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## **Astoria lands \$400k for Heritage cleanup**



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The **Environmental Protection Agency** is giving money to Astoria, and eight other cities, to redevelop contaminated properties.

Astoria will share in the \$9 million worth of EPA Brownfields redevelopment funding that EPA announced on Thursday.

The north Oregon Coast city will use [the EPA's \\$400,000](#) to assess properties and clean-up measures.

The grant will help city officials work on [the Heritage Square site](#). The spot used to be home to an auto repair shop, a dry cleaner and a printer. Astoria wants to reshape the space as an outdoor gathering space that includes an amphitheater and a boardwalk.

It will also include the "Garden of Surging Waves," which will give a nod to Astoria's Chinese heritage.

"Astoria has a rich and diverse social history, populated with a variety of ethnic groups, many of which are honored elsewhere in the community," the EPA wrote in its release announcing the grant. " But until now, Astoria's early Chinese history has remained obscure. When fishing and fish canneries were two of Astoria's primary industries, Chinese men were a key part of the cannery workforce."

The EPA estimates that there are 450,000 abandoned and contaminated waste sites in

America. The agency's Brownfields program seeks to redevelop such sites. [EPA has sent cities and states \\$18.3 billion](#) through the program since 1995.

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