

Tannery Brownfield Site Clean Up

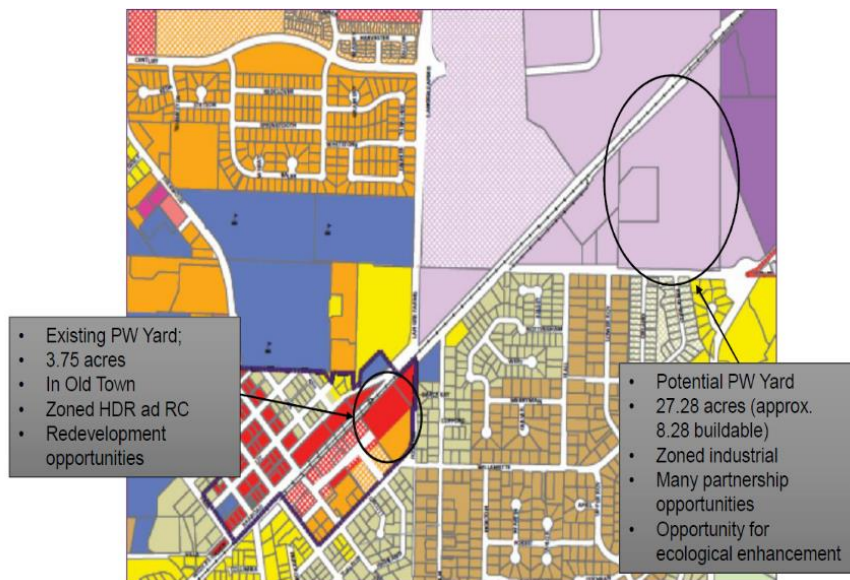
Background

The City of Sherwood is preparing a plan to clean up the contaminated Frontier Leather Tannery Site (Site) on SW Oregon Street through a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Brownfields Program. The Site was used to landfill hide-splits (the non-valued part of the hide) and process tannery wastes from the late 1940s through the early 1990s. Site soil and sediment are contaminated with metals, primarily chromium, associated with the tanning process and waste treatment. Washington County currently owns the property through property tax foreclosure.



Site Redevelopment

The City is considering the Site for use as the future home of its public works facility. Moving the facility to this Site would provide Public Works more space for their already cramped operations and free up the current location for redevelopment in Old Town. Other possible public benefits on the Site could include wetland overlooks, walking trails and parking for the Tonquin Ice Age Trail-Cedar Creek Trail.



Clean Up Plan

After considering seven alternatives for cleaning up the Site, the City decided that the placement of contaminated sediments and hide splits within a chemically stabilized on-Site containment cell provides the best balance between cost and effectiveness, and preserves the Site for redevelopment.

Next Steps

The Clean Up Plan is not the final decision. Rather, it will lay the foundation for future City Council actions. The City is now estimating clean up costs, identifying funding, and partnership opportunities. Once the

Clean Up Plan is approved by the EPA and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, the City will decide whether or not to proceed with acquiring the property. If acquired, the City will engage the community in a process to determine Site uses and design, then develop funding packages to clean up and develop the Site. The City currently anticipates a decision to acquire the property will occur no sooner than September 2018 with clean up possible in 2019.

More Information

Julia Hajduk, Community Development Director 503-625-4204, or view project information on the web site at www.sherwoodoregon.gov/Tannery.