

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



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October 30, 2013

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ARLEEN P. TAYLOR
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#2 BOS

Mayor Eric Garcetti
Room 305
City Hall
Attn: Mandy Morales

City Council
Room 395
City Hall

Subject: AUTHORITY TO SUBMIT A BROWNFIELD GRANT APPLICATION TO U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY FOR COMMUNITY AREA-WIDE ASSESSMENT IN LOS ANGELES

As recommended in the accompanying report of the Director of the Bureau of Sanitation, which this Board has adopted, the Board of Public Works requests that the City Council, subject to concurrence of the Mayor, authorize the Director of the Bureau of Sanitation, or his designee, to submit a Brownfield Grant Application FY 2014 to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) for community area-wide assessment and cleanup funds (for up to \$600,000) in Los Angeles to fund Brownfield environmental services, and if awarded funds, to accept, negotiate and execute all necessary agreements with the USEPA to implement and carry out the purposes specified in the application.

It is also requested, that the City Council adopt the Resolution (Transmittal No. 1) authorizing the submittal of application for Brownfield community area-wide assessment grant

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact to the City's General Fund, as a result of this option, Grant awards will be announced in April/May 2014 and the funds will be available from July 2014-October 2017 on a reimbursement basis. There are no match requirements for this type of grant.

Respectfully submitted,


Arleen P. Taylor, Executive Officer
Board of Public Works

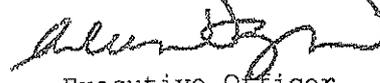
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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

BUREAU OF SANITATION
BOARD REPORT NO. 2
October 30, 2013

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD
PUBLIC WORKS OF THE CITY
of Los Angeles, California
AND REFERRED TO THE MAYOR
OCT 30 2013
AND REFERRED TO THE CITY COUNCIL


Executive Officer

CD: All

AUTHORITY TO SUBMIT A BROWNFIELD GRANT APPLICATION TO U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (USEPA) FOR COMMUNITY AREA-WIDE ASSESSMENT IN LOS ANGELES AND, IF AWARDED FUNDS, ACCEPT, NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY AGREEMENTS

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Approve and forward this report forthwith, with its transmittal, to the Mayor and the City Council, with the recommendations that the City Council, subject to concurrence of the Mayor, authorize the Director of the Bureau of Sanitation, or designee, to submit a Brownfield Grant Application FY14 to USEPA for community area-wide assessment and cleanup funds (for up to \$600,000) in Los Angeles to fund Brownfield environmental services and if awarded funds, to accept, negotiate and execute all necessary agreements with the USEPA to implement and carry out the purposes specified in the application.
2. Request the City Council to adopt the Resolution (Transmittal No. 1) authorizing the submittal of application for Brownfield community area-wide assessment grant.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

There is no fiscal impact to the City's General Fund, as a result of this action. Grant awards will be announced in April/May 2014 and the funds will be available from July 2014–October 2017 on a reimbursement basis. There are no match requirements for this type of grant.

TRANSMITTAL

1. Copy of proposed Resolution. (Transmittal No. 1)

DISCUSSION

The purpose of this Federal grant program is to assist in sustaining and restoring communities (and the ecological systems that support them) by providing financial assistance to assess contaminated property. Funding provided through this grant program is aimed at encouraging local solution to endemic Brownfield problems, creating new jobs, economic investment, and green space acreage. Brownfields community area-wide assessment funds may be used for conducting brownfield sites inventory, assessment, and cleanup planning.

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BOARD REPORT NO. 2

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These funds may also focus on conducting area-wide planning activities within a specific brownfields-impacted area or developing strategies for facilitating the reuse of existing infrastructure, and determining next steps and identifying resources needed to implement the area-wide plan.

Brownfields are properties whose redevelopment or reuse is complicated by the presence or the potential presence of hazardous substances or other contaminants. The City of Los Angeles Brownfields Program (Program) provides financial and technical assistance for the investigation, remediation and redevelopment of Brownfield sites. Over the past 10 years, the Program has obtained over \$60 million in Brownfield funding and leveraged over \$500 million in public and private development funds. The City Brownfields Revitalization Fund receives allocation of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to pay for investigation and remediation of Brownfield sites and to provide matching funds for other grants.

Brownfield grants are available for all real property, regardless of land use designation, that has been contaminated by hazardous waste, controlled substances, petroleum or petroleum products.

The Los Angeles City Brownfields Program (within the Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation) is requesting authorization to apply for two USEPA Brownfields Grants as described below. The Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) was initially scheduled between August and October with the application due 45 days after, however, the actual NOFA date is expected to be delayed, subject to the resolution of the federal government shutdown.

1) We propose to apply for \$400,000 for an area-wide assessment grant that would provide Phase I and Phase II Environmental Assessments at qualifying brownfield properties. The Project will identify privately or City-owned properties where development is being hindered by a lack of information on the environmental status of the property, where there is a need for Phase I and/or Phase II Environmental Site Assessments, and property owners are willing to have the City perform such assessments. Properties must also meet other criteria imposed by USEPA. Properties would be referred by Council District offices, City departments, and non-profit community development organizations. The project as envisioned at this time will include all or portions of those Council Districts where Brownfields are likely to occur.

2) We are also seeking authorization to apply for a \$200,000 USEPA Brownfields Cleanup Grant, if a qualifying City-owned property is available in time. We are seeking authorization in advance because the USEPA does not release the date the NOFA will be issued; however, it will be issued sometime between August and October of this year. Once the NOFA is issued, the grant application will be due within 45 days.

The USEPA also requires that the application be publicized to the community several days in advance of the grant due date, a process that is normally conducted at a City Council Committee meeting. Since City Council Committee agendas are often quite full, it can take several weeks to get scheduled for those meetings.

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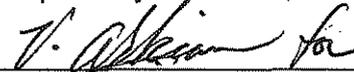
In preparation for this opportunity, the Brownfields Program is seeking referrals of City-owned sites that require funding for cleanup of contamination. The property must be owned by the City at the time the grant is submitted. There are currently two sites that may be eligible but exact contamination status and date of acquisition is not yet known. Also, additional sites may become known between now and when the NOFA is issued. If the Brownfields Program has authorization to submit an application for a Cleanup Grant, then we will have maximum flexibility to take advantage of this opportunity.

The Brownfields Program currently has an USEPA Assessment Grant to conduct assessments in the neighborhoods of Wilmington and Pacoima. Site assessments are available for qualifying sites at this time and referrals of sites are encouraged. Since 1997, the City's Brownfields Program has applied for and received 7 USEPA Brownfields Program grants.

STATEMENT AS TO FUNDING

If awarded, Grant funds received from the USEPA will be deposited into the Household Hazardous Waste Trust Fund, Fund No. 526. Front Funding will be provided by Fund 526.

Respectfully submitted,



ENRIQUE C. ZALDIVAR, Director
Bureau of Sanitation

Prepared by:
Nuna Tersibashian, SRCRD
(213) 485-3791

TRANSMITTAL 1

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies to or pending before a local, state or federal government body or agency must have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) provides Grants for investigation and cleanup of contaminated properties to assist in sustaining and restoring communities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles has long recognized that it is in the public interest to establish, implement and maintain USEPA funds to promote the cleanup and revitalization of contaminated properties; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Sanitation (BOS) / Department of Public Works, would like to apply for a USEPA grant. The term of the grant is from July 2014 through October 2017. If the grant is funded, the City of Los Angeles proposes to conduct a community area-wide assessment in Los Angeles.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Los Angeles does hereby authorize the Director of the Bureau of Sanitation, or designee, to submit an application to the USEPA for the Brownfield Assessment Grant FY14. If awarded funds, authorize the Director of the Bureau of Sanitation, or designee, to accept, negotiate and execute all necessary agreements with the USEPA to implement and carry out the purposes specified in the application.

PRESENTED BY _____

SECONDED BY _____

Prepared by:
Nuna Tersibashian, SRCRD
(213) 485-3791