

APPROVED in Open Session

Manatee County Board of County
Commissioners

Manatee County Government Administrative Center
Patricia M. Glass Commission Chambers, First Floor
9:00 a.m. - December 18, 2018

December 18, 2018 - Regular Meeting
Agenda Item #51

12/18/18

Subject

Brownfields Program Grant

Briefings

None

Contact and/or Presenter Information

Geraldine C. Lopez/Ext. 3937

Karen Stewart/Ext. 6832

Action Requested

Authorization to proceed with submission of an application to the U.S. EPA for a FY2019 Brownfields Program grant in the amount of \$600,000.

Enabling/Regulating Authority

11.1.4 Efficiency in Service Delivery

Background Discussion

Manatee County has an opportunity to apply for a three-year U.S. EPA Brownfields community-wide coalition assessment grant in the amount of \$600,000. The grant is due January 31, 2019, and would continue work that began with previous grants. No county funding match is required to apply for this grant.

In the most recent Brownfields Assessment Grant, awarded in FY2015 in the amount of \$500,000, Manatee County served as the lead applicant and joined with the City of Bradenton, the City of Palmetto, and the Sarasota-Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization. For the upcoming grant, Manatee County will again lead the coalition partners.

The Brownfields Assessment grant is an important tool in the redevelopment toolbox. Brownfields, or sites that are perceived, or have been found to be polluted or contaminated with toxins, are often underutilized places that with proper clean up and redevelopment, can be transformed into safe, clean, and economically productive land. The Brownfields Assessment Grants help communities, developers, and property owners determine whether contaminated, or assess the actual level of contamination in a brownfields site, provides funds for planning, and assists with the cleanup of the site.

The previous three-year grant enjoyed considerable success, and its accomplishments include 26 "Phase 1" assessments, 8 "Phase 2" assessments, and assisted several projects, notably including the proposed convention center hotel, multifamily housing, South Florida Museum expansion, and a warehouse currently in development. In short, the Brownfields program is a critical component to our area's success.

The County's strong federal grant management history with previous grants makes us a natural fit to pursue this grant and lead the effort. To continue and expand this momentum throughout the County, authorization is requested to apply for the FY2019 Brownfield Assessment Grant cycle.

County Attorney Review

Not Reviewed (No apparent legal issues)

Explanation of Other

Reviewing Attorney

N/A

Instructions to Board Records

Forward stamped, approved agenda item to geri.lopez@mymanatee.org.

EMAILED 12/31/18

Cost and Funds Source Account Number and Name

N/A

Amount and Frequency of Recurring Costs

None