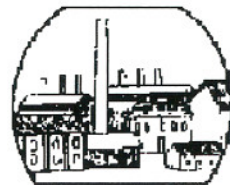


JOHNSTOWN REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

BROWNFIELD UPDATE

*"resurrecting the past... building the future
while working toward a safe, friendly,
cleaner and enhanced community."*



Volume 6, Issue 2

Summer 2008

EPA AWARDS JRA \$200,000 TO CLEANUP FORMER BETHLEHEM SITE

The Environmental Protection Agency recently awarded the Johnstown Redevelopment Authority a \$200,000 environmental cleanup grant for the Rosedale and Lower Ore Yard parcel, adjacent to the historic Cambria Iron Works.

After two-and-a-half years of extensive negotiations, the Johnstown Redevelopment Authority has taken title to the 50 acre site and can commence cleanup activities. The new award brings the total of brownfield grants awarded to the Johnstown Redevelopment Authority from the EPA to over \$2.8 million!

Formerly owned by Arcelor/Mittal Steel, the Rosedale KOZ and Lower Ore Yard are significant components of the miles of abandoned steel mills that blight the City of Johnstown's landscape. Upon completion of remediation activities, the Redevelopment Authority will seek State and Federal funds to further develop the land for future use.

The reclamation and reuse of the Rosedale KOZ and Ore Yard will not only reduce environmental health hazards to the community, but will also provide our landlocked City with developable land adjacent to the Cambria Iron Works Industrial Complex and highway access.

Previous EPA Assessment and Cleanup funds were critical in the redevelopment of the Cambria Iron Complex, which is now home to five light industrial manufacturing businesses. The Authority is looking to build upon these successes



(Rosedale/Ore Yard brownfield adjacent to the Cambria Iron Works)

with expansion into the Rosedale KOZ/Ore Yard site.

EPA Cleanup funds will enable the Authority to create a clean and viable site, bringing new jobs and private investment to our distressed city.

The grant proposal is available for public comment and review in the Redevelopment Authority office, and on our website <http://www.johnstown-redevelopment.org/browns.htm>.

Overflow Elimination Program

As owner and operator of the infrastructure.

Johnstown Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant, the Johnstown Redevelopment Authority has recently received notice and direction by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to address to our area's deteriorating sewage

The system is illegally overflowing and discharging untreated sewage into our local waterways. Furthermore, run-off water during rain and storm events is infiltrating the system, causing the plant to treat larger volumes of water

than necessary.

Our problem is not unique. Nationwide, sewage systems are in need of critical repairs and upgrades to fix problems associated with aging infrastructures.

Already, the DEP and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have placed steep environmental fines and penalties in areas such as Pittsburgh, (See PROGRAM, page 4)

To Learn More About the Overflow Elimination Program, Visit:

<http://www.johnstown-redevelopment.org/cso.htm>

BLACKSMITH SHOP RESTORATION NEARING COMPLETION

The Redevelopment Authority is pleased to announce they have recently received additional funding to support the completion of restoration work remaining in two wings of the Cambria Iron Works Blacksmith Shop.

After applying for two competitive grant applications, the Johnstown Redevelopment Authority was awarded both of the grants.

One grant of \$440,500 is through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and a second grant of \$75,000 was awarded by the Southwestern Pennsylvania Heritage Preservation Commission, for a total of \$515,500!

The funding will allow for final remediation and rehabilitation needed to return the two integral wings of the Blacksmith Shop to productive use.



(Interior view of the Blacksmith Shop)

The scope of work for the two wings includes abatement of asbestos and lead based paint, demolition and removal of obsolete materials, masonry wall restoration, door and window replacement to match existing units and

encapsulation of the existing dirt floor with concrete.

All restoration measures will be conducted pursuant to strict State and Federal cleanup standards for historic structures. In addition to work on the envelope of the building, smoke stacks will be added and refurbishment

work is planned for the existing historic furnaces, forges, hoists and hammers to clean and preserve equipment still housed in the shop.

One wing of the building, Area 2, houses the largest steam hammer in the shop, a 10,000 lb. Sellers steam hammer, owned by (*See FUNDS—page 3*)

SPRING CLEANUP A SUCCESS ON JOHNSTOWN GREENWAYS

On May 13, 2008, the Johnstown Redevelopment Authority sponsored a cleanup of the Johnstown Urban Greenway Trail, along Iron Street, and the Gateway Greenspace Park. The Pennsylvania Mountain Service Corps, a local initiative of the National AmeriCorps Organization, provided volunteers for the day.

Workers spent the day trimming trees and shrubs, weeding and collecting refuse along the heavily used public walking trails, as part of a larger week-long recruitment and recognition event designed to bring more Americans into community service through the AmeriCorps Program.

Cleanup equipment was provided by the Johnstown Area Heritage Association, PA Cleanways' "Great PA Cleanup" and several AmeriCorps members.

Created in 1994, AmeriCorps is the national service movement engaging thousands of Americans of all ages and



(Volunteers cleanup the Urban Greenway Trail)

backgrounds in a domestic Peace Corps.

Locally, over 100 members serve in their own communities in fields of education, environment, public safety and human needs.

Located in Southwest/Southcentral Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Mountain Service Corps program covers a 12 county region and provides

service at about 80 locations every year.

Service members can volunteer for various programs throughout the region, some of which include: tutoring/mentoring students grades k-12, environmental remediation/restoration/education, counseling of abuse victims, drug abuse prevention, building/maintaining public trails and mentoring at risk kids.

The Pennsylvania Mountain Service Corps sponsored a variety of programs to gain recognition throughout the week including cleanup of various walking trails and Downtown Johnstown Pride Day. Other events included hands-on learning programs in local school classrooms throughout the community and a cleanup of a local Boy Scout Camp.

The service week was capped with a reception to honor and recognize service sites throughout the region.

Johnstown Redevelopment Authority
401 Washington Street, 4th Floor
Johnstown, PA

Johnstown Redevelopment Authority

WWW.JOHNSTOWN-REDEVELOPMENT.ORG

814-535-6564

AN INSIDE LOOK AT THE TECH PARK

Tours of the new Greater Johnstown Regional Technology Complex were provided to the public during the recent Showcase for Commerce held May 29 – 30, 2008.

Visitors to Johnstown Redevelopment Authority and Conemaugh Hospital's Tech Park project received an inside look at the new 100,000 sq. ft. LEED-certified, silver standard building and viewed plans for future facility development. The Technology Complex represents a major change to the face of Johnstown and its economy by providing a much needed revitalization to the Central Business District.

With the property's setting along the riverbank, it afforded an excellent opportunity to create the complex's adjoining Tech Park Riverwalk. The Redevelopment Authority has applied for additional grant funding for this portion of the project.

The Riverwalk will provide greenspace along the perimeter of the new building with benches, tables, handicap accessibility, trees and native vegetation landscaping and will allow the complex's employees, visitors and the public outdoor leisure opportunities along the Stonycreek River.

The Tech Park Riverwalk Project complements the County's and City of Johnstown's new Greenway and Open Space Plans, which speak to integration of area greenspaces, river vistas and other area attractions to enhance connectivity in the community.

Located between Franklin and Napoleon Streets, the Riverwalk will provide critical linkage to other area trails



(Construction continues on the Greater Johnstown High Tech Park)

including the Sandyvale Cemetery Trail, Jim Mayer Riverwalk Trail, and the Urban Greenway Trail along Iron Street.

The construction of the Technology Complex and the Tech Park Riverwalk is expected to be completed in the fall of 2008. The state-of-the-art facility will house two major tenant's operations, laboratories and networks in support of various programs, including the healthcare information technology initiatives.

MTS Technologies, Inc., a high tech consulting firm, which has over 50 employees, is located in Johnstown and will relocate to the Tech Park and Northrop Grumman, a Fortune 500 company, will occupy approximately 30,000 square feet of the new building. These companies will help diversify the Johnstown economy by embracing new information technologies and health related business developments.

The Tech Park will also provide an outdoor pastoral setting for patients at the John P. Murtha Cancer Center, adjacent to the complex.

For More Information, Visit
www.johnstowntechpark.com



(Rendering of the High Tech Park)

FUNDS - continued from page 2

the Smithsonian Institute.

Various hoists and cranes around the hammer enable massive metalworks to be maneuvered around the shop space.

Area 3 will be the second wing of the building to be restored in this final phase of work. This wing houses heat-treating ovens and various other small tools of the trade.

Once the Blacksmith Shop is restored, its new tenants, Cambria Archi-

tectural Metalworks, will bring experienced blacksmiths to the facility, creating new jobs, which will incorporate the use of historic steel forging hammers and other mid-19th century tools to create both decorative and industrial-application products for customers nationwide.

This plan for historic preservation and business development also offers a unique opportunity for visitors in our area to see fabricators and blacksmiths

using century old metal-working practices.

Some of the Blacksmith Shop's equipment is still viable for commercial forging and heat treating applications and are available to the new tenants as needed.

The blacksmiths will also install their own equipment to offer all necessary capabilities for design and fabrication.

JRA AWARDS YMCA ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP FUNDS

The Johnstown Redevelopment Authority has awarded the first of its EPA Revolving Loan Cleanup subgrants to the Greater Johnstown Community YMCA for environmental cleanup at two vacant Somerset Street buildings. The YMCA has acquired the properties as part of the YMCA Expansion Project.

The two forlorn houses located

PENOCO, Inc. of Pleasant Gap, PA, was awarded the contract for cleanup of asbestos containing material in the two unoccupied residences – 444 Somerset Street and 446-448 Somerset Street, located in the Kernville section of the City of Johnstown.

The Johnstown Redevelopment Authority recently initiated the “Brownfield Revitalization Program” after receiving a US EPA Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund of \$ 1 million.

The Brownfield Revitalization Program is designed to support brownfield property owners with redevelopment assistance for cleanup and removal of hazardous pollutants from their brownfield properties.

The Redevelopment Authority is currently seeking applications from property owners who are interested in obtaining cleanup funding. Certain eligibility requirements exist and recipients must comply with all US EPA rules and regulations. Municipalities and nonprofit owners are eligible for cleanup grants and private property owners are eligible for loans.

The Johnstown Redevelopment Authority recognizes that land recycling

and brownfield redevelopment are vital components of the City’s Recovery Plan and Cambria County’s Master Plan for environmental remediation and economic development opportunities.



(444 Somerset Street)

adjacent to the YMCA parking lot will be razed to enable construction of the new building addition and to allow for expanded parking.

Preliminary work plans and specifications have been designed and, following schedule, work began in June.



(446-448 Somerset Street)

More information is available online at: <http://www.johnstown-redevelopment.org/browns.htm> or at the Redevelopment Authority office on the 4th floor of the Public Safety Building.

PROGRAM - continued from page 1

with fines totaling three billion dollars.

In an effort to preclude costly State and Federal fines and penalties for environmental pollution, the Johnstown Redevelopment Authority is spearheading an Overflow Elimination Program to eliminate sewage overflows by enhancing the collection and treatment system, with a shared community goal for improved environmental health.

Problems are system-wide and the project will take many years of cooperative effort to bring the infrastructure into federal compliance. Much of the area’s sewage transmission system is aged, damaged and even improperly connected.

Already, several municipalities that have serious problems with combined storm and sanitary sewers are preparing to separate and replace their portions of the system.

Our entire system is comprised of 20 municipalities that send their wastewater to the Wastewater Treatment Plant to be treated before it is released into the Conemaugh River.

Each municipality owns and maintains its system of

underground sewer pipes and each property owner is responsible for the piping from their homes to the municipal collection lines.

Engineering services including flow monitoring, GIS mapping, and line testing have been initiated in order to begin quantifying the extent of the sewer problems in our system.

Resale ordinances are also being adopted in order to identify and fix problems requiring inspection and testing of sewer lines before a home can be sold.

Johnstown Redevelopment Authority’s mission in this project is to help all 20 municipalities in the Johnstown Regional Sewage system take the necessary steps to eliminate sewage overflow.

By working regionally, the entire community will benefit with an increased ability to secure funding for infrastructure improvements, avoid costly fines and clean-up our waterways, enhancing our recreational opportunities and standard of living.