

Meeting Notes

Subject	Peirce Island WWTF Upgrade – Monthly Public Construction Meeting
Date	May 16, 2018
Time	11:00 AM
Location	Portsmouth, NH

A public meeting was held at 11:00 AM on May 16, 2018 in Conference Room A at Portsmouth City Hall for the subject project. A record of the discussion follows:

Terry Desmarais, City Engineer, gave an introduction to the meeting and outlined the topics of discussion, including 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, events and recreation, and public input.

The members of the Project Team in attendance introduced themselves, and included:

- Peter Rice, Director of Public Works
- Terry Desmarais, City Engineer
- Jon Pearson, AECOM Project Manager
- Andy Brodeur, Methuen Construction, Project Manager

Terry noted that 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.

Jon discussed work that has been completed this month. He noted areas where work is ongoing at the site, including:

- Headworks Building
- Yard Piping / Utility Service
- Grit Building
- New Solids Building
- Biological Aerated Filter (BAF) Building

Jon reviewed photos of construction progress, including:

- Headworks Building – HVAC, plumbing, electrical, and mechanical process work is near completion. Work to test and startup mechanical process equipment is in progress. Operation and maintenance training for the Headworks Building equipment has continued and the training sessions are instructed by the equipment vendors and AECOM.

- Grit Building – Work to install new mechanical process, HVAC and electrical equipment is in progress. The new grit classifier has been placed, work to install process piping for the new Aerated Grit Chamber blowers is in progress, and work to complete the installation of new motor control center is in progress. Efforts to keep the Grit Building operational during equipment replacement are ongoing.
- Solids Building – Underground yard piping and ductbank work beneath the Solids Building is in progress. Reinforcing, formwork, and concrete placement for the foundation slab, walls, and columns are in progress. As a part of the Consent Decree compliance schedule, the next milestone is to startup and testing of the Secondary Influent Pumps in the Solids Building; construction of the pump station is now in progress.
- BAF Building – Reinforcing, formwork, and concrete placement for the elevated slabs, columns, above ground walls, and cell walls is in progress. Installation of the precast nozzle decks is in progress. Installation of mechanical process piping is continuing in Stage 1 of the BAF.
- Yard Piping / Utility Service – Work to install yard piping between the Grit Building, Solids Building and BAF Building is in progress.

Andy discussed work anticipated for the coming month, including:

- Continue minor finish work in the Headworks Building.
- Continue startup and training for WWTF staff of equipment at the Headworks Building.
- Startup the Headworks Buildings.
- Continue selective demolition and architectural, structural, mechanical process, HVAC, plumbing, and electrical construction in the Grit Building.
- Continue reinforcing, formwork, and concrete placement for the BAF Building elevated slabs, columns, and walls.
- Continue installation of mechanical process piping in Stage 1 of the BAF Building.
- Complete installation of utilities under the new Solids Building.
- Continue installation of reinforcing, formwork, and concrete placement for the Solids Building foundation slab, elevated slabs and walls.
- Continue underground piping installation between the Grit Building, Solids Building, and BAF Building.

Andy then discussed the work anticipated through May and into August 2018, including:

- Headworks Building – Complete minor finish work. Complete testing, training, and turnover activities so that the building can be put into service and turned over to the City. Begin to directed wastewater flow from the Mechanic Street and New Castle Pump Stations to the Headworks Building.
- Grit Building – Interior: Continue selective architectural, structural and mechanical process modifications, continue installation of interior mechanical process equipment and piping, continue modifications on the Grit Chambers, and continue installation of electrical, control, and fire alarm wiring, including startup the new motor control center. Complete installation of new ferric chloride chemical system and complete installation of the new slide gates and baffle walls for the Grit Chambers. Exterior: complete work on the new roof, yard piping associated with the building, and installation of exterior doors.
- Underground Piping and Utility Services – Continue work to extend yard piping from the Primary Clarifiers to the BAF Building, Solids Building and Primary Clarifier Effluent Distribution Box.

- Electrical Facilities – Complete the electrical and communication ductbanks towards the BAF and Solids Buildings.
- BAF Building – Complete installation of steel pipe support beams in the pipe gallery and complete backfilling around the building. Continue installation of the precast channel covers and nozzle decks for the Stage 2 cells. Continue reinforcement, formwork, and concrete placement for the elevated slabs, walls, and columns. Continue installation of mechanical process piping and equipment, electrical, plumbing, and HVAC systems, this includes the Boiler Room, Mechanical Room, and Blower Room. Continue installation of yard piping. Begin masonry work, including work on the face brick and installation of CMU walls on both ends of the building for the stairways. Begin installation of precast roof planks and roofing system.
- Solids Building – Complete installation of yard piping and underground utilities in and around the Solids Building. Continue reinforcement, formwork, and concrete placement for the foundation, walls, and columns. Begin work on interior mechanical process piping and equipment. Begin reinforcement, formwork, and concrete placement for elevated slabs, walls and columns. Begin installation of precast roof planks and roofing system. Begin masonry work, including work on the face brick and installation of CMU walls.
- Sanitary Pump Station No. 1 – Complete associated yard piping and installation of pumps within the structure.

Jon provided an update on the project construction cost:

- 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 (*Pending Review and Approval*)
- Total Contract: \$74.206 million

Jon provided a summary of the project milestones set by the Consent Decree:

- Execute Contract to Construction Upgrades - Date: 9/1/2016 - Status: Complete
- Submit Two Additional Millstones 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: On Schedule
- BAF Substantial Completion - Date: 12/1/2019 - Status: On Schedule
- Achieve Compliance with NPDES Permit Limits - Date: 4/1/2020 - Status: On Schedule

Jon noted that the project team is continuing to coordinate construction with community events. Upcoming events this month include the Education to All Children Triathlon, Dondero PTA “Fun-Run”, Pro Portsmouth Market Square Day & Road Race, Big Brothers Big Sisters of NH – Stiletto Spring Run, and Strawberry Banke Events.

A question and answer session then occurred, and is summarized below:

Paige Trace asked the following:

Q: What changes to costs are included in Change Order No. 5?

A: Terry noted that during the course of construction, changes are made which affect the project cost either in a positive or negative way due to needs changing throughout the project. This change order includes about 30 items. One of the larger items in Change Order No. 5 includes the slide gates at the Primary Clarifier Effluent Distribution Box. The decision to install the slide gates came as a result of construction phasing concerns and it was in the best interest of the City to have the gates installed. Once the change order has been executed, the information will be posted on the website.

Q: Where and how is the wastewater which bypasses the BAF system during intense wet weather events combined with the treated wastewater?

A: All wastewater flow will pass through the Headworks Building, the Aerated Grit Chambers located behind the Grit Building, and pass through the Primary Clarifiers. Once the wastewater exits the clarifiers, it enters the Primary Effluent Distribution Box. During dry weather all flow is directed to the BAF for secondary treatment and nitrogen removal. When high flows resulting from significant wet weather exceed the secondary treatment capacity, excess flow not directed to the BAF will be directed through a separate pipe and blended with the effluent from the BAF prior to the chlorine contact tanks. The combined flows will undergo disinfection and dechlorination using sodium hypochlorite and sodium bisulfite. In a wet weather event, ferric chloride and polymer will be added to the influent to the primary clarifiers as is done now to promote settling.

The next public construction meeting will be on June 20, 2018 at 11:00 AM in Conference Room A at Portsmouth City Hall. It was noted that there will likely be a walking tour of the facility scheduled for the public to see the construction progress during the month of July

These notes present a summary of the items discussed at the meeting and are not a transcript of the meeting.