

# Mat-Su Coalition Assessment Project

## Brownfield Site Reuse & Revitalization Program

### Matanuska-Susitna Coalition

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#### Project Goal

Develop a comprehensive brownfield program which will begin with an inventory and assessment of sites in the communities of the Cities of Wasilla and Palmer. The project will also examine sites outside of these communities throughout the Matanuska-Susitna Borough to support the interests of furthering regional economic goals.

Other key objectives include raising awareness of brownfields and brownfield redevelopment tools; spurring private investment, creating jobs through development projects on brownfield sites; and reducing threats to human health and the environment.

#### Project Scope

The MSB contains an estimated 653 vacant or underutilized commercial and industrial properties totaling ~1,900 acres. In addition, there are over 900 sites with potential environmental concerns listed in Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) databases.

MSB will use grant funds to inventory, prioritize and assess brownfield sites throughout its jurisdiction, focusing on the target communities of Palmer and Wasilla. While the project will focus on priority sites and areas within these municipalities, it will also evaluate sites throughout MSB to reduce environmental risks, increase economic opportunities, and assist rural areas that are not able to secure and administer grant funding on their own. The project will incorporate market analysis, perform site-specific reuse planning, and apply real estate strategy to prioritize opportunities and ensure the most feasible sites/redevelopment areas are selected for assessment and area-wide planning activities.

#### Benefits

The purpose of this Brownfields project is to stimulate economic development on properties or areas that have been vacant due to possible contaminated uses. Through site inventory, assessment and cleanup planning, the project will increase awareness of the impacts of contaminants on properties, community economies and the environment. This project will enable MSB and the cities to apply for future Brownfields cleanup grants.

#### Project Costs

In June 2016, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) selected the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Alaska and its coalition partners, the City of Wasilla and the City of Palmer, to receive Brownfield Coalition Community-Wide Assessment (CWA) Grant funding in the amount of \$550,000 (\$275,000 for hazardous substances and \$275,000 for petroleum) to be used within a three-year period.

#### Contact Information

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