

Celebrating 25 Years

# Midvale Slag Cleanup

In April 2015 the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and local agency representatives joined business leaders and elected officials and staff in Midvale City to celebrate the removal of the Midvale Slag site from EPA's Superfund list. This marks 20-plus years of collaboration and dedication at the federal, state, and local level to transform a once contaminated land into a thriving development.

The 446-acre Midvale Slag site encompasses the area where, from 1871 to 1971, five lead and copper smelters, a mill and waste disposal operations took place. EPA has determined, with concurrence from the state of Utah, that all appropriate response actions have been completed at the site under oversight of DEQ. EPA listed the Midvale Slag Superfund site on the National Priorities List (NPL) in 1991 due to the potential health risk from exposures to toxic metals in contaminated groundwater, soil and onsite wastes.

Midvale City received EPA's Environmental Achievement Award for Excellence in Site Reuse as Midvale's leaders have been instrumental in making Bingham Junction a national example of Superfund redevelopment. The site, now called Bingham Junction, supports single- and multi-family residences, retail stores, office buildings, a hotel, recreational walking and biking trails, a Utah Transit Authority light rail station and a restored on-site habitat surrounding the Jordan River. Employers at the Bingham Junction site include FLSmidth USA, Savage, and Overstock.

Outcomes from the site's Bingham Junction development are striking. Today, the former Midvale Slag site now supports more than 2,000 jobs and a tax base exceeding \$300 million, with new business development expected in upcoming years.



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