



City of Tigard Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | May 23, 2016

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City of Tigard Awarded \$400,000 to Clean Up Main Street Development Site

The U.S. EPA has awarded the city of Tigard's downtown development agency two grants worth \$400,000 to help clean up the agency-owned properties at Fanno Creek and Main Street, paving the way for continued downtown revitalization. Redevelopment of the properties requires environmental cleanup, which is an essential activity in the city's Downtown Urban Renewal plan.

"Without EPA funding, we would be more or less stuck with these dirty, unsightly and underutilized properties on our most important walking street," said Kenny Asher, Community Development Director. "Now we are a lot closer to realizing the mixed-used project and public space imagined for this site. Downtown businesses and developers should take heart at this news and our prospects for making downtown a year-round destination."

Brownfields like the Main Street/Fanno Creek site are properties that are underutilized due to the presence or potential presence of contamination that makes reuse of the property more complicated. Brownfield redevelopment can promote population health and the environment by creating buildings and greenspaces that encourage healthy living in addition to addressing the potential environmental contamination of the site.

"The city's application could not have succeeded with input from our community partners, many of whom wrote letters in support of this grant," said Mayor John Cook. "We also want to thank Oregon's congressional delegation, including Sens. Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden and Rep. Suzanne Bonamici, for their support of our effort to transform underutilized areas into new uses that will generate jobs for residents of the area."

Since 1995, EPA's Brownfields Program has provided grants and technical assistance to communities, states, tribes and other stakeholders to clean up and sustainably reuse brownfields.

Tigard's City Center Development Agency (CCDA) was one of just three recipients named by the EPA in Oregon for the highly competitive grants in 2016. For more information on the CCDA's brownfields program, visit: www.tigard-or.gov/brownfields.

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