



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
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TO: Barbara Levin Bergman, Chair
Ways and Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel
County Administrator

FROM: Anthony VanDerworp, Director
Department of Planning and Environment

DATE: November 14, 2007

RE: Brownfield's Community-wide Hazardous Substances Assessment Grant

ACTION REQUESTED

The Department of Planning and Environment requests that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners ratify the County Administrator's signature on the grant application to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) for a \$200,000 Brownfields Community-wide Hazardous Substances Assessment Grant (Assessment Grant) Program for the period of October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2011.

BACKGROUND

In May of 1999, the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners established the Washtenaw County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (WCBRA) through Resolution 99-0110, and subsequently appointed members to its Board the same year (Res. 99-0122). In October of 2000, Commissioners adopted the Brownfield Redevelopment Plan (Plan) for Washtenaw County. The WCBRA was established to facilitate the revitalization of underutilized and environmentally contaminated properties throughout the County.

Pursuant to the goals of the Washtenaw Brownfield Redevelopment Program and its efforts to build a county-wide inventory of brownfield sites, a grant application was prepared and submitted to the United States Environmental Protection Agency for a \$200,000 Community-wide Hazardous Substances Assessment Grant. This grant will be used to supplement our existing EPA Petroleum or Petroleum Product Assessment Grant which began in October 2005 and only funds assessment work for sites with suspected petroleum contamination. The County has already successfully expended the previous EPA Brownfields Demonstration Pilot Assessment Grant (2001-2005), yet we are still receiving requests to assist with assessment work on sites with hazardous substances. This grant in combination with our current assessment grant will make it possible to do assessment work on all potentially contaminated sites throughout the County.

DISCUSSION

The Washtenaw County Board of Commissions has demonstrated its support for the sustainable redevelopment of environmentally distressed sites in Washtenaw County, as well as its commitment to collaboration with other governmental units. The grant application is requesting \$200,000 over a three-year period. The Hazardous Substance Assessment Grant program will provide dollars for environmental site assessment (ESA) and related activities necessary to build on our existing inventory of brownfields and remove the barriers associated with brownfield redevelopment. The grant will provide funding to local municipalities and private developers to undertake assessment activities. The WCBRA will seek to cost share on many of these activities to leverage stakeholder dollars and ensure that the \$200,000 is available to as many projects as possible. Priority consideration will be given to applicants that include sustainable land use practices, workforce development opportunities, target areas for revitalization, and greenspace preservation/creation.

In accomplishing the objectives of the grant, the County will build on existing mechanisms and networks established to encourage community involvement, improve coordination in land-use planning, share information on environmental issues and strengthen collaborative efforts with our local units of government. This grant will be used as an incentive to increase economic development and recreational opportunities, implement the infill initiatives of the adopted Comprehensive Plan for Washtenaw County, and eliminate risks to the environment and public health.

IMPACT ON PERSONNEL

No impacts are indicated for this resolution

IMPACT ON BUDGET

The requested Board action would authorize the Administrator to accept the grant award of \$200,000 over a three-year period. No county match is required.

IMPACT ON INDIRECT COSTS

There will be no impact on indirect costs as the grant does not allow for this expense.

IMPACT ON OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OR OUTSIDE AGENCIES

This project will continue the strong partnerships with the 23 municipal members of the WCBRA (Cities: Ann Arbor, Chelsea, Milan, Saline and Ypsilanti; Villages: Dexter, Manchester; and Townships: Ann Arbor, Bridgewater, Dexter, Lima, Lodi, Manchester, Northfield, Pittsfield, Saline, Scio, Sharon, Superior, Sylvan, Webster, York, and Ypsilanti) in pursuing sustainable land use practices by remediating and redeveloping environmentally distressed areas. In addition, this project may lead to new relationships with the five municipalities not currently members of the WCBRA.

CONFORMITY TO COUNTY POLICIES

This action is in conformance with County policies.

ATTACHMENTS/APPENDICES

Attachment A Final Proposal for EPA Brownfields Community-wide Hazardous Substances Assessment Grant

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S SIGNATURE ON AN APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY FOR A BROWNFIELDS COMMUNITY-WIDE HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES ASSESSMENT GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$200,000 FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2008 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2011; AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE NOTICE OF GRANT AWARD; AMENDING THE BUDGET; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN DELEGATE CONTRACTS

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

November 14, 2007

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County has committed to collaborating with other governmental units and providing leadership for long term county-wide sustainable development and redevelopment incorporating a diversified economy, environmental protection, and social needs; and

WHEREAS, brownfield redevelopment encourages more efficient use of the land that will provide for sustainable growth, protect valued natural resources, and preserve important agricultural and open space lands, while also encouraging growth and economic revitalization on environmentally distressed sites designated as brownfields; and

WHEREAS, through Resolution 99-0110, the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners, pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act, being Act 381 of the Public Acts of the State of Michigan of 1996, as amended, established the Washtenaw County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (the "WCBRA") to facilitate the implementation of plans relating to the identification and treatment of environmentally and economically distressed areas in Washtenaw County; and

WHEREAS, there is need to provide incentives to assist with the environmental site assessments (ESAs) and related activities necessary to remove the barriers associated with brownfield redevelopment in order to move a brownfield site into a viable redevelopment, and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County has applied for a United States Environmental Protection Brownfields Community-wide Hazardous Substances Assessment Grant (Assessment Grant) in the amount of \$200,000 to fulfill these purposes; and

WHEREAS this matter has been reviewed by the Finance Department, Corporation Counsel, Human Resources, County Administrator's Office and the Ways and Means Committee.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the signature of the County Administrator on the application to the United States Environmental Protection Agency for an Assessment Grant in the amount of \$200,000 for the period of October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2011, as on file with the County Clerk

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board of Commissioners takes the following actions contingent upon receipt of the grant award in conformity with the grant application:

1. Authorizing the Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award
2. Amending the Budget, as attached hereto and made a part here of
3. Authorizing the Administrator to Sign delegate contracts, upon review of Corporation Counsel to be filed with the County Clerk

Department of Planning and Environment
 Brownfields Community-wide Hazardous Substances Site Assessment
 October 1, 2008 – September 30, 2011
 Business Unit 1765086200

	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Revenue:			
50000 Federal Revenue	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000
Total	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000
Expenditure:			
70050 Personal Services	\$0	\$22,000	\$22,000
72600 Supplies	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000
80000 Other Services	\$0	\$176,000	\$176,000
Total	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000