

Community Member Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)



Site Reuse and Revitalization Program: Community Wide Assessment

There's a new tool available to help revitalize *The Yard*! Funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfield Community-Wide Assessment Grant is now available through the City to study priority brownfield sites within "The Yard" and assist with clean-up/reuse planning activities.

Why should I care? Potential environmental issues can result in brownfields within "The Yard" being overlooked by the real estate development and business community. Every time "The Yard" is not considered for new development the Hillyard community loses out on job opportunities and greater economic prosperity as businesses go elsewhere.

How will the community benefit? The cleanup and reuse of brownfields provide many benefits to the surrounding community by supporting several established community goals, including:

- Providing an environment ready to create and sustain family wage jobs and economic prosperity.
- Making neighborhoods safer and healthier by contributing to environmental restoration.

How will property owners benefit? Eligible, priority sites will be considered for Phase I & II Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs), hazardous materials surveys and a variety of clean-up/reuse planning activities at no cost to the owner! They will also benefit from:

- Removing unknowns regarding site conditions that might hold up a sale/redevelopment plan.
- Realizing enhanced return from the property by making it more valuable and marketable.
- Reducing the potential that adjacent properties could be impacting their property (& vice versa).
- Reducing potential liabilities and enforcement actions that may result in penalties and costly clean-ups.

Who is paying for this work? The U.S. EPA Grant can provide 100% of the funding for ESA and clean-up/reuse planning.

How can I help? You can help by telling others about this grant opportunity. The Northeast Public Development Authority (NEPDA) and City will also be hosting a series of community meetings as part of this and other related grant processes. We want to address any concerns you may have about the brownfield assessment process and need your help in identifying priority sites. The first of three community meetings will be held on March 16, 2016. Visit THE YARD webpage for more details regarding this and other upcoming community events.

Additional Information

For more information, contact Melissa Owen (Project Planner, Spokane Planning & Development Services) at 509-625-6063, mowen@spokanecity.org, or visit the project website at <https://my.spokanecity.org/projects/the-yard/>