



**CALL FOR IDEAS OPEN: APRIL 22, 2019 TO MAY 31, 2019**

Join us at the next National Brownfields Training Conference in Los Angeles, CA December 11 – 13, 2019, with pre-conference programming December 10. We invite you to submit your ideas for dynamic educational sessions that encourage conversation and participation from your fellow attendees. A great Brownfields 2019 educational program will motivate brownfields stakeholders to engage, learn, and share their experiences and knowledge of community revitalization challenges and solutions.

## CONFERENCE TOPIC AREAS

The conference planning committee is looking for session ideas in the following topic areas. Please read the descriptions before submitting your idea.

**Track 1: How Do We Increase our use of Renewable Energy and Design Healthy, Resilient, and Sustainable Communities?** Pursue innovation. Teach us how to incorporate renewable energy into solutions for brownfields revitalization. We want to hear your success stories on building towns and communities that are healthy, resilient and sustainable. We want lively conversations on how to reuse brownfields to promote transit-oriented development and promote the revitalization of our towns and cities through infill development. Provide ideas on how to track and measure our progress toward community resiliency, sustainability, and livability. Inform us on how addressing brownfields in your community has spurred economic revitalization.

**Track 2: Can Our Assessment and Cleanup Technologies be Greener?** Share your ideas and experiences with brownfields assessments, demolitions, cleanups, and redevelopment that incorporate pollution mitigation, energy efficiency, and water conservation, and promote a strong sense of environmental stewardship. How should we advise communities to manage assessments and cleanups to reduce emissions and mitigate climate change impacts throughout the brownfield revitalization process? Educate us on the current innovations in brownfields assessment and cleanup technologies.

**Track 3: How Do We Leverage Financing to Foster Economic and Community Redevelopment and Revitalization?** Where are the funds to pay for brownfield revitalization projects? Provide insights on overcoming overcome funding challenges with creative financing solutions (e.g., finding investors, leveraging public/private financing, tax incentives, insurance options, banking, etc.). Can you provide examples of public private partnerships and the role of those partnerships in meeting resource needs? Teach us how to manage risk in the course of real estate transactions. Are tax credits and other incentives (e.g. Opportunity Zones) a good investment for communities?

**Track 4: What in the World?** Enlighten us about practices to address blight, brownfields cleanup and reuse, and community revitalization around the world. Lead us in a discussion of best practices, lessons learned, and great international success stories in places far away from the City of Angels.

**Track 5: Are We Engaging the Local Community?** Give us your best advice, based on direct experience, on how to make brownfields revitalization a success for all stakeholders. Share your ideas for engaging and involving the community through strategies like: workforce development and job training; historic preservation and cultural heritage; creative placemaking with the arts community; engaging faith-based organizations; creating community gardens; preventing environmental injustices and gentrification; and other stakeholder involvement approaches such as equitable development and public health.

**Track 6: How Do We Address Environmental Liability and Enforcement Concerns, and How Do We form Meaningful Partnerships with Government Entities?** Provide us with ideas about overcoming legal challenges, contamination issues, engineering considerations, and potential future liabilities of the brownfield redevelopment process. What are the best strategies for working at all levels of government to meet community revitalization challenges? Lead us in a discussion of how to form and leverage partnerships among levels of government to ensure livable and vibrant communities and sustainable revitalization.

## SESSION FORMATS

You have options for submitting ideas in a variety of formats.

Read the description for each format carefully and see the new possible formats proposed for Brownfields 2019 at the bottom of this list. For each session you propose you will need to provide:

- Session title
- Session description
- Speaker names, titles, organizations and brief bios
- Session coordinator contact information (the person that conference planners will communicate with to organize your session if it is selected)

**Learning Lounges (30 minutes).** Adapted for adult learning, these sessions feature one speaker delivering a fifteen-minute presentation with the remaining time devoted to Q&A with the attendees.

**Roundtable Reviews (60 minutes).** Our most interactive session, roundtables feature one or two experts guiding an interactive conversation with the audience around a focused topic. There is no audiovisual technology or formal presentations. Experts tee up the topic and then facilitate the conversation with the attendees.

**Panel Discussions (60 minutes).** One moderator and up to two speakers deliver 15 to 20-minute visual presentations (e.g. PowerPoint presentations) each. The moderator is expected to leave enough time for Q&A with the audience at the end of the presentations.

**Town Meeting Conversations (60 minutes).** Similar to panel sessions, Town Meeting Discussions also feature one moderator and two speakers. Speakers provide brief opening remarks and/or presentations; however, the session is designed to more quickly engage the audience in an ongoing dialogue for the bulk of the session time.

**Pre-Conference Trainings (2-4 hours).** We anticipate offering several pre-conference workshops the day before the conference officially kicks off. If your idea is most suitable for this type of training, please select this format.

**Mobile Workshops (3 hours).** These ride along sessions, take attendees out of the convention center into the Los Angeles area to see and learn about one or more showcase redevelopment projects. Plan on about 50 participants per workshop and a timeframe that includes round-trip travel and the learning experience of the site visit.

**New for 2019! Brownfield Speaks (20 minutes).** Taking a cue from TED Talks, we are looking for engaging, charismatic speakers whose talks expose new ideas that are supported by concrete evidence and are relevant to a broad audience. The goal is to foster the spread of great ideas.

**New for 2019! Engaging Ideation (30 minutes to 2 hours).** The brownfields conference is notable for introducing new formats and approaches for actively engaging participants as part of the educational process. Design charrettes, table-top scenario planning and last year a session modeled after the popular Shark Tank television show have all be conference favs! If you've got an idea for a new engaging format or approach that you want to share, we'd love to hear about it. Keep it under two hours.

If you're ready to submit your idea, let's get started!

The Call for Ideas launches April 22, 2019 on [www.Brownfields2019.org](http://www.Brownfields2019.org)!