



Department of City Development
News Release

For Immediate Release
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**CITY TO RECEIVE \$1.3 MILLION FOR BROWNFIELDS WORK
Mayor Says Grants To Fuel Work In Bronzeville, 30th Street Industrial Corridor**

The ongoing work of the City of Milwaukee's Brownfields Team to assess and remediate contaminated properties was recently given a \$1.3 million boost by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Mayor Tom Barrett announced today. The EPA awarded a total of five grants to the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee:

- \$200,000 for environmental assessment at sites contaminated with petroleum
- \$200,000 for assessment at sites contaminated with hazardous substances
- \$200,000 for cleanup of 2227 North 31st Street
- \$200,000 for cleanup of 522 West North Avenue
- \$500,000 in supplemental funding for the Brownfield Revolving Loan Program

Assessment funding will cover costs associated with environmental investigation of the nature and extent of contamination of vacant or abandoned sites. This is often the first necessary step of redevelopment.

Once the amount of contamination is determined through environmental testing, the City's Brownfields Team then must aggressively seek and compete for clean-up funds. The \$400,000 awarded by the EPA to Milwaukee for clean-up will be actively used to remediate key parcels in the 30th Street Industrial Corridor and the Bronzeville Cultural & Entertainment District, said Mayor Tom Barrett.

One of the innovative tools in the City of Milwaukee's economic development toolbox is the Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund, which provides low-interest loans and grants for environmental remediation and clean-up of brownfield sites.

"We've been successful in securing \$1 million a year from the EPA for the past six years for this revolving loan fund and are using it to leverage development that creates jobs, increases tax base and acts as a catalyst for future development," said Mayor Barrett. "I want to thank our Congressional partners in supporting our requests for these funds. Milwaukee has a stellar reputation for putting these dollars to use."

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According to Department of City Development Commissioner Rocky Marcoux, the Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund has made possible such recent projects as:

- The redevelopment of a former Ampco Foundry at 1745 S. 38th Street into the Stadium Business Park development, attracting 200 jobs and four growing businesses.
- Conversion of the former Kramer Foundry project at 140 S. 1st Street into an affordable housing, retail and office space. The project created 213 new jobs, and 60 new, affordable places to live.
- Redevelopment of a former railroad yard in the Menomonee Valley into the Valley Industrial Center, one of Wisconsin's most talked-about renewal projects. Several businesses are now growing in this former brownfield and when the center is fully built, it will be home to an estimated 1,200 new jobs. The project, which includes the innovative Stormwater Park, is nationally recognized as a model for sustainable development.
- Partial funding of the clean up of the former Pfister & Vogel Tannery to prepare the site for the North End project, a mixed-use development in the Park East Corridor.

For more information about the City's Brownfields program, visit www.mkedcd.org

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