



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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MAYOR THOMAS MENINO NAMED PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL BROWNFIELD ASSOCIATIONS MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER

(Chicago, Ill., December 3, 2008) – Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino recently agreed to serve as president of the Massachusetts chapter of the National Brownfield Associations (NBA). With over 1,200 members in 22 chapters in the U.S. and Canada, NBA is the largest member-based organization dedicated to encouraging sustainable redevelopment, and connecting green building to brownfield sites.

An issue-oriented, bottom-up organization driven by its chapters, the NBA is able to provide value to its members by focusing on local issues. The Massachusetts chapter was formed in 2003. Its members include a range of public and private sector stakeholders, among them property owners, developers, investors, real estate professionals, service providers, and government representatives. The chapter offers networking and business development opportunities, information about industry trends and best practices, and updates on brownfield policy and legislation.

Brownfields are typically abandoned or underutilized industrial or commercial properties where redevelopment is hampered due to the real or perceived presence of environmental hazards. Putting these properties back into productive use provides both environmental and economic benefits – it creates jobs, restores local economies and cleans up the environment.

Speaking about his new role at an event held in commemoration of Massachusetts Brownfields Month, Menino said, “Working with the Executive Committee of the NBA’s Massachusetts chapter, I will help foster partnerships between the public and private sectors to increase awareness of brownfields issues in our communities and neighborhoods...I encourage anyone with a stake in brownfield redevelopment to join NBA to help us improve the environment, conserve resources and promote economic development by addressing blight and contamination at the state and local level.” The next chapter members meeting will be held in early February 2009.

Mayor Menino has made brownfield redevelopment a cornerstone of his administration, linking it to such priorities as neighborhood revitalization, increasing affordable housing, and creating new jobs. He has also been at the forefront of the brownfields agenda nationally, leading the U.S. Conference of Mayors' 2006 initiative to outline a broad-based action plan for restoring environmentally contaminated properties.

Anyone interested in NBA membership should contact 773-714-0407, ext. 112, or visit the associations' web site at <http://www.brownfieldassociation.org>.

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The National Brownfield Associations, headquartered in Chicago, is a non-profit, member-based organization consisting of NBA U.S.A. and NBA Canada. It is the only non-profit organization dedicated to promoting sustainable development and encouraging green building on brownfield sites. With more than 1,300 members, and chapters in 22 states and provinces, the NBA is the premier association for government, businesses and individuals involved in the redevelopment of brownfields, and the only group that represents the wide range of public and private sector brownfield stakeholders, among them, property owners, developers, investors, service professionals and elected officials. Its mission is carried out through three primary conduits: information, education and events. NBA is the "go-to" organization for information on the brownfield market, keeping its members up to date on market trends, redevelopment opportunities, and changes in policy and legislation.