



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

Lakewood, CO

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development 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. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Lakewood was selected to receive two brownfields assessment grants. Lakewood, located on the western edge of the Denver metropolitan area, is home to 144,150 residents. The city's early development was spurred by West Colfax Avenue and the Denver, Lakewood and Golden (DL&G) rail line. Interstate construction in the 1960s eliminated the DL&G line as a significant transportation route. The decline of these transportation links has left a legacy of deteriorating industrial and commercial districts on the once prominent mile-wide transit corridor. The corridor, which accounts for 45 percent of the city, encompasses four residential neighborhoods. Ten percent of residents in these neighborhoods live below the poverty

Assessment Grants

New
2005

\$200,000 for hazardous substances
\$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the City of Lakewood for two brownfields assessment grants. Grant funds will be used to support community outreach and education, conduct Phase I and II environmental site assessments, prepare risk assessments, and develop cleanup plans for sites contaminated with hazardous substances along the Denver, Lakewood and Golden (DL&G) transit-oriented development corridor of Lakewood. The rail line, established in 1891, ran its last freight train in 1988. Petroleum funds will be used to perform the same tasks at sites along the corridor with potential petroleum contamination.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 8 Brownfields Team

303-312-6803

http://www.epa.gov/region08/land_waste/bfhome/bfhome.html

Grant Recipient: City of Lakewood, CO

303-987-7192

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

level. Although 15 percent of residents are Hispanic, the percentage jumps to 45 percent in pockets adjacent to the corridor. The city plans to update the aging freight rail corridor with light rail transit, which would enable redevelopment to occur at the same time the metro Denver region undertakes a major transportation upgrade. Brownfields assessment is key to removing

barriers to new development that will support the new light rail transit corridor. Redevelopment is expected to revitalize the Lakewood community by expanding its retail and commercial tax base and creating new employment centers.