

# What are Brownfields?

... typically properties that are vacant or underutilized because of possible environmental risks due to contamination.



## Common Brownfield Sites:

- Gas stations or auto repair shops
- Former lumber mills and mines
- Industrial/manufacturing properties
- Inactive railroads

## Why is it important to address Brownfields?

- Creates jobs and attracts new businesses
- Reinvests in the City's economic development
- Revitalizes abandoned properties
- Addresses environmental contamination
- Protects human health and the environment
- Uses existing infrastructure



### PURPLE LINE URBAN WINERY



Before



After

## Newly awarded EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants

The City was awarded \$750,000 in U.S. EPA funds to address Brownfield sites by assessing properties in Industrial Unit 2 (IU2) and the Former Las Plumas Mill Site. The assistance comes at **no cost** to participants and is designed to assist local businesses and property owners to identify environmental obstacles to reuse.

# What are the steps in doing an assessment?

There are three primary steps in conducting a site assessment once a site is selected. The benefit to assessing site conditions early in the process is it avoids unexpected delays, helps to understand the required steps, and provides liability protection.

## Phase I: Environmental Site Assessment (ESA)

- Conducted by an environmental professional
- Site visits, interviews and photographs
- Review historic documents and regulatory records
- Title searches
- Report of findings with recommendations



## Phase II: Environmental Site Assessment (ESA)

- Sampling and health and safety plans
- Sample soil, surface water, soil gas and/or groundwater and analyze at a laboratory
- May use drill rig to access the deeper soils or groundwater
- Report of findings with recommendations



## Cleanup and Reuse Planning

- Compare sample results to health protective standards
- May need to do a human health risk assessment
- Compare cleanup options and cost of different scenarios
- Prepare report presenting analysis of cleanup options
- Possible use of institutional controls
- Release property for reuse



If you are interested in having your property assessed for FREE or would like more information, please contact:

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# PROJECT AREA MAP

## Brownfields Assessment Program in Oroville, California

