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**OER enrolls the 150th Cleanup Project in the New York City Voluntary Cleanup Program**



On October 17, 2013 OER Director Daniel Walsh announced that the NYC Voluntary Cleanup Program has enrolled its 150th project. "In just 30 months of operation, the VCP has approved cleanup plans that will enable more than \$4.5 billion in new investment, resulting in more than 13 million square feet of new development, over 4,400 permanent new jobs and over 2,000 new units of affordable housing," said OER Director Daniel Walsh. "In addition to high quality cleanups, what is most gratifying is that these properties have been vacant for an average of almost 20 years and that 70% are located in historically disadvantaged communities. The program is taking some of the most blighted properties, in some of our most needy neighborhoods, cleaning them up and making them safer, building new development, and creating new jobs and affordable housing right where they are needed most."

**OER Now Offering Free Climate Change Resilience and Sustainability Assessments for Projects in the Voluntary Cleanup Program**



Director Daniel Walsh announced that OER is now performing Climate Change Resilience Assessments for projects in the City's VCP. Under the program, building plans and cleanup plans will be evaluated at no charge. The project owner will receive no obligation Assessment Reports with suggestions for ways to save money and improve performance using climate resiliency and sustainability principles. These assessments are an initiative of the Special Initiative for Rebuilding and Resiliency Report issued by Mayor Bloomberg in May 2013. A final report that presents findings and best management practices for a diverse set of development scenarios will be available in 2014. The work will be performed by TetraTech, under contract with OER, and will be managed by OER Assistant Director Zach Schreiber ([zschreiber@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:zschreiber@dep.nyc.gov)).

**Operation of the New York City Clean Soil Bank Authorized by New York State DEC**



OER has announced that the New York State DEC has formally approved OER's request for authority to operate the New York City Clean Soil Bank. The authority comes in the form of an omnibus Beneficial Use Determination. Under this program, clean native soil excavated for development purposes from deep beneath remediated brownfield sites can be transferred, free of charge, to City construction projects and other brownfield sites where clean soil fill is needed.

For more information please contact OER Program Manager Samantha Morris at [smorris@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:smorris@dep.nyc.gov)

**2013 Big Apple Brownfield Awards**



(L to R) Deputy Mayor Cas Holloway and President of the Partnership's Board of Directors David Freeman.

On April 24, 2013, the NYC Brownfield Partnership held its fifth annual Big Apple Brownfield Awards at the NYU School of Law, recognizing seven outstanding New York City remediation projects. The awards ceremony was attended by over 200 people, including developers, consultants, regulators, and attorneys. The Partnership awarded its 2013 Distinguished Service Award to Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, in recognition of his work in supporting environmentally responsible development within economically diverse communities throughout the five boroughs. Deputy Mayor Cas Holloway, in accepting the award, conveyed the Mayor's thanks and praised the Mayor's Office of Environmental Remediation and the Partnership for their role in returning properties to productive use. Prior to the award presentation, OER Director Daniel Walsh also dedicated a sculpture in memory of former OER Project Manager Abbey Duncan, which was donated by her parents Ken and Pat, and will be installed at the Sugar Hill Children's museum to honor Abbey's commitment to the arts, children and the environment. Sugar Hill is a cleanup and redevelopment project conducted under the NYC Voluntary Cleanup Program in Washington Heights.

**OER Completes Cleanup of Mariners Marsh Park Parcel**



OER Director Daniel Walsh announced that OER has completed the remedial action of a 0.4 acre parcel of land on the Mariners Marsh Park in Staten Island. The remedial action was performed using a \$200,000 USEPA Brownfield Cleanup Grant as a service to the NYC Parks Department. The 107-acre park has been closed since 1997 due to contamination. The cleanup was performed by AKRF under contract to OER and was managed by OER Assistant Director Cavy Chu.

**Community Brownfield Planning Event Held at City Hall**



On May 8, 2013, Mayor Michael Bloomberg and OER Director Daniel Walsh met with community brownfield leaders in the Blue Room at City Hall to discuss programs and resources for Community Brownfield Planning Areas offered by OER, give updates regarding major City programs and initiatives affecting BOAs, and give an update on the BOA program from State and advocacy leaders.

Other speakers at the event included Chief Operating Officer of Special Initiative for Rebuilding and Resiliency (SIRR) Marc Ricks, Stacy Passmore from the Department of City Planning, Steve Caputo from the Office of Long Term Planning and Sustainability, Curtis Cravens from the New York State Department of State, and Jody Kass from New Partners for Community Revitalization.

**Twelve New BOA's**



Using a grant from the New York State Department of State, OER is now working to establish up to 12 new Community Brownfield Planning BOA areas, including at least three in areas heavily impacted by Hurricane Sandy. OER has established a contract with the New York City Department of City Planning to perform land use studies to facilitate establishment of the Community Brownfield Planning BOA areas.

**Pro Bono Environmental Expert Program**



OER is announcing a collaborative program with the NYC Brownfield Partnership to provide Community Brownfield Planners and small- and mid-size developers with expert advice to advance brownfield cleanup and climate change resilience on community development projects.

For more information please contact OER Program Manager Rebecca Bub at [rbub@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:rbub@dep.nyc.gov)

**Financial Assistance Search Tool (FAST)**



OER is announcing the development of FAST, a web application that will help community-based organizations and developers identify which brownfield grants they are eligible for and how much they can expect in total awards. FAST is being funded by a New York State Department of State grant.

For more information please contact OER Chief of Information Technology, William Wong at [wuwong@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:wuwong@dep.nyc.gov)

**NPCR 6th Annual Brownfields Forum: January 30th, 2014**



(Front L to R) John Osborn, Sarah Berman and Daniel Walsh, honorees at last years' New Partners Brownfield Forum

Save the date: New Partners for Community Revitalization's Annual Brownfields Forum will cover recent trends in federal, New York State, and NYC brownfield programs and policies. The event will highlight key trends and issues on brownfield financial incentives and neighborhood revitalization in the context of a changing political landscape. Private and public sector leaders will discuss key issues emerging on brownfields and community revitalization.

Place: 1 Metro Tech Center, Brooklyn

For updates, join the NPCR mailing list at <http://npcr.net/pages/contact.html>

For questions, comments, or to be removed from our mailing list contact us at:

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