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Office of Brownfields & Land Revitalization (OBLR)

Brownfields, Communities and Urban Lead issues

Sept 16, 2015

EPA's Brownfields Program

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- Created in 1990's as a 'Superfund pilot' to address vacant, unused, potentially contaminated "brownfield" properties in environmental justice communities nationwide.
- Provide Grants and technical assistance to support community assessment, cleanup, job training grants for revitalization. Fund State/Tribal Voluntary programs with provide oversight.

A Brownfield 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."

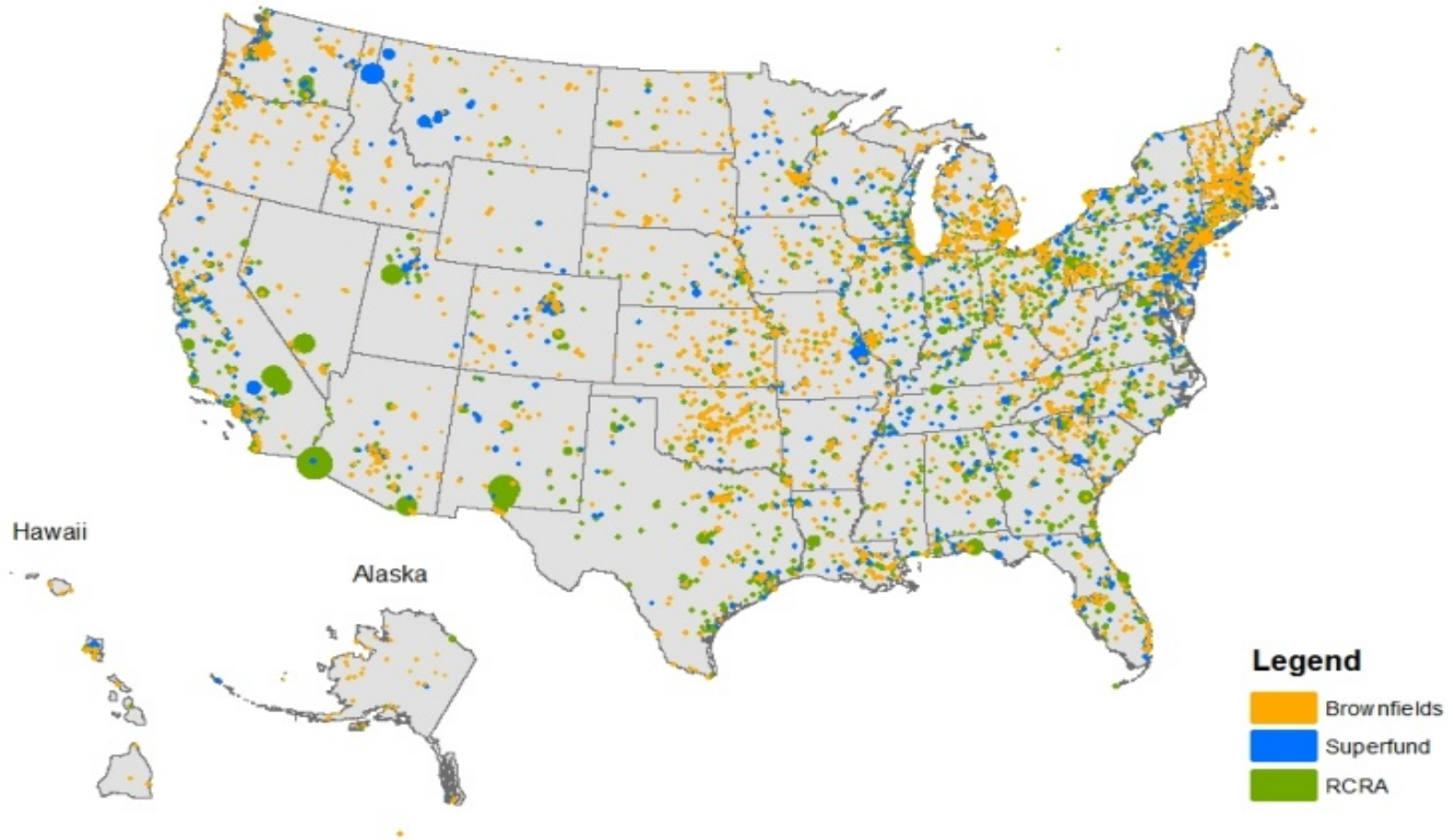
The Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act signed January 11, 2002.

Firth Sterling, Allegheny County



Land Cleanup Program and Site distribution

Superfund, RCRA, and Brownfields Sites



Note: Views expressed by author and not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the US EPA.

Brownfields Examples (with lead cleaned circled in Red)

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Gas stations



Buildings with
asbestos and
lead paint



Scrapyards



Properties
near railroads



Sawmills



Meth houses

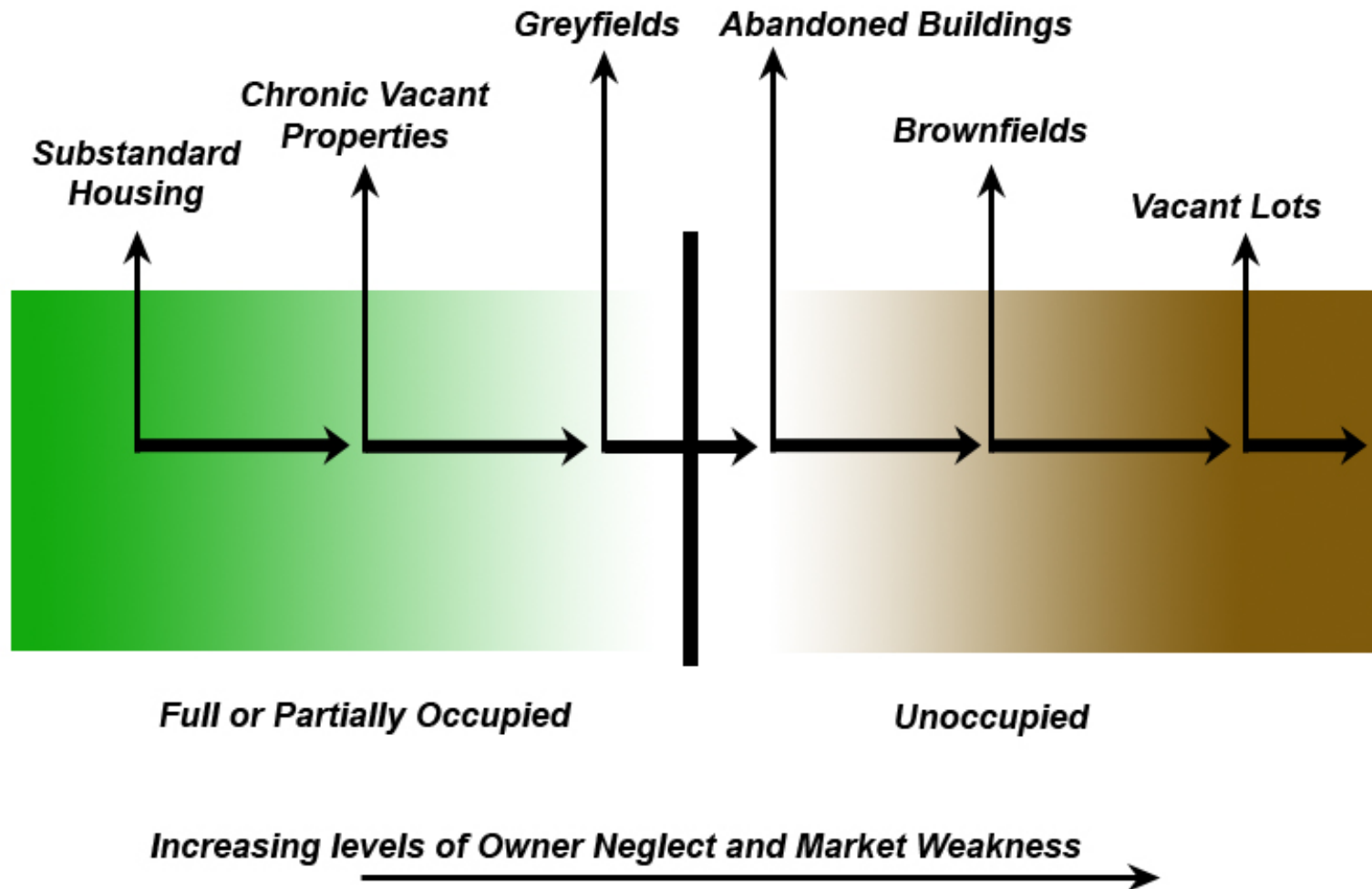


Mine scarred
lands



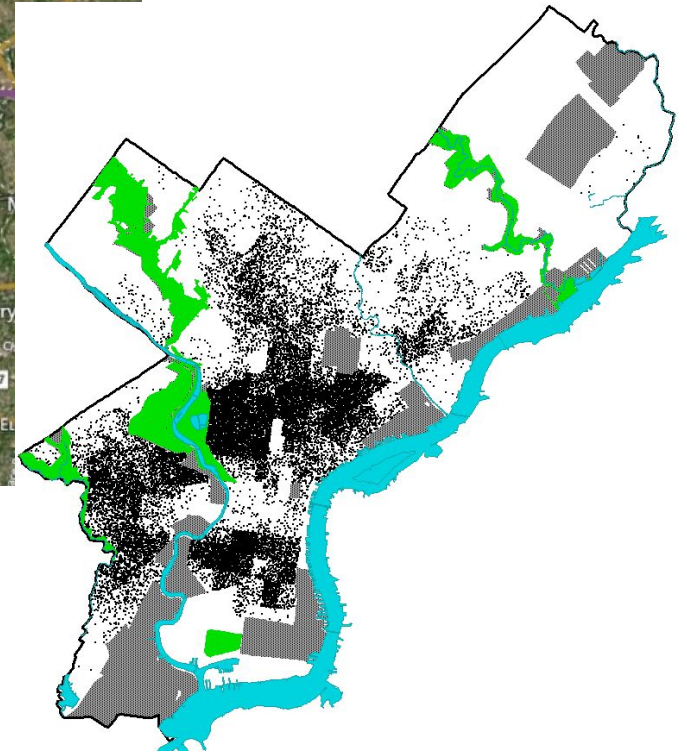
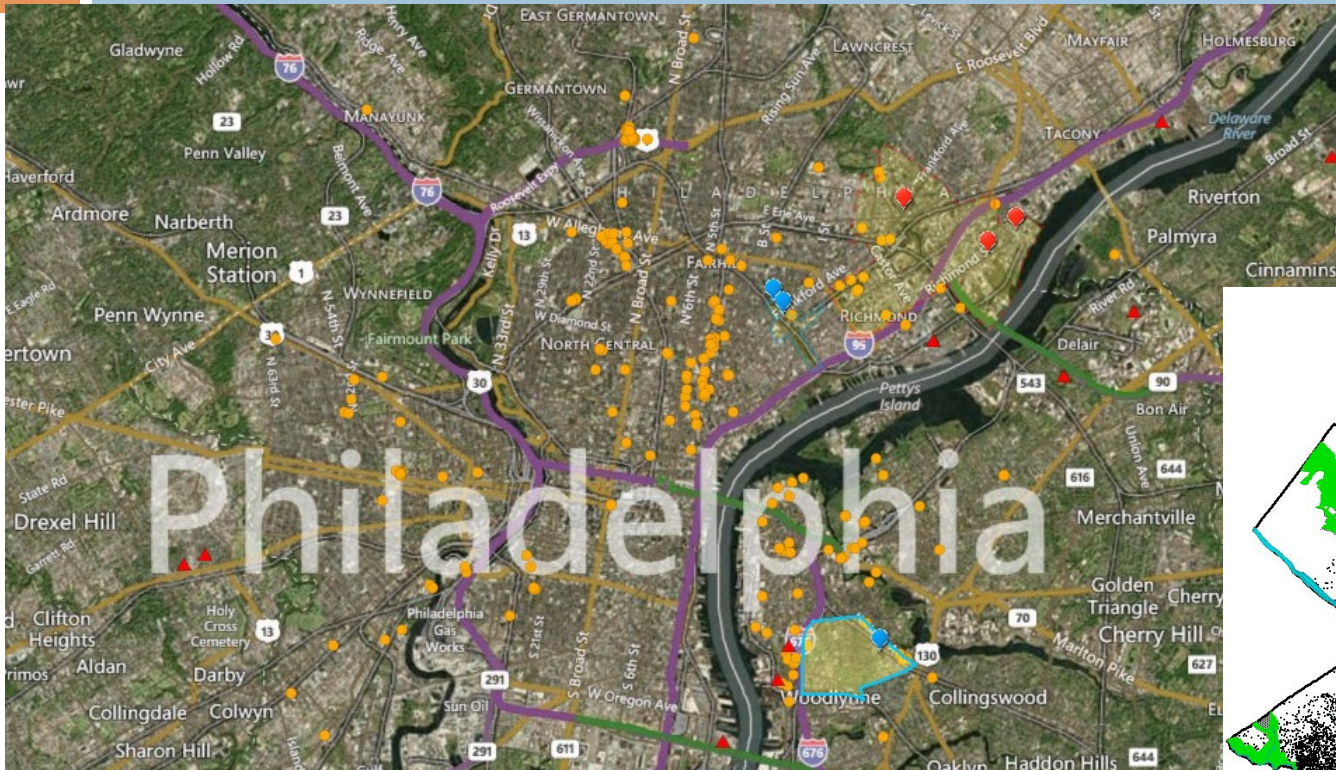
Vacant lots

Continuum of Vacant Properties



Source: National Vacant Property Campaign

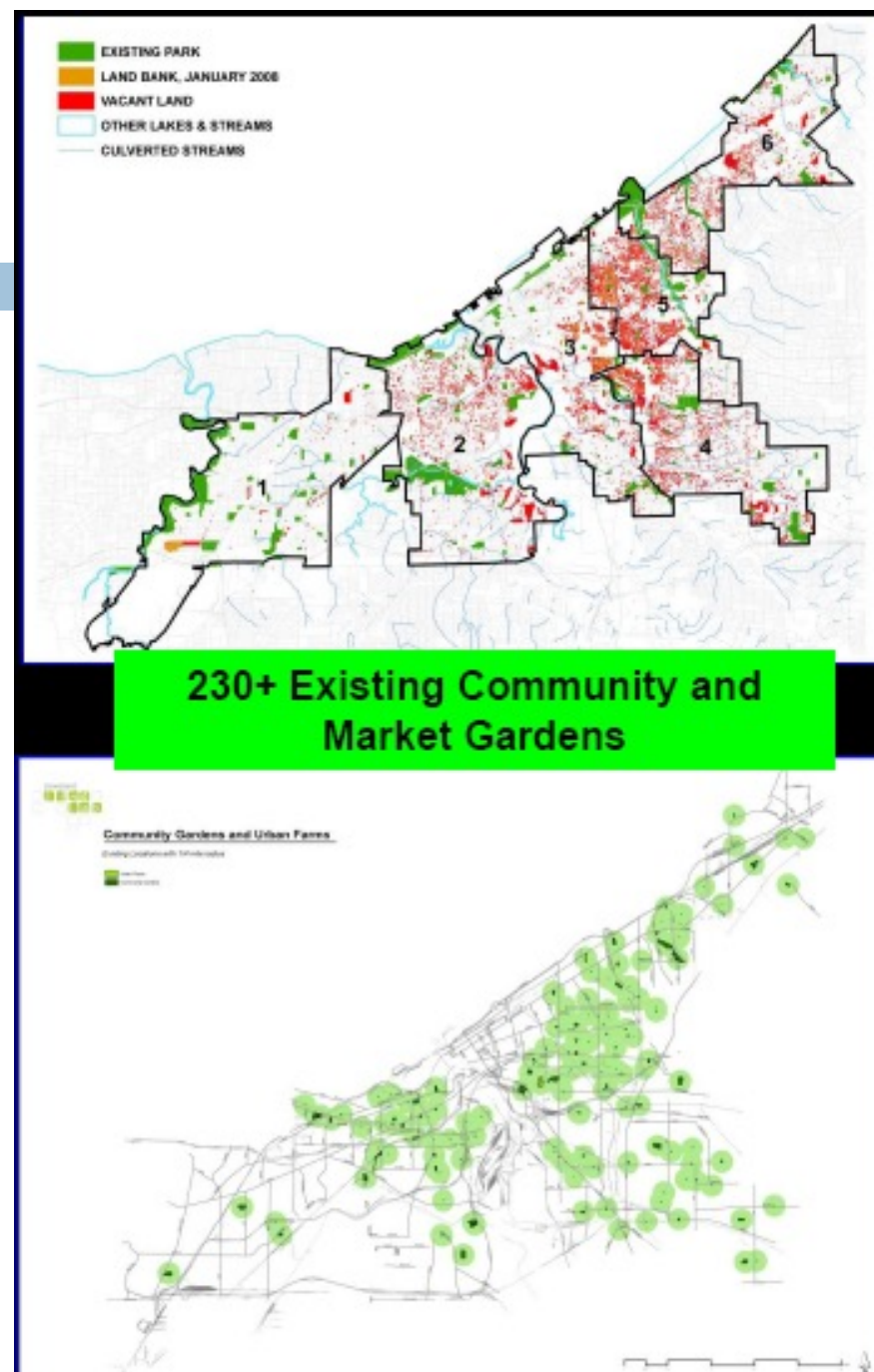
Brownfields and Superfund sites



Re-Imagining Cleveland

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- **Over 3,300 acres of vacant land through Cleveland**
- Growing energy and innovation around advancing local food and sustainability
- Study linking natural and built systems to improve the quality of life and long term health of residents and environment
- Identify criteria for reuse strategies and policy to support reuse.
- Sources: Karla Auker, EPA R5, Neighborworks Cleveland



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Re-Imagining Cleveland (continued)

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■ Metals

- Mostly Lead and Arsenic
- 100% of sites exceeded Ohio's Voluntary Action Program (VAP) residential use standards
- 45% sites exceeded VAP commercial/industrial use standards

■ Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

- 75% of sites exceeded VAP Residential Landuse Standards
- 33% of sites exceeded VAP Commercial Industrial Landuse Standards

Garden Cautionary Tale? Sacramento, California

- Garden for >30 years
- When change of use was planned, we tested it!
- Found lead, PAHs, pesticides above EPA and CAL SSL/Res
- 1,900 yd³ soil, varied from **24-48** inches removed
- \$423,000 leveraged for cleanup/ garden



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Asia Pacific Development Center (APDC)



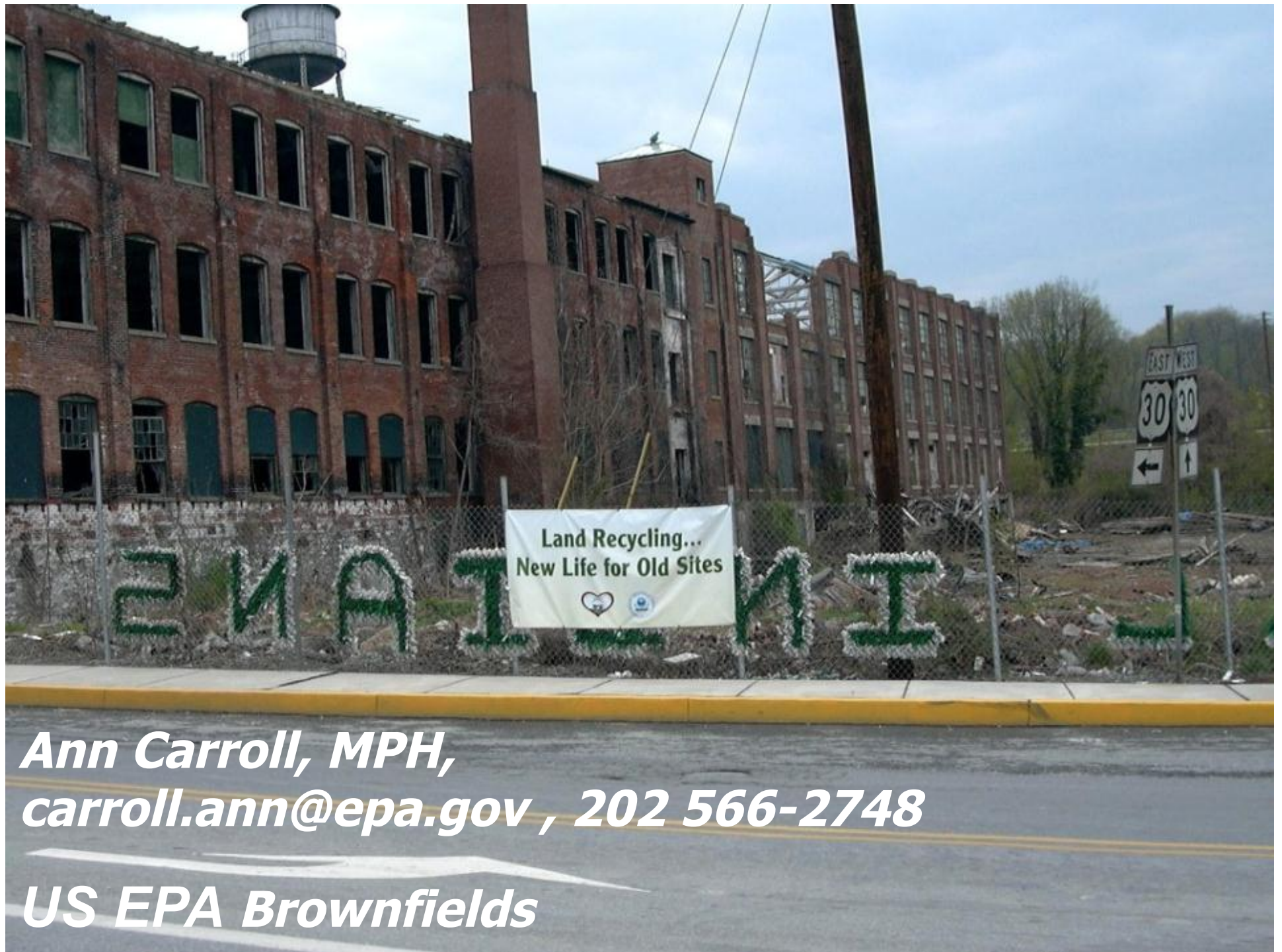
Dry cleaner with known release

Former gas station

Auto repair

Heavy traffic

Scrap yard/
auto repair



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US EPA Brownfields

Thank You! Questions?

Transition to next Session

