



# Neponset River Greenway Council Meeting

Wednesday, November 6, 2019, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Milton Yacht Club, 25 Wharf St., Milton, MA

## AGENDA

### 1. Welcome, Introductions, and Guests

*We acknowledge that we are meeting on the traditional territory of the Neponset Band of the Massachusetts Tribe*

- *Becoming Non-Profit: Review progress toward becoming a 501(c)3 with John Lyons*

### 2. Event Reports

- **Tuesday, October 22: Pumpkin Float at PJPII Park** (Maria Lyons)
- **Sunday, October 27: Celebration of APA Great Place designation** (Vivian Ortiz)

### 3. Along the Greenway with Stella Lensing, DCR Project Manager

- **Maintenance issues: What's new?**
- **EPA Final Site Inspection Report Lower Neponset River PCBs Boston/Milton, Massachusetts**  
See back for summary or <http://www.neponsetgreenway.org/council/> for all three volumes.

#### Dorchester:

- **Segments 3 and 4** – Tenean Beach to Morrissey Blvd *Progress report*
- **PJPII Park Playground Meeting**, Thursday, November 14, 6:00-7:00 pm, *Leahy Holloran Community Center*
- **Barbara Colby Playground (Tenean Beach) Ribbon Cutting**, Friday, November 8, 3:30 pm
- **Phillips Group development next to trail: What can we do? To build, they need to do something for the trail**
- **Neponset Wharf** – *Project status?*
- **Billboards** and other developments
- **Segment 8** – *Morrissey Blvd. drawbridge to UMass: Is there any design progress?*

#### Mattapan:

- **Edgewater Drive** – *plans for visual and physical river access*
- **Segment 2** – Central Ave to Mattapan Square: *Signage?*
- **Segment 6** – Crossing Blue Hill Ave.: *Progress?*
- **Mattapan Station apartments** – *Progress report*

#### Milton:

- **Central Ave. crossing** – *Progress on improvements*
- **Milton Landing to Ventura Park** – *Will there be access to 2<sup>nd</sup> DCR bridge from Milton side?*
- **Tileston-Hollingsworth Mill Building Demolition** – *Progress report*

#### Hyde Park:

- **Segment 7** – Fairmount to Dana Ave.: *Possibilities for path?*
- **Segment 9** – Connecting Trail to Paul's Bridge *Where are we?*
- **Wolcott Square** – *Redesign underway. Updates?*
- *Anything else?*

**Upcoming Neponset River Greenway Council Meetings** – Held first Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm  
December 4, 2019 Foley Senior Residences, Mattapan      January 8, 2020 Milton Yacht Club, Milton  
February 5, 2020 Hyde Park Police Station, Hyde Park      March 4, 2020 Port Norfolk Yacht Club

Issues on the trail? (non-emergency) MassParks line: 617-626-1250, 0 for operator or email [mass.parks@state.ma.us](mailto:mass.parks@state.ma.us)  
Join [neponsetgreenway@googlegroups.com](mailto:neponsetgreenway@googlegroups.com) to take part in discussions between Greenway Council meetings  
Join the Neponset River Greenway Council group on Facebook to keep track of Greenway events  
Follow us on Twitter at @nepgreenway Check out our website at <http://www.neponsetgreenway.org>

## USEPA Final Site Inspection Report of Lower Neponset River PCBs in Boston and Milton, Massachusetts

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The Lower Neponset River PCBs site is located in the Neponset River Watershed. The most upstream probable point of entry (PPE) to the Lower Neponset River PCBs 15-mile downstream SWP is located at the confluence of the Neponset River and Mother Brook (upstream of Dana Avenue, Hyde Park, MA) (PPE 1). The most downstream PPE is located along the Neponset River at the Baker Dam (upstream of Adams Street, Dorchester/Milton, MA) (PPE 2), 3.7-miles downstream of the most upstream PPE. The SWP extends 18.7 miles from PPE 1. The SWP extends past 15 miles due to the difference in distances from the terminus to the two PPEs located along the SWP.

The Lower Neponset River PCBs site SWP includes the following surface water bodies: Neponset River (7.87 miles), Dorchester Bay, and Boston Harbor (10.83 mile arc from the mouth of the Neponset River). The 15-mile downstream SWP terminus is located in Boston Harbor.

Numerous wetland areas are located within and along site. The majority of the wetland acreage is within the Braided Channel Section, but there is wetland frontage along the majority of the edge of the riverbed channel. Based on the EPA wetland specialist's observations and review of wetland delineations, there are an estimated 4 to 5 miles of wetland frontage along the Neponset River, within the Lower Neponset River PCBs site.

The Neponset River is a fishery. Fish types found in the river include American Eel, Brown Bullhead, and White Sucker. A fish advisory for the Neponset River has been issued by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MA DPH) for the consumption of American Eel and White Sucker due to PCBs and DDT. Primary Contact Recreation in the Neponset River has been classified as impaired by MassDEP due to *Escherichia coli* (*E. Coli*), Enterococcus, and PCBs. Primary Contact Recreation is defined by MassDEP as any recreation or other water use in which there is prolonged and intimate contact with the water with a significant risk of ingestion of water. These include, but are not limited to, wading, swimming, diving, surfing and water skiing.

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The concentration of Total PCBs in all eight sediment/source samples collected from the Lower Neponset River and submitted for PCB congener analysis were detected at significant levels above background/reference concentrations, ranging from 8 to 2,821 times the reference concentration of 3,900 µg/Kg. PCB Congener analysis indicated Total PCBs ranging from 4.6 µg/Kg in PTBC1A up to 11,000,000 in THD-C1 F. Sample THD-C1 D, collected from the Tileston & Hollingsworth Dam impoundment, had the highest concentration of Total PCBs at 11,000,000 µg/Kg. Elevated levels of Total PCBs were documented from the Lower Neponset River segment as far upstream as the Fairmount/Mother Brook Area (sample LCA-C3 D) and downstream to the Water Baker Dam Area (sample WBD-C5 C).

Based on the comparison of sediment reference sample levels to the elevated concentrations of PCB Compounds (both PCB Aroclors and Total PCBs) detected in the 2017 and 2018 SI sediment/source samples, a release of the hazardous substance PCBs to sediments and the SWP has been documented, which are at least partially attributable to the Lower Neponset River PCBs site. Although the origin of the source of the PCBs detected in the sediment sample collected is not documented, a sediment plume containing significantly elevated concentrations of PCBs is documented throughout the 3.7-mile riverbed segment of the Lower Neponset River from the confluence of Mother Brook with the Neponset River, downstream to the Walter Baker Dam. In addition, the data documents that the wetlands and fishery within and along the banks of the Lower Neponset River have or are likely to have been impacted by PCB contamination.