

Overview for the USEPA Brownfield Community-Wide Assessment Grant – Hazardous Substances and Petroleum Products Village of Midlothian, Illinois

Part I: Introduction/Background

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has awarded the Village of Midlothian (“Village”) a Brownfields Assessment Cooperative Agreement (CA) for the assessment of sites contaminated by hazardous substances and petroleum products. The CA funds will be used to identify existing brownfield sites/properties within the Village; investigate the historic uses of the properties and identify Recognized Environmental Conditions; determine the type, severity and extent of environmental contamination; and develop liability management and remedial strategies that will allow for the safe and viable redevelopment/reuse of properties.

The Village’s intent is to leverage the CA dollars by using CA funds to support and expand brownfield redevelopment efforts that are being driven by private and municipal development efforts. The Village will solicit and retain a qualified environmental consultant using quality-based selection criteria in accordance with Village procurement protocols and federal procurement rules. The qualified environmental consultant will assist with the CA management, perform environmental assessments and prepare technical documents.

In addition, the IEPA Office of Brownfields Administration (OBA) and the IEPA Office of Site Evaluation (OSE) have offered their assistance throughout the grant process to maximize the work that can be accomplished during the grant process. In the past, their assistance has come in the form of leveraged services (e.g., Phase II ESA drilling, sampling and laboratory analyses), as well as consultation and advisory services, all outside of the grant funds and at no cost to the Village.

Successful brownfield redevelopments will help create a sustainable community by enhancing the local economy, creating local jobs, increasing market value and affordable housing stock, and increasing tax revenues, which will help restore public support services and support additional brownfield redevelopments.

Part II: Management & Coordination

Karen Kreis, Village Trustee/Community Development Chair, will oversee the project as the Project Contact/Coordinator. The Village will be responsible for the management of the assessment grant and will be responsible for all USEPA reporting requirements. The Village will complete quarterly reports, annual financial status reports, Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES) updates, and the final close-out summary report to the USEPA Region 5 as required and in a timely manner. The Village will work closely with a qualified environmental consulting firm, Corporate Counsel, the Village’s financial department, and other Village staff as needed to achieve project objectives, maintain budgets and schedules, and prepare plans and reports. The Village Project Manager will coordinate the grant activities

with the selected consultant and will serve as liaison with the USEPA, Midlothian Economic Development, and the public at large through community outreach activities.

Part III: Work to be Performed

- Task 1 – Finalize Site Inventory
- Task 2 – Perform Phase I Environmental Site Assessments
- Task 3 – Perform Phase II Environmental Site Assessments
- Task 4 – Cleanup and End User Planning
- Task 5 – Community Outreach
- Task 6 – Programmatic Activities

All tasks are scheduled to be completed by July 31, 2015. The Village of Midlothian anticipates announcing its selected consultant the week of January 28, 2013. The Village is also soliciting public involvement via participation on the Midlothian Brownfields Advisory Committee. Any resident interested in working with the Village and its selected consultant should send their contact information to trustekreis@villageofmidlothian.net or contact the Village at 708-389-0200.

The end-results of this grant will ultimately enable the Village to identify and prioritize potential economic development sites that can be scheduled for remediation as development and redevelopment projects are announced. These projects will result in new employment opportunities and revenue sources for the Village, both of which have the potential to enhance quality-of-life characteristics for residents and visitors.

The Village will update progress on each task associated with this grant on this website.