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Mayor Bloomberg Launches Nation's First Municipal Brownfield Cleanup Program



*Mayor Bloomberg announces launch of the NYC Brownfield Cleanup Program
(Photo Credit: Edward Reed)*

August 5, 2010

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg today announced the launch of the New York City Brownfield Cleanup Program (NYC BCP), the first municipally-run brownfield cleanup program in the nation. The Mayor was joined by NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Pete Grannis, Deputy Mayor for Operations Stephen Goldsmith, City Council

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Member James Gennaro and Daniel Walsh, Director of OER. The announcement was made at the site of the first project to apply for the NYC BCP, the future Pelham Parkway Towers, an affordable housing project in east Bronx.

"Our new brownfields program will lead to clean-ups of long-blighted eyesores that drag down a neighborhood's property values, image, and safety," said Mayor Bloomberg. "At the same time, by complying with the new City clean-up requirements, developers will get the certainty and predictability they need in order to make investments and go forward with projects. This first in the nation initiative will allow us to create more jobs, housing and open space. I'd like to thank Commissioner Grannis for helping us to get this program up and running."

- ▶ [Read the press release for the launch of the NYC BCP.](#)
- ▶ [Learn more about the NYC BCP.](#)
- ▶ [Download the NYC BCP Report.](#)

Mayor Bloomberg and NYS DEC Commissioner Grannis Announce Landmark Agreement on the New York City Brownfield Cleanup Program



*Mayor Bloomberg and DEC Commissioner Grannis
execute Brownfield Agreement
(Photo Credit: Edward Reed)*

August 5, 2010

Mayor Bloomberg and NYS DEC Commissioner Pete Grannis today signed a landmark intergovernmental agreement that provides collaboration on the operation of the New York City Brownfield Cleanup Program (NYC BCP). In addition to ensuring high quality cleanups, the agreement provides a liability statement from NYS DEC that it has no further interest and does not plan to take enforcement or require remedial action under federal CERCLA or the State Environmental Conservation Law on properties that enroll in the NYC BCP.

"A key part of the City's new brownfield program is an agreement with State Environmental Conservation Commissioner Pete Grannis," said Mayor Bloomberg. "While State officials will continue to oversee cleanups of the most heavily polluted brownfields in the five boroughs, the City will now supervise cleanups of less contaminated sites under regulations that conform to the State's high standards and that we've worked closely with the State to develop. That's just the kind of City-State cooperation that makes especially good sense in an era of reduced government resources, and it's going to help us keep New York's economic recovery on track."

"This innovative brownfield partnership will be another valuable tool offered by New York to clean up contaminated sites and encourage private investment," said Commissioner Grannis. "When participants work with Mayor Bloomberg's staff to redevelop a site, the community will know that the contamination will be addressed properly and meet the state's stringent standards. We look forward to continuing to work together to spur economic growth and protect communities and the environment throughout the City."

The agreement was release for public comment by NYS DEC on June 9th. Comments expressing overwhelming support were received from over 50 community based organizations, trade associations, and firms in NYC.

[▶Download the executed Agreement.](#)

Mayor Bloomberg Announces the Completion of All Initiatives in the Brownfield Chapter of PlaNYC

First PlaNYC Chapter to be Completed



*Mayor Bloomberg and
OER Director Daniel
Walsh*

August 5, 2010

Mayor Bloomberg announced today the completion of all eleven initiatives in the Brownfield chapter of PlaNYC. PlaNYC is the City's long-term vision for a greener, greater New York and was released on Earth Day in 2007. The Brownfield chapter is the first in PlaNYC to be completed.

The Mayor's Office of Environmental Remediation was established in June 2008 to implement these initiatives. The NYC Brownfield Law was signed into law by Mayor Bloomberg in May 2009 and provides the City with the

authority to implement most of the initiatives outlined in PlaNYC.

"Brownfields are a top priority of our Administration. It's one of the key objectives of our PlaNYC sustainability agenda," said Mayor Bloomberg. "This is the first major portion of the PlaNYC agenda to be entirely completed - a big milestone toward our goal of a "greener, greater" New York."

"The Mayor has delivered on his promise in *PlaNYC* to build programs to unlock the potential of contaminated land," said Daniel Walsh, Director of Office of Environmental Remediation. "To do this, we have relied on the help of community leaders and our colleagues at DEC. Now that the programs are in place, it's time to get down to business and clean up properties so that the rewards can be enjoyed by all New Yorkers."

NYC Brownfield Partnership Hosts Second Annual Big Apple Brownfield Awards

June 21, 2010

On June 21, 2010, the NYC Brownfield Partnership hosted its second annual Big Apple Brownfield Awards Ceremony at the New York University School of Law and recognized five of New York City's most outstanding brownfield redevelopment projects. In her opening remarks, Andrea Kretchmer, Chair of the Board of Directors of the NYC Brownfield Partnership and master of ceremonies for the event, said, "With these awards, we aim to direct public attention to the brownfield cleanups and redevelopment projects that are having a profound effect on the communities in which they lie and to the professionals who contemplate, initiate, and actuate those cleanups. Many of those professionals are members of the NYC Brownfield Partnership.



Councilman Gennaro receives service award

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