

Brownfields to Brightfields: Unlocking Solar Energy and Equitable Community Development

Thursday, May 20th from 9am-11am ET

Event is free and pre-registration is required [here](#)

MAPC and Groundwork USA invite municipal and agency staff, community organizations and members, and renewable energy developers to join a virtual workshop on the potential of Brownfields to Brightfields (B2B) to advance equitable community development. B2B projects repurpose brownfields sites – land with known or potential hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants – with solar energy installations on ground-mounted arrays, building rooftops, or canopy structures.

This workshop will share findings on models for B2B projects that advance equity and community benefits, highlighting real-world examples, challenges, and opportunities. Participants will learn about a new mapping tool for identifying potential B2B sites in Massachusetts and have the opportunity to lay the groundwork for future B2B project partnerships.

Workshop Agenda

- **9:00 - 9:05am: Welcome and Workshop Overview**
 - Stephen Burrington, Executive Director, Groundwork USA
- **9:05 - 9:20am: Keynote: Introduction to Brownfields to Brightfields Projects and U.S. Trends**
 - Lora Strine, Team Leader, RE-Powering America's Land Initiative, EPA
- **9:20 - 9:30am: Presentation: Opportunities and Challenges for Equitable B2B Projects in the Massachusetts Context**
 - Julie Curti, Clean Energy and Climate Strategy Manager and Senior Planner, MAPC
- **9:30 - 10:10am: Panel Discussion: Equitable Brownfields to Brightfields Projects**
 - Emil King, Program Analyst Renewable Energy and Clean Transportation, Department of Energy and the Environment for the District of Columbia
 - Lena Entin, Training Coordinator, Neighbor to Neighbor
 - Lori Ribeiro, City of Brockton Brownfields Coordinator (former), Vice President of Business Development, Mill Creek Renewables (current)
 - Adi Nochur (panel moderator), Deputy Director of Capacity Building, Groundwork USA
- **10:10 - 10:20am: Demonstration: Brownfields to Brightfields Mapping Tool for Massachusetts**
 - Caitlin Spence, Planning and GIS Analyst II, MAPC
- **10:20am - 10:50am: Topical Breakout Rooms**
 - Brownfields Remediation
 - Grassroots Organizing for a Just Transition
 - Equitable Solar Development
 - Massachusetts Solar and Brownfields Policy
 - B2B Mapping Tool for Massachusetts
- **10:50 - 11:00am: Next Steps towards Implementation**

This project was made possible with support from EPA's Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization. Register [here](#) and contact Julie Curti (jcurti@mapc.org) or Adi Nochur (adi@groundworkusa.org) with any questions.

