

Region 5 Brownfields Success – City of Mankato, MN

Children's Museum of Southern Minnesota

Opportunity:

As part of its downtown redevelopment efforts, the City of Mankato saw the opportunity to reuse a former city Bus Barn to create a permanent home for the Children's Museum of Southern Minnesota.

Contamination issues relating to illegal dumping and fuel tanks impeded this redevelopment.



Targeted Investment: Mankato sought the assistance of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), which utilized \$106,143 in USEPA Brownfields 128(a) funds to perform environmental investigation and cleanup at this site.

Results: The Children's Museum of Southern Minnesota invested over \$3 Million in this project. The new Children's Museum opened in 2015, and has been attracting over 100,000 visitors per year. The City of Mankato has built upon this experience, successfully applying for a 2016 USEPA Brownfields Assessment grant to address other sites.

