



www.cityofmalden.org

Gary Christenson, Mayor

TO: Malden City Council
FROM: Mayor Gary Christenson
DATE: October 25, 2024
RE: Roosevelt Park Soil Remediation

In April, the planned Roosevelt Park Improvement Project was cancelled due to high costs. You can read more about that April 29, 2024 decision here:

<https://www.cityofmalden.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=899>.

Since that time, we have been focused on two components. First and foremost was determining the exact steps necessary to reopen the section that has been fenced off since 2019. Second, but equally as important, we asked our team to determine what steps if any were necessary to stay compliant with current Mass. Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regulations on the rest of the field assuming current use and no modifications.

Our consultant, Nangle Consulting Associates (NCA), has identified the series of steps necessary to re-open the southeast corner of the park in a manner fully compliant with current DEP regulations and without restrictions on use. A fully compliant remediation for this area will require the removal and replacement of the top 18 inches of soil. This section would then be restored with a new infield, loam and seed and then all of the necessary regulatory paperwork would be filed to properly document and close out the work.

This week we received a preliminary opinion of probable cost that indicates this work could amount to \$850,000. The opinion of probable cost is attached. Please keep in mind that estimates for this type of work can vary significantly from the actual costs due to the variables involved. In this particular case, site access is one factor that will drive costs. Some of the funding sources approved for this project could be used to fund this remediation work. Our next steps will be to outreach to the funders to get clarification on use of funds.

As this plan progresses, we will be notifying residents in accordance with the DEP's Public Involvement Plan (PIP) process. Residents can also get updates here: www.cityofmalden.org/roosevelt. We anticipate seeking permits to undertake the remediation and restoration work in early 2025 with the hope of beginning the project in the summer of 2025.

Relative to the rest of the site, NCA has reviewed soil data across the entire field outside of the fenced in area. This review confirms that our focus should be on addressing the fenced off area and that the remaining field requires no action to be in compliance with DEP regulations. NCA summarized its findings and recommendations in the attached letter. This analysis is specific to the area as presently constituted and used and assumes no modifications or renovations.

Any future improvement project will drive additional requirements specific to that design in the areas of flood storage, drainage, and environmental. The elevation of the proposed project, the introduction of hard surfaces, and the removal of soil are all factors that will drive future required work and costs. The attached funding chart shows funds secured for the previous Roosevelt Park Improvement Project and what's remaining, as well as commentary on the potential portability of those funds to a future project.

We will continue to provide updates as this process progresses.

Attachments