

US EPA BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENT GRANT

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) awarded the Port Authority a \$300,000 Hazardous Substance and Petroleum Assessment Grant to assess properties whose redevelopment is hindered by existing or potential environmental contamination. The Port Authority has engaged one (1) environmental consulting firms to develop ASTM and/ or Voluntary Action Program (VAP) Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments and Remedial Action Plans.

Of the \$300,000 allocation, \$200,000 is available for Hazardous Substance projects and \$100,000 is available for Petroleum projects.

DEADLINE:

Rolling - Through July 2020 or until funds have been expended.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact Julie Banner, Senior Development Associate
JBanner@CincinnatiPort.org
513.621.3000

APPLICATION AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS CAN BE FOUND:

<http://bit.ly/USEPA-GCRA>

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through July, 2020 or until funds have been expended.

Completed applications, including cover letter, exhibits and attachments to should be returned to:

JULIE BANNER

Senior Development Associate

JBanner@CincinnatiPort.org

Tel.: 513.621.3000

Applicants requesting funding must complete the following procedure:

1. Schedule a pre-application conference call and/or meeting with the Port Authority;
2. Complete and submit an Application for Financial Assistance along with required exhibits and attachments to the Port Authority;
3. The Port Authority may request/conduct an initial project meeting(s) and /or site visit;
4. The Port Authority will evaluate the application using the site criteria listed in Section VI to determine initial eligibility;
5. The site will be presented to the USEPA and/or BUSTR for an eligibility evaluation;
6. The site will be evaluated by a Port Authority approved consulting firm and a project budget estimate will be prepared;
7. If approved for funding by the Port Authority, the Applicant will receive an approval letter indicating the eligible activity for which funds will be used

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible Activities:

- Ohio Voluntary Action Program (VAP) Phase I Environmental Site Assessment
- Ohio Voluntary Action Program (VAP) Phase II Environmental Site Assessment
- ASTM Phase I Environmental Site Assessment
- ASTM Phase II Environmental Site Assessment
- Preparation of a Remedial Action Plan

Ineligible Activities:

- Demolition;
- Remediation;
- For others, please refer to Program Policies

Geographic Eligibility

Brownfield sites located within Hamilton County, including the City of Cincinnati, are eligible for this program. Additional consideration is given to sites located within GCRA key commercial and industrial corridors.

SITE ACCESS & CONSENT AGREEMENT

Property owner(s) must agree to provide site access to the Port Authority and the selected Port Authority approved consulting firm for the purpose of conducting work through the Site Assessment Grant. The property owner(s) will be required to submit an executed site access and consent agreement for each eligible activity at the time of application.

The applicant and owner understands and agrees that the Property will be identified on government inventories, databases, and/or lists of Brownfield properties, including those receiving work funded by the Grant.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Highest consideration for grant funding will be given to projects with a plan for economic redevelopment and the removal of any known or discovered contamination.

Site selection criteria will be comprised of the following factors:

Documentation of a completed conceptual redevelopment plan for the site;

Documentation noting the site's location and proximity to existing infrastructure;

Documentation of the project's readiness to proceed

Project's overall impact on the environment (if known)

Community development projects must substantiate and document job creation opportunity, supplemental private and/or public investment, and written support from the local governing body or community council to be eligible for consideration of assistance (e.g. a letter from the local community development office.)

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