

Meeting Report

Subject	Peirce Island WWTF Upgrade – Monthly Public Construction Meeting
Date	March 18, 2020
Time	11:00 AM
Location	Portsmouth, NH

The public meeting that was scheduled for 11:00 AM on March 18, 2020 in Conference Room A at Portsmouth City Hall for the subject project was cancelled due to the ongoing situation with the Coronavirus COVID-19. A summary of the planned discussion follows:

The topics of discussion include work completed since the last meeting, work to be completed in the coming month, work anticipated in the next six months, construction cost to date, summary of Consent Decree milestones, and events and recreation.

To obtain additional information regarding the project, there is a project website that can be accessed through www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/wastewater/peirce-island-wastewater-facility/peirce-island-wastewater-facility-upgrade-project. The website is updated weekly with news and recreational information and contains a link to a reporting form that can be used to provide feedback or notify the City of any issues associated with the project. Terry Desmarais, City Engineer, is the point of contact for the City.

Areas where work is ongoing at the site, including:

- Grit Building
- Solids Building
- Biological Aerated Filter (BAF) Building
- Gravity Thickener No. 2
- Existing Sludge Processing / New Operations/Lab Building
- Chlorine Contact Tanks

A review of the construction progress photos includes:

- Site Overview – Existing conditions of the Peirce Island Wastewater Treatment Facility in November 2016. Prior to construction, the treatment process consisted of the Aerated Grit Chambers, followed by the Primary Clarifiers and Chlorine Contact Tanks.
- BAF Building – The BAF system is now receiving wastewater flow and biomass development is continuing. Work to install the two wet chemistry analyzers, additional monitoring probes and the BAF sample sink is complete. Troubleshooting of the pneumatic valves is continuing as well as other finish work.
- Primary Clarifiers – Work to install the scum pumps and associated piping is in progress.

- Existing Sludge Processing Building/New Operations/Lab Building – The first floor of the building has been demolished and PCB abatement is nearing completion. All demolished materials are being placed into dumpsters which are then covered for subsequent removal. Selective mechanical demolition and concrete repair of deteriorated concrete is underway. Structural work has begun in the lower level of the building so that it can be converted from its previous use as a Sludge Processing Building to its new use as the Operations/Lab Building. Concrete modifications are underway, this includes installation of the dowels for the brick shelf and slab modifications for the sumps.
- Gravity Thickener No. 2 – Installation of the odor control duct work, thickener dilution water piping, and instrumentation is underway.

Work anticipated for the coming month includes:

- Continue minor finish work at the Headworks Building, Grit Building, Solids Building, and BAF Building.
- Continue startup of the BAF Building process.
- Continue minor interior touch up painting in the BAF, Solids and Grit Buildings.
- Continue integration of the BAF control system with the plant's SCADA system.
- Continue installation, check out, and startup of Gravity Thickener No. 2 mechanism and scum pumps.
- Continue structural repair and modifications to the new Operations/Lab Building.

Work anticipated through April and into September 2020 includes:

- Grit Building – Complete minor punch-list items.
- BAF Building – Complete minor punch-list items. Complete backfilling and grading around the building and begin landscaping on the west and south sides of the building. In addition, install the plantings on the west and south side of the building.
- Solids Building – Complete punch-list items. Begin landscaping on the west side of the building.
- Existing Sludge / New Operations/Lab Building – Complete hazardous materials abatement work as well as selective demolition in the lower level. Complete installation of new floor slab, including floor slab infills, membrane layer, insulation and 4" topping slab. Complete installation of new structural steel, including roof beams, truss system and decking. Complete exterior wall framing and sheeting, and exterior masonry work. Complete installation of the new roof system. Complete installation of CMU walls and chemical containment curbs in the basement. Continue the installation of interior wall framing and sheeting. Begin mechanical process, electrical, HVAC and plumbing rough-in work.
- Gravity Thickener No. 2 – Complete hand railings and finishes at Gravity Thickener No. 2.
- Primary Clarifiers – Complete installation of the new primary clarifier scum pumps and scum pump station. Complete painting and installation of turnbuckles. Complete installation of grating at the Primary Clarifier Effluent Distribution box.
- Underground Piping and Utility Services – Complete installation of utility connections to the Operations/Lab Building. Construct remainder of binder course pavement at the Operations/Lab Building and install curbing. Continue installation of sidewalks, stairs and railings at the Operations/Lab Building. Final grading and landscaping activities will resume, this includes but is not limited to, grading for asphalt walkways and stone mowing strips; installation of the 12' vegetated maintenance corridor; installation of the rain garden and installation of the permanent WWTF perimeter fence.

An update on the project construction cost is as follows:

- Original Contract: \$72.786 million
- Change Order No. 1: \$0.367 million
- Change Order No. 2: \$0.547 million
- Change Order No. 3: \$0.093 million
- Change Order No. 4: \$0.163 million
- Change Order No. 5: \$0.250 million
- Change Order No. 6: \$0.292 million
- Change Order No. 7: \$0.169 million
- Change Order No. 8: \$0.113 million
- Total Contract: \$74.780 million

A summary of the project milestones set by the Consent Decree is as follows:

- Execute Contract for Construction Upgrades - Date: 9/1/2016 - Status: Complete
- Submit Two Additional Milestones for EPA Review and Approval - Date: 12/1/2016 - Status: Complete
- Additional Milestone 1: Transfer of the Existing SCADA system to the New Headworks Building - Date: 11/21/2017 - Status: Complete
- Additional Milestone 2: Startup and Testing of the Secondary Influent Pump Station in the New Solids Building - Date: 5/9/2019 - Status: Complete
- BAF Substantial Completion - Date: ~~12/1/2019~~ 12/31/2019 - Status: Complete
- Achieve Compliance with NPDES Permit Limits - Date: 4/1/2020 - Status: On Schedule

As noted in previous meetings, the BAF Substantial Completion Consent Decree milestone was achieved on December 31st, 2019 in compliance with the Consent Decree schedule. The BAF is in the startup phase with primary effluent flowing through the BAF cells, and the biomass development process is continuing.

The project team is continuing to coordinate construction with community events. Upcoming events this month include Strawberry Banke Events.

Due to the public meeting being cancelled, there was no Q&A session held for the month of March.

The next public construction meeting will be on April 15, 2020 at 11:00 AM in Conference Room A at Portsmouth City Hall.

These notes present a summary of the intended discussion that was to be held.