

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

January 2020 - December 2020

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January 2021

#### Dear Reader:

Since 1970, Colorado's population has increased by 151%, and the pressure to grow has never been greater. Our Colorado communities often struggle to know where to grow and how to build great places that create economic prosperity and inclusive communities.

The Colorado Department of Health and Environment (CDPHE) knows that some of the best places for growth can be found hiding in plain site: abandoned industrial facilities, long-forgotten gas stations, landfills, and other potentially environmentally contaminated properties, otherwise known as brownfields. Reusing these sites allows the use of already existing infrastructure, and supports infill and redevelopment. Often these sites are in great locations to support growth, but sit idle and hinder economic development due to their previous use and current condition.

That's why the CDPHE, with the help of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), started the Brownfields Program. The Brownfields Program has seen great success over the years due to various partners and outreach organizations who drove the program forward. Today, the Program is carried out under the name the Colorado Brownfields Partnership in order to support public and private property owners with educational and financial resources to facilitate planning and cleanup of brownfield sites.

This year, the Colorado Brownfields Partnership continues to support Colorado communities in their economic development and brownfield revitalization efforts despite the COVID pandemic. Although COVID had caused significant impacts in our communities this past year, we have been working diligently to provide support in order for Colorado to recover stronger. We are supporting brownfield redevelopment opportunities across the State that address community needs for housing, Community hibs, job centers and more during this turbulent time. This year alone we have reviewed 71 voluntary clean-up plans, dispersed \$1,393,360 in tax credits for clean up, and implemented \$207,693 of grants to local communities for clean-up and projects support across the state. We are pleased with our progress this year and excited to continue supporting our Colorado communities' and property owners'.

Sincerely,

Doug Jamison

Superfund/Brownfields Unit Leader

Mark Rudolph Superfund/Brownfields Unit



















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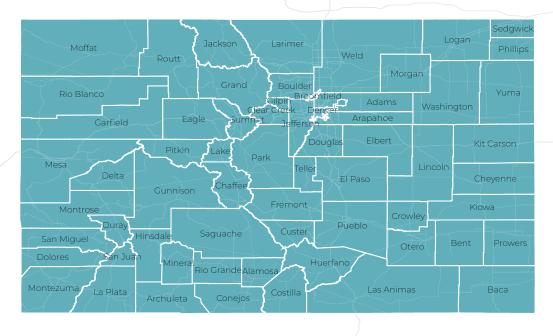
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# WHAT IS THE COLORADO BROWNFIELDS PARTNERSHIP?

At the Colorado Brownfields Partnership, we know the value of brownfield properties, but we also recognize that embarking on a brownfield project can be intimidating for local governments and property owners. The cost and time of cleanup can be extensive, and the political will and leadership isn't always in place to see a project through. The Colorado Brownfields Partnership is a statewide collaboration between Community

Builders, Development Research Partners, and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). Our goal at the Colorado Brownfields Partnership is to help Colorado communities revitalize brownfield sites as a way of tapping into economic potential. We offer free support and guidance in planning assistance, capacity building, education, and financial help to spur this revitalization.



The Colorado Brownfields Partnership offers services across the state.



### HISTORY

In the early 1990's, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) started a nation wide brownfields program that provided small amounts of seed money to local governments, ultimately launching hundreds of "pilot" brownfield projects. Since then, each U.S. state has founded its own program which distributes federal EPA funding at the state level. Through the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), the state of Colorado launched the Brownfields Program in 1994. The Program was the first to be funded by EPA and had the first VCUP program in the U.S.

The Brownfields Program was created to provide public and private property owners with resources to facilitate cleanups at potentially contaminated properties where redevelopment might be hindered by actual or perceived contamination. However, as the program progressed, brownfield revitalization became a much more extensive process. It was critical to provide more expertise and resources to progress the program and make it stronger.

In 2003, the State brought in the Colorado Brownfields Foundation. Together, the Foundation and the state designed a process that not only supported environmental cleanup, but created implementation strategies to turn brownfield sites into economically productive assets. An incredible amount of communities saw economic success through this support, and as a result, CDPHE saw an increasing need for economic and redevelopment expertise to support local communities. The CDPHE continued to expand the partnerships necessary to facilitate brownfields redevelopment across Colorado.

This expansion created what is known today as the Colorado Brownfields Partnership which includes the CDPHE, Community Builders, and Development Research Partners (founder of the Colorado Brownfields Foundation). Since 2015, the Colorado Brownfields Partnership distributes CDPHE and EPA financial resources across the state, while also educating Colorado communities and property owners about the role of brownfields in local economic development.



Community Builders is a nonprofit organization based in Glenwood Springs that works to inform, enable, and inspire local leaders with the resources and assistance they need to build strong, prosperous, and livable communities. Community Builders serves as the primary outreach organization for the Colorado Brownfields Partnership.



#### **Development Research Partners**

Development Research Partners offers professional economic, real estate, research and transactional support out of Littleton, Colorado. They serve as technical advisers within the Partnership, and provide studies, analysis, and in-depth knowledge to help communities strategically reach their goals.



Since 1994 The Colorado
Department of Public Health
and Environment has provided
resources to facilitate brownfield
site cleanups in Colorado.
CDPHE contributes the financial
assistance to the Partnership,
and executes the application
and review process for the
program.



# WHAT WE DO & HOW WE DO IT?

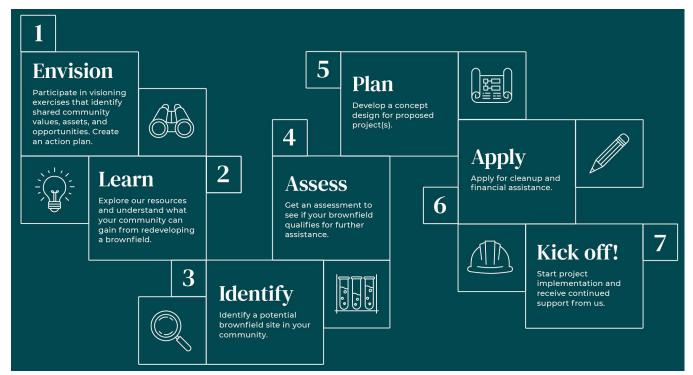
Every community has brownfield properties that are vacant or underutilized. When these properties are perceived to have environmental issues, they become easier to ignore rather than address head-on. The result? Properties that could be real assets to the community become a liability and sit stagnant. However, these sites offer great potential and opportunities for revitalization efforts such as economic development, housing and much more. At the Colorado Brownfields Partnership we address brownfields by starting with a vision that is designed by the community, stakeholders, and property owners to develop a shared understanding of local needs and opportunities. We work with stakeholders and the greater community to identify potential brownfield properties and determine how redevelopment

of these properties can meet community goals. Finally we work to support communities with resources and funding to identify and address environmental concerns that might complicate property redevelopment.

Revitalization starts with a local vision and brownfields sites can be a key component of revitalization efforts. Communities across Colorado have created affordable housing, job centers, event centers, and parks, by revitalizing brownfields, which creates a chain reaction for more economic development.

Through the Colorado Brownfields Partnership 7-step process, communities are provided with the necessary tools, support, remediation and redevelopment expertise to move from vision to implementation to create transformative projects.

#### **OUR COMMUNITY APPROACH**



## SERVICES

At the Colorado Brownfields Partnership our goal is to provide brownfields education and technical assistance to protect human health and the environment, and enable redevelopment and reuse to deliver catalytic impact across Colorado. Our 7-step process is designed for communities, however, our services and support extend to developers and property owners through planning, cleanup, and financial support.

Our intention is to provide a simple and easy process to receive support. Through on-call coaching we are able to guide communities, property owners, and developers to our 1 step application to receive cleanup and financial resources, workshops and assistance depending on the needs.



- Workshops provide information about brownfields, explain how to access our financial resources, and help communities solve potential challenges.
- Hands-On Assistance
   supports visioning and
   planning, ultimately
   resulting in actionable
   strategies for brownfields
   sites. This work strengthens
   public-private partnerships
   and helps identify creative
   funding sources.
- On-Call Coaching offers risk management support, and assistance in moving brownfield projects toward implementation.



#### **CLEANUP**

- Targeted Brownfields
  Assessment environmental assessments determine if cleanup is needed.
  For necessary cleanups, recommendations and support is provided to inform decision making on remediation options.
  - Voluntary Cleanup and Redevelopment Program (VCUP) provides a roadmap to cleanup and enables access to financial resources. Furthermore, VCUP supports liability management, real estate transfers, cleanup approved certification, comfort letters for investing, lending, and liability relief purposes status and enables access to financial resources in making it happen.



#### **FINANCIAL**

- Brownfields Tax Credits are available on a first-comefirst-serve basis and assist in cleanup costs.
- Revolving Loan Fund
  gives access to low-interest,
  flexible loans for cleanup
  costs.
- Colorado Brownfields
   Cleanup Grants are
   designed to help local
   governments support
   brownfield redevelopment
   and community
   revitalization.









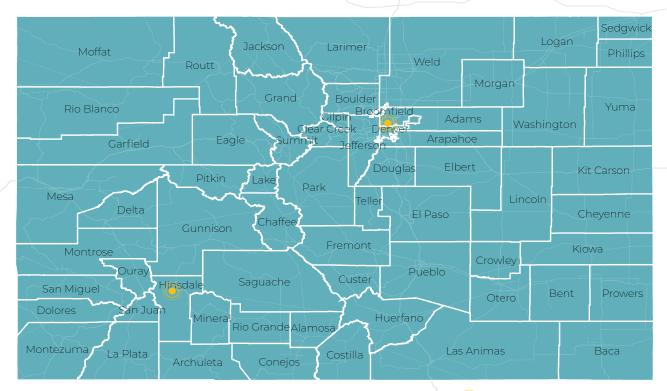


# **SUCCESS STORIES**

There are a lot of ways to measure impact but one of the best ways is through our success stories. The success of the Colorado Brownfields Partnership is best demonstrated in the transformative outcomes of our projects. Our process and services create strong community anchors that support economic development, housing, civic centers, community assets, and much more. Every year we check in on a number of projects where cleanup has been completed or is underway. This year we reached out to Hinsdale County and the Gates Rubber

Factory project to identify their successes to date. For the last decade, Hinsdale county has been working to preserve and transform the historic Ute Ulay mining site. The goal of this site is to create rural heritage tourism and develop an educational experience for the community and visitors to learn the rich history of the town and the economic impacts the mine had within the county.

In contrast, the Gates Rubber Factory is in the heart of Denver. Its goal is to encourage new transit oriented development in the city.





# Success Story

#### **UTE ULAY**



#### **Project Summary**

The Ute Ulay mine is located in Henson, Colorado, and is a ghost mining town in Hinsdale County. The historic mine was founded in 1876 by the Crooke Brothers and underwent multiple ownership changes. Production halted in 1903 due to lower ore yield and the increased complexity of extracting precious metals for the lower value ores being mined at the site. With the mine's closure, the town of Henson became a ghost town. However, once new technologies were invented, the mine reopened on and off until the mid 1960's.

Although the town of Henson never reincorporated, Ute Ulay mine was such a large economic driver for the county that it resulted in the boom and establishment of Lake City. Today the mine has been closed for decades, though a large collection of equipment, buildings, and mining deposit remains intact. Ute Ulay has great historical significance to the county and local leaders found it crucial to preserve the

mine as a National Historic Landmark.

In 2008, Hinsdale County and the owner of Ute Ulay, LKA Gold, began initial conversations to build a public-private partnership that would spearhead the revitalization of Ute Ulay as a historic landmark. Due to the previous use, the CDPHE became a dedicated partner to ensure project implementation that would today become a catalyst for

heritage tourism in the county. As of 2018, Ute Ulay was granted a Stephen H. Hart award and was designated as a National Historical Landmark anchored on the Alpine loop which receives 250,000 tourist annually. Ute Ulay today has expansive trails that serve as self-guided tours of the 12-acre landmark for tourists and locals to learn about the mine's rich history and surrounding historic communities.



#### **OUICK FACTS**

Location: Hinsdale, County

Site: 12 acres

Renovated Use: Historical Preservation & Heritage tourism

Former Use: Industrial scale mine and mill

#### **Reuse Partners**

**CDPHE** 

Colorado Brownfield Foundation
Hinsdale County & Lake City

BLM & EPA

Chamber & Main street groups

Quick Foundation

LLK GOLD

#### Planning and Environment

In 2010, the Brownfields Foundation, Hinsdale County, and local leaders embarked on a community champions training that resulted in an action plan for Ute Ulay. This action plan initiated brownfield assessments that found asbestos, waste rock, lead paint, impacted soil, and much more throughout the site. Due to the complex cleanup required at the mine and mill, the project was split into two separate sections: the Town site and the Mill site. This provided two separate cleanup plans submitted to CDPHE Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCUP) starting in 2012. As of today both sites have been remediated and are ready for redevelopment.





#### Financing and Partnerships

Through creative financing and partnerships, Ute Ulay remediation was completed at a cost of approximately \$2,123,000. CDPHE supported 16% of the project by providing multiple Targeted Brownfield Assessments and grants totaling \$349,000. These funds were leveraged by additional funds provided by EPA and private partners that supported 84% of remediation.

The Ute Ulay project brought together a unique public-private partnership to secure and protect a historic resource and economic asset. The success of Ute Ulay was due to the continued work of local leaders, sustained community engagement, and key private-public partnerships between local stakeholders and a number of federal and state agencies. The outcome of these active partnerships established the Ute Ulay as not only a historic landmark but also a tourist attraction and continually evolving community asset.



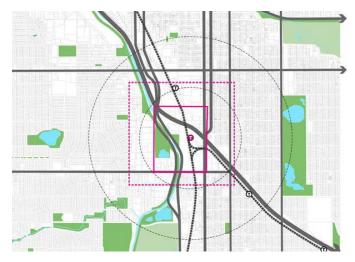
#### **NEXT STEPS**

Although Ute Ulay has accomplished many community goals, its popularity as a tourist destination has spurred new investments to the site including additional remediation and placemaking efforts.

- Installing way-finding and landmark designation in town, on the highway, and on the site.
- Hiring an on-site curator for tourists to learn about the history and community.
- · Developing a picnic area
- Creating a brochure on historical information

# **Success Story**

#### **GATES RUBBER FACTORY**



#### **Project Summary**

In the early 1900s, a man named Charles C. Gates began the Colorado Tire and Leather Company in Denver, Colorado. It quickly grew, and with the shortage of rubber during World War I, became nationally recognized for increasing their tire's life span compared to other companies. In 1918, they were renamed Gates Rubber Company. In 1922, the company had 11 distribution points across the country, and by 1928 began to produce hoses and other rubber products. To accommodate this growth, the company embarked on a 25-square block manufacturing and headquarters

development project. By the 1950s, the company had expanded operations, with 40 locations throughout the world. In 1996, after 85 years, the Gates family sold the company and closed the Denver headquarters and plant on I-25 and South Broadway Street.

As is typical of brownfields sites, a long history of industrial manufacturing left the site with a number of environmental issues that have complicated redevelopment plans. Even before Gates shuttered site operations in 1996, it was designed to be the future home of a transit oriented development that included mixed retail and residential development served by a new station along Denver's expanding light rail network. Although much of the site sat stagnant, for years due to the extensive environmental cleanup necessary to allow property redevelopment the Cherokee Denver Company purchased the site and begin extensive cleanup. During the housing bubble the company could not continue remediation efforts and sold the property to Frontier Environmental Management, LLC. The Frontier Environmental Management, LLC continued to spearhead efforts to complete site remediation and pursue the original plans for the 80 acres site to become the new midtown for the city of Denver. After multiple iterations of development plans on the site, the I-25 and Broadway Area Plan was adopted by the city of Denver in 2016. Although the site is still in remediation, certain parcels have been sold to developers that have implemented the design concepts identified in the original plan envisioned including mixed-use development, neighborhood parks, and much needed multimodal hub. Today remediation is still in process on the North East section, however, redevelopment has been completed on portions of the property with future development to follow.



#### **QUICK FACTS**

Location: Denver, Colorado

Site: 80 acres

Renovated Use: Mixed-use Transit Oriented Development

Former Use: Manufacturing Plant

#### **Reuse Partners**

Gates Rubber Company CDPHE

Frontier Environmental Management, LLC

City of Denver

Cherokee Denver Company

#### Planning and Environment

In 2016, the 1-25 and Broadway Station Area Plan was approved and adopted by the city of Denver, a development vision of the former Gates Rubber Factory site. This area plan identified a clear vision designed through a public engagement informed planning process. The plan incorporated four key elements to be built onto the site including:

- 1. A **connected** Broadway Station that links adjacent neighborhoods to the station and each other.
- 2. A **resilient** Broadway Station that exemplifies best practices for urban infill, brownfield redevelopment, green infrastructure, and transit-oriented design.
- 3. A **vibrant** Broadway Station that is an 18-hour, mixed-use district that is the heart and gathering place for adjacent neighborhoods and a regional destination.
- 4. A transformative multi-modal hub that integrates all modes of transportation safely and efficiently.

The Gates Factory site had multiple contamination issues including but not limited to underground tanks, impacted soils, and ground water contamination. This site has undergone 9 separate cleanup plans in partnership with CDPHE that have entered into the Voluntary Cleanup Program(VCUP). Although certain portions of the site are ready for development, groundwater remediation efforts continue at north east portion of the property until cleanup is complete.

#### Financing and Partnerships

The Gates Rubber Factory needed and still needs extensive remediation to support the 1-25 and Broadway Station Area Plan. These cleanup plans have been in effect for the past two decades and certain portions of the site are still in effect. The total remediation cost for the site is approximately \$24 million. This would not have been possible without the Cherokee Denver Company and Frontier Environmental Management, LLC as fundamental financial and development partners. The Frontier Environmental Management, LLC has put in \$14 million and Cherokee Denver Company \$10 million to support remediation efforts to-date. CDPHE has supported this project by assisting unique cleanup plans through parcel restructuring and much more.



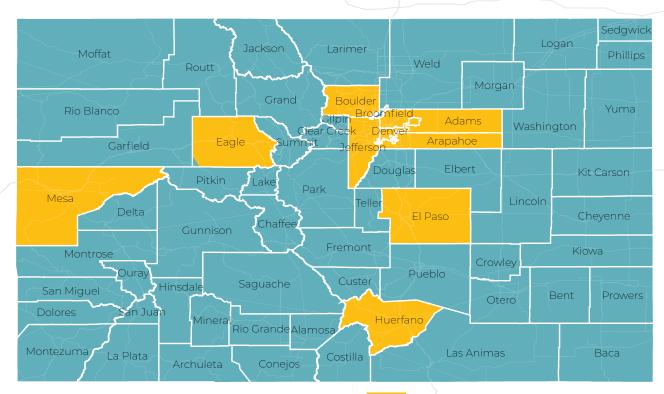
#### **NEXT STEPS**

The Frontier Environmental Management, LLC is working diligently on cleaning up the final North East sections of the site. As of 2018, the group has sold off the East side but is currently in the search for an appropriate developer that can redevelop the site and follow through with the 1-25 and Broadway Station Area Plan.

# FISCAL YEAR PROJECT IMPACT

You have heard the stories, but the numbers truly demonstrate our success throughout the year. In 2020, the Colorado Brownfields Partnership has deployed over \$1,601,053 toward cleanup and remediation, hosted two educational webinars to spur reinvestment and worked with multiple communities to approve 71 sites within Colorado's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCUP). The VCUP program is a key asset to the partnership and has provided local government, property owners, and community leaders with the tools and resources to remediate and implement shovel-ready sites for reuse or redevelopment. Moreover, through an MOU with EPA Region VIII, sites approved by this program are not subject to further action by EPA. Banks and other financial institutions will typically

accept a cleanup approval letter or "No Action Determination" from the VCUP program as assurance that CDPHE or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency won't order additional cleanup. We work hand-in-hand with applicants on an appropriate cleanup plan, offer a variety of financial resources, and conduct cleanup necessary to support redevelopment or reuse. Available financial resources include tax credits, grants, and a revolving loan fund. The Colorado Brownfield Partnership can work with interested parties to determine how these financial incentives might be used to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites. The map below represents all the counties we have supported through VCUP and on-call coaching in 2020.



2020 projects including VCUPs and technical support

# SNAPSHOT OF VOLUNTARY CLEANUP PROGRAM (VCUP) PROJECTS THIS YEAR

The Voluntary Cleanup and Redevelopment Program (VCUP) has supported brownfield redevelopment since 1994. The program allows access to financial resources such as tax credits, revolving loans, and grants by approving a cleanup strategy and reuse or redevelopment plan for each site.

Colorado is the first state to have a VCUP and focus on recycling real estate, supporting real estate transactions, and liability management. The VCUP also supports communities at a much larger capacity by creating and generating job growth, housing and land remediation to support human health.

This year alone, approved projects will remediate 192 acres of land, provide 1,067 new residences and create 766 new jobs. Below represents a few projects approved this year including project location and projected jobs and residences that will be developed once completed.

#### **COLFAX AND KALAMATH APARTMENTS**

1443 N. Kalamath, 1010 and 1050 W. Colfax Ave

City: **Denver** 

County: **Denver** 

Acreage: 2

PROJECTIONS
Residences Jobs
275 12

#### **36TH AND DOWNING PROPERTIES**

3600-3660 Downing St.

City: **Denver** 

County: **Denver** 

Acreage: 2.2



#### **LAMAR STATION CROSSING - PHASE II**

6190 W. 13th Ave.

City: Lakewood

County: **Jefferson** 

Acreage: 2.8



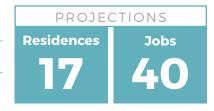
#### **PIK KWIK**

3630 W. 73rd Ave and 7227-7287 Lowel Blvd.

City: **Westminster** 

County: Adams

Acreage: .6



#### **CU CONFERENCE CENTER**

NW and SW corner of Grandview Ave. and 13th St.

City: **Boulder**County: **Boulder** 

Acreage: 3.2



#### **ASCENT ARAPAHOE PARK**

600 Park Ave.

City: **Denver**County: **Denver** 

Acreage: .7



### PLANNING SUPPORT

Successful projects in Eagle and Walsenburg highlight the benefits of coaching and technical assistance provided by the partnership that are outlined below. Although our VCUP program is a critical asset to private and public property owners, Colorado Brownfields Partnership also support brownfield projects with our technical expertise and skills even if sites do not need the State's cleanup or financial assistance. We understand that brownfield sites are complex and it is difficult to know the appropriate next steps. We strive to position ourselves to be a resource to communities and public or private property owners to help navigate the options for their brownfield property.

#### **COMMERCIAL BUILDING, EAGLE**

January - February 2020

In Eagle, Colorado, a buyer of a building was concerned about the environmental conditions that existed at the site. The buyer, accompanied by a real estate broker, contacted the Colorado Brownfields Partnership for an evaluation of the site to determine if cleanup would be necessary to execute the buyer's significant adaptive reuse plan. The Partnership provided an evaluation of the potential presents of asbestos in the building and cleanup to consider. This information is important because the buyer is planning significant renovation of the building.

#### WORKFORCE/AFFORDABLE HOUSING REDEVELOPMENT, WALSENBURG

February - March 2020

In Walsenburg, Colorado, 15 residential sites were sitting vacant due to fires and delinquency. In the interest of revitalizing those sites, the Director of the Huerfano County Economic Development and Tourism contacted the Colorado Brownfields Partnership. The County was seeking to complete required environmental assessments of the sites prior to development. The Partnership helped interpret and plan according to the environmental assessment and help coordinate environmental consultants for federal compliance.





### WEBINARS

Webinars have become essential with the lack of in-person workshops and meetings. Webinars have allowed us to support communities remotely by getting them to think about recovery and how our services can support recovery effort. This series was co-promoted by our Colorado partners including Downtown Colorado Inc. and Colorado Department of Local Affairs Main Street Program.

#### "RECOVERING DURING A PANDEMIC" WEBINAR LESSONS LEARNED

Property values have increased

Working remotely is on the rise Strong migration to Colorado communities from big cities and the pressure to grow has increased Tourism is still strong in our Colorado communities

Downtown vacancies are on the rise and transition of uses may be the key recovery on our main streets.

THE PRESSURE TO GROW HAS ONLY INTENSIFIED IN OUR COLORADO COMMUNITIES, HOWEVER, MAIN STREETS BUSINESS ARE LACKING IN INVESTMENT AND FACE CONTINUED FEAR OF CLOSURES.

#### HOW BROWNFIELDS CAN BE OPPORTUNITIES DURING ECONOMIC TURMOIL? -

Infill land opportunities take advantage of existing infrastructure investment Potential Tax
Revenue Recovery

Ability to partner with private sector to develop catalytic projects Align community goals with brownfields properties

Prime property for development and/or reuse during economic downfalls to prepare them for post pandemic recovery

These webinars were geared toward Main Street communities throughout Colorado to spread awareness of the services we offer that we can support communities during the pandemic. These resources include free planning and visioning support for communities and financial assistance during this trying economic time.

# FISICAL YEAR PROJECT IMPACT RESULTS

Although our Colorado communities are facing stark economic challenges, our local leaders are working hard to prepare for recovery. The Colorado Brownfields Partnership understands the struggle we are all facing and we are prepared to support communities during these unpredictable times. This past year, we were able to successfully deploy our resources throughout the state to 71 Voluntary Cleanup projects.





#### **NEW PROJECTS**

971

/66

PROJECTED NEW JOBS
AS A RESULT OF 2020 PROJECTS

PROJECTED
NEW
HOUSING
UNITS
AS A RESULT
OF 2020

**PROJECTS** 

WEBINARS

**50**+

attendees

192

**ACRES BEING REMEDIATED** 

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Asbestos

Elevated PAH soils

Upgradient PCE plume

Vapor Mitigation













# FISCAL YEAR COMMUNICATIONS IMPACT

Brownfields can be tricky to understand, and the process communities and property owners must go through to reach project completion is complex. That's why the Partnership utilizes clear communications to target individuals who may lack awareness or education about brownfields. The Partnerships communications plan is rooted in the idea that clear communication and educational resources will improve the experience for individuals and communities requiring

brownfields support and ultimately lead to more interest and applications for assistance. While this philosophy is always important, the COVID pandemic has forced the world into a virtual space, making communications an even more important piece of the Partnerships work. With this shift in attention, we have dedicated much of the past year to developing engagement and outreach tools that serve our communications goals.

**TCOMES** 

- Increased our awareness of our work and offerings to more Colorado communities
- **2.** Educated and inspired communities to utilize brownfield sites as an economic driver
- 3. Built partnership relationships across Colorado

#### A SNEAK PEAK TO COMMUNICATION TACTICS

"THAT VACANT GAS STATION COULD BE A KEY TO YOUR RECOVERY" BLOG

SOCIAL POSTS

"BROWNFIELDS
ARE
OPPORTUNITIES"
BLOG

"HOW TO SPOT A BROWNFIELD" BLOG

COLORADO BROWNFIELD PARTNERSHIP WEBSITE

BROWNFIELD NEWSLETTER

"WHAT IS A BROWNFIELD" BLOG

### WEBSITE

Although this year halted our plans for in-person support with communities, we were able to concentrate our efforts on building a base of strong messaging and communications platforms. The most significant outcome of this focus was a new and improved Colorado Brownfields Partnership website.

The Partnerships previous website content had become outdated over the years and the site posed a barrier to achieving our communications goals. The website was the first and most important step towards stronger communications because of its ability to showcase who we are and what we offer, as well as house a variety of communications tactics such as blogs, videos, webinars, events, news, opportunities, success stories and more. Below are some excerpts and images from the new and improved site.

#### **EDUCATION**

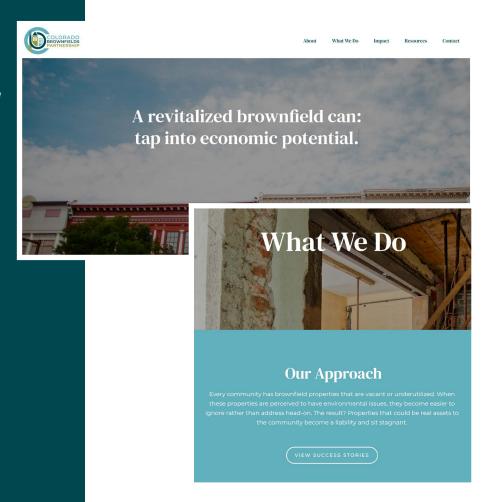
Educate Colorado communities on brownfields, opportunities they create, and debunk the myths associated with a brownfields site.

#### **SERVICES**

Outline our support we offer to communities including planning, cleanup, and financial resources.
Additionally, provide clarity and ease on the brownfield process with the goal of implementation through our services.

#### **IMPACT**

Inspire communities and property owners with the impact of brownfield revitalization through success stories, job creation, and homes developed through the use of our program.

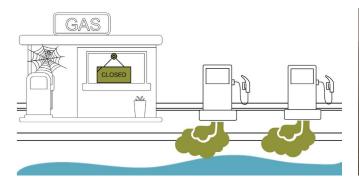


This website will continue to be an asset for communities and property owners to support and spur brownfield reinvestment.

# AWARENESS

Over the past 6 years, the Colorado Brownfields Partnership has expanded its capacity to deliver education and planning services for communities and property owners on brownfield sites. However, our services can't be put to good use without a strong sense of awareness about our organization and the services we offer.

Spreading awareness about the Partnership, its offerings, and its impact was necessary for expanding our outreach and, in turn, program participation. Using creative communications tactics we broadened awareness of our services and the opportunities brownfields offer.



#### **VIDEO | WHAT IS A BROWNFIELD?**

This video educates and engages those who do not know what a brownfield is or how to identify them in their own community.



#### **NEWSLETTER**

The Brownfield newsletter was essential to develop during the pandemic to spread awareness about our program and resources throughout Colorado.



#### **BLOGS**

Blogs are crucial to spreading awareness of our program, resources, and how our partnership can support communities during the pandemic. We created two blogs that provided education on how to identify a brownfield and how brownfields can be useful during times of economic turmoil.



#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Expanding our audience was an important goal for communications. A key element of this goal was to promote the Partnership through Community Builders' social media channels.

2020
COMMUNICATIONS

#### COMMUNICATION

#### RESULTS

Throughout the pandemic, we prioritized online engagement, outreach, and communications. This year, we have engaged with over 3,500 people through our online platforms including newsletters, website, blogs, and social media.



**BLOGS** 

100+

reads on website

PEOPLE REACHED ON SOCIAL MEDIA

400+

22

**ENGAGEMENTS** 

Blog visits from newsletter

28



**NEWSLETTERS** 

7,600
PEOPLE REACHED

**300**+

**EMAIL VIEWS** 

42

newsletter clicks for additional resources

# OVERALL IMPACT

As one of the fastest growing states in the country, the pressure to grow has never been greater in Colorado. We see brownfields as catalytic opportunities to support smart growth, ignite economic development, and support community visions.

Over the past 26 years, the state of Colorado has been working hard to support brownfield revitalization. The primary goal of projects that receive our support to facilitate cleanup and reuse and redevelopment that otherwise would not get done.

Due to our hands-on approach with communities, property owners, and developers, we have supported successful projects that are now senior centers, community hubs, live music venues, affordable housing, job centers, schools, and historic landmarks.

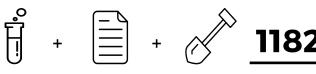
Our services are meant to not only support environmental cleanup but also define how these stagnant properties can become livable communities for all. Our services support projects that might otherwise never be implemented.











APPROVED VOLUNTARY CLEANUP PLANS AND REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM SINCE 1994



**NEW RESIDENCES** 

43,325

42,609

**NEW JOBS CREATED** 

#### **TESTIMONIALS**

#### NATHAN LINDQUIST .....

Planning Director & Assistant City Manager Rifle, CO

"Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (CDPHE) was extraordinarily impactful in supporting the revitalization of Downtown Rifle through the restoration of the Ute Theater. Overcoming the barriers to restoring historic properties is just one of the ways that brownfields can be a flexible tool in your toolbox."

#### KRISTINE BORCHERS

Commissioner Hindsdale County, CO

"Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (CDPHE) has been helpful in telling the story of the redevelopment of the Ute Ulay. They have been a champion for this project, helping us through every phase. The environmental stabilization and historic preservation of this site will protect downstream natural resources and create a heritage tourist destination."

\$34,491,178

FUNDING ALLOCATED TO PROJECTS FOR THE PAST 26 YEARS

Tax Credits: \$14,654,608

Grants: \$2,234,452.30

Revolving Loan Fund: \$17,602,118





2020 ANNUAL REPORT