

Fact Sheet

The mission of DTSC is to protect California's people and environment from harmful effects of toxic substances through the restoration of contaminated resources, enforcement, regulation and pollution prevention.

Draft Removal Action Workplan For Morse Park Available for Review

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is proposing a cleanup plan for the future Morse Park in Sunnyvale, California (Site). A Draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) has been prepared for the Site. The Draft RAW describes the investigations and proposed cleanup activities for the Site. DTSC has prepared a proposed Negative Declaration/Initial Study to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). DTSC wants you to review and comment on the Draft RAW and proposed Negative Declaration/Initial Study.

The Site is located at 1010 to 1024 Morse Avenue, just north of East Weddell Drive, in Sunnyvale, California and is approximately 5.2 acres in size (Figure 1). The Site is currently occupied by five vacant buildings, paved parking areas and landscaping.

The City of Sunnyvale plans to develop the Site as a neighborhood park that will include playgrounds, play fields, picnic areas, walkways, shade trees, and lighting. As part of the development process, the City is planning to clean up contaminated soil at the Site to protect human health and the environment. DTSC determined that cleanup is necessary after tests showed elevated levels of arsenic in shallow soils on most of the Site.

This fact sheet provides you with a Site history, summary of the proposed cleanup, and opportunities for public involvement. If you have questions please contact Alex Lee, DTSC Project Manager, at (510) 540-3844 or Alee@dtsc.ca.gov.

DTSC invites you to review and comment on the Draft RAW and proposed Negative Declaration/Initial Study for the Morse Park Site.



PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

November 18, 2011 to

December 21, 2011

All comments must be postmarked, faxed or e-mailed no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 21, 2011. Send comments to:

Alex Lee, DTSC Project Manager
700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley,
California, 94710

(510) 540-3844

or Alee@dtsc.ca.gov

Public Meeting:

to explain the Draft RAW, answer questions and receive public comments.

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

Staff Room,

Columbia Middle School

739 Morse Ave., Sunnyvale

6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

For information about public participation, please contact: Wayne Hagen, DTSC Public Participation Specialist

700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley,
California, 94710

(510) 540-3911

WHagen@dtsc.ca.gov



History of the Site

The Site (and surrounding properties) was originally vacant land in the early 1900s and was used as agricultural land from about 1939 until the mid- to late-1970s when it was developed to its current configuration with the existing buildings. Past uses include offices, machine shops, metal fabrication, and other general commercial and light industrial uses.

What is the Contamination?

Environmental investigations were conducted at the Site in 2010. Investigations included analyzing soil samples for arsenic, lead, and pesticides and analyzing groundwater samples for petroleum hydrocarbons and volatile organic compounds. Arsenic was found in soil at concentrations above safe levels. The concrete slabs and foundations of the existing buildings and the surrounding pavement are acting as a cap over the arsenic contaminated soil preventing human exposure.

What Can Be Done to Clean It Up?

The primary objective of a Draft RAW is to evaluate cleanup alternatives and to identify a preferred cleanup plan which prevents or reduces risks to public health and the environment. Cleanup alternatives are evaluated on the basis of their effectiveness, ability to be implemented, and cost. A Draft RAW identifies the cleanup plan that DTSC recommends. Before DTSC makes a final decision to approve, modify, or deny a cleanup plan the Draft RAW is made available to the public for review during a public comment period. All comments are reviewed and considered before the Draft RAW is approved.

Cleanup Alternatives Considered

Three cleanup alternatives were evaluated in the Draft RAW for Morse Park.

Alternative 1 - No Further Action.

This alternative would involve no cleanup action on the Site. It would remain in its current condition.

Alternative 2: Excavation and off-Site Disposal.

This alternative consists of removing and transporting contaminated soil to an appropriate permitted landfill facility. Earth removal equipment including excavators, loaders, and other related trucks and machinery would be used to perform the work. Approximately 16,700 tons of soil would be removed and disposed of at a landfill. Soil sampling and analysis would be used to verify that the arsenic cleanup level is met.

Alternative 3: Soil Containment/Capping.

This alternative would consist of capping the surface of the impacted areas with at least 2 feet of clean soil, buildings or pavement. The cap would minimize the potential for human exposure to impacted soil. Approximately 200,000 square feet of soil would be capped to create the park. This alternative leaves the contaminated soil on the Site. A land use restriction would be required to restrict future land uses and construction activities at the Site. An operation and maintenance plan (O&M) would be required that includes annual inspections of the cap.

DTSC recommends Alternative #2

The City has proposed and DTSC recommends Alternative #2 as the preferred cleanup alternative for the Site. DTSC believes that this alternative protects human health and the environment, is cost effective, and can be readily implemented.

Summary of Proposed Draft RAW

If the plan is approved, you can expect to see the following activities:

- Approximately 16,700 tons of soil will be excavated from the Site, loaded on trucks and transported to one or more permitted disposal facilities.
- Approximately 835 truckloads will be needed to transport the soil from the Site. Trucks leaving the Site will be covered and will travel only on approved truck routes.



- Soil will be sprayed with water as needed to prevent dust, and air monitoring will be conducted during the removal action.
- Soil sampling will be performed to make sure there is not arsenic remaining above the cleanup level after excavation.
- Additional soil excavation and sampling may be performed.

This work is anticipated to begin in early spring of 2012. A Work Notice will be issued at least seven days before the work begins.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

In order to meet DTSC's obligations under (CEQA), DTSC prepared an Initial Study that evaluated the potential environmental impacts that might result from the actions proposed in the Draft RAW. DTSC has determined that the Draft RAW activities are unlikely to produce any significant impact to public health or the environment. Therefore, DTSC has prepared a Negative Declaration in compliance with CEQA for the project.

What Happens Next?

The Draft RAW is not final until all comments from the public are considered. At the end of the public comment period the comments are evaluated and any necessary changes are made to the RAW. Additionally, DTSC will consider all comments regarding the proposed Negative Declaration/Initial Study. A Response to Comments document will be sent to all of those who make public comments.

Information Repositories

DTSC has established the following information repositories for this Site:

Department of Toxic Substances Control
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94710 Call for appointment (510) 540-3800

City Hall One-Stop Counter
456 W. Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Sunnyvale Public Library

665 W. Olive Avenue

Sunnyvale, CA 94086 (408) 730-7300

You can also view the Morse Park Site on DTSC's EnviroStor database at:

<http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/>

Type in "Sunnyvale" in the "city" field. Then scroll down and select "Morse Park." Click the "Community Involvement" button to view public participation documents.

If you would like DTSC to notify you via email when new EnviroStor documents (i.e., workplans, reports, etc.) are available online for this site, please sign up to receive email alerts on the EnviroStor report page.

To learn more about DTSC, please visit our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov.

For More Information

For more information about the Site, the cleanup process or Site related documents contact:

Alex Lee, DTSC Project Manager

(510) 540-3844 or ALee@dtsc.ca.gov

For questions regarding public participation contact:

Wayne Hagen, DTSC Public Participation Specialist

(510) 540-3911 or WHagen@dtsc.ca.gov

For media questions, contact:

Sandra Freidman, DTSC Public Information Officer

(714) 484-5383 or SFreidma@dtsc.ca.gov

Anuncio

Si prefiere hablar con alguien en español acerca de esta información, favor de llamar a Jacinto Soto, Departamento de Control de Substancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es (510) 540-3842.

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals

TDD users can obtain information about the site by using the California State Relay Service at (888) 877-5378.

Please ask to speak with Wayne Hagen, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at, at (510) 540-3911.



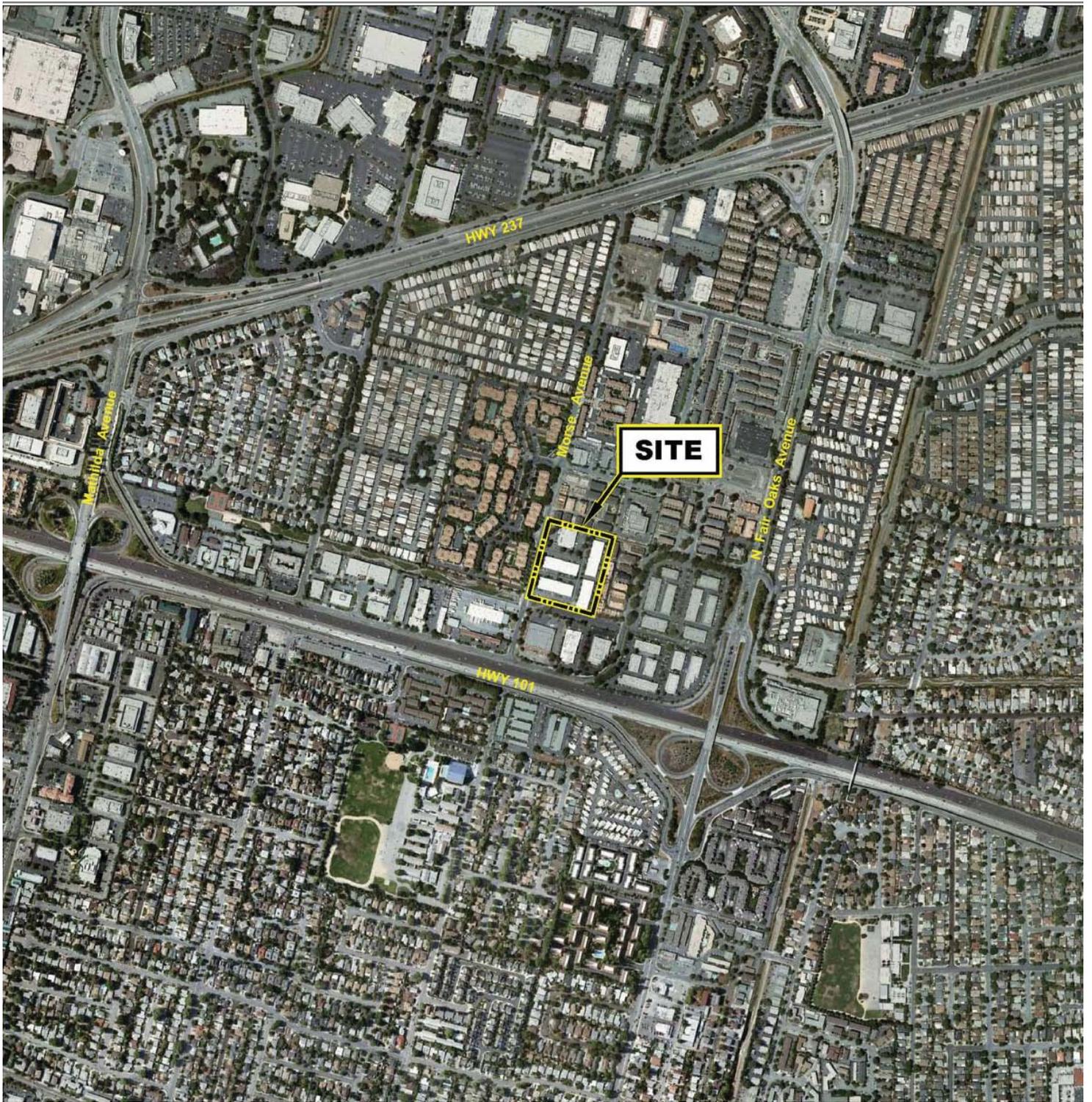


Figure 1: Morse Park Site, Sunnyvale, CA

