Brownfield Coalition Assessment Grant

FAIN # 4B-02D64223-0

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN

ISSUED JUNE 2024

REVISED NOVEMBER 2025

cramemphis.org/brownfields

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CRA
COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
YOUR VISION, YOUR VOICE

The CRA envisions every neighborhood in the City of Memphis and Shelby County providing its residents with a healthy and safe environment, economic opportunity, affordable housing, and excellent quality of life.

Community Redevelopment Agency
850 N. Manassas St.
Memphis, TN 38107

901.435.6992
www.cramemphis.org
info@cramemphis.org

BINGHAMPTON

WHAT IS A CIP?

A CIP is an effective tool for managing community involvement activities. It involves communicating with citizens, community organizations, and other key stakeholders affected by the project. The CIP will define the roles of the grant recipient, State and Federal representatives, and consultants. The CIP will also help the public understand ways in which they can participate in the decision-making process. This document is meant to be flexible and updated as site information becomes available and grant activities are completed.

ABOUT THE GRANT & PROJECT

GRANT
Brownfield Coalition Assessment Grant $1,000,000

GRANTEE
Lead: City of Memphis and Shelby County Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)

Non-Lead Partners: Binghampton Development Corporation (BDC), Klondike Smokey City Community Development Corporation (KSCCDC), and Soulsville Foundation.

AWARD IDENTIFICATION
Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN) # 4B-02D64223

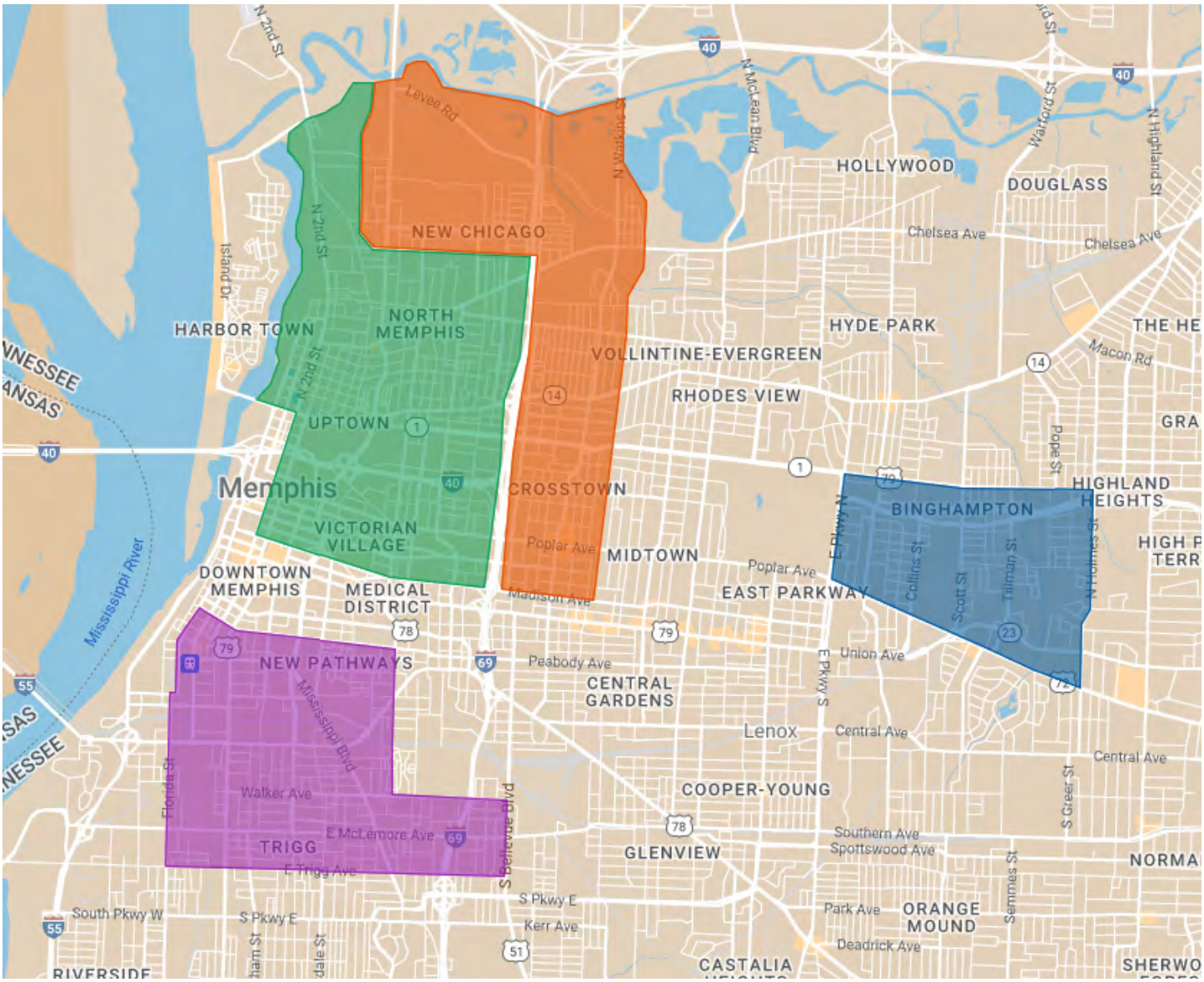
PROJECT OVERVIEW
The goals of the project are to conduct Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) and Remediation Planning activities at priority sites in four target areas located in the urban core of Memphis.

The assessment of a site will include:

- Historical research regarding prior use and potential contamination sources
- Sampling and analysis of the soil, ground water, & vapor
- Asbestos and lead based screening of a structure (if one still exists on a site)
- Remediation planning may include:
  - Soil management plans
  - Vapor intrusion mitigation plans
  - Remediation action workplans
  - Conceptual site plans

PROJECT AREA

These four areas in the urban core of Memphis were selected as the main targets for inventory and assessment.



- Uptown Redevelopment Area
- Klondike/North Memphis Industrial Area
- Binghampton
- Soulsville/South City

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Community Advisory Council: Attend quarterly meetings at a rotating location in one of the four target areas. Notice of meeting time and location are published in both a local newspaper and online through the CRA website and social media platforms. You may also reach out directly to your target area representatives listed in the Contact section.

Public Notice
Daily News
Daily Memphian

Website
https://cramemphis.org/brownfields

Social Media
facebook.com/cramemphis
instagram.com/cramemphis

Meetings are hosted in conference spaces either in public buildings or community partner venues. Meetings rotate locations for convenience and accessibility to each target area served by this grant.

COMMUNITY PROFILES

Binghampton

Binghampton is one of Memphis' most diverse neighborhoods, with immigrants and refugees from nearly 20 countries in its 2 square miles. The neighborhood is also unique for its blend of residential and commercial properties with warehousing, shipping and light manufacturing capabilities. The Benjamin J. Hooks Central Library and Broad Avenue Arts District draw Memphians from across the city while residents stay active with a host of grassroots organizations, parks, greenlines and more.

Brownfield concerns in Binghampton include vacant and underutilized sites with underground storage tanks and historical manufacturing past uses.

Soulsville

Soulsville was home to Memphis' Stax Records, a soul music label which produced the likes of Otis Redding, Isaac Hayes, the Staple Singers, amongst many others. At its height in the 60s and 70s, Stax was a cultural powerhouse and an economic engine for the neighborhood. In December 1975, Stax was forced into involuntary bankruptcy and eventually shuttered its doors. Since then, Soulsville has seen economic decline, lack of investment, and crumbling infrastructure. Today, the legacy of Stax Records lives on through the Soulsville Foundation, which operates the Stax Music Academy and Stax Museum of American Soul Music.

LeMoyne-Owen College, the city's only HBCU, sits in the heart of Soulsville. The historic college holds a proud tradition of educating distinguished alumni including doctors, lawyers, and politicians.

The Soulsville area is home to a number of abandoned and vacant historic structures that contain toxic building materials, such as lead-based paint and asbestos.

COMMUNITY PROFILES

Klondike

Klondike is one of the oldest and most historic neighborhoods in North Memphis. Today, Klondike struggles with disinvestment but continues their legacy of civic involvement with community gardens, CDCs, and grassroots organizations. The community has embarked on several revitalization efforts, preserving its rich heritage while adapting to contemporary demands. Former 27,000 sq. ft. Northside High School is being transformed into a community hub that includes education, office space, healthcare, food and beverage services, and 42 affordable residential units. New housing developments, local businesses, and community parks have emerged.

Brownfield concerns in the Klondike area include proximity to industrial areas and a commercial corridor with many vacant or underutilized buildings that have past uses like chemical supply stores and gas stations.

Uptown Redevelopment Area

Comprised of 9 neighborhoods, the Uptown Redevelopment Area is made up of roughly 7,500 parcels, many of which are vacant or underdeveloped. Several neighborhoods closer to Downtown saw investment and development in the 90's and early 2000's. During the recession, development slowed and neighborhoods further north did not receive investment. Recent redevelopment efforts in Uptown include a new section of greenline, two breweries, and over 75 new affordable homes constructed.

Brownfield concerns in the Uptown area include proximity to industrial areas and commercial corridors with vacant lots and historic uses such as dry cleaners, gas stations, and auto part salvage yards.

ABOUT THE COALITION

In 2022, with encouragement from TDEC, local organizations, municipal government departments, private developers, and community stakeholders convened to learn about upcoming EPA brownfield grant opportunities. From this initial meeting in Summer 2022, many of the original attendees continued to meet monthly in preparation to submit grant applications. With direction from a technical assistance provider and seasoned grant writers, the CRA submitted and was awarded a grant to perform environmental assessments in four target areas in the City of Memphis.

Upon award notification, the Memphis Brownfield Coalition solidified a monthly meeting calendar, and two committees were formed to guide the grant implementation. The Community Advisory Council is a large group of organizations, government department directors, and community stakeholders that meets quarterly. The role of the council is to assist with inventory efforts, communicate with constituent communities, and engage in the overall brownfield redevelopment process. A subset of the council, called the Coalition Steering Committee, guides the implementation of the grant by filtering sites for prioritization and voting on how best to proceed. The steering committee meets twice quarterly.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)

Klondike Smokey City Community Development Corporation (KSCCDC)

Soulsville Foundation

Binghampton Development Corporation (BDC)

Community Liaisons (4 residents representing the 4 target areas)

Economic Development & Growth Engine (EDGE)

Shelby County Land Bank

The Works Inc.

Chamber of Commerce

Mid-South Development District

SITE SELECTION & PRIORITIZATION

A minimum of two sites will be assessed per target area over the duration of the grant. Coalition Members developed the following site selection process based on agreed upon factors:

1. Location in urban core and Memphis 3.0 anchor areas
2. Redevelopment potential and interest
3. Site eligibility based on EPA guidelines (for Phase II ESAs)
4. Potential to contribute to community goals and serve as catalytic investment in underserved/Environmental Justice ("EJ") communities
5. Adjacent public and private investments

During the formation of the *Memphis Brownfield Coalition in 2022*, The Works Inc. solicited potential brownfield sites from multiple city departments, county agencies, neighborhood development corporations, institutional partners, and private developers. The list of sites was compiled into a spreadsheet and mapped to establish areas where a concentration of parcels and development opportunities existed. These areas of concentration became our target areas and priority sites for the awarded Coalition Assessment grant in 2023.

As the CRA progresses through the grant activities, certain sites may be considered ineligible for funding due to a variety of issues such as an accelerated development time frame or liable party determinations. If a site is deemed ineligible, a replacement site will be chosen from the same target area utilizing the selection & prioritization process established by the coalition.

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COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT OBJECTIVES

Public Meetings
Coalition Advisory Council Meetings are held quarterly and are open to the public. Meetings are scheduled in the months of March, June, September, and December. Upcoming meeting notices, meeting minutes and presentations can be found at cramemphis.org/brownfields/meetings. To request a meeting reminder, contact the meeting facilitator at eric@theworkscdc.org.

Analysis of Brownfields Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA)
ABCAs are completed to assess the background and condition of sites; identify relevant cleanup regulations and standards; and evaluate and recommend remedial actions. ABCAs also evaluate the effectiveness of any proposed remedial actions based on effectiveness, ease of implementation, and costs for the remedial actions. Additionally, ABCAs identify climate change conditions and risk factors that might impact any proposed remediation. Over the grant period, ABCAs will be shared with the public at coalition meetings and with parcel owners/inhabitants adjacent to any site with assessment activities.

EJ Curriculum
Soulsville Foundation and Stax Music Academy (SMA) will be creating a curriculum regarding environmental justice issues, including subject matter such as how brownfields impact neighborhoods and complicate development opportunities. SMA uses a creative youth development (CYD) approach to developing curriculum, and the brownfield/environmental justice curriculum will engage students to grow their Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) capacities using students creative faculties. The curriculum will introduce middle and high school age students to environmental justice history and issues as it relates to Memphis by creating an environment in which students can learn and understand how brownfields disproportionately affect minority and low-income communities.

Past Meetings
September 14, 2023
December 7, 2023
March 18, 2024
June 20, 2024
September 24, 2024
December 19, 2024
March 25, 2025
June 10, 2025
September 16, 2025

ENVISIONED OUTCOMES

IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE AND HEALTH

- Preparation of underutilized sites for productive use, whether for private commercial/retail/residential development or nonprofit/community use and development.
- Young people and communities informed and empowered on Environmental Justice (EJ) issues and brownfields via a robust EJ curriculum in schools and through community engagement efforts.
- Development of a more coordinated and collaborative approach to brownfield assessment, cleanup, and reuse in the Memphis area through the brownfield coalition model.
- Recognition and understanding that the brownfield inventory effort is an ongoing fluid process that fluctuates based on site utilization. The brownfield coalition members and the Memphis community at large will learn how to identify and monitor brownfields sites, recognize the benefit of fresh data, and understand the need to periodically update the inventory.
- Improved quality of life and health for surrounding communities resulting from redevelopment of sites and provision of new goods, services, resources, and affordable housing.
- New jobs resulting from eventual redevelopment of sites.

COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

Community Representatives
The four (4) target areas are each served by a Community Liaison nominated by the Memphis Brownfield Coalition to represent and engage with the target area in which he or she resides. Each target area also has a Brownfield Coordinator from the partner organization or agency that applied with the CRA for this grant. Those agencies are Klondike Smokey City Community Development Corporation, Binghampton Development Corporation, and Soulsville Foundation.

Technical Understanding
The CRA invites the contracted Qualified Environmental Professionals to attend community meetings for explanation of the more scientific and technical aspects of the grant activities. Through collaboration with the advisory council and community representatives, the consultants assist in identifying resident concerns and how grant activities intersect with plans for their neighborhoods. Additionally, we utilize informational handouts from EPA and TDEC that display infographics, descriptions of Brownfield characteristics, and remediation tactics.

Meeting Facilitation
The Works Inc. (TWI) facilitates meetings and assists in coordinating attendance of municipal government departments, developers, stakeholders, community advocates, institutional partners, and coalition members. Additionally, TWI produces the agendas and minutes for all meetings related to grant activities.

Fact Sheets
Large format posters and letter-sized handouts will be created for each assessed site to communicate an overview of the site's issues, report findings, and potential plans for reuse and development. These fact sheets will be displayed and/or distributed at advisory council meetings.

Media
Press releases may be issued as the Coalition progresses through the grant activities and achieves milestones such as critical Phase 2 findings that potentially affect adjacent properties or as Remediation Action Work Plans are developed. The CRA may submit press releases to news outlets and social media platforms, including:

Newspapers
The Commercial Appeal
1-844-900-7099

The Daily Memphian
901-501-6397
kbrewer@dailymemphian.com

The Daily News
901-523-1561
notices@memphisdailynews.com

MLK50
info@MLK50.com

TV Stations
WREG TV 3
901-543-2333
https://wreg.com/contact-us/

WMC TV 5
901-726-0501
PUBLICFILE@WMCTV.COM

FOX 13
901-320-1340
whbq.web@fox13memphis.com

ABC 24/CW 30
901-323-2430
localmemphis.com/contact-us

PBS WKNO
901-458-2521
wknopi@wkno.org

INFORMATION REPOSITORY & DOCUMENTATION

5th and Keel

August 7, 2025 | Phase 1

This assessment has revealed no evidence of RECs, CRECs, HRECs, VECs, or de minimis conditions in connection with the Subject Property. No further environmental information is recommended to be collected for the Subject Property at this time.

» DOWNLOAD REPORT

Website
The CRA's Brownfields website features grant information, documenation, and provides a form for submitting a potential browfield site.
https://cramemphis.org/brownfields

Meeting Information
An archive of past meeting agendas and minutes can be found on the meetings page.
https://cramemphis.org/brownfields/meetings

Environmental Assessments
All assessment reports and remediation plans can be found on the assessments page
https://cramemphis.org/brownfield-assessments

Mapping
The CRA is hiring a GIS consultant to prepare a web-based map to document site activities and assessments.

MEETING SPACES

Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library

Examples of public meeting spaces:

Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library
3030 Poplar Ave.
Memphis, TN 38111

Binghampton Development Corporation
280 Tillman St.
Memphis, TN 38112

Community Redevelopment Agency
850 N. Manassas St.
Memphis, TN 38107

Cornelia Crenshaw Memorial Library
531 Vance Ave.
Memphis, TN 38126

Cossitt Library
33 S. Front St.
Memphis, TN 38103

Church Health: Crosstown
1350 Concourse Ave.
1st Floor
Memphis, TN 38104

Gaston Park Library
1040 S. 3rd St.
Memphis, TN 38106

Katie Sexton Community Center
1235 Brown Ave.
Memphis, TN 38107

North Branch Library
1192 Vollintine Ave.
Memphis, TN 38107

South Memphis Farmers Market
1400 Mississippi Blvd.
Memphis, TN 38106

Stax Music Academy and Museum
926 E. McLemore Ave.
Memphis, TN 38106

TechFit
954 N. Second St.
Memphis, TN 38106

Varsity Spirit
711 N. Front St.
Memphis, TN 38107

Willie Mae Brooks Resource Center
1300 Jackson Ave.
Memphis, TN 38106

GRANT CONTACTS

Community Representatives
The four (4) target areas are each served by a Community Liaison nominated by the Memphis Brownfield Coalition to represent and engage with the target area in which he or she resides. Each target area also has a Brownfield Coordinator from the partner organization.

City of Memphis & Shelby County Community Redevelopment Agency

Project Manager & Point of Contact
Emma Turri, emma.turri@cramemphis.org

Program Director
Vivian Ekstrom, vivian.ekstrom@cramemphis.org

850 N. Manassas St
Memphis, TN 38107
901-435-6992

Meeting Information

The Works Inc.
Eric Neimeyer, eric@theworkscdc.org
Mike Larrivee, mike@theworkscdc.org

Target Area Representatives:

Uptown Redevelopment Area
CRA - Emma Turri, emma.turri@cramemphis.org
Felicia Lloyd, liaison, fcrayton@techfittn.org

Klondike/North Memphis Industrial Area
Klondike Smokey City CDC - Dr. Eziza Ogbeiwi-Risher, dreziza@gmail.com
Joyce Grimes, liaison, jgrimes.t2t@gmail.com

Soulsville/South City
Soulsville Foundation - Bria Saulsberry, bria.saulsberry@soulsvillefoundation.org
Ben Ivy, liaison, bivy1946@gmail.com

Binghampton
BDC – Andy Kizzee, andy@bdcmemphis.org
Elizabeth Gibson, liaison, lizzyg38112@gmail.com

GOVERNMENT CONTACTS

Municipal Government

City Mayor's Office
Mayor Paul Young, mayor@memphistn.gov, 901-636-6000

County Mayor's Office
Mayor Lee Harris, officeofthemayor@shelbycountytn.gov, 901-222-2000

City Council Representatives

Binghampton
District 5 – Philip Spinosa, philip.spinosa@memphistn.gov
Super District 9-1 Chase Carlisle, chase.carlisle@memphistn.gov
Super District 9-2 J. Ford Canale, Jford.canale@memphistn.gov
Super District 9-3 Dr. Jeff Warren, jeff.warren@memphistn.gov

Soulsville
District 6 – Edmund Ford, Sr., edmund.fordsr@memphistn.gov
District 4 – Jana Swearengen-Washington, jana.swearengen-wash@memphistn.gov
Super District 8–1 JB Smiley, Jr. jb.smileyjr@memphistn.gov
Super District 8–2 Janika White, janika.white@memphistn.gov
Super District 8–3 Yolanda Cooper - Sutton, yolanda.coopersutton@memphistn.gov

Klondike
District 7 – Michalyn Easter-Thomas, michalyn.easter-thomas@memphistn.gov
District 6 – Edmund Ford, Sr., edmund.fordsr@memphistn.gov
Super District 8–1 JB Smiley, Jr. jb.smileyjr@memphistn.gov
Super District 8–2 Janika White, janika.white@memphistn.gov
Super District 8–3 Yolanda Cooper - Sutton, yolanda.coopersutton@memphistn.gov

Uptown
District 7 – Michalyn Easter-Thomas, michalyn.easter-thomas@memphistn.gov
Super District 8–1 JB Smiley, Jr. jb.smileyjr@memphistn.gov
Super District 8–2 Janika White, janika.white@memphistn.gov
Super District 8–3 Yolanda Cooper - Sutton, yolanda.coopersutton@memphistn.gov

GOVERNMENT CONTACTS

County Commissioners

Binghampton
District 7
Henri E. Brooks, henri.brooks@shelbycountytn.gov
District 13
Michael Whaley, michael.whaley@shelbycountytn.gov

Soulsville, Klondike, Uptown
District 8
Mickell M. Lowery, mickell.lowery@shelbycountytn.gov

State Government

Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation
Paula Middlebrooks, paula.middlebrooks@tn.gov
615-532-0926

Governor's Office
Governor Bill Lee
600 Dr. MLK Jr Blvd, Nashville TN 37243
615-741-2001

TN Senators
29 Raumesh Akbari, sen.raumesh.akbari@capitol.tn.gov
33 London Lamar, sen.london.lamar@capitol.tn.gov
30 Sara Kyle, sen.sara.kyle@capitol.tn.gov

TN Representative
86 Justin Pearson, rep.justin.j.pearson@capitol.tn.gov
88 Larry Miller, rep.larry.miller@capitol.tn.gov
96 Gabby Salinas, rep.gabby.salinas@capitol.tn.gov
93 G. A. Hardaway, rep.ga.hardaway@capitol.tn.gov
91 Torrey Harris, rep.torrey.harris@capitol.tn.gov

Federal Government

Project Officer, EPA Region 4
Olga Perry, perry.olga@epa.gov, 404-562-8534

U. S. Representative
Steve Cohen, https://cohen.house.gov/contact/email, 901-544-4131

U. S. Senator
Marsha Blackburn, https://www.blackburn.senate.gov/email-me, 901-527-9199
Bill Hagerty, https://www.hagerty.senate.gov/email-me/, 901-544-4224

GLOSSARY AND ACRONYMS

Administrative Record. The body of documents forms the basis for the selection of a particular response at a site. For example, the Administrative Record for remedy selection includes all documents that were considered or relied upon to select the remedy through the record of decision.

Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternative (ABCA): Remedial plan document that includes analysis of cleanup alternatives: identifies the objectives of the cleanup and provides an analysis of cleanup alternatives based on effectiveness, ability to be implemented and cost; documents if the situation meets the need for a cleanup; provides information pertaining to the site background and health and safety; and identifies the proposed action, and explains the rational for its selection.

Brownfields: 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. Cleaning up and reinvesting in these properties protects the environment, reduces blight, and takes development pressures off greenspaces and working lands.

Cleanup. Actions taken to deal with a release or threat of release of a hazardous substance that could affect humans and/or the environment. The term "cleanup" is sometimes used interchangeably with the terms "remedial action," "remediation," "removal action," "response action," or "corrective action."

Community Advisory Group (CAG). A committee, task force, or board made up of citizens affected by a brownfield site. CAGs provide a public forum for community members to present and discuss their needs and concerns about the decision-making process at sites affecting them.

Community Engagement. The process of involving communities in all phases of the assessment or cleanup process. Communities are asked to provide input on how a planned cleanup will be conducted and how it may affect community plans and goals. See also Community Involvement.

Community Involvement. The term used by EPA to identify its process for engaging in dialogue and collaboration with communities affected brownfield sites. EPA's community involvement approach is founded in the belief that people have a right to know what the Agency is doing in their community and to have a say in it. Its purpose is to give people the opportunity to become involved in the Agency's brownfields activities, to help shape the decisions that are made.

Community Involvement Plan (CIP). A plan that outlines specific community involvement activities that occur during the investigation of brownfield sites. The CIP outlines how EPA will keep the public informed of assessment and cleanup planning at the sites and the ways in which residents can review and comment on decisions that may affect the final actions at the site. The document is available in the site's information repository maintained by EPA. The CIP may be modified as necessary to respond to changes in community concerns, information needs and activities.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). A federal law passed in 1980 and modified in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act. Commonly known as Superfund, CERCLA is intended to protect people's health and the environment by investigating and cleaning up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste site.

Contaminant(s). Any physical, chemical, biological or radiological substance or matter that has an adverse effect on air, water or soil.

Contamination. Introduction into water, air and soil of microorganisms, chemicals, toxic substances, wastes or wastewater in a concentration that makes the medium unfit for its next intended use. Also applies to surfaces of objects, buildings and various household use products.

CRA. City of Memphis and Shelby County Community Redevelopment Agency

EJ. See Environmental Justice.

Environmental Justice. The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

EPA. Environmental Protection Agency

EPC. Environmental Protection Commission

ESA. Environmental Site Assessment

Feasibility Study. The feasibility study is an analysis of the practicality of a proposal and evaluates alternatives and costs for their effectiveness in protecting human health and the environment.

Grant. An award of financial assistance, including cooperative agreements, in the form of money, or property in lieu of money, by the Federal Government to an eligible grantee.

Hazardous Substance(s). Any material that poses a threat to human health and/or the environment. Typical hazardous substances are toxic, corrosive, ignitable, explosive or chemically reactive. Any substance designated by EPA to be reported if a designated quantity of the substance is spilled in the waters of the United States or is otherwise released into the environment.

Information Repository. A file containing current information, technical reports and reference documents regarding a brownfield site. Information is primarily provided electronically. The information repository usually is located in a public building convenient for local residents such as a library.

Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA). Uses existing information to help a community understand the property conditions by examining current and historical uses of the site and potential threats to human health or the environment. Environmental assessments must be completed or overseen by an environmental professional, which may include a licensed geologist, engineer or site professional.

GLOSSARY AND ACRONYMS

Phase 2 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA). Recommended if the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment results reveal known or potential contamination found on the property, sometimes called recognized environmental conditions (RECs). An environmental professional develops a sampling plan to evaluate the potential presence of contamination from hazardous substances and petroleum on the property and determines the sources and exposures. Environmental professionals may also consult with state and tribal brownfield programs regarding required assessment activities.

Perchloroethylene (PCE). PCE is a solvent that is widely used for consumer uses such as brake cleaners and adhesives, in commercial applications such as dry cleaning, and in many industrial settings. Effects resulting from acute (short term) high-level inhalation exposure of humans to PCE include irritation of the upper respiratory tract and eyes, kidney dysfunction, and neurological effects such as reversible mood and behavioral changes, impairment of coordination, dizziness, headache, sleepiness, and unconsciousness. The primary effects from chronic (long term) inhalation exposure are neurological, including impaired cognitive and motor neurobehavioral performance.

Plume. A contaminated ground water plume exists when hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants are present within an aquifer system. A plume of contaminated ground water may be formed when substances are released to ground water from a source at a facility. The contaminated plume can spread horizontally, vertically, and transversely through the aquifer system by means of infiltration, migration, inter-aquifer exchange, and interaction with surface water. This movement of contaminants throughout an aquifer usually occurs in the direction of ground water flow but can spread against the predominant flow direction.

Potentially Responsible Parties. Any individual or company (including owners, operators, transporters or generators that has been identified as being potentially responsible for or contributing to a spill or other potential contamination at a brownfield site. Whenever possible, through administrative and legal action, EPA requires PRPs to clean up hazardous sites that have been contaminated.

Public Meeting(s). Formal public sessions that are characterized by a presentation to the public followed by a question-and-answer session.

Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAAP). A written document that provides a blueprint for the entire project and each specific task to ensure that the project produces reliable data that can be used to meet the project's overall objectives and goals. By law, any EPA-funded assessment project must have an approved QAPP before it can begin collecting samples. The purpose of this requirement is to ensure that the data collected by sampling & monitoring projects are of known and suitable quality and quantity.

Remedial Investigation. The remedial investigation is a study designed to collect the data necessary to determine the nature and extent of contamination at a site.

Site: Location selected for Brownfields or environmental activity; place for potential redevelopment.

Stakeholder. Any organization, government entity or individual affected by the project or with a particular interest in the project.

Superfund. The program operated under the legislative authority of CERCLA that funds and carries out EPA solid waste emergency and long-term removal and remedial activities. These activities include establishing the National Priorities List, investigating site for inclusion on the list, determining their priority and conducting and/or supervising cleanup and other remedial actions.

TDEC. Tennessee, Department of Environment and Conservation

Tetrachloroethylene.
See Perchloroethylene.

Trichloroethylene. A chemical that is used as a solvent to remove oils and grease from metal products and is found in adhesives, paint removers, typewriter correction fluids and spot removers. TCE is colorless liquid with an odor similar to ether and is a manufactured substance which does not occur naturally in the environment. It minimally dissolves in water and can remain in groundwater for a long time. TCE evaporates from surface water and soil, although it evaporates less easily from soil. Exposure from TCE is most commonly through breathing air that has TCE vapors, drinking or showering in contaminated water, or direct contact with contaminated soil. Long-term exposure to this family of chemicals is suspected of causing cancer, as well as problems of the liver and weakening of the immune system.

Vapor Intrusion. Occurs when underground pollutants release chemical vapors that travel up through the soil and accumulate beneath building foundations. Air in the building becomes polluted when vapors enter through cracks or holes in foundations and crawl spaces.

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs). A type of organic compound that tends to change from a liquid to a gas at low temperatures when exposed to air. As a result of this tendency, VOCs disappear more rapidly from surface water than from groundwater. Since groundwater does not come into contact with air, VOCs are not easily released and can be remain in groundwater that is being used for drinking water, posing a threat to human health. Some VOCs are believed to cause cancer in humans.

Voluntary Cleanup Oversight and Assitance Program (VOAP). Creates a legal record of how land can be used in future. Example: Restrictions on whether a site can be Residential. Also assists in creating the plan of how to remediate/ cleanup if possible.

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
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cramemphis.org/brownfields

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN (NOV. 2025)