



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION

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23 January 2026

Via email: [joseph.martella@dem.ri.gov](mailto:joseph.martella@dem.ri.gov)

Joseph T. Martella II  
Environmental Engineer III  
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management  
Office of Land Revitalization & Sustainable Materials Management  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

Re: RIHPHC Project No. 19383  
Metacomet Redevelopment PAH Remediation  
500 Veterans Memorial Parkway  
East Providence, Rhode Island

Dear Mr. Martella:

In a letter dated 21 January 2026, the Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission (RIHPHC) issued its determination regarding a proposed plan for remediation of arsenic impacted soils at the former Metacomet Country Club property at 500 Veterans Memorial Parkway in East Providence, Rhode Island. I did not, in that letter, address additional polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) remediation at the site. This letter does not replace the 21 January letter, but provides additional information for your consideration.

*The Site Investigation Report – Metacomet Redevelopment 500 Veterans Memorial Parkway Portion of Assessor’s Map 107, Plat 15, Lot 1, East Providence, Rhode Island* prepared by SAGE Environmental, Inc. (SAGE) and dated September 2025 includes details of one PAH exceedance on the project site. The location of the exceedance is designated on Figure 7 of the Site Investigation Report (SIR) as SE-206.

Location SE-206 is outside of the limits of the property’s significant archaeological sites as determined by the Phase I and II archeological surveys conducted by PAL in June 2024.

The SIR proposes three alternatives to remediate the arsenic and PAH impacted soils at the locations of exceedances. The process identified by SAGE as the “Preferred Alternative” is Alternative 3, known as a “dig and haul” process, which includes excavation of PAH impacted soil, off-site disposal, and importation of clean fill material to the excavation zone. I understand from a January 22, 2026, conversation with you that the process known as “blending” is also being considered. This process consists of excavating PAH impacted soils, blending them with clean soil, then returning the blended soil to the excavation zone.

As stated in the SIR, the Narragansett Indian Tribe has requested that all soils remain on-site due to “cultural concerns.” In recognition of this request, the RIHPHC supports the “blending” process over the “dig and haul” process for the remediation of PAH impacted soils.

The RIHPHC understands that the remediation of PAH impacted soils will proceed in accordance with the archaeological scope of work that is already in effect for the overall project site. It is our conclusion that the proposed PAH remediation activity will have no adverse effect on cultural resources. We recommend that the Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Office be afforded the opportunity to be present during these activities if they so desire.

These comments are provided in accordance with the Rhode Island Historic Preservation Act and Rhode Island General Laws. If you have any questions, please contact me or RIHPHC Principal Archaeologist Charlotte Taylor at [charlotte.taylor@preservation.ri.gov](mailto:charlotte.taylor@preservation.ri.gov).

Sincerely,



Jeffrey D. Emidy  
Executive Director  
State Historic Preservation Officer

C (all by email):      John Brown, Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
                                 Paul Pisano  
                                 John Marshall  
                                 Lianne Marshall  
                                 Rick Mandile, SAGE Environmental, Inc.  
                                 Deborah Cox, PAL, Inc.  
                                 Cora Peirce, Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Office  
                                 Mark Andrews, Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Office