Brownfields 2013 Area-Wide Planning Grant Fact Sheet

Local Economic and Employment Development Council, Chicago, IL

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country clean up and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through competitive grant programs for brownfields site assessment, site cleanup, revolving loan funds, area-wide planning, and job training. Additional funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Program

EPA's Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Program assists communities in responding to local brownfields challenges, particularly where multiple brownfield sites are in close proximity, connected by infrastructure, and limit the economic, environmental and social prosperity of their surroundings. This program enhances EPA's core brownfields assistance programs by providing grant funding to communities so they can perform the research needed to develop an area-wide plan and implementation strategies for brownfields assessment, cleanup, and reuse. The resulting area-wide plans provide direction for future brownfields area improvements that are protective of public health and the environment, economically viable, and reflective of the community's vision for the area. Recipients selected under this program will receive up to $200,000 in EPA grant funding.

Project Description

$200,000

EPA has selected the Local Economic and Employment Development (LEED) Council as a Brownfields Area-Wide Planning grant recipient. LEED Council will work with the community and other stakeholders to develop an area-wide plan and implementation strategy for three contiguous brownfields sites in the North River Industrial brownfields area. This area was among the heaviest industrial operations on the north side of Chicago. LEED Council will engage the community, conduct existing conditions research, and do brownfields site reuse planning to create viable options for equitable redevelopment in the form of industrial reuse and good-paying jobs. Key partners for this project include the City of Chicago Department of Housing and Economic Development, Logan Square Neighborhood Association, and various other city officials, businesses, and community organizations.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team
(312) 886-7576
EPA Region 5 Brownfields Web site
(http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields)

Grant Recipient: Local Economic and Employment Development Council, IL
(773) 929-5552 ext 225

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

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