

Central Arkansas Planning & Development District

September 22, 2025 6-730pm

Public Outreach Meeting - Brinkley, AR
Attendance Sheets Provided
CAPDD: Ms. Conya Spencer & Ms. Leigh Pool
Terracon: Rand Raglin & Lem Dial
EPA: James Waldo

6:00pm - Ms. Spencer kicked off the meeting, thanking everyone for attending and encouraged attendees to get some food while it was still hot. Introduced Terracon.
6:05-7:15pm - Rand Raglin spoke to the group regarding the Brownfield Assessment grant, what it is, and what services can be performed. He outlined the projects completed to date: The Former Grizzell Depot and Mercy Hospital/St. Joseph Nursing Home and discussed the environmental challenges associated with reuse of the properties. Lem Dial, Ms. Spencer, and Rand shared the floor and answered questions about the Brownfield Program, discussed site inventory, and took suggestions on community needs.

Community Site Inventory thoughts began with a discussion about site inventory size and ranking criteria to determine with sites may be assessed through the grant. This also led into discussion about property owners needing to approve site access for grant activities to occur.

Site Inventory suggestions:

1. Masonic Lodge Building (mayor to send owner names)
2. Busch Building (mayor to send owner names)
3. Old Fire Department
4. Old Water Treatment Plant
5. Row of Buildings across from Police Station
6. Chamber of Commerce Building?
7. Others indicated they would email Ms. Spencer sites

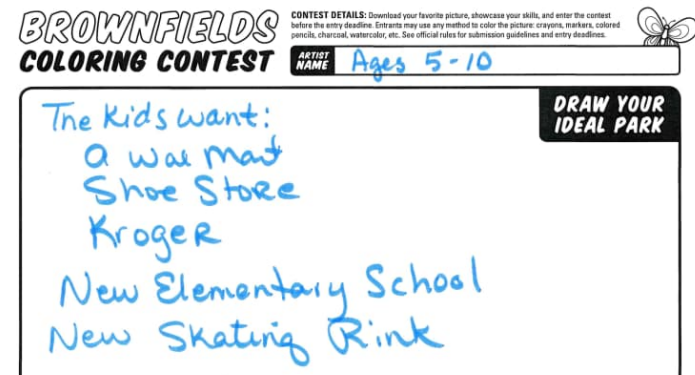
Community Suggestions:

1. Needs: More affordable better quality housing/Homeless shelter/Grocery Store/Urgent Care/Health Clinic
2. Getting people to come to Brinkley
3. Kids Coloring Sheets indicated wants for a wal-mart, shoe store, kroger, new elementary school, and new skating rink.

Follow-up Items:

1. Add comment page to CAPDD Brownfield link on the website so that residents can report potential brownfield sites for the site inventory.
2. Lem spoke regarding eligible planning activities that may benefit the community:
 - a. Resource Roadmap to identify other funding opportunities to aid in building demolition, construction of housing, etc.
 - b. Market Study(or possibly a revitalization plan) to help determine market leakage and support economically feasible reuse options for the brownfield sites.

715-730pm - Meeting ended with sidebar conversations.



What is a Brownfield?

A brownfield site is a property where actual or perceived environmental contamination complicates its expansion or redevelopment. Sites may be contaminated with hazardous substances, petroleum, pesticides, metals and asbestos.

Brownfields Program

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established the Brownfields Program to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders to promote economic redevelopment for sustainable reuse.

What does the funding cover?

PHASE I & II ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENTS

A Phase I is a non-intrusive evaluation of environmental conditions at a site to determine if there is a recognized environmental condition (REC) which warrants further investigation in the form of a Phase II ESA.

Why is this important for businesses and developers?

- Environmental assessments can remove the environmental stigma surrounding a property.
- If contamination is found, rehabilitation costs can be realized and managed.
- Liability protections via federal (CERCLA & RCRA) and state laws can protect non-responsible parties.
- Redevelopment of contaminated sites can unlock private investment and leverage funds for greater redevelopment.



Identifying Sites

- ▶ Do you know of a property you believe to be contaminated?
- ▶ Is your property vacant because of real or perceived contamination?
- ▶ Are you having trouble selling your property because of real or perceived environmental contamination?

If you answered

YES

then the property may be eligible for the CAPDD Brownfields Grant Program.



Program Details

The Central Arkansas Planning and Development District (CAPDD) was awarded a \$500,000 US EPA Brownfield Grant in October 2023.

Funds can be used for Phase I and II Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs), clean-up planning, creating a brownfield site inventory and community outreach activities.

Grant funding activities will focus on properties throughout **the target area**: city limits of Brinkley, AR.



For more information, visit the Brownfield Assessment Program webpage:



www.capdd.org/community-development

Why cleanup and reinvest in brownfield sites?

- Increases the local tax base
- Helps spur redevelopment
- Uses existing infrastructure
- Facilitates job growth
- Improves and protects the environment



For more information, contact:

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**Brownfield
Assessment
Program**