## Frequently Asked Questions:

### 1) What general types of brownfield grants are available?
- Investigation (i.e., Environmental Site Assessment)
- Contamination Cleanup
- Abatement
- Contamination Cleanup
- Investigation, abatement, or cleanup within Areas of Concentrated Poverty
- Investigation (i.e., Environmental Site Assessment)
- Contamination Cleanup
- Abatement (for housing projects only)

### 2) Where can the grant funds be used?
- Statewide
- Cities participating in the Livable Communities Program within the 7-county metropolitan area
- Hennepin County
- Ramsey County

### 3) How much money is available this funding cycle?
- ~$4M
- ~$3M
- ~$250,000 (TBRA SEED Grants)
- ~$500,000
- $0 (No Funding in Spring)
- $1.2M in fall

### 4) Is there a matching fund requirement?
- Yes, at least 25% (up to 13% may come from other grants)
- No Cleanup, No Investigation (25%)
- No
- No

### 5) Is there a maximum grant request amount per proposal project?
- Investigation - $50,000
- Cleanup - no max
- Investigation: $50,000
- Cleanup: 50% of the funding available for the cycle
- No
- No

### 6) Is there a minimum grant request amount per project?
- No
- No
- No
- No

### 7) What is the average cleanup grant request amount in the past 3 years?
- ~$457,500
- ~$402,000
- varies
- varies

### 8) What is the average cleanup grant award amount in the past 3 years?
- ~$436,800
- ~$331,000
- varies
- $150,000 - $200,000 (Typically as match to DEED grants)
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<tr>
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| 9) Generally, what type of activities can your program fund? | - Phase I Environmental Site Assessment  
- Phase II Environmental Assessment  
- Response Action Plans  
- Soil or ground water cleanups  
- Soil vapor mitigation  
- Limited Demolition (on a case-by-case basis) | - Phase I Environmental Site Assessment  
- Phase II Environmental Assessment  
- Response Action Plans  
- Soil or ground water cleanups  
- Hazardous building materials assessments (emphasis on asbestos or lead-based paint)  
- Soil vapor mitigation  
- Asbestos abatement  
- Lead-based paint abatement  
- Limited Demolition (on a case-by-case basis) | - Phase I Environmental Site Assessment  
- Phase II Environmental Assessment  
- Hazardous building materials surveys  
- Response Action Plans  
- Soil or ground water cleanups  
- Soil vapor mitigation  
- Asbestos & lead-based paint abatement (for housing projects only)  
- Limited Demolition (on a case-by-case basis) | - Soil or ground water cleanups  
- Soil vapor mitigation  
- Asbestos & lead-based paint abatement |
| 10) Who is eligible to apply for funding? | - Cities,  
- Counties,  
- Local public development authorities (Private entities typically work together with public entities to request funding) | - Cities,  
- Counties,  
- Local public development authorities (Private entities typically work together with public entities to request funding) | - Cities, quasi-governmental entities  
- Local public development authorities  
- Private or public for-profit companies  
- Not-for-profit organizations | - Cities  
- Local public development authorities  
- Private or public for-profit companies  
- Not-for-profit organizations |
| 11) What types of brownfield redevelopment projects have been awarded a grant within the past 2 years? | - Industrial  
- Commercial  
- Mixed use  
- Multi-family Housing (market-rate & affordable) | - Multifamily Housing (affordable & market-rate; rental & ownership; senior; supportive; transitional)  
- Commercial  
- Industrial  
- Mixed-use | - Multifamily Housing (affordable & market-rate; rental & ownership; senior; student; supportive)  
- Commercial  
- Industrial  
- Mixed-use  
- Green space | - Multifamily Housing (affordable & market-rate)  
- Commercial  
- Industrial  
- Mixed-use  
- Green space |
<p>| 12) Does the applicant need to own the property? | No | No | No | No (but must have site control) |
| 13) Is there a pre-application process? (Cities may have their own pre-application process e.g., Minneapolis, Saint Paul.) | No | No | No | No |</p>
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<tr>
<td>14) Are there prerequisites? Other than the application form, what documents are required to apply?</td>
<td>Response Action Plan</td>
<td>Response Action Plan Approval by MPCA</td>
<td>Development plan</td>
<td>City resolution of support</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Response Action Plan</td>
<td>Response Action Plan Approval by MPCA</td>
<td>Hazardous Materials Assessment</td>
<td>Development plan</td>
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<td>City resolution of support</td>
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<td>15) Can I apply to more than one grant program at the same time?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>(Recommended. County ERF grants are intended to be funding of last resort; no other funding available)</td>
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<td>16) What are the funding priorities?</td>
<td>Increases in property taxes</td>
<td>Increases in property tax base (net tax capacity)</td>
<td>Significant contamination cleanup</td>
<td>Ready to begin cleanup</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Increases in permanent jobs</td>
<td>Increases and retention of permanent jobs</td>
<td>Increases in property taxes</td>
<td>Increases in jobs</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Significant contamination cleanup</td>
<td>Adding affordable housing</td>
<td>Increase in affordable housing units</td>
<td>Significant contamination cleanup</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ready to begin construction</td>
<td>Significant contamination cleanup</td>
<td>Ready to begin construction</td>
<td>Ready to begin construction</td>
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<td></td>
<td>50/50 City of St. Paul/Suburban Ramsey split in awards</td>
</tr>
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<td>17) What are some other important outcomes that will improve the chances of my project proposal being awarded a grant?</td>
<td>Financial need</td>
<td>Ready to begin construction</td>
<td>Creation or retention of affordable housing</td>
<td>Can complete cleanup within 18 months of application</td>
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<td>Blight reduction</td>
<td>Increase in density and intensity</td>
<td>Sustainable project attributes</td>
<td>Project will be a catalyst to further redevelopment</td>
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<td>Proximity to regional parks and trails</td>
<td>Proximity to transit service</td>
<td>Job creation &amp; tax base increase</td>
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<td>Use of best practices for on-site storm water management</td>
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<td>19) What percentage of grant requests typically receive a grant award?</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>93%</td>
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<td>21) How many copies do I need to submit?</td>
<td>2 printed copies &amp; 1 electronic copy</td>
<td>submit one online form per project</td>
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<td>One with original signatures, electronic OK</td>
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<td>22) When are applications due?</td>
<td>May 1 (Loan applications are accepted anytime)</td>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Nov 2 (Loan applications are accepted anytime)</td>
<td>May 1</td>
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<td>23) Is there an application fee? (Cities may require an application fee e.g., Minneapolis, Saint Paul.)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td>24) When will the next cycle of grants be awarded?</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>June-July</td>
<td>Jan 2021</td>
<td>June-July</td>
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<td>25) When is the earliest we can start the cleanup to be paid with grant funds? (Prior to contract execution, costs incurred are at your own risk.)</td>
<td>Depends on when RAP is approved</td>
<td>After a grant is awarded</td>
<td>Potentially the day after county board approval provided certain requirements are met</td>
<td>After the date of application</td>
</tr>
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<td>26) Can I get reimbursed with grant funds for costs already incurred?</td>
<td>Yes, if RAP was approved within 6 months of the application date</td>
<td>Investigation costs incurred within 180 days of application date only. No cleanup costs.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td>28) I can’t submit a proposal in this funding cycle. When is the next one?</td>
<td>Nov 2, 2020</td>
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**Feb 2020**
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| 30) Questions? Contact . . . | Kristin Lukes  
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651-259-7451 or 1-800-657-3858  
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Fax: 651-266-8039  
Email: AskCED@co.ramsey.mn.us |
Selected Online Resources:

- Dakota County, Redeveloping Brownfields: https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/WaterResources/ContaminatedSites/Brownfields
- Hennepin County Environmental Response Fund: https://www.hennepin.us/ERF
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Brownfields: http://epa.gov/brownfields/
- Minnesota Brownfields: http://www.mnbrownfields.org/