



EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant

Fact Sheet

The purpose of this fact sheet is to identify potential brownfields sites in the region that may be addressed through the recently awarded EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant project.

The City of Olympia applied for and received a \$600,000 EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant in September of 2019. The project promotes the goals of the City's community-driven Comprehensive Plan. The goals of the Comprehensive Plan specifically include anticipating redevelopment impacts; focusing efforts on locating new businesses; reinvesting in existing neighborhoods; ensuring high quality and pedestrian friendly upgrades; and retaining existing and create new Green Space. The project will allow the community to identify and assess potentially contaminated properties with the greatest potential for job creation and revitalization. The Grant term is 3 years.

Project Activities: The scope of work for this project encompasses four tasks:

- 1) Community outreach** - educating our communities and property owners about brownfields in general and the brownfield assessment initiative specifically.
- 2) Inventory and prioritization** - collecting information on existing brownfields throughout the region and prioritizing the sites based upon their potential to directly or indirectly improve the region's economy.
- 3) Site assessments** - performing environmental site assessments on the highest priority brownfields to determine the existence and extent of any contamination.
- 4) Cleanup planning** - creating Remedial Action Plans and/or Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessments, as necessary, to guide the cleanup and/or redevelopment process; cleanup activities are not eligible activities for this grant.

Brownfield Basics: A brownfield is "real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant." ("Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act", PL 107-118, 11 January 2002.) In layman's terms, a brownfield is a property that is difficult to develop because it is contaminated or believed to be contaminated. Brownfields sites are typically abandoned or underutilized commercial/ industrial sites such as (but not limited to) former industrial sites, former gas stations and dry cleaners, main street properties, hospitals, schools, mills, and grain elevators.

More Information: Please refer sites to or seek more information from Mike Reid, Economic Development Director and lead coordinator for the City's Brownfield Assessment Grant at: mreid@ci.olympia.wa.us // 360.753.8591