Brownfields to Playfields

Environmental Justice Advisory Board

August 28, 2018

Outdoor Recreation Plan
PRIORITY AREAS

Health & Wellness

- Obesity
- Seniors
- School-based Recreation
- Walkable/ Bikeable Communities

Local Parks & Recreation

- Diversity
- Popularity
- Funding
- Political Support
- Partnerships

Tourism & Economic Development

- Measuring Impact
- Coordination
- Communication
- Marketing
- Partnerships

Resource Management & Stewardship

- Prioritizing
- Hunting & Fishing
- **Natural Gas**
- **Conservation** & Protection

SCORP Recommendation

Resource Management and Stewardship

Action Step 1b.
Restore and repurpose brownfields, abandoned mine lands and other damaged lands for recreation and conservation purposes through at least 5 pilot projects.

Brownfields to Playfields Work Group

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Rick Bogart, RLA, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation
Jim Young, MBA, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation
Sarah Nicholas, Office of Policy and Planning
Katie Woodbury, Office of the Secretary

Department of Environmental Protection

Kim Hoover, Bureau of Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields
Abbey Cadden, Policy Office

Department of Community and Economic Development

Denise Remillard, Office of Executive Deputy Secretary
Autumn Anderson, Office of Executive Deputy Secretary

pennsylvania DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

pennsylvania DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

pennsylvania DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Work Group Goals

- **Identify pilot projects** throughout the Commonwealth
  - Seven projects were selected in March 2017
- **Provide assistance**
  - Focus on smaller and underserved communities
  - Meet with communities and regional agency staff
  - Help overcome the “speed bumps”
- **Enhance coordination** between agencies
  - Determine what funding sources are available
  - Coordinate timing of projects to maximize efficiency and funding matches

Recreation and Conservation Funding

- Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund
- Environmental Stewardship Fund
- Snowmobile and ATV
- Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- Federal Recreational Trails

Contact your Regional Advisor:

www.dcnr.state.pa.gov

Environmental Funding

Industrial Sites Reuse Program (DEP)

- Brownfields grants for assessment and remediation
- Partnership with DCED

Federal Brownfield Programs (U.S.EPA)

- Assessment and remediation
- Community assistance
- Job Training

Multi-modal Projects (PennDOT)

- Transportation/Infrastructure
- Bike/Ped trails
- Roadway safety and connection improvements
  - Carlisle Borough

Community Funding

Industrial Sites Reuse Program

- Public and private entities
- Companies involved in reuse of former industrial land
- Entities that did not cause or contribute to environmental contamination

Keystone Communities (DCED)

- Local government
- Redevelopment and/or housing authorities
- Nonprofit organizations, including economic development organizations
- Business, Neighborhood and Downtown Improvement Districts

Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (DCED)

- For-Profit Businesses
- Local government
- Institution of Higher Education
- Watershed Organizations

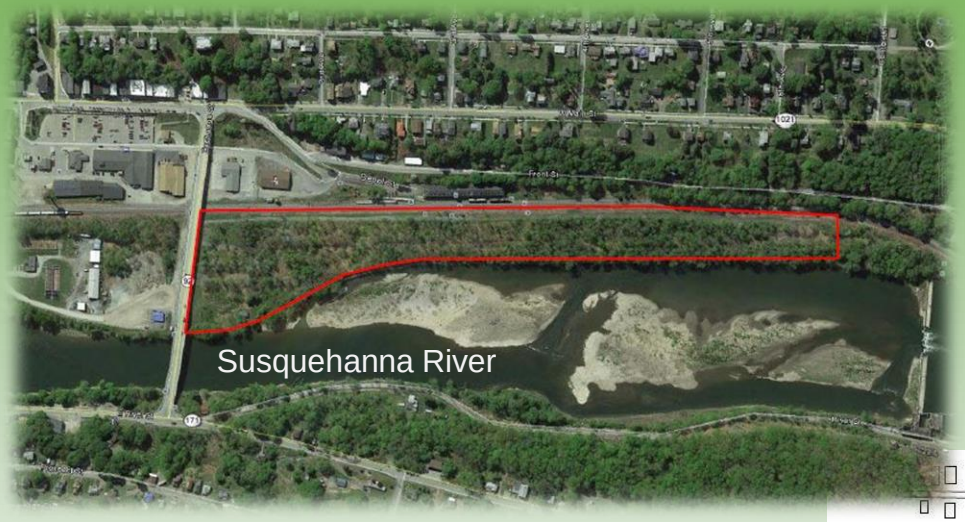
State Program Innovation Award

Environmental Council of States

Pilot Project Locations

Ira Reynolds Riverfront Park

Susquehanna Depot Borough, Susquehanna County



Former Erie Rail Yard

Proposed 14 acre community park with walking trail, recreation courts, pavilion, lighting

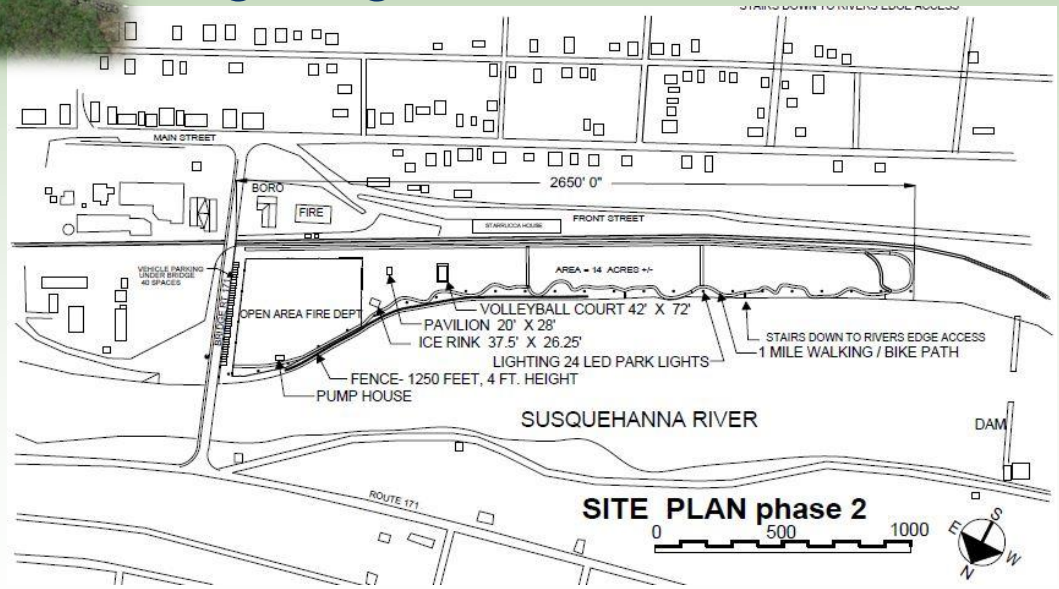
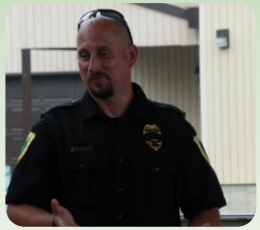


Image Courtesy of ES Beautz Architects

Environmental Cleanup to be completed in 2018

Ira Reynolds Riverfront Park

Susquehanna Depot Borough, Susquehanna County



Status - Groundbreaking Event held July 13, 2017

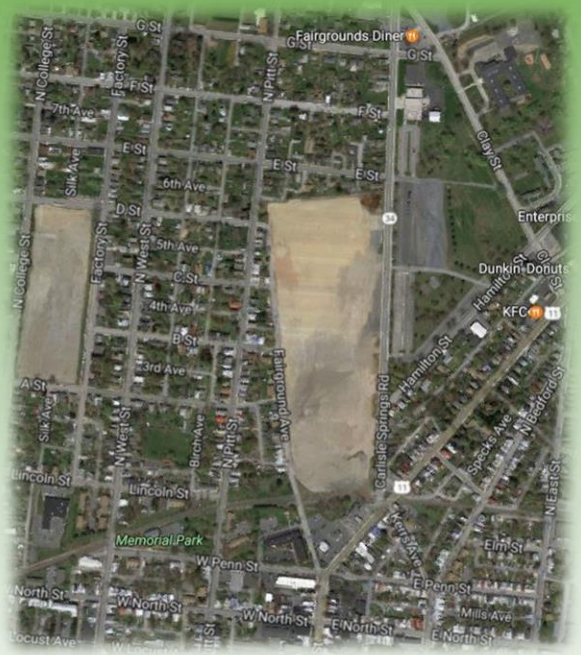
Ira Reynolds Riverfront Park

Susquehanna Depot Borough, Susquehanna County

2019

Fairground Avenue Linear Park

Carlisle Borough, Cumberland County



Former industrial complex with carpet, tire & wheel and electronics factories

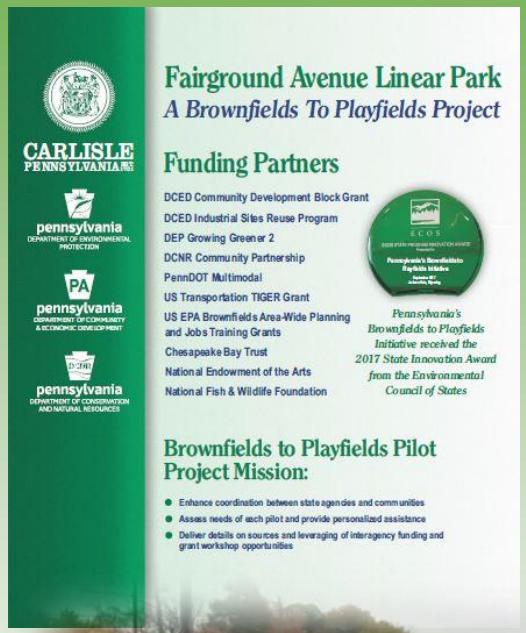
Currently vacant land – all buildings have been demolished

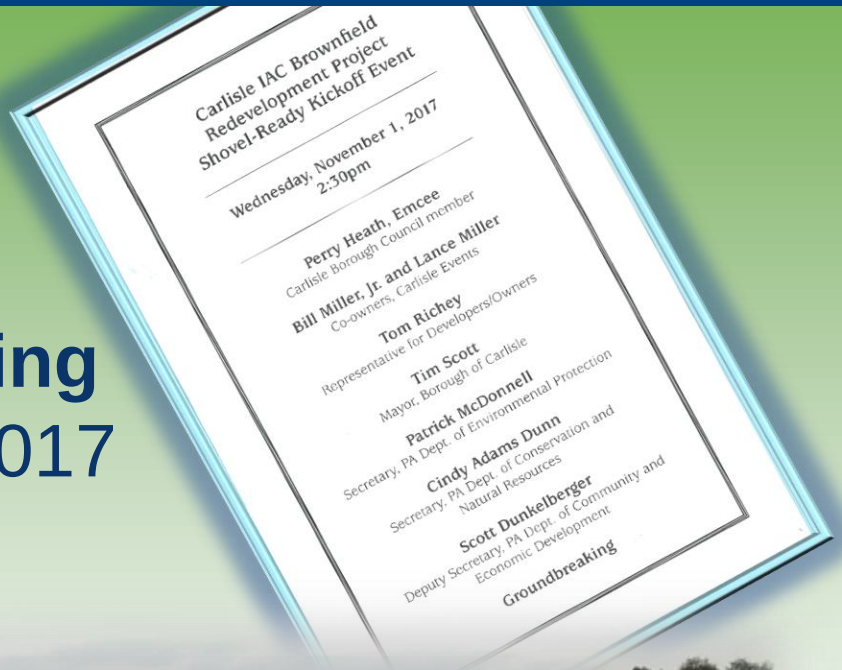
Proposed multi-use development with hotel, restaurant, grocery, retail, car condo facilities and parkland

Funding secured through various public and private sources

Fairground Avenue Linear Park

Carlisle Borough, Cumberland County





Groundbreaking

November 1, 2017

Kaier's Playground

Mahanoy City Borough, Schuylkill County

Former Kaier's Brewery – closed 1967

Status:

Building Demolished March 2017

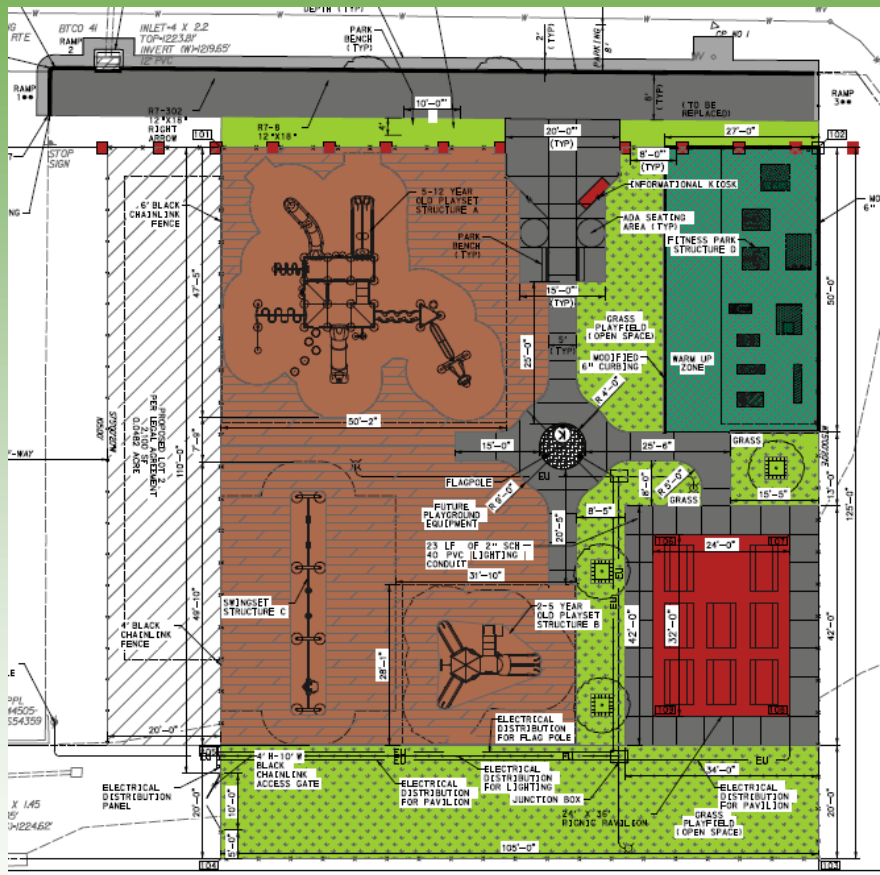


Image Courtesy of

benesch
engineers · scientists · planners
Alfred Benesch & Company
400 One Norwegian Plaza
Pottsville, Pennsylvania 17901
570-622-4055

Park and Playground Groundbreaking - planned Spring 2018

Lower Broadway Recreation Complex

Nanticoke City, Luzerne County

Former 10.5 acre Soccer Complex

- Closed after discovery of PCB contamination

Previous use:

- Scrap yard & recycling facility

Proposed use:

- Multi-use recreational fields

Status:

- Environmental clean up to be coordinated with PA DEP

Waterfront Park

Charleroi Borough, Washington County

Former glass factory and football stadium

Proposed

5.5 acre community park

- sports fields
- walking trails
- fishing pier
- boat launch

Status – Local partners coordinating ownership transfer, design & funding

Elrama Neighborhood Park

Union Township, Washington County

Former chrome plating, finishing and polishing facility
Located within residential neighborhood

Proposed community park

Status – Local partners coordinating ownership transfer, design & funding

Susquehanna River Walk Extension

Williamsport City, Lycoming County

Identified as one of PA's TOP 10 Trail Gaps

Connect existing River Walk to Susquehanna State Park

Major Obstacles

- Runs through and near numerous brownfield sites
- Crossing Interstate 180, U.S. Route 15 and Lycoming Creek

Status – Site design and engineering to begin in 2018

Image Courtesy of

What's Next for Brownfields to Playfields?

Provide guidance for other recreation projects:

- **Gaslight Park** – Lackawanna County Parks
- **Polluck Park** – Pottstown Borough
- **Your Project** – Your Community

SAVE THE DATE!

Join us in Bethlehem • October 1-3, 2018

2018 Pennsylvania Brownfields Conference

The Sands Conference Center is the center of this premier destination located in the Lehigh Valley at the Bethlehem Steel brownfield. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection hosts the conference in partnership with the Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania

Visit https://eswp.com/brownfields/overview for more information

Contact Information

Go to DEP web page:

https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Land/Redevelopment/Pages/Brownfields-to-Playfields.aspx

Kim Hoover
PA Department of Environmental Protection
Program Development Group Manager
Bureau of Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields
Harrisburg, PA
khoover@pa.gov

Randy Farmerie
PA Department of Environmental Protection
Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields Program Manager
Northcentral Regional Office
Williamsport, PA
rfarmerie@pa.gov