Gmail **Nicole Arbury <narburynptpc@gmail.com>**

Re: Brownfield Redevelopment Funds

Gerald Schatz <geraldschatz@charter.net> Thu, Apr 20, 2023 at 8:55 AM
To: Gale Jane <jgalenptvc@gmail.com>, clerk@villageofnorthport.net, narburynptpc@gmail.com

MEMORANDUM FOR JANE GALE AND THE NORTHPORT PLANNING COMMISSION:

Jane, thank you for your query.

I'm heavily booked and so can't meet with you anytime soon.

I, too, have heard brownfields briefings to the County and have heard the heavy emphasis on conversion to revenue-producing projects.

But see the attached document:

> OVERVIEW
> AGENCY: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)
> TITLE: FY23 GUIDELINES FOR BROWNFIELD CLEANUP GRANTS
> ACTION: Request for Applications (RFA)
> RFA NO.: EPA-I-OLEM-OBLR-22-09
>
> <EPA-I-OLEM-OBLR-22-09 RFA.pdf> <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=343487>

This program has closed for the current fiscal year, but it is regularly renewed, and the relevant language has been consistent.

Note in particular:

At page 17:

"EPA's approval of Property-Specific Determinations will be based on whether or not awarding a grant will protect human health and the environment, and either promote economic development or enable the property to be used for parks, greenways, and similar recreational or nonprofit purposes. Property-Specific Determination requests must be included in your application as an attachment and do not count toward the 10-page limit for the Narrative. (See the Information on Sites Eligible for Brownfields Funding under CERCLA § 104(k) for more information or contact your Regional Brownfields Contact listed in Section VII. if you think your site requires a Property-Specific Determination.)"

At page 37:

ii. Outcomes and Benefits of Reuse Strategy
Describe the potential of the proposed project or revitalization plans to stimulate economic development in the target area(s) upon completion of the cleanup of the proposed site(s), and/or how the grant will facilitate the creation of, preservation of, or addition to a park, a greenway, undeveloped property, recreational property, or other property used for nonprofit purposes in the target area(s)."

At page 48:

"1.b.ii. Outcomes and Benefits of Reuse Strategy (10 points)
Given the type of community being served (e.g., urban, rural, tribal, etc.), the degree to which the proposed project or revitalization plans will substantially stimulate economic development in the target area(s) upon completion of the cleanup of the proposed site(s) and/or the degree to which the grant will facilitate the creation of, preservation of, or addition to a park, a greenway, undeveloped property, recreational property, or other property used for nonprofit purposes in the target area(s). The degree to which these outcomes clearly correlate with the applicant's reuse strategy/projected site reuse(s). When applicable, the extent to which the reuse(s)."

Note that "brownfields" may apply to various state and federal remedial programs.

A cursory web search will provide examples of brownfield conversions to parks, greenways, green spaces, and suchlike--in Michigan and elsewhere.

Gerald S. Schatz, J.D.
505 N. Mill St.
P.O. Box 178
Northport, MI 49670-0178
231.632.0328
231.386.5936
Reply to: geraldschatz@charter.net

Pro bono

Admitted to practice:
District of Columbia
Pennsylvania
Federal agencies

On Apr 19, 2023, at 9:14 PM, Jane Gale <jgalenptvc@gmail.com> wrote:

Gerry,
Thank you for your comment tonight about the use of Brownfield funds for parks and greenspaces. I attended a presentation at the County earlier this week that seemed to rule that out. Would you have time in the next few days to talk me through the details?
Thanks,
Jane

EPA-I-OLEM-OBLR-22-09 RFA.pdf
680K