

Department of Economic Development
CITY OF MIDDLEBURG HEIGHTS

15700 Bagley Road • Middleburg Heights, Ohio 44130
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Matthew J. Castelli
Mayor

Charles Bichara
Director of Economic Development

**FORMER SEARS AND SEARS AUTO
WEST 130TH STREET AND SMITH ROAD
ASBESTOS ABATEMENT
MIDDLEBURG HEIGHTS, OHIO**

INITIAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
August 23, 2024

CITY OF MIDDLEBURG HEIGHTS – Public comment on the forthcoming asbestos abatement and removal of hazardous materials associated with the former Sears and Sears Auto Facility (Site) will be received from August 24, 2024 through September 24, 2024. The City will respond by October 8, 2024 to the public comments received.

Project Description: The Site is currently comprised of a two-story department store building with a basement and a standalone, two-story automotive shop built in 1964. There are currently no occupants at the two buildings. The last occupants listed were Sears Department Store and Sears Automotive Center. Investigations at the buildings revealed the presence of asbestos containing material (ACM) and hazardous materials within the existing structures. The asbestos abatement and removal of hazardous materials is to be funded, in part, by a loan from the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA)-Vibrant NEO Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and is administered by NOACA. Environmental cleanup at the Site will be conducted in accordance with the applicable federal, state, and local regulations and conducted by an Ohio Department of Labor Standards licensed asbestos abatement contractor.

Public Comment Opportunity: The project will be discussed at regularly scheduled City Council meetings on September 10 and 24, 2024 hosted at City Hall, located at 15700 Bagley Road, Middleburg Heights, Ohio. The City will receive public comments during appropriate times during these City Council meetings and by contacting through September 24, 2024 the project spokesperson, listed below.

Spokesperson and Information Repository: The spokesperson for this project is Charles Bichara, Director of Economic Development with Middleburg Heights, who may be contacted at the following address and phone number:

Charles Bichara, Director of Economic Development
City of Middleburg Heights Department of Economic Development
15700 Bagley Road
Middleburg Heights, Ohio 44130
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An Administrative Record and Information Repository has been established on the City website. Persons wishing to review reports and/or other information relative to environmental conditions at the Site should visit www.middleburgheights.com.