

Brownfields: Making Programs Work for Michigan Communities

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Roger Hamlin, Ric Hula, Bianca Cobarzan, Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore & Cristina Leuca
MSU Institute for Public Policy & Social Research

With some adjustments, the array of Michigan Brownfield legislation provides powerful tools for the reutilization of urban land. Which communities put them to work most effectively depends on the entrepreneurial spirit of public and private developers and the political climate in which public entrepreneurs operate.

Three concerns:

- Due care plans should be aggressively monitored and enforced to ensure that the public health goals of the brownfield legislation are not entirely lost to economic goals.
- Local officials should receive intensive training in the use of the tools.
- Better planning and evaluation of benefits and secondary impacts should more often become part of the process.

