



FACT SHEET

City of Oroville Brownfields Assessment Program Spring 2015

Reinvesting in brownfield sites can help protect public health and revitalize economic redevelopment in Oroville.

COME JOIN US! COMMUNITY MEETING

Wednesday, April 1, 2015
4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Southside Community Center
2959 Lower Wyandotte Rd.
Oroville, CA
A formal presentation at 5:00 p.m.

Reception immediately following the meeting at a successfully redeveloped brownfield site:

6:30 p.m to 8:00 p.m.
Purple Line Winery
760 Safford Street
Downtown Oroville

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has awarded the City of Oroville two brownfields assessment grants totaling \$750,000 to inventory, prioritize and conduct environmental assessments, and support community outreach activities of brownfield sites within Oroville.

What is a Brownfield?

A brownfield site is a property where expansion, redevelopment or reuse efforts are complicated by the presence or perceived presences of a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant. Common examples are vacant or underutilized properties including gas stations, auto repair sites and older manufacturing sites.

What will the grants be used for?

The City of Oroville received two assessment grants totaling \$750,000. The first grant is a community-wide grant set aside to assess properties potentially impacted by hazardous substances and petroleum. This grant will be used to inventory brownfield sites and conduct a limited number of environmental site assessments to determine if sites are contaminated. All work will be performed within a 2,169 project area which consists of industrial and commercial areas within Oroville, including southern Oroville.

The second grant will provide funding to further characterize the extent of contamination from 1920s timber operations at the 39-acre former Las Plumas Lumber Mill Facility at 1245 Oro Dam Boulevard, which has been vacant since 1999. This information is needed to determine how best to clean up the site and is an important step in future redevelopment of the property.

Why redevelop these sites?

Brownfield sites are often a blight on neighborhoods and can potentially impact the environment. Most brownfields produce little tax revenue and reduce local employment opportunities. Cleaning up and reinvesting in brownfield sites increases the local tax base, facilitates job growth, utilizes existing infrastructure, and improves and protects the environment.



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Are there brownfield sites in Oroville?

Yes, like all cities throughout the United States, Oroville has a number of properties that are idle, vacant or underutilized, and may have contamination that is preventing reuse.

The 2010 Downtown Gateway Project is an example where the City of Oroville helped brownfield site property owners and businesses proactively identify possible future hurdles to property sales/leasing, business expansion and property reuse. Now, these owners and businesses can better plan for the future and fully understand the steps and resources that may be needed to remove any such hurdles. We plan to identify and assist property owners and business in this new project area through a similar approach.

How are sites inventoried and prioritized?

Community-wide sites are inventoried using a variety of criteria including location, potential contamination, how reuse fits into the City's general plan, community expectations and needs, and other factors. The public is encouraged to help with the prioritization process by participating in community meetings and staying involved.

TWO BROWNFIELDS SUCCESS STORIES

Orange Tree Senior Apartments and Purple Line Urban Winery

City of Oroville Brownfields Program staff worked closely with state agencies to clean up these two sites and redevelop them in a manner that increases tax revenues and adds value to downtown Oroville.



Orange Tree Senior Apartments



Purple Line Urban Winery