

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

News Release

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Share! #Durham launches new Brownfield website to help with redevelopment & outreach http://DurhamBrownfields.com

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City of Durham Debuts New Brownfield Website

Website Designed to Help Residents Understand Brownfield Assessment Opportunities

DURHAM, N.C. – Properties that once contained scrap yards, garages, and other businesses with industrial activities can be home to potentially hazardous substances and contaminants, which can complicate or prevent future use.

To help identify, assess, and redevelop these properties, known as Brownfield sites, as well as keep the community informed on progress made to date, the City of Durham Office of Economic and Workforce Development has recently launched a Brownfield Program website.

The program, funded by grants received from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is designed to assess potential brownfield sites located city-wide, with an emphasis on properties located in Northeast Central Durham. The goal of the program is to transition these properties from underutilized, potentially contaminated sites to new, useful purposes while spurring economic growth, creating jobs, and protecting the environment.

To make property owners aware of these federal grant funds to get properties assessed for future redevelopment and to help residents stay informed on progress made by the program, the new website contains information such as a map of current projects with details on properties selected for the program as well as information about upcoming events and community task force meetings.

For additional information about the <u>City of Durham Brownfield Program</u>, contact Senior Economic Development Coordinator & Assistant Brownfield Program Director <u>Summer S. Alston</u> with the City's Office of Economic and Workforce Development at (919) 560-4965, ext. 15238.

About the City of Durham Office of Economic and Workforce Development

Guided by the City's <u>Strategic Plan</u>, the <u>Office of Economic and Workforce Development</u> 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.

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