at-a-glance

OLD HALBERT HOSPITAL

Rosebud, TX Cleanup Grant

Residential Reuse Plans Address a Community-Identified Need

Address: 311 N. Military Rd., Rosebud, TX 76570

PROPERTY SIZE: 1.8 acres
FORMER USE: Hospital

CURRENT Use: With cleanup complete, the site's master plan calls for seven

single-family homes to be built on seven individual parcels.

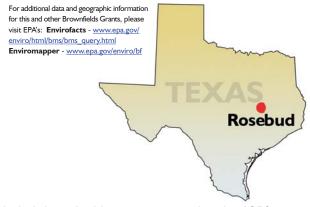
EPA GRANT RECIPIENT:The City of Rosebud received a \$200,000

Brownfields Hazardous Substances Cleanup

grant in September 2006.

PROJECT PARTNERS:

NeighborWorks America



PROJECT BACKGROUND:

This former hospital site, located within a primarily residential area, included three buildings constructed in the 1950s. The hospital closed in the 1980s, and the owners declared bankruptcy. Through tax foreclosure, the property was eventually transferred to three-way ownership among the City of Rosebud, Falls County and the local school district. The city's original plan was to renovate existing structures; the site was entered into the state's Voluntary Cleanup Program and environmental assessments were performed. However, at an estimated \$2 million to clean up lead and asbestos contamination and rehabilitate onsite buildings, costs were prohibitively high for a city of approximately 1,500 residents. The city resigned itself to leaving the property dormant and restricting site access. Community meetings identified the need for new housing as a top priority, as homes had not been built in Rosebud in the last 20 years. The city council made residential reuse a priority for the site, and applied for an EPA Brownfields Cleanup grant. Rosebud received a \$200,000 EPA grant in 2006 and took sole ownership of the property that year.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Worked closely with the community to determine the site's most beneficial reuse.
- Used the \$200,000 EPA Cleanup grant, along with \$40,000 in city funds, to demolish structures and clear the property of both lead and asbestos contamination.
- Completed cleanup in July 2007.
- Collaborated with a nonprofit developer to produce a residential reuse plan that includes seven new homes.

OUTCOME:

While cleanup was underway, the city began collaborating with NeighborWorks America—a national nonprofit organization created by Congress to provide financial support, technical assistance and training for community-based revitalization efforts—on residential reuse plans for the former hospital site. Though a contract has not been finalized, the organization's plans for the site feature seven single-family homes to be constructed on the property, with an estimated completion in early 2009. All of the homes will take advantage of existing utility infrastructure, and be built to ENERGY STAR®-equivalent standards. In addition to the productive reuse of a long-dormant, contaminated property, this project meets a need for additional housing specifically identified as a community priority.