

Field Inspection  
December 13, 2005  
Springfield Street Elementary and Middle Schools  
Springfield Street  
Providence

RE: RIDEM Office of Waste Management and LFR, Inc. (City of Providence)  
Inspection of exterior suspect capping problems photographed by S. Fishbach

Arrived at the front of the Elementary School at approximately 8:55 am and met the school principal in the front office and identified myself and the purpose of our visit. Donna Pallister of LFR, Inc. joined me at approximately 9:00 am.

Most of the exterior lawn areas are covered by snow and ice so the lawn areas where erosion was observed were not visible. D. Pallister (LFR) seems to think that some of the erosion may have been caused by precipitation and the hill incline along with the children running up and down the hill. It may be that the school will need to keep the children off this area more permanently. There was no evidence of the marker barrier showing.

We proceeded around the south end of the Elementary School. There did not appear to be any visible cracks in the asphalt or concrete surfaces. At the rear of the Elementary School, (west side) there is a large depression (approx. 15 foot x 15 foot) in the asphalt area where the asphalt surface had been previously cut and repaired by the City. It appears that more settling has occurred and this area will need to be fixed again. The asphalt has not broken through in this area, just merely sunk and is a point where water and mud has collected. Also along this side of the Elementary school there are two other slight depressions in the asphalt area to the north, which have ice currently in them. There is some evidence of settling along the edge of the building where it meets the lawn, however, there is no evidence of the underlying waste material or marker barrier exposed behind the Elementary school.

After finishing our walk around the Elementary School, we went to the Middle School. LFR indicated that the school is being used for Middle School children and some High School freshmen. Along the south side of the Middle school, there is evidence of settling in the walkways and a storm drain, which is elevated, but there is not any evidence of the underlying marker barrier. Along the south west side, the grass area near the transformer and generator which was repaired last year may need some more cosmetic repairs in the spring to establish better vegetation (grass) and grading for runoff. This is the area in the photos that showed ponded water on the grass surface.

On the west side of the building there is a one foot asphalt depression along the building wall and what appears to be a loading dock or inclined access ramp which appears to have some buckling. However, there was no indication of the underlying marker barrier being exposed.

On the north side of the Middle school and in the court yard area, there is obvious settling at the

school staff entrance stairs and walk way outside of the maintenance office and also within the storm drain in the court yard. A snow pile covered the storm drain at the time, but pictures provided to RIDEM previously show the extent. These are significant structural items that the City has asked Dimeo Construction to address according to LFR. Again, there is no evidence of the underlying marker barrier being exposed. We completed our inspection at the front of the Middle School.

One thing to note is that given that the Middle School was built on 200 + pilings due to the depth of the fill, and that the surrounding lawns, walk ways and parking areas were filled with clean material and then re-graded, the depth to the marker barrier and waste materials is six feet or greater around the middle school. I do not think it is uncommon to see the settling of the soils, asphalt and concrete that has been observed. I think the City of Providence may have to obtain more funding for these construction repairs, but I do not think that anyone is being exposed to the waste materials at depth on either of the school properties. Left the property at approximately 9:40 am.

Jeffrey Crawford  
Principal Environmental Scientist

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeffrey Crawford', written in a cursive style.