



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – CAPPING UPGRADE OF CENTENARY PARK (WEST) – HISTORICAL LANDFILL SITE

Where is the site located?

Centenary Park (West) is a historical closed landfill and is located at Lots 4190 and 4189 Centenary Avenue Wilson. The site is bordered by the Canning River to the west and south, Centenary Avenue to the east and the residential suburb of Cygnia Cove Estate to the north. Site map shown to the right.

What was the site's historical use?

It was used as a landfill site between 1973 and 1985. The landfill was established across the majority of the site, with waste up to 10m in the central corridor. This activity of filling low lying land was common practice around the Perth metropolitan area in the 1950s, 60s and 70s.

Following the site's use as for landfill, the site was capped with surplus works excavations soil. During this time, the City has maintained the site levels to ensure the public were not exposed to risks.

What is the site's current use?

The site is currently used as public open space, with two leased buildings on the site. An important part of the site's rehabilitation is the construction of a new 300mm sand cap across the site.

What works are being undertaken?

The works involve installation of a sand cap (sand barrier) across the surface of the site. The capping will be 300mm thick and upon installation reticulation will be installed, top soil dressing will be spread and a grass layer established to aid in dust management and control of the sand cap. The grass layer will be seeded in autumn, prior to the winter rains, which will give the grass the best opportunity to establish roots.



Historical Photo



Recent Photo



City of Canning

The works will include:

- surveys of the land surface
- delivery of approximately 23,000m³ of clean sand to the site
- spreading of the clean sand and compaction across the site
- as the sand cap is completed, reticulation will be installed, top soil dressing will be spread and a grass layer established to aid in dust management and control of the sand cap
- surveys of the completed capping to establish cap thickness
- an establishment period of up to 12 months to complete topsoil dressing and grass growth.

Why are the works needed?

The works are required to provide a suitable permanent barrier between the historical landfill and the environment.

Since the closure of the landfill, the City has been responsible for the maintenance of the capping layer which was installed. Following investigations between 2012 and 2015, it was demonstrated that there was a cap of varying thicknesses across the entire site. Since then, the City has continued to maintain the capping layer as a temporary measure until the investigations were completed and the final proposed solution was approved by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation. Now that agreement has been received from these departments, the City is now in a position to complete a full capping program across the site with a 300mm thick sand layer to be installed as a permanent barrier.

Historically, the location has also had illegal dumping occurring, some of which has included asbestos. It should be noted that where it has been identified that the illegal dumping contained any asbestos, the material has been removed by the City as a priority.

Why is the sand capping 300mm thick?

The City utilised the services of Golder and Associates to complete the Detailed Site Investigation in 2015 and GHD Pty Ltd, as an accredited contaminated Sites Auditor, who reviewed Golder's investigation results and recommendations. The 300mm sand cap was recommended by Golder and supported by GHD Pty Ltd as an appropriate measure to ensure a suitable barrier between the landfill and the environment. This approach has also been accepted by the Department of Water & Environmental Regulation and is in line with the Department of Health guidelines.

Who will be undertaking the works?

The City will be utilising the service of a suitable civil engineering contractor with experience in similar projects. The City will be working closely with the contractor and the regulatory authorities during the project.

When is the project expected to start?

The planning has been ongoing for six months, with the construction phase currently scheduled to commence 29 April 2019. However, this date is subject to change dependent on a number of factors.



City of Canning

How long is the project expected to last?

The public open space will be available to the public approximately twelve months after commencement of the works.

Is there expected to be any inconvenience to road users or pedestrians?

The placement of 23,000m³ of clean sand across the site will require truck movements in and out of the site via Centenary Avenue. For a period of approximately five weeks, up to 150 trucks will enter and exit the site each day between 7:00am and 5:00pm. To assist trucks to safely enter and exit the site, there may be a need during certain periods to implement traffic control on Centenary Avenue which may involve temporarily stopping road traffic and path users.

The pedestrian and cycle path which travels along Centenary Avenue will remain accessible throughout the project.

What is the risk of asbestos release?

Whilst the landfill is known to have accepted asbestos waste in the 1970s and 80s, (which was buried on the site), the works are not penetrating into the existing landfill, rather the sand cap will be constructed on top of the existing ground level. The City will be monitoring for asbestos fibres as a precaution, using a suitably qualified environmental consultant to carry out the sampling.

How will dust be minimised?

There may be some windblown sand particles during construction of the sand cap, given the elevated location. The contractor will be utilising water as a dust suppressant, and the capping will be hydro mulched to stabilise the completed surface.

Will fencing be used to restrict access and minimise windblown sand movement?

Yes, fencing will be temporarily installed at the boundary of the site and the Cygnia Cove estate. This fencing will remain in place until the completion of the works.

How many truck movements can be expected to the site during the project?

It is expected that the contractors will deliver sand each day to the site. When deliveries are being made, there could be up to 150 trucks entering and exiting the site each day.

Will I be able to use the site during construction of the sand cap?

No, for the safety of the public, only those approved lease holders may access the site after consultation with the City. If accessing the site during construction hours, approved lease holders will need to attend the site specific induction with the City's Construction Works Supervisor. The pedestrian and cycle path which travels along Centenary Avenue will remain accessible throughout the project.



City of Canning

What were the results of the environmental studies?

The City undertook three separate studies, to meet the requirements of the Contaminated Sites Act 2003. A Preliminary Site Investigation was undertaken, followed by a Detailed Site Investigation and an Ecological Wetland Risk Assessment. The studies examined the type and extent of waste materials disposal within the landfill and the impact on the environment, primarily the adjacent river environment. The detailed analysis examined leachate impact, landfill gas impact, and asbestos exposure as the primary environmental risks. All risks were demonstrated to be low, as determined by Golders and Associates, which was supported by the independent auditor GHD and accepted by the regulatory agency, being the Department of Water & Environmental Regulation.

What are the environmental approvals in place to complete the project?

The City has approval under the Swan and Canning Rivers Management Regulations 2007 from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions to complete the Capping Layer, with the approval expiring in June 2019. A Section 18 Consent has also been issued under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972, to implement the works.

What is the plan for the site long-term?

There was a concept plan for redevelopment of the site prepared in 2003, however this plan does not have endorsement of the current City of Canning Council, or approval from the regulatory agencies. A new Master Plan process will need to be initiated to look at potential options for improved use of the site. It is anticipated that a Master Plan process will be initiated once the capping has been constructed and the grass layer properly established, however will be subject to funding.

How do I report illegal dumping on the site?

Call the City on 1300 422 664, 24 hours a day and report any details of suspicious vehicles.

Where do I go for more information?

The City can be contacted on 1300 422 664.

