

July 31, 2008 BAC Meeting

At the last Brownfields Advisory Committee meeting, we discussed various additional information that City staff would provide, such as Google Earth photos of the sites that have been suggested as possibilities for Brownfield environmental site assessments up to this point. Street view pictures are not available for all locations, and sometimes, depending on the site, it was difficult to tell what you were looking at with a street view picture.

There are also instructions on how to search for sites yourself using the public version of our ArcIMS MultiService Viewer, which is located here, <http://www.ci.arlington.tx.us/gis/interactiveMapping.html>. This will allow you to look at aerial photos of any site in the City. I have also mailed copies of our Atlas Planning CD to everyone who attended the last committee meeting. For anyone who was unable to attend the last meeting, you can pick up your binder and CD from my office on the first floor of City Hall in the Strategic Planning Division at any time or you can wait until the next meeting and pick them up then.

I have amended the ranking criteria that we are considering for sites based on your suggestions. Please look over this so that we can discuss any suggestions at the next meeting. Right now we are still working on getting information about this program to property owners. One option we are considering is an application form, available from our website, that property owners could fill out if they wanted to compete for some of the assessment funding. We will have to publicize this option, though. Until we have more owner participation, the only two sites we can rank at this time are two that are owned by the City and recently came up in relation to a possible downtown redevelopment project. They are 115 N Mesquite St and 300 W Front St. Since the EPA wants us to start on something right away, these will probably be the first sites we pursue. It will give us an opportunity to test out our ranking criteria. I was thinking that everyone could fill in their ranking sheets and e-mail them back to me. In the future, that will prevent us from having to meet every time new sites come up.

Lastly, please send me any locations that you think would be good candidates for Brownfields assessments! We will try to contact the owners of sites that you suggest and see if they are interested in our program. Your input is very important to us. UTA is still working on the inventory of sites based on regulatory data, and we will give you any new information we get from them at the next meeting.