

BROWNFIELD INCENTIVE PROGRAM

a locally driven revitalization effort



Ottawa County
Where You Belong[®]



ELIGIBILITY & STEPS

Who can apply: Cities, villages, townships and private entities within the County

What BIP can be used for: Incentives can be used for Environmental Site Assessments, Preparation of Baseline Environment Assessments, and due care planning

How it works:

- Applicants determine [eligibility](#)
- [Apply](#) for funding
- OCBRA scores project then determines level of funding for selected projects

WHAT ARE BROWNFIELDS?

Brownfields are idle, underutilized, or vacant industrial or commercial properties where redevelopment is hindered by real or perceived environmental contamination, blight, or functional obsolescence.

Many brownfield sites sit unused for decades because the cost of clean-up for these sites can be high and uncertain.

The **Ottawa County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (OCBRA)** offers access to several financial tools that can help offset these costs. One such tool is the Brownfield Incentive Program, or BIP.

This long-vacant property (pictured here before redevelopment) at the corner of 96th Avenue and Port Sheldon Road in Borculo was redeveloped into an alternative fueling station (bottom photo) in 2016 with the assistance of OCBRA.



BENEFITS

This county-facilitated economic development tool has the potential to:

RETURN problematic properties to the tax rolls

ATTRACT developers to brownfields, creating jobs and investment

INCREASE the value of nearby properties

REDUCE sprawl by reusing properties with existing infrastructure

ADDRESS and remediate environmental contamination and health hazards

HOW IS THE BIP FUNDED?

The **BIP** was established by the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners to help incentivize the redevelopment of brownfield properties with local funding.

Managed by OCBRA, BIP consists of certain revenues generated under the Brownfield Redevelopment Act, and under an Urban Cooperation Agreement between OCBRA and the Ottawa County Land Bank Authority because of their shared goal of returning underutilized properties to the tax rolls.



CONTACT US

OTTAWA COUNTY BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

616-738-4852 | plan@miottawa.org

miottawa.org/brownfields

