

Midwest Environmental Compliance Conference Big Money and How to Access It Panel Presentation

EPA's Investment in Revitalizing Communities



EPA Resources

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

\$45.1 Billion

Water and Sewer
Infrastructure - \$38.4 B

Superfund - \$3.5 B

Brownfields – \$1.5 B

Regional Environmental
Programs - \$1.7 B

Environmental and Climate
Justice - \$100 M

Inflation Reduction Act

\$34.8 Billion

Greenhouse Gas Reduction
Fund - \$27 B

Climate Pollution Reduction
Grants - \$5 B

EJ Capacity Building and
Community Change Grants -
\$2.8 B



A Brownfield is a property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or ***potential*** presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.



Brownfields are often “location-efficient” due to their central location and connections to existing infrastructure.

Typically, brownfields are centrally located in areas with good connections to local infrastructure, including roadways and utilities.

Being able to reuse existing infrastructure is an important advantage to brownfields redevelopment. This saves on infrastructure expense and prevents additional environmental degradation from building on greenfields.





“Typical” Brownfield Redevelopment Process



Federal and State Assistance: EPA Region 7 Brownfields program/State environmental agency.

Local Government: As a temporary property owner can remove barriers to redevelopment and make site improvements to attract private investment.

Private Sector: Long-term property owner makes additional improvements/investments and operates site.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

- Provides \$1.5 billion in additional Brownfield program funding
- The largest single investment ever in US Brownfields infrastructure
- Objective of creating **154,000 jobs** and stimulating **\$30 billion** in public/private funding



ASSESSMENT GRANTS

- Develop inventory, site characterization, assessment, cleanup and area wide planning, community engagement.
 - Community-Wide
 - Funding: up to \$500,000
 - Project Period: up to 4 years
 - Coalition (Led by State, county, tribe, regional council)
 - Funding: up to \$1,200,000
 - Project period: up to 4 years



CLEANUP GRANTS

- Funding to carry out cleanup activities at one or more brownfield sites.
- **Must own** the site(s) at the time of application.
- While funded under Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, a cost share is not required. (Usually 20%)
- Funding: An applicant may request
 - up to \$500,000, or
 - up to \$2 million, or
 - up to \$4 million.
- Project Period: up to 4 years



REVOLVING LOAN FUND GRANTS

- Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) grants provide funding for capitalizing an RLF program.
 - Provides loans and subgrants to eligible entities to carryout cleanups.
 - A successful program “revolves” by generating program income which is then used to make additional loans and subgrants.



- Funding: An eligible entity or coalition may apply for up to \$1 million
- Project Period: Initially 5 years.

2024 Grant Announcement and FY25 Solicitation

In May 2024, 180 communities were selected nationwide to receive 183 grant awards for a total of \$233 million in funding for Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup (MAC) Grant programs.

FY25 Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan (RLF), and Cleanup grant applications due November 14, 2024.



TARGETED BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENTS (TBAs)

EPA provides environmental assessments and cleanup planning free of charge to communities and non-profits

- Services include Phase I/Phase II site assessment and cleanup planning
- Applications accepted year-round. Contact R7_Brownfields@epa.gov
- Significant increased TBA funding available
- An easy way for communities to get involved in brownfield redevelopment.



DIRECT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Assistance from EPA consultants for existing brownfield projects
- Assistance includes community visioning and engagement, site design, market studies, and project financial planning
- Project proposals accepted in six-month increments.
- Significant increased funding through BIL for direct technical assistance



Kansas State University Technical Assistance for Brownfields

- Help identifying and **inventorying** brownfields
- Strategic **planning** and redevelopment **visioning**
- Economic feasibility **analysis**
- Educational **workshops** and **webinars**
- Community **outreach**
- Help identify **funding** sources
- **Review** of grant applications
- Help finding and evaluating **environmental consultants**
- **Review** of plans and technical reports
- Fact sheets and **information**
- Other assistance, as needed and agreed upon



Heartland Environmental Justice Center

A Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center

The Heartland Environmental Justice Center supports individuals and organizations who serve in communities that are experiencing environmental injustice across Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and adjoining Indigenous Nations.

Custom Support for;

- Grant Development
- Education and Outreach
- Community Assistance
- Technical Expertise
- Networking & Coalition Building











Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund \$27 Billion

National Clean Investment Fund - \$14 Billion

The three grant recipients are establishing national clean financing institutions that deliver accessible, affordable financing for clean technology projects nationwide. Partnering with private-sector investors, developers, community organizations, and others to deploy projects and mobilize private capital at scale.

- Climate United Fund
- Coalition for Green Capital
- Power Forward Communities



Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund \$27 Billion

Clean Communities Investment Accelerator - \$6 Billion

5 recipients selected to establish hubs that provide funding and technical assistance to community lenders working in disadvantaged communities.

Focus on **distributed energy generation and storage, net zero emission buildings, and zero emission transportation.**



Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund \$27 Billion

Solar For All - \$7 Billion

Grant recipients create new or expanded low-income solar programs.

Missouri, Environmental Improvement and Energy Resource Authority (EI ERA) - \$159,120,00.

Kansas, Growth Opportunity Partners. Multi-State - \$156,120,000.

Nebraska, Center for Rural Affairs - \$62,450,000.



Community Change Grants

\$2.8 Billion

2 Tracts:

1. Community Driven Investment for Change Objectives, and
 2. Meaningful Engagement for Equitable Governance
- Community Based Organizations CBO(s) plus partners, such as local government and educational institutions.
 - Deadline – 11/21/24
 - \$10-\$20 million per project
 - 150 projects total
 - 21 projects announced 7/25/24



Community Change Grants

Themes from Recently Awarded Grants;

New on-site wastewater system in disadvantaged community; expansion of free micro-transit shuttle service; electrification of buses; home weatherization; community solar; addition of solar panels to homes; workforce development involving green energy; expansion of tree canopy; green infrastructure; establishment of community cooling center; 300 e-bikes; EV chargers; reduction of indoor air pollution; new trail system.





Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program

\$600 Million

11 Grant Makers were selected in December 2023.

Will serve as pass-through entities nationwide for assessment, planning, and project development activities.

Region 7 grant maker is [Research Triangle Institute](#).

Subgrants are expected to become available by Fall 2024.



Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program

Community-based nonprofit organizations, local governments, institutions of higher education, and other eligible organizations will be able to apply for subgrants through three concurrent tiers.

- Tier One will consist of subgrants for \$150,000 for assessment,
- Tier Two will consist of subgrants for \$250,000 for planning, and;
- Tier Three will consist of subgrants for \$350,000 for project development.



Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program

- Environmental Issues Subgrantees Can Address;
 - Air quality & asthma.
 - Fence line air quality monitoring.
 - Monitoring of effluent discharges from industrial facilities.
 - Water quality & sampling.
 - **Small cleanup projects.**
 - Improving food access to reduce vehicle miles traveled.
 - Stormwater issues and green infrastructure.
 - **Lead and asbestos contamination.**
 - Pesticides and other toxic substances.
 - Healthy homes that are energy/water use efficient and not subject to indoor air pollution.
 - **Illegal dumping activities**, such as education, outreach, and small-scale clean-ups.
 - Emergency preparedness and disaster resiliency.
 - Environmental job training for occupations that reduce greenhouse gases and other air pollutants.
 - Environmental justice training for youth.

