

The Challenge

Brownfields are real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

The Sustainable Neighborhood Assistance Program provides resources to combat challenges associated with abandoned, under-utilized community properties. These sites are known to decrease property values, reduce tax revenues, attract crime, vermin, illegal dumping, pose safety and fire hazards, and degrade the community's quality of life.

Brownfields Program Partners

The City of Los Angeles Brownfields Program is a collaborative intradepartmental effort comprised of senior staff from the following departments: Mayor's Office, Public Works/Bureau of Sanitation, City Attorney, Community Development, Chief Legislative Analyst, Community Redevelopment Agency, City Council offices, and other departments and agencies as needed.

The primary goal of the Program is to develop strategies that enable redevelopment, particularly those in disadvantaged communities, and to incorporate these strategies into the City's standard economic development, housing, and community revitalization processes.



Types of assistance available through the Sustainable Neighborhood Assistance Program include, but not limited to:

- Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments
- Cleanup Planning
- Assistance on accessing existing government programs and funding for qualified sites
- Legal and due diligence assistance
- Assistance regarding site improvement options
- Provide assistance in understanding current laws and regulations
- Regulatory coordination and oversight

CONTACT

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CITY OF LOS ANGELES



SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



Recycling Land...



Revitalizing Communities

SNAP Program Goals



The Sustainable Neighborhood Assistance Program was initiated to provide a range of environmental services to small problem sites plaguing disadvantaged communities in order to improve the utilization of those sites and provide overall environmental, health and safety benefits to Los Angeles.

- Assist City staff, owners and/or potential developers to discover if environmental contamination issues are real and identify the extent.
- Collaborate with owners and residents to identify resources for environmental remediation efforts and redevelopment.
- Identify opportunities to reduce costs by adopting sustainable design and energy efficiency features.



Former Exxon oil exploration field, which is slated for small single family first-time buyer homes.



Problem sites may attract illegal dumping of waste.

Common Questions



What is a Brownfields "Small Site?"

Small sites are typically characterized as smaller neighborhood-oriented properties such as former gas stations, deserted oil wells, abandoned/underutilized lots that are generally one-half to three acres in size. These sites are generally referred for assistance by City Council Offices, City departments or Neighborhood Councils primarily because of their blighting influence to the surrounding neighborhood and the need for economic or community revitalization.

How will the resources be utilized at each site?

Funds will be used to provide the necessary support to conduct environmental engineering assessments including both Phase I and Phase II assessments, remediation plans, community involvement programs, legal and project management support for site cleanup activities, and related support for brownfields redevelopment activities. Funds may also be utilized as matching funds for both public (federal & state) and private grants.

How much funding can I receive per site?

Generally, \$5,000 to \$50,000 will be allocated to any one site. Technical assistance is also available to determine preliminary site conditions, regulatory standing and possible redevelopment approaches. Resources may not be used to: (1) relieve polluter responsibilities; (2) for sites that are listed on the US EPA's National Priority List and (3) address asbestos or lead-based paint remediation projects. Further, on-going litigation or environmental enforcement action may limit the assistance available.

Who can apply for assistance?

Council Offices, City departmental staff, current owners, Neighborhood Council representatives and potential developers who have secured support from the Council district where the site resides.



How will sites be selected for assistance?

Sites will be selected based on the following considerations which will also be used to determine the level of assistance provided:

- Environmental contamination is perceived or known at the site (eg. illegal dumping, dry cleaner, small oil field, gas station, small retail/commercial, etc.)
- Priority given to low-moderate income areas
- Generally 3 acres or less in size
- Mayor and Council support for the project
- Support will benefit the community
- Site access is available and/or achievable
- No other City funds or programs are available for this assistance
- An opportunity to leverage and apply for other public or private resources
- Located on or as part of a larger economic development (job creation) plan

