# **Brownfields**

**Land Revitalization** 

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#### **Definitions**

- Brownfields are property affected by real or perceived contamination that inhibits its reuse.
- Land revitalization is the process of assessing a property for contamination, cleaning up contamination (if found), and returning the property to be reused.
- Austin Brownfields Land Revitalization
   Office is the ONLY city program that seeks out
   brownfield properties to return to productive use.

## **Brownfields Mission & Vision**

- Mission Contribute to Zero Waste by providing incentives to property owners so they can revitalize land.
- Vision Encourage and facilitate responsible land revitalization in order to create sustainable communities, limit urban sprawl and conserve green space.

"For every 1 acre of Brownfields reused saves 4.5 acres of greenspace"

# **Brownfields Objectives**

- Encourage sustainable revitalization
- Accelerate b-flds. revitalization
- Leverage resources
- Expand opportunities and exposure

## **ARR + Brownfields = Clean Communities**

- The City's Organizational Climate
- Environment & Economic
- Time & Money
- Natural Fit

"Why Waste lots, Recycle a Lot!"

# **Turning Point**

- 1997, the city manager notifies Mayor & Council of establishment of B-flds @ SWSD.
- In 1998, the city established a Remediation Fund to address and reuse city owned brownfield properties.
- In 1998 the city applies and is awarded a US EPA Pilot Brownfields Assessment Grant. To date, the city has been awarded B-flds grants totaling \$1,050,000 to assist 51 b-fld. properties.

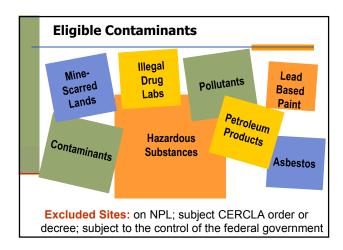


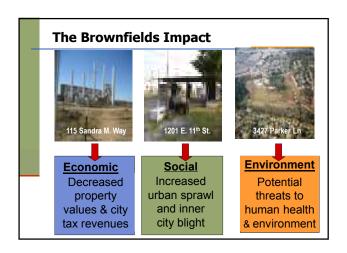
Jan 2002 – US President signed the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act

- Amends CERCLA by:
  - Providing grants to assess and cleanup sites
  - Providing liability exemptions



- Defines brownfields as:
  - "...real property where the expansion, redevelopment or reuse is complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant."







#### **Brownfields Funding Sources Grants Awarded** 1998 Pilot Assessment \$200,000 ■ 1999 Supplement Pilot \$150,000 ■ 2000 BCRLF Cleanup \$500,000 2005 UST \$200,000 Resources Leveraged 2010 ABLRO TBA & BSA \$126,629 2011 ABLRO TBA & BSA \$181,435 2012 ABLRO TBA \$ 84,927 TOTAL \$1,442,991 \* Each \$1 invested in B-flds. funding leverages \$2.50 in redevelopment!

## **Federal Resources Leveraged TBA**

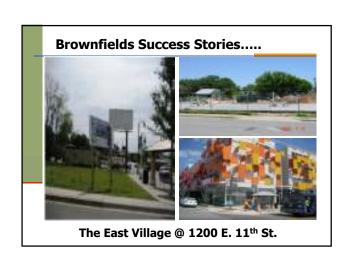
- Provides expert technical guidance and support for local B-flds.
- Provides ESA Phase I & II & Cleanup Planning TBA (Requests Accepted Year-Round; Est. TBAs - 2011 2,200 – COA has had several
- Contacts ABLRO for participation in National initiatives. (Invites Made Year-Round)

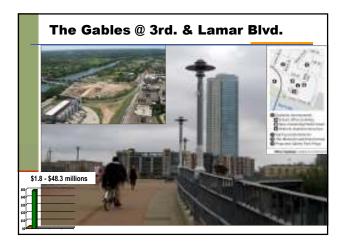


## **State Resources Leveraged BSA**

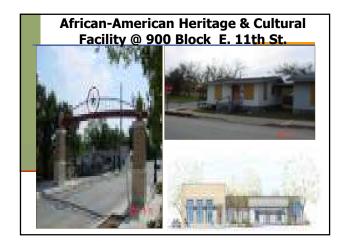
- Provides State Environmental Liability Protection
- Provides expert technical guidance and refers Bfld. Property owners to ABLRO
- Provides ESA Phase I & II, Vapor/Water/Soil Assessment & Cleanup Planning
  - (Requests Accepted Year-Round Est. BSAs 2011 1,800 COA has had several.)
- Key Partner with US EPA R-6 & CO
- Technical Decision Makers





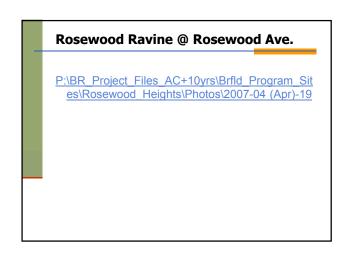












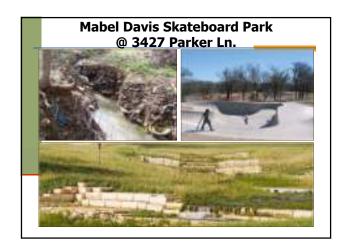
Guadalupe-Saldana Net-Zero Subdivision
@ 2711 Goodwin Ave

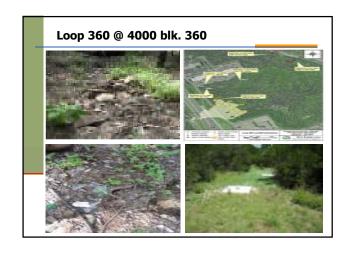
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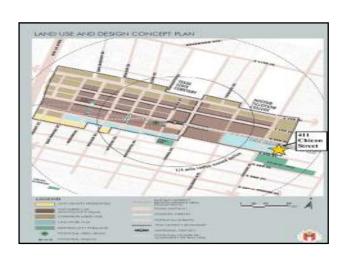








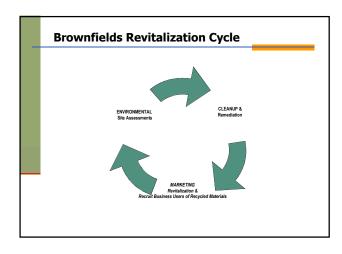




















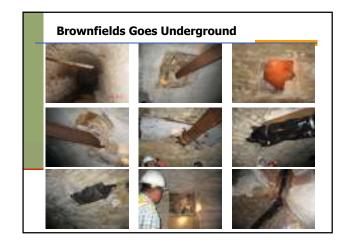


















### **Next Steps**

- Provide Resources
   1 FTE to research/apply grants, technical Geographic Information Systems, site reconnaissance, statistical data mgmt. & reporting on grants.
  - 1 FTE ARR partnership with the city's EGRSO to develop a green economy, locate small businesses capable of using discarded materials in their manufacturing process, support byproduct synergies, encourage the development of Eco-Industrial Parks. This FTE will be housed at EGRSO.
- Provide Funding
  - Return the City's Remediation Fund to ARR and increase contributions to address city owned properties.

# **Next Steps**

- Establish Connectivity
- Research the 20 Federal Agencies that offer B-flds. grants and
- Future apply for Annual US EPA Assessment, RLF, Cleanup Grants, & Supplemental Funding. Since the Program's inception, US EPA has awarded:
- Future apply for New Multi-Purpose Pilot Grant for assessment/cleanup of site. (FY12 US EPA awarded \$3.8 million to 9 entities approx. \$400,000 in May 2012)
- Future apply for National Brownfields Renewal Award