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Brownfields Bulletin



EPA Brownfields Coalition Grants - Why Form a Coalition

The last round of EPA Brownfields Grants offered communities a new option-the Coalition Assessment Grant. According to EPA:

*"An Assessment Coalition is comprised of three or more eligible entities. The lead coalition member submits a Community-wide Assessment grant proposal on behalf of itself and the other members. The coalition may request up to **\$1 million** to work on a **minimum of five** hazardous substance and/or petroleum sites."*

Joining with other communities to apply for brownfields assessment funds can be beneficial to communities for several reasons:

- Communities, large or small, that have a limited number of brownfield sites can join together to meet the minimum number of sites required.
- The time and expense to prepare a grant application can be shared.
- Small entities with few available resources can team with larger ones to take advantage of the larger entities' technical and administrative resources for implementing the grant.
- It allows communities that have a common environmental issue, for example mining, abandoned industrial operations, or flooding, or the desire for corridor redevelopment through common trails or tourist attractions, to write a focused and compelling grant application.
- If a community has brownfields sites that it would like to address but doesn't believe it can make a strong case in an application, it can team with other communities that have similar environmental issues or programs in place to develop a strong grant application.
- Communities can share contracted resources to implement the grant.
- One contact point for several communities can improve communications with state and federal regulators.

Several EPA Brownfields Coalition Grant winners were announced in May. Since the Coalition Assessment option is new, the benefits of a coalition grant have not yet been proven, but the advantages appear to be solid.

Readers' Poll

Stanley Consultants is planning a free Brownfields Webinar for late summer/early fall that will be available live and also as a download afterwards. What topic are you interested in? Do you want to learn more about how to get a grant? How to implement a grant? How to identify Brownfields sites appropriate for redevelopment? Please email us and let us know what topic would interest you. Contact us at QuastCindy@Stanleygroup.com.

Community Assistance

Stanley Consultants is proud to have assisted the following communities with their successful applications:

Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments - \$1,000,000 Coalition Assessment

City of Carson City, NV - \$400,000 Assessment

City of Firebaugh, CA - \$400,000 Assessment

City of Grass Valley, CA - \$400,000 Assessment

Riverside County Development Agency, CA - \$200,000 Cleanup

City of San Pablo, CA - \$400,000 Assessment

City of Sparks, NV - \$400,000 Assessment

Stanley Consultants- Ranked #1 Environmental Consultant by the Corridor Business Journal

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If you would like more information on brownfield redevelopment funding opportunities, or grant writing please contact Cynthia Quast, P.E., Brownfields Redevelopment Department Manager at quastcindy@stanleygroup.com or 319.626.5316.

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