NJIT TAB Conducts “How We See It – The Developer’s Perspective on Brownfields Redevelopment” Seminar

NJIT TAB conducted a robust discussion focused on how real estate developers view brownfields. Held on October 28, 2019 as part of the Southeast Brownfields Conference, this seminar included the presidents of two real estate development firms, a real estate attorney, and an environmental consultant.

Regulators, elected officials, and community organizations all have varying perspectives on brownfields, ranging from approved remediation methods to health impacts to funding needs. One perspective that we rarely hear is that of the real estate developer. Do developers have a different strategy when approaching a brownfield site as opposed to a greenfield? What can states do to incentivize the development of brownfield sites? How can communities better market their brownfield sites to grab a developer’s attention? These discussion points and more led to a lively and informative session attended by approximately 50 representatives of community organizations, federal, state, and local governments, non-profits, Tribal Nations, economic development organizations, and consulting firms.

NJIT TAB identified and invited the panelists; developed questions posed to the panelists; and moderated the event. Audience questions served to further focus the conversation to specific issues including liability, tax incentives/credits, and the impacts of community engagement.