

# **Guide to Federal Brownfield Programs**

**Revised by**

**Charles Bartsch**

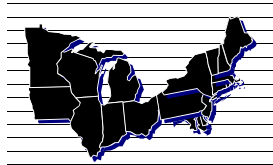
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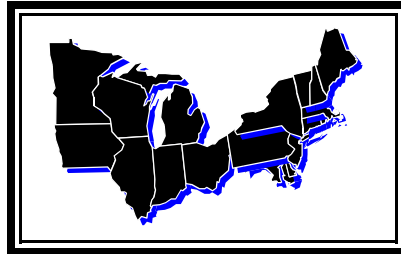


Revised October 2000

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## Northeast-Midwest Institute



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## Introduction

Across the nation, in both urban and rural settings, public officials, community leaders, and developers are grappling with the challenges associated with abandoned or underutilized, and possibly contaminated, industrial and commercial properties—also known as brownfields. These properties include once prosperous industrial areas of Chicago and Detroit; closed timber mills that dot the rural landscape of the Pacific Northeast; abandoned mining operations in Arizona and California; and idle shipyards and railroad depots in Delaware and Virginia. They include the omnipresent former gas stations and dry cleaners.

Developers and investors, cautious of environmental liability, have shied away from such sites. Contaminated properties, which are subject to many environmental regulations and procedures, also are vulnerable to costly construction delays. Pollution concerns have led developers to pass up opportunities in urban centers for ones in rural and suburban areas where land is perceived to be less expensive and free from unknown liability.

In recent years, however, state and local governments have come to view the redevelopment of brownfields as a unique opportunity to solve many problems concurrently. Projects that target blighted communities increase employment opportunities, expand the tax base, and reduce the costs associated with preventing crime in these areas. Redevelopment efforts also may reduce exposure to hazardous chemical levels on idle properties; curb sprawl development by making more efficient use of land resources; improve air quality; reduce traffic congestion; and preserve open space and farmland. In short, brownfield redevelopment offers a cost-effective, environmentally sensitive approach to encouraging economic revitalization in communities across the nation.

The federal government also has identified an array of programs and resources to help clean up and reuse brownfield sites. An Interagency Working Group, established by the Environmental Protection Agency in July 1996, enables more than 20 agencies to exchange information and coordinate activities in support of local brownfield cleanup efforts. Vice President Al Gore in May 1997 unveiled the Brownfields National Partnership Action Agenda that encourages agencies and programs to link environmental protection with community revitalization and economic development. Some of the programs supporting brownfield redevelopment were developed for this purpose, such as HUD's Brownfield Economic Development Initiative and the 1997 brownfields tax incentive, approved by Congress to encourage more private-sector investment in brownfield reuse. Most programs pre-date the Brownfield National Partnership but have been modified to better meet the brownfield redevelopment needs of communities.

This guide reviews the extensive initiatives at the Environmental Protection Agency and then examines in alphabetical order the resources available in other departments and agencies. The Institute collected the information by talking with spokespersons from each of the agencies in the Brownfields National Partnership and identifying those program components best suited to meet brownfield redevelopment, financial, and technical assistance needs. This 2000 version updates the contact names, identifies program changes, and provides, when available, the most recent appropriations figures. This updated edition also features "Brownfields Links," short descriptions of each agency's offerings and the entities that can use them, and suggestions to "think about" for making long-time programs fit emerging brownfield needs.

## U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>

### **BROWNFIELD LINKS**

- Funds pilot projects to demonstrate creative brownfield solutions – *targeted to local governments (and states and non-profit development corporations in some cases)*
- Provides grants to assess site contamination – *targeted to local and tribal governments (and non-profit development organizations in some cases)*
- Offers grants to projects and community organizations to address environmental problems affecting low-income and predominantly minority populations – *targeted to state, county, and local governments; and federally recognized tribal governments; and nonprofit community organizations*
- Provides residents of communities affected by brownfields with training for work in the environmental field – *targeted to local governments for use by a variety of stakeholders*
- Offers revolving loan funds for state and local governments to capitalize loans for brownfield cleanup – *targeted private sector entities through state and local government*
- Provides grants for cooperative sustainable development efforts – *targeted to local and tribal governments, educational institutions, and nonprofit organizations*
- Funds environmental education programs – *targeted to state environment agencies; state, local, and tribal education agencies; academic institutions; nonprofit organizations; and educational broadcasting agencies*
- Provides grants to capitalize revolving loan funds (SRFs) for clean water projects – *targeted to private sector entities through states*

***THINK ABOUT... using EPA resources to assess sites, for marketing purposes...bringing them to a “shovel ready” situation...offsetting info and training costs of brownfield redevelopment***

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been the most active federal agency in promoting the redevelopment of brownfields and other underutilized contaminated properties. The EPA began its brownfield effort in 1993 guided by the belief that “environmental cleanup is a building block to economic development, not a stumbling block, [and] that revitalizing contaminated property must go hand-in-hand with bringing life and economic vitality back to communities.”

EPA’s Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative was “designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields.” An additional component of the Brownfields Initiative is to promote environmental justice in communities affected by the problems associated with urban decay. EPA’s brownfield program includes grants, clarification of liability and cleanup issues, partnerships, and outreach.

### **Brownfields Action Agenda**

On January 25, 1995, the EPA announced the Brownfields Action Agenda, outlining its plans and activities to help states address brownfields and the problems associated with contamination. The Action Agenda outlines how EPA plans to help states and local jurisdictions understand and implement the Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative. It is divided into four broad, overlapping categories: brownfield pilots, clarification of liability and cleanup issues, partnerships and outreach, and job development and training.

## **1. Demonstration Pilots**

Demonstration pilots are cooperative agreements that make up to \$200,000 available for creative two-year explorations and demonstrations of brownfield solutions. Since the initiative's inception, EPA has funded more than 350 pilots, including projects funded in fiscal 2000.

As part of the Brownfields Partnership, the Clinton Administration selected 16 Brownfields Showcase Communities in 1998 (and another 12 in October 2000) to exemplify the benefits achieved through broad-based cooperation by federal, state, local, and private interests. The EPA has set the following goals for the Brownfields Showcase Communities:

- Promote environmental protection and restoration, economic redevelopment, job creation, community revitalization, and public health protection through the assessment, cleanup, and sustainable reuse of brownfields;
- Link federal, state, local, and non-governmental actions supporting community efforts to restore and reuse brownfields; and
- Develop national models demonstrating the positive results of public and private collaboration in addressing brownfield challenges.

## **2. Clarification of Liability and Cleanup Issues**

EPA also works to help communities manage liability concerns and encourage involvement in cleanup and redevelopment. Since 1995, EPA has issued many guidance documents to address the liability concerns of purchasers, owners, developers, lenders, and other affected parties. One such document addressed the liability of banks in the context of foreclosure and "button-up" activities and was codified by Congress in the Asset Conservation, Lender Liability, and Deposit Insurance Protection Act of 1996. Since another source of concern has been the stigma associated with the identification of properties as contaminated, EPA has removed more than 30,000 sites from the list of potential Superfund sites (known as CERCLIS).

EPA also may delete properties from its list of Superfund sites when cleanup is complete. As of January 4, 1999, the agency had deleted 181 sites, as well as portions of 15 sites, from the Superfund list, and these sites can be redeveloped.

## **3. Partnerships and Outreach**

EPA actively encourages partnerships with other federal agencies and states in order to address brownfield redevelopment. The Brownfields National Partnership includes 24 federal departments and agencies, and the list continues to grow. The federal government formally has committed \$300 million to the Brownfields National Partnership for investment in brownfield communities, and another \$165 million has been committed in loan guarantees. EPA leverages existing resources and expertise for brownfield cleanup and redevelopment. The agency has increased support to state agencies on brownfields and hosts annual professional conferences to disseminate information and share experiences.

## **4. Workforce Development**

EPA also tries to create sustainable employment opportunities in communities affected by poverty and land neglect. In the long term, the well being of urban areas depends heavily on the community's ability to offer good jobs to individuals. Approaches include encouraging entrepreneurial

spirit in poor communities, providing low-interest loans to minority or woman-owned businesses, and improving the capacities of communities to educate and train their populations.

## **Environmental Justice**

One of EPA's major objectives is to ensure that underserved populations in urban areas are treated fairly. Poor and minority communities frequently are exposed to environmental hazards, and only recently have EPA and other regulators formally recognized environmental inequities. The Clinton Administration in September 1993 created the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council, a federal advisory committee "to provide independent advice, consultations, and recommendations to the EPA Administrator on environmental justice matters." President Clinton in February 1994 also issued Executive Order 12,898, entitled "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations," which created an Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice and outlined a strategy and schedule for implementation.

Environmental Justice Through Pollution Prevention (EJP2) funds are used to provide pollution prevention resources for addressing environmental problems in low-income areas with predominantly minority populations. Non-profit community organizations; federally recognized tribal governments; and state, county, and local governments are eligible for grants up to \$100,000. Up to \$250,000 may be requested for projects of national significance that involve multiple communities located in more than one of EPA's ten regions. Applications are typically due in March, and project selections are made during the summer.

Environmental justice grants provide financial assistance to non-profit community organizations, federally recognized tribal governments, state or local governments and academic institutions to improve communication and coordination among stakeholders and build community capacity. Non-profit community groups and tribes are given priority. Grant awards are up to \$20,000. Applications are due in March, with final selection during the summer of the same year.

## **Financial Assistance**

The EPA supports several pilot projects and financing initiatives. They are described below.

### **Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots**

Since initiating its brownfield redevelopment efforts in 1993, the EPA has funded more than 350 demonstration pilots. Provided up to \$200,000 each over a period of two years, these pilots are intended to "test redevelopment models, direct special efforts toward removing regulatory barriers without sacrificing protectiveness, and facilitate coordinated site assessment, environmental cleanup and redevelopment efforts at the federal, state, and local levels." Through fiscal 1999, EPA has awarded \$57 million to these pilots.

EPA has stipulated that the pilot grants build capacity for brownfield management and redevelopment. Since municipalities often do not have adequate information on the extent of contamination in their jurisdiction, the brownfield pilots support inventory activity, assessment, and planning. Some of the primary activities the agency wants to support include:

- Environmental activities prior to cleanup, such as site assessment, site identification, site characterization, and site response, or cleanup planning and design;

- Outreach activities that educate the public about assessment, identification, characterization, or remedial planning activities at a site or set of sites;
- Development of creative financing solutions (e.g., tax incentives, revolving loan funds) to brownfield problems; and
- Brownfields pilot funds may not be used for actual cleanup or other response activities often associated with such cleanups (e.g., landscaping and groundwater extraction and treatment).

### **Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Pilots (BCRLF)**

The EPA also awards Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Demonstration Pilots to states and local governments. The capitalization funds enable state or local governments to make loans available for site cleanup. Starting in fiscal 2001, the EPA awards may range up to \$1 million, are based on community need, and must be used for environmental response and redevelopment activities. The program is authorized and funded under Section 104(d)(1) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980 and is subject to all of CERCLA's funding restrictions.

Formerly, EPA restricted grant eligibility to those entities that were awarded assessment demonstration pilots. Beginning in fiscal 2001, eligibility will be further expanded to states, political subdivisions, or tribes that have established and can demonstrate progress already made in the assessment, cleanup, and revitalization of brownfields. Also eligible are political subdivisions with jurisdiction over sites that were selected by EPA, to be the subject of a targeted brownfield site assessment. Proposals for assistance from a revolving loan fund are not limited to sites identified, characterized, or assessed under a previously awarded assessment pilot or targeted brownfield assessment. Proposals from coalitions, formed among the eligible entities, are permitted to apply, but a single eligible entity must be identified as the legal recipient.

EPA has awarded 104 brownfield cleanup revolving loan fund pilots through fiscal 2000. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis. Selection criteria are outlined in the October 2000 application booklet titled: *The Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative: Proposal Guidelines for Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund*.

### **Brownfield Job Development and Training Pilots**

EPA in March 1998 launched the Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilots program in order to help integrate training activities with brownfield redevelopment projects. These pilots are intended to encourage the cleanup of brownfield sites and to prepare trainees for future environmental employment needs.

The Job Training Pilots are funded up to \$200,000 each over a two-year period. These "funds are to be used to bring together community groups, job training organizations, educators, investors, lenders, developers, and other affected parties to address the issue of providing training for residents in communities impacted by brownfields." Since 1998, EPA has funded 37 pilot communities.

### **Clean Air/Brownfield Partnership Pilots**

EPA recently joined with the Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration and the U.S. Conference of Mayors to create the Clean Air/Brownfields Partnership Pilot. The cooperative initiative has been allocated \$500,000 in federal funding and is intended to improve air quality and stimulate economic revitalization; Baltimore, Chicago, and Dallas are the demonstration cities for this effort. Specifically, the funding will be used to:

- Study the relationship between clean air, brownfields assessment and cleanup, and economic development issues;
- quantify the air quality and other environmental and economic benefits of redeveloping brownfield sites within a city, instead of developing new sites in the suburbs or on undeveloped land;
- make it easier for urban developers to offset emissions from new development by reducing it elsewhere in the city; and
- look at air quality benefits derived from locating clean power plants on brownfield properties in urban areas.

EPA anticipates that these initial pilots will serve as models to other cities in order to harmonize economic growth with efforts to protect the health of the community.

### **Sustainable Development Challenge Grants**

Sustainable Development Challenge Grants encourage community groups, businesses, and government agencies to work together on sustainable development efforts, including brownfield projects that conserve natural resources, promote a healthy economy, and improve the quality of life for members of the community. Eligible recipients include local governments, tribes, educational institutions, and incorporated non-profit organizations. The program's two funding categories are grants of \$50,000 or less or grants between \$50,000 to \$250,000.

### **Targeted Site Assessments**

EPA contractors can conduct site assessments under EPA oversight in order to identify possible contamination. Priority is given to municipalities that currently do not have an EPA brownfield pilot. States, municipalities, and political subdivisions are eligible, but there is no funding provided with an assessment.

### **Environmental Education**

EPA provides financial support for projects that design, demonstrate, or disseminate environmental education practices, methods, and techniques, including brownfield reuse. Local, tribal, or state educational agencies; colleges and universities; non-profit organizations; state environmental agencies; and educational broadcasting agencies are eligible for funding up to \$25,000 for each project. Applications are due in mid-November.

### **Solid Waste Management Assistance Grants**

Limited funds are available for demonstration projects that promote effective solid waste management through source reduction, reuse, recycling, and improved landfill technology. The program is funded through regional and national competition grants. Non-profit entities and state and local governments are eligible for the awards that typically are less than \$50,000; a matching share is not required. Priority is given to innovative recycling programs, outreach and training in source reduction and recycling, and projects that use integrated systems to solve municipal solid waste generation and management problems at local, regional, and national levels.

### **Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund**

The Clean Water Act authorizes EPA to provide grants to states in order to capitalize revolving loan funds (SRFs) for wastewater treatment facilities and other clean water projects. SRF resources are

available to correct nonpoint source water quality problems, and projects included in any state's Nonpoint Source Management Plan, including brownfield redevelopment projects, are eligible for SRF funding. Brownfield showcase communities and pilots with such projects also are eligible for SRF funding. States set the priority for how SRF funds are allocated to eligible activities. These are essentially low-cost loans, so a revenue stream must exist to provide repayment.

The list of brownfield projects that may be eligible for Clean Water SRF funding include, but are not limited to: excavation and disposal of underground storage tanks; constructed wetlands (filtering mechanism); capping of wells; excavation, removal, and disposal of contaminated soil or sediments; tunnel demolition; well abandonment; and Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III assessments.

### **Contacts**

#### **EPA Brownfields Program**

<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>  
(202) 260-4039

#### **Environmental Justice Grants**

<http://es.epa.gov/oeca/oej/grants.html>  
Robert J. Knox  
Acting Director  
800-962-6215, 202/564-2515

#### **Environmental Justice Through Pollution Prevention (EJP2)**

<http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/ejp2>

#### **Sustainable Development Challenge Grants**

<http://www.epa.gov/ooaujeag/notebook/sdcg.htm>  
Dr. Lynn Desautels  
(202) 260-6812  
[desautels.lynn@epa.gov](mailto:desautels.lynn@epa.gov)

#### **Environmental Education**

<http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html>  
Diane Berger and Sheri Jojokian  
Environmental Education Specialists  
(202) 260-8619

#### **Solid Waste Management Assistance Grants**

<http://aspe.os.dhhs.gov/cfda/p66808.htm#i38>  
Grants Administration Division  
3903F  
Washington, D.C. 20460  
(202) 260-9266

#### **Clean Air/Brownfields Partnership Pilot**

<http://www.epa.gov/swerosps/bf/html-doc/cleanair.htm>

## Appalachian Regional Commission

<http://www.arc.gov/>

### **BROWNFIELD LINKS**

- Provides grants for roads and highways – *targeted to state and local governments and to*
- Offers planning and technical assistance to attract private investment to distressed areas – *targeted to*

***THINK ABOUT.....tapping ARC funding to meet site access road and similar other infrastructure support needs...cover site planning costs***

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) administers several small economic development and infrastructure grant programs in the 13-state Appalachian region. They include programs for development planning and technical assistance, highway development, local access roads, vocational educational facilities, and water and sewer system construction. ARC can also support small business start-ups and expansions. These programs are organized in several divisions, including the Appalachian Development Highway System; Economic and Human Development Activities; an Entrepreneurship Initiative; and a Business Development Revolving Loan Fund program. They all are designed to improve the economic climate in distressed areas to make them better able to attract private investment – important brownfield considerations.

Projects with the potential to generate new jobs are usually given top priority during the review process. Grant applications must be submitted by the state office designated by the governor, and they often are submitted on behalf of local governments, multi-county organizations, educational institutions, and non-profit organizations. In fiscal year 1999 ARC provided a total of \$66 million for 483 projects region wide.

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**U.S. Department of Agriculture**  
**Forest Service**  
<http://www.fs.fed.us>

**BROWNFIELD LINKS**

- Provides technical assistance to Brownfield Showcase Communities – *targeted to local governments of Showcase Communities*
- Offers technical and financial assistance for sustainable redevelopment and reuse projects – *targeted to state and local governments and community-based groups in Atlanta, Seattle, New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Denver, Las Vegas, East St. Louis, South Florida (four county area), Philadelphia, Boston, and Buffalo*

**THINK ABOUT...brownfields project landscaping needs**

The Forest Service is the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s primary participant in the Brownfields National Partnership. The Forest Service’s mission is to achieve quality land management under the sustainable multiple-use management concept in order to meet the diverse needs of people. In connection with brownfield redevelopment, the Forest Service is helping states and communities use the forests wisely in order to promote rural economic development and a quality rural environment.

The Forest Service has committed a total of \$400,000 to provide technical assistance to the 16 Brownfield Showcase Communities. This assistance will be administered through several different activities, detailed below.

**State Urban Forestry Coordinators**

These coordinators help encourage environmentally responsible redevelopment within the Showcase Communities. In particular, they work closely with municipal governments to develop strategic plans for brownfield reuse that ensures that infrastructure development is environmentally sensitive, and to protect urban natural resources.

**Open Space Development and Tree Planting**

Efforts are being made to link Showcase Communities with organizations that provide technical assistance and funding for open space development and tree planting, including the National Tree Trust, American Forests, ReLeaf Fund, and National Arbor Day Foundation. Research also is being conducted on the effects of using trees during the brownfield remediation process.

**USDA Urban Resources Partnership**

The Urban Resources Partnership (URP) is a multi-agency initiative that provides funding and technical assistance to community-led environmental projects. The Forest Service has selected 13 areas (noted above) in which the URP has been established. In each of these cities, Forest Service staff collaborate with municipal officials and other state and federal agency stakeholders in order to provide assistance packages, primarily to nonprofit community based organizations. The URP works closely with community development corporations as a mechanism for making its resources available at the neighborhood level. Assistance can include grant funds, technical assistance, and/or access to existing agency resources. Other communities may be added through a competitive application process as other cities “graduate” from direct federal support.

**Contact**

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## U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration

<http://www.doc.gov/eda>

### **BROWNFIELD LINKS**

- Funds infrastructure enhancements in designated redevelopment areas or economic development centers that serve industry and commerce – *targeted to state, local, and tribal governments; public and private organizations*
- Funds state and local implementation of strategies to attract private-sector investment in projects that strengthen an area’s economic base – *targeted to state and local governments*
- Provides planning grants to economically distressed states and regions – *targeted to state, regional, local, and tribal governments*
- Funds infrastructure modernization at closed military bases – *targeted to local governments, development organizations*
- Offers revolving loan funds to stimulate private investment – *targeted to local governments, states*

***THINK ABOUT...cleanup needs at reviving industrial areas...street, utility, and other infrastructure needs at brownfield projects...site marketing***

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) has been a pioneer and active participant in economic development and community revitalization for the past 30 years. Long before the term “brownfields” was coined, the EDA implemented programs to help economically distressed communities alleviate the adverse conditions created by unemployment. It continues to provide funding to promote infrastructure development, business development, and economic revitalization. The EDA’s mission is “to generate new jobs, help retain existing jobs, and stimulate industrial and commercial growth in economically-distressed areas of the United States.” EDA and EPA since 1995 have had a memorandum of understanding that states their intended objective to coordinate economic development and environmental protection goals through federal brownfield initiatives. Moreover, EDA provides technical assistance to EPA for implementing the revolving loan fund program.

Several EDA programs can be used to facilitate the redevelopment of brownfield sites, including:

- Public Works and Development Facilities Program;
- Economic Adjustment Program;
- Planning Program for Economic Development Districts, Indian Tribes and Redevelopment Areas;
- Planning Program for States and Urban Areas; and
- Defense Economic Conversion.

### **Public Works and Development Facilities Program**

The Public Works and Development Facilities Program is EDA’s primary initiative that directly affects the redevelopment of brownfield sites. The program’s funding is used to help distressed communities attract resources from the public and private sectors in order to promote economic development. Since 1965, the program has helped fund roads, water and sewer facilities, port improvements, and other infrastructure enhancements that serve industry and commerce; it has been directly responsible for creating more than 1.5 million jobs. Grants are available to state and local governments, Indian tribes, and public and private organizations, provided that the funds are used for projects located within an EDA-designated Redevelopment Area or Economic Development Center. The Public Works Program received \$205.8 million in 1999, with an average grant of \$829,000.

## **Economic Adjustment Program**

The Economic Adjustment Program helps states and local governments that experience sudden and severe economic dislocation or long-term economic deterioration to design and implement adjustment and redevelopment strategies that will strengthen their economic base. Many communities across the country suffer economic decline from a variety of factors, including corporate or industrial restructuring, defense base closures, federal laws and regulations, environmental degradation, and natural disasters. The program's funding encourages states and local governments to implement strategies that will attract private-sector investment and participation in projects that strengthen an area's economic base. EDA has targeted the redevelopment of brownfields as a necessary and vital component in fulfilling the program's objectives. The Title IX program received \$34.6 million in 1999 and provided an average grant of \$175,000.

## **Planning Program for Economic Development Districts, Indian Tribes, and Redevelopment Areas; and Planning Program for States and Urban Areas**

EDA has developed two planning programs, with overlapping policies, to help states and local governments create new jobs, retain existing jobs, and stimulate industrial and commercial growth in economically-distressed areas. The Planning Program for Economic Development Districts, Indian Tribes, and Redevelopment Areas and the Planning Program for States and Urban Areas provide funding that helps the planning process at both the micro and macro levels of government.

Through the Districts, Tribes, and Redevelopment Areas Program, the EDA promotes workforce development activities in distressed areas at the local level. Presently, EDA supports 65 Indian tribes and over 300 economic development districts in the formation and implementation of enterprises intended to generate and retain jobs in these communities.

Grants under the States and Urban Areas Program assist economically distressed states, sub-state planning regions, cities, and urban counties to undertake significant new economic development planning, policy-making, and implementation efforts.

Planning grants, which totaled \$24 million in 1999, ranged from \$10,000 to \$200,000.

## **Defense Economic Conversion**

To assist communities impacted by military base closures and contractor cutbacks, EDA also invests in infrastructure modernization at closed military bases in order to stimulate private-sector redevelopment. EDA provides this support through building demolition, construction of new buildings, rehabilitation of existing buildings, water and sewer upgrades, and development of access roads. The program was appropriated \$84.8 million in 1999, and provided an average grant of \$1.2 million.

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**Public Works and Development Facilities Program**

<http://www.doc.gov/eda/html/pwprog.htm>

**Economic Adjustment Program**

<http://www.doc.gov/eda/html/econadj.htm>

**Planning Program for Economic Development Districts, Indian Tribes and Redevelopment Areas**

<http://www.doc.gov/eda/html/planothr.htm>

**Planning Program for States and Urban Areas**

<http://www.doc.gov/eda/html/planning.htm>

## **U. S. Department of Commerce National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

<http://www.noaa.gov>

### **BROWNFIELD LINKS**

- Provides technical and financial assistance for coastal resource protection and management – *targeted to coastal (including Great Lakes) state, territorial, and local governments*
- Funds workshops in Showcase Communities on brownfields-related coastal management issues – *targeted to local governments in Showcase Communities*

### ***THINK ABOUT...meeting planning and site design needs at waterfront brownfields***

To achieve its mission, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), within the U.S. Department of Commerce, has developed a strategy that includes promoting healthy coasts. Since many brownfields are located in coastal communities where industry is close to waterways and shorelines, NOAA has developed several initiatives that affect the redevelopment of brownfields. Three NOAA offices have programs affecting brownfield reuse: the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM); the Office of Response and Restoration; and the Office of Sustainable Development.

### **Funding Through the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program**

Of the three offices, OCRM, which derives its authority from the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, is the largest participant in activities that affect brownfield redevelopment. It provides financial and technical assistance to coastal (including Great Lakes) states and territories in order to implement comprehensive coastal resource protection and management programs. For example, OCRM provides assistance to waterfront revitalization efforts, which may include the reuse of brownfields. In addition, OCRM serves as an information source for coastal decision makers who need data on successful waterfront revitalization efforts around the country.

OCRM makes financial support available through small grants, ranging in size up to \$25,000. These funds help local coastal communities develop feasibility or relocation studies and promote coastal area revitalization; they also can be used for planning, engineering, and site designs.

### **Technical Assistance Through the Coastal Resource Coordinator (CRC) Program**

NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R), formerly known as the Hazardous Materials Response and Assessment Division (HAZMAT), provides assistance that indirectly affects brownfield redevelopment. OR&R's primary mission is to reduce the risks to coastal areas from hazardous waste sites and oil and chemical spills. To this end, it provides technical assistance when coastal resources, such as fish and coastal habitats, are adversely impacted as a result of brownfield contamination. It also provides site assessments and technical assistance for remediation projects. OR&R has placed staff members, called coastal resource coordinators, in EPA regional offices around the country. These NOAA scientists work closely with EPA personnel to help coordinate efforts that clean up hazardous waste sites and protect endangered natural resources.

### **Workshops in Showcase Communities**

The Office of Sustainable Development provides funding for workshops in certain Showcase Communities to focus on coastal management issues related to brownfield initiatives. Grants of \$10,000

will be awarded to selected Showcase Communities in fiscal 1999. Already selected communities include: Glen Cove, NY; Stamford, CT (focus on urban water front revitalization and harbor preservation projects); Providence, RI; and Baltimore, MD (focus on habitat and coastal restoration).

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**Coastal Zone Management Program**

<http://www.nos.noaa.gov/ocrm/czm/welcome.html>

**Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R)**

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**Publications**

<http://www.lib.noaa.gov>

**U.S. Department of Defense**  
**Army Corps of Engineers**  
<http://www.usace.army.mil>

**BROWNFIELD LINKS**

- Provides technical assistance – *targeted to state and local governments*
- Provides technical support on a cost-reimbursable basis– *targeted to local governments*

***THINK ABOUT...using the Corps for planning for projects and related amenities in waterfront situations***

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers manages and executes engineering, construction, and real estate programs for the Army and Air Force, as well as for other federal agencies as assigned. It also has responsibility for investigating, developing, and maintaining the nation's water and related environmental resources; and projects to assure water quality control and enhancement of outdoor recreation, among other things.

The Corps of Engineers argues that “for a brownfield program to become truly sustainable, a three-pronged approach that considers economic, environmental, and cultural resources must be considered not only in the short term, but also in the long term.” The Corps maintains that by bringing ecology back into the urban setting, where the majority of brownfields are located, it can help reverse and prevent suburban sprawl by encouraging inhabitants to reside within established, developed areas.

**Technical Assistance**

The Corps provides communities with technical assistance to assess and evaluate brownfield problems and to help restore these sites for sustainable environment and economic growth. It maintains expertise that can help communities address brownfield challenges, such as obtaining site assessment and cleanup funds; navigating complex environmental regulations; developing integrated plans that include different environmental media to promote comprehensive, self-sustaining community enhancements; and developing ecological and technical solutions for problems associated with site assessment, cleanup, and restoration.

While the Corps of Engineers does not have a program and does not provide grant money that specifically targets brownfields, it does make resources available to communities developing brownfield projects.

**Reimbursable Support**

The Corps can provide a variety of services and products to brownfield communities on a cost-reimbursable basis, including technical support, contracting support, and integration support for civil works programs. Communities interested in determining whether a particular site contains contamination can contact the Army Corps of Engineers for technical support from a variety of environmental engineers. The Corps also provides technical assistance and support for the removal of hazardous materials, consultations, and design assistance. Moreover, the Corps provides a host of ecological services that assist in the restoration of the environment.

**Civil Works Funding**

Communities and the private sector interested in brownfield reuse can access funds from several existing authorities, including flood control and restoration of the environment. Funding is made on a cost-shared basis, and recipients are required to comply with all Corps procedures.

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**Technical Assistance**

Program Description and Regional Contacts  
<http://brownfields.sac.usace.army.mil/index.html>

**U. S. Department of Defense**  
**Office of Economic Adjustment**  
<http://emissary.acq.osd.mil/oea/home.nsf>

**BROWNFIELD LINK**

- ☐ Provides extensive information on cleanup and redevelopment of closed military bases and surrounding areas – *targeted to all brownfield community stakeholders*

***THINK ABOUT...offsetting project technical information needs***

The Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) is the Defense Department's primary office for providing adjustment assistance to communities, regions, and states adversely impacted by significant military program changes. These changes include base expansions, closures or realignments; major contract changes that result in significant worker layoffs, and other personnel reductions and increases. OEA manages and directs the Defense Economic Adjustment Program and coordinates and facilitates the involvement of the federal agencies.

OEA has gained extensive experience with brownfield redevelopment because much of its managed property has some level of contamination. OEA's goal is to integrate the cleanup issues into the overall planning for redevelopment, and since many base closure actions result in extensive planning and review of economic development goals, there is usually an excellent opportunity to make brownfield redevelopment a part of a larger set of community development actions.

OEA staff represent a broad and extensive range of experience with respect to the military; economic, industrial, and community development; urban and land use planning; program and economic impact analysis; real estate; and worker retraining. Project managers also bring knowledge and a working network with other federal agencies to help communities put together an adjustment program that combines federal, state, local, and private resources.

In 1997, the most recent edition of the Base Reuse Implementation Manual (BRIM) was released. This manual provides guidance to all Defense Department services on base closure activities, and it contains extensive information on site cleanup at closing installations, with a focus on fast tracking these activities so that surplus military land can be moved as expeditiously as possible into the private sector. Included in the manual is guidance on:

- Establishing base realignment and closure cleanup teams;
- Accelerating the NEPA analysis process for base disposal decisions; and
- Improving public involvement in environmental cleanup at closing bases.

OEA can be a significant resource, but it tends to be overlooked by many brownfield stakeholders who are not involved directly with a base closure process. As part of its redevelopment planning and research, OEA conducts industry studies and needs evaluations that can provide a great deal of information useful beyond the borders of a closing military base.

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## U. S. Department of Education

<http://www.ed.gov>

### **BROWNFIELD LINK**

- ☐ Funds education and training programs related to economic development – *targeted to state governments; education agencies; and academic institutions*

### ***THINK ABOUT...enhancing brownfield project cash flow by offsetting workforce preparation costs***

While the Department of Education does not have a specific program advancing brownfield redevelopment, it supports the Brownfields Action Agenda's job development and training category. Four Education Department programs have relevance to this partnership effort: the Adult Education and Literacy Program (administered through the Office of Vocational and Adult Education); the Vocational and Technical Education Program (administered through the Office of Vocational and Adult Education.); the School to Work Opportunities Program (administered jointly by the Department of Education and the Department of Labor); and the Community Colleges Program (administered by the Community Colleges Liaison Office, the Office of Vocational and Adult Education, and the Department of Education).

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### **Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE)**

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### **Student Financial Assistance**

<http://www.ed.gov/finaid.html>

### **Guide to U.S. Department of Education Programs and Resources**

<http://web99.ed.gov/GTEP/Program2.nsf>

## U.S. Department of Energy

<http://www.doe.gov>

### **BROWNFIELD LINKS**

- Funds research on assessment and cleanup technology – *targeted to universities, labs, and private industry*
- Offers information on integrating brownfield redevelopment with energy efficiency and sustainability– *targeted to all brownfield community stakeholders*

***THINK ABOUT...using new, applicable DOE-supported remedial technologies to reduce cleanup costs***

The Department of Energy (DOE) has been the caretaker and manager of the nation’s arsenal of nuclear weapons, the facilities that manufacture the weapons, and the property on which the weapons are located. Many DOE properties that were once busy with nuclear manufacturing and warehousing activity now lie dormant or idle, due in part to the downsizing of the military in general and to the closure of nuclear weapons facilities in particular. As a result, DOE has been forced to consider the future uses of these abandoned and contaminated properties.

Most nuclear facilities were located in remote areas of the country, but some now are surrounded by urban development. These facilities are of particular importance to DOE and the local communities in which they are located. Many properties contain low levels of contamination because they were used only as buffer zones for the nuclear weapons facilities, while only a few parcels were used in the production of nuclear weapons and have high levels of contamination.

### **Office of Environmental Management**

The Department of Energy conducts research, development, and engineering on assessment and remediation of contaminated sites. DOE’s Office of Environmental Management (EM) funds both cleanup of DOE’s contaminated sites and R&D on cleanup and assessment technologies. A cursory survey of DOE’s current research reveals millions of dollars’ worth of studies aimed at developing, validating, or testing remediation and assessment technologies. Although these technologies are developed for and/or tested on DOE’s own contaminated sites, many have broader applicability.

### **Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy/ Center of Excellence for Sustainable Development**

This DOE office serves as a resource center on sustainable development and addresses several relevant issues, including land use planning, transportation, municipal energy, green building, and sustainable businesses. Brownfield redevelopment is considered a key strategy for implementing sustainable development successfully, and the center provides a number of resources. The website — [www.sustainable.doe.gov](http://www.sustainable.doe.gov) — also provides a bibliography.

### **Office of Building Technology, State and Community Programs (BTS)**

BTS works with government, industry, and communities to integrate energy technologies and practices to make buildings more efficient and communities more livable. The resources available through BTS can help ensure that brownfield cleanup is connected to energy efficiency and sustainable redevelopment. The BTS website can be found on [www.eren.doe.gov](http://www.eren.doe.gov).

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**Center of Excellence for Sustainable Development**

<http://www.sustainable.doe.gov>

**Office of Building Technology, State and Community Programs**

<http://www.eren.doe.gov/buildings>

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry**

<http://atsdr1.atsdr.cdc.gov:8080>

**BROWNFIELD LINKS**

- Provides grants to cleanup and redevelop brownfield sites while preventing future health hazards – *targeted to local health departments in showcase communities*
- Studies and provides training in environmental health impacts on minority communities – *targeted to academic institutions and various brownfield community stakeholders*
- Offers assessment of environmental sampling data – *targeted to all brownfield community stakeholders*

***THINK ABOUT...using ATSDR review to enhance community outreach efforts at brownfield sites***

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), created by the 1980 Superfund legislation and operating within the Department of Health and Human Services, seeks to prevent human exposure to hazardous substances in the environment. Its public health functions include: assessments of sites, the analysis and reporting of collected assessment data, education and training concerning hazardous substances, epidemiological surveillance studies, and the mitigation of releases of hazardous substances into the environment.

ATSDR established the Office of Urban Affairs (OUA) to primarily handle its brownfield activities. This office also focuses on environmental justice and minority health concerns.

**Public Health Department Grants**

Public Health Department Grants are available to local public health departments that have jurisdiction within the Brownfields Showcase Communities. The grants help remediate and revitalize brownfield sites, while not causing health hazards for present and future members of the community. ATSDR anticipates that five to seven projects will receive awards. Approximately \$350,000 was available in 1998, with grants average between \$50,000 to \$70,000.

**Minority Health Initiative**

ATSDR in 1987 established a Minority Health Initiative to focus on the demographic characteristics, health perspectives, health communication patterns, and health professional and community health education needs of disadvantaged communities and persons of color. This effort has evolved into the agency's Minority Health/Environmental Justice Program, which has four goals:

- **Demographics:** To develop a comprehensive demographic profile of communities living near hazardous waste sites and other sources of hazardous substances;
- **Health Studies and Applied Research:** To determine the relationship between identified adverse human health outcomes and hazardous substances in disadvantaged communities and persons of color;
- **Community Involvement and Risk Communication:** To develop and execute environmental risk communication and education programs to mitigate and prevent adverse health effects from hazardous substances in disadvantaged communities and people of color; and

- **Training and Education:** To increase racial and ethnic diversity in the environmental public health profession. This effort assists with curriculum development in academic institutions, faculty support through research projects, seminars and workshops in toxicology and other disciplines, and short-term training for professionals in disciplines related to identifying and preventing environmental hazards.

### **Review and Assess Environmental Sampling Data**

ATSDR can review and assess environmental sampling data and other site-related information in order to determine if past, current, or future exposure to hazardous substances might have public health consequences. In essence, ATSDR or state health departments can provide an independent opinion on site conditions and offer recommendations on safe redevelopment. In those rare cases where it appears that significant exposure to hazardous chemicals is occurring or did occur, ATSDR may conduct an investigation to characterize the public health significance of site-related exposures.

### **Health-Related Information Sharing**

ATSDR can provide health-related information on specific hazardous substances; coordinate a response to a real or perceived elevated incidence of disease near a site; and help individual workers or community members find experienced, private medical attention for significant hazardous substance exposure.

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**U. S. Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences**

<http://www.niehs.nih.gov/wept/bfield.htm>

**BROWNFIELD LINKS**

- Conducts research and outreach on environmental hazards in low-income and minority communities – *targeted to all brownfield community stakeholders*
- Conducts pilot programs to recruit minority workers to the environmental field – *currently targeted to six academic institutions and training consortia – (Clark Atlanta University, Jackson State University, Laborers-AGC Education and Training Fund, Center to Protect Workers Rights, DePaul University, New Jersey/New York Consortium)*
- Provides grants for model occupational safety and health training for workers who perform dangerous jobs in hazardous waste management and remediation – *targeted to private training entities (currently, 20 grantees)*

***THINK ABOUT...strengthening training programs to increase cleanup service provider options in areas with numerous brownfield sites***

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) studies and addresses the environmental causes of human health concerns. As part of its commitment to the Brownfields National Partnership, NIEHS tries to link its basic research, community outreach, and worker-training programs to EPA's Brownfields Assessment Pilot Projects.

**Basic Research**

One of NIEHS's research and outreach efforts focuses on environmental hazards specific to poor and minority communities. The Institute recognizes that poor and minority communities often have higher environmental exposure to toxins because they are more likely to live in older homes with lead paint, to be exposed to hazardous chemicals at work, to live near hazardous waste sites, and to live where there is air pollution or polluted water. To bridge the gap between public health researchers and the communities that are studied for environmental effects, NIEHS has developed a program entitled Environmental Justice: Partnership for Communication.

**Minority Worker Training Program**

NIEHS also administers a Worker Education and Training Program that currently includes the Minority Worker Training Program (MWTP). Conducted cooperatively with EPA, it provides a series of national pilot programs to recruit minority workers into the environmental field. The program targets young people who live in areas where they may be at risk of exposure to contaminated properties so that they can be both informed about the environmental issues in the area as well as compete for jobs that are created when sites are cleaned up and redeveloped.

The MWTP works with academic institutions, with a particular focus on historically black colleges and universities, as well as public schools and community-based organizations located in or nearby impacted areas (see list above) in order to provide pre-math, science, or other related education to program participants prior to or concurrent with entry into the training program.

These diverse programs provide pre-employment job training, including literacy, life skills, and environmental preparation; construction skills, including hazardous waste, asbestos and lead abatement training, and safety and health training; as well as apprenticeship programs for construction and

environmental remediation worker training. A particular focus is placed on establishing a program of mentoring.

### **Superfund Worker Training Grants Program**

Originally authorized as part of the Superfund program, these training grants provide model occupational safety and health training for workers and their supervisors who perform dangerous jobs in the nation's hazardous waste management and remediation programs. Innovation for training difficult-to-reach populations is supported by addressing issues such as literacy, appropriate adult education techniques, training quality improvement, and other areas unaddressed directly by the marketplace. The program enhances rather than replaces private-sector training responsibility by demonstrating new and cost-effective training techniques and materials. There are 20 primary grantees, and NIEHS reports that 500,000 people across the country have received training.

The program also has established technically-proficient curriculum materials and quality-controlled course presentations. Moreover, it has established new national benchmarks for quality worker safety and health training.

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**U. S. Department of Health and Human Services**  
**Office of Community Services**  
<http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/ocs/>

**BROWNFIELD LINK**

- Provides grants for brownfield cleanup, redevelopment, training – *targeted to community development corporations and community action agencies*

***THINK ABOUT...using community-based entities as a conduit to project cleanup and development resources***

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Community Services supports state, local, and community institutions with a broad range of revitalization efforts. In particular, it helps build the capacity of disadvantaged individuals and communities. Funds are provided for a number of activities, including actual development and pre-development tasks.

As part of its commitment to the Brownfields National Partnership, OCS provides grants up to \$500,000 to community development corporations and community action agencies that may be used for cleanup, redevelopment, or job training projects at brownfield pilot sites. This effort is part of OCS' Urban and Rural Economic Development Discretionary Grants program, which will distribute more than \$26 million in fiscal 2000.

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## U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

<http://www.hud.gov>

### **BROWNFIELD LINKS**

- Provides grants for revitalizing entitlement communities – *targeted to state and local governments*
- Offers federally-guaranteed loans for large economic development and revitalization projects in entitlement communities – *targeted to state and local governments*
- Provides priority status for certain federal programs and grants for HUD-designated Empowerment Zone or Enterprise Communities – *targeted to 105 local governments with low-income or distressed areas*

### ***THINK ABOUT...using HUD resources to meet virtually any brownfield need***

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has made a strong commitment to the reuse of brownfields. HUD takes the position that brownfields provide potential opportunities for neighborhood revitalization and economic redevelopment. Five brownfield-applicable HUD programs provide resources for the renewal of economically distressed areas.

- Community Development Block Grant Program;
- Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program;
- Brownfield Economic Development Initiative (and the related Economic Development Initiative);
- Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Grant Program; and
- Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities Initiative.

### **Community Development Block Grant Program**

Since its enactment in 1974, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program has provided annual grants to states and eligible metropolitan cities and urban counties (“entitlement communities”) for community improvement activities. The grants can be used to “revitalize neighborhoods, expand affordable housing and economic opportunities, and/or improve community facilities and services.” The program increasingly has become a significant impetus for economic development activities, including brownfield redevelopment, that have the potential to stimulate job and business opportunities in blighted communities.

HUD distributes approximately 70 percent of the CDBG budget to roughly 1,200 entitlement communities, and the remaining amount to the states for small city activities. States and entitlement communities administer their own programs for the distribution of the CDBG funds, and have great discretion in how the funds are allocated. The funds may be awarded to private or public, for-profit or nonprofit organizations and, among other things, may be used for brownfield redevelopment projects that promote the program’s three objectives: a) benefit low- and moderate-income families; b) prevent or eliminate slums or blight; or c) meet other urgent community development needs. CDBG was appropriated \$4.8 billion in fiscal 1999.

## **Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program**

States and entitlement communities that participate in the CDBG program also are eligible for funding through the Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program. Section 108 provides federally-guaranteed loans for large economic development and revitalization projects. CDBG recipients are required to pledge current and/or future CDBG allocations in return for larger secured loans that may be used to pursue revitalization and economic development projects that encompass entire communities. HUD anticipates that the level of security provided by these loans will assist in the stimulation of private development and investment within the targeted communities.

Section 108 guaranteed loans must be used for projects that further the objectives of the CDBG program. As such, these funds may be used to acquire and redevelop brownfield sites within blighted communities. In fiscal 1999, Section 108 provided an estimated \$1.26 billion in loan guarantee authority.

## **Economic Development Initiative (EDI)/Brownfields EDI (BEDI)**

HUD launched the Economic Development Initiative (EDI) to provide additional security to recipients of Section 108 guaranteed loans, as well as additional financial assistance for development projects that these loans finance. EDI addresses Section 108 recipient concerns that CDBG funding will be at risk in the event of default on the Section 108 loans. EDI decreases this risk by providing loan recipients access to, and use of, additional financial support. Specifically, EDI funds may be used to pay a portion of project costs, thereby reducing overall liability, or they may be used as reserve security in the event of loan default. HUD anticipates that the funds will spur economic development and revitalization by making projects more feasible and financially secure. EDI has had particular success in increasing access to capital for small businesses and entrepreneurs.

In 1998, HUD developed the Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) as part of the overall EDI. The BEDI grants target brownfield redevelopment activities and are intended to simulate private and public investments within local communities. The program received \$25 million in fiscal 1999, and made 22 awards.

## **Empowerment Zones (EZ) and Enterprise Communities (EC) Initiative**

EZs and ECs help distressed, low-income communities increase their access to tax incentives, performance grants, and loans that are intended for economic development and community revitalization activities. HUD administers the initiative in urban communities, while the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) handles the rural component.

Through the initiative, urban communities develop a “comprehensive strategy to promote economic opportunity and community revitalization” and apply to HUD for Empowerment Zone or Enterprise Community (EZ/EC) designation. Designated communities receive priority status for certain federal programs, including the aforementioned HUD programs, that assist community development activities.

Since the initiative’s inception in 1994, HUD and the USDA have designated 105 EZ/EC sites (72 urban and 33 rural). These EZ/ECs have had access to a number of benefits, including more than \$1.5 billion in performance grants and over \$2.5 billion in tax incentives. Specific benefits include: wage tax credits for employers; tax relief for business equipment purchases; tax-exempt bond financing for business property; tax incentives for brownfield clean up and redevelopment; private-activity bonds to promote commercial investment; public-school-renovation tax credits; and priority status to funds available through CDBG, Section 108, and EDI.

**Contact**

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Enterprise Zone  
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Washington, DC 20410  
(202) 708-6339  
Fax: (202) 401-7615  
don\_green@hud.gov

**Community Development Block Grant  
Program**

<http://www.hud.gov/progdesc/cdbg-st.html>  
Steve Johnson  
Acting Director  
State and Small Cities Division  
Office of Block Grant Assistance in  
Office of Community Planning and Development  
451 7th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20410  
(202) 708-1322

**Community Development Block Grant  
Entitlement Communities Program**

Sue Miller  
Director  
Entitlement Communities Division  
Office of Block Grant Assistance in  
Office of Community Planning and Development  
451 7th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20410  
(202) 708-1577

**Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program &  
Economic Development Initiative**

<http://www.hud.gov/progdesc/cdbg-108.html>  
Paul Webster  
Office of Block Grant Assistance in  
HUD's Office of Community Planning and  
Development  
451 7th Street SW, Room 7180  
Washington, DC 20410  
(202) 708-3226

**Economic Development Initiative  
(EDI)/Brownfields EDI (BEDI)**

[www.hud.gov/progdesc/brownf.html](http://www.hud.gov/progdesc/brownf.html)  
Paul Webster  
(202) 708-3226

**Empowerment Zones and Enterprise  
Communities Initiative**

<http://www.hud.gov/cpd/ezec/ezeclist.html>

**Community Connections** (general information):

1-800-998-9999  
It distributes several EZ/EC publications,  
including: EZ/EC Program Overview and Fact  
Sheet (1995, EN1012)

**HUD Brownfield Hotline**

1-800-998-9999

**HUD Brownfield Web Site**

<http://www.hud.gov/bfields.html>

## U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service

<http://www.nps.gov>

### **BROWNFIELD LINKS**

- Provides technical assistance for planning, assessment, and conservation in urban areas – *targeted to state and local governments and community-based organizations*
- Assists in acquisition of surplus federal lands – *targeted to state and local governments*
- Offers financial and technical assistance for community revitalization – *targeted to Brownfield Showcase Communities*

### ***THINK ABOUT...enhancing brownfield projects with parks and open space amenities***

Since its inception in 1916, the National Park Service (NPS) has provided planning and technical assistance for community-based conservation efforts. NPS recently has expanded its core mission to support state and local conservation and redevelopment activities outside the boundaries of the parks.

In July 1996, the Department of Interior, through its Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA), signed a memorandum of understanding with EPA to work cooperatively on initiatives promoting sustainable community-based environmental conservation and brownfield redevelopment. NPS also participates in the Interagency Working Group.

### **Technical Assistance Through the RTCA Program**

The RTCA Program supports state and local governments and community organizations in conservation efforts by providing river, trail, and greenway planning; regional assessment; and conservation workshops and consultations. Much of RTCA's assistance is targeted to urban areas for projects that include or affect underutilized contaminated properties. As such, RTCA can complement brownfield redevelopment efforts.

Four RTCA project areas to support conservation efforts (urban area projects, trails and greenway projects, rails-trails projects, and river projects) may be used concurrently with redevelopment efforts. An example of RTCA's involvement is its recent agreement with EPA to support the development of Groundwork/USA, which is "a network of locally-controlled community corporations working to increase the capacity of communities to improve long-term support for abandoned inner-city industrial sites with likely contamination and for other derelict lands."

### **Technical Assistance Through the Federal Lands-to-Parks Program**

The NPS helps states and local governments acquire, at no cost, surplus federal lands (including excess lands from decommissioned military bases). NPS identifies which lands have high natural, historic, or recreational values, and then assists communities gain title to the lands. Land or buildings obtained through this program must be open to the public and used exclusively for parks and recreational purposes.

### **Financial and Technical Assistance in Brownfield Showcase Cities**

NPS is involved actively in a number of brownfield showcase cities, including Kansas City, MO; Salt Lake City, UT; Lowell, MA; Trenton, NJ; and Providence, RI. The agency provides both financial and technical assistance for redevelopment and community revitalization projects.

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**Recreation Resources Assistance Division**

National Park Service  
Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program  
P.O. Box 37127  
Washington, DC 20013  
(202)565-1200

## U.S. Department of Justice

<http://www.usdoj.gov>

### BROWNFIELD LINKS

- Provides conflict resolution services and training – *targeted to all brownfield community stakeholders*
- Assists in crime prevention and improving the community climate through neighborhood restoration and crime prevention – *targeted to local governments for community use*

### ***THINK ABOUT...using community outreach services to address site and neighborhood stigma issues***

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) does not have a specific brownfield reuse program, but it supports for initiatives that encourage redevelopment and works with the brownfield showcase communities.

### **Community Relations Service**

The Community Relations Service works to prevent and resolve community conflicts and to reduce community tensions arising from actions, policies, and practices perceived to be discriminatory on the basis of race, color, or national origin. Service staff, who are located in ten regional offices and three field offices around the country, provide conflict resolution services, training for community leaders and members in effectively dealing with minority communities and allegations of discrimination, and data gathering.

### **Weed and Seed Program**

The Weed and Seed Program (W&S) tries to eliminate crime related problems in distressed communities. The program's law enforcement and community policing elements make up the "weed" portion, while the prevention, intervention, treatment, and neighborhood restoration elements comprise the "seeds." It is the program's seed portion that may indirectly affect redevelopment by promoting revitalization activities in distressed areas where brownfields are located. In fiscal 1998, W&S is addressed roughly 140 community sites.

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#### **Executive Office for Weed and Seed**

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/eows>  
Office of Justice Programs  
810 7<sup>th</sup> Street NW, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20531  
(202) 616-1152  
Fax: (202) 616-1159

#### **Community Relations Service**

[http://www.usdoj.gov/crs/crs\\_off.htm](http://www.usdoj.gov/crs/crs_off.htm)  
Rose M. Ochi  
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U.S. Department of Justice  
600 E Street, NW, Suite 2000  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
Telephone: (202) 305-2935  
Fax: (202) 305-3009

## U.S. Department of Labor

<http://www.dol.gov>

### **BROWNFIELD LINK**

- Offers technical assistance in job training in Brownfield Showcase Communities – *targeted to state and local governments*

### ***THINK ABOUT...using training services as a cash flow offset incentive to companies locating at brownfield sites***

While the U.S. Department of Labor does not have a brownfield initiative, its mission complements local redevelopment efforts, which require workers who are trained and skilled to handle environmental cleanup and sustainable redevelopment of brownfield properties. The department recently signed a memorandum of understanding with EPA to establish mutually consistent programs supporting brownfield redevelopment.

### **Job Training and Technical Assistance**

The Department of Labor will provide job training expertise and help coordinate Workforce Investment Act (WIA) programs in brownfield communities. To this end, it offers technical assistance to the brownfield showcase communities. State or local governments interested in job training technical assistance should contact the department's relevant regional administrator.

### **Contact**

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Office of Policy and Research  
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Washington, DC 20210  
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**U.S. Department of Transportation**  
**Federal Transit Administration**  
<http://www.fta.dot.gov>

**BROWNFIELD LINKS**

- Provides grants for transit capital and operating assistance – *targeted to local transit agencies in urban and nonurban areas*
- Offers discretionary capital assistance for fixed guideway systems and bus-related facilities – *targeted to local governments*
- Funds transportation and land-use planning – *targeted to metropolitan planning organizations, through the states*
- Promotes delivery of safe and effective public and private transportation in non-urban areas – *targeted non-urban local governments, through the states*

***THINK ABOUT...enhancing site marketability with transit access...planning for and cleaning up sites used for transportation purposes***

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) provides financial and technical assistance to local transit systems. Since most brownfields are located in high-density, urbanized, and industrial areas, FTA and the Department of Transportation can play a role in local redevelopment efforts.

The department's brownfield policy, announced in April 1998, provides that "states, localities, and transit agencies are provided the flexibility to participate, where appropriate, in transportation projects that include the reuse of brownfield sites." The department also declared that transportation funds may now be utilized to advance brownfield redevelopment activities, provided these activities are related to transportation programs. While the new policy does not target financing toward brownfields, funding for cleanup is available through the Federal Highway Program and the Federal Transit Program, as long as it is part of a transportation project.

**Urbanized Area Formula Grants**

These grants provide capital and operating assistance to transit agencies in urban areas with populations of 50,000 people or more. The required matching ratio is 80 percent federal share/20 percent local share. For each year from fiscal 1998 to 2000, the program obtained \$3,657,000.

**Non-Urbanized Area Formula Grants**

These grants provide capital and operating assistance through the states to transit operators in non-urban areas with populations of less than 50,000 people. Under this program, a state must use a percentage (5-15 percent) of the funds it receives for inter-city bus service unless the state can certify that its inter-city bus needs have been met. The program in each fiscal year from fiscal 1998 to 2000 received \$145 million.

**Discretionary Capital Program**

This program provides discretionary capital assistance for construction of new fixed guideway systems, extensions to fixed guideway systems, buses and bus-related facilities. The program's 1998 total was \$1,479 million. For fiscal 1999, guideway modernization received \$896.0 million; new starts obtained \$896.0 million; and bus initiatives received \$497.6 million.

### **Metropolitan Planning Funds (Section 5303)**

These funds are apportioned to each state on the basis of urban area population. The states pass the funds through to the 339 metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) in urban areas with populations of over 50,000. The supported planning processes encompass studies of transportation needs and demands, land use, economic, employment and demographic trends, and the cost effectiveness of alternative services and facilities. To be eligible for federal funding, a transportation project must be part of the regional Transportation Long-Range Plan and included in the region's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Funding was \$39,625,587 for fiscal 1998 and \$43,901,198 for fiscal 1999.

### **Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP)**

This program promotes delivery of safe and effective public and private transportation in non-urban areas and develops national rural transportation resources to aid in information dissemination. Administered through the states, it emphasizes private-sector involvement and safety initiatives in rural transit.

### **State Planning and Research Program (Section 5313)**

This formula-allocated program supports state-initiated technical activities associated with urban, suburban, and rural public transportation assistance, including planning, research, technical assistance and training, and the development of a statewide transportation plan and state transportation improvement plan.

### **Joint Development**

Transit agencies may lease land and air rights at stations to other parties, and they may sell portions of transit property and retain the proceeds. Under certain circumstances, transit agencies may use federal funds to participate in construction elements of private and public development. Joint developments must be physically and functionally related to transit use and beneficial to the transit system.

### **FTA Transit-Community Initiatives**

FTA encourages locally-directed land use policies and urban design that strengthen the link between transit and communities. Under the Transit-Oriented Development and Livable Communities Initiatives, FTA encourages local jurisdictions, when using their allocated transit funds, to emphasize pedestrian access, safety, community service facilities, and aesthetics in engineering and design of stations and immediately surrounding areas.

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**Urbanized Area Formula Grants**

<http://www.fta.dot.gov/library/legal/factsp1.htm>  
Robert Stout  
Director  
Office of Planning Operations  
(202) 366-6385

**Non-Urbanized Area Formula Grants**

<http://www.fta.dot.gov/library/legal/factsp3.htm>  
Robert Stout  
Director  
Office of Planning Operations  
(202) 366-6385

**Formulized Grants for the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities**

<http://www.fta.dot.gov/library/legal/factsp4.htm>  
Robert Stout  
Director  
Office of Planning Operations  
(202) 366-6385

**Discretionary Capital Program (Section 5309)**

Patricia Levine  
Director  
Office of Resource Management and State Programs  
(202) 366-2053

**Metropolitan Planning Funds (Section 5303)**

Patricia Levine  
Director  
Office of Resource Management and State Programs  
(202) 366-2053

**Welfare to Work**

Access to Jobs, Training & Support Services  
<http://www.fta.dot.gov/wtw/ats/ats.html>

**Job Access and Reverse Commute Grant Program**

<http://www.fta.dot.gov/wtw/>  
Doug Birnie  
Office of Research Management  
(202) 366-1666  
douglas.birnie@fta.dot.gov  
A TDD is available at 1-800-877-8339  
(TDD/FIRS)

**U.S. Department of Transportation**  
**Federal Highway Administration**  
<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov>

**BROWNFIELD LINKS**

- Provides grants that can be used to study transportation strategies related to brownfield redevelopment – *targeted to state and local governments and metropolitan planning organizations*
- Funds transit projects – *targeted to state governments*
- Funds transportation projects that reduce air emissions – *targeted to state and local governments and metropolitan planning organizations*

***THINK ABOUT...using FHWA resources to cover some cleanup, planning and/or development costs, freeing up resources for other purposes...or to provide transportation related amenities that enhance site value***

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) helps fund the construction and maintenance of Interstate highways and other roads. Typical programs of the Federal-Aid Highway Program include road widening and reconstruction; building new roads, transportation centers, intermodal facilities and recreational facilities and recreational trails; access improvements; bridge replacement or rehabilitation; and bicycle/pedestrian facilities.

**Transportation and Community and System Preservation Pilot Program (TCSP)**

TCSP provides funding that “can be used to examine transportation strategies that relate to brownfields redevelopment, such as planning access to redeveloped brownfield sites, upgrading exiting urban transportation systems, and connecting local community members to new brownfield-related jobs.” The Department of Transportation will provide technical assistance, training, and guidance to state and local governments, and to MPOs in order help access funding and ensure that brownfields are included in transportation planning. The program is authorized a total of \$120,000,000 for fiscal years 1999 to 2003. Individual grants will vary in size depending upon the number of proposals received by the Department of Transportation. Congress earmarked all funding for fiscal year 2001 to specific projects.

**Surface Transportation Program**

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds may be used either for highway or transit at the discretion of state and local officials. Highway funds also can be used for transit projects that reduce congestion and improve air quality. FHWA allocates funds to states through a legislatively-determined formula.

**Transportation Planning**

FHWA helps metropolitan planning organizations develop long-range transportation plans that consider changes in future population and traffic patterns, as well as predict the economic and infrastructure changes needed to support these changes.

**Transportation Enhancement**

Transportation enhancement efforts support facilities for pedestrian and bicycles, historic rehabilitation and preservation, landscaping, archeological planning and research, control and removal of outdoor advertising, acquisition of scenic easements and sites, and mitigation of water pollution and

highway runoff.

### **Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)**

Through CMAQ, FHWA funds eligible transportation projects, giving preference to programs with documented emission reductions from a transportation control measure.

#### **Contact**

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Federal Highway Administration  
Metropolitan Planning Division  
400 7<sup>th</sup> St SW HEP-20 Rm 3232  
Washington DC 20590  
Phone: 202-366-0182  
FAX: 202-366-3713

Federal Transit Administration  
Metropolitan Planning Division  
400 7<sup>th</sup> St SW TPL-12 Rm 6106  
Washington DC 20590  
Phone: 202-366-6385  
FAX: 202-366-3765

### **Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)**

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/cmaq.htm>

### **Transportation and Community and System Preservation Pilot**

<http://tcsp-fhwa.volpe.dot.gov/index.html>

Felicia Young  
felicia.young@fhwa.dot.gov  
(800) 488-6034

## U.S. Department of Treasury

<http://www.ustreas.gov>

### **BROWNFIELD LINKS**

- Offers tax incentives to leverage private investment in brownfield cleanup and redevelopment – *targeted to private sector entities*
- Provides financing tools and incentives to stimulate private-sector investment in blighted communities – *targeted to private sector entities*
- Provides guidance and facilitates partnerships for community reinvestment – *targeted to federally chartered commercial banks; bank examiners; and private sector entities*

### ***THINK ABOUT...promoting the cash flow advantages of tax incentives...promoting the financial and public relations advantages of participating in brownfield redevelopment to lenders***

The Department of the Treasury became more active on redevelopment issues with the 1997 passage of a brownfield tax incentive. The incentive, combined with the Treasury's Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, can help stimulate investment by the private sector in communities with brownfields.

### **Brownfields Tax Incentive**

Effective January 1, 1998, taxpayers may fully deduct environmental cleanup costs for properties in certain "targeted areas." Specifically, the statute provides that "a taxpayer may elect to treat any qualified environmental remediation expenditure which is paid or incurred by the taxpayer as an expense which is not chargeable to capital account. Any expenditure which is so treated shall be allowed as a deduction for the taxable year in which it is paid or incurred." Prior to the statute's enactment, environmental cleanup costs were required to be capitalized. The statute defines these targeted areas to include:

- any population census tract with a poverty rate of not less than 20 percent;
- any population census tract with a population of less than 2,000 if
  - more than 75 percent of such tract is zoned for commercial or industrial use, and
  - such tract is contiguous to one or more census tracts with a poverty rate greater than 20 percent;
- any empowerment zone or enterprise community (and any supplemental zone designated on December 21, 1994); and
- any site announced before February 1, 1997, as being included as a brownfield pilot project of the Environmental Protection Agency.

A property also must meet certain specified land use, contamination, and certification requirements. For instance, the statute expressly excludes contaminated sites that are listed on the Superfund National Priorities List.

The brownfield tax incentive is set to terminate on January 1, 2001. However, several legislative proposals have been advanced to both extend the provision, and broaden its applicability to any brownfield site.

## The Community Development Financial Institution Fund (CDFI)

The Treasury's CDFI Fund also indirectly affects brownfield redevelopment activities. Intended to "promote economic revitalization and development in distressed urban and rural communities throughout the United States," the fund increases accessibility to investment capital by providing the private sector with leverage capability and strategic investments. CDFI is designed to stimulate private-sector investment in the nation's blighted communities, many of which include brownfield properties.

Three awards programs are part of the CDFI Fund: the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Program; the Bank Enterprise Award (BEA) Program; and the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Microenterprise Development. In 1998, the Community Development Financial Institution Fund made 190 awards for a total of \$75 million.

- The CDFI Program promotes economic and community revitalization by providing an array of innovative financing tools to private-sector financial institutions that will help strengthen lending capabilities. Since 1996, the CDFI Fund has made \$182 million available to institutions;
- The BEA Program provides financial incentives to traditional financial institutions, such as regulated banks and thrifts. These incentives are intended to encourage investment in and lending to community redevelopment projects in blighted communities. The BEA Program has awarded \$30 million to these institutions; and
- The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Microenterprise Development encourages innovative advancements in microenterprise development in depressed communities by presenting non-monetary awards in recognition of the best practices in the field.

## Office of the Comptroller of the Currency — Community Development Division

The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) supervises nearly 3,600 federally-chartered commercial banks, which account for approximately 60 percent of the assets of the commercial banking system. OCC can and has been proactive in providing guidance to these lending institutions on involvement with brownfields, through, for example, publications such as its *Commercial Real Estate and Construction Lending Handbook*. The Community Development Division advises the Comptroller on policy matters involving community development activities of national banks, including welfare investment requests, and it provides bankers with education and guidance on community economic development issues permissible under the National Bank Act.

OCC also has a community reinvestment and development specialist program that facilitates partnerships; provides technical assistance for banks and their community partners; and encourages investment, lending, and services to low- and moderate-income individuals and small businesses. Two specialists are in each of the OCC's six geographic districts who have experience in affordable housing, advocacy, community and economic development, small business lending, and bank examination. They provide training and advice to national banks, communities, and bank examiners regarding best practices, options for satisfying CRA responsibilities, and expanding access to credit and capital. The Community Development Division's web site is <http://www.occ.treas.gov/cdd/contacts.htm>.

**Contact**

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**Community Development Financial Institutions Fund**

<http://www.treas.gov/cdfi/index.html>  
601 13<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite 200 South  
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Tel: (202) 622-8662  
Fax: (202) 622-7754

**Office of the Comptroller of the Currency  
Community Development Division**  
<http://www.occ.treas.gov/cdd/contacts.htm>

## Department of Veterans Affairs

<http://www.va.gov>

### **BROWNFIELD LINK**

- Provides job training and technical assistance in hazardous materials management – *targeted to disabled veterans*

### ***THINK ABOUT...using these training resources in applicable projects to support cleanup services***

The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) can help veterans of the armed forces by providing employment training and technical assistance. Under a memorandum with the EPA, the department provides some training resources for brownfield initiatives. DVA also has shown an interest in redevelopment because many brownfields are close to DVA hospitals.

### **Vocational Rehabilitation & Counseling Program (VRCP)**

This program provides training and technical assistance to disabled veterans in order to ensure that they attain suitable employment to achieve independence. Among other things, VRCP provides technical job training in hazardous materials management and environmental technical assistance — both of which develop skills that are applicable to brownfield redevelopment efforts. Thirty patients a year per facility are eligible, and DVA will pay a patient's wages during the training period.

### **Partnership Opportunities**

DVA will promote partnerships with local community colleges, training agencies, labor unions, Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) programs, and direct transitional work placements with local cities and environmental companies.

### **Contact**

Vocational Rehabilitation & Counseling Program  
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 Fax: (202) 273-5993  
[david.walton@mail.va.gov](mailto:david.walton@mail.va.gov)

## Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

<http://www.fdic.gov>

### **BROWNFIELD LINKS**

- Ensures equal access to credit – *targeted to all brownfield community stakeholders*
- Promotes public-private partnerships and identifies local credit needs – *targeted to local governments; bankers; community-based organizations; and businesses*
- Sponsors seminars on community reinvestment and fair lending laws – *targeted to bankers and consumers*
- Provides a web site on FDIC-owned, potentially contaminated properties – *targeted to all brownfield community stakeholders*

***THINK ABOUT...using FDIC to provide brownfield credibility to prospective lenders...linking prospective developers with potential sites***

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) tries to maintain stability within the nation's insured depository banking and savings associations. It works with other federal and state regulatory agencies to identify potential threats to the deposit insurance funds, and it makes information and analysis available to promote sound financial and economic decision making. Several FDIC initiatives impact financing for brownfield redevelopment efforts.

### **Community Affairs Program**

This initiative, created in 1990 to comply with the Community Reinvestment Act and the fair lending laws by FDIC-supervised institutions, helps to ensure equal access to credit, works with lenders and the public to revitalize communities, and serves as an intermediary to further fair lending objectives.

### **Partnership Promotion and Support Services**

The FDIC meets regularly with bankers, community organizations, small businesses, and local government leaders to promote partnerships among public and private organizations, to identify local credit needs, and to develop strategies to meet those needs.

### **Conferences and Seminars**

The FDIC sponsors and conducts conferences and seminars to help educate bankers and consumers about the Community Reinvestment Act and other fair lending laws and regulations.

### **Contact**

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### **Consumer Affairs Program**

<http://www.fdic.gov/consumers/consumer/affairs/index.html>  
(800) 934-3342, (202) 942-3100

## Federal Housing Finance Board

<http://www.fhfb.gov>

### **BROWNFIELD LINKS**

- Funds community-oriented mortgage lending for targeted economic development – *targeted to banks, for a variety of site users*
- Encourages banks to engage in new types of lending to meet housing and economic development needs – *targeted to banks*
- Subsidizes interest rates and loans to increase the supply of affordable housing – *targeted to banks*
- Funds the purchase of taxable and tax-exempt bonds to support redevelopment – *targeted to banks*

### ***THINK ABOUT...using FHFB to attract more lenders to specific brownfield projects***

The Federal Housing Finance Board (FHFB), founded as an independent agency in 1989, ensures the integrity of the Federal Home Loan Bank System and ensures that resources are available for home financing and commercial and economic development activities. The system is divided into 12 district banks, which are government-chartered, member-owned corporations. These district banks provide long-term loans to its member financial institutions, which then advance these loans to individuals or entities in the community for residential mortgages and economic development activities, including brownfield redevelopment projects. The district banks provide their members with a variety of loan programs that address housing and development needs.

### **Community Investment Program**

This loan program provides funding for housing and economic development activities. It has been used by member institutions to finance brownfield redevelopment projects. The program supports community-oriented mortgage lending that can be used to target commercial and economic development projects in economically-disadvantaged neighborhoods that include brownfield sites. Since 1990, the Federal Home Loan Banks have advanced more than \$1.4 billion for such commercial and economic development projects. Many recipients use these monies in conjunction with additional funding provided through other federal agencies, such as the Small Business Administration. The program's fiscal 1999 funding level was \$459.5 million.

### **Housing Credit and Economic Development Regulations**

The Community Investment Cash Advance Programs (CICA) and the Federal Home Loan Bank Standby Letters of Credit (LOC) are regulations intended to address unmet housing credit and economic development needs. Both encourage banks to engage in new types of lending, including activities that otherwise are available for consideration under the Brownfields Tax Credit Program. The Federal Housing Finance Board anticipates the regulations will reduce costs associated with contaminated properties and aid in their resale.

### **Cash Investment Advance Programs (CICA)**

The CICA regulation seeks to attract long-term financing for economic development in urban and rural areas not presently being addressed. The rule specifically provides that economic development projects include property eligible for a federal brownfield tax credit.

### **Federal Home Loan Bank Standby Letters of Credit (LOC)**

The LOC regulation provides the Federal Home Loan Banks with additional flexibility to use letters of credit for economic development projects that include brownfield redevelopment.

### **The Affordable Housing Program (AHP)**

The AHP subsidizes the interest rates for advances (loans) and provides direct subsidies to member institutions of the Federal Home Loan Bank System engaged in lending for long-term, very-low, low, and moderate-income, owner-occupied, and affordable rental housing. The program encourages member institutions to undertake creative efforts that increase the supply of affordable housing. The program's fiscal 1999 funding was \$193.3 million, with approximately \$130 million available in fiscal 1998.

### **Support for Local Financing**

The Federal Home Loan Banks purchase qualified taxable bonds, the proceeds of which can be used for brownfield development in selected communities. The banks can offer advances to member institutions to buy tax-exempt bonds to fund eligible costs involved in brownfield reuse projects.

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## General Services Administration

<http://www.gsa.gov>

### **BROWNFIELD LINK**

- Works with local communities to determine how federal properties can support revitalization – *targeted to all brownfield community stakeholders*

### ***THINK ABOUT... incorporating former federal facilities into larger projects, to take advantage of site assessment resources***

As the official real estate agent of federally owned properties, General Services Administration (GSA) plays a key role in brownfield redevelopment activities on and around these federally-owned lands. In addition, GSA owns and manages a large number of contaminated properties across the country. GSA's Brownfields Redevelopment Initiative targets underutilized federal properties that can be redeveloped to maximize revitalization efforts in local communities. The agency has committed over a million dollars to assess and conduct environmental surveys that aid redevelopment efforts on identified properties. The GSA Brownfields Initiative includes three initiatives: community involvement, partnering, and technology support.

### **Community Involvement**

GSA is engaged in redevelopment activities in 38 cities, the Everglades area in Florida, and Puerto Rico. It has entered into cooperative discussions with local public officials, developers, and environmental organizations in each of these areas in order to determine community needs and whether or not the utilization of federal properties would bolster community revitalization activities.

### **Partnering**

GSA exchanges information on brownfield-related matters with a variety of state and federal agencies. It has signed a memorandum of understanding with EPA to jointly promote economic development, community revitalization, and brownfield redevelopment.

### **Technical Support**

GSA utilizes a geographic information system (GIS) to analyze information on underutilized federal properties and to consider a variety of factors that impact urban revitalization.

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## Small Business Administration

<http://www.sbaonline.sba.gov>

### **BROWNFIELD LINKS**

- Provides technical assistance for redevelopment efforts – *targeted to businesses in Brownfield Showcase Communities*
- Offers loan guarantees to support small businesses – *targeted to businesses through lending institutions and certified development corporations*
- Assists in development managing and marketing skills – *targeted to minority-owned small businesses*

### **THINK ABOUT...enhancing lender comfort with loan guarantees**

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) assists, supports, and advocates for the interests of entrepreneurs and small businesses. SBA has offices in every state that provide financing, training, and counseling for small businesses. To be eligible for assistance, the SBA requires that a small business be “independently owned and operated, not dominant within its field,” and that it meet certain size standard requirements.

While present SBA loan programs do not specifically target brownfields, the agency has stated that its programs may be used by small businesses for projects that affect redevelopment projects, provided the small business meets SBA criteria for the particular loan program.

### **Loan Guarantee Program**

This program helps small companies get started, expand, and prosper. Its goal is to increase the amount of capital available to small businesses through the commercial banking community and non-bank lending institutions. In fiscal 1999, \$9.47 billion in guaranteed authority was available for general business guarantees through the Section 7(a) program. In addition, SBA has adopted a "Low Doc" (for low documentation) approach to Section 7(a) loan guarantees to encourage more lenders to handle smaller SBA-backed loans of less than \$100,000. The program features a 2-page application and a rapid response from SBA -- often, just a few days.

### **Section 504 Certified Development Company (CDC) Program**

The Section 504 program helps small businesses finance acquisition of land, buildings, and machinery, as well as construction, renovation, and expansion of existing facilities. The program is operated through nearly 300 SBA-licensed CDCs nationwide, which perform credit analyses, recommend loan approvals, and close and service the loans they initiate. The CDCs sell debentures to support up to 40 percent of the project costs, as a type of second mortgage financing, while private lenders provide at least 50 percent (and take a first mortgage position). The remaining 10 percent comes either from the facility owners, or through public sector participation; many communities have used their HUD Community Development Block Grant funds for this purpose. The typical Section 504-supported loan is about \$300,000. In fiscal 1999 the Section 504 appropriation was \$1.98 billion.

### **Economic Development Program**

This program manages a statewide network of free counseling and low-cost training resources designed to help existing small business owners, as well as new start-ups. A directory and order form for SBA publications and videos are available upon request.

**Minority Enterprise Development Program**

The initiative assists minority small business owners to develop managerial and marketing skills in order to succeed and grow. Eligible recipients include any business that is at 51 percent owned and managed by a racial or ethnic minority person/s; meets SBA 7(a) size standards and general eligibility criteria; is not engaged in speculation or investment in rental real estate; and is for-profit and/or non-religious organization. The program received \$2.6 million in fiscal 1999.

**Additional Programs for Small Business**

Several other programs are available to the small business community relating to brownfield redevelopment, including Veterans Business Ownership; PRO-Net System; Surety Bond Guarantee; Small Business Innovation & Research; International Trade Assistance; and Export Working Capitol Loan Program. Information on these initiatives can be accessed at the SBA web site.

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