



Brownfields 2008 Grant Fact Sheet

Southfield Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, MI

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Southfield Brownfield Redevelopment Authority was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Located in southeastern Michigan, the City of Southfield (population 78,059) is one of the oldest suburbs of Detroit. Southfield expanded rapidly in the 1960s and 1970s as a result of the success of the U.S. automobile industry and the city's proximity to Detroit's manufacturing jobs. After the decline of the city's industrial base, Southfield was left with numerous brownfields. In a 15-year period, the poverty level in the city increased by 53 percent, and the per capita



Assessment Grant

New
2008

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Southfield Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to inventory brownfield sites and conduct about eight Phase I and six Phase II environmental site assessments. Grant funds also will be used to support community outreach activities. The Authority plans to focus on sites located in the southeastern portion of the city.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team
312-886-7576
<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields>

Grant Recipient: City of Southfield Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, MI
248-796-4161

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

income dropped by more than 35 percent. The city's southeast side has been particularly hard hit. Although 54 percent of city residents are African-American, nearly 80 percent of southeast side residents are African-American. The area is home to a variety of large former manufacturing sites and smaller former commercial and industrial operations. Brownfields assessments are expected to facilitate redevelopment and help reverse the economic decline in the area.