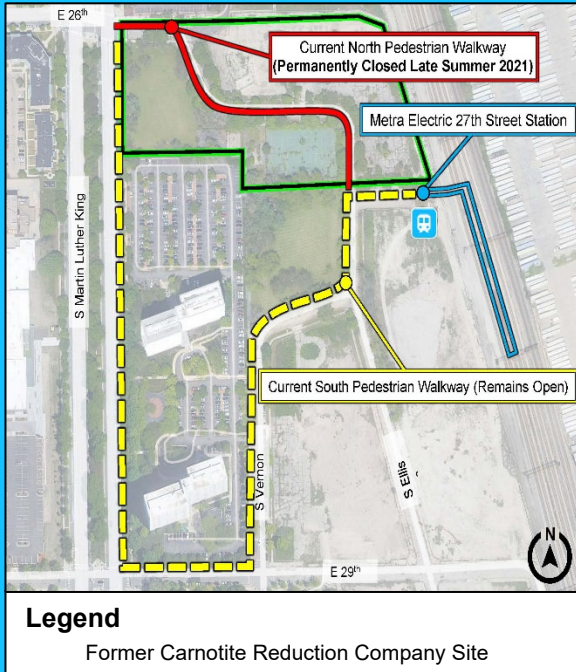


Former Carnotite Reduction Company Site Remediation Project

June 2021

Pedestrian Walkway Changes: Summer 2021



Questions and Comments

For more information about the site, or the remediation project, please contact AIS_EHS_Notifications@cityofchicago.org or call 312-744-0500.

Project Website

www.chicago.gov/carnotite



About the Site

Carnotite Reduction Company (Carnotite) operated a radium processing facility in the early 1900s near what is now 434 East 26th Street. The site was later occupied by the former Michael Reese Hospital and purchased by the City of Chicago in 2009. Site investigations performed at Carnotite identified radiologically-contaminated soil present beneath the surface. The contamination does not pose an immediate threat to human health or the environment, but the City is required by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) to remove the contaminated soil. The City of Chicago's Department of Assets, Information & Services (AIS) manages the site and is in the process of finalizing plans and procedures for site remediation.

Remediation and Restoration Plan

Soil contaminated with radium, thorium and/or total uranium is present from just below ground surface (bgs) to about 14 feet bgs at the site, including under portions of the East 26th Street right-of-way. Remediation will consist of removing the radiologically-contaminated soil and transporting it to a landfill permitted to accept radiological waste. The excavated area will then be filled with stone and/or soil and remain fenced off until redevelopment occurs.

Construction Impacts

27th Street Metra Station - The site is currently fenced off except for a north (26th Street) and south (Vernon Avenue/Ellis Avenue) pedestrian walkway providing access to and from the 27th Street Metra Station. Once construction begins, the north walkway will be closed and access to the station will be from the south only. The north walkway will remain closed after construction.

(See *Metra Station pedestrian access map to the left.*)



Proposed concrete barriers and fencing blocking pedestrian access to the north walkway leading to the 27th Street Metra Station.

Truck Traffic - During construction, it is expected that trucks will enter and leave the site at 27th Street. Flaggers and safety barriers will be provided for pedestrians accessing the Metra Station from the south. Truck tires will be cleaned by a wheel wash system and trucks will be inspected and screened for contamination prior to leaving the site. The trucks will travel through the former Michael Reese Hospital site to access Lake Shore Drive from 31st Street. If the 31st Street bridge is under construction and not able to accommodate the trucks, the alternative route would be 31st Street west to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive north to Interstate 55.

Dust Monitoring - During construction, real-time dust monitoring will be conducted at the site to help protect the local community. The dust monitoring equipment will alert the City if emissions exceed the action level. If the action level is reached, then work will stop. Dust control measures such as covering soil piles and water misting will be in place while work is being conducted and will be enhanced if needed to protect the public.

Project Timeline

- Fall/Winter 2020: Issue bid and select contractor to perform the work
- Summer 2021: Complete Contractor submittals and permitting
- Spring/Summer 2021 – Spring/Summer 2022: Conduct site work

