



Michael J. Hecker, Esq. Mohawk Valley Brownfields Developer Summit April 24, 2024

- Over 200 attorneys in ten offices in U.S. and Canada
- Represent a broad-range of clients, including Fortune 500 corporations, universities, individuals, developers, municipalities, and public authorities/agencies, both within New York and across the country.
- We utilize a practical approach, with multidisciplinary teams, to solve client problems and needs.



Albany, New York



Hackensack, New Jersey



Rochester, New York (2)



Buffalo, New York



New York, New York



Saratoga Springs, New York



Greensboro, North Carolina



Palm Beach, Florida



Toronto, Canada

## 1. Site Control is often a Gating Issue

- Defunct, bankrupt or absent property owner.
- Significant tax arrear liability and/or other legacy obligations.
- An owner not looking to "unearth" problems.
- Limited historical knowledge/records.

## 2. Beneficial Reuse

Governmental interest in seeking to serve their communities, address blight, and generate revenue.

## 3. Environmental Risk Management

The need to account for and address risk without unnecessarily creating liabilities.

Governmental entities often play a crucial role, especially in the context of zombie or abandoned properties.

- Ability to leverage resources to "de"-risk certain sites, allowing for redevelopment.
- Ability to avail themselves of certain police and regulatory powers to gain site control.
- Facilitate "planned" approach to address blight and reuse in the communities, potential benefiting all parties.
- Key partner in getting the redevelopment completed.

There are a number of tools that governmental entities can utilize to help address this process, including:

- Existing statutory and regulatory rights.
- Legal approaches
- Grant dollars.
- Agreements and/or coordination with State and Federal agencies.

It's not meant to be a one size fits all circumstance; think of it more as a buffet.