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# NJIT TAB TIMES

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## NJIT TAB Brownfields Basics – Regional Plan Commission of Greater Birmingham, AL



The NJIT TAB Team partnered with the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) of Greater Birmingham, USEPA Region 4, and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) to provide an engaging and insightful Brownfields Basics Workshop at the RPC's annual meeting.

The RPC is interested in revitalizing the brownfields throughout their jurisdiction, which includes many smaller and rural communities. The goal of the workshop was to educate RPC members on the topics of brownfield redevelopment and resources to assist in the brownfield redevelopment process as well as to build capacity within the communities in the RPC's jurisdiction.



NJIT TAB and partners at the event covered discussion points including:

- Definition of brownfields;
- Brownfield redevelopment impact and benefits for the community;
- Overview of the brownfield assessment, remediation, and redevelopment processes; and
- State and Federal Brownfield Programs

The workshop also included an interactive community visioning exercise designed to show attendees how to elicit the needs of the communities and how their brownfields can be used to address the community needs. Approximately 50 people attended the workshop.

The workshop evaluation survey responses were very positive with an overwhelming majority of feedback indicating that the workshop was “very useful”. Elizabeth Smith from the City of Columbiana, Alabama said “Anyone who needs to be educated on ADEM and Brownfields will leave with clear understanding of their programs.” Additional comments indicated that the workshop made the participants aware of the resources available to communities – and many participants indicated that they would be following up with ADEM to pursue brownfield redevelopment projects.