



# **Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grants: Opportunities for Local Governments and Nonprofits**

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### ***Presenters***

- **Aimee Storm**, EPA's Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization
- **Drew Curtis**, Community Development Program Manager, Ironbound Community Corporation, Newark, NJ
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### **Moderator**

- **Jen Horton**, EPA's Office of Sustainable Communities

# Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilots



- New EPA program started in 2010:
    - Assist with community involvement, research planning and implementation strategies related to brownfields cleanup & reuse
    - Focus on key brownfields sites and surrounding area
  - Assistance given for:
    - Evaluating existing conditions
    - Identifying community priorities
    - Developing brownfields area-wide plan; and
    - Identifying resources or leveraging opportunities to help implement plans
- ...within an area affected by brownfields, such as a neighborhood, downtown district, local commercial corridor, etc.



*Goshen,  
IN*



*Chicopee,  
MA*



*Monaca, PA*

# BF AWP Program Context



- Multiple sites are often connected through ***proximity*** and ***infrastructure***
- Brownfields limit the economic, environmental and social prosperity of their surroundings
  - Area revitalization is ***critical to the successful long-term reuse of the brownfields***
  - Approaching brownfields from area perspective can be more effective than a single site focus



***Roanoke, VA***

- ***Leveraging*** local/state/federal funding will help communities revitalize contaminated sites
- BF AWP program is part of the HUD-DOT-EPA [Partnership for Sustainable Communities](#)

# BF AWP Grant Competitions



- FY10 competition resulted in 23 pilots selected
  - 16 local governments, 1 tribe, 5 non-profits, and 1 regional planning commission
  - Pilot project areas consisted of waterfronts, downtown areas, neighborhoods, commercial corridors, old industrial areas, greenway corridors, etc – mix of rural and urban communities

FY12 competition planned; 20 new projects anticipated



*Confederated Tribes of Colville Reservation*



*Ogdensburg, NY*





# Using an Area-Wide Approach to Brownfields and Land Revitalization



- Helps lead to environmental health & protection, in conjunction with economic development/job creation



*Lowell,  
MA*

- Considers multiple community goals
- Encourages meaningful community involvement in a locally driven planning process
- Positions community to focus on plan implementation:
  - Short-term actions & long-term goals
  - Leveraging opportunities
  - Help limit urban sprawl & associated environmental impacts
  - Encourage cleanup & redevelopment of infill



*DISUR, PR*