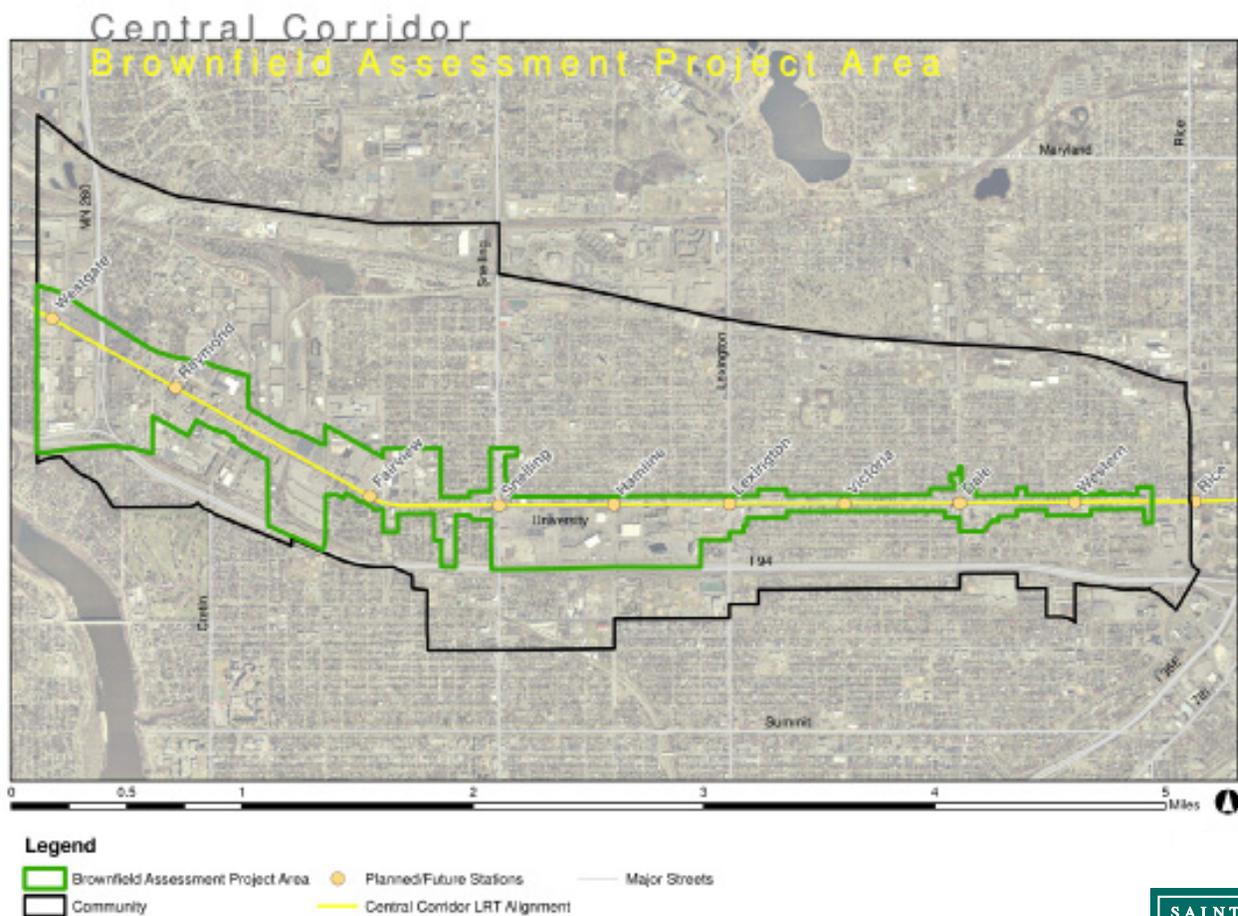


## Central Corridor Brownfield Assessment Project



The City of Saint Paul, in conjunction with the Metropolitan Council and Ramsey County, was awarded a grant for the investigation of potentially contaminated properties in the Central Corridor. The program funded by the grant, the Central Corridor Brownfield Assessment Project (CCBAP), will work with willing property owners to identify any contamination that may exist on participating properties as a result of historic uses, and, as needed, help to create a plan for safely remediating any contamination that is found. Common past uses that may have left behind a legacy of contamination include gas stations (petroleum) and dry cleaners (solvents). The project can also help participating property owners identify hazardous substances commonly found in older buildings, such as asbestos-containing building materials and lead-based paint. While clean-up/remediation funds will not be directly available through the program, participating property owners will also be assisted in applying for these funds from federal, state, and local sources.





## Central Corridor Brownfield Assessment Project

## Environmental Site Investigation FAQ

**What is a Brownfield?** The EPA defines a brownfield as a property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

**Why do brownfields need to be assessed?** Necessary to help identify sources of pollution, clarify liability, facilitate real estate transactions, and determine what measures may be necessary to protect human health during clean-up and after redevelopment. Clean-up of brownfields can protect and improve the environment and public health, and can help to facilitate reinvestment in these properties, leading to job creation, tax base growth, and community revitalization.

### **What is an Environmental Site Assessment or Site Investigation?**

A examination of the history and past uses of a property, combined with soil and/or groundwater testing as necessary to determine the presence and extent of contaminants on a site. **Phase I** is an investigation performed by an environmental professional that typically involves property surveys, interviews with owners and local government, reviews of historical records (such as insurance maps and city directories), and searches of regulatory databases to determine the potential for contamination on the property. The results of the Phase I inform **Phase II**, which is the sampling of soils and/or groundwater on a property to identify the type, intensity, and areal extent of contamination on a property. The Phase II investigation concludes with the development of a Response Action Plan or RAP, a long-term plan for clean-up of a property, including any necessary institutional controls.

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