



January 4, 2011

## **NOTICE OF INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT CONSTRUCTION ON W.R. GRACE PROPERTY Rear of 62 Whittemore Avenue**

The purpose of this notice is to provide detail on proposed improvements to sewer and drainage utilities that are located within City easements on W.R. Grace property. The work will take place in two areas behind the main W.R. Grace building located at 62 Whittemore Avenue. The first area will require excavation of a 40 foot long trench to install two new manhole structures and associated pipes. The second area will be limited to work within an existing concrete vault to separate it into two manhole chambers by (1) adding a cast-in-place divider wall and roof with frames and covers, (2) reconstructing the floor and inverts, and (3) reconfiguring or abandoning existing pipe at the bottom of the concrete vault.

This work will be completed in conformance with the City of Cambridge Asbestos Ordinance, state and federal environmental regulations, and the Activity and Use Limitation (AUL) recorded for the W.R. Grace property. For the work requiring excavation, the Contractor will erect a temporary containment structure (tent) over the planned work area. The structure will be maintained at a partial vacuum to contain any fugitive dust during soil excavation and handling and piping and structure installation. Exhaust from the vacuum system will be treated with HEPA filtration. Perimeter air monitoring surrounding the containment area will be conducted to ensure the efficacy of the containment system.

A Licensed Site Professional and a Certified Industrial Hygienist retained by the Contractor prepared and submitted a Draft Asbestos Soil Management Plan (SMP) and a Draft Health and Safety Plan (HASP) for approval by the City. The SMP describes the soil excavation, handling, storage, transport, and disposal procedures, as well as the engineering controls and air monitoring procedures necessary to ensure that the potential impact of fugitive asbestos fibers and volatile emissions to workers, nearby residents, and other receptors in the vicinity are taken into account to ensure compliance with applicable standards. The SMP includes a contingency plan for immediate work stoppage in the event that dust standards established in the Asbestos Soil Management Plan are exceeded. The HASP details requirements to protect worker and public health during the utility installation. The SMP and HASP were prepared in accordance with the Cambridge Asbestos Ordinance, the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP), and the AUL recorded for the W.R. Grace property, as applicable.

Following City review of the submitted drafts, and in accordance with the Cambridge Asbestos Ordinance and the AUL, the City will provide a 30-day public comment period. At the start of the comment period, the City

will provide written notice of the availability of the documents to abutters and to any person who otherwise requests notice and shall provide copies of the proposed Asbestos Soil Management Plan, and City of Cambridge Commissioner of Public Health's draft decision upon request. A copy of the documents will be available for public viewing at the following locations:

- Cambridge Public Health Department – 119 Windsor Street (Environmental Health Division),
- Cambridge Public Library – 449 Broadway,
- O'Neill Branch Library – 70 Rindge Avenue, and
- Department of Public Works – 147 Hampshire Street.

Public comments must be submitted in writing to the Commissioner's representative, Sam Lipson, Director of Environmental Health, 119 Windsor Street, Cambridge, MA 02139 and be received prior to the end of the 30-calendar day period in order to be considered. In addition, a copy of the documents will be available for public viewing on the *CAM 400 Infrastructure Improvement Project* website at:

<http://www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/cityprojects.aspx>

Construction on the W.R. Grace property is anticipated to begin late February or early March 2011 and be concluded by March 31, 2011.

Please do not hesitate to contact Catherine Daly Woodbury at DPW if you would like to discuss this project in greater detail: [cwoodbury@cambridgema.gov](mailto:cwoodbury@cambridgema.gov) /617-349-4818

Sincerely,

Owen O'Riordan, Assistant Commissioner of Engineering, Cambridge DPW