

Fact Sheet, April 2008

## Cleanup Plan Available For Review



DEPARTMENT OF  
TOXIC SUBSTANCES  
CONTROL

*The mission of the  
Department of Toxic  
Substances Control is  
to provide the  
highest level of safety,  
and to protect public  
health and the  
environment from  
toxic harm.*



A draft plan to remove soil contaminated with lead and arsenic at the proposed Roosevelt II Elementary School site is open for public review and comment. The draft plan, called a Removal Action Workplan, or RAW, was submitted by the *San Bernardino City Unified School District (SBCUSD)*. SBCUSD is a political subdivision of the State of California serving the City of San Bernardino and other adjacent communities. The site is “L” shaped and is bounded by west 16<sup>th</sup> Street on the North, North Turwill and North Garner Avenue on the East, West 14<sup>th</sup> Street on the South, and Mt. Vernon Avenue on the West. The street address will be 1261 W 16<sup>th</sup> Street, San Bernardino CA 92411.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

**April 10 to May 9, 2008**

Your participation is encouraged. The draft RAW and other related project documents for this site are available for review and public comment at the locations listed on page 3. We will make a final decision after all public comment has been reviewed and considered. Please submit written comments in the enclosed postage paid envelope postmarked **by May 9, 2008**; or by email before the deadline date no later than 5 p.m. to:

Jeanne Matsumoto, Public Participation Specialist, [jmatsumo@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:jmatsumo@dtsc.ca.gov).

*Si desea información en español, comuníquese con  
Jeanne Garcia al (818) 717-6573.*



State of California



Cal/EPA



## Why Cleanup Is Necessary

Because exposure to elevated levels of the contaminants found can cause adverse health effects, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) recommends that the SBCUSD prepare a cleanup plan to remove and dispose the contaminated soil to protect those who use the school areas in the future. DTSC will oversee the removal action and ensure that it is performed in a manner that does not harm people or the environment.

## Environmental Investigations

During the investigations conducted August 2005 and from February to March 2008, elevated concentrations of lead and arsenic were found in shallow soil at the site.

A separate environmental investigation and/or cleanup for the soil in the vicinity of the onsite structures will follow in the near future.

### *Lead*

Lead contamination is most likely from previous Lead Based Paint use and other commercial activities.

### *Arsenic*

Arsenic contamination is most likely from the previous commercial activities.

## Proposed Cleanup Options

The following three Cleanup Options will be considered for this site:

Alternative 1 – No Further Action

Alternative 2 – Surface Capping

Alternative 3 – Removal and Off-Site Disposal

Based on careful analysis of the options, Alternative 3 - excavation and removal is recommended because it protects human health and the environment, is permanent and has a reasonable cost. Details of the removal action alternatives are listed in Section 4 of the Draft RAW.

If Alternative 3 is selected, the contaminated soil will be dug out using a backhoe, bulldozer, shovels or other types of earth moving equipment, as necessary. The soil will be loaded onto trucks and taken off-site to be disposed at a licensed facility. After the contaminated soil is removed, samples will be taken to confirm that the contamination is gone.

## Safety & Dust Control During Cleanup

The following actions will be implemented during this process to ensure public safety and minimize dust:

- Installing temporary fencing with windscreens for security and dust control
- Driving all vehicles at slow speeds while on the property
- Spraying of work areas with clean water to control dust
- Securing trucks with covers before they leave the site
- Truck tires entering and existing the site will be brushed to remove soils and debris
- Monitoring the air at the site to ensure the amount of dust stays at safe levels

## Proposed Transportation Route for Trucks

About 72 cubic yards of contaminated soil will be removed and taken off-site for disposal. It will take about 6 truckloads to remove the contaminated soil from the site. Trucks leave the site going North on Mt. Vernon Avenue to Highland Avenue, then turn left (West) on Highland Avenue to State Street, then turn left (South) on State Street, then left onto the on-ramp for I-210 (Foothill) Freeway West. The soil will be taken to a state licensed and approved disposal facility. This work is limited to the hours between 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily. The cleanup process is expected to take about 3 days.

## California Environmental Quality Act

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC has prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project. The NOE states that the proposed cleanup will not have a significant negative effect on human health and the environment because of short duration, relatively small amount of contaminated soil to be removed, and the controlled way in which the contaminated soils will be dug out, loaded onto trucks and taken away to an approved/permitted facility for lawful disposal.

## Next Steps

At the close of the Public Comment Period, DTSC will review and consider any public comments and

make any necessary revisions to the draft RAW prior to final approval. Also, a Response to Comments document will be mailed to everyone who makes a comment and provides their name and address. The soil removal is expected to take place in March, 2009, and should take about 3 days. After the cleanup process is completed, soil testing will be done to confirm cleanup goals have been reached and submit a Removal Action Completion Report to the DTSC for review and approval.

### **Where to Find the Documents**

The Draft RAW and other related documents for Proposed Roosevelt II South Elementary School are available for review at the following locations:

#### **Norman F. Feldheym Central Library**

Reference Desk  
555 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
San Bernardino, CA 92410  
Phone: (909) 381-8221

#### **Department of Toxic Substances Control**

Regional Records Office  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, CA 90630  
Contact: Julie Johnson (714) 484-5337  
Hours: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday – Friday

Site documents are also available at:  
[www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov) for your review. A computer is available in the DTSC file room for your use.

### **Who to Contact for Information**

If you have any questions about the project or cleanup activities, please contact:

Amit Pathak, P.E.  
DTSC Project Manager  
(714) 484-5468  
[apathak@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:apathak@dtsc.ca.gov)

Jeanne Matsumoto  
DTSC Public Participation  
Toll free: 866-495-5651 and press number 4  
[jmatsumo@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:jmatsumo@dtsc.ca.gov)

#### ***Media Inquiries:***

Jeanne Garcia  
DTSC Public Information Officer  
(818) 717-6573  
[jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov)

### **Notice to Hearing-Impaired Individuals**

You can obtain additional information about the site by using the California State Relay Service at 1 (888) 877-5378 (TDD). Ask them to contact Jeanne Matsumoto at (714) 484-5338 regarding the Proposed Roosevelt II South Elementary School project.

