



Press Release

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For questions regarding this press release, please contact:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:	Saeed Kazemi
Email:	skazemi@cityftmyers.com
Phone: (office)	239.321.7024

Press Release Information:

City Begins Securing South Street Property

FORT MYERS, Fla. (July 13, 2017) – Contractors have begun securing the City-owned property at 3348 South St. The fence is the first phase in the remediation of the former water plant sludge pits. The City-owned lots are bordered by South St., Henderson Ave., Jeffcott St., and Midway Ave.

Preparations for the fence began on June 29 as City public works employees removed trees and leveled the land along the fence line. Installation of the fence started on July 11, with the placement of fence posts. Once all of the posts are fixed in place, workers will begin installing the fencing mesh. The fence will be a 6" green chain link fence, employing the same type of materials used to fence nearby City parks.

Installation of the fence is expected to be complete early in the week of July 19, weather permitting.

The fence will be locked, however once the fence is in place those requesting entry may contact the City's Public Works department's 24-hour line at (239) 321-8100 to arrange access. Signage on the fence will also provide the phone number.

The next stage in the remediation process will include site evaluation. At the City's request, independent contractors will conduct historical, physical and environmental assessments of the property. Once a testing protocol has been established, the public will have an opportunity to provide feedback before physical testing begins. More details on public input will be released as they become available.



After the site analysis is complete and test results are obtained, the third phase will determine acceptable uses for the land. Citizen input will be solicited once again at this stage to ensure that the City can remediate the property into a beneficial use for the neighborhood and community at large.

The fourth phase will entail physical remediation. Depending on the land use and appropriate method of remediation, the City will work with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to achieve environmental closure on the property. Development of the property, like any other site in the City, will need to follow the procedures established by Florida Statute and City Code.

All remediation activities will be coordinated between the City's Community Development and Public Works Departments.

The City intends to move quickly on remediation of the site, however regulatory requirements require the City to take a measured approach to remediation and development of this property.

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