The Mayor's Hunters Point Shipyard Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
Environmental & Reuse Subcommittee
Monday, April 27, 2026
(2 Hours and 3 Minutes)

I. Call to Order

Dr. Hunnicutt called the Environmental & Reuse Subcommittee meeting to order at 6:09pm.

A. Roll Call

Present: Dr. Veronica Hunnicutt, Dedria Smith, Falaofuta Satele, Neola Gans and Servio Gomez
Exused: Joyce Armstrong
A quorum was established after roll call.

B. Approval of Agenda: April 27, 2026

Dedria Smith, made a motion to approve the agenda for April 27, 2026, and Servio Gomez seconded. The motion was approved and passed.

C. Approval of the Meeting Minutes: January 26, 2026

The January 26, 2026 meeting minutes weren't available for approval.

I. Announcements:

Dr. Hunnicutt addressed the Navy and members of the public, discussing the HPSCAC and tonight's meeting.

III. Continuing Business:

A. Update on Environmental Cleanup at Hunters Point Naval Shipyard (HPNS) Michael Pound, Environmental Coordinator for the Navy's Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Program at HPNS, will provide an update on the Navy's ongoing environmental cleanup at the former shipyard. Primary topics discussed will include: 1. Navy Data Quality Review 2. Parcel C Dry Dock 2 Repair Update 3. Community Involvement Plan Update and Survey.

The Hunters Point Shipyard Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Environmental & Reuse Subcommittee received an update from the U.S. Navy regarding environmental cleanup activities at the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard. A significant portion of the presentation focused on a recently identified laboratory data quality issue. During routine data validation on March 18, 2026, the Navy discovered potential quality-control concerns at one laboratory that analyzed environmental samples for the cleanup program. The Navy immediately initiated its notification protocol and informed regulatory agencies, the City of San Francisco, and congressional offices. Although 732 soil samples and certain air sample analyses may be affected, the Navy, EPA, and other regulatory agencies stated that current evidence does not indicate a risk to public health. Approximately 714 archived soil samples will be reanalyzed by a different certified laboratory at no cost to the government, while regulators determine how to address 18 samples that are unavailable for retesting. An independent review of the laboratory is expected to take up to six months to complete.

The Navy explained that multiple layers of environmental and health monitoring continue to protect workers and the surrounding community. These include real-time dust monitoring, air sampling, environmental radiation dosimeters, and worker radiation badges. Monitoring data collected between 2022 and 2026 showed that 98% of worker dosimeters recorded no detectable radiation exposure, and all measured exposures remained far below regulatory limits. Environmental dosimeter data also showed no meaningful differences between upwind and downwind locations, indicating that cleanup activities have not resulted in elevated radiation levels in surrounding areas. According to the Navy and EPA, independent lines of evidence suggest that the laboratory issue is a quality-control concern rather than a health-risk concern.

The presentation also included an update on repairs to Parcel C Dry Dock 2. In December 2025, a portion of the dry dock shoreline collapsed following heavy rains and king tides. The collapse was discovered during routine inspections and did not affect active cleanup areas. Nearby soil stockpiles remained intact, and no contaminated soil entered San Francisco Bay. Repair work began in February 2026 and included shoreline stabilization using geotextile fabric, crushed stone, and riprap. Air monitoring, water quality monitoring, and turbidity controls were maintained throughout construction. The repair work was completed on March 11, 2026, and a final report is expected after laboratory analysis of excavated materials is completed.

Another major topic was the Parcel G building demolition project. The Navy is preparing to remove six buildings and associated structures through a phased demolition process that will not use explosives. Before demolition begins, hazardous materials such as asbestos and lead-based paint are being removed and packaged for disposal. Air monitoring stations have been installed around the site to continuously monitor dust, asbestos, metals, radionuclides, mercury, and PCBs during demolition activities. The Navy reported that hazardous material abatement is already underway and that all waste leaving the shipyard is weighed and screened for radiation before being transported offsite.

The Navy also provided an update on the 2026 Community Involvement Plan (CIP). The CIP serves as the framework for community outreach and public engagement related to the shipyard cleanup program. The update process includes surveys, focus groups, and stakeholder discussions to gather feedback from District 10 residents, shipyard tenants, artists, local businesses, and other interested community members. Approximately 18,000 surveys were distributed in April 2026, and public input will be collected through the summer. The Navy plans to use the results to revise its outreach strategy before releasing a final updated Community Involvement Plan later in 2026. Overall, the Navy emphasized that while a laboratory quality-control issue is being investigated and addressed, multiple independent monitoring systems continue to indicate that cleanup work at Hunters Point Shipyard remains protective of workers and the surrounding community. Cleanup activities, shoreline repairs, demolition planning, and public outreach efforts are all continuing as scheduled while regulators and the Navy work together to resolve the laboratory data concerns

B. Overview of Sample Analysis Process at HPNS Mike Collins, Remedial Project Manager (EPA), will provide an overview of the analytical process used by the Navy to evaluate environmental samples collected from the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard (HPNS), including how data is reviewed, validated, and used to support cleanup decisions. The presenter will be available to answer questions following the presentation.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provided an overview of its ongoing oversight role at the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard (HPNS) cleanup program. EPA emphasized that while the U.S. Navy remains the lead agency responsible for conducting the cleanup, EPA serves as the primary federal regulator and works alongside the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to ensure that cleanup activities comply with federal and state environmental requirements. The cleanup is governed by the Federal Facility Agreement (FFA), a legally enforceable agreement that establishes schedules, quality assurance requirements, regulatory oversight procedures, public involvement requirements, and long-term stewardship obligations.

EPA explained that its oversight occurs daily through the presence of EPA project managers and contractors at the shipyard. EPA staff regularly inspect cleanup activities, verify environmental controls, review air monitoring and dust suppression measures, observe field sampling activities, and ensure that environmental data meet strict quality standards. EPA has the authority to require corrective actions and can stop work if conditions warrant. In addition, EPA reviews all major cleanup documents, tracks commitments and deadlines, and uses the enforcement tools available under the Federal Facility Agreement when deficiencies are identified. The agency also highlighted a recent community workforce success. EPA celebrated the completion of the Superfund Job Training Initiative at Hunters Point in February 2026. The program trained local residents for environmental cleanup and construction-related careers. EPA reported that 11 graduates are currently employed, including six individuals working directly at the Hunters Point Shipyard site. The program was presented as an example of how cleanup activities can provide economic opportunities and workforce development benefits to the surrounding community.

A significant portion of the presentation focused on environmental air monitoring and quality assurance. EPA described the multiple layers of monitoring that are used to protect workers and nearby residents during cleanup activities. Real-time PM-10 monitors continuously measure airborne dust and immediately alert site personnel if dust levels approach action thresholds. Filter-based air monitors collect samples over several days and are analyzed for radionuclides, asbestos, particulate matter, and metals. Before air filters leave the site, they are scanned for radioactivity using sensitive instruments. If elevated radiation is detected, the sample is isolated and regulatory agencies are immediately notified. Once samples arrive at accredited laboratories, they undergo detailed analysis, after which results are reviewed by both the Navy and EPA. Any result that exceeds action levels receives additional scrutiny and may trigger further investigation or corrective actions. EPA also noted that monitoring data are routinely posted on the public HPNS website for

community review. EPA provided additional information about air monitoring stations supporting demolition and remediation activities at Parcel G. The monitoring network includes one upwind station and two downwind stations positioned around active work areas. The stations can be relocated as demolition progresses, ensuring that dust and airborne contaminants are measured in the areas most likely to be affected by ongoing work. EPA stated that the station closest to nearby neighborhoods is located along the northwest portion of Parcel G and serves as the primary upwind community monitoring location.

The EPA presentation also revisited a previously reported Plutonium-239 exceedance that occurred during air monitoring in late 2024. Air filter samples collected in November 2024 were initially analyzed by a laboratory and later reported to contain plutonium concentrations above established action levels. Following receipt of the results in March 2025, the Navy conducted a review, audited the laboratory, and requested a reanalysis of the sample. The reanalysis found no detectable plutonium. EPA then asked experts from the National Analytical Radiation Environmental Laboratory (NAREL) to independently evaluate the laboratory's methods and data. NAREL concluded that the apparent exceedance was very likely caused by laboratory error rather than actual contamination at the shipyard. The review found contamination on field blank samples, noted that on-site radiation scans had not detected elevated radioactivity before the samples were shipped, confirmed that plutonium was not detected during reanalysis, and identified deficiencies in laboratory quality assurance and quality control procedures. Based on these findings, EPA determined that the exceedance was most likely the result of laboratory contamination or analytical error rather than an environmental release.

EPA also reviewed the notification procedures that are followed when potential environmental concerns are identified. If on-site instruments detect elevated radiation or if laboratory analyses show contamination above action levels, the Navy must notify EPA and DTSC within one business day. EPA then reviews the data, often with assistance from NAREL, and determines whether additional testing, corrective actions, or public notifications are necessary. The agency emphasized that these procedures are designed to provide multiple opportunities to identify problems and ensure rapid regulatory oversight whenever action levels are exceeded. The meeting concluded with a discussion of the laboratory data quality issue announced by the Navy in March 2026. EPA reported that one laboratory used for radiological soil and air sample analyses had been using an inappropriate quality control method. According to information provided by the Navy, approximately 700 soil and air samples may be affected. EPA explained that archived soil samples will be retested by a different laboratory because the Navy maintains a sample archive specifically for this purpose. Air samples, however, cannot be retested because the laboratory analysis process consumes the air filters. EPA stated that a preliminary review by NAREL suggests the laboratory's quality control method likely produced results that were biased high, meaning contaminant levels may have been overestimated rather than underestimated. EPA reviewed dust monitoring and PM-10 data from the affected time period and concluded that the available evidence does not indicate a risk to workers or the surrounding community. EPA continues to oversee the investigation and review of the affected data.

Overall, EPA's message to the CAC was that extensive oversight, monitoring, and quality assurance systems are in place at Hunters Point Shipyard. While laboratory quality-control issues have been identified and are being investigated, EPA stated that the available evidence indicates these issues are related to laboratory procedures rather than actual environmental exposures. The agency emphasized its ongoing commitment to protecting public health, ensuring data quality, maintaining transparency, and holding the Navy accountable throughout the cleanup process.

To hear the presentations, Q&A, and public comments in greater detail, please refer to the April 27, 2026, Environmental and Reuse meeting recording at hpscac.com

V. Adjournment

No other business was brought before the committee, and Dr. Hunnicutt adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.