendance

- Dan Scollan, Water Resources Ecologist, Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- Amanda Cerne, Metropolitan Council (Alternate on behalf of Sam Paske)
- Melanie McMahon, Executive Project Lead – Mayor's Staff, City of Saint Paul
- Victoria Reinhardt, 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)

Members not in Attendance

- Jimmy Francis, Mayor, City of South Saint Paul
- Bill Sumner, Council Member, City of Newport

Other Contributors

- Pam Anderson, MPCA
- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Stephen Mikkelson, MPCA
- Corinne Stremmel, MPCA
- Ashley Thompson, Zan Associates
- Kara Van Lerberghe, Zan Associates

Presenters

- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Pam Anderson, MPCA

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda

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

2. Plan for remaining meetings

Hans Neve (MPCA) shared that the team intended on sharing a visualization of the Dig and Line option, but are unable to due to time, contract limitations, and specific details that we don't have. He then went over upcoming

meetings which will include finalizing remediation, restoration and funding plan recommendations a in October, reviewing the report in December, and final approval of the report in January.

3. Update on stakeholder conversations

Hans Neve (MPCA) gave an overview of two stakeholders meetings that the team had which include the FAA/USDA/St. Paul Airport and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. During these meetings, the FAA/USDA/St. Paul Airport shared concerns about increasing wildlife and flight disturbances, a construction project in the flight path, and any changes to topography. Hans shared that the engineering team feels these are concerns that can be addressed during the planning and design stage of the project. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) asked how the island construction project completed by the Army Corps of Engineers was related to the concerns FAA shared. Nathan Wallerstedt (Army Corps of Engineers) shared that the FAA were involved in the island building project through the typical design process and the project was ultimately allowed to move forward. He added that the current state of the islands have attracted shorebirds but that may change in the future as the growth develops. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) asked if Hans could elaborate on the FAA's safety concerns. Hans added that there are three categories of concerns they shared: bird and aircraft interaction, wildlife attraction and flight path disturbances during construction, and wildlife attraction after restoration. Hans added that these concerns would be addressed during the more detailed planning process but that it is important to share these concerns with the task force. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) added that they had concerns about the size of the dig and line structure as well. David Bell (MDH) clarified that they shared concerns but that nothing is a deal breaker for the options the task force is considering at this point. Melanie McMahon (City of Saint Paul) confirmed that they would be part of the permitting and plan review process in the future. Nathan asked if the USFW were supportive or unsupportive of any of the options, and Hans shared that they mentioned that the area is in a bird flight path and a heron rookery and shared info of how they typically work together with the FAA to address their concerns while also addressing wildlife. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) asked if there were any mention of threatened or endangered species and how that would impact the site. Dan Scollan (DNR) added that the DNR could look into what some potential concerns might be. David Bell (MDH) asked if they knew how much the dig and line option would need to be altered to meet the FAA requirements. Hans responded that they don't have the answers right now but that would likely be determined during the planning process.

4. Task Force homework report out

Hans Neve (MPCA) gave a background on the remediation options that the task force have talked about which includes targeted waste relocation and filter, new cover, dig and haul no backfill, and dig and line. He also went over different categories of restoration that the task force has discussed which include active use recreation, passive use recreation, natural area, and industrial/commercial. He then asked the task force to share out what their organization's top priorities are and how they would rank remediation and restoration options.

Melanie McMahon (City of Saint Paul) shared that they have had a lot of conversations within the city about this area for years but especially the last meeting working with their parks and recreation groups. The city does not have a specific ranking on the remediation options at this point because they still have some questions and thoughts that they are thinking through. The elements that are important to them include looking at the practicality of it, who is able to fund it, and the practical impact and consequences. A priority to them is that the site is safe and accessible. For restoration specifically, they want to review the great river passage master plan and the goals for the city. They would like to see future use that aligns with the plan which includes passive recreation opportunities such as hiking, canoe/kayak launches, wildlife observation, and walking trails that are safe and accessible.

Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) shared that their priority is the least expensive option that truly protects the environment, which only applies to some of the options they have looked at. For end use, they would refer to the City of Saint Paul and Ramsey County. They don't want a solution that has a negative impact on Dakota County, specifically the impacts to the wasteshed in the Twin Cities. Dave shared that storing the Pig's Eye Dump waste at a Dakota County landfill would result in them losing out on over $100 million in host fees unless the state of Minnesota picked up that fee. He added that the waste would fill up their landfills and cause future waste to have to travel farther as new landfills will not be built in the Twin Cities. Their number one remediation option is the Dig and Line due to it being environmentally protective and does not have a negative impact on Dakota County. If funding for the Dig and Line isn't available, the new cover option is low on their list, and they have hesitations about how protective it is. The other two options are off the table for Dakota County.

Caleb Johnson (Washington County) shared concerns about not wanting to do further harm to downstream communities and that the local communities are the ones to decide restoration of the site. Washington County leaders have expressed support for the Dig and Haul option. He added that he wants to validate Dave's concerns for Dakota County from a revenue and environmental standpoint and pointed out that this is a larger regional solid waste management problem and this project ought to be a catalyst to reimagine how we manage waste in the metro area. In terms of priority, public health and the environment is a top priority and Washington County has no feedback on the other three remediation options.

Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) shared information with other county commissioners and went through as much information as she could. She would echo Melanie's comments about accessibility, safety, and the passive recreation future uses. She reiterated that cost is a factor but not the number one factor for Ramsey County in determining the site's future. She shared concerns about hauling the waste away to another area and the impact to other communities as well as being unsure what waste is currently in the dump and it being more harmful than anticipated. She emphasized that the funding and cost will need to be a larger collective effort with participation through the federal government. Overall, she shared concerns about feasibility of remediation and environmental harm and that Ramsey County would like to see its future use as a natural area.

David Bell (Department of Health) shared that public health protection is their number one priority as well as safety and accessibility. Ultimately, from a public health standpoint they would like the waste to be either fully removed or fully contained so Dig and Haul and Dig and Lise are at the top of their list. He also shared concerns about fish consumption and water quality and emphasized the importance of containing or removing contamination. For the restoration options, they would like to see future use as a natural area with passive recreation. He also shared concerns about unknown contamination and material in the dump and that cost is not their number one factor but still a consideration. As far as ranking, the dig and line and dig and haul are their top choices.

Dan Scollan (DNR) and DNR staff internally did a regional environmental assessment to guide their discussions about Pig's Eye Dump. The outcome of that discussion was determining that their top priorities are surface and groundwater protection as well as protecting fish and wildlife, specifically Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, Mississippi River, and the heron rookery nearby. Their top choice for reuse is passive recreation. For remediation, the dig and haul option is their top choice due to it being most protective of nearby water resources. There were questions and concerns about feasibility of dig and line option in a floodplain environment, high operating cost, and lifespan.

Amanda Cerne (Met Council) acknowledged that they have a lot of roles and perspectives, they think it's important to keep asking questions and looking for answers before making recommendations. She added that a top priority for them is the Metro Wastewater Recovery Facility, its future and need to expand, and unknown potential impacts. She also added that protecting public health and clean water is a top priority as well. She added that they would like to see which option has the biggest impact on the quality of water and see a risk-reward analysis.

Nathan Wallerstedt (Army Corps of Engineers) shared their highest priority is driven by what the local community sees as the vision for the site. In General, Army corps doesn't typically do projects without a partner and guidance from local City or County and community to drive decision making. He also acknowledged that they have a desire for a cleaner and more sustainable environment as they manage thousands of acres of land in the state. He shared there may be opportunities for partnership with the Corps depending on the details of the future site. Overall, they don't have a ranking of the remediation options. He mentioned that the Corps has different areas of involvement with projects like this, so they want to balance all of the different priorities.

Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) shared that they want to see a more protective option selected, so either the Dig and Haul or Dig and Line options. In terms of restoration options, it will be driven by the remedial design. There may be some limitations, for example, if they choose an option with a covered landfill, trees will not be able to exist on the landfill. They are open to supporting nearby industries that have environmental benefits such as the wood waste facility and water treatment facility along the edge of the site.

Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) added that he wants to make sure they are looking at all impacts. He added that a large amount of the waste is in water, and it will be challenging to move wet waste and will need to be dried first. He also added that he thinks the dig and haul option will take longer and that the new landfill design can address the wet waste. Overall, he wants to make sure they are looking at all considerations.

David Bell (MDH) added that there are a lot of unknowns to the timeline of the options and acknowledges that both the dig and line and dig and haul will take a long time and that more details will need to be sorted in a future study. Victoria added that they also don't want to make the situation worse and have hesitations about moving it someplace new but acknowledged there is no easy answer.

Kirk Koudelka asked the task force if it would be helpful to have a list of recommendations and decision items to review at the next meeting and the task force confirmed that it would be.

4. Funding

Hans Neve (MPCA) kicked off the funding options portion of the meeting and handed it off to Pam Anderson (MPCA). Pam shared that it would need to be a collection of options as there is no one specific pot of money to utilize. She went over different funding options for restoration and funding at the state, federal, and local levels. Victoria Reinhardt (MPCA) had questions about the Superfund process and the responsible parties and how identifying them would work. Melanie McMahon (City of Saint Paul) responded that identifying responsible parties would be a lengthy process that could result in legal battles that would be costly and timely. She also emphasized that the City of Saint Paul does not have any funds to address the dump. Victoria added that she thinks it could be beneficial to create a funding program to help fund the cleanup.

Hans Neve asked if the task force had any reflections or questions about the funding portion of the presentation. Victoria emphasized that cost is a factor but not the top priority but wants to make sure it is feasible. Kirk added that previous cleanup costs seemed out of reach and now they seem normal, so there is an evolution and so utilizing partnerships will be effective. He explained that the task force will help guide the MPCA with a united vision, even if they don't have the details of a technical or feasibility study yet. He added that this not just a Saint Paul problem, it's a national problem and potentially a new dump program could be created. He explained that the cost of the project may be more attainable if you break it down to payments over a period of time compared to paying it all at once up front. Kirk emphasized that other funds have been created to deal with similar issues, so the task force could recommend a new tool to deal with this issue. Melanie agreed and supported those ideas and appreciated that these conversations were happening. She added that she wants to be able to show a viable path for the congressional offices with examples of funding programs. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) asked for more details around inventive for private participation and past examples and if any conversations about private participation have happened for this project. Pam Anderson shared that for another project they asked a responsible party to come to the table and negotiate outside of the superfund process but typically do so privately. Victoria asked about when the last time someone has dumped in Pig's Eye Dump and Hans responded that it was closed in 1972. Kirk added that identifying all responsible parties are difficult to identify due to lack of documentation. Caleb asked if there was enough data on contamination to know about the health cost impact of not doing anything. Hans responded that the data they have collected is at the site, but the impact is larger than that since contamination is traveling. It's difficult to quantify contamination caused the father you get away due to multiple sources. Kirk added that this site is more of an ecological risk, and the health concern pathway is through fish consumption compared to direct drinking water.

5. Public Comment

One member of the public appreciated the comments and acknowledgement of the area being designated parkland and the city's vision for the site. They then read a statement from the Southeast Community Organization that communicated desire for full removal of waste and restoration of the site. They emphasized the importance of cleaning up the site for the health of the environment, nearby communities, and wildlife.

Another member of the public shared that it is important to follow up with the responsible parties who dumped to identify what waste has been placed there and get their support for federal funding. They added that they should also address waste that is farther north of the site. They suggested adding a line item to Saint Paul trash service as a funding source.

Another member of the public added that the site will always have a dewatering problem with the waste and that additional sampling to identify problem spots may ease concerns about causing additional issues. They added that if you are going to spend the time digging it up, why keep it here near these communities instead of moving it away with a better place of handling it. They encouraged looking into ways to utilize the waste for energy as well.

Hans opened up opportunity for public comments from online participants but there were no comments.

6. Task force discussion

Hans kicked off task force discussion and asked if the task force had any questions or comments about next steps. Nathan Wallerstedt (Army Corps) said he did not have a lot to add but would appreciate it if the team

could draft recommendations for future review. Amanda Cerne (Met Council) acknowledged the complexity of the project and appreciated insights. Melanie McMahon (City of St. Paul) did not have anything additional to add. Dan Scollan (DNR) shared he is interested in supporting some of the funding ideas they discussed during the meeting. He added that two of the task force representatives were not in attendance, so would like to hear their input as well. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) did not have anything to add. David Bell (MDH) added that this project is a good example of a project that could create a new fund and would like to advocate for that. He added that it seems prudent to make sure they include in the recommendation funding options since they are recommending two expensive remediation options. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) shared that she learned they have some idea of responsible parties and interest of sampling to identify hot spots in the area. She added that it would be helpful to have a list of recommendations before the October meeting l so the task force members can share it with their organizations. She emphasized that it would be helpful to get more data about hot spots and what contamination is present. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) thought the discussion was helpful and the input from community members. He added that it is cheap to throw material away so this could be part of a potentially larger change to the regional waste system. He mentioned that he is interested in seeing the list of responsible parties without committing them to any liability so that organizations are aware if they contributed. He reiterated that there are a lot of external factors that could impact the different remediation strategies and their effectiveness and the importance of creative solutions. Melanie reiterated that she has concerns about naming responsible parties in the report due to it being outside the scope of the task force and inability to name all parties which would delay the goal of moving forward. Victoria Reinhardt asked for clarification on the responsible party identification process and the task force discussed what that process could look like. Caleb clarified that he is not interested in naming responsible parties in the report but what the implications would be and the investment of what that effort would take.

7. Adjourn

Hans Neve (MPCA) adjourned the meeting.

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #11

August 21, 2025

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

C-407

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force
Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and Introductions

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



Agenda

9:00 – Welcome, introductions, agenda

9:05 – Plan for remaining meetings

9:15 – Update on stakeholder conversations

9:20 – Task Force homework report out

9:50 – Break

9:55 – Funding options

10:55 – Public comment

11:15 – Task Force discussion

12:00 – Adjourn



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Plan for remaining meetings

Plan for remaining meetings

August 2025	Funding options, discussed ranked restoration and remediation options
October 2025	Finalizing remediation and restoration recommendations and draft funding plan
December 2025	Reviewing report recommendations and draft funding plan
January 2025	Task Force approval of final report

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Update on stakeholder conversations

Stakeholder conversations

- FAA/USDA/St. Paul Airport
- USFW



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Task Force homework report out

Waste Area Cleanup Options

Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter

- Remove and relocate a small amount of waste to create larger separation between waste and water
- Add a filtering material to capture contamination

Construction Cost: $30M*
Timeline: < 5 years
30 Year Operating Cost: $6M*

New Cover

- Impermeable cover prevents infiltration from the top
- New cover with pollinator habitat
- No bottom liner

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Dig and Haul No Backfill "New Pigs Eye Lake"

- Remove all waste from site and dispose of at a permitted landfill
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Construction Cost: $720M*
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Dig and Line "New Pig's Eye Landfill"

- Excavate all waste
- Build a modern landfill to contain waste on the property

Construction Cost: $570M*
Timeline: 10+ years
30 Year Operating Cost: $45M*

*Estimated costs are –50% to +100%

Restoration Goal

FUTURE LAND USE OPTIONS

Recreational

<u>Active</u> recreation use - Built to facilitate recreation

- Hiking trails, sport facilities, children's park, etc.

<u>Passive</u> recreation use - Mix of some access with an ecological focus

- Similar to current use, minimal upkeep

Nature Area

- Expanded wetland areas
- Habitat expansion
- Native vegetation

Industrial/Commercial

- Solar reuse
- Greenhouse/urban farming
- Outdoor materials storage/warehouse
- Manufacturing
- Office/service-related business

Task Force homework report out

Input from Task Force organizations:

- What elements (cost, environmental impact, etc.) are high priority to you?

- How would you rank the remediation and restoration options?



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Funding options

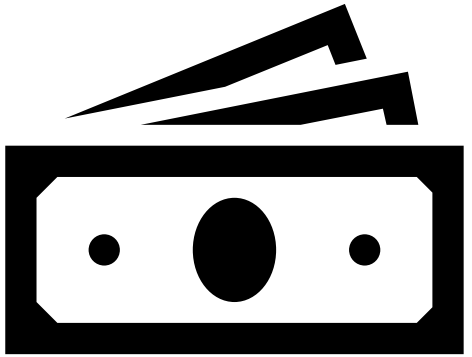
Funding options

1. Remediation Funding

- **Primary/major funding focus**

2. Restoration Funding

- Secondary focus/smaller cost
- Need additional detail on specific projects for cost estimates



Funding options

Restoration Only Funding

State Funding

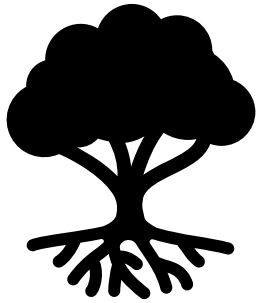
Federal Funding

Local Funding

Public Partnership

Funding options

Restoration Only Funding



- Legislative Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR)
- Lessard – Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC)
- Local Government Funding
- Federal

Funding options

State Funding



- Minnesota Landfill Contingency Action Trust (MLCAT)
- State Superfund
- State bonding
- Brownfield funding
- Creation of a dump cleanup fund

Funding options

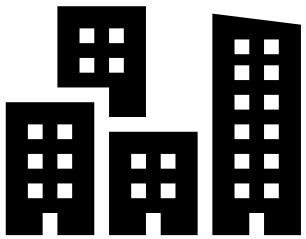


- Individual project funding – Congressional process for a “community project”
- In Kind Contribution – For example, USACE dredge material for construction
- Federal Brownfields

Not Eligible:

- Federal Superfund – *Pigs Eye not a federal SF site at this time*
- Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative (proposal, not law yet) – *Hazardous substance sites excluded*

Funding options



- City
- County
- Metropolitan Council

Funding options

Partnership



- Same concept as St. Louis River Project
  - Would need to have incentive for private participation
  - State has numerous funds available, but not sufficient to cover all costs
  - At this time no federal funding available
  - Local or regional government and private participation are possibilities

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig’s Eye Dump Task Force – Public Comment

Public Comment

Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force – Discussion

Next Meetings

In-person:

Meeting #12: October 10th, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Lower-Level Conference Room

Meeting #13: December 2nd, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Conference Rooms 200 & 201

Meeting #14: January 13th, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Lower-Level Conference Room



AGENCY LOGO HERE

Thank you!

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Agenda for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #12

Friday, October 10, 2025
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

1. **Welcome, introductions, agenda (9:00 a.m.)**
2. **Final report timeline and plan for remaining meetings (9:05 a.m.)**
3. **Update on stakeholder conversations (9:15 a.m.)**
4. **Proposed recommendations overview (9:25 a.m.)**
5. **Break (9:45 a.m.)**
6. **Public comment (10:00 a.m.)**
7. **Recommendations discussion (10:30 a.m.)**
8. **Final discussions and wrap ups (11:30 a.m.)**
9. **Adjourn (12:00 p.m.)**

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Notes for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #12

Friday, October 10, 2025
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Virtual and in person 2nd floor - MPCA 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

Members in Attendance

- Dan Scollan, Water Resources Ecologist, Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- Sam Paske, Metropolitan Council
- Melanie McMahon, Executive Project Lead – Mayor's Staff, City of Saint Paul
- Victoria Reinhardt, 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)
- Jimmy Francis, Mayor, City of South Saint Paul

Members not in Attendance

- Bill Sumner, Council Member, City of Newport

Other Contributors

- Pam Anderson, MPCA
- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Stephen Mikkelson, MPCA
- Corinne Stremmel, MPCA
- Kara Van Lerberghe, Zan Associates
- Megan Ryan, Zan Associates

Presenters

- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Pam Anderson, MPCA

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda

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

2. Final report timeline and plan for remaining meetings

Hans Neve (MPCA) went over the goal of this meeting and the schedule for upcoming meetings. He went over the timeline for when the draft report will be ready for review and the timeline for receiving comments. The task force members agreed to the timeline.

3. Update on stakeholder conversations

Hans Neve (MPCA) provided an update on a follow up meeting with MnDOT, FAA, USDA, and the St. Paul Airport. He went over the stakeholders' primary concerns for future development at the Pig's Eye Dump site which included height restrictions, large bird populations during and after construction, and general wildlife attractants. Hans emphasized that these concerns would be addressed during the design phase of the project and that they are important concerns to be aware of. He went over various future considerations that will be taken into consideration in the planning stage including aviation, wetland, flood, infrastructure, and zoning/building. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) emphasized the importance of keeping in mind funding challenges as the project moves forward.

4. Proposed recommendations overview

Hans Neve (MPCA) provided an overview of the remediation and restoration options that the task force is considering. He then went over the draft recommendations and clarified that these are a starting place and open for the task force to edit.* Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) shared that she discussed recommendations with other commissioners and emphasized their concerns about environmental and safety risks of digging up the waste and wanting that to be clear in the recommendations. For the dig and haul option, they would like to ensure that if the waste is removed, it is not causing a new problem where it is disposed of. Hans clarified that the waste would be sorted and stored at a proper facility that can contain the waste safely. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) clarified that the waste is currently not contained, which is what causes the existing risk. If the waste is removed and stored elsewhere, it will be contained to prevent contamination. Victoria shared that she would like to make sure that guidance on where and how waste will be stored is clear in the recommendations. Hans then went over the draft funding recommendations. Victoria asked how many dumps there are in Minnesota and Kirk answered that there are around 1800. He added that most landfills have systems in place to address risks whereas dumps do not. Victoria asked when waste was last placed at Pig's Eye Dump and Hans answered 1972. Victoria asked if any dumps were still active and Kirk responded that there are no open dumps and all waste disposal is permitted.

Caleb Johnson (Washington County) suggested adding redirecting existing revenue from solid waste tax that could be a source of funding for Pig's Eye Dump cleanup. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) brought up how some revenue from the solid waste tax isn't used towards solid waste issues. Hans asked if high level the recommendations aligned with what the task force has discussed, and they agreed it was on track. Nathan Wallerstedt asked about the feasibility study and if there was funding for the MPCA to do one. Hans confirmed they do have funding for it through the MLCAT. A task force member asked what kind of feasibility study would be done and who would be doing it. Hans shared that they have a team supporting Pig's Eye Task Force project as well as a remediation division who works on the dump, which would be combined. There is a superfund process to guide a feasibility study, but it would need to be adjusted to consider task force recommendations. Hans suggested that the feasibility study would focus on the waste and be guided by the task force recommendations. In addition to the waste itself, there are additional considerations such as groundwater, sediment, and off-site sources. Sam Paske (Metropolitan Council) shared concerns about how unanticipated impacts that show up during the feasibility study are taken into consideration. Hans agreed that it would be

essential to identify potential impacts with stakeholders before the feasibility study takes place. Hans emphasized the importance of focusing on the waste first to control the contamination source. Kirk added that the feasibility study would also look at potential disposal locations. Sam shared that there is the feasibility of remediation but also the feasibility of future use and wondered how the latter would be funded. Kirk clarified that the feasibility study would take future use impacts into consideration still. David Bell (MDH) asked if the feasibility study would do any characterization of the waste. Hans responded that they would get a better understanding of the waste characteristics and volume during and after the feasibility study. Victoria shared that they do not have a new revenue source and using existing funding like MLCAT can cause tension due to it being taken from other projects. She suggested leaving out using existing funding as a recommendation. The task force clarified that Pig's Eye Dump is already a part of MLCAT. Kirk added that if there are any new concepts or recommendations to add, now would be a good time to discuss it.

5. Break

The task force took a 15-minute break.

5. Public comment

A member of the public shared that they think it is valid to use solid waste tax to help fund the dump since the public had a hand in disposing waste there. They shared concerns about additional waste from the fish hatchery site near Pig's Eye Dump and think that should be included in the remediation plan and suggested moving the waste to the fish hatchery site. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) responded that the remediation team did look into it, and that they determined the fish hatchery site would be challenging due to the volume and water adjacent.
Jimmy Francis (City of St. Paul) asked about if they found evidence a certain business disposed of the waste at the dump if they could go after them for funding. Hans Neve (MPCA) and Kirk responded that they do have the option to go after responsible parties, but it can cause complications because it may result in that party bringing in additional responsible parties causing legal and administrative barriers.
A member of the public asked if any Native American representatives have provided comment on the remediation options. Hans responded that they met with Prairie Island Indian Community and Wakan Tipi was involved in past public engagement events. Kirk added that they did reach out to other tribal nations who identified they were interested in projects in Saint Paul but have not heard back yet. A member of public asked if the meeting recording could be posted sooner after the meeting.

5. Recommendations discussion

Hans Neve (MPCA) and Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) kicked off the discussion by clarifying that not all recommendations need to move forward, and they can also edit wording. Melanie McMahon (City of St. Paul) asked if they could discuss funding recommendations first. David Bell (MDH) suggested clarifying in the first recommendation that both existing and new funding sources should be considered. Melanie McMahon (City of St. Paul) suggested that the second recommendation should specifically say Pig's Eye Dump instead of remediation of all dumps. Melanie then suggested combining it with the first recommendation. Kirk clarified that the recommendations include different options for funding, but the task force can decide how detailed they want to be in the recommendations. Melanie added that she wanted to see recommendations four and five removed because they don't need to call out responsible parties. She would like to see one recommendation that clearly states that no one funding source is adequate, they will need to pursue new funding sources, and they should pursue state and federal funding. She also suggested potentially showing examples of funding sources. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) mentioned that they don't want to get into scope creep and want to be specific to Pig's Eye Dump. Hans clarified if they wanted to take consolidation of waste from other dumps off

the table and Melanie said that she thinks it could be included provided it did not compromise potential Pig's Eye Dump funding. Dan Scollan (DNR) added that if they say dumps in general, then it becomes a larger state issue compared to a local Pig's Eye issue. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) added that being broader could create more challenges compared to focusing on Pig's Eye Dump. Kirk added that if there needs to be a new revenue stream on the state level, that may be a good recommendation for the Task Force to make compared to just generally saying there needs to be new funds. Victoria shared she wants to be clear that federal funding should be pursued and doesn't think it is necessary to include examples. Victoria added that there should be some type of recommendation included about pursuing public private partnerships. Melanie responded that she doesn't think it's necessary to mention responsible parties because it is covered under existing law. The task force discussed the specific language used in recommendation five and if it was necessary to state anything about existing law and responsible parties or if a fee should be assessed on waste disposal. They discussed keeping a statement that clearly stated that the responsible party identification process should not be utilized, and that instead a fee should be assessed on all waste disposals. Kirk emphasized that they do not have to finalize wording during this meeting. Victoria added that the language of the recommendations needs to be actionable. The task force discussed the language in recommendation three about federal funding being pursued. They discussed making it clear that there needs to be new federal sources or adjustments to existing sources that ensure Pig's Eye Dump is an eligible use. They decided they should provide examples of funding structures such as the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative or the Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative. The task force discussed removing recommendation four and instead including information on other funding options in another area of the report. The task force instead decided to keep public-private partnerships in a recommendation now as a possibility to be pursued. The task force discussed keeping recommendation six as a specific recommendation for restoration funding. The Task Force ended the discussion on the funding recommendations and emphasized that the wording of the recommendations should be cleaned up and ensured they are actionable.

Hans transitioned to the remediation and restoration recommendations discussion. He went over two new recommendations that were added over break that acknowledged safety protocols for nearby communities and workers and that hazardous materials will need to be separated and sent to appropriate facilities if they implement dig and haul. The task force clarified that the safety protocol recommendation should be clear about safety during both excavation and transportation of waste. The task force had no other comments on the two new recommendations. In recommendation one, the task force discussed being clear about the large amount of uncontained waste nearby bodies of water. For recommendation two, the task force implemented minor wording changes for clarity. For recommendation three, the task force added that efforts should be consistent with other planning work without excluding any remediation options the task force has recommended. They also added that it should be consistent with any other relevant plans other than the ones they listed. For recommendation four, they clarified the language to consider aviation regulations and concerns. For recommendation five, they opted to delete it and ensure that the report communicates that environmental remediation is a higher priority than cost. For recommendation six, they opted to combine it with recommendation one so that it clearly states the preferred remediation options and why. For recommendation seven, the task force discussed changing the last sentence so it does not explicitly say that waste should not be disposed of at metro area landfills. Instead, they edited the statement to say that the impact to metro area waste disposal capacity and impact to community revenues should be considered. For recommendation eight, the task force did not have any changes. For recommendation nine, they discussed checking the correct name for the wood recycling facility near the dump. The Task Force discussed adding both expansion and ongoing operation of nearby facilities. For recommendation ten, the task force clarified that the feasibility study would

also include restoration options and impacts to nearby facilities. Hans asked if the task force had any final comments and they did not.

6. Final discussions and wrap ups

Hans Neve (MPCA) opened the discussion to the public for them to make comment. A member of the public asked if the statement about remaining feasible and financially achievable could be removed from recommendation two. They also disagreed that the wood recycling facility was an environmental benefit. The task force agreed that they could remove the statement from recommendation two. Another member of the public agreed that the woodchipper was not an environmental benefit and shared concerns about the impact on the area and the Pig's Eye Park.

7. Adjourn

Hans Neve (MPCA) adjourned the meeting.

**The draft recommendations that the task force discussed are shown below. These recommendations do not reflect the changes that were discussed in the meeting.*

Draft Remediation and Restoration Recommendations Evaluated by the Task Force

1. The existence of the large volume of uncontained waste directly adjacent to the Battle Creek and Pigs Eye Lake is a risk to the environment. The waste should not remain in place as it currently is.

2. Remediation and restoration efforts should focus on options that best prioritize protectiveness of local communities, wildlife, and natural habitat and improve water quality, while remaining feasible and financially achievable.

3. Remediation and restoration actions should be consistent with existing planning work including City of St. Paul and Great River Passage plans.

4. The remediation and restoration options pursued should be implemented in a way that addresses aviation concerns related to the St. Paul Downtown Airport.

5. Environmental remediation should place greater priority on long-term environmental protection over achieving the lowest possible cost.

6. The preferred remediation options are the dig and haul and dig and line options.

7. Excavating all the waste and sending it to existing metro landfills would greatly impact the remaining waste capacity for the metro area. If dig and haul is implemented, the final disposal locations should not be existing metro area landfills.

8. Future use of the site should include as a safe and accessible natural area for passive recreation, such as walking trails and wildlife observation.

9. The environmental cleanup and restoration plan should allow for future expansion of the Metropolitan Water Resource Recovery Facility and the Pigs Eye Wood Recycling Center both facilities serve a public purpose and have an environmental benefit.

10. The MPCA should complete a feasibility study of the remediation options presented to the Task Force prioritizing the dig and haul and dig and line options.

Funding Recommendations

1. No one funding source is able to provide the needed funding for environmental remediation, so a combination of various funding sources will be required.

2. A new revenue source should be created to fund the remediation of dumps.

3. Federal funding should be pursued. Adjustments to the Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative, or creation of a structure similar to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative are recommended.

4. Public-private partnerships should be considered to fund remediation efforts. Private parties include haulers and industries who contributed waste to the facility would contribute funding. Public entities could fund or contribute through tax, appropriations, in-kind. The state could utilize bonding, MCLAT or new revenue to provide funding.

5. The potential responsible parties for Pigs Eye Dump would encompass most waste generators when the dump was operating. This would include waste haulers, businesses, nonprofits, local governments in most of the counties within the metro area. Given the expansive list of potential responsible parties a fee should be assessed on all waste disposal to cover remediation expenses for Pigs Eye and similar dumps.

6. Pursue other federal or state sources of funding for restoration efforts (LCCMR, Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Fund, etc.).

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #12

October 10, 2025

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

C-439

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force
Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and Introductions

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



Agenda

9:00 – Welcome, introductions, agenda

9:05 – Final report timeline and plan for remaining meetings

9:15 – Update on stakeholder conversations

9:20 – Proposed recommendations overview

9:45 – Break

10:00 – Public comment

10:30 – Recommendations discussion

11:30 – Final discussions and wrap ups

12:00 – Adjourn



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Final report timeline and plan for remaining meetings

Plan for remaining meetings

August 2025	Funding options, discussed restoration and remediation options
October 2025	Remediation, restoration and funding draft recommendations
December 2025	Final report review and discussion
January 2025	Task Force approval of final report

Report Review Timeline

November 10 - Draft Report sent to Task Force

November 24 - Receive comments from Task Force

December 2 - Task Force Meeting

- Discuss comments where there are areas of conflict and points of consensus

December 16 - Send updated draft to Task Force

January 6 - Receive final comments from Task Force

January 9 - Send final draft to Task Force

January 13 - Task Force Meeting



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Update on stakeholder conversations

Stakeholder conversations

MnDOT/FAA/USDA/St. Paul Airport

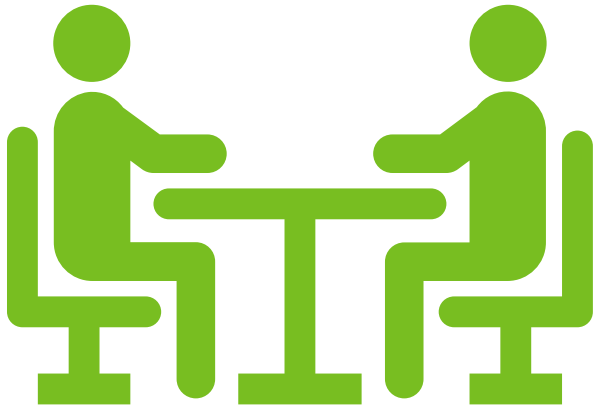
- Airport zoning has some limitations
- Primary concerns:
  - Height restrictions
  - Large bird populations during and after construction
  - General wildlife attractants



Future Discussions

Issues/considerations for future discussion:

- Aviation
- Wetland
- Flood
- Infrastructure
- Zoning/Building



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Proposed recommendations overview

Waste Area Cleanup Options

Targeted Waste Relocation and Filter

- Remove and relocate a small amount of waste to create larger separation between waste and water
- Add a filtering material to capture contamination

Construction Cost: $30M*
Timeline: < 5 years
30 Year Operating Cost: $6M*

New Cover

- Impermeable cover prevents infiltration from the top
- New cover with pollinator habitat
- No bottom liner

Construction Cost: $100M*
Timeline: <5 years
30 Year Operating Cost: $6M*

Dig and Haul No Backfill "New Pigs Eye Lake"

- Remove all waste from site and dispose of at a permitted landfill
- No backfill, area becomes lake and wetland

Construction Cost: $720M*
Timeline: 8-10 years
30 Year Operating Cost: $1.5M*

Dig and Line "New Pig's Eye Landfill"

- Excavate all waste
- Build a modern landfill to contain waste on the property

Construction Cost: $570M*
Timeline: 10+ years
30 Year Operating Cost: $45M*

*Estimated costs are –50% to +100%

Restoration Goal

FUTURE LAND USE OPTIONS

Recreational

<u>Active</u> recreation use - Built to facilitate recreation

- Hiking trails, sport facilities, children's park, etc.

<u>Passive</u> recreation use - Mix of some access with an ecological focus

- Similar to current use, minimal upkeep

Nature Area

- Expanded wetland areas
- Habitat expansion
- Native vegetation

Industrial/Commercial

- Solar reuse
- Greenhouse/urban farming
- Outdoor materials storage/warehouse
- Manufacturing
- Office/service-related business

Remediation and Restoration Goals

1. The existence of the large volume of uncontained waste directly adjacent to the Battle Creek and Pigs Eye Lake is a risk to the environment. The waste should not remain in place as it currently is.

2. Remediation and restoration efforts should focus on options that best prioritize protectiveness of local communities, wildlife, and natural habitat and improve water quality, while remaining feasible and financially achievable.

3. Remediation and restoration actions should be consistent with existing planning work including City of St. Paul and Great River Passage plans.

Remediation and Restoration Goals

4 The remediation and restoration options pursued should be implemented in a way that addresses aviation concerns related to the St. Paul Downtown Airport.

5 Environmental remediation should place greater priority on long-term environmental protection over achieving the lowest possible cost

6 The preferred remediation options are the dig and haul and dig and line options

7 Excavating all the waste and sending it to existing metro landfills would greatly impact the remaining waste capacity for the metro area. If dig and haul is implemented, the final disposal locations should not be existing metro area landfills.

Remediation and Restoration Goals

8 Future use of the site should include as a safe and accessible natural area for passive recreation, such as walking trails and wildlife observation.

9 The environmental cleanup and restoration plan should allow for future expansion of the Metropolitan Water Resource Recovery Facility and the Pigs Eye Wood Recycling Center, both facilities serve a public purpose and have an environmental benefit.

10 The MPCA should complete a feasibility study of the remediation options presented to the Task Force prioritizing the dig and haul and dig and line options.

Funding Recommendations

1. No one funding source can provide the needed funding for environmental remediation, so a combination of various funding sources will be required.

2. A new revenue source should be created to fund the remediation of dumps.

3. Federal funding should be pursued. Adjustments to the Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative, or creation of a structure like the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative are recommended.

Funding Recommendations

4

Public-private partnerships should be considered to fund remediation efforts. Private parties include waste haulers and industries who contributed waste to the facility, in a public-private partnership they would contribute funding. Public entities would contribute through appropriations or in-kind services. The state could utilize bonding, MLCAT or new revenue to provide funding.

5

The potential responsible parties for Pigs Eye Dump would include most metro area waste generators when the dump was operating. The scope of potential responsible parties is vast including waste haulers, businesses, nonprofits and local governments in much of the metro area. Given the expansive list of potential responsible parties a fee should be assessed on all metro area waste disposal to cover remediation expenses for Pigs Eye and similar dumps.

Funding Recommendations

6

Pursue other federal or state sources of funding for restoration efforts (LCCMR, Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Fund, etc.).

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Break
15 Minutes

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig’s Eye Dump Task Force – Public Comment

Public Comment

Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Recommendations discussion

Recommendations discussion

Recommendations Discussion:

- Discussion
- Questions?
- Is there anything missing?



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Final Discussion and Wrap Ups

Next Meetings

In-person:

Meeting #13: December 2nd, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Conference Rooms 200 & 201

Meeting #14: January 13th, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Lower-Level Conference Room



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Final Discussion and Wrap Ups

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Thank you!

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Agenda for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #13

Tuesday, December 2, 2025
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

1. **Welcome, introductions, agenda (9:00 a.m.)**
2. **Final report timeline and plan for remaining meetings (9:05 a.m.)**
3. **Overview of Task Force report comments (9:10 a.m.)**
4. **Break (10:00 a.m.)**
5. **Public comment (10:10 a.m.)**
6. **Task Force report discussion (10:30 a.m.)**
7. **Adjourn (12:00 p.m.)**

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Notes for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #13

Tuesday, December 2, 2025
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Virtual and in person 2nd floor - MPCA 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

Members in Attendance

- Dan Scollan, Water Resources Ecologist, Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- Sam Paske, Metropolitan Council
- Melanie McMahon, Executive Project Lead – Mayor's Staff, City of Saint Paul
- Victoria Reinhardt, 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)
- Jimmy Francis, Mayor, City of South Saint Paul
- Bill Sumner, Council Member, City of Newport

Other Contributors

- Pam Anderson, MPCA
- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Stephen Mikkelson, MPCA
- Corinne Stremmel, MPCA
- Kara Van Lerberghe, Zan Associates
- Ashley Thompson, Zan Associates

Presenters

- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Pam Anderson, MPCA

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda

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

2. Final report timeline and plan for remaining meetings

Hans Neve (MPCA) went over the goal of this meeting and the schedule for upcoming meetings. He shared that they will be going over the comments received from the task force on the initial draft report during this meeting. He went over the timeline for when the next draft report will be ready for review and the timeline for receiving comments.

3. Overview of Task Force report comments

Hans Neve (MPCA) provided an overview of the comments on the report received from the task force. He shared that there were no conflicting comments or additions of substantial comments. Most comments involved wording changes, rewrites when reviewers had more background information, or simple changes that can be made without discussion. There will be a few comments that need discussion by the task force during this meeting. Hans provided a few examples of comments that can be resolved on their own. Melanie McMahon (City of Saint Paul) added that if there is any reference to the Saint Paul 2040 Comprehensive Plan it should be kept high level because it is still going through final adoption. After sharing comments that could be resolved on their own, Hans shared comments that needed task force discussion. The first comment involved adding a specific reference to the volume of waste in Pig's Eye Dump in one of the recommendations. Hans added that they don't have an exact number but can share that it is estimated to be approximately 4.5 million cubic yards. Jimmy Francis (City of South St. Paul) asked for clarification on why there is hesitation to put in a number and Hans responded that they don't know for sure how deep the waste is at the site. The task force discussed changing the language to say "estimated to be at least 4.5 million cubic yards" to address concerns about the waste potentially being larger. The next comment involved separating one of the recommendations to separate the impact to potential community revenues and the impact to remaining waste capacity for the metro area. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) added that this was a comment she suggested because it felt stronger to have them separate. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) wondered if it may be confusing for the reader if you separate the recommendations because you lose some context. Melanie suggested keeping it in one recommendation but separating them so they are two clear statements. Victoria agreed that separation would help address her concerns. The next comment for discussion was to separate the recommendation about the Metropolitan Water Resource Recovery Facility and the Environmental Wood Supply, and the task force agreed with the comment and had a couple grammatical changes. The next comment is about whether they want to specifically say "dig and haul" or "dig and haul no backfill" in the recommendations. The task force agreed that they should be consistent throughout and say, "dig and haul no backfill". The next comment is about whether parties would be paying twice if they are covered under the voluntary partnership recommendation and the waste disposal fee. The task force discussed whether to change the language to recommend exploring these funding options or if they want to be more definitive. They agreed to keep the recommendations separate. The next comment is about changing the language to recommend that if they are using the MLCAT account to fund Pig's Eye Dump, it needs to be paired with additional funds. The task force discussed adding more to the recommendation to clarify that state funding should be pursued through new state funding mechanisms as well as the existing state funding options. The next comment edited the restoration funding recommendation to list out potential funding sources as well as new or existing sources. Hans shared a comment from the background section of the report about Pool 2. Sam Paske (Met Council) added that the language may be confusing because the criteria only applies to a portion of Pool 2 not the larger Pool 2 area. The task force decided to leave the language as is for now. Hans went over the final comment for discussion which was about how much detail to put in the appendix of the report. David Bell (MDH) asked if the files about contamination details are available to the public somewhere and Hans confirmed they are. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) said that it is better to keep it simpler because the more you add the more there is a chance you on accidentally leave something out. The task force agreed to leave the appendix as is.

5. Break

The task force took a 10-minute break.

5. Public comment

Hans Neve (MPCA) kicked off the public comment portion of the meeting. A member of the public had a question about a map and Hans responded that he would follow up with them. They asked about the fish hatchery site and if that was part of the legislation for this project and Hans confirmed it is a separate site. Another member of the public added that it would be helpful to identify other areas nearby that are polluted to also address during this project. They shared concerns about the wood chipping site and its impact on the environment. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) responded and clarified that none of the recommendations say that the local planning process is overturned or discounts that process. Any changes to the facility would need to go through that process still. The member of the public responded that they have concerns that the report gives the wood chipping site more validity. The task force clarified that the report acknowledges that the wood chipping facility is a neighbor of the site. Another member of the public shared concerns about other contamination in the Saint Paul area, specifically PFAS. They mentioned other groups that could be involved and other impacts to pollution of the Pig's Eye area that are not mentioned in the report. Another member of the public emphasized that the report doesn't do enough to address the contamination plume and contamination coming from the north of the site. Kirk and Hans responded that the feasibility study would investigate many of those types of details and the best order of addressing them. Hans asked if there were any comments from people online and there were not. Another member of the public shared appreciation for the task force and project team for considering their input.

5. Recommendations discussion

Hans Neve (MPCA) asked the task force if there were any final comments or topics of discussion. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) shared that she is proud of the work the task force has done and that this should help guide next steps for the site. Jimmy Francis (City of South St. Paul) asked if the report includes how the money was spent for this effort and Hans added that they are included in the LCCMR annual reports which will be referenced in the final report. Dan Scollan (DNR) requested that the contamination story section of the report be expanded on some to include information about other contamination sources around the site. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) emphasized that this is an unprecedented situation and that he wants to make sure the people at the table and the public encourage movement on the project after the final report is submitted to the legislature.

6. Adjourn

Hans Neve (MPCA) adjourned the meeting.

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pigs Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #13

December 2, 2025

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

C-471

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force
Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and Introductions

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



Agenda

9:00 – Welcome, introductions, agenda

9:05 – Final report timeline and plan for remaining meetings

9:10 – Overview of Task Force report comments

10:00 – Break

10:10 – Public comment

10:30 – Task Force report discussion

12:00 – Adjourn



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Final report timeline and plan for remaining meetings

Plan for remaining meetings

August 2025	Funding options, discussed restoration and remediation options
October 2025	Remediation, restoration and funding draft recommendations
December 2025	Final report review and discussion
January 2026	Task Force approval of final report

Report Review Timeline

December 2 - Task Force Meeting

- Discuss comments where there are areas of conflict and points of consensus

December 16 - Send updated redline draft to Task Force

January 6 - Receive final comments from Task Force

January 9 - Send final draft to Task Force

January 13 - Task Force Meeting



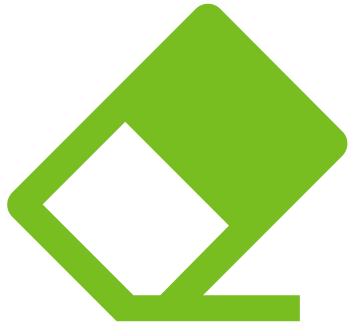
MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Overview of Task Force report comments

Overview of Comments

What we didn’t see in reviewer edits and comments

- No conflicting comments among reviewers
- No proposals to add new or delete existing remediation or funding recommendations
- No proposals to add substantial new content



Overview of Comments

Categories of comments

1. Straightforward wording changes that improve accuracy, clarity, readability, or add meaningful detail

2. Proposed paragraph rewrites to sections when reviewer had more background information

3. Comments that can be addressed without additional discussion

4. Comments where discussion prior to editing would be helpful



Overview of Comments

Addressing the edits and comments

- ✓ Accept all changes where specific redline edits were proposed
- ✓ Make edits to address comments when specific language was not proposed
- ✓ Task Force discussion on limited number of comments before making edits



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Examples of Task Force report comments

Task Force Comment Examples

Pig's Eye Task Force

Comment: The report sets the shared vision and direction for moving forward but does not set a specific remediation plan. The technical details on remediation will be determined by the MPCA site remediation team. Added redlines edits to clarify this.

Accept redlines edits

Task Force Comment Examples

Summary of Local and Regional Land Use Planning

Comment: Add information on the Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area (MRCCA) and the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area (MNRRA). Refer to the MRCCA Chapter in St. Paul's 2040 Comprehensive Plan, and the NPS MNRRA Comprehensive Management Plan.

Will edit text

Task Force Comment Examples

Remediation and Restoration Options Evaluated

Comment: New Cover option may require a gas collection and management system. Installing a cap over the waste eliminates the escape route for gas, which would then accumulate under the cap.

Will Edit Text- add landfill gas system, adjust O&M cost

Comment: Add language about pyrolysis/gasification need for air emissions permitting.

Will Edit Text

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Discussion of Task Force report comments

Discussion - Task Force Report Comments

Remediation and Restoration Recommendations Section

- Pig's Eye Dump holds a large volume of uncontained waste directly adjacent to Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, and is located in the Mississippi River floodplain. The preferred remediation options are the dig and haul and dig and line options because they are the options most protective of the environment.

Comment:
Provide best estimate of volume rather than simply describing as "large".

Suggested addition from team:
"Based on past investigation activities, the volume of waste is estimated to be approximately 4.5 Million cubic yards. "

Discussion - Task Force Report Comments

Remediation and Restoration Recommendations Section

- Excavating all the waste and sending it to existing metro landfills would greatly impact the remaining waste capacity for the metro area. If the dig and haul remediation options is implemented, the impact to metro area waste disposal capacity and impact to potential community revenues should be considered

Comment 1: And studied? or is just considered enough?

Comment 2: Ask that this bullet be separated into two bullets, since they are two different issues. In addition, capacity is metro wide, and funding impacts are to host communities. Suggested edits:

"Excavating all the waste and sending it to existing metro landfills would greatly impact the remaining waste capacity for the metro area, which should be examined prior to consideration.

If the dig and haul option is implemented, the impact to potential community revenues should be considered."

Discussion - Task Force Report Comments

Remediation and Restoration Recommendations Section

- Future use of the site should ~~include as~~ provide for a safe and accessible natural area for passive recreation, such as walking trails and wildlife observation. This recommendation is consistent with Ramsey County's Pigs Eye Unit of the Battle Creek Regional Park Long Range Plan Amendment, approved by the Met Council in April 2021.

Discussion - Task Force Report Comments

Remediation and Restoration Recommendations Section

- The remediation and restoration plan should ensure continued operation and allow for potential future expansion and ~~ongoing operation~~ of the Metropolitan Water Resource Recovery Facility, a critical regional public utility infrastructure that protects water quality, public health and the environment across the metropolitan area. It operates under and is regulated by state and federal permits.
- The remediation and restoration plan should allow for future expansion and ongoing operation of ~~and~~ the Pig's Eye Wood Recycling Center which also ~~, as both facilities~~ serves a public purpose and ha~~s~~ve an environmental benefit. Any future expansion will need to comply with applicable ordnances and regulations.

Comment:

Recommend separating the Metro Plant and the Environmental Wood Supply facility in this section.

Discussion - Task Force Report Comments

Remediation and Restoration Recommendations Section

- The MPCA should complete a feasibility study of the remediation options, restoration options presented to the Task Force, including possible impacts to existing nearby facilities. The feasibility study analysis should prioritize the dig and haul no backfill and dig and line remediation options.

Comment:
This is the only time “No-back fill” is used. Is the no backfill aspect a key component of the recommendation? If so, it needs to be incorporated into the other uses and explained in more detail, if not it could be deleted.

Discussion - Task Force Report Comments

Funding Recommendations Section

- Voluntary public-private partnerships should be explored to fund remediation efforts. Private parties include haulers, industries and residents in the surrounding area who contributed waste to the facility would contribute funding.
- The Superfund responsible party identification process should not be utilized. Instead, a fee should be assessed on all waste disposal to cover/contribute to remediation expenses since haulers, industries and residents in the surrounding area all contributed waste.

Comment:
Two different funding mechanisms: one voluntary (public–private partnerships) and one mandatory (regional waste fee). As written, contributors such as haulers, industries, and residents could end up paying twice.

Recommend clarifying whether these are intended as separate options or complementary elements of a single funding strategy.

Discussion - Task Force Report Comments

Funding Recommendations Section

- State funding should be pursued, such as available funds in the MLCAT account and opportunities to bond for clean-up work.

Comment:
Concern about calling out "available funds in the MLCAT account" primarily because it is not fully funded for existing landfill closures. Suggested edit:

"State funding through newly created or existing options or accounts should be explored, such as opportunities to bond for clean-up work or use of the MLCAT account, if additional funds for the Pig's Eye Dump are added."

Discussion - Task Force Report Comments

Funding Recommendations Section

Restoration Funding Recommendation

For restoration efforts, pursue other federal or state sources of funding such as (LCCMR, Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Fund, etc.

Comment:
To avoid ending a sentence with “etc.” Added CWC Fund to the list. Suggested edit:

“For restoration…such as LCCMR, Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Fund, the Clean Water Fund or other new or existing potential sources.”

Discussion - Task Force Report Comments

Background Section

"The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has developed site-specific water quality criteria (WQC) for application in a portion of Pool 2 of the Mississippi River, as the basis for remediation and other efforts to reduce PFAS contamination. The WQC address PFAS with Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) toxicological values and health-based guidance. The Pool 2 criteria is specific to Pool 2 water bodies and although not applicable to Battle Creek the Pool 2 criteria was utilized as a reference to provide context to detected PFAS concentrations."

Comment:
MPCA's site-specific criteria for Mississippi River miles 820–812 are based on scientific data and analysis for that specific segment. They are not adopted criteria for the broader Pool 2 reach. Using these values as general benchmarks could imply broader scientific representation or regulatory applicability than intended.

Discussion - Task Force Report Comments

Appendix

Comment: Consider adding another appendix to provide more technical information on contaminants and other technical information relevant to the site.

Summary information in the report



Remediation Program Project File

Task Force Comment Examples

"It is the largest wastewater treatment facility in Minnesota and serves the Twin Cities metropolitan area, treating over 180 million gallons of wastewater per day."

Update detail – Facility treats 251 million gallons per day and serves 1.8 million people.

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Break
10 Minutes

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force – Public Comment

Public Comment

Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Task Force Discussion

Next Meetings

In-person:

Meeting #14: January 13th, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Lower-Level Conference Room



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Thank you!

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Agenda for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #14

Tuesday, January 13, 2026
9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

1. **Welcome, introductions, agenda (9:00 a.m.)**
2. **Summarize task force comments (9:05 a.m.)**
3. **Task force discussion of report edits and final approval (9:15 a.m.)**
4. **Feasibility study (9:25 a.m.)**
5. **Public comment (9:45 a.m.)**
6. **Next steps and reflection (10:05 a.m.)**
7. **Adjourn (10:30 a.m.)**

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Notes for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #14

Tuesday, January 13, 2025
9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
Virtual and in person 2nd floor - MPCA 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

Members in Attendance

- Dan Scollan, Water Resources Ecologist, Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- Sam Paske, Metropolitan Council
- Melanie McMahon, Executive Project Lead – Mayor's Staff, City of Saint Paul
- Victoria Reinhardt, Ramsey County
- Dave Magnuson, Waste Regulation Supervisor, Dakota County
- Stephanie Souter, Senior Program Manager, Washington County
- Nathan Wallerstedt, Project Management Branch Chief, Army Corps of Engineers - Saint Paul District
- Pam Anderson, Remediation Division Director, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)
- David Bell, Environmental Research Scientist, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)
- Jimmy Francis, Mayor, City of South Saint Paul
- Bill Sumner, Council Member, City of Newport

Other Contributors

- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Stephen Mikkelson, MPCA
- Corinne Stremmel, MPCA
- Kara Van Lerberghe, Zan Associates
- Megan Ryan, Zan Associates

Presenters

- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Pam Anderson, MPCA

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda

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

2. Summarize task force comments

Hans Neve (MPCA) shared that they received comments from the task force and the Prairie Island Indian Community. The comments from Prairie Island Indian Community shared that they would like to see more emphasis on the impact to the Mississippi River and downstream communities and some language changes around contaminant concentrations to emphasize the severity of some contamination. Hans reviewed the changes they made to the report to address their comments. Bill Sumner (City of Newport) asked if the

comments from downstream communities were limited to Minnesota or if it was shared with communities farther down the river. Hans responded that they did not, and Pam Anderson (MPCA) added that they reached out to Prairie Island Indian Community after the task force asked that feedback be gathered from tribal members.

3. Task force discussion of report edits and final approval

Hans Neve (MPCA) then transitioned to comments received from the task force. The comments added more detail to some sections or relocated a section to a better area within the report. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) shared appreciation to the project team and the task force. Melanie McMahon (City of St. Paul) added that she would change one of the edits in the report to more generally refer to the City of St. Paul's 2040 Comprehensive Plan instead of a specific chapter. The task force did not have any concerns about this change. Victoria made a motion to approve the report, and the task force officially approved the report.

5. Public comment

Hans Neve (MPCA) kicked off the public comment portion of the meeting. A member of the public shared that they would like to see contamination levels compared to different water standards included in the report. Hans said their team would take another look at the levels. Another member of the public emphasized that they want to see future development be consistent with other plans for the area and concern about the waste footprint and its proximity to the environmental wood supply. Hans responded that they would gather more information about this site during the feasibility study. The member of the public shared concern about the facility being on parkland and it being within a floodplain. They added concern about the pollution and the impact to nearby vulnerable communities. Another member of the public shared that they would like to see more discussion on the national level and environmental education. Another member of the public shared that they would like to see more experimental treatment options for the contamination in the report. Another member of the public shared that they would like to see a health study for residents in the area, the environmental justice impact, pollinator habitat, and that residents in District 1 would like to see the waste removed.

5. Feasibility study

Stephen Mikkelson (MPCA) introduced the engineering teams who would be working on the future feasibility study. Narayanan Raghupathi (WSP) shared that they are continuing information gathering through this year which includes deep monitoring well installations, groundwater/surface water sampling, a transducer study, and then updating hydrogeologic data analysis and modeling. He added that they will then start to look at risk evaluation for human health and eco risk. They would also do preliminary engineering evaluations of the two options the task force recommended which would feed into the feasibility study. Once the feasibility study is done, they will do additional investigations to support the remedial design process. After the remedial design process, they would start implementing a remedial action plan. David Bell (MDH) asked what they will be looking for in the groundwater and surface water sampling. Narayanan responded that they would be looking at concentrations and migration in Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake and sediments. A member of the public asked how the public would be kept up to date during this process and Narayanan responded that there would be public input opportunities when implementing the remedial action plan. David asked if they could make sure that the task force website links to any new resources for people to keep up to date. A member of public shared concern about the amount of time it would take the look at multiple options compared to choosing one method and moving forward with it. Hans Neve (MPCA) shared that a typical feasibility study will look at a range of options. A member of the public asked at what point they choose which method to implement. The task force discussed that the recommendations would move forward to the legislature to evaluate but it ultimately depends on the

results of the feasibility study. A member of the public shared concern about the dig-and-line option. A member of the public asked for clarification on the funding process for the feasibility study and Hans responded that it would be funded by the Metropolitan Landfill Contingency Action Trust (MLCAT).

Next steps and reflection

Hans Neve (MPCA) shared that the report will go through the internal agency process to finalize the report before submitting to the legislature. The report will then be posted on the website for review. The project team will also look at attending some community events to share the results of the task force effort. David Bell (MDH) asked if they knew which committee within the legislature it is being submitted to and Hans responded that they will share the exact committee with the task force after the meeting. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) asked how the task force members will be informed during the process. Hans asked for feedback from the task force on how involved they want to be. Sam Paske (Met Council) shared that as a neighbor to the site, they would like to be very involved to stay up to speed. Pam Anderson (MPCA) shared that the typical process is submitting the report to the legislature and if they invite them over for a hearing, they can share it with task force members. Melanie McMahon (City of St. Paul) said that she would like the MPCA to continue to use the email updates to keep both task force members and the public up to speed. Jimmy Francis (City of South St. Paul) offered their council meetings and community events as a platform to share any updates as needed and thanked the members of the public in the room for showing up as a voice for the community. Pam Anderson wrapped the meeting up by thanking the task force and the public and saying that they will be reaching out when there are updates available.

6. Adjourn

Hans Neve (MPCA) adjourned the meeting.

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Pigs Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #14

January 13, 2025

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

C-508

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force
Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and Introductions

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



Agenda

9:00 – Welcome, introductions, agenda

9:05 – Summarize task force comments

9:15 – Task force discussion of report edits and final approval

9:25 – Feasibility study

9:45 – Public comment

10:05 – Next steps and reflection

10:30 – Adjourn

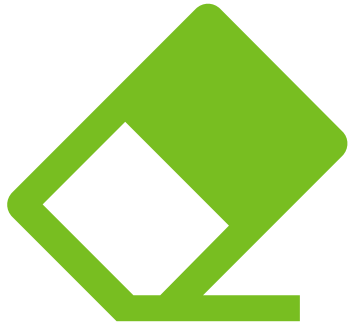


MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Summarize Task Force comments

Overview of Comments

- Comments from Prairie Island Indian Community
- Comments from Task Force



Comments from Prairie Island Indian Community

Overview of Comments

- Emphasis on the impact to the Mississippi River and downstream communities
- Language for contaminant concentrations



Comments from Prairie Island Indian Community

Edits made

Section: Remediation and restoration recommendations

Edit:

- Add downstream communities and ecosystems

- Remediation and restoration efforts should protect ~~local communities, wildlife, and natural habitat and improve water quality.~~ local and downstream communities and ecosystems, protect wildlife and natural habitats, and improve water quality.

Comments from Prairie Island Indian Community

Edits made

Section: Contaminants of concern and scope of contamination

Edit:

- Change language in contamination tables around contaminant concentrations

PFAS	~~*Detected values are multiple times above standards*~~*PFAS and PFOA are present tens of thousands to hundreds of thousands of times above guidance values*
1,4-Dioxane	~~*Detected values are multiple times above standards*~~ Detected concentrations exceed the applicable guidance level by approximately **40 times**.

Comments from Prairie Island Indian Community

Edits made

Section: Wildlife and health impacts, Dig and Haul effectiveness sections

Edit:

- Add emphasis of drainage to Mississippi River
  - Add sentence:

    “Pig’s Eye Lake also drains to the Mississippi River.”

Task Force comments

Section: The U.S. Army corps of Engineers (USACE) Civil Works Program Projects

Edits:

- Small edits to language
- Addition of sentence:

  “The use of any of any USACE ecosystem restoration authorities may be dependent on the level to which the site is ultimately remediated prior to restoration.”

Task Force comments

Section: Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area (MRCCA) and Mississippi River and Recreation Area (MNRRA)

Edits:

- Move paragraph to “Summary of local and regional land use planning” section
- Addition of sentence:

  “Future uses of the site should be consistent with the MRCCA chapter of the City of St Paul’s 2040 Comprehensive Plan, and subsequent plans.”

Task Force comments

Section: Fish Consumption Advisory

Edits:

- Addition of sentence:

  “MDH has also issued fish consumption guidance for Mississippi River Pools 3 through 6, which are the consecutive pools downstream, due to the presence of PFAS in fish tissue.”

Task Force comments

Section: Metropolitan Council Environmental Services Water Resource Recovery Facility

Edits:

- Update capacity of treated wastewater per day to 181 million gallons. Previous number (251 million) is the max wet weather capacity.

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Task force discussion of report edits and final approval

Discussion

- Any additional changes or questions?



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force – Public Comment

Public Comment

Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project



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Next steps/Feasibility study

Next steps/Feasibility study

- Data Gap Investigation (Dec. 2025-Oct. 2026)
  - Deep monitoring well installations
  - Groundwater/Surface water sampling
  - Transducer study
- Update hydrogeologic CSM/Data analysis/Reporting/Modeling (Dec. 2025-June 2026

Next steps/Feasibility study

- Risk evaluations (Dec. 2025-June 2026)
- Task Force preliminary engineering evaluations of dig/haul & dig/line (Jan. 2026-June 2026)
- Feasibility study (Jan. 2026-Dec. 2026), options include
  - Conduct preliminary engineering evaluations for dig/haul and dig/line while the deep GW investigation and risk evaluations are being conducted.
  - If no risk to deep aquifer, then move forward with FFS.
  - If results show contamination/risk, then move forward with comprehensive FS.

Next steps/Feasibility study

- Supplemental investigation/bench scale study to support remedial design (if needed) (Jan. 2027-Sept. 2027)
  - Need for additional investigation would be determined based on results of data gap investigation and the need for additional data collection to support the remedial design.
- Remedial action plan/remedial design (Oct. 2027-Sept. 2028)
  - Includes 30%, 60%, 90% designs.
  - Preparation of the Remedial Action Plan. Will include various stages of Remedial Design for MPCA review/approval prior to finalization of.

Next steps/Feasibility study

- Implement remedial action plan (Oct. 2028-Sept. 2029)
  - Includes contractor procurement - Issue RFP, workplans IFC Specifications & Drawings, Bidding; support with 8 to 10 public/stakeholder meetings, agency coordination.
- Routine site-wide groundwater monitoring and landfill gas monitoring (annually)

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Next steps and reflection

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Thank you!