

Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Project Fact Sheet



Communities for a Better Environment, Huntington Park, CA

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country clean up and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants to assess and clean up brownfield sites.

Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Program

EPA is piloting an area-wide planning approach to community brownfield challenges, which recognizes that revitalization of the area surrounding the brownfield site(s) is just as critical to the successful reuse of the property as assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment of an individual site. The pilot program will help further community-based partnership efforts within underserved or economically disadvantaged neighborhoods by confronting local environmental and public health challenges related to brownfields, while creating a planning framework to advance economic development and job creation.

Pilot Project Description

EPA has selected Communities for a Better Environment (CBE) as a Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Program recipient. CBE will focus its project on the Huntington Park Brown-to-Green project area, which is located in the west end of the city with an approximate population of 2,000. Huntington Park is a predominantly Latino community in Los Angeles County, in which approximately 21 percent of families live below the poverty level. The project area was home to heavy manufacturing operations until the 1960s. Smaller manu-

Pilot Program Description

EPA is awarding approximately \$4 million in total across 23 recipients. Recipients will each receive up to approximately \$175,000 in EPA cooperative agreement and/or direct technical assistance. Assistance will help recipients initiate development of an area-wide plan and identify next steps and resources needed to implement the plan.



Contacts

For additional information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

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The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the project proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement and/or direct technical assistance have not yet been negotiated. Activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

facturing operations have since located in the area, which is now blighted by dilapidated buildings and vacant lots. Attempts to improve this area have not been able to develop a comprehensive revitalization vision. CBE will work with its community partners to facilitate community involvement in developing an area-wide plan around brownfields site assessment, cleanup, and potential reuses that will help transform the project area into a mixed-use, sustainable area that will better meet the needs of residents.