



CITY OF DURHAM
Office of Public Affairs
101 CITY HALL PLAZA
DURHAM, NC 27701

News Media Contact:

Amy Blalock
Sr. Public Affairs Specialist
(919) 560-4123 x 11253
(919) 475-7735 (cell)

Amy.Blalock@DurhamNC.gov
<http://Facebook.com/CityofDurhamNC>
<http://Twitter.com/CityofDurhamNC>
<http://YouTube.com/CityofDurhamNC>

News Release

For Immediate Release: February 23, 2015

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Durham Expands Targeted Brownfield Assessment Activities

City Hosts Public Meeting Highlighting EPA Brownfield Grant Expansion

What: Public Meeting Regarding Expansion of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfield Grant Activities in Northeast Central Durham and Other Targeted Areas

Who: City of Durham Office of Economic and Workforce Development

When: Tuesday, March 10, 2015, at 6 p.m.

Where: Historic Parrish Street Forum
108 West Parrish Street
Durham, N.C. 27701

Fast Facts

- In 2014, the City of Durham received a dual three-year EPA Brownfield petroleum and hazardous substances assessment grant totaling \$399,999 to expand Phase I and Phase II environmental assessment and related activities throughout Durham. Brownfield sites are those where expansion, redevelopment or reuse of underutilized real property may be complicated by the potential presence of a hazardous substances, environmental pollutants or contaminants.
- The 2014-2017 grants provide a vital economic development finance tool designated specifically for community outreach and redevelopment planning activities associated with completion of Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments at targeted redevelopment project sites. Funds may be used to investigate potential brownfield sites located city-wide, with an emphasis on properties located in Northeast Central Durham.
- Community involvement is an integral part of every targeted brownfield grant and is a key factor in the EPA's evaluation of each grant project. Therefore, public and community-based organizations, property

owners and developers are encouraged to attend the March 10 public meeting to become better informed about the planned project schedule and proposed assessment activities.

- The current award is the third EPA grant the City has received for brownfield environmental assessment activities in recent years. From 2006 to 2012, the City successfully administered similar EPA brownfield assessment grants in accordance with the Northeast Central Durham Strategic Revitalization Plan. Past Brownfield activities included community participation, site inventory, and Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments where known or perceived environmental contamination complicated proposed redevelopment activities.
- For additional information contact Sr. Environmental Scientist and Durham Brownfield Contract Manager David W. Sykes with Mid-Atlantic Associates, Inc. at (803) 892-5100 or by email at DSykes@MAAonline.com, or Economic Development Specialist and Assistant Brownfield Project Director Summer S. Alston with the City's Office of Economic and Workforce Development at (919) 560-4965 or by email at Summer.Alston@DurhamNC.gov.

About the Office of Economic and Workforce Development

Guided by the City's Strategic Plan, the Office of Economic and Workforce Development helps ensure that Durham has a strong and diverse economy by increasing the city's tax base through several revitalization initiatives, including new development efforts in the central city area. The department also plans and promotes cultural awareness and events, identifies and recruits target industries as well as assesses and trains Durham residents to fill new jobs. For more information, visit <http://www.DurhamEconomicDevelopment.org>.

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