

**Meeting:** Metro Council Work Session

Date: Thursday, January 29, 2015

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: Metro Regional Center, Council Annex

#### CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

3 PM 1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

3:10 PM 2. OREGON BROWNFIELDS COALITION UPDATE Noah Siegel, Metro

John Williams, Metro

4:00 PM 3. COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATES AND COUNCIL

**COMMUNICATION** 

#### **ADJOURN**

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ការគោរពសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ ។ សំរាប់ព័ត៌មានអំពីកម្មវិធីសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ Metro ឬដើម្បីទទួលពាក្យបណ្ដឹងរើសអើងសូមចូលទស្សនាគេហទំព័រ

www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrightsๆ

បើលោកអ្នកត្រូវការអ្នកបកប្រែភាសានៅពេលអង្គ ប្រងុំសាធារណៈ សូមទូរស័ព្ទមកលេខ 503-797-1890 (ម៉ោង 8 ព្រឹកដល់ម៉ោង 5 ល្ងាច ថ្ងៃធ្វើការ) ប្រាំពីរថ្ងៃ

ថ្ងៃធ្វើការ មុនថ្ងៃប្រជុំដើម្បីអាចឲ្យគេសម្រូលតាមសំណើរបស់លោកអ្នក ។

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### OREGON BROWNFIELDS COALITION UPDATE

Metro Council Work Session Thursday, January 29, 2015 Metro Regional Center, Council Annex

#### **METRO COUNCIL**

#### Work Session Worksheet

**PRESENTATION DATE:** January 29th, 2015 **LENGTH:** 45 minutes

PRESENTATION TITLE: Oregon Brownfields Coalition update

**DEPARTMENT:** Planning and Development

PRESENTER(s): John Williams, x1635, John.Williams@oregonmetro.gov

#### WORK SESSION PURPOSE & DESIRED OUTCOMES

- The purpose of the work session is to provide Metro Council with an update on the Brownfields Coalition's progress to date, including legislative proposals and membership makeup.
- The desired outcome of the work session is Council's endorsement of a letter of support for the Brownfield Coalition Legislative proposal.

#### TOPIC BACKGROUND & FRAMING THE WORK SESSION DISCUSSION

In spring 2014, Metro helped convene a strong multi-sector and multi-organizational coalition to develop legislative policy options that would promote the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfield sites, while simultaneously fostering strategic political champions to assist in enacting these policies in the region and the state.

Following many discussions on the array of policy options, many of which were identified in the 2012 Metro Scoping report, subcommittee groups conducted research to inform the coalition's legislative agenda as to what was most impactful and feasible at this point in time. After researching and analyzing best practices and lessons learned from case studies around the nation, the coalition developed two legislative proposals. One bill centered around a tax credit to incentivize cleanup and redevelopment, and the other bill focused on enabling legislation for local jurisdictions to establish a property tax abatement and land bank authority.

A coordinated effort by coalition members led to \$7 million being identified in the Governor's budget to recapitalize Business Oregon's brownfield redevelopment fund. Additionally, Metro, Business Oregon, and the cities of Beaverton and Portland contributed funding for a study (conducted by ECONorthwest and Maul Foster Alongi) that analyzed the development feasibility on identified brownfield sites around the state. These findings look to strengthen the proposals by giving return on investment figures that will inform the size and types of incentives that have an impact on site redevelopment.

The Oregon Brownfields Coalition has already made great strides towards addressing these underutilized, environmentally hazardous sites. Brownfields are not just eyesores in our communities but also adversely affect our growing economy, limiting the potential value in our infrastructure and creating barriers to community revitalization. The outcomes of this effort will support existing Metro programs that address developable land issues, neighborhood revitalization, and healthy and equitable communities. While present efforts have been focused on the 2015 legislative agenda, the coalition's efforts do not stop there and will continue to investigate solutions to promote the cleanup and productive redevelopment of brownfield sites.

Presently, the Coalition has actively been conducting outreach to different stakeholders around the region and state to sign on to the legislative proposal letter of support. This letter represents the diverse group of organizations and jurisdictions that want to see these sites cleaned up and contributing to the state's economy, workforce and communities. Staff recommends endorsement of the legislative proposal letter of support.

#### **QUESTIONS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION**

• Will Council formally endorse the 2015 Oregon Brownfields Coalition legislative agenda in the form of a letter of support?

#### **PACKET MATERIALS**

- Would legislation be required for Council action ☐ Yes X No
- If yes, is draft legislation attached?  $\square$  Yes  $\underline{\mathbf{X}}$  No
- What other materials are you presenting today? **NONE**

Thousands of properties around Oregon are vacant or underutilized because of known or perceived environmental contamination. These brownfield properties — which range from small dry cleaners and former gas stations to large industrial sites — can be found in virtually every city and county. Not only are these sites failing to contribute to Oregon's economic recovery, but they are undermining the livability of communities across the state.

Every brownfield is different, which is why it is important to have a range of strategies at our disposal to solve Oregon's brownfield challenge. A statewide coalition has formed to address this problem by supporting both existing and new policy and funding tools that reduce the risks and costs associated with brownfield cleanup and redevelopment. While our efforts will not be focused entirely on the Legislature, we are supporting a limited legislative agenda for 2015 that we believe will significantly accelerate efforts to clean up these sites and bring them into productive use.

#### Our agenda is as follows:

- ✓ Recapitalize the Brownfields Redevelopment Fund (lottery bond dollars, Business Oregon budget)
- ✓ Allow local governments to create land banks and offer local property tax abatements to facilitate brownfield cleanup and redevelopment (House Bill 2734)
- ✓ Establish a state brownfield income tax credit to provide a statewide incentive to clean up sites that would otherwise remain contaminated (House Bill 2289)

Enactment of these proposals can unlock billions of dollars of economic activity while improving environmental quality and making our communities more successful. We urge you to support these proposals and look forward to working with you to address Oregon's brownfield challenge.

#### Sincerely,

Association of Oregon Counties

Clackamas County

Clackamas County Business Alliance

City of Beaverton

City of Bend

City of Salem

City of Portland

City of Wilsonville

Columbia Corridor Association

Greater Portland Inc.

Hart Crowser

League of Oregon Cities

Metro

Multnomah County

Northwest Environmental Business Council

Oregon Business Association

Oregon Public Ports Association

Oregon State Bldg & Construction Trades

Council

Oregon State Chamber of Commerce

Port of Portland

Tonkon Torp LLP

Washington County

Westside Economic Alliance

# OREGON BROWNFIELDS COALITION

# ORGANIZATIONAL COALITION MEMBERS AS OF JANUARY 2015

ASSOCIATION OF OREGON COUNTIES
LEAGUE OF OREGON CITIES

OREGON PUBLIC PORTS ASSOCIATION

CITIES OF BEAVERTON, BEND, EUGENE, LINCOLN CITY, PORTLAND, SALEM AND SPRINGFIELD

**CLACKAMAS COUNTY** 

MULTNOMAH COUNTY

**WASHINGTON COUNTY** 

**METRO** 

PORT OF PORTLAND

**BUSINESS OREGON** 

OREGON DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY

REGIONAL SOLUTIONS CENTER

US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

1000 FRIENDS OF OREGON

AUDUBON SOCIETY OF PORTLAND

**BEYOND TOXICS** 

COMMUNITY HOUSING FUND

GROUNDWORK PORTLAND

NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERSHIPS

OREGON ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE

OREGON OPPORTUNITY NETWORK

UPSTREAM PUBLIC HEALTH

VERDE

ASSOCIATED OREGON INDUSTRIES

COLUMBIA CORRIDOR ASSOCIATION

NORTHWEST ENVIRONMENTAL BUSINESS COUNCIL

OREGON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

OREGON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

OREGON STATE BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL

OREGON STATE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BUSINESS ALLIANCE

PORTLAND BUSINESS ALLIANCE

WESTSIDE ECONOMIC ALLIANCE

PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

# **BROWNFIELDS: POLLUTED SITES, NEW HOPE**

Oregon is burdened by thousands of polluted sites called brownfields. Ranging in size from large factory sites to small former gas stations and dry cleaners, over 13,000 brownfields are scattered throughout the state – only 35 percent of which have been assessed or cleaned up.

Nearly every Oregonian has a brownfield in their community. They are the vacant lots we drive by daily, the piles of polluted dirt behind rusting chain link fences, the abandoned storefronts blighting our main streets.

Brownfields must be cleaned up before they can be reused for jobs, housing and other community needs. However, cleanup is expensive. Current owners and potential developers are required to pay, even though the original polluters may have gone bankrupt, been acquired by other companies or disappeared. Landowners interested in cleanup often face a time-consuming and expensive maze of permits, regulations and inspections. Many landowners and developers steer clear of known or potential brownfields because the costs and risks are too high to justify action.

Government action to help get brownfields cleaned up could unlock billions of dollars of economic activity. The state's small Brownfields Redevelopment Fund has helped create \$2.3 billion in economic activity with relatively minimal investment. But so far the fund has barely scratched the surface of Oregon's brownfield challenge.

#### SOLUTIONS TO OREGON'S BROWNFIELD CHALLENGE

The Oregon Brownfields Coalition has this goal: find collaborative strategies to help turn these liabilities into community assets quickly and equitably. The members of the Coalition represent public, private and nonprofit partners and a wide range of disparate interests. But we share a common goal with respect to this critical challenge. Brownfields are holding our communities and our economy back. It's time to take action to help communities all over Oregon.

The Coalition proposes these solutions in the 2015 legislative session:

- **Recapitalize the state Brownfields Redevelopment Fund**, as proposed in the Governor's budget.
- Allow local communities to create land banks and offer tax abatements for brownfield cleanup and redevelopment.
- Create state tax credits for brownfield redevelopment.

We look forward to working with you to solve Oregon's brownfield challenge.

#### CONTACT

Oregon Brownfields Coalition 503-797-1562 oregonmetro.gov/brownfields

# OREGON BROWNFIELDS COALITION

# 2015 LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL: MORE DETAILS

Every brownfield is different. It is important to have a range of tools to solve Oregon's brownfield challenge. As such, the Brownfields Coalition is respectfully presenting a three-part legislative proposal for the 2015 Oregon Legislature. In addition to recapitalizing the state Brownfield Fund, here are the strategies the Coalition is recommending.

#### LAND BANKS: COMMUNITY CREATED, COMMUNITY DRIVEN

A land bank is a locally-created public authority that can acquire, hold, manage and transfer property to new owners. Land banks aim to return brownfield sites tneglected by the open market back into into productive use. They do this by:

- acquiring titles to contaminated, vacant, or blighted properties
- facilitating remediation and/or site improvements to eliminate barriers to redevelopment
- transferring properties to owners who will develop the property in a way that supports community priorities.

A land bank works in cooperation with local governments, non-profits, community organizations, lenders, and property developers to leverage available resources to clean up contaminated properties.

**How would land banks benefit Oregon communities?** Local land banks let the community create a streamlined process to acquire, clean up and redevelop brownfields throughout the state. By making the process faster, easier and cheaper, communities can more easily return brownfields to productive use, in a way that reflects their own values.

#### **BROWNFIELD TAX ABATEMENTS: LOCAL SOLUTIONS MAKE THINGS HAPPEN**

Brownfield tax abatements are partial property tax exclusions for specified improvements to brownfields. They can offset risks and costs of brownfield cleanup, especially for sites that would otherwise remain polluted. Abatements can:

- be targeted to specific reinvestment areas
- have a set of conditions attached for participation
- be enacted at the discretion of the local jurisdiction
- offer a new benefit to non-profit development organizations

A tax abatement program for brownfields would focus on work done to assess a property's current contamination and for any cleanup done by the owner. No abatement would be given for any subsequent redevelopment on the property.

**How would a tax abatement benefit Oregon communities?** A tax abatement program would give local control to municipalities to provide incentives for brownfield remediation and redevelopment. Properties that don't pencil out for redevelopment could potentially become feasible to property owners and industrial developers much sooner.

#### BROWNFIELD TAX CREDIT: STATE LEADERSHIP CREATES JOBS

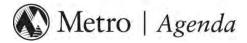
A brownfield tax credit would allow property owners and developers to reduce income taxes by a percentage of the documented qualifying costs of brownfield cleanup. This incentive can help offset risks and costs of brownfield cleanup, especially for sites that would otherwise remain pollutted. The tax credit can:

- apply to prospective purchasers or non-responsible owners (public, private, non-profit)
- have an annual program cap
- require property owners to be enrolled in a DEQ cleanup program
- require a contribution of cleanup costs from the owner

A tax credit program for brownfields would focus on any work done to assess and cleanup properties, including assessment, demolition, cleanup, and disposal.

**How would a tax credit benefit Oregon communities?** A tax credit would give a statewide incentive to property owners and developers that might not explore development on known brownfields. The credit could tilt the development feasibility of key industrial and employment sites, as well as town center and main street redevelopment opportunities statewide. Similar tax credits in other states have created thousands of jobs with relatively little state investment.

Materials following this page were distributed at the meeting.



Meeting: Metro Council Urban Growth Management Retreat

Date: Tuesday, February 3, 2015

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Place: Metro Regional Center, Room 501

#### 1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 2. POLICY FRAMEWORK AND OPTIONS
- 3. DISCUSSION
- 4. NEXT STEPS
- 5. ADJOURN

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Metro의 시민권 프로그램에 대한 정보 또는 차별 항의서 양식을 얻으려면, 또는 차별에 대한 불만을 신고 할 수www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. 당신의 언어 지원이 필요한 경우, 회의에 앞서 5 영업일 (오후 5시 주중에 오전 8시) 503-797-1890를 호출합니다.

#### Metroの差別禁止通知

Metroでは公民権を尊重しています。Metroの公民権プログラムに関する情報について、または差別苦情フォームを入手するには、www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights。までお電話ください公開会議で言語通訳を必要とされる方は、Metroがご要請に対応できるよう、公開会議の5営業日前までに503-797-1890(平日午前8時~午後5時)までお電話ください。

#### សេចក្តីជូនដំណីងអំពីការមិនរើសអើងរបស់ Metro

ការគោរពសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ ។ សំរាប់ព័ត៌មានអំពីកម្មវិធីសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ Metro ឬដើម្បីទទួលពាក្យបណ្ដឹងរើសអើងសូមចូលទស្សនាគេហទំព័រ

www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrightsๆ

បើលោកអ្នកត្រូវការអ្នកបកប្រែភាសានៅពេលអង្គ ប្រងុំសាធារណៈ សូមទូរស័ព្ទមកលេខ 503-797-1890 (ម៉ោង 8 ព្រឹកដល់ម៉ោង 5 ល្ងាច ថ្ងៃធ្វើការ) ប្រាំពីរថ្ងៃ

ថ្ងៃធ្វើការ មុនថ្ងៃប្រជុំដើម្បីអាចឲ្យគេសម្រូលតាមសំណើរបស់លោកអ្នក ។

#### إشعار بعدم التمييز من Metro

تحترم Metro الحقوق المدنية. للمزيد من المعلومات حول برنامج Metro للحقوق المدنية أو لإيداع شكوى ضد التمييز، يُرجى زيارة الموقع الإلكتروني www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. إن كنت بحاجة إلى مساعدة في اللغة، يجب عليك الاتصال مقدماً برقم الهاتف 797-1890 (من الساعة 8 صباحاً حتى الساعة 6 مساءاً، أيام الاثنين إلى الجمعة) قبل خمسة (5) أيام عمل من موعد الاجتماع.

#### Paunawa ng Metro sa kawalan ng diskriminasyon

Iginagalang ng Metro ang mga karapatang sibil. Para sa impormasyon tungkol sa programa ng Metro sa mga karapatang sibil, o upang makakuha ng porma ng reklamo sa diskriminasyon, bisitahin ang <a href="www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights">www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights</a>. Kung kailangan ninyo ng interpreter ng wika sa isang pampublikong pulong, tumawag sa 503-797-1890 (8 a.m. hanggang 5 p.m. Lunes hanggang Biyernes) lima araw ng trabaho bago ang pulong upang mapagbigyan ang inyong kahilingan.Notificación de no discriminación de Metro.

#### Notificación de no discriminación de Metro

Metro respeta los derechos civiles. Para obtener información sobre el programa de derechos civiles de Metro o para obtener un formulario de reclamo por discriminación, ingrese a <a href="https://www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights">www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights</a>. Si necesita asistencia con el idioma, llame al 503-797-1890 (de 8:00 a. m. a 5:00 p. m. los días de semana) 5 días laborales antes de la asamblea.

#### Уведомление о недопущении дискриминации от Metro

Metro уважает гражданские права. Узнать о программе Metro по соблюдению гражданских прав и получить форму жалобы о дискриминации можно на вебсайте <a href="www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights">www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights</a>. Если вам нужен переводчик на общественном собрании, оставьте свой запрос, позвонив по номеру 503-797-1890 в рабочие дни с 8:00 до 17:00 и за пять рабочих дней до даты собрания.

#### Avizul Metro privind nediscriminarea

Metro respectă drepturile civile. Pentru informații cu privire la programul Metro pentru drepturi civile sau pentru a obține un formular de reclamație împotriva discriminării, vizitați www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights. Dacă aveți nevoie de un interpret de limbă la o ședință publică, sunați la 503-797-1890 (între orele 8 și 5, în timpul zilelor lucrătoare) cu cinci zile lucrătoare înainte de ședință, pentru a putea să vă răspunde în mod favorabil la cerere.

#### Metro txoj kev ntxub ntxaug daim ntawv ceeb toom

Metro tributes cai. Rau cov lus qhia txog Metro txoj cai kev pab, los yog kom sau ib daim ntawv tsis txaus siab, mus saib <a href="www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights">www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights</a>. Yog hais tias koj xav tau lus kev pab, hu rau 503-797-1890 (8 teev sawv ntxov txog 5 teev tsaus ntuj weekdays) 5 hnub ua hauj lwm ua ntej ntawm lub rooj sib tham.





# Oregon Brownfields Coalition update

John Williams, Noah Siegel, Brian Harper Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Metro Council Work Session





# Metro Brownfields Scoping Project

November 12, 2012





# **Desired Outcomes**

- Improve regional brownfield data
- Clarify brownfield needs and opportunities
- Outline a range of potential strategies
- Enable local and regional policy discussions to address the needs





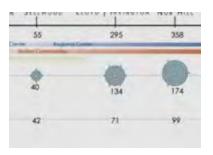


# Report Products

- Estimation and illustration of the extent of brownfields in the region
- Spectrum of brownfield site redevelopment typologies
- Several district-level databases
- Outline of potential solutions and next steps







# Coalition members as of January 2015

**Association of Oregon Counties** 

**Associated Oregon Industries** 

Ater Wynne LLP

**Audubon Society** 

**Beyond Toxics** 

**Black Helterline LLP** 

**Business Oregon** 

**Clackamas County** 

**Clackamas County Business** 

**Alliance** 

**City of Beaverton** 

City of Bend

**City of Eugene** 

**City of Lincoln City** 

City of Portland

City of Salem

**City of Springfield** 

City of Tigard

**City of Wilsonville** 

**Columbia Corridor Association** 

**Community Housing Fund** 

**GEI Consultants** 

**Groundwork Portland** 

**Hart Crowser** 

**League of Oregon Cities** 

Maul, Foster & Alongi

Metro

**Multnomah County** 

**Native Plant Society of Oregon** 

**NEEK Engineering** 

**Neighborhood Partnerships** 

**Northwest Environmental Business** 

Council

1000 Friends of Oregon

**Oregon Business Authority** 

**Oregon DEQ** 

**Oregon Economic Development** 

**Association** 

**Oregon Environmental Justice Task** 

**Force** 

**Oregon Health Authority** 

**Oregon Opportunity Network** 

**Oregon Public Ports Association** 

Oregon State Building and

**Construction Trades Council** 

**Oregon State Chamber of** 

Commerce

Port of Portland

**Portland Business Association** 

**Portland State University** 

**Regional Solutions Center** 

**Special Districts Association of** 

Oregon

**Stoel Rives LLP** 

Sussman Shank LLP

**Tonkon Torp LLP** 

**Upstream Public Health** 

**U.S. Environmental Protection** 

Agency

Verde NW

**Westside Economic Alliance** 

# **Brownfield Solutions: Tax Credit**

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- State, personal or business income tax credit for clean-up costs
- State agency administers the program: auditing, authorizing, and awarding credits
- Developers find predictable benefit to make projects pencil. Communities benefit by having brownfields find new life

## **COSTS**

 Some potential state income tax revenue is lost. (However, many brownfields currently don't generate any state income tax.)

### **ACTION NEEDED**

Oregon Legislature must pass authorizing statute. State agency must create program

# Brownfield Solutions: Tax Abatement

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Partial property tax exclusion for improvements to brownfield sites
- City/County governments can choose to participate
- Developers recoup some cleanup costs. Local and state governments find new sources of income and property taxes.

## **COSTS**

• Local governments forgo full tax benefit from redevelopment. Developers pay for cleanup.

### **ACTION NEEDED**

 Oregon Legislature must pass authorizing statute for local governments to create programs

# **Brownfield Solutions: Land Banking**

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Creating local non-profit corporations that may acquire, redevelop and sell brownfield sites using a variety of financing strategies
- Local governments create land banks, governed by community Boards of Directors
- Local and state governments find new sources of income/property taxes,
   more efficient use of existing infrastructure

### **COSTS**

 Seed capital comes from state, local or nonprofit sources. Land bank pays for itself through investments and sales

### **ACTION NEEDED**

 Oregon Legislature must pass authorizing statute for local governments to create land banks

# What's next?

- Coalition efforts do not end with the 2015 legislative session
- Other programmatic and legislative ideas have been discussed, including but not limited to:
  - Licensed Site Remediation Professional program
  - Pooled environmental insurance program
  - Brownfield urban renewal areas
  - Tax Assessment reform
  - Local and regional funding programs