

**City of Fort Myers
Weekly Update
Monday, December 11, 2017**

South Street Environmental Testing

Testing done week of December 4, 2017

Samples were taken from ground water monitoring wells on Dec. 4 through December 7, 2017. On Dec. 5, GFA International, the environmental consultant for the City of Fort Myers, notified the City of Fort Myers that one of the monitoring wells installed last week for testing appeared to have been tampered with.

The firm's well driller was on site within the hour to assess the damage and repair the well. The tampered-with well was repaired and developed on December 5 and testing on that well resumed on December 7, 2017.

On December 5, 2017, as an additional measure to ensure accuracy of findings, the City Manager authorized the drilling of another well by December 7. On December 6, 2017 the new well was completed and testing took place on December 7, 2017.

There are now a total of 11 monitoring wells, onsite and offsite.

The testing has continued uninterrupted on the other wells.

The City had notified the FDEP and the Fort Myers Police Department of the tampering incident. The FMPD increased patrols.

The City hired a security firm to guard the site.

Week of December 11, 2017

No testing will be done during this week.

Testing is on schedule for GFA to deliver the initial groundwater and soil test results during January 2018.

The South Street environmental site assessment is a collaborative effort between the City and the FDEP.

For more information about the environmental site assessment and to view the site assessment plan, visit the City's website at www.CityFtMyers.com and scroll down to the South Street Environmental Assessment link or contact the City of Fort Myers at 239-321-7630.

Communications: Informing FDEP, Media and Residents About Recent Test Results

The City has been communicating with FDEP and the media as certified information is provided from the experts. The City is refining the communication process by issuing weekly status updates that will be released to FDEP and to the media in writing and soon in video format.

When certified information becomes available, the City will provide additional communication materials to ensure that our citizens are receiving accurate information, with an explanation of what that information means to them and to their families. The City is committed to gathering all the facts from the experts, reviewing the analysis and recommendations from the experts, and then presenting an action plan to act on those recommendations.

The South Street website www.3348SouthStreet.com , launched by the City on July 24, 2017, is linked to the City website: www.cityftmyers.com. The site contains project documents, maps, and press releases.

When final, certified information is completed, a letter will go out to the City's residents about a public meeting to share the results that have been certified thus far. This public meeting will take place in January 2018.

Importance of certified results

The residents of Fort Myers deserve clear, accurate, conclusive information.

This is a complex process with no room for speculation. Once we complete the process, the consultants will be able to provide a report on the testing. The experts have asked for more testing, and that is currently taking place.

The City is committed to this process and with the help of the experts, will determine if or what action is necessary. The City is relying on the experts to do the testing, and to allow the experts adequate time to analyze and finalize results.