



Smart Growth America

Making Neighborhoods Great Together



Revitalizing Abandoned Gas Stations Through Area-Wide Planning

Across the country, abandoned gas stations threaten human health, the environment and contribute to blight. These properties pose a challenge to many communities but they hold great economic potential. Abandoned gas stations are often located along major transit corridors and because of this, projects that revitalize these properties have the potential to catalyze neighborhood redevelopment and attract new businesses.

There's even greater economic benefit when multiple sites are revitalized together. By looking at these sites as a whole, rather than one by one, communities can realize economies of scale, encourage private sector buy-in and generate energy around a holistic redevelopment vision.

Above: The Double Wide Bar and Grille in Pittsburgh, PA is an example of an adaptive reuse of an abandoned gas station.

Smart Growth America is working with communities across the country to collect and share best practices for area-wide, multi-site redevelopment of abandoned gas stations and other vacant properties. Through a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency these resources will be available to communities across the country.

Tell us your story: Case studies of vacant property revitalization

Have you undertaken an area-wide redevelopment project in your community? Do you have ideas to share or lessons learned that could help other communities redevelop difficult sites? If so, Smart Growth America wants to hear from you.

Help Smart Growth America create a portrait of vacant property revitalization across the country. Contact Mara D'Angelo at mdangelo@smartgrowthamerica.org or (202) 258-6434 to contribute.