United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Riverside Industrial Park Superfund Site

Community Involvement Plan

July 2020

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Table of Contents

LIST OF FIGURES ii

LIST OF TABLES ii

INTRODUCTION 1

SECTION 1: Overview 2

Purpose of the Community Involvement Plan 2

Scope of the Community Involvement Plan 3

Agency Partnerships and Legal Authorities 3

SECTION 2: Project Background 4

Description of the Riverside Industrial Park Superfund Site 4

Site History 6

Project Activities To Date 10

Steps in the Superfund Process 12

Future Decision Steps 13

SECTION 3: Community Involvement and Feedback 14

Superfund Community Involvement 14

Previous Community Outreach 14

Community and Stakeholder Interviews 16

SECTION 4: Community Profile 20

Historical Development 20

Land Use and Infrastructure 20

Transportation Infrastructure 22

Drinking Water, Sewer, and Power 22

Parks and Recreation 23

Population and Demographics 24

SECTION 5: Community Involvement Action Plan 26

Communication Goals 26

Community Involvement Toolbox 27

Evaluation of Outreach 41

APPENDIX 1: Abbreviations and Acronyms 42

APPENDIX 2: Glossary 43

APPENDIX 3: Federal Agency Contacts 48

APPENDIX 4: Elected Officials 49

APPENDIX 5: Riverside Industrial Park Contact List 52

APPENDIX 6: Stakeholder Groups 54

APPENDIX 7: Information Repositories 57

APPENDIX 8: Media List 58

APPENDIX 9: Community Interview Questions 60

APPENDIX 10: Fact Sheets 62

APPENDIX 11: Legal Authorities 66

List of Figures

FIGURE 1: Public Buildings in the North Ward of the City of Newark and Key Features Adjacent to the Riverside Industrial Park Superfund Site **5**

FIGURE 2: Boundaries of Riverside Industrial Park Superfund Site **7**

FIGURE 3: Steps in the Superfund Process **13**

FIGURE 4: Land Use in City of Newark **20**

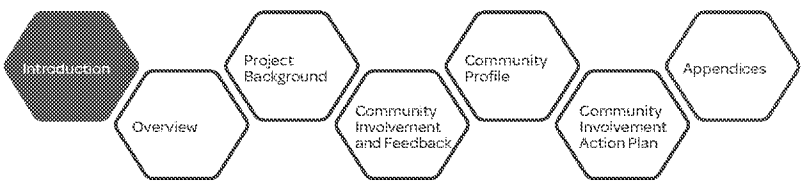
FIGURE 5: Community Profile within City of Newark **24**

List of Tables

TABLE 1: Project Activities **11**

TABLE 2: Demographic Summary Statistics **24**

TABLE 3: Key Tools for Communication **28**



View of Riverside Industrial Park Superfund Site (with Building #7 and Building #12 in the foreground) and City of Newark in the background.

Introduction

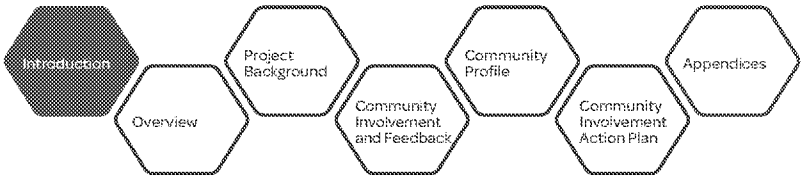
This Community Involvement Plan (CIP) for the Riverside Industrial Park Superfund site (Riverside; the site) was developed to facilitate communication between the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the communities affected by and interested in Riverside, as well as to encourage community involvement. The CIP will serve as a roadmap for EPA in providing opportunities to share information with the public and to receive input during the cleanup of Riverside. The CIP can also be used by the community to share information with EPA and obtain information about the Riverside cleanup. The CIP is an evolving document and will be updated or revised, as needed, to ensure that opportunities for meaningful public participation continue throughout the cleanup.

As EPA works on the details of the design and implementation of the *cleanup*, the agency is committed to involving the public and keeping the *community* informed about cleanup activities and how these activities may impact them. In keeping with that commitment, this CIP has been developed to facilitate and encourage dialogue between EPA and the neighborhood and its residents who live near or are affected by Riverside, as well as to encourage community involvement in site activities.

The attached appendices are designed to serve as a resource guide for both EPA and the community. The main text of the CIP and appendices may be read independently of each other. Acronyms are spelled out upon first reference, and a full list of acronyms and abbreviations is provided in **Appendix 1.** Other appendices include EPA and other federal and state agency contacts, local municipal contacts, where to find additional documents, a glossary of terms, and other relevant project background information. Bold, underlined terms that appear in the CIP may appear in *fact sheets* or the *Proposed Plan* and are defined in a glossary in **Appendix 2.**

This CIP contains the following sections:

- I Introduction
- 1 Overview
- 2 Project Background
- 3 Community Involvement and Feedback
- 4 Community Profile
- 5 Community Involvement Action Plan
- A Appendices



1 Section 1: Overview

The following section describes the purpose and scope of the CIP, as well as applicable legal authorities.

Purpose of the Community Involvement Plan

GLOSSARY TERMS

Definitions for technical terms have been provided in Appendix 2.

In electronic versions of this CIP, click on the term to be taken directly to the definition.

The CIP is the foundation for EPA's Superfund Community Involvement Program. The goals of the CIP are to provide opportunities for the public to become actively involved in the cleanup, to educate the community on the Superfund process, to gather input from the community, to consider community issues and concerns, and to inform the public of progress. EPA will achieve these goals using a variety of tools and activities (described in **Section 5**). Not all of the tools and activities may necessarily be implemented. Rather, EPA will periodically review, select, and prioritize which tools and activities to implement based on input from the community and in consideration of project management and community factors.

The purpose of the CIP is to outline actions and activities that EPA may undertake to encourage meaningful public engagement. It is also designed to assist the communities and other *stakeholders* to become more informed and involved in the Riverside cleanup (refer to **Appendix 6** for list of stakeholder groups).

Scope of the Community Involvement Plan

This plan offers options for *community involvement and outreach*, rather than a prescriptive approach. The suggested outreach activities and tools in the following pages are flexible in nature and were designed to appeal to multiple audiences. EPA recognizes that not all outreach activities and tools are suited for all groups, and EPA knows that when it comes to community involvement, there is "no one size fits all." To produce a CIP that truly works for the affected community, a clear and sensitive profile of the community must be generated by using community interviews to speak with the public and solicit feedback from the community (refer to **Section 3**).

Where possible, the CIP lays out a probable sequence of cleanup activities. EPA does not currently have the information necessary to identify the precise timing of all activities and opportunities for community involvement and outreach. Therefore, this CIP will remain a living document that will be reviewed and updated as needed. Specific timeline information on the major cleanup project documents, decisions, and activities will be provided to the public through fact sheets, EPA website updates, and electronic mailing lists.

Agency Partnerships and Legal Authorities

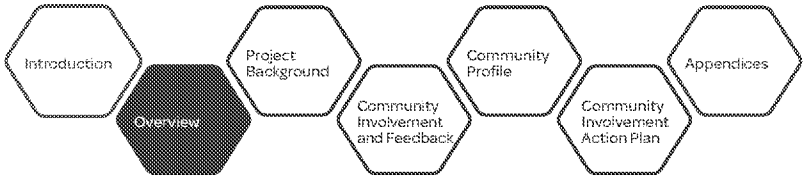
The Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) for Riverside, as well as the *remedial design* (RD) and *remedial action* (RA), are being administered by EPA with authority under the *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)* of 1980, as amended, commonly known as "*Superfund*." These regulations provide EPA with the ability to investigate, rank, and conduct the cleanup of inactive *hazardous waste* sites on the *National Priorities List* (NPL). The NPL is a list of hazardous waste sites that meets the federal criteria for inclusion under Superfund. Superfund gives EPA the authority to require those parties responsible for creating the hazardous waste sites to perform the cleanup or to reimburse the government, if EPA performs the cleanup. EPA requires potentially responsible parties (PRP) to clean up hazardous waste sites through administrative orders, *consent decrees*, and other legal settlements. EPA is authorized to enforce Superfund in all 50 states and United States territories.

The Superfund site identification, *monitoring*, and response activities are coordinated with state, tribal, and territorial environmental protection and waste management agencies. On Riverside, EPA is working closely with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to ensure that entities with shared jurisdictions are kept informed of EPA activities. Please refer to **Appendix 11** for a more detailed discussion of legal authorities.

About CERCLA

Commonly known as Superfund, CERCLA is intended to protect human health and the environment by investigating and cleaning up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. Under the program, the EPA either can pay for a site cleanup when parties responsible for the contamination cannot be located or are unwilling or unable to perform the work, or take legal action to force parties responsible for site contamination to clean up the site or repay the federal government for the cleanup cost.

Exterior (east) side of Building #7 at Riverside (building currently vacant)



2 Section 2: Project Background

The following section describes Riverside's site history and provides a summary of Superfund activities conducted to date.

Description of the Riverside Industrial Park Superfund Site

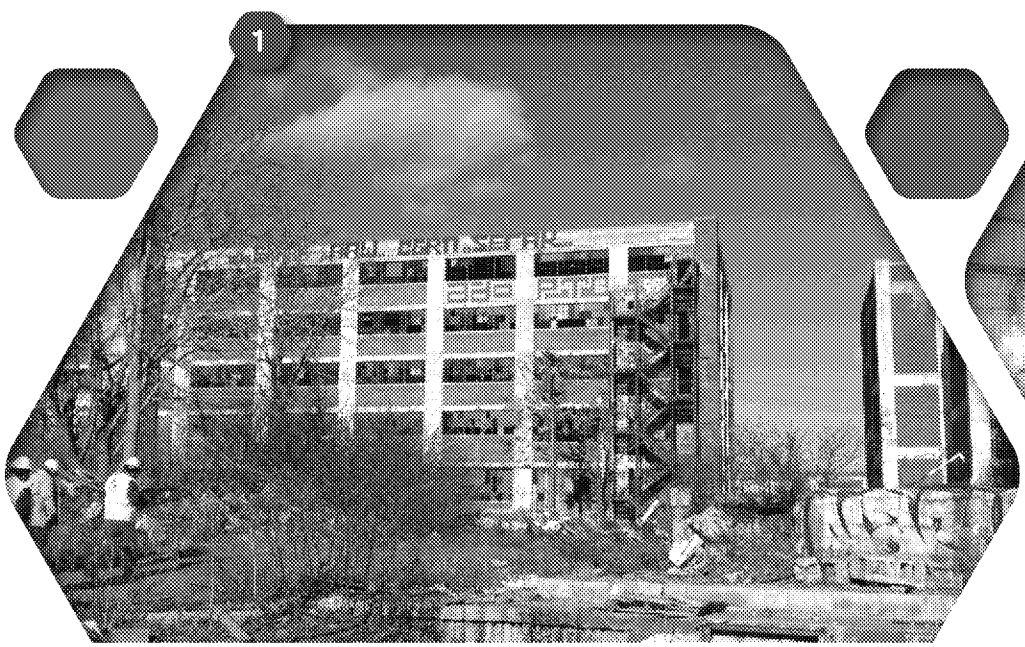
Riverside is a 7.6-acre, active industrial complex located in the North Ward community of the City of Newark, New Jersey, along the banks of the Passaic River (refer to **Figure 1** for a map of Riverside's location and the surrounding community). The majority of the site was reclaimed from the Passaic River with imported fill to support commercial and industrial activity. Filling primarily occurred in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The origin of the fill material is unknown, but it consists mainly of sands, silts, and gravel along with man-made materials, such as brick, glass, concrete block, wood, and cinders. The fill material may have been originally contaminated prior to placement and/or further impacted by accidental spills,illegal dumping, improper handling of raw materials, and improper waste handling/ disposal from subsequent industrial and commercial activities conducted at Riverside.

Both Riverside Avenue and McCarter Highway border Riverside to the west, along with a segment of railroad track adjacent to McCarter Highway (refer to **Figure 2** on page 7 for a map of Riverside). Currently, the central and northern portions of Riverside contain active industrial/commercial businesses, while the south side contains vacant buildings. The main entryway is through a vehicle access point on Riverside Avenue; however, pedestrian trespassing occurs regularly. Much of the surface area is covered by buildings or pavement. The Passaic River and its tidal mudflat border Riverside on the east side. Sections of steel, concrete, and wooden bulkhead provide a retaining wall along most of the site adjacent to the Passaic River; however, the bulkhead has fallen into disrepair in some locations and several sections have collapsed.

1: Exterior (south) side of Building #12 and,

2: Interior view of Building #6 at Riverside.

Both buildings are currently vacant.



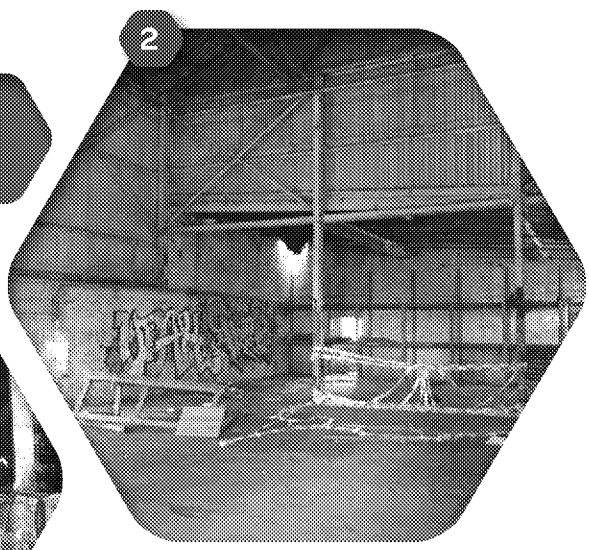
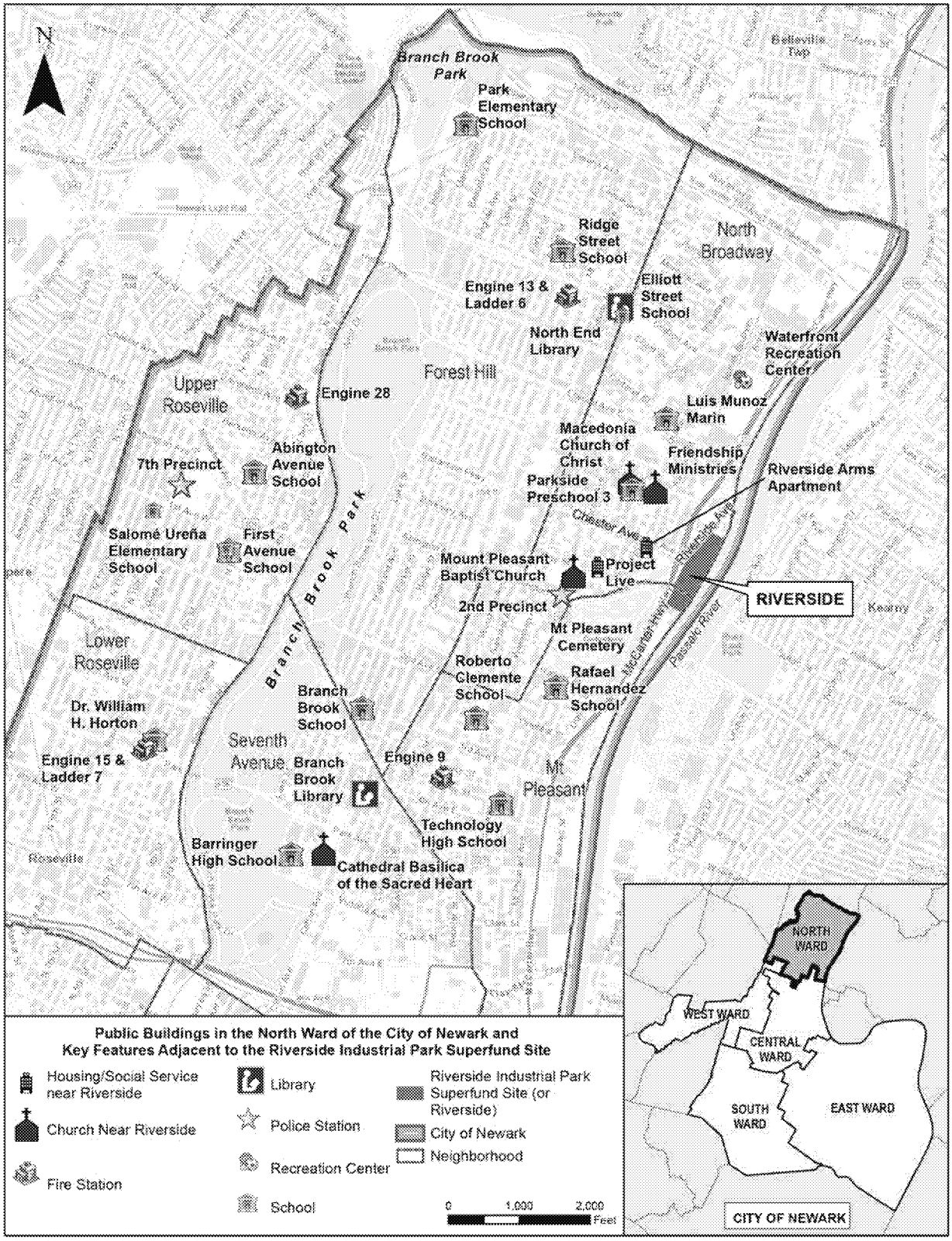
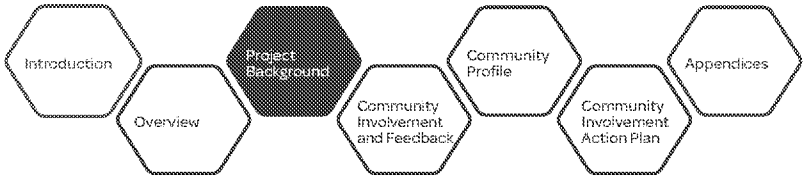


Figure 1: Public Buildings in the North Ward of the City of Newark and Key Features Adjacent to the Riverside Industrial Park Superfund Site





Site History

1: Interior view of Building #12. Building currently vacant.

2: Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company employee silling paint by weight and measure, c. 1920.

Credit: PPG Industries Records; Detre Library & Archives, Heinz History Ctr.

Between 1902 and 1971, a paint plant operated at Riverside and manufactured paint, varnish, linseed oil, resin, and other coatings. Metal pigments were brought to the site for manufacturing of paints, including lead. The original paint plant was constructed in the early 1900s by the Patton Paint Company, which merged into the Paint and Varnish Division of Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company in 1920, which has been known as PPG Industries, Inc. (PPG) since 1968. PPG mixed resins, solvents, and metal pigments to produce paints. Varnishes were made from resins, oils, and solvents.

Following the closure of PPG's operations in 1971 at Riverside, the property was subdivided into 15 lots, and a wide variety of industrial and manufacturing companies have operated over the past 50 years at Riverside under various owners. Occupants and operations have included:

- **Frey Industries, Inc./Jobar** for warehousing, packaging, repackaging, and distribution of client-owned chemicals,
- **Baron Blakeslee, Inc.** for product distribution, warehousing of a variety of chemical products, analysis of various chemical blends and waste samples, drum storage, and truck and tanker parking,
- **Universal International Industries** for various manufacturing operations,
- **Samax Enterprises** for chemical manufacturing,
- **HABA International, Inc./Davion Inc.** for manufacturing nail polish remover and related products, and Acupak, Inc. for providing packaging services for HABA,
- **Roloc Film Processing** for manufacturing foils utilized in various commercial products,
- **Gilbert Tire Corporation** for storing used tires and wheel rims,
- **Chemical Compounds, Inc./Celcor Associates, LLC** for manufacturing hair dyes and other personal hygiene products,
- **Teluca** for packaging and distributing hair dyes, hair color, and related ingredients, hair dye research laboratory, offices, and warehousing,
- **Gloss Tex Industries, Inc.** for manufacturing bulk nail enamel, lacquer, and related cosmetic products,
- **Ardmore, Inc.** for manufacturing soaps and detergents, and storing their empty drums,
- **Monaco RR Construction Company** for storing railroad rails, cross ties, and spikes,
- **Federal Refining Company** for recycling metal,
- **Midwest Construction Company** for storing and maintaining construction equipment and materials.

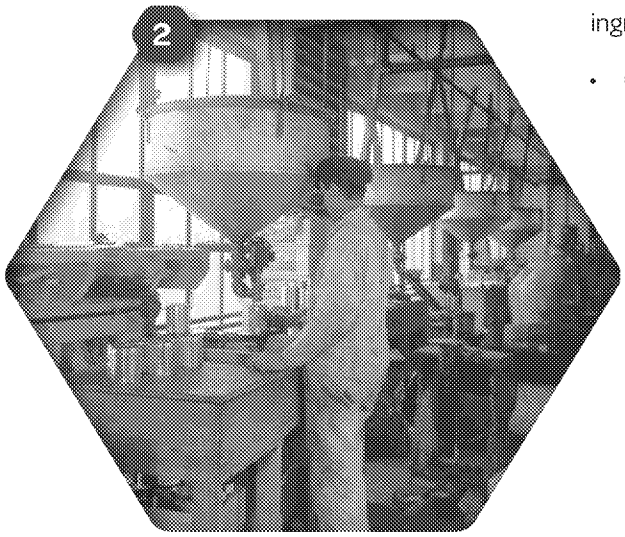
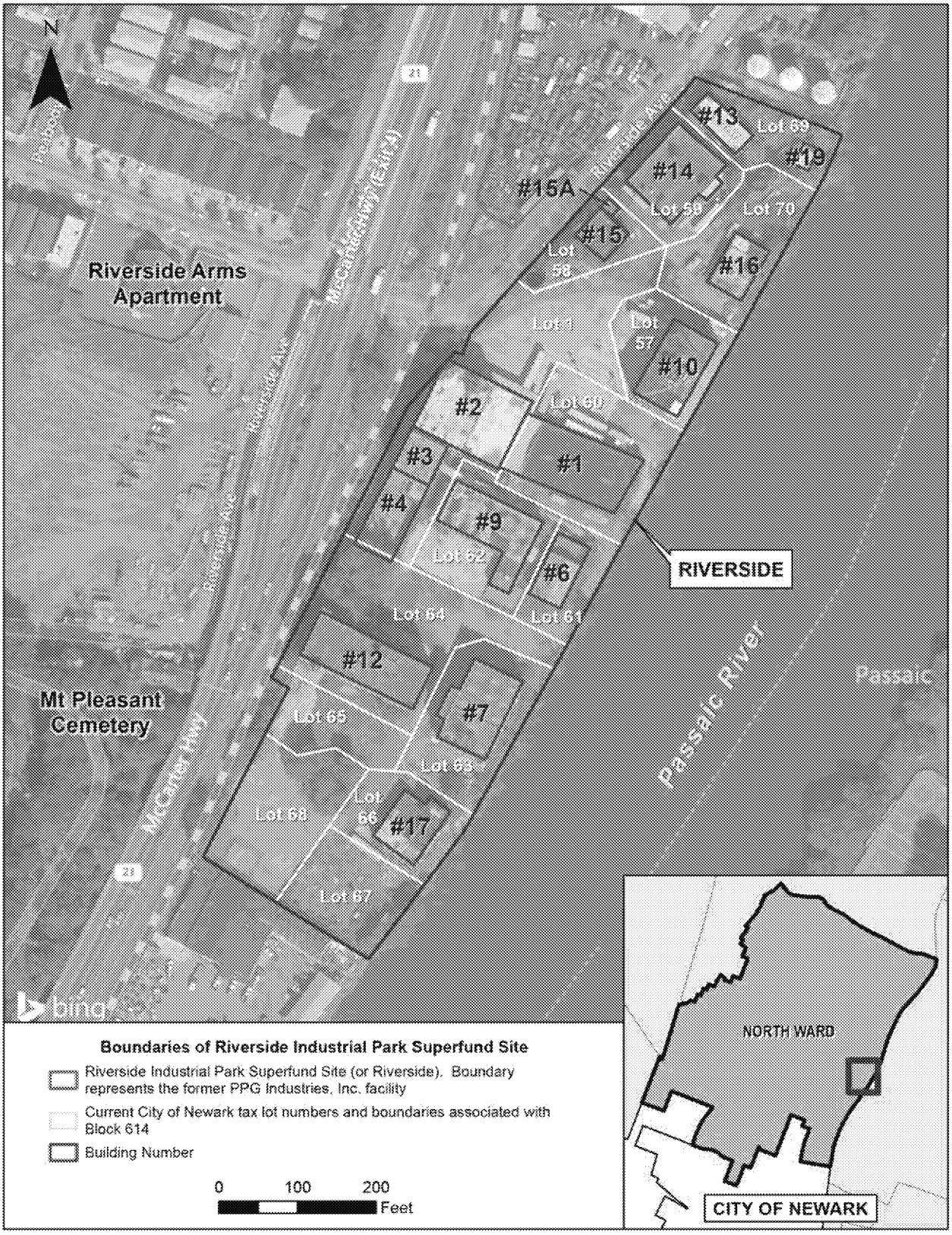
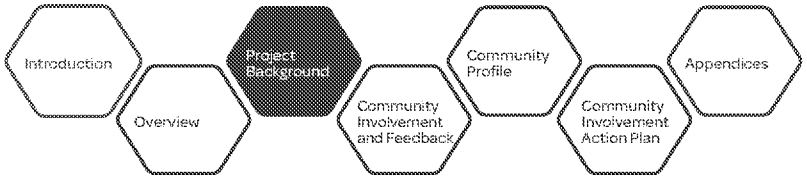


Figure 2: Boundaries of Riverside Industrial Park Superfund Site





What is Human Health Risk and How is it Calculated?

Under Superfund, a human health risk assessment is conducted to evaluate the potential for harmful health effects from exposure to *hazardous substance* at a site. It evaluates different human exposure scenarios (like a trespasser or construction worker), assuming that no action has occurred to control or lessen the contamination on site. The risk assessment follows a four-step process.

- **Hazard Identification**: Chemicals of potential concern (COPCs) in soil, groundwater, and indoor air are identified based on their *toxicity*, concentration, fate and transport (e.g., mobility, persistence, and bioaccumulation), and other factors.
- **Exposure Assessment**: Exposure pathways (such as incidental ingestion and skin contact) are evaluated. Evaluation of each scenario includes factors like point of exposure and frequency and duration of exposure. Reasonable maximum exposure (RME) is calculated to estimate the highest level of exposure that could reasonably be expected to occur. If the RME indicates unacceptable risk or hazard, then another parameter called central tendency exposure (CTE) may also be calculated to estimate the typical level of exposure to a contaminant.
- **Toxicity Assessment**: The types of harmful health effects are determined. Potential health effects may include the risk of developing cancer over a lifetime or noncancer health hazards (which includes changes in the normal function of body organs, such as kidney effects).
- **Risk Characterization**: At the end, information from the exposure and toxicity assessments are combined to measure the potential for harmful health effects. Risk is described as the possibility of an individual developing cancer over a lifetime. Current Superfund regulations identify a range for determining whether remedial action is necessary when an individual's risk to developing cancer is 1 in 10,000 chances to 1 in 1,000,000 chances. In addition, a "hazard index" (HI) is calculated to evaluate the potential for noncancer health hazards. The key concept for the HI is that a threshold exists below which noncancer hazards are not expected to occur, even for sensitive individuals (e.g., very young, elderly). COPCs with risks or hazards that exceed these thresholds are considered contaminants of concern (COCs) and require *remediation* to protect human health.

There are 14 buildings at Riverside that formerly supported PPG's operations. The building numbers that are shown on **Figure 2,** on page 7, are associated with the former PPG building numbering system. Five buildings are currently vacant (Buildings #6, #7, #12, #15, and #17). At the time of EPA's *Remedial Investigation* (RI) in 2017, Buildings #1, #2, #3, #9, #10, #13, #14, and #16 had ongoing business operations, and a small garage building (Building #19) was used for storage by the occupant of Building #13. Former Buildings #4 and #5 have been partially demolished.

Due to accidental spills, illegal dumping, improper handling of raw materials, and/or improper waste disposal from historic and current operations, the soil and groundwater at Riverside are contaminated. Prior to the EPA investigation of 2017, the state of New Jersey referred six lots at Riverside to State environmental regulations. This resulted in modified deed notices and controls such as installing pavement surface cover in the affected lots. Groundwater Classification Exception Areas (CEAs) have also been established for several lots due to *contamination* in groundwater above the New Jersey standards. In addition, between 2009 and 2014, EPA in collaboration with NJDEP conducted an emergency *response action* to remove tanks from two buildings and to remove liquid sludge from the basement of Building #7.

Riverside was listed on the NPL in 2013 as a Superfund site, and EPA entered into a legal agreement with PPG and 18 other PRPs to perform a RI/FS in 2014. Under government oversight, PPG conducted the RI and developed *risk* assessments to evaluate the nature and extent of contamination across Riverside (without regard to lot boundaries) and to evaluate whether the soil, soil gas, and/or groundwater present a potential for unacceptable human health and ecological risks. Following the RI, EPA determined that the soil and groundwater at Riverside were contaminated at levels that may cause potential risk to human health and the *ecosystem* either under current, foreseeable future, and hypothetical future land use scenarios in the absence of additional controls or remedial actions **(see sidebar at left for more information)**. Soil and groundwater contamination may also present unacceptable risk to future indoor workers from vapor intrusion into future buildings that may be constructed at Riverside. Relative to NJDEP's non-residential soil standards, EPA identified the following chemicals of potential concern (COPCs) in soil: metals, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs). Relative to NJDEP's groundwater standards, EPA also identified the following COPCs in groundwater: metals, VOCs, and SVOCs. PPG also identified containerized waste at Riverside along with free petroleum product in *underground storage tanks* (USTs)and surrounding soils as well as within Building #15. EPA is working in conjunction with NJDEP to address an unregulated discharge to the Passaic River from a pipe along the bulkhead adjacent to Building #10.

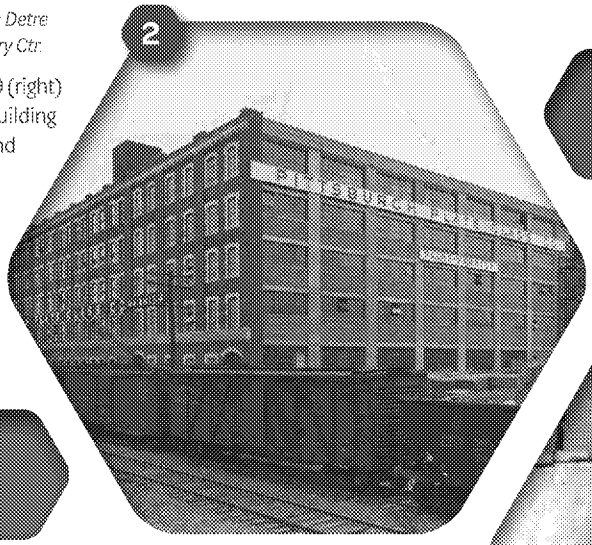
1: Aerial of Riverside Industrial Park, c. 1955.

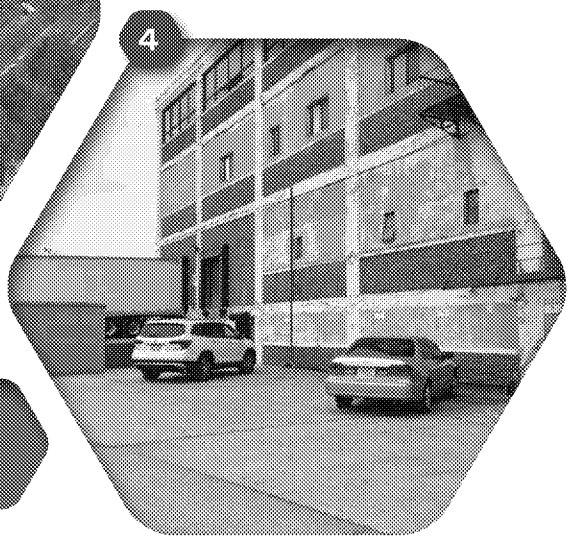
2: Exterior of Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co. Paint and Varnish factory, c. 1920.

Credit: PPG Industries Records; Detre Library & Archives, Heinz History Ctr.

3: View between Building #9 (right) and Building #3 (left) with Building #2 showing in the background (2016)

4: Exterior (west) side of Building #10 (2016)





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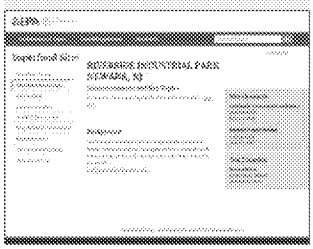
Project Activities To Date

EPA's Website

Go to **www.epa.gov/superfund/riverside-industrial**



Under Superfund, EPA uses all available tools to ensure the protection of human health and the *environment*. EPA and a PRP have entered into a consent agreement to complete an RI/FS (refer to **Appendix 5** for contact information on the PRPs). An RI is an in-depth study that is designed to gather data needed to determine the nature and extent of contamination at a Superfund site and identify potential human health and ecological risks. The Riverside RI was completed and approved by EPA in April 2020. The RI is usually associated with a *Feasibility Study* (FS) where remedial alternatives to address potential unacceptable risk (identified in the RI) are evaluated and compared. The Riverside FS was completed and approved by EPA in June 2020. Together, they are usually referred to as the "RI/FS." The purpose of the Riverside RI/FS was to characterize contamination in the soil and groundwater. Surface waste piles near Building #17 and asbestos-containing materials within Building #7 were removed by EPA in 2017-2018.

Table 1 lists major project activities and community involvement milestones throughout the Riverside RI/FS process. The RI, FS, risk assessments, and other site-related documents are available on **EPA's website.**

Remedial investigation field work at Riverside between 2017 and 2019, including:

1: Groundwater sampling,

2: Soil sampling,

3: Test pit excavation.

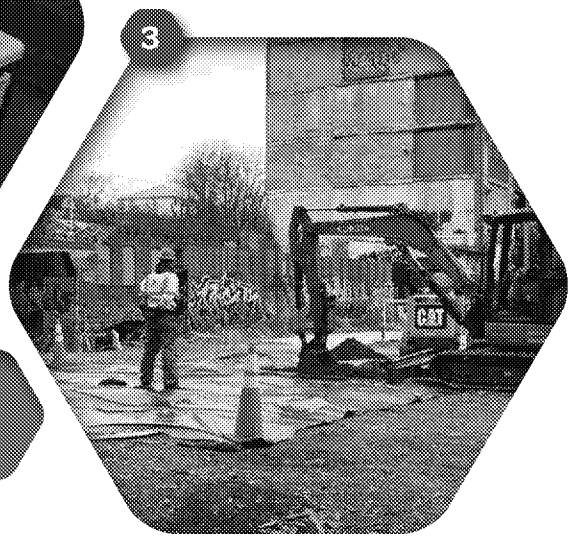
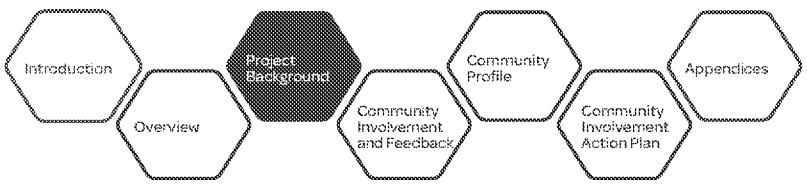


Table 1: Project Activities

DATE	ACTIVITY
1902	Patton Paint Company constructed a plant at the Riverside Industrial Park Site and began manufacturing activities. Resins, solvents, and metal pigments were mixed to produce paints. Varnishes were made from resins, oils, and solvents.
1920	Patton Paint Company merged into the Paint and Varnish Division of Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company.
1968	Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company became known as PPG Industries, Inc. (PPG).
1971	PPG's operations ceased at Riverside.
1979 – Present	Property subdivided into 15 lots and used for a wide variety of industrial purposes from cosmetics to packing. Some buildings (remnants of the former PPG facility) are inactive or abandoned.
Approximately 2003 - Present	Some lots were subject to New Jersey State remediation cases, which required the recording of notices in deeds and engineering controls, such as pavement surface covers. In addition, New Jersey groundwater "Classification Exception Areas" were established on several lots due to the presence of groundwater contamination above New Jersey's groundwater standards.
2009	EPA identified a discharge associated with a pipe connected to one of the Riverside buildings.
2009 – 2014	EPA in collaboration with NJDEP conducted an emergency response action to remove tanks (remnants of the former PPG paint manufacturing process) from two buildings (Building #7 and Building #12) and to remove liquid sludge from the basement of Building #7.
2011	EPA inspected aboveground storage tanks located in Building #15 and standing water that accumulated in the building from precipitation. EPA determined that there was no threat to human health or the environment, and no remedial action was warranted.
2013	Riverside Industrial Park Superfund Site was added to the National Priorities List (NPL).
2014	EPA entered into a legal agreement with PPG, one of the 18 Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) identified for Riverside, to perform a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS).
2017	EPA approved Work Plan prepared by PPG for the Riverside RI/FS.
2017	EPA conducted an emergency response action to remove debris, asbestos, and biohazard labeled medical waste illegally disposed near Buildings #7 and #12.
2017 - 2019	PPG performed site-wide remedial investigation (RI) field work with EPA oversight.
2020	EPA approved the RI Report and FS Report prepared by PPG.
2020	EPA issued the Proposed Plan, which included the preferred remedial alternative to address soil and groundwater contamination.



The Proposed Plan for Riverside

The Proposed Plan identifies EPA's preferred alternative for the cleanup at Riverside. The preferred alternative addresses contaminated soils and groundwater as well as other media to prevent or reduce unacceptable risks and hazards to human health and wildlife.

- **Soil**: Includes a focused excavation of Lead-contaminated soils around the perimeter of Building #7 with off-site disposal. The alternative also includes an engineered cap and bulkhead repairs to contain any remaining contaminants and prevent further exposures. Deed notices will be modified to restrict future land use, and fencing will be installed to prevent trespassing. This alternative will prevent or reduce leaching of contaminants to the groundwater, and it will prevent or reduce erosion and transport of contaminated soils to the Passaic River.
- **Groundwater**: Includes a site-wide pumping system to extract contaminated groundwater for treatment and off-site disposal. The remedy also includes periodic injections to assist with the remediation of the groundwater. This alternative will restore groundwater quality, and it will prevent or reduce transport of contaminants to the Passaic River.
- **Vapor Intrusion**: Includes air monitoring in existing, occupied buildings. It also requires future buildings to be constructed with a vapor barrier or other technology to seal the ground surface underneath the new building slab to prevent vapor intrusion.
- **Waste**: Includes removal of underground storage tanks (USTs) near Building #12, petroleum located inside Building #15A, and containerized waste. Waste would be transferred to vehicles for off-site disposal or recycling. This alternative will prevent uncontrolled releases of waste to the environment and prevent exposure.
- **Inactive Sewer Pipe**: Includes cleaning out and power-washing an inactive manhole and sewer pipe located between Building #9 and the former Building #4. The deposited sediments and remaining water in the manhole will be transferred to vehicles for off-site disposal or recycling. This alternative will prevent uncontrolled releases of waste to the environment and prevent exposure.

EPA relies on public input to ensure that the concerns of the community are considered in selecting an effective remedy for the Superfund site. EPA encourages the public to review the Proposed Plan and supporting documents, and to submit comments on the selected remedy.

Steps in the Superfund Process

EPA follows a step-by-step process to determine the best method to clean up a site and protect human health and the environment. The RI/FS is only one step in the Superfund process. **Figure 3** describes the steps in the Superfund process.

- **Proposed Plan:** Following the completion of the RI/FS, EPA will issue a Proposed Plan, which will list EPA's preferred remedial alternative to clean up the site. The community has an opportunity to review the Proposed Plan and provide comments during a 30-day *public review and comment period.* A *public meeting* will be held during the comment period to inform the community and solicit and receive feedback on EPA's preferred remedial alternative. **Refer to the side bar at left for more information on the Proposed Plan for Riverside.**
- **Record of Decision:** Following State and community acceptance of the Proposed Plan, EPA will issue a *Record of Decision* (ROD), documenting the selected cleanup remedy and responses to public comment in a *Responsiveness Summary*.
- **Remedial Design:** The RD occurs after the ROD is issued and is the phase of Superfund site cleanup where the technical specifications for cleanup remedies and technologies are designed and the long-term monitoring program is developed. The RD is based on the selected remedial alternatives stated in the ROD to address soil and groundwater contamination.
- **Remedial Action:** The RA follows the RD and includes the actual construction or implementation phase of the selected remedial alternative. Throughout the RA, the community can continue to communicate their concerns to EPA, given the increase in construction activity (e.g., the community may be affected by truck traffic or construction noise).
- **Long-Term Monitoring Program:** EPA will implement a long-term monitoring program to assess the effectiveness of the remedy and provide information to make future decisions. The long-term monitoring program may include operation and maintenance to ensure that the remedy continues to be effective, as well as possible indoor air sampling to check for soil vapor intrusion. EPA will also continue to enforce institutional controls to mitigate potential risk. Institutional controls are non-engineered instruments that help minimize the potential for human exposure to contamination and/or protect the integrity of the remedy. For instance, zoning restrictions may prevent certain land uses (such as residential developments) from proceeding at Riverside. Throughout the monitoring program, EPA will ensure that the public is kept informed of project activities, milestones, and results. This process will provide the public with ample opportunities to provide input and comment throughout the life of the cleanup.

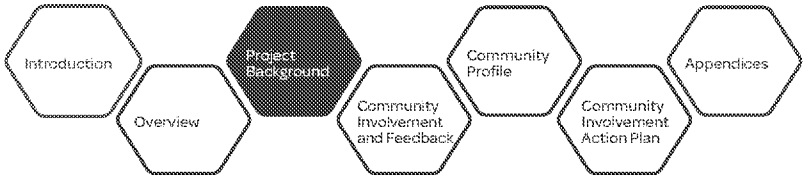
Figure 3: Steps in the Superfund Process

STEP	NAME	DESCRIPTION	
1	Preliminary Assessment/ Site Investigation (PA/SI)	The PA/SI involves a records review, site visits, and limited soil and groundwater sampling to determine whether the site warrants further investigation.	PAST
2	National Priorities List (NPL) Listing	The NPL is a federal list of the most serious sites identified for long-term cleanup. When the EPA proposes to add a site to the NPL, the agency publishes a public notice about its intention in the Federal Register and issues a public notice through the local media to notify the community.	
3	Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS)	The RI/FS involves more comprehensive sampling to identify the nature and extent of contamination at the site. The remedial investigation helps to determine the need for and extent of cleanup that might be required. The feasibility study identifies, describes, and evaluates various alternatives for cleaning up the site.	
4	EPA Proposed Plan and Public Comment Period	The Proposed Plan identifies the EPA's preferred alternative for cleanup and describes the other alternatives considered. Public meetings are held and comments are solicited and recorded.	
5	Record of Decision (ROD)	The ROD documents the selected cleanup remedy and includes a response to public comments.	FUTURE
6	Remedial Design (RD)	During RD, the specific engineering aspects of the remedy selected in the ROD are designed, including land use controls, etc.	
7	Remedial Action (RA)	The RA is the actual construction or implementation phase of Superfund site cleanup.	
8	Long Term Monitoring	Ongoing monitoring of the remedy to ensure that the cleanup remains effective in protecting human health and the environment in the long-term.	
9	Deletion from the NPL	A site may be deleted from the NPL when the final ROD requirements are attained (the remedial objectives) and the site is fully protective of human health and the environment.	

Future Decision Steps

Community involvement, *enforcement*, and emergency response can occur at any time in the Superfund process. The type and frequency of community involvement varies with the urgency and type of RA. The community involvement approach should be flexible and responsive to changing site conditions and to the needs of the surrounding community. EPA will utilize several community involvement tools and activities (refer to **Section 5**) to notify the community of the cleanup's progress and to relay important milestones and participation opportunities to the community.

Before RA work begins, EPA will consult with the community to share the details of the RD and to explain how the work may impact local residents. Aspects of the remedial work that are expected to be of interest to the community may include: trucking and transportation routes, work hours, environmental monitoring, air quality, and potential job opportunities. EPA remains committed to keeping the communities informed and to providing opportunities for community members to become involved.



3 Section 3: Community Involvement and Feedback

The following section describes the community involvement at Riverside.

Superfund Community Involvement

There are several specific community involvement activities that are legally required under Superfund. These activities take place during specific points throughout the investigation and cleanup phases, so that the community affected by the Superfund site stays informed of project activities and can participate fully in the process, if they so choose. A brief summary of the activities conducted at Riverside is presented below:

- Community interviews and stakeholder interviews to solicit people's concerns and determine how and when people wanted to be involved.
- Publication of a formal CIP (this document) to describe and explain the outreach activities that EPA expects to undertake within the affected community.
- Establishment and maintenance of local information repositories near the location of the site so that the public may read and copy pertinent documents and reports (refer to **Appendix 7** for locations of repositories) and maintain an EPA website, so that electronic copies of the files are available.
- Establishment of an *administrative record* file. This file is a legal requirement of Superfund and contains electronic copies of the documents upon which EPA makes its cleanup decision.
- The publication of public notices to announce the availability of the administrative record, information repositories, and major site activities, such as public meetings. These notices are published in local newspapers, on community websites, and on EPA's website as well as shared with local organizations and elected officials.
- The release of fact sheets to document progress and project activities and to fully explain how and why those activities have been undertaken. Fact sheets may be issued in languages other than English to meet community needs (refer to **Appendix 10** for the two fact sheets issued for Riverside in June 2017 and July 2020).

Previous Community Outreach

April 2016 / Newark Superfund "Making a Visible Difference" Public Meeting

On April 27, 2016, EPA held a public meeting under the Newark Superfund "Making a Visible Difference" initiative. The intent of this meeting was to provide information related to four Superfund sites located in the City of Newark (including Riverside) and to solicit feedback about the community's concerns, as well as suggestions for communication methods and

community engagement. The meeting included a summary presentation on the Superfund process and a brief description of four Superfund sites in the City of Newark, including Riverside, Diamond Alkali/Passaic River, Pierson's Creek, and White Chemical. Attendees at the meeting included representatives from the office of the City of Newark Councilman-at-Large, Newark Environmental Commission, Weequahic Park Sport Authority, Weequahic Park Association, Passaic River Coalition, Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC), Great Swamp Watershed Association, PLANewark, and the Sierra Club, among others. Concerns were raised with respect to cleanup time, security, economic impacts, EPA oversight, recreation and future use of the Superfund sites, PRP responsibilities, and health issues. Suggestions for outreach and community involvement included:

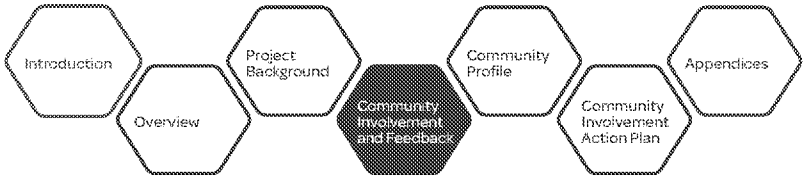
- Establishment of clear points of contact and direct, clear, and consistent communication
- Increased presence of EPA in communities
- Increased education and awareness, including of the homeless population
- Formation of a *Community Advisory Group* (CAG) for all four Superfund sites
- Additional community meetings
- Engagement of city council and local representation through creation of partnerships, commissions, or coalitions
- Communication through emails and social media through the Newark Environmental Commission, bulletin board postings, churches, and local neighborhood and block groups

Outreach to City of Newark

On July 6, 2017, EPA visited residences along Chester Avenue, between Riverside Avenue and Hinsdale Place, and distributed the Riverside fact sheet to the occupants prior to the start of field activities for the RI. The fact sheet provided information on the site background and an update on site investigation activities. EPA subsequently held monthly telephone calls with the City of Newark to provide technical and legal updates during RI activities. On January 10, 2018, EPA conducted an introductory tour of Riverside for the City of Newark's legal representative, Newark Community Economic Development Corporation (CEDC) staff, and redevelopers interested in purchasing the City of Newark properties. On July 25, 2018, EPA conducted a second tour of Riverside with several representatives from the City of Newark and PRP representatives to discuss security concerns and trespassing at Riverside.

Outreach to Passaic River Community Advisory Group

EPA first presented information on Riverside to the Passaic River CAG at a meeting in March 2018. The presentation focused on project activities, upcoming milestones, and findings from the RI. Additional updates were provided to the Passaic CAG on November 8, 2018 and May 10, 2019 (after the completion of the RI fieldwork). The most recent presentation was provided on March 5, 2020, discussing the findings of the RI and upcoming milestones on the project. Members of the Passaic River CAG were also engaged during the April 30, 2020 meeting to determine interest in participating in the Riverside community interviews for this CIP.



Community and Stakeholder Interviews

To produce a CIP that truly works for the affected community, a clear and sensitive profile of the community must be generated by using community interviews to speak with the public and solicit feedback from the community. Interviews are conducted using the following process:

- Research is done into the history, demographics, infrastructure, available cultural resources, and evolution of the neighborhood. This information forms a base upon which the next steps for exploring the present community rests.
- EPA then works to ascertain who the community leaders and activists are and identifies local organizations and groups involved in issues of neighborhood concern. Networking with these contacts, a list is compiled of likely candidates that forms the backbone of the subsequent community interviews.
- EPA will contact the interview candidates, and through a series of questions, will elicit feedback from the interviewee to help define the issues and concerns of the community and to point EPA to the best means of communication and dialogue with the affected public.
- The responses and input generated during the interviews are then analyzed to see what common themes and issues appear across the information provided by the community (known as a "Common Threads Analysis"). These common threads help to guide EPA in providing the types of activities and communication tools preferred by the community.
- These activities and findings are detailed in the CIP along with a listing of community, agency, and governmental contacts; results of the community interviews; and a roster of communication tools, methods, and goals.

The following discussion describes the community interviews conducted by EPA in May 2020 to generate a community profile surrounding Riverside.

Overview of the 2020 Community Interview Process

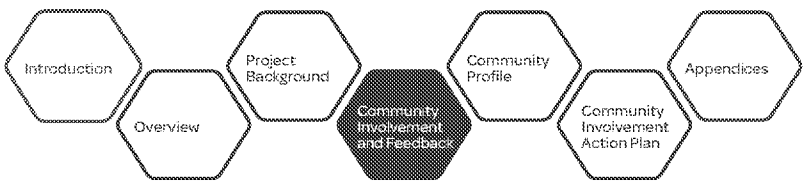
In May 2020, EPA contacted approximately 20 stakeholders who may be affected by, or perceive they are affected by Riverside. The EPA and their consultant contacted these stakeholders by email and telephone, requesting interviews to represent a broad spectrum of the community from a diverse group of categories. The roster of those contacted included local residents, organizations, churches and clergy, activists, groups working with immigrants, elected officials, and cultural, historic, and civic associations. The process was considerably impacted by the coronavirus disease discovered in 2019 (COVID-19), and it was exceptionally difficult to find stakeholders who were able to participate in the interview process due to office closures and other significant issues. Nevertheless, ten individuals were interviewed, with interviews taking approximately 45 minutes to one hour, depending on the interests, concerns, activities, and level of input provided by the individual interviewees.

A copy of the community interview questions is provided in **Appendix 9**. Discussion with the various interview participants provided EPA with valuable insight and feedback into the relationship between the community and the agency, and the interviews provided EPA with a means for identifying the best methods for community interaction and communication during the cleanup process. The findings listed in the sections below represent the feelings, opinions, and interests of those who participated in the interviews; enumerate "common threads" expressed during the interviews; and present specific suggestions, needs, and concerns that came up during the interview process.

Key Community Concerns

The following are key community concerns expressed during the May 2020 community interviews and represent the "Common Thread Analysis":

- Most interviewees indicated that they had **no knowledge of Riverside** and were unaware of EPA's work or involvement there. They also stated that they were unaware of hazardous materials or chemicals found at Riverside. Some felt it was due to the remoteness of the site.
- Regarding specific environmental issues related to the community, interviewees indicated **air and water quality** as serious concerns and impacts to residents' health. Some indicated that the North Ward, and much of the City of Newark overall, has numerous problems with both historic and ongoing pollution and has high levels of asthma; and that the North Ward has been particularly hard hit by COVID-19.
- **Potential air emissions** from Riverside during remediation must be addressed. Possible options are tenting and/or filtration. The North Ward is already affected by air emissions from planes out of Newark and Teterboro Airports, which are also a source of noise pollution.
- Regarding **Environmental Justice**, interviewees indicated that the area is home to many Spanish-speaking people and that Spanish translation is essential to keeping the community informed. Additionally, the North Ward is a community with many immigrants, some undocumented, who are afraid to speak out or get involved; there is also a large deaf community in the City of Newark.



- Most interviewees indicated that **environmental cleanup** is important to economic development; and that having a Superfund site in the neighborhood can lead to a negative perception about the neighborhood.
- Impacts from Riverside to the **health of the Passaic River** was mentioned, and the fact that while some boating and rowing has been seen on the river, it takes place further north and not in the Newark community.
- There were concerns about the **homeless populations** near Riverside, and several interviewees spoke about the disproportionate **environmental burden** placed on low-income residents and related pre-existing health conditions.
- Interviewees commented that it would be of benefit to the community if **EPA and the City of Newark would partner** during the cleanup, especially as related to post-remedy development (however, it should be noted that EPA is not involved in post-remedy development).
- There are concerns about **security** at Riverside, vandalism from outside elements, and overall safety. It was also voiced that Riverside is a "dumping ground."
- Few interviewees were aware of any local environmental resources available to EPA in the area; but many mentioned the main **Newark Public Library** as a source of information, documentation, and education important to the community.
- Community access to the riverfront in the area would provide **recreational activity** and "give people something nice to look at." It would also be beneficial to economic development and provide a tax base to the City of Newark.
- Regarding the **community taking a role in the cleanup** at Riverside, some interviewees voiced it as: "Those closest to the problem are closest to the solution." If people could get involved in working with the EPA, it would go a long way in bringing about a feeling of trust. People often feel left out by the government even though they bear the brunt of the problem that brought the government there in the first place.
- Several interviewees noted that **EPA should partner with local officials and organizations** to bring the people of the community into the process. Churches and local clergy, social services, and organizations working with low-income populations and immigrants as well as schools and recreation centers are deeply integrated into the community, and they can aid EPA in this effort since people trust messengers that they know.
- **Project fact sheets** could be distributed via local governmental officials, schools, libraries, recreation centers, and the management offices of large building complexes. Interviewees also cited local businesses extensively used by residents, such as bodegas, grocery stores, laundromats, and restaurants, as good distribution centers for EPA information about activities and updates at Riverside.

Key Communication Preferences

It is of primary importance to understand the communication preferences of stakeholders to ensure a clear and appropriate dialogue between EPA and the public. This communication needs to address potential environmental risks and endeavor to foster meaningful discussion, understanding, and trust in a thoroughly transparent manner. With these objectives always in mind, EPA facilitated input and feedback from interviewees to

determine the best ways to engender effective communication of relevant, useful, and accurate information in ways that are easily understandable and tailored to the needs of the affected community. The lists below highlight key communication preferences as presented to EPA during the May 2020 community interviews:

- Interviewees strongly supported **electronic communication**, such as email, internet, and EPA's website. They also felt that Facebook could be used effectively along with other forms of social media. All agreed that "no one size fits all," and they recommended that EPA be open to a variety of platforms. However, there was concern for those individuals who are not tech-savvy, so mailings were also recommended along with flyers in the neighborhood.

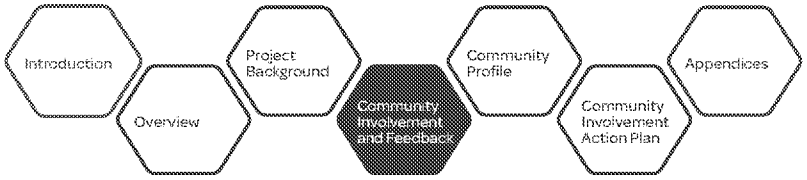
- More **traditional methods of communicating information** were also actively discussed, with interviewees suggesting the use of online newspapers, such as The Patch, Newark Times, TAP Into Newark, and the Community Bulletin Board broadcast by Optimum Online cable as well as the Newark Star-Ledger and Spanish language newspapers. The management of Riverside Arms Apartments near Riverside has also offered the use of its monthly newsletter to provide information to over 100 tenants in the complex. Local Newark radio station WGBO-FM 88 is a good source for local news as well as NJ News 12 and NJN Public TV.

- On the subject of **regularly scheduled public meetings and** *information sessions*, most interviewees indicated that these meetings should be held shortly after information regarding activities or updates at Riverside has been distributed to the community, so people have a sense of purpose in attending the meeting. The subject of virtual meetings was discussed until things go back to "normal" due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There was considerable agreement that it is easier to attend virtual meetings with the demands of jobs and family to consider. The possibility of EPA's recording public meetings for viewing later was also suggested.

- An issue strongly supported by a number of interviewees is that of **EPA reaching out to the community on a personal level**, going door to door, boots on the ground, or as one individual put it: "foot soldiers in the neighborhood," who will interact with residents and local businesses, providing project information and answering questions. This activity can assist in fostering a sense of trust between community members and EPA, and it can provide residents with a sense that government cares about them as individuals and is interested in what they have to say.

- **Public meetings** need to be held in easily accessible locations in the neighborhood that people can walk to or take public transportation. Suggested locations include Waterfront Recreation Center on Grafton Street, the Community Room at Riverside Arms, local schools and churches, and meeting rooms at Branch Brook Park.

- The **usefulness of a CAG** was discussed, with many interviewees voicing support for some type of group that would be involved in Riverside and interact with governmental officials and agency representatives. This group can either form as an independent CAG or be a sub-group of the existing Passaic River CAG. It was mentioned that a CAG requires time and effort on the part of the members, and that the formation and function of a CAG must be left up to the community.



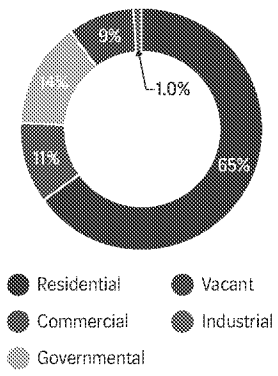
4 Section 4: Community Profile

The following section describes the current physical, social, and economic conditions of the City of Newark and the community surrounding Riverside. Information presented below was retrieved from the United States Census Bureau, geographical information system databases, and county and municipal websites, among other sources. Some topics are presented at a city-specific level of detail while other topics, such as population and demographics, are discussed in finer detail.

Historical Development

The City of Newark was founded in 1666 by Puritans from Connecticut who desired a more religiously oriented local government. The area was selected due to its location along the Passaic River. Two major streets, Broad and Market Streets, were laid out, and 6-acre plots were created. The first settlers used the area for farming, and early industries were leather tanning and quarrying, which started about 1700. With the development of a road and railroad network in the region, as well as the construction of the Morris Canal, the City of Newark was able to become one of the nation's industrial and manufacturing capitals. The industrial boom was supported by an influx of immigrants in the 1800s, which significantly increased the City of Newark's population. Leather tanning and quarrying brownstone continued to be important industries, along with the manufacture of shoes, saddles, and other leather goods; breweries; and the manufacture of carriages, coaches, lace, hats, cider, paint, varnish, cutlery, jewelry, cotton thread, and a variety of machines, as well as plastic and metal products. As a result of the industrial development, the City of Newark's banks and insurance companies began to develop and grow. The character of the City of Newark changed over time from small cottage industries in the late 1700s and early 1800s to large industrial complexes, supplying not just the nation, but the world, by the early twentieth century.

Figure 4: Land Use in City of Newark



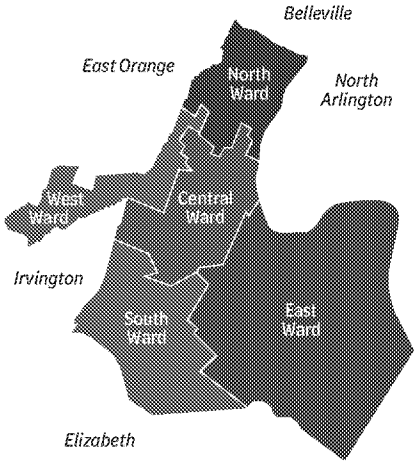
Source: Newark's Master Plan Volume 2, 2012

Land Use and Infrastructure

The City of Newark is urban and densely developed with land uses ranging from heavy industry, transportation corridors, and air and seaports to residential, commercial, and higher educational uses (refer to **Figure 4**). According to its 2012 Master Plan, 65 percent of the City of Newark consists of residential dwellings, including one-family and two-family houses and a range of apartments. Commercial operations, including retail and office space, account for approximately 11 percent of the City of Newark. There are several large commercial shopping centers located in Fairmount, the West Side, and the Ironbound areas. Most office space is concentrated in the City of Newark's downtown area.

Governmental land usage accounts for 14 percent of the City of Newark, which includes the airport, entertainment facilities (e.g., New Jersey Performing Arts Center and the Prudential Center), cultural and civic institutions (such as museums, libraries, and sports facilities), and fire and police stations. Approximately 9 percent of the City of Newark's land parcels are vacant, which can be attributed to abandonment, neglect, and deterioration following a period of post-World War II decline and the 1960s-era civil riots in the City. Vacant parcels are present across most of the City of Newark and encompass residential, commercial, and industrial properties. The remaining 1 percent of land parcels in the City of Newark are classified as industrial and warehouse.

The five political wards of the City of Newark: North, South, East, West, and Central.



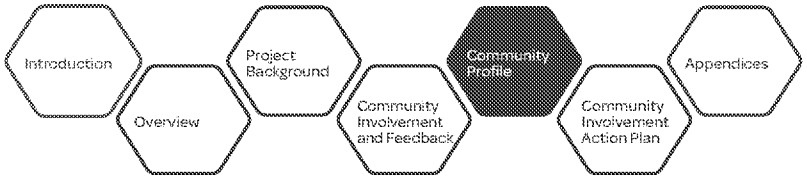
The City of Newark is divided into five political wards – the North (where Riverside is located), South, East, West, and Central Wards, as described below[1].

- The **North Ward** is known for two neighborhoods: Forest Hill and Roseville. The North Ward consists of a mix of Italian-Americans, African-Americans, Puerto Ricans, and immigrants from the Caribbean and Latin America. It also contains Branch Brook Park, the largest park in the City of Newark. There are 13 public schools, four fire stations, two police stations, two branch libraries, and two daycare centers, as well as a number of senior citizen and other cultural centers in the North Ward.
- The **South Ward's** two signature neighborhoods are Weequahic and Clinton Hill. The South Ward was historically home to a predominantly Jewish community but is now occupied primarily by African-Americans and Hispanics. There are 13 public schools, five daycare centers, two branch libraries, one police station, one police substation, and two fire houses in the ward, as well as Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, the City of Newark's second-largest hospital.
- The **East Ward** consists of three neighborhoods: Ironbound, Dayton, and the Downtown section. The largest ethnic groups in the East Ward are Portuguese, followed by Spanish, Puerto Rican and Cuban, with smaller amounts of other ethnicities. The Ironbound district is well known for its Portuguese and Spanish cuisine. There are 11 public schools, two universities, one police station, five fire stations, one library branch, three daycare centers, and one hospital in the East Ward.
- The **West Ward** contains the Vailsburg section of the City of Newark, which includes Ivy Hill Park. It was historically occupied by Irish-Americans but is currently home to primarily African-American and Haitian communities. There are nine public schools, two police stations, three fire stations, one branch library, and two daycare centers in the West Ward. Seton Hall University School of Law serves as one of its borders.
- The **Central Ward** is also known as Science Park and the old Third Ward. Its residents are primarily African-American. This ward was historically the City of Newark's central business district and contained major department stores. At present, there are four colleges and universities (Rutgers, Essex County College, the New Jersey Institute of Technology, and Rutgers New Jersey Medical School), as well as 21 public schools, two police stations, two firehouses, and the main library in the Central Ward.

The Riverside Arms community located in the North Ward.

Credit: Riverside Arms

1 Source: https://web.archive.org/web/20111020203207/http://www.ci.newark.nj.us/residents/neighborhood_services/Ethnic groups are identified as described by the City of Newark.



Transportation Infrastructure

Pennsylvania Station in Newark, N.J., c. 2015.

Credit: King of Hearts licensed under CC BY-SA 4.0

The City of Newark serves as a major transportation hub for the movement of people and goods, and an estimated one-third of the City's area is utilized for transportation facilities, including airports and seaports, passenger and freight facilities, rail freight, rail and bus transit, and parking. The City of Newark has several major regional and state highways, including Interstates 280, 78, and 95, and the Garden State Parkway. The City of Newark is served by public transportation in the form of bus, train, and light rail service. There are three commuter rail stations in the City of Newark, including Penn Station, Broad Street Station, and the Newark Liberty International Airport Station. Three heavily-used transit systems within the City of Newark are Amtrak, New Jersey Transit, and the Port Authority Trans-Hudson (PATH). In addition, New Jersey Transit operates the Newark Light Rail System, which consists of the Newark City Subway and the Newark City Subway Extension. The Newark City Subway runs between Penn Station and the Grove Street Station in Bloomfield and primarily operates above ground. New Jersey Transit operates numerous bus routes serving the City of Newark and nearby areas, with Penn Station acting as a key hub. In addition, there are several private bus operators in the City of Newark. Finally, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ) operates the PATH rapid transit service from Newark Penn Station to the World Trade Center Station in New York City. Newark Liberty International Airport, one of the nation's busiest international travel hubs, is located approximately 4 miles south of Riverside. The airport straddles the boundary between the cities of Newark in Essex County and Elizabeth in Union County. It is jointly owned by the two cities and leased to and operated by the PANYNJ. The Port Newark/Elizabeth Marine Terminal, the largest container port on the East Coast of the United States and third largest in the nation, is also located about 4 miles south of Riverside, just east of the Newark Liberty International Airport. The port is also managed by the PANYNJ.

Drinking Water, Sewer, and Power

States may exercise primary enforcement responsibility for drinking water supply programs if certain conditions are met (i.e., the state has adopted drinking water regulations that are no less stringent than the federal regulations, and it has adopted and is implementing adequate procedures for the enforcement of the state regulations). In the State of New Jersey, the NJDEP monitors water systems. Drinking water in the City of Newark is supplied by the Newark Department of Water and Sewer Utilities.

The Newark Department of Water and Sewer Utilities is also responsible for the collection and delivery of sewage generated in the City of Newark to the designated sewerage treatment facilities, and the collection and handling of stormwater and combined sewage. The City of Newark uses both separated and combined sewer systems. The separated sewer system (SSS) consists of two different pipes for sanitary sewage and stormwater, with the sewage transported to a sewage treatment plant (STP) for treatment and the stormwater discharging to a nearby water body. The combined sewer system (CSS) conveys sanitary sewage and stormwater in the same pipe to an STP for treatment, followed by discharge to a water body. However, the volume of water in the CSS can exceed

its conveyance capacity or the capacity of the STP during times of heavy precipitation or significant snowmelt. Therefore, the CSS is designed to occasionally overflow and discharge a mixture of untreated sewage and stormwater directly to waterways. These overflows are called *combined sewer overflows* (CSOs).

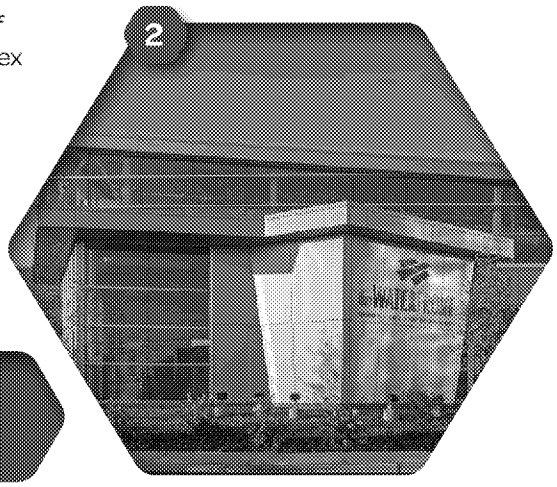
Wastewater from the City of Newark is conveyed to a treatment facility in the port area that is operated by the PVSC, which serves 1.5 million people in 48 municipalities in parts of Essex, Bergen, Hudson, Passaic, and Union Counties. PVSC's treatment facility processes over 300 million gallons of wastewater per day. In wet weather, excess flow is diverted to the Passaic River and Newark Bay. There are 12 permitted CSOs along the Passaic River, two of which are in the vicinity of Riverside.

The regional electric utility company that serves the City of Newark is Public Service Electric & Gas (PSE&G). The Newark Department of Engineering is responsible for the maintenance, operation, and repair of all the City's infrastructure systems, with support from the Newark Department of Public Works.

Parks and Recreation

Open space in the City of Newark occupies approximately 793 acres, with the most significant parks located in the North Ward with Branch Brook Park (341 acres) and the South Ward with Weequahic Park (311 acres). Parks and recreational activities near Riverside include:

- The **Essex County Park System** features 24 parks (including Branch Brook Park and Weequahic Park), five reservations, three golf courses, an environmental center, a castle, an art park, and a recreational complex which offers a zoo, ice skating arena, miniature golf, boating, picnic area, and walking paths.
- The **Newark Department of Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Senior Services** features six recreation centers, which offer indoor pools, basketball courts, game rooms, and weight rooms; five senior centers; and seven Centers of Hope, which are community-based facilities providing access to wellness and enrichment opportunities.
- The **Newark Watershed** area was purchased in 1900 and consists of 35,000 acres spanning six municipalities in Morris, Passaic, and Sussex Counties. The area is located within the Pequannock Watershed and includes streams and four large reservoirs. Recreational activities in the Newark Watershed include boating, fishing, camping (including summer camps), hunting, hiking, and horseback riding.



1: Branch Brook Park in Newark.

2: The Waterfront Recreation Center

Credit: The Waterfront

Population and Demographics

Table 2: Demographic Summary Statistics

CITY OF NEWARK	
2018 Population Estimate	282,090
2018 Median Household Income (Dollars)	$35,181
% of the population aged 25+ with a least a high school diploma or equivalent	75%

Data from the City of Newark and the surrounding region were used to create the community profile for Riverside. Data were obtained from the 2014-2018 American Community Survey (ACS), accessed in May 2020 (refer to **Table 2** for summary statistics). The population and economic characteristics of Essex County, City of Newark, and State of New Jersey were reviewed for this analysis.

The ACS provides cross-sectional data on social, economic, demographic, and housing characteristics of the United States population at various geographic levels (nation, region, state, congressional district, and census tract). In general, ACS estimates are period estimates that describe the average characteristics of population and housing over a period of data collection. The 2014-2018 ACS five-year estimates represent the period from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2018. Multiyear estimates cannot be used to say what is going on in any particular year in the period, only what the average value is over the full period.

Population

According to ACS estimates, the population for the City of Newark was approximately 282,090 individuals in 2018. The population experienced an increase of 1.8 percent between 2010 and 2018.

Household Income

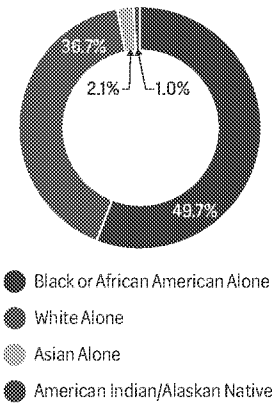
Median income is the value that divides the income distribution of a population into two equal groups, half having income above that median value and half having income below that median value. The median household income of residents in the City of Newark was $35,181, based on ACS five-year estimates for the period of 2014-2018.

Race and Ethnicity

Within the City of Newark, the majority of the population (88.5 percent) identified as one race during the period 2014-2018[2]. Among these individuals, 49.7 percent self-identified as Black or African American alone; 36.7 percent self-identified as white alone; 2.1 percent self-identified as Asian alone; and 0.5 percent self-identified as American Indian and Alaskan Native alone. The United States Census Bureau does not have an estimate for Hispanic or Latino alone; 36.4 percent self-identified as Hispanic or Latino of any race. Refer to **Figure 5** and **Table 2** for summary statistics of the surrounding community.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) defines "Hispanic or Latino" as a person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin regardless of race. The United States Census Bureau defines "Hispanic origin" as "the heritage, nationality, lineage, or country of birth of the person or the person's parents or ancestors before arriving in the United States." Since Hispanic or Latino can be of any race, the United States Census Bureau adopted an approach taken by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Office of Education that clarifies the "White" and "Black" categories with the definition "not of Hispanic origin."

Figure 5: Community Profile within City of Newark†



† Source: U.S. Census, ACS 5-Year Estimates 2014-2018. Data reflects respondents who claimed only one race. For the purposes of this analysis, a statistically insignificant number self-identify as American Indian/Alaskan Native alone. Because Table 2 presents 5-year estimates, the percentages do not equal 100 percent. For further information on statistical standards and the computation and use of standard errors, refer to the Census Bureau's Demographic Statistical Methods Division.

2 The United States Census Bureau asks respondents whether or not they are Hispanic since the Unites States Census Bureau defines Hispanic as an ethnicity, not a race. Hispanics can, for example, be Black, White, American Indian, Asian or "Some Other Race".

Environmental Justice

On February 11, 1994, President Clinton issued Executive Order 12898. This order directs agencies to address environmental and human health conditions in minority and low-income communities to avoid the disproportionate placement of any adverse effects from federal policies and actions on these populations. EPA defines environmental justice as the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Conditions giving rise to environmental justice concerns are specific to individual communities and their histories.

St. Johns Soup Kitchen

Credit: St. Johns

The United States Census Bureau's poverty statistics represent the number of people below the bureau's poverty thresholds. Poverty thresholds vary by family size, number of children, household units (single versus multi-family), and whether or not respondents are elderly. Within the State of New Jersey, the population for whom poverty status could be determined for the period of 2014-2018 was 9.5 percent. Within Essex County, this statistic was 14.9 percent for the same period. Within the City of Newark, the poverty rate was 28 percent during the 2014-2018 period. Within the State of New Jersey, on average, 9 percent of all households received food stamps/supplemental nutritional assistance program (SNAP) benefits during the period of 2014-2018. Within the City of Newark, approximately 27 percent of households received food stamps/SNAP benefits during the same period.

Environmental justice considerations are determined by comparing demographic and economic characteristics (minority population composition and poverty rates) within specific geographic areas to the same characteristics in the surrounding region. Typically, census data are used to identify communities that are disproportionately either young or elderly, low-income, and whose residents are more likely than residents of surrounding areas to lack a high school education.

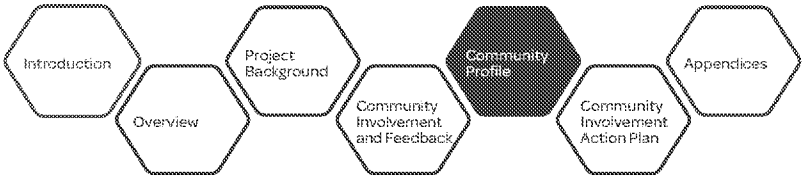
To further enhance clear understanding of communities affected by environmental justice issues, EPA uses **EJSCREEN**. EJSCREEN is an environmental justice mapping and screening tool. It uses environmental indicators of a community to show potential exposures and demographic factors to show potential susceptibility.

To Learn More About EJSCREEN

Go to https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen

Educational Attainment

According to *environmental justice* research, lower educational attainment constrains the ability of populations to understand and have access to information. Furthermore, populations with higher education have access to higher earnings, which can lead to increased socioeconomic status and political participation. Approximately 75 percent of the population (aged 25 years and older) in the City of Newark possessed at least a high school diploma or equivalent for the period 2014-2018. This number is 11 percentage points lower than a similar statistic for Essex County (at 86 percent). The rate of educational attainment for the State of New Jersey is 89.5 percent for this reporting period.



5 Section 5: Community Involvement Action Plan

The following section discusses specific community outreach tools and activities that EPA has used successfully across a broad spectrum of sites and in diverse communities. Not all tools listed will necessarily be used at Riverside; outreach method and activities will be tailored to the specific needs and requests of the community affected by the cleanup and interested in the project.

Goals for Comunication

Goal 1 Be Appropriate

Use the most appropriate communication methods and tools for each segment of the public because one size does not fit all.

Goal 2 Be Understandable

Use clear, consistent language when communicating with the public. Technical aspects of the cleanup and decision-making processes will be explained using everyday language.

Goal 3 Be Responsive

Respond to community questions and concerns and solicit feedback from community members throughout the cleanup process. Every effort will be made to respond in a timely manner.

Goal 4 Be Accurate

Provide the public with accurate and timely information. When new information is available, it will continue to be shared in a timely fashion through the most appropriate methods.

Communication Goals

EPA is committed to providing opportunities for public participation so that people whose lives have been impacted by Riverside have a voice and say in what happens in their community. In accordance with this goal, EPA has established four major goals to guide the community involvement and outreach process, at left.

To meet these goals, EPA will reach out to and seek to involve a broad spectrum of the public such as:

- Community members (including homeless populations)
- Interested groups
- Environmental organizations
- Businesses and economic development groups
- Civic associations
- Local chambers of commerce
- Elected officials
- Educational institutions
- Recreational and sports organizations
- Local, state, and federal agencies
- Local media

EPA will seek to partner with local officials, community organizations, neighborhood schools, and houses of worship to assist in community outreach. These additional "helping hands" provide one more avenue of communication; assisting in the effort to ensure that all members of the community have information about Riverside and the cleanup made available to them.

The agency will also coordinate with and brief local officials, keeping them informed of major project milestones and providing opportunities for input into decision-making.

Community Involvement Toolbox

The Toolbox lists key tools that EPA may use to communicate with stakeholders. EPA's *Community Involvement Coordinator* will use these tools to keep the public informed, to maintain awareness of community concerns regarding local issues that may affect the project activities, to respond to questions or concerns from the community, and to encourage public participation in the decision-making process. The following sections discuss these tools and their potential outreach application. Tools are listed in alphabetical order with no preference or priority to the tool (refer to **Table 3** for summary of the community involvement toolbox).

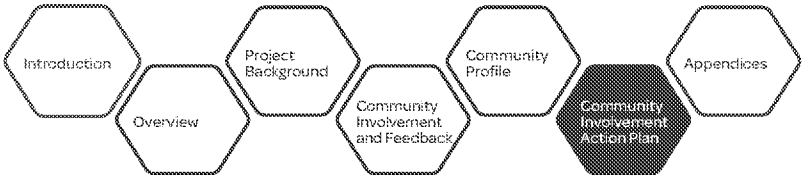
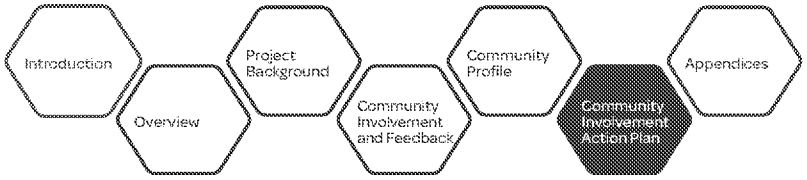


Table 3: Key Tools for Communication

TOOL	METHOD
Community Advisory Group	Receive community input on the cleanup.
Community Events	Attend community events such as fairs, festivals, and cultural festivities to distribute information and answer questions.
Coordination with Local Government and Other Agencies	Coordinate with local government and other state and federal agencies to keep them informed about project activities and will schedule briefing meetings as needed to discuss the progress of cleanup.
Electronic mail (email)	Used to contact EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator and Project Manager for information and to ask questions about the project.
Fact Sheets	Produce fact sheets throughout the life of the project to keep the public informed and educated on it and the decision-making process. Dissemination to the public through direct mailings, Web postings and at public forums will continue.
Field Notifications and Health and Safety Notifications	Keep the community informed of project field activities and maintain public safety via posted advisories, restrictions, and explanatory signs.
Information Repositories	Update information repositories with copies (either electronic or paper) of major site documents, fact sheets, and other relevant items as they become available.
Mailing List Updates and Maintenance	Continue to maintain an email group list to quickly provide the public with timely information on project developments and news.
Maps and Visual Aids	Include maps, photographs, and other visual aids in documents and fact sheets, at public sessions, and on the website.
Media Notification/ Media Events	Provide updates and information to local newspapers, radio, and television outlets.
Newsletter	Keep public informed on project status.
Project Roadmap	Communicate to the community on major project activities completed and upcoming events
Project Site Visits/Tours	Arrange guided tours to view project activities.
Project Website	Post relevant project documents to the website, including new fact sheets, final technical documents,and meeting announcements, etc.
Public Comment Period	Solicit public comment at key milestones and as required by law.

Table 3: Key Tools for Communication, cont'd from previous page.

TOOL	METHOD
Public Input	Accept informal public input throughout the cleanup process.
Public Meetings	EPA will announce public meetings via a variety of methods such as: newspapers, the project website, town websites, and the email list.
Public Notices	Announce public comment periods and public meetings via formal public notices in local publications and via the project website.
School/Education Outreach	Provide project information to local schools and academic institutions and will work with existing educational programs to "piggyback" project information and identify additional opportunities for environmental education.
Social Media	Post public announcements, meeting reminders, and other relevant information to the EPA's social media accounts such as Twitter and Facebook.
Superfund Jobs Training Initiative	Superfund Jobs Training Initiative - environmental cleanup job readiness program that provides job training and employment opportunities.
Technical Assistance Grant	Provides funding to community groups to hire a technical advisor to interpret and explain technical reports, site conditions, and decisions at Superfund sites.
Technical Assistance Services	Respond to community requests for technical assistance to understand the cleanup.



Community Advisory Group

DESCRIPTION: A CAG is made up of representatives of diverse community interests, who serve as liaisons for their communities and constituents. A CAG may form at any point in the Superfund process or when a community has concerns about cleanup implementation. A CAG offers a unique opportunity for providing community input, especially on issues of cleanup and *restoration*. A CAG can also assist EPA in making better decisions. However, the existence of a CAG does not eliminate the need for EPA to keep the community informed about plans and decisions throughout the cleanup process.

GOAL: Provide a public forum for community members to present and discuss their needs and concerns related to the decision-making process and serve as a platform to raise issues already voiced as key concerns.

METHOD: Currently, a CAG does not exist for Riverside. CAGs may be formed at any point in the cleanup process. EPA may assist communities in determining the need for a CAG by helping them evaluate the level of community interest in and concern about activities at Riverside. EPA may also examine if there is an existing broad-based group that might function as a CAG. EPA, together with state/local government(s), local community groups, and others, may assist the CAG with administrative support on issues relevant to the Superfund site cleanup and decision-making process.

Community Events

DESCRIPTION: EPA may participate in community events, such as local fairs, festivals, and cultural festivities to distribute information, answer questions, and interact with members of the local community.

GOAL: Community events provide EPA with the opportunity to build and maintain positive relationships within the community and to better understand the culture of those living there. These events also provide a more casual atmosphere for agency representatives to engage with the public. Community events may also serve to enhance awareness about environmental justice issues and allow EPA to interact directly with community members who might not typically attend public meetings or information sessions (refer to the section on **Public Meetings**).

METHOD: To the extent feasible, EPA may supply and staff an information booth at appropriate events to distribute information and engage in conversation with community attendees.

Coordination with Local Government and Other Agencies

DESCRIPTION: EPA will coordinate with local government, and other state and federal agencies to keep them informed of project activities and obtain feedback on their concerns. Communication with these representatives will continue through the life of the project.

GOAL: EPA will coordinate with local government officials, and other state and federal agencies to keep them informed of project activities and issues that may impact their constituencies. Engaging in dialogue and coordination with these entities will help to address community concerns associated with the project. Coordination will assist in encouraging consistency among local health advisories and clarifying the roles and jurisdictions of the various agencies involved.

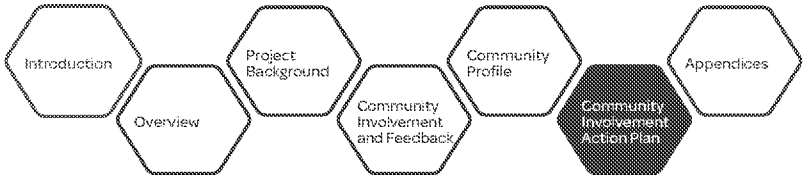
METHOD: EPA will continue to engage in dialogue and build positive working relationships with local representatives.

Electronic Mail (Email)

DESCRIPTION: Electronic mail (or email) can be used to contact EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator and Project Manager for information and to ask questions about the project. EPA's contacts are included in all outreach materials.

GOAL: Email provides another method to assist the public in providing input or requesting information.

METHOD: EPA will use email to distribute updates, notifications, and progress reports to interested parties. The goal of email is to circulate information as quickly and effectively as possible. To subscribe or unsubscribe from EPA's mailing list, please contact Ms. Shereen Kandil, Community Involvement Coordinator (refer to **Appendix 3** for EPA's contact information).



Fact Sheets

DESCRIPTION: Fact sheets, also called community updates, are brief documents written in plain language with user-friendly graphics, to help the public understand highly technical reports, concepts, and information.

GOAL: Provide information in "everyday language" and in an easy-to-understand format.

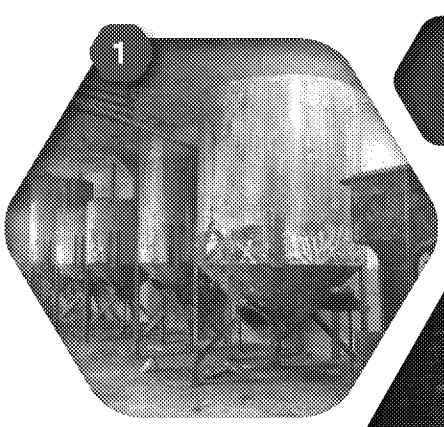
METHOD: Fact sheets will continue to be produced and distributed throughout the life of the project to keep the public informed on cleanup progress and the decision-making process. Fact sheets will be developed in English and in prominent languages of the community (e.g., Spanish). Dissemination will be via email, postings on EPA's website, and public forums. Fact sheets are also placed in the *information repository*. Refer to **Appendix 10** for current and previous fact sheets developed for Riverside, and refer to **Appendix 7** for listing of information repositories.

Field Notifications and Health and Safety Notifications

DESCRIPTION: This type of information consists of advisories, restrictions, and explanatory signs posted to clearly mark for the public any project work areas and access restrictions.

GOAL: These notifications are intended to keep the public informed of project field activities and maintain public safety. They will address the specific key public concern of the potential health issues and may include information on trucking and transportation routes, work hours, worker protection, community safeguards, environmental monitoring, and emergency response.

METHOD: All advisories, signs, and restrictions to access will be clearly posted and may be translated into multiple languages, if necessary. EPA is committed to having signs in place at all times and will repair or replace damaged signs as needed. EPA may also post the construction Health and Safety Plan to inform the public and maintain a safe environment.



1: Interior view of Building #7, which is currently vacant.

2: Exterior (east) side of Building #13, which is currently occupied.

Information Repositories

DESCRIPTION: Information repositories are located in local public buildings, such as libraries, universities, and government offices, where site-related and supporting documents are available for public review. An information repository (called the Administrative Record) is also available at EPA's Record Center (refer to **Appendix 7** for contact information on the information repositories).

GOAL: Provide residents with accessible locations where they may read and copy official documents. Provide electronic copies of documents, so that residents and other stakeholders can download and read documents.

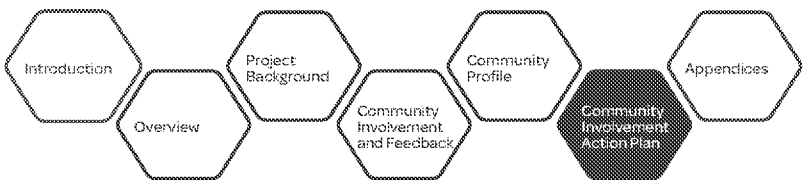
METHOD: EPA will continue to maintain the information repositories, adding documents and information as they become available. In addition to the Information Repository at EPA's Record Center, EPA will locate an Information Repository in the North Ward community at a local library, Town Hall, or other location convenient to the community.

Mailing List Updates and Maintenance

DESCRIPTION: EPA has an extensive mailing list of individuals and organizations. Utilizing several methods, EPA has solicited additional mailing addresses from community members interested in the project.

GOAL: Mailings effectively communicate project and event information to a wide and diverse audience and provide information to community members who do not purchase newspapers, use computers, or have access to the Internet.

METHOD: Methods for increasing the mailing list may include coordination with elected officials using constituent mailing lists, sign-up sheets at public meetings, information sessions, and festivals; and contact with community-based organizations to invite their members to sign up.



Maps and Visual Aids

DESCRIPTION: Maps and visual aids help people understand where Riverside is located in the community, so that the community can understand the relation between Riverside and where they live, work, and attend school.

GOAL: To communicate complex issues simply and effectively.

METHOD: Visuals, including maps in outreach material (such as fact sheets and poster boards), can increase an individual's ability to understand and recall messages and information. Photographs or electronic copies of poster boards displayed at public meetings will be posted to EPA's website.

Media Notification/Media Events

DESCRIPTION: EPA will continue to provide updates and information to local newspapers, radio, and television outlets.

GOAL: To reach a large audience quickly and reinforce important messages and information related to the project.

METHOD: EPA will continue to coordinate with key stakeholders to ascertain the best media outlets to reach the target audience, ensuring that the entire community is covered by those media outlets and that the information presented is concise and understandable (refer to **Appendix 8**).

Newsletters

DESCRIPTION: Newsletters use clear, understandable language, are more community-oriented, and may include articles, columns, and photographs.

GOAL: To keep the public informed and up-to-date, and regularly provide information. Newsletters will serve to enhance the public knowledge base on issues regarding project status and information.

METHOD: If newsletters are created in the future, EPA intends to distribute them via email and post them to EPA's website. Print copies will be made available at public meetings and forums on the project and will be provided to stakeholder organizations, which will help achieve a broader reach. At other Superfund sites, newsletters have been mailed, on a limited basis, to those on a postal mailing list. EPA may periodically review the efficiency and effectiveness of mailing newsletters on this project and will consult with stakeholders in deciding how this tool would be implemented.

Public Comment Period

DESCRIPTION: Public input is welcome at any time during EPA's investigation and cleanup process. There are several defined points, or public comment periods, in the process where more formal public input is solicited. The public comment period is a formal opportunity for community members to review and comment on various agency documents or actions. Comment periods are legally required for the Proposed Plan, ROD, Consent Decrees, and the addition to or deletion of a Superfund site from the NPL, or if changes to previously announced cleanup decisions are anticipated, among other things.

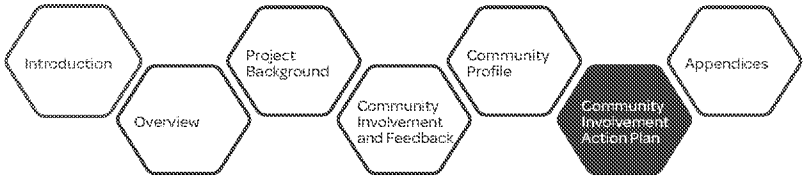
Commenting is an important way to make your voice heard. Public comments can strengthen an environmental decision by providing the agency with facts or perspectives that were lacking in the original draft. Here are some tips on making the most of your comments:

- Prepare for commenting by familiarizing yourself with the scope of the issue and relevant laws.
- Identify your key issues and concerns.
- Identify allies who can help with the document review and understanding of the report and coordinate your comments with them to strengthen your message.
- Be specific with your comments, including what you think could improve the document, what you think is missing from the document, what you like about the document, and what parts you want to remain in the document.

GOAL: Provides an opportunity for the public to give meaningful input in the decision-making process.

METHOD: EPA will announce each future comment period through one or more of the following methods: public notices in local newspapers, email notifications, and fact sheets to ensure that the public has sufficient opportunity to understand what is being presented, when comments will be accepted, how long the comment period will be open, and how to submit comments. Comments may be submitted to EPA via regular mail or email within the public comment period time frame, which is announced on EPA's website and through public notification.

East boundary of Riverside with the Passaic River on the right.



Public Input

DESCRIPTION: Written communications and informal discussions with agency staff are just some of the ways that EPA can be reached to communicate about project-related information. This open line of communication is important to gain better understanding of the public's concerns and needs, so that they can be addressed efficiently and effectively.

GOAL: Verbal comments and letters provide continued opportunity for the public to give input and allow EPA to recognize trends in issues of public concern and identify areas that require information and clarification.

METHOD: Informal comments can be offered at any time, such as during availability sessions, open houses, community visits, and workshops. Written comments may be submitted via mail or email (refer to **Appendix 3** for EPA contact information).

Public Meetings

DESCRIPTION: EPA offers both formal and informal meetings to discuss the status of a project with the community. "Public meetings" are structured, formal meetings, often required by law, that are open to the general public, featuring a presentation and interaction with the public. Public meetings feature the use of a court reporter and the issuance of meeting transcripts. Other types of meetings are less formal and may be held in a variety of formats, including small group discussions, informal open-house style information sessions, poster presentations, and virtual meetings. "Information sessions" are informal public meetings where EPA can discuss issues and answer questions. Information sessions offer the public the opportunity to learn about project-related issues and to interact with EPA on a one-to-one basis. Information sessions do not require the use of court reporters and transcripts, although EPA may issue meeting summaries.

GOAL: To provide personal contact with agency representatives, update the community on project developments, and address community concerns, ideas, questions, and comments.

METHOD: At various stages throughout the project, EPA will hold formal or informal public meetings to keep the public informed, answer questions, and further explain the cleanup process. Each meeting will be structured to fit its purpose by using different formats (e.g., open houses, informal discussions, or PowerPoint presentations). Public meetings and information sessions are open to the public, and EPA encourages the community to ask questions and provide comments. Public meetings and information sessions will be held at a convenient location and time (either in person or as an on-line virtual meeting), so that most interested parties are able to attend. EPA will also provide translators for non-English speaking community members.

Public Notices

DESCRIPTION: Widely distributed announcements of public comment periods, public meetings, and major project milestones.

GOAL: Communicate an important announcement to as many people as possible.

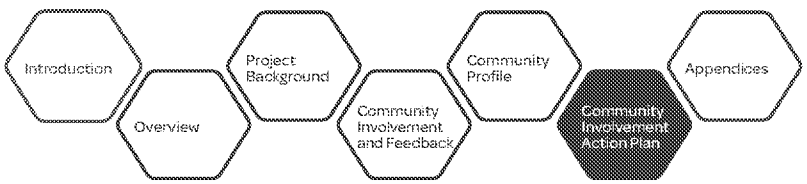
METHOD: Public notices will be released to announce public comment periods and public meetings using a wide variety of media and methods, such as: email notices, EPA's website announcements, press releases, and newspaper display advertisements. EPA has also reached out to stakeholder and community groups to request their assistance in disseminating information. Public notices will be released at least two weeks (whenever possible) before scheduled public meetings.

Project Site Visits/Tours

DESCRIPTION: EPA may partner with stakeholder groups to arrange guided tours to view project activities when such tours are appropriate, feasible, and safe.

GOAL: Site visits and demonstrations provide the public with a good working understanding of project work and conditions. Bringing the public to the site and demonstrating and/or discussing project activities in the field will provide project updates and address community concerns.

METHOD: EPA may partner with stakeholder groups to conduct tours to explain field activities and why they are important to the project. There may be activity or location-specific circumstances, however, where EPA will have to limit activities or areas visited, given health and safety requirements.



Project Roadmap

DESCRIPTION: Over the course of the project, a significant amount of technical work has been performed and will continue to be developed. A project roadmap may be used by EPA to communicate to the community the major project activities completed, upcoming events, or provide a listing of future deliverables. The roadmap may also highlight some of the planned public involvement activities.

GOAL: The intent of the roadmap is to illustrate the general sequence of events that takes place over the period of time leading up to, and including, the decision-making process for Riverside.

METHOD: EPA may create a project roadmap as a stand-alone document that would be periodically updated as work progresses.

Project Websites

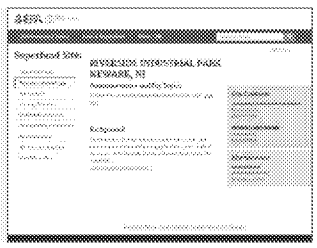
DESCRIPTION: Electronic versions of technical reports, progress reports, and updates on the cleanup are available on EPA's Riverside Industrial Park Superfund website.

GOAL: Project websites provide key resources for accessing both general and specific information about environmental restoration projects, the roles of government agencies, and public outreach activities. Access to the current website is unrestricted.

METHOD: EPA will continue to post project updates, notices, and technical documents in a timely manner. The project website is regularly updated and enhanced. Moving forward, EPA may periodically solicit input from the public at public forums and workgroup meetings on how to make the website more user-friendly. Feedback on EPA's Riverside Industrial Park Superfund website is encouraged (refer to **Appendix 3** for EPA contact information).

EPA's Website

Go to www.epa.gov/superfund/riverside-industrial



School/Educational Outreach

DESCRIPTION: EPA will provide project information to local schools and academic institutions, and will work with existing educational programs to "piggyback" project information and identify additional opportunities for environmental education.

GOAL: Educational outreach helps bring project awareness to new audiences and builds bridges between the agencies and various constituencies within the community. Engaging students and teachers will assist in addressing a number of community concerns such as: sharing important information about the nature and extent of contamination at Riverside, explaining the potential risks to human and ecological health that require action, raising awareness of environmental justice issues, and encouraging environmental stewardship.

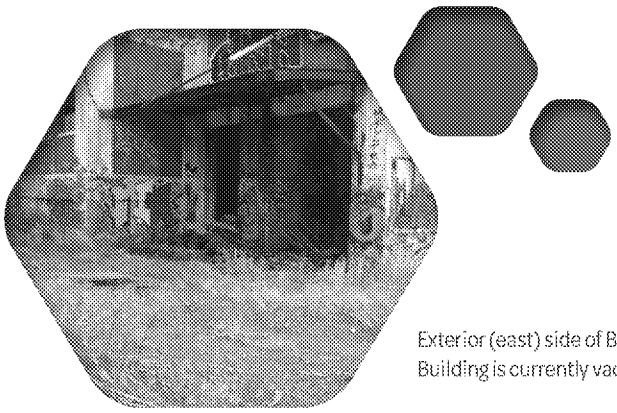
METHOD: Educators and students may request EPA staff to visit their school. Agency staff will also maintain an open line of communication with groups that provide environmental education to local schools and partner with them when appropriate.

Social Media

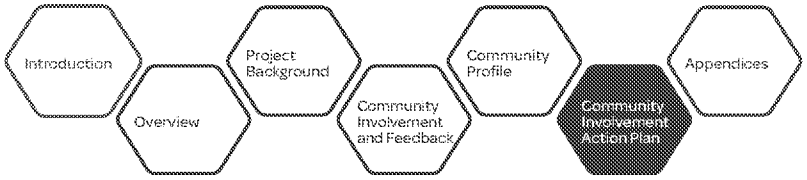
DESCRIPTION: EPA may use social media (such as Twitter and Facebook) to post updates about Riverside and announce major project milestones.

GOAL: To reach more people and provide another method for sharing information.

METHOD: On other sites, EPA has employed Twitter and Facebook to share press releases, send out meeting reminders, and write and post social media content regarding announcements and major project milestones.



Exterior (east) side of Building 7. Building is currently vacant.



Superfund Jobs Training Initiative

DESCRIPTION: Superfund Jobs Training Initiative (SuperJTI) is an environmental cleanup job readiness program that provides free job training and employment opportunities for citizens living in communities affected by Superfund sites.

GOAL: To assist communities in the development of job opportunities and partnerships that remain long after a Superfund site is cleaned up, especially in communities facing environmental justice challenges.

METHOD: EPA offers SuperJTI training through its *Technical Assistance Services for Communities* (TASC) Program (refer to the section on TASC), although the training is subject to funding availability. SuperJTI combines classroom instruction with hands-on training exercises for each participant. Program graduates gain the technical skills necessary to work on a broad range of projects in environmental remediation and construction fields. Positions may include dump truck drivers, environmental technicians, general production operators, material handlers, and heavy equipment operators. Currently, SuperJTI training has not been initiated for Riverside.

Technical Assistance Grant

DESCRIPTION: A *Technical Assistance Grant* (TAG) provides money to community groups, so they can hire technical advisors to interpret and explain technical reports, site conditions, and EPA's cleanup proposals and decisions at Superfund sites. An initial TAG of up to $50,000 is available for any Superfund site that is on EPA's NPL or proposed for listing on the NPL where a response action has begun. As specified in Section 117(e) of the Superfund law, there can be only one TAG for each Superfund site. However, when the grant recipient changes (e.g., when EPA or the recipient terminates the original TAG), the process of applying for a TAG starts over.

GOAL: The goal of a TAG is to help improve a community's understanding of the environmental conditions and cleanup activities at Superfund sites.

METHOD: Currently, a TAG does not exist for Riverside. To obtain a TAG, a group must contribute a matching share to the project. This match must equal at least 20 percent of the total cost to retain the technical advisors. This match usually is not difficult to provide: most groups make their match by donating volunteer hours and other "in-kind" services. Sometimes, EPA can waive the matching-share requirement or require a group to contribute a smaller match.

Technical Assistance Services for Communities

DESCRIPTION: The national TASC program provides independent assistance through an EPA contract to help communities better understand the science, regulations, and policies of environmental issues and EPA actions. Under the TASC contract, a contractor provides scientists, engineers, and other professionals to review and explain information to communities. The services are determined on a project-specific basis and provided at no cost to communities.

GOAL: To support community efforts to become more involved and work productively with EPA to address environmental issues. The TASC program benefits communities by explaining technical findings and answering community questions, helping them understand complex environmental issues, and supporting their active roles in protecting healthy communities and advancing environmental protection. The TASC program can also provide opportunities for environmental education, bring diverse groups together and help them get more involved, and offer training and support environmental employment opportunities through the SuperJTI.

METHOD: Currently, a TASC does not exist for Riverside. Communities may contact EPA Region 2 TASC Coordinator to initiate a TASC. Requests are evaluated against a number of criteria to determine if technical assistance can be provided.

Evaluation of Outreach

In order to assess the effectiveness of the community involvement and outreach efforts, EPA may employ several tools to periodically evaluate messages, modes of communication, tools, and outreach activities. Evaluations allow understanding of successes and weaknesses, and it will enable the agency to retool strategies, as appropriate, to better serve the public. This CIP will be reviewed and revised, as necessary, to reflect project progress and changes to community needs, concerns, issues, and contacts.

Following interactive activities, such as public meetings or information session, EPA may conduct a basic internal analysis, which involves assessing the ease of logistics, the number and representation of attendees, and the appropriateness of information (i.e., was it sufficient to answer questions). The agency may conduct additional interviews to gauge public perceptions at various stages of cleanup. These may be conducted in person, via the Internet, or over the phone.

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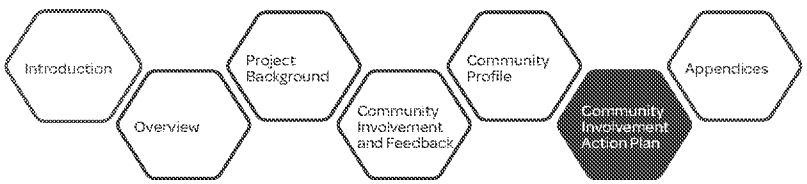


Appendix 1:
Abbreviations and Acronyms

ACS	American Community Survey
CAG	Community Advisory Group
CEA	Classification Exception Area
CEDC	Community Economic Development Corporation
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CIP	Community Involvement Plan
COC	Contaminant of Concern
COPC	Chemical of Potential Concern
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease discovered in 2019
CSO	Combined Sewer Overflow
CSS	Combined Sewer System
CTE	Central Tendency Exposure
email	Electronic Mail
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FS	Feasibility Study
HI	Hazard Index
ISRA	Industrial Site Recovery Act
NJDEP	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
NPL	National Priorities List
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
PANYNJ	Port Authority of New York and New Jersey
PA/SI	Preliminary Assessment/ Site Investigation
PATH	Port Authority Trans-Hudson
PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyl
PPG	PPG Industries, Inc.
PRP	Potentially Responsible Party
PSE&G	Public Service Electric & Gas
PVSC	Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission
RA	Remedial Action
RD	Remedial Design
RI	Remedial Investigation
RI/FS	Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study
Riverside	Riverside Industrial Park Superfund, also referred to as the "Site"
RME	Reasonable Maximum Exposure
ROD	Record of Decision
SNAP	Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program
SSS	Separated Sewer System
STP	Sewage Treatment Plant
Superfund	Common name for CERCLA
SuperJTI	Superfund Jobs Training Initiative
SVOC	Semi-Volatile Organic Compound
TAG	Technical Assistance Grant
TASC	Technical Assistance Services for Communities
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
UST	Underground Storage Tank
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound

Appendix 2: Glossary

***Indicates that the term does not appear in the main document, but may be included in Fact Sheets or the Proposed Plan.**

*** Action Levels:** 1. Regulatory levels recommended by EPA for enforcement by FDA and USDA when pesticide residues occur in food or feed commodities for reasons other than the direct application of the pesticide. As opposed to "tolerances" which are established for residues occurring as a direct result of proper usage, action levels are set for inadvertent residues resulting from previous legal use or accidental contamination. 2. In the Superfund program, the existence of a contaminant concentration in the environment high enough to warrant action or trigger a response under SARA and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan. The term is also used in other regulatory programs.

Administrative Record: The body of documents that "forms the basis" for the selection of a particular response at a Superfund site. For example, the Administrative Record for remedy selection includes all documents that were "considered or relied upon" to select the remedy through the Record of Decision.

*** Advisory:** State-generated health warning regarding the consumption of contaminated animals (e.g., fish, waterfowl). These advisories include advice on how to reduce exposures to chemical contaminants in fish and game by avoiding or reducing consumption and by the use of filleting/trimming and cooking techniques to further reduce contaminant levels. New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection issues the fish consumption advisories in New Jersey.

*** Applicable or Appropriate Requirements (ARARs):** Any state or federal statute that pertains to protection of human life and the environment in addressing specific conditions or use of a particular cleanup technology at a Superfund Site.

*** Aquifer:** An underground geological formation, or group of formations, containing usable amounts of groundwater that can supply wells and springs.

*** Chemical Treatment:** Any one of a variety of technologies that use chemicals or a variety of chemical processes to treat waste.

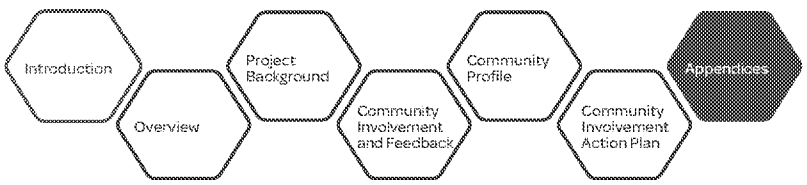
*** Chlorinated Solvent:** An organic solvent containing chlorine atoms, e.g., methylene chloride and 1,1,1-trichloromethane, used in aerosol spray containers and in highway paint.

Cleanup: Actions taken to deal with a release or threat of release of a hazardous substance that could affect humans and/or the environment. The term "cleanup" is sometimes used interchangeably with the terms "remedial action," "remediation," "removal action," "response action," or "corrective action."

Combined Sewer Overflows: Discharge of a mixture of stormwater and domestic waste when the flow capacity of a sewer system is exceeded during rainstorms.

Community: An interacting population of various types of individuals (or species) in a common location; a neighborhood or specific area where people live.

Community Advisory Group (CAG): A committee, task force or board made up of residents affected by a Superfund or other hazardous waste site. A CAG provides a way for representatives of diverse community interests to present and discuss their needs and concerns related to the site and the site cleanup process. CAGs are a community initiative and responsibility. They function independently of the EPA and the other partner agencies.



Community Involvement and Outreach: The term used to identify the process for engaging in dialogue and collaboration with communities. Community involvement is founded on the belief that people have a right to know what the government is doing in their community and to have a say in it. Its purpose is to give people the opportunity to become involved in the government's activities and to help shape the decisions that are made.

Community Involvement Coordinator: EPA official whose lead responsibility is to involve and inform the public about the Superfund process and response actions in accordance with the interactive community involvement requirements set forth in the National Contingency Plan.

Community Relations: The EPA effort to establish two-way communication with the public to create understanding of EPA programs and related actions, to assure public input into decision-making processes related to affected communities, and to make certain that the Agency is aware of and responsive to public concerns. Specific community relations activities are required in relation to Superfund remedial actions.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA): Commonly known as Superfund, CERCLA is intended to protect human health and the environment by investigating and cleaning up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. Under the program, the EPA either can pay for a site cleanup when parties responsible for the contamination cannot be located or are unwilling or unable to perform the work, or take legal action to force parties responsible for site contamination to clean up the site or repay the federal government for the cleanup cost.

Consent Decree: A legal document, approved by a judge, that formalizes an agreement reached between parties. For example, the EPA and potentially responsible parties (PRPs) may sign a consent decree through which PRPs will conduct all or part of a cleanup action at a Superfund site; cease or correct actions or processes that are polluting the environment; reimburse the EPA for monies expended in the course of an EPA-performed cleanup or otherwise comply with EPA-initiated regulatory enforcement actions to resolve the contamination at the Superfund site involved. The trustees may sign a consent decree with the PRPs regarding natural resource damages at a site. Or, the trustees and the EPA may sign one consent decree with the PRPs to resolve all the issues at the site. The consent decree describes the actions PRPs will take, is subject to a public comment period prior to its approval by a judge, and is enforceable as a final judgment by a court.

Contaminant: Any physical, chemical, biological or radiological substance or matter that has an adverse effect on air, water, or soil.

Contamination: Introduction into water, air and soil of microorganisms, chemicals, toxic substances, wastes or wastewater in a concentration that makes the medium unfit for its next intended use. Also applies to surfaces of objects, buildings and various household use products.

Ecosystem: The complex of a community and its environment functioning as an ecological unit in nature.

Enforcement: EPA, state, or local legal actions to obtain compliance with environmental laws, rules, regulations, or agreements and/or obtain penalties or criminal sanctions for violations. Enforcement procedures may vary, depending on the requirements of different environmental laws and related implementing regulations. Under CERCLA, for example, EPA will seek to require potentially responsible parties to clean up a Superfund site, or pay for the cleanup, whereas under the Clean Air Act the agency may invoke sanctions against cities failing to meet ambient air quality standards that could prevent certain types of construction or federal funding. In other situations, if investigations by EPA and state agencies uncover willful violations, criminal trials and penalties are sought.

Environment: The sum of all external conditions affecting the life, development and survival of an organism.

Environmental Justice: The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, culture, education or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies. Implies that no population of people should be forced to shoulder a disproportionate share of negative environmental impacts of pollution or environmental hazard due to a lack of political or economic strength levels.

*** Environmental/Ecological Risk:** The potential for adverse effects on living organisms associated with pollution of the environment by effluents, emissions, wastes or accidental chemical releases, by energy use, or by the depletion of natural resources.

Fact Sheet: (1) A document prepared by EPA to inform the public about its permitting process and EPA's tentative decision with regard to a permit application. (2) Document distributed with newly promulgated rules and/or newly enacted laws to summarize the relevant facts for interested parties and the public.

Feasibility Study (FS): Evaluation of alternatives for cleanup and restoration, including overall protection of human health and the environment, ability to be implemented, and cost effectiveness, among others. The feasibility study is usually associated with the remedial investigation. Together, they are usually referred to as the "RI/FS."

Groundwater: The supply of fresh water found beneath the Earth's surface, usually in aquifers, which supply wells and springs. Because ground water is a major source of drinking water, there is growing concern over contamination from leaching agricultural or industrial pollutants or leaking underground storage tanks.

Hazardous Substance: (1) Any material that poses a threat to human health and/or the environment. Typical hazardous substances are toxic, corrosive, ignitable, explosive or chemically reactive. (2) Any substance designated by the EPA to be reported if a designated quantity of the substance is spilled into the waters of the United States or is otherwise released into the environment.

Hazardous Waste: By-products of society that can pose a substantial or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly handled. These wastes possess at least one of the following characteristics: toxicity, corrosivity, ignitability, or reactivity.

Indoor Air: The breathing air inside a habitable structure or conveyance.

Information Repository: A file containing current information, technical reports and reference documents regarding a site. The information repository usually is located in a public building convenient for local residents such as a public school, town hall or library. See **Appendix 7** for locations.

Information Session: Informal public sessions that often use poster displays and fact sheets and that include EPA personnel and contractors who are available to discuss issues and answer questions. Information sessions offer the public the opportunity to learn about project-related issues and to interact with EPA on a one-to-one basis. Information sessions do not require the use of court reporters and transcripts, although EPA may issue meeting summaries through newsletters and progress reports.

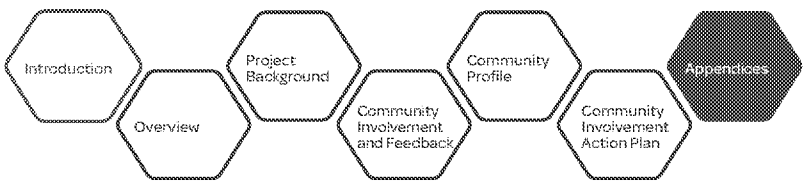
*** Injection Well:** A well into which fluids are injected for purposes such as waste disposal, improving the recovery of crude oil, or solution mining.

Monitoring: Periodic or continuous surveillance or testing to determine the level of compliance with statutory requirements and/or pollutant levels in various media or in humans, plants, and animals.

*** Monitoring Well:** 1. A well used to obtain water quality samples or measure ground water levels. 2. Well drilled at a hazardous waste management facility or Superfund site to collect ground water samples for the purpose of physical, chemical, or biological analysis to determine the amounts, types, and distribution of contaminants in the ground water beneath the site.

National Priorities List (NPL): EPA's list of serious uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites identified for possible long-term cleanup under Superfund. The list is based primarily on the score a site receives from the Hazard Ranking System. The EPA is required to update the NPL at least once a year.

*** Off-Site Facility:** A hazardous waste treatment, storage or disposal area that is located away from the generating site.



*** Pollution:** Generally, the presence of matter or energy whose nature, location or quantity produces undesired environmental effects that adversely affect the usefulness of a resource or the health of humans, animals, or ecosystems.

Potentially Responsible Party (PRP): An individual, company or other entity (i.e., owners, operators, transporters or generators of hazardous waste) potentially responsible for, or contributing to, the contamination problems at a Superfund site. When possible, the EPA requires a PRP, through administrative and legal actions, to clean up hazardous waste sites that it has contaminated.

Proposed Plan: The proposed plan for a Superfund site cleanup that is available to the public for comment.

Public Comment Period: A formal opportunity for community members to review and contribute written comments on various documents or actions.

Public Meeting: Formal public sessions characterized by a presentation to the public followed by a question-and-answer session. Formal public meetings may involve the use of a court reporter and the issuance of transcripts. Formal public meetings are required only for the Proposed Plan and ROD amendments for a site.

Record of Decision (ROD): A decision document through which a cleanup is selected. It is often referred to in the context of Superfund sites, however, RODs are also used at restoration sites under the Water Resources Development Act.

Remedial Action (RA): The actual construction or implementation phase that follows the remedial design of a Superfund site. Remedial action is also referred to as a site cleanup.

Remedial Design (RD): The phase that follows the remedial investigation/feasibility study and the Record of Decision and includes development of engineering drawings and specifications for a Superfund site cleanup.

Remedial Investigation (RI): An in-depth study designed to gather data needed to determine the nature and extent of contamination at a Superfund site, identify human health and ecological risks, and establish preliminary site cleanup criteria. The remedial investigation is usually associated with the feasibility study. Together, they are usually referred to as the "RI/FS."

Remediation: Cleanup or other methods used to remove or contain a toxic spill or hazardous materials from a Superfund site.

Response Action: 1. Generic term for actions taken in response to actual or potential health-threatening environmental events such as spills, sudden releases, and asbestos abatement/management problems; 2. A CERCLA-authorized action involving either a short-term removal action or a long-term removal response. This may include but is not limited to: removing hazardous materials from a site to an EPA-approved hazardous waste facility for treatment, containment or treating the waste on-site, identifying and removing the sources of ground water contamination and halting further migration of contaminants; 3. Any of the following actions taken in school buildings in response to AHERA to reduce the risk of exposure to asbestos: removal, encapsulation, enclosure, repair, and operations and maintenance. (See: cleanup.)

Responsiveness Summary: A summary of oral and/or written public comments received by EPA during a comment period on key EPA documents, and EPA's response to those comments.

Restoration: Actions undertaken to return an injured resource to its baseline condition, that is the condition of the resource had the release of hazardous substances not occurred. Restoration consists of two types of activities: primary and compensatory. Primary restoration encompasses actions taken by trustees to accelerate the recovery of an injured resource to its baseline. Natural recovery is considered in the analysis of options for primary restoration. Compensatory restoration compensates for the interim loss of resources from the time the injury occurs until restoration is complete.

Risk: A measure of the probability that damage to life, health, property, and/or the environment will occur as a result of a given hazard.

* **Saturated Zone:** A subsurface area in which all pores and cracks are filled with water under pressure equal to or greater than that of the atmosphere.

* **Solidification and Stabilization:** Removal of wastewater from a waste or changing it chemically to make it less permeable and susceptible to transport by water.

* **Source Reduction:** Reducing the amount of materials entering the waste stream by redesigning products or patterns of production or consumption (e.g., using returnable beverage containers). Synonymous with waste reduction.

Stakeholder: People, interest groups and other organizations or institutions that live in the project areas or closely identify with the issues associated with the project.

Superfund: The program operated under the legislative authority of CERCLA that funds, oversees and carries out EPA solid waste emergency and long-term cleanup activities. These activities include establishing the National Priorities List, investigating sites for inclusion on the list, determining their priority for evaluation, and conducting and/or supervising a remedial investigation/feasibility study, cleanup and other remedial actions.

Technical Assistance Grant (TAG): A TAG provides money for activities that help communities participate in decision-making at eligible Superfund sites. An initial grant up to $50,000 is available for any Superfund site that is on the EPA's NPL or proposed for listing on the NPL and where a response action has begun. Additional funding may be provided by the EPA at complex sites.

Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC): The national TASC program provides independent assistance through an EPA contract to help communities better understand the science, regulations, and policies of environmental issues and EPA actions. Under the TASC contract, a contractor provides scientists, engineers and other professionals to review and explain information to communities.

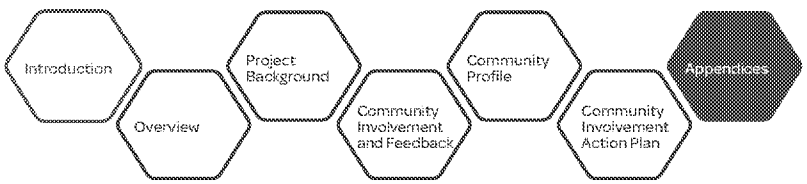
Toxicity: A relative property of a chemical that refers to its potential to have a harmful effect on a living organism. It is a function of the concentration of the chemical and the duration of exposure.

* **Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facility:** Site where a hazardous substance is treated, stored, or disposed of. TSD facilities are regulated by EPA and states under RCRA.

* **Treatment:** (1) Any method, technique, or process designed to remove solids and/or pollutants from solid waste, wastestreams, effluents, and air emissions. (2) Methods used to change the biological character or composition of any regulated medical waste so as to substantially reduce or eliminate its potential for causing disease.

Underground Storage Tank: A tank located at least partially underground and designed to hold gasoline or other petroleum products or chemicals.

* **Water Table:** The level of groundwater.



Appendix 3:
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Elizabeth District Office
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Elizabeth, NJ 07201
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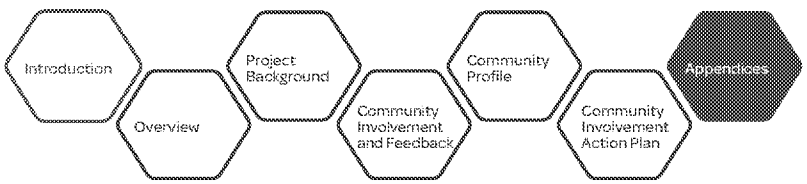

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State and Local

NJ State Governor

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Governor of the State of New Jersey
Office of the Governor
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Email via website: *www.nj.gov/governor/contact/*

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Municipal Contacts

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Councilman Anibal Ramos, Jr.
Newark City Council North Ward
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Newark, NJ 07104
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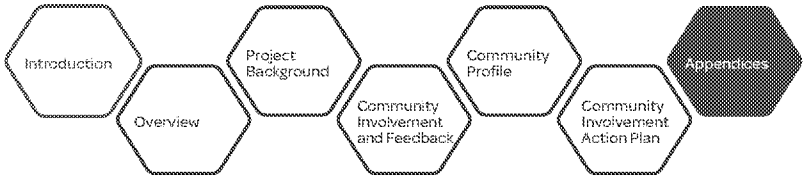
Email: *Councilmanramos@gmail.com*

Mr. Ramos is also head of the Anibal Ramos, Jr. Civic Association in Newark



Appendix 5:
Riverside Industrial Park Contact List

29 Riverside, LLC
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Building 2
Newark, NJ 07104
Attn: President/Corporate Official

Allied Signal, Inc.
f/n/a Baron Blakeslee, Inc.
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Attn: President/Corporate Official

Celcor Associates, LLC
29-75 Riverside Avenue
Newark, NJ 07104
Attn: President/Corporate Official

Chemical Compounds, Inc.
29-75 Riverside Ave, Bldg 17
Newark, NJ 07104
Attn: President/Corporate Official

City of Newark
920 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102
Attn: Anna Pereira, Corporation Counsel

Color Enterprise LLC
68 Ivy Creek Road
Little Egg Harbor, NJ 08087
Attn: President/Corporate Official

Frey Industries, Inc.
6 Skyview Drive
North Aledon, NJ 07508
Attn: Tilghman Frey

Gloss Tex Industries, Inc.
114 Iron Mountain Road
Mine Hill, NJ 07801
Attn: President/Corporate Official

Graifman, Carole
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Livingston, NJ 07039

Haba International Inc.
29-75 Riverside Avenue Building 10
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Industrial Development Associates
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Industrial Development Corporation
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Universal International Industries. Inc.
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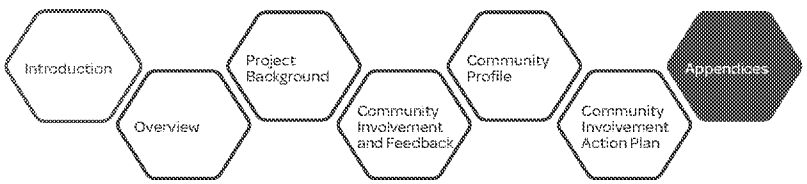
Ridgefield, NJ 07657
Attn: President/Corporate Official



Appendix 6:
Stakeholder Groups

Points of contact and websites are listed where available. EPA has provided this information as a courtesy to interested parties, and as such, cannot guarantee the accuracy of information beyond the date of public release.

Please note – those marked with a double asterisk (**) indicate that these individuals and/or organizations are represented on the Passaic River CAG

American Littoral Society
Tim Dillingham
Executive Director
18 Hartshorne Drive
Suite #1
Highlands, NJ 07732
Phone: 732-291-0055
Email: *info@littoralsociety.org*

Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC)
Jennifer M. Coffey
Executive Director
P.O. Box 157
Mendham, NJ 07945
Phone: 973-539-7547
Fax: 973-539-7713
Email: *info@anjec.org*

Association of NJ Environmental Educators (ANJEE)
Pat Heaney
President
11 Hardscrabble Road
Bernardsville, NJ 07924
No phone number listed
Email: *president@anjee.net*

Clean Ocean Action
Cindy Zipf, Exec. Director
18 Hartshorn Drive
PO Box 505
Sandy Hook, NJ 07732
Phone: 732-872-0111
Email: *info@cleanoceanaction.org*

Eight Ward Non-Partisan Club
157 Verona Avenue
Newark, NJ 07104
Phone: 973-483-8935

Essex County Environmental Center
Tara M. Casella, County Liaison
621 Eagle Rock Avenue
Roseland, NJ 07068
Phone: 973-228-8776
Email: tcasella@parks.essexcountynj.org

Forest Hill Community Association
PO Box 9481
Newark, NJ 07104
Email: *fhcanewark@gmail.com*

Greater Newark Conservancy**
Robin L. Dougherty, Exec. Director
32 Prince Street
Newark, NJ 07103
Phone: 973-642-4646
Fax: 973-642-2218
Website: *www.citybloom.org*

Hackensack Riverkeeper
Captain Bill Sheehan
231 Main Street
Hackensack, NJ 07601
Phone: 201-968-0808
Fax: 201-968-0336
Email: *info@hackensackriverkeeper.org*

Ironbound Community Corp.**
Vicky Hernandez, Exec. Director
317 Elm Street
Newark, NJ 07105
Phone: 973-465-0555
Fax: 973-465-0505
Email: *vhernandez@ironboundcc.org*

Mt. Prospect Partnership
643 Mt. Prospect Avenue
Newark, NJ 07104
Phone: 973-482-2200
Website: *www. facebook.com/mtprospectpartnership/*

Newark Alliance**
60 Park Place, Suite 604
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973-596-6400
Fax: 973-624-9303
Website: *www.newark-alliance.org*

Newark Community Economic Development Corp.
111 Mulberry Street, Lower Lobby
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973-273-1040
Fax: 973-2273-1070
Website: *www.newarkcedc.org*

Newark Environmental Commission
Cynthia Mellon, Co-Chair*
Newark City Hall
920 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973-733-6400
Fax: 973-928-1238
Email: *4311newark@CI.newark.nj.us*

**Please note Ms. Mellon is also a Board Member of the NJ Environmental Justice Alliance*

Newark Riverfront Revival**
Marcy S. DePina, Program Director
920 Broad Street, Room 113
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 201-341-8311
Website: *www.newarkriverfront.org*

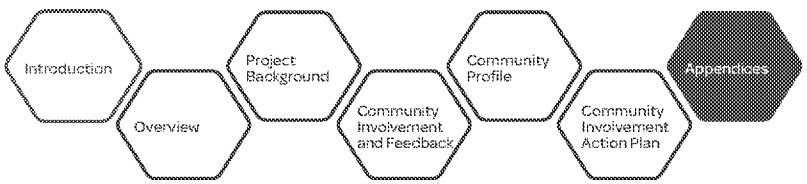
New Jersey Citizen Action
Phyllis Salowe-Kayo, Exec. Director
The Hahne's Bldg., Suite 270
625 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973-643-8800
Fax: 973-643-8100
Email: *phyllis@njcitizenaction.org*

New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance*
204 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608
Email: *njejainfo@gmail.com*

**Ana Baptista, Passaic CAG Co-Chair is on the board of this group*

North Ward Center
Michele Adubato, CEO
346 Mt. Prospect Avenue
Newark, NJ 07104
Phone: 973-481-0415
Fax: 973-481-6071
Email: *info@northwardcenter.org*
Website: *www.northwardcenter.org*

New York/New Jersey Baykeeper
Greg Remaud, CEO & Baykeeper
1222 Route 36, Suite #4
Hazlet, NJ 07730
Phone: 732-888-9870
Email: *mail@nynjbaykeeper.org*
Website: *www.nynjbaykeeper.org*



Passaic River Coalition
Laurie Howard
Chair
330 Speedwell Avenue
Morristown, NJ 07960
Phone: 973-532-9830
Fax: 973-889-9172
Email via website: *www.passaicriver.org*

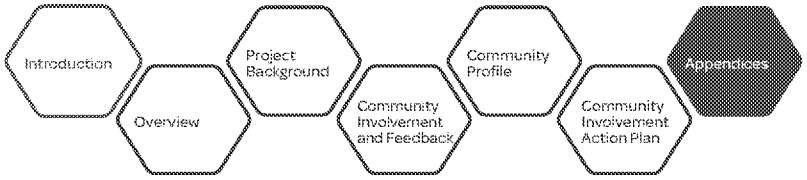
Passaic River Institute
Montclair State
Meiyin S. Wu, Exec. Director
Montclair State University
1 Normal Avenue
Montclair, NJ 07043
Phone: 973-655-3704
Email: *pri@montclair.edu*

Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners (PVSC)
Brian Davenport, River Restoration
600 Wilson Avenue
Newark, NJ 07015
Phone: 973-466-2714
Email: *bdavenport@pvsc.nj.gov*

Watershed Management
Area 4
Watershed Ambassador
PVSC
Phone: 973-817-5784
Email: *ambassador@pvsc.nj.gov*

Appendix 7: Information Repositories

EPA Records Center
290 Broadway, 18th Floor
New York, NY 10007
Phone: 212-637-3000



Appendix 8:
Media List

Newspapers

El Nuevo Coqui (Spanish)
258 Clifton Avenue
Newark, NJ 07103
Phone: 973-481-3233
No website available

Luso Americano (Portuguese)
88 Ferry Street
Newark, NJ 07105
Phone: 973-589-4600
Fax: 973-973-589-3848
Website: *www.lusoamericano.com*
Email: *Pmatinho@www.temp.lusoamericano.com*

Luso Americano (Portuguese)
Classified Section
66 Union Street
Newark, NJ 07105
Phone: 973-344-3200
Fax: 973-344-4201
Website: *www.lusoamericano.com/*

The Star Ledger
1 Gateway Center, X1100
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973-392-4141
Website: *www.nj.com/starledger/*

Online/ Community Newspapers

The Patch
Website: *www.Patch.com/new-jersey/newarknj*

The Newark Times
Website: *www.thenewarktimes.com*

TAP Into Newark
Website: *www.tapinto.net/towns/newar*

Television Stations

NJTV Public Television
P.O. Box 5776
Englewood, NJ 07631
Phone: 609-777-0031
Toll-free: 1-800-882-6622
Website: *www.njtvonline.org/*

News 12 New Jersey
450 Raritan Center Parkway
Edison, NJ 08837
Email: *news12nj@news12.com*
News Tip Line: 732-346-3333
TO REQUEST NEWS COVERAGE:
Assignment Desk: 732-346-3270
Fax: 732-417-1484

Telemundo Channel 47 (Spanish)
WNJU
2200 Fletcher Avenue
Fort Lee, NJ 07024
Phone: 201-969-4246
Website: *www.telemunco47.com*

Univision Channel 41 (Spanish)
WXTV
500 Frank W. Burr Boulevard
Teaneck, NJ 07666
Phone: 201-287-4141
Website: www.univision.com

WWOR-TV Channel 9
Secaucus, NJ
Website: www.my9nj.com

Radio

WABC-AM
2 Penn Plaza
Suite 1700
New York, NY 10013
Phone: 212-268-5260
Station Phone: 212-613-3800
Website: www.wabcradio.com

WADO-AM (Spanish)
Univision Radio Network
277 Paterson Plank Road
Carlstadt, NJ 07072
Phone: 201-804-1739
Website: www.univision.com

WBGO
Newark Public Radio, Inc.
54 Park Place
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973-624-8880
Fax: 973-824-8888
Website: www.wbgo.org

1010 WINS-AM
345 Hudson Street
10th Floor
New York, NY 10014
Phone Numbers:
Newsroom: 212-315-7090
Main Office: 212-242-6190
Website: 1010wins.radio.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/1010wins

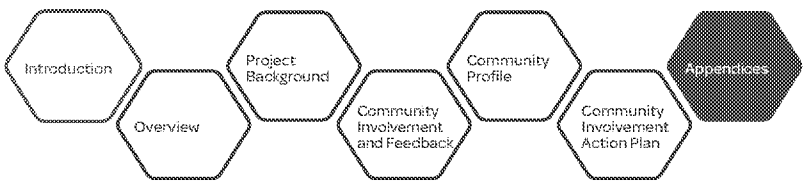
WLIB-AM 1190
Phone: 212-447-1000
Fax: 212-447-5211
Email: info@wlib.com
Website: www.wlib.com

WNYC New York Public Radio
160 Varick Street
8th Floor
New York, NY 10013
Phone: 646-829-4400
Website: www.wnyc.org

WPAT-AM 930 AM
27 William Street
11th Floor
New York, NY 10005
Phone: 212-966-1059
Fax: 212-966-8580
Website: www.wpat930.com

Radio Brazil Legal (Portuguese)
350 Lafayette Street
Newark, NJ 07105
Phone: 973-351-4940
Website: www.radiolegal.fm.br

Radio Portugal 1430 AM
189-215 South Street
Newark, NJ 07114
Phone: 201-344-1155
Fax: 201-589-0022
No website available
Email: radioportugal@vivaportugal.com



Appendix 9: Community Interview Questions

GENERAL QUESTIONS

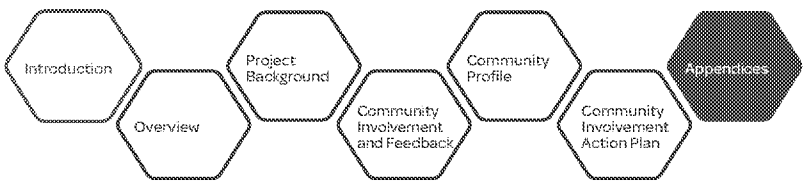
1. Do you live or work near the Riverside Industrial Park Superfund site?
    a. If yes, how long have you lived/worked near the site?
    b. Are you interested or involved in any issues related to the site (such as environmental, health, or community development)?
    c. Are there any neighborhood groups or organizations that you are active in/or aware of that have an interest in the site?
    d. Are there specific environmental concerns you may have about your community (such as air, water quality, pollution, and health)?
    e. How would you describe the neighborhood near the site (such as population, businesses, recreation, etc.)?
2. Are you aware of the work that the EPA completed at the site or is currently doing at the site?
    a. If yes, please describe what you know or have heard.
        i. Do you think that work is effective and will have a positive result for your community?
        ii. If yes, how/in what way?
        iii. If no, why do you think so?
3. Are you aware of the chemical and/or hazardous substances that have been identified at the site?
    a. If yes, what have you heard or know, and how does that information affect you and your family?
4. During previous EPA outreach, the community has expressed concern on having a Superfund site in their neighborhood. Do you have specific concerns, information or ideas regarding the site (such as health risks, quality of life, economic impact, or cultural resources)?
    a. If yes, please explain.
5. During previous EPA outreach, the community indicated that they had a concern on site security and trespassing. Do you think that the site is secure to maintain the safety of the community and minimize exposure to the community?
6. Do you have an interest in economic development of the site?
7. Do you think environmental cleanup is essential to economic development?
8. Are you concerned about the impact of the site on the health of the Passaic River?
9. Are you aware of any recreational use of the river (such as fishing, swimming, boating) near to the site?
10. During previous EPA outreach, the community indicated that they wanted more information on government oversight on work performed at the site. Do you understand the role EPA plays in addressing the site and EPA responsibility for government oversight?
11. During previous EPA outreach, the community indicated that they wanted the City of Newark more involved in outreach. Are you aware that the City of Newark is listed as a potential responsible party at the site? Are you aware of any other governmental agencies involved at the site (such as state or county)?
12. During previous EPA outreach, the community indicated that they were interested in a Community Advisory Group (CAG). Do you think there would be enough community interest to form a Riverside CAG, or are the updates through the Passaic CAG sufficient?

COMMUNICATION PREFERENCES

1. What role, if any, do you think the community/ public should play in the environmental cleanup process of the site?
2. How do you usually get information in your community – newspaper, TV, radio, internet, word of mouth?
3. What are the most reliable sources of information in your community - local organizations, elected leaders, schools, churches, social groups, or the media?
4. During previous EPA outreach, the community indicated that information should be shared on social media. Do you think members of your community would be comfortable receiving information through the internet and/or social media?
5. Are there any environmental resources available which may be helpful to EPA in assessing the impact of the site on the community?
6. Are you aware of any informational outreach activities to the community regarding the site?
    a. If yes, did you participate in any of them?
7. What type of outreach activities do you think would appeal to the members of your community?
8. During previous EPA outreach, the community has expressed an interest in more public meetings. Do you think that regularly scheduled public meetings and/or sessions would be a good way to reach the public?
    a. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, EPA is working to ensure it meets with the community; however, due to social distancing, these will have to be done virtually for the foreseeable future. Do you think that might be an issue for the community? If so, do you have suggestions on ways to meet with the community and still abiding by the Governor's Executive Order?
9. Are there members of the community who speak languages other than English and who would need translation of information and materials?
    a. If so, do you know what the prominent languages are?
10. During previous EPA outreach, the community expressed concern on the homeless population. Are there low income, minority populations, or homeless groups living near the site who may be more adversely impacted?
11. Is there reason to believe that there are some segments of the population who bear a heavier burden (health and/or economic) due to living near the site?
12. Do you have any suggestions on individuals, organizations, or elected officials that we should reach out to regarding this site?

COMMUNICATION TOOLS

1. What kind of information would you want to receive about site activities?
2. Would you be interested in providing public comment on the cleanup at the site to EPA?
3. During previous EPA outreach, the community expressed an interest in having more information available. What is the best way for EPA to get information to the community – local distribution sites (schools, churches, libraries, etc.), project websites, email listservs, social media site-specific page, etc.?
4. What radio and TV stations do most people get their information from? What newspapers?
5. With the understanding that the public meeting may not occur until this summer, what would be the best locations for EPA to hold public meetings or information sessions?
6. EPA makes certain that the local community has access to site documents (like fact sheets and cleanup plans), and EPA generally uses a local library or a town hall to provide those documents. Can you suggest a good location for them?
7. During previous EPA outreach, the community expressed interest in "seeing" EPA in the community more often. What scheduled community events or local fairs occur regularly that EPA can set up an informational booth?
8. Are there any specific community leaders (elected and otherwise) who may be interested in working with EPA to "get the word out" to the neighborhood on a grassroots level? If so, who and how can we contact them?

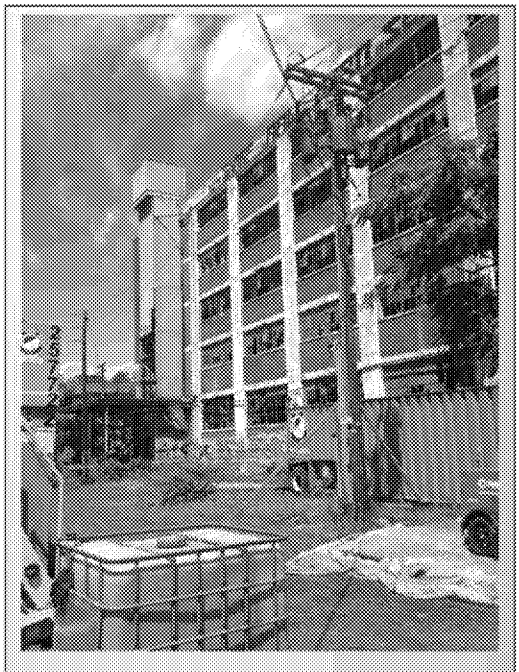


Appendix 10:
Fact Sheets

Fact sheets included here are the two most recently released to the public.

Riverside Industrial Park Superfund Site
Newark, NJ

COMMUNITY UPDATE **June 2017**



For additional information about the Riverside Industrial Park site, please contact:

Sophia Rini
EPA Community Involvement Coordinator
(212) 637-3670
rini.sophia@epa.gov

Elizabeth Butler
EPA Remedial Project Manager
(212) 637-4396
butler.elizabeth@epa.gov

Site Investigation

A thorough investigation of the Riverside Industrial Park site, located at 29 Riverside Ave. in Newark, New Jersey, is set to begin. The investigation activities of this seven-acre site will be divided into two phases. The first phase, scheduled to start this summer, includes: site surveys; building safety, existing monitoring well and subsurface piping evaluations; and container, soil and groundwater sampling. PPG Industries and their contractors will be performing the work with oversight by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the work is expected to last about four months. The second phase is anticipated to include additional soil and groundwater sampling to further define the limits of the contamination, and may include vapor intrusion samples, if needed.

Site Background

The Riverside Industrial Park site is a former paint manufacturing/chemical packaging facility. Since the early 1900s, Riverside Industrial Park has been used by many businesses, including a paint manufacturer, a packaging company and a chemical warehouse. Although this is currently an active industrial park, several parts of the property are abandoned. Following foreclosures, the City of Newark owns these areas.

In 2009, a spill of oily material into the Passaic River was reported and traced back to a pipe on the property. The EPA investigated and discovered that chemicals including benzene, mercury, chromium and arsenic were improperly stored at the site. The EPA took immediate actions to prevent further release of these chemicals into the river by plugging discharge pipes and removing the tanks responsible for the spill. The site was added to the Superfund National Priorities List of the country's most hazardous waste sites in 2013 and in 2014 an agreement was signed with PPG to perform the study of the site.

503304

United States Environmental Protection Agency

EPA Issues Proposed Plan to Protect Human Health at the Riverside Industrial Park Superfund Site

Community Update **July 2020**

Public Participation is essential to the success of EPA's community involvement program. If you have any questions, please contact:

Josh Smeraldi
Remedial Project Manager
212-637-4302
smeraldi.josh@epa.gov

Shereen Kandil
Community Involvement Coordinator
212-637-4333
kandil.shereen@epa.gov

Virtual Public Meeting
August 5, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
Registration:
https://epa-riverside-proposed-plan.eventbrite.com

For more information on the site or to review the Proposed Plan, visit:
www.epa.gov/superfund/riverside-industrial

Upcoming Activities

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently proposed a plan to address contaminated soil, gas trapped in the soil, called soil gas, sewer water, waste, and groundwater at the Riverside Industrial Park Superfund site (site). Based on an evaluation of various alternatives, EPA, in consultation with New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), is proposing the following actions:

- Remove and dispose of waste. Waste from underground storage tanks (USTs), contaminated soil around the USTs, and various wastes found across the site would be transferred into appropriate containers or transport vehicles for off-site treatment and/or disposal.
- Remove and dispose of sewer water. Contaminated sewer water and solids from a defunct sewer line would be transferred into appropriate containers or transport vehicles for off-site treatment and/or disposal along with proper closure of the sewer line.
- Assess impacts of soil gas on indoor air in buildings on the site and put into place engineering and institutional controls. Sub-slab soil gas and/or indoor air quality will be assessed in existing buildings at the site and, if needed, vapor systems would be installed to protect future occupants from vapor intrusion. Buildings constructed in the future would include a vapor barrier or vapor intrusion mitigation system to protect occupants. EPA would ensure that site-wide deed notices and appropriate restrictions are established or amended to provide notice of certain property use restrictions.
- Cap and take other precautions to protect people from contaminated soil. Lead-contaminated soil and fill in the vicinity of Building #7 would be excavated and disposed of off-site. The bulkhead would be reinforced or reconstructed, and a cap would be placed over contaminated areas. In addition, deed notices will be recorded, and fencing will be maintained and enhanced as appropriate across the site.
- Treat contaminated groundwater. Groundwater would be treated with a combination of pumping and treating and targeted in-place treatment. Institutional controls would be used to prevent potable use of the groundwater.

Public Involvement

EPA will take public comment on its proposed plan until August 21, 2020. As part of the public comment period, EPA will hold a virtual public meeting on the proposed plan on August 5, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. To participate in the meeting via webinar, please visit EPA's website for more information: www.epa.gov/superfund/riverside-industrial.

Community Update **July 2020**

To participate by telephone, please call into the conference line: (315) 565-0493, Code ID: 304001388#. Please register in advance of the meeting by visiting https://epa-riverside-proposed-plan.eventbrite.com or by emailing or calling Shereen Kandil at kandil.shereen@epa.gov or 212-637-4333. Anyone interested in receiving a hard copy of the proposed plan or the materials for the public meeting should contact Shereen Kandil by Thursday, July 30, 2020.

Verbal comments on the proposed plan may be provided during the virtual public meeting. Written comments on the proposed plan should be e-mailed or postmarked no later than August 21, 2020 to: smeraldi.josh@epa.gov or Josh Smeraldi, Remedial Project Manager, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 290 Broadway, 19th Floor, New York, New York 10007-1866

Past Cleanup Activities

In October 2009, EPA responded to an oil spill into the Passaic River orginating from the site. EPA and NJDEP traced the source of the oil spill to two basement tanks located in a vacant building on Lot 63 (see Figure 1). EPA found several hazardous substances present in the tanks and initiated an emergency removal action to stop the discharge and secure the source. Further EPA investigation of Lots 63 and 64 led to the discovery of several underground storage tanks (USTs), aboveground storage tanks (ASTs), and various other wastes. EPA performed removal activities between 2011 and 2014 to address the conditions on Lots 63 and 64 that included removing liquids from the basements of the vacant buildings, investigating the USTs, investigating and disposing the ASTs, drums and smaller containers, and soil, groundwater, and waste sampling.

After taking those immediate actions to protect human health and the environment and performing site investigations, Riverside Industrial Park was added to the National Priorities List of Superfund sites in May 2013. In May 2014, EPA entered into a legal agreement with PPG Industries, Inc. (PPG), one of the 18 potentially responsible parties identified at the site, to perform a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS).

Site Description

The 7.6-acre, partially active Riverside Industrial Park site is located in the North Ward community of the City of Newark, New Jersey. Both Riverside Avenue and McCarter Highway border the site on the west along with a segment of railroad tracks adjacent to McCarter Highway. Currently, the central and northern portions of the site contain active industrial/commercial businesses, while the southern portion of the site contains mostly vacant buildings. The Passaic River borders the site on the east. Sections of steel, concrete, and wooden bulkhead provide a retaining wall along most of the site adjacent to the Passaic River; however, the bulkhead has fallen into disrepair in some locations.

Site Background

Much of the land that houses the Riverside Industrial Park site was reclaimed from the Passaic River between 1892 and 1909 by using imported fill to raise the elevation of the land above the river. From 1902 to 1971, the property was used for paint, resins, linseed oil and varnish manufacturing by Patton Paint Company, which merged into the Paint and Varnish Division of Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company in 1920. Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company changed its name to PPG Industries, Inc. in 1968. From the 1970s to the present day, the site was subdivided into fifteen lots and the property has been used intermittently by various companies for a variety of businesses which range from chemical packaging to chemical and cosmetics manufacturing.

Community Update **July 2020**

Figure 1: Map of lots located at the Riverside Industrial Park

Appendix 11: Legal Authorities

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA)

Congress enacted CERCLA on December 11, 1980. The Superfund law (as it is commonly known) provided broad federal authority for a government program to identify, investigate and clean up hazardous waste sites. The law also created a tax on the chemical and petroleum industries to fund a trust fund to be used to address abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. This tax expired in 1995. On October 17, 1986, Congress enacted the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), amending the original law.

When cleaning up sites under the Superfund law, the EPA follows the "polluter pays" principle, looking to the parties responsible for the pollution, rather than the general public, to pay for the cleanup. The EPA identifies *potentially responsible parties* (PRPs), including individuals, companies, or other entities (i.e., owners or operators of facilities at or from which there has been a release of a hazardous substance), transporters, or generators of hazardous substances) potentially responsible for, or contributing to, the contamination at a Superfund site. The EPA seeks to have PRPs perform work at Superfund sites, and/or to pay the costs that the EPA incurs in performing work. If the EPA is not able to identify financially viable PRPs, the cost of the cleanup may be paid from the Superfund, which is financed through taxpayer dollars.

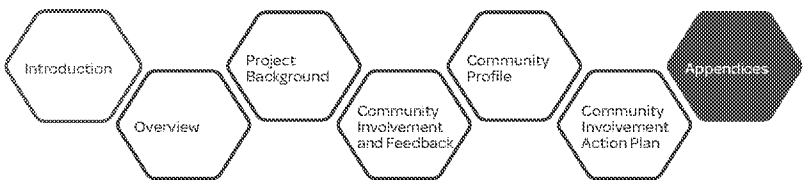
Under Superfund law, the EPA's goal is to reduce unacceptable risks to human health and the environment from exposure to releases of hazardous substances by cleaning up to target concentrations defined in the law and EPA guidance documents or developed specifically for a particular site. An important component of the Superfund program is community involvement in decisions about how to clean up contaminated sites. Superfund law requires specific community involvement activities be undertaken at certain points throughout the cleanup process. The primary steps in Superfund projects are remedial investigations, feasibility studies, proposed plans, records of decision and remedial actions. While the EPA is the lead agency for developing and implementing *community relations* activities at Superfund sites, other federal, state and local agencies frequently assume a supporting role.

Executive Order 12898: Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations

On February 11, 1994, President Clinton issued Executive Order 12898. This order directs agencies to address environmental and human health conditions in minority and low-income communities to avoid the disproportionate placement of any adverse effects from federal policies and actions on these populations. Conditions giving rise to environmental justice concerns are specific to individual communities and their histories. Urban communities typically face pollution from multiple sources, including toxic waste sites, industrial plants as well as heavy city and port traffic. Environmental justice populations may also struggle with economic divestment, aging infrastructure, and the presence of underutilized properties that, while not Superfund sites, are also not free of contamination.

SUPERFUND STEPS

- Preliminary Assessment
- Remedial Investigation
- Feasibility Study
- Proposed Plan
- Record of Decision
- Remedial Action


Introduction
Overview
Project Background
Community Involvement and Feedback
Community Profile
Community Involvement Action Plan
Appendices

United States
Environmental Protection
Agency