



RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908-5767

TDD: Dial 711

January 21, 2014

Environmental Management Support, Inc.
Attn. Mr. Don West
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: FY 2014 Brownfields Assessment Grant – Community-Wide Hazardous Substances

Dear Mr. West:

On behalf of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management ("RIDEM"), enclosed is a proposal for a US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) FY 2014 Brownfields Assessment Grant for hazardous substances assessments for use on a *community-wide* basis. The attached proposal for \$200,000 aims to continue the successful momentum gained from years of brownfields experience and provide support to those communities most in need, our KeepSpace Communities. The KeepSpace initiative, of which RIDEM is a partner, is an innovative approach to community revitalization and preservation that seeks to create diverse, collaborative partnerships throughout Rhode Island by changing the way all of the groups involved partner to build better communities.

RIDEM recognizes the increased challenges that communities face and the importance of transforming brownfields sites into productive properties to provide both immediate and long-term economic and environmental benefits. Through the information presented in this proposal, we hope it becomes clear that the successful relationships RIDEM has fostered are real, measurable and highly valued by the entire brownfields redevelopment community in Rhode Island. The assistance RIDEM has been able to provide to communities for assessments through its successful brownfields program has helped eliminate public health concerns, create new greenspace, and provide new jobs and affordable housing for local residents.

The entire State of Rhode Island continues to experience the direst economic conditions in recent history, with the highest unemployment rate (tied with Nevada at 9% in Nov. 2013) in the country, and unemployment rates in our KeepSpace Communities as high as 10.7%. To compound these poor economic conditions, Rhode Island has been hit hard by the following recent natural disasters, most likely associated with climate change:

- In March 2010, Rhode Island experienced its worst flooding in more than 100 years, as swollen rivers left neighborhoods under 10 feet of water, damaged buildings and collapsed bridges and dams.
- In August 2011, Tropical Storm Irene toppled thousands of trees, causing damage to buildings and power outages for over a week in many Rhode Island communities.
- In October 2012, Hurricane Sandy resulted in utter destruction of the State's low-lying coastal areas. President Obama granted federal disaster declarations in 4 of 5 counties in Rhode Island.

These disasters have only served to exacerbate Rhode Island's ongoing economic crisis. As such, the need for assessment work in our KeepSpace Communities that are working diligently to revitalize one of their most

limited resources - clean and usable land - is greater than ever. With this grant and through RIDEM's partnership in "A Sustainable Rhode Island/RhodeMap RI" (HUD/EPA/DOT Sustainable Communities Grant), our goal is to create a healthy and prosperous future for all of Rhode Island.

RIDEM has established an extremely successful brownfields assessment program, supporting award winning projects including the 2011 and 2012 Brownfields Renewal Award Social Impact winners (the Woonsocket Middle School project and the Steelyard respectively) and the 2005 Phoenix Award winner (Save the Bay education center). The success of the program is a result, in part, to the strong statewide partnerships established, and RIDEM will continue to work with KeepSpace stakeholders to determine priorities within each community. A total of 7 letters of support/commitment were received from Community Based Organizations (see Attachment B). The following is the specific information requested in the guidelines:

a. **Applicant Identification:** RI Dept. of Environmental Management, Office of Waste Management
235 Promenade St., Providence, RI 02908

b. **DUNS Number:** 111441213

c. **Funding Requested:**
 i) Grant Type: Assessment
 ii) Funds Requested: \$200,000
 iii) Contamination: Hazardous Substances
 iv) Scope: Community-wide

d. **Location:** KeepSpace Communities in Cranston, Providence, Pawtucket, Central Falls and Westerly in the State of Rhode Island (see population table below)

e. **Site Specific :** This is not a site-specific proposal, therefore, not applicable.

f. **Contacts:**

<u>i) Project Director:</u>	<u>ii) Chief Executive:</u>
Cynthia M. Gianfrancesco Principal Environmental Scientist RIDEM - OWM 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908 Ph: (401) 222-4700 (x7126) / Fax: (401) 222-3812 Cynthia.Gianfrancesco@dem.ri.gov	Janet L. Coit, Director RIDEM 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908 Ph: (401) 222-2771 / Fax: (401) 222-6802 Janet.Coit@dem.ri.gov

g. **Date Submitted:** January 21, 2014

h. **Project Period:** Three (3) Years

i. **Population:**

<u>i. Rhode Island</u>	<u>ii. Knightsville/ Arlington (Cranston)</u>	<u>ii. Olneyville (Providence)</u>	<u>ii. Barton & Broad St. (Pawt/Ctrl Falls)</u>	<u>ii. Downtown Westerly</u>
1,050,292	7,344	20,422	26,404	5,907

j. **Other Factors Checklist:** Please see attached.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need further information concerning this proposal. We look forward to a continued successful partnership with EPA in years to come. Thank you very much.

Cynthia M. Gianfrancesco, CPG, CHMM
Principal Environmental Scientist
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

Other Factors Checklist

Name of Applicant: Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

Please identify (with an *x*) which, if any of the below items apply to your community or your project as described in your proposal. To be considered for an Other Factor, you must include the page number where each applicable factor is discussed in your proposal. EPA will verify these disclosures prior to selection and may consider this information during the selection process. If this information is not clearly discussed in your narrative proposal or in any other attachments, it will not be considered during the selection process.

Other Factor	Page #
Community population is 10,000 or less	2
Federally recognized Indian tribe	
United States territory	
Applicant will assist a Tribe or territory	
Targeted brownfield sites are impacted by mine-scarred land	
Targeted brownfield sites are contaminated with controlled substances	
Recent natural disaster(s) (2006 or later) occurred within community, causing significant community economic and environmental distress	4
Project is primarily focusing on Phase II assessments.	7,8
Applicant demonstrates firm leveraging commitments for facilitating brownfield project completion by identifying amounts and contributors of funding in the proposal and have included documentation	8, Attach.C
Community experienced manufacturing plant closure(s) (2008 or later) tied to the targeted brownfield sites or project area, including communities experiencing auto plant closures due to bankruptcy or economic disruptions.	4
Recent (2008 or later) significant economic disruption (unrelated to a natural disaster or manufacturing/auto plant closure) has occurred within community, resulting in a significant percentage loss of community jobs and tax base.	
Applicant is a recipient or a core partner of a HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC) grant that is directly tied to the project area, and can demonstrate that funding from a PSC grant has or will benefit the project area. To be considered, applicant must attach documentation which demonstrates this connection to a HUD-DOT-EPA PSC grant.	10, 12, Attach.D
Applicant is a recipient of an EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning grant	
Community is implementing green remediation plans.	
Climate Change (also add to "V.D Other Factors")	4



EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant FY 2014 – Hazardous Substances
 RI Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM)

1. Community Need

1a.i. Targeted Community Description

The summer of 2007 witnessed the creation of a new statewide community initiative in Rhode Island (RI) that included strong leadership from a wide variety of state agencies, private/non-profit housing professionals, community-based agencies and organizational leaders. Spearheaded by Rhode Island Housing, a self-sustaining public agency focused on good jobs and affordable/safe housing in Rhode Island, the KeepSpace initiative is an innovative approach to community revitalization and preservation that seeks to create diverse, collaborative partnerships throughout Rhode Island by improving the way all of the groups involved partner to build better communities. KeepSpace, of which RIDEM is a longtime partner, focuses its assistance and funding support on four specific KeepSpace Communities across Rhode Island:

KeepSpace Community	Primary Focus
<i>Knightsville/Arlington</i>	Located within the City of Cranston, the Knightsville/Arlington areas are full of shared historical assets. KeepSpace is working to establish a stronger economic tax base, and protect its natural & cultural resources.
<i>Olneyville</i>	The social and economic fabric of the Olneyville area in the City of Providence has long been related to its many mills along the Woonasquatucket River. Keep-Space is working to build upon existing revitalization efforts & reclaim brownfields in this poorest section of the city.
<i>Barton & Broad Streets</i>	The Barton & Broad Streets areas of the Cities of Pawtucket and Central Falls are located along the historic Blackstone River, the birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution. KeepSpace is working to increase inter/intra community connections, including a potential new rail station in this diverse community (70% minority population).
<i>Downtown "Main Street" Westerly</i>	The Downtown area of the Town of Westerly is ripe for transit improvements to create a vibrant "Main Street" focused on residential and commercial development. KeepSpace is working to promote under-used and contaminated lands.

Each community was selected through a competitive process and is dedicated to development and policies that support the KeepSpace principles, known as the Six Elements of a KeepSpace Community:

- A Good Home
- A Healthy Environment
- Strong Commerce
- Sensible Infrastructure
- Positive Community Impact
- Integrated Arts, Recreation, Religion and Culture

Each of the four KeepSpace Communities highlighted above are located along heavily used, industrialized rivers with an abundance of sites in need of assessment to appropriately identify risks to residents. With the exception of Westerly, each is classified as an Environmental Justice (EJ) community by RIDEM. In most KeepSpace Communities, the share of local residents without a high school diploma or GED is well above the state average, and unemployment rates far exceed the national average. However, there are also positive commonalities – each is dedicated to building lasting solutions and meaningful partnerships to address local economic, welfare, and environmental needs. In each community, the “philosophy” is about changing the status-quo and creating unprecedented partnerships so as to build a more resilient Rhode Island.

1a.ii Demographic Information: The following table highlights the KeepSpace Community’s population demographics.

	Knightsville/ Arlington	Olneyville	Barton & Broad St.	Downtown Westerly	Rhode Island	National
Population	7,344 ⁴	20,422 ⁴	26,404 ⁴	5,907 ⁴	1,050,292, ¹	313,914,040 ¹
Unemployment	8.6% ²	10.4% ²	10.7% ²	7.4% ²	9.0 % ²	7.0% ²
Poverty Rate	13.1% ⁴	27.3% ⁴	29.3% ⁴	13.5% ⁴	13.7% ³	15.9 % ³
Percent Minority	36.5% ⁴	76.6% ⁴	69.9% ⁴	12.4% ⁴	23.6% ⁴	36.1% ⁴
Median Household Income	\$38,094 ⁴	\$31,169 ⁴	\$29,621 ⁴	\$44,839 ⁴	\$55,975 ⁵	\$52,762 ⁵

1. US Census, State & Country Quick Facts, 2012 estimate.

2. RI Dept. of Labor and Training, Labor Statistics for entire municipality (Oct. or Nov. 2013).

3. US. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey.

4. US Census 2006-2010 or 2010 (average for KeepSpace census tracks).

5. US Census, State & Country Quick Facts, 2007-2011 estimate.

1a.iii. Brownfields

A common thread that runs through the KeepSpace Communities is the number and type of brownfields present and the effect on local residents. These communities, situated along rivers, were the first areas to become industrialized during the industrial revolution. As such, our KeepSpace Communities have felt the impacts of industrial pollution for over 200 years. Housing associated with historic mills has since been converted to multi-family residences, leaving our KeepSpace Communities with housing and brownfields interspersed throughout. Due to the lack of environmental information these historic mill buildings frequently fall further and further into disrepair each year, causing degradation of the surrounding community as adjacent industrial, commercial and residential areas follow the same path. Undeveloped and abandoned industrial properties in KeepSpace areas often define the streetscape of these neighborhoods making redevelopment and utilization of these brownfields critical to the revitalization of these communities.

There are literally hundreds of potential brownfield sites among our four KeepSpace Communities ranging in size from under one acre to over 20 acres (acreage in parentheses). Each KeepSpace Community has identified several brownfield sites that are key to the revitalization of their neighborhoods, as follows:

	Knightsville/Arlington	Olneyville	Barton & Broad St.	Downtown Westerly
Key Brownfield Sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cranston Printworks (43) • Cranston/Gansett/ Park Ave. Ind/Com Areas (multiple <1 ac) • Knightsville Square Commercial District (multiple <1 ac) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paragon Mill (5) • Colonial Knife Mill (9) • Weybosset Mill (1.5) • Crown Worsted Mill (1.5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coats and Clark Mill Complex (28) • Union Wadding Mill (5) • C-Town/future commuter rail station (5) • Former train depot /rail yard (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potter Hill Mill (4) • Griswold Textile Mill (8) • Darlington Fabrics Plant (15)
Types of Brownfields Present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • textile mills • gasoline stations • drycleaning • industrial complex 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • machine shop • electroplating • textile mills • drycleaning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • automotive repair • textile mill • auto body shop • rail car repair 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • textile mill • drycleaning • landfills • electroplating

The environmental impacts from these brownfields are felt throughout the KeepSpace Communities. The unknown risk to its residents and their children is a great concern and can be summarized as follows:

Environmental Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contaminants: heavy metals, PCBs, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi- VOCs, petroleum • Continuous water quality impacts to the State's rivers and Narragansett Bay • Diminished fisheries/recreational resources of rivers & urban waterways due to pollution & blight • Impacts to groundwater, surface runoff and migration of contaminants to neighboring properties • Chemical/physical/biological risk associated with contaminated sites (both large & small sites) • The loss of clean, undeveloped land due to avoidance of building on contaminated property • Contaminated sediment deposition during March 2010 historic floods
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1a.iv. Cumulative Environmental Issues

Rhode Island's urban centers have been impacted by over 200 years of industrial pollution and decades of heavy traffic congestion that have impacted the air, water and land affecting all residents and our most vulnerable population, the children. These urban areas clearly experience a disproportionate burden of health risks from both environmental contamination and conditions that make individuals more vulnerable to illness and poverty. It is these types of cumulative impacts that lead to the KeepSpace program being initiated in 2007 specifically to help address these and numerous other challenges facing our urban communities. Similarly, RIDEM made environmental justice a priority in 2006 when it formed an environmental equity stakeholder workgroup who issued its first formal policy in 2009. The issue of cumulative environmental impacts was critical in stakeholder discussions, leading to the promulgation of RIDEM's environmental justice rule in 2011 under the RIDEM's *Rules and Regulations for the Investigation and Remediation of Hazardous Materials Releases (Remediation Regulation)*. It is no surprise that three of our four KeepSpace Communities are also in Environmental Justice Focus Areas. These widespread cumulative environmental issues have been identified in all of our KeepSpace Communities:

Cumulative Environmental Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Century of industrial activity/historic use of coal/disposal of coal ash • Gentrification • Major highways and road/traffic congestion • Commercial and industrial landfills • Food deserts/lack of fresh fruits and vegetables • Floods/contaminated sediments from historic industrial use and Superfund sites
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1b. Impacts on Targeted Community : The social/welfare/public health impacts in the four KeepSpace Communities are summarized as follows:

Social/Welfare Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impaired community safety & quality of life due to the presence of underutilized properties • Reduction in affordable housing units, local jobs, & impaired local business growth • Decreased civic pride, resident voice and municipal participation
Public Health Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A growing number of abandoned and deteriorated sites/structures that pose health and safety risks for residents; mill fires to pose a significant risk, especially in densely populated areas • High children lead levels due to exposure to paint in older housing and anthropogenic soil levels • Ever-present exposure pathways (e.g. vapor intrusion, dermal contact) • Contact with impaired waters and sediment in major river systems

Health and Welfare information for the KeepSpace Communities compared to RI as a whole is as follows:

CHILDREN'S HEALTH & WELFARE	Knightsville/ Arlington	Olneyville	Barton & Broad St.	Downtown Westerly	Rhode Island
% Children in Poverty	19.2% ¹	36.9% ¹	38.1% ¹	26.3% ¹	16.7% ¹
% Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels	13.8% ²	24.8% ²	21.3% ²	20.3% ²	15% ²
% Infants Born Low Birth Weight	6.7% ³	7.9% ³	8.6% ³	8.0% ³	7.2% ³
% Births to Mothers w/out High School Diploma	16.3% ³	39.6% ³	35.6% ³	17.4% ³	16.5% ³

1. Percent pop. under age 18 who live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level, ACS 2006-2010.

2. RI Dept. of Health Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (2007-2009).

3. RI Dept. of Health; (2007-2009).

Although the percentages of children with elevated blood lead levels are declining among all groups nationally, low-income and minority children remain the most likely to be lead poisoned. Children living in Rhode Island's urban core, including the KeepSpace Communities, are specifically at increased risk for lead exposure because the housing stock tends to be older. (*Childhood Lead Poisoning in Rhode Island: The Numbers, 2010 Edition*) Investing in improvements to community living conditions, a core part of this proposal and KeepSpace's philosophy, will help to alleviate this serious public health risk.

1c. Financial Need

1c.i. Economic Conditions

Rhode Island's economic momentum began to wane in 2007 as the state budget crisis, increased energy costs and the housing and credit collapse pushed the state into recessionary conditions nearly a full year before the official start of the national recession. The economic deterioration has slowed since 2011, but has left state agencies and municipalities with a greatly diminished capacity to meet basic needs. With just over one million residents, Rhode Island does not have the tax base to make up existing budget shortfalls without impacts being felt statewide. Annual state budget cuts have resulted in RIDEM's budget (general revenue/state funds) being decreased from \$38.0 million in FY2007 to \$34.8 million in FY2014 and staff resources cut by 25% (519 full time employees (FTEs) in 2005 down to 399 FTEs in 2014). As such, the State does not have the ability to fund brownfields projects through its general fund, and relies on EPA brownfields grants such as this to assist communities in need. RIDEM is requesting additional funding at this time due to the fact that all existing open Hazardous Substance grants are fully allocated and will be fully expended by the end of 2014. Also, due to annual reductions of our 128(a) funding, we currently do not have any contractual funds allocated from that grant for brownfields assessment. Currently, we have 18 Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA) applications on file that are unfunded. If we do not receive this Assessment Grant, we will have no funding available for brownfields assessment work in Rhode Island communities after 2014.

The effects of the March 2010 flooding event are still felt across RI as neighborhoods are still rebuilding, damaged bridges/roads still await repair, and buildings along the rivers are left in ruins. More than \$100 million in federal aid has already been allocated to RI to help the families and businesses that were ravaged by these floods. This, along with other recent natural disasters (e.g. Tropical Storm Irene in Aug. 2011 and Hurricane Sandy in Oct. 2012 in which 4 of 5 counties in RI were granted federal disaster declarations), which most likely are associated with climate change, has only served to exacerbate the ongoing fiscal crisis as evidenced by the following economic indicators:

EXTREME UNEMPLOYMENT/PLANT CLOSURES/JOB LOSSES – RI's extremely high unemployment has persisted since 2007 and is currently the highest in the nation, tied with Nevada at 9.0%. (*RI Dept of Labor and Training*) Small businesses make up 95.9% of employers in RI and from 2007 to 2011 over 65,000 non-farm jobs were lost, over 87% from small businesses. (*US Small Business Administration & U.S. Census Bureau*) Many of these small businesses were located in or near our KeepSpace areas, contributing to the higher unemployment rates seen in those communities (see section 1a.ii above).

DRASTIC CUTS IN STATE AID TO MUNICIPALITIES – Cuts in state aid to RI municipalities have reached close to 75%, from \$248 million in FY2007 to a low of \$63 million in FY2013. The result has been widespread cuts to local services, a growing inability to maintain local infrastructure, and the inability to manage contaminated sites in their communities. The City of Central Falls, a KeepSpace Community, filed for bankruptcy in August 2011, where it remained until September 2012, resulting in reduced pension benefits for retirees, layoffs, and extreme cuts in city services. (*RI Division of Municipal Finance*)

HIGH TAXES – Raising sales or property taxes is not considered a viable option for the State considering RI already has one of the highest state sales taxes at 7%. In addition, municipalities are limited by law as to the extent they can raise property taxes each year, currently capped at 4% for FY2013. However, since FY2009 over 30 cities and towns have sought to exceed that cap due to budget challenges. (*RI Division of Municipal Finance and The Tax Foundation*)

FORECLOSURES - In the first six months of 2013, there were 776 residential foreclosure deeds filed throughout the State. Approximately one-third of RI's municipalities reported increases in foreclosure filings when compared to the same period in 2012. During Q2 of 2013, Rhode Island was 3rd in New England and 9th highest in the nation for percent of seriously delinquent home loans. (*RI HousingWorks 2013 Fact Book*)

1c.ii. Economic Effects of Brownfields

It's without a doubt that KeepSpace Communities fail to thrive under the shadow of their underutilized, vacant properties. Properties such as this, and the blight that follows, have emerged as a crisis for urban communities. Prostitution was identified by police, residents and community organizations as one of the largest, ongoing problems in Barton & Broad Street KeepSpace area. In Olneyville, widespread graffiti generates fear of neighborhood crime, instability, and has a direct impact on property values. Downtown Westerly has suffered greatly from the effects of record flooding events (from the Pawcatuck River) in March 2010, with impacts to vacancy rates and immense burdens on municipal services. In Kightsville/Arlington, and all Keepspace Communities alike, homelessness and fires in abandoned/underutilized sites are a constant threat. RIDEM staff has witnessed these threats first hand.

RIDEM and all the partners identified herein need to be thinking about properties in KeepSpace Communities as stranded economic assets. With closed mills/sites comes the elimination of local job opportunities and the degradation of quality-of-life for residents. If there is a bright side to this creeping crisis, it's the opportunity it offers to redesign communities in ways that stimulate local investment and support the KeepSpace principles.

2. Project Description and Feasibility of Success

2a.i. Project Description.

RIDEM will utilize this grant in support of its established TBA program and has decided to concentrate its assessment work in the KeepSpace areas for the following reasons:

- KeepSpace is an established initiative with partners and stakeholders made up of state, private and non-profit, and community based agencies, centered on community revitalization and preservation
- The KeepSpace Six Elements align nicely with RIDEM and EPA brownfields principles
- KeepSpace areas have established design plans which identify needs and solutions, and lay out an implementation strategy which includes environmental assessments
- The majority of KeepSpace area demographics clearly show economic need
- KeepSpace Communities are located in heavily urbanized areas
- Three out of four KeepSpace Communities are located in environmental justice areas
- Several KeepSpace Communities have populations of less than 10,000

KeepSpace and RIDEM believe that a partnership with the RIDEM TBA program is an essential building block to redevelopment and revitalization in these areas. Numerous brownfield sites have already been identified in each community. With this grant, through the RIDEM site selection process, a minimum of one brownfields site will be selected for assessment work in each KeepSpace Community by conducting Phase I and Phase II assessments and associated work as outlined in the Task Description below. The highest priority site in each KeepSpace community will be selected, based on community needs and proposed redevelopment strategies.

Our KeepSpace Communities have many common needs/issues and strategies which we intend to address with this grant, many of which are outlined in the following table:

Common Community Need/Issue	Proposed Redevelopment Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Underutilized/vacant/foreclosed mills & industrial/commercial buildings • Limited affordable/elderly housing • Business growth and jobs • High crime • Lack of marketing for arts organizations • Seasonal jobs • Deteriorating historic buildings • Limited Open Space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redevelop mills as mixed use for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality, affordable and elderly housing • Light manufacturing jobs • Small businesses • Historic museum • Expand arts & culture accessibility • Year round jobs • Create historic mill district with adaptive re-use • Increased occupancy = lower crime rates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding in industrial park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redevelop industrial park into riverfront/greenway
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited access to fresh foods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct/expand Community Gardens
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited public transit • Heavy traffic & limited parking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct a commuter rail station • Expand public transit via bus/rail/water taxi
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absentee landlords • Substandard housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore decrepit housing • Develop programs to increase owner occupancy

2a.ii. Project Management Approach

RIDEM will follow the same project management approach it has successfully utilized over the past 10 years. The RIDEM TBA program is managed by Cynthia Gianfrancesco, who oversees the TBA application process and, along with other RIDEM project managers, will oversee the project management of each site-specific phase of assessment work. Cynthia will oversee the day-to-day activities, manage purchase orders, approve and process invoices and track site-specific and over all grant budgets. Grant accounting, payment of invoices and drawdown requests will be carried out by our Office of Management Services.

After site selection (see Section 2.a.iii for details), RIDEM will work with applicants and property owners to acquire site access agreements. Upon receipt of the access agreement RIDEM will request estimates from our Technical Assistance Contractors (Contractors) for each phase of assessment work. RIDEM has 6 pre-qualified Contractors, all of whom have EPA-approved Generic Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPP). These Contractors are environmental professionals who were selected to participate in the State of RI Master Price Agreement (MPA) #309 for site assessment and remediation activities. After going through a public bid process that complies with the Federal competitive procurement procedures contained in 40 CFR 31.36, Contractors are selected for the MPA for a period of four years based on technical capability and their rates are pre-approved. Projects will be assigned to Contractors who provide the lowest cost estimate for the work requested. In this manner we are able to complete Phase I and Phase II assessments, and limited cleanup planning in a timely and efficient manner within the 3 years grant period, as follows:

Project Management Task	Time Line (approximate)
Application period open	July 2014 through September 2014
Application review, scoring and site selection	October 2014 through February 2015
Access agreement secured, Phase I Contractor selection and Phase I completion	March 2015 through September 2015
Phase II Contractor selection, site-specific QAPP approval and Phase II completion (including limited remedial planning)	October 2015 through September 2017

2a.iii. Site Selection

The site selection process will begin with an announcement to each of our four KeepSpace Communities of funding availability and request for submittal of our currently established RIDEM TBA application by a specific deadline. The announcement will be made through a variety of communications outlets, which may include press releases, direct email and the Internet, and the help of our Community Based Organizations (CBOs). One or more public informational meetings will be held to explain the process. We currently have four TBA applications on file from our KeepSpace Communities awaiting funding, which will also be included for consideration. The RIDEM TBA application is a modified version of the EPA TBA application and requires information necessary to determine site eligibility based on EPA's eligibility requirements, and also includes a scoring mechanism used to prioritize sites based on a 100 point score. Applications will be scored by a RIDEM scoring committee made up of Cynthia Gianfrancesco, Timothy Fleury and Kelly Owens. The scoring system is based on numerous factors, giving higher point scores to properties that, for example have: the most unpaid property taxes, reuse plans (including livability and sustainability principles) that align with the communities KeepSpace Community Design Plan, financial incentives offered by the applicant or municipality, leveraged funds for cleanup and redevelopment, creation of open space, an established community involvement process, and are in an environmental justice area.

The highest scoring application from each of the four KeepSpace areas will be recommended for funding. Recommendations for site selection will be sent to all CBOs for review and concurrence, and if requested, a public meeting will be held. Once sites are selected, RIDEM will work with applicants and property owners to acquire site access by signing the currently established RIDEM site access agreement. Applicants will also be asked to assist with Community Engagement Activities which may include, but not be limited to, notification to the community and hosting informational meetings to explain the site assessment process, findings, and cleanup/reuse plans.

2b. Task Description and Budget Table

2b.i. Task Description

Activities that RIDEM proposes to conduct under this grant include a minimum of 4 new Phase assessments and 4 new Phase II assessments, for a total of 8 assessment tasks. A small amount of funding from this grant may also be utilized to complete carryover Phase II assessment tasks for projects initiated under previous assessment grants which have been totally spent down. Cost estimates are based upon similar types of work conducted in 2013. Specific tasks are as follows:

<u>Task I – 4 Phase I assessments</u>	4 new Phase I assmts. (4 projected outputs), at a cost of approx. \$2,500 each (total: \$10,000) in accordance with EPA's All Appropriate Inquiry and ASTM E1527-13 requirements. Phase I Reports will be provided to the TBA applicant, property owner, potential buyer and EPA Region I within 30 days of completion. Community Engagement Activities, as per the RIDEM <i>Remediation Regulations</i> will be conducted with the help of our CBOs.
<u>Task II – 4 Phase II assessments</u>	4 new Phase II assmts. (4 projected outputs) at a cost of approx. \$45,000 each, and carryover tasks for projects initiated under previous grants at a cost of approx. \$5,000 for a total of \$185,000, in accordance with an EPA Region I approved site-specific QAPP and RIDEM <i>Remediation Regulation</i> , planning level cost evaluations for 3 remedial alternatives and limited cleanup planning if funding is available. A Phase II Report will be provided to the TBA applicant, property owner, potential buyer and EPA Region I within 30 days of completion. Community Engagement Activities, as per the RIDEM <i>Remediation Regulations</i> , will be conducted under this task with the help of our CBOs.
<u>Task III – Travel</u>	Travel for 2 staff to attend one EPA Brownfields Conference. Estimated costs (airfare and travel/lodging/per diem) are up to \$5,000 depending on the location.

2b.ii Budget Table

Budget Category	Project Tasks			
<i>Programmatic Costs</i>	Task I : 4 new Phase I assmts.	Task II : 4 new Phase II assmts. & work carried from previous grants	Task III: Travel for 2 staff to EPA BF Conferences	Total
<i>Personnel</i>	-	-	-	-
<i>Fringe Benefits</i>	-	-	-	-
<i>Travel</i>	-	-	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
<i>Equipment</i>	-	-	-	-
<i>Supplies</i>	-	-	-	-
<i>Contractual</i>	\$ 10,000	\$ 185,000	-	\$ 195,000
<i>Other</i>	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 10,000	\$ 185,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 200,000

2c. Ability to Leverage

RIDEM has shown a commitment to its Brownfields assessment program by providing hundreds of thousands of dollars in assessment and remediation funding from state funds over the years. RIDEM currently has the ability to leverage funds, as indicated in the attached letter (see Attachment C) in the amount of approximately \$375,000 during the period of this grant from the following sources to support this Brownfields assessment grant:

Source of Leveraged Funding	Amount of Leveraged Funding annually	Use of Leveraged Funds	Letter of Commitment
State account	\$50,000 - 75,000	Personnel	Yes
State Natural Resource Damage Claim Funds	\$50,000	Assessment and Remedial Assistance	Yes

TBA projects funded by the RIDEM typically benefit from other leveraged resources as the projects progresses through the assessment, remediation and redevelopment process. Since the RIDEM does not have specific projects chosen at this time, we are not able to obtain leveraging commitments from other entities. However, based on information provided by our KeepSpace Communities, the below table presents various funding sources currently leveraged directly in KeepSpace areas which will continue to be available on future KeepSpace projects and sites selected under this Brownfields assessment grant. Current examples of KeepSpace leveraged funds are:

Type of Funding	Source of Funding	Approx. Amount of Funding
KeepSpace Implementation	RI Housing	\$400,000
Low Income Housing Tax Credits	RI Housing	\$16 million
Federal Historic Tax Credits	NPS	\$550,000
State Historic Tax Credits	SHPO	\$650,000
Building Homes Rhode Island	RI Housing	\$2 Million
Neighborhood Development Fund/ Communities Supporting Healthy Lifestyles	Local Initiatives Support Corp RI Dept. of Health	\$300,000 annually \$100,000
Community Development Block Grant	HUD	Unavailable
RI Housing & Pawtucket HOME	HUD	\$1.4 Million
Total		\$21.4 Million

3. Community Engagement and Partnerships

3a. Plan for Involving Targeted Community & Other Stakeholders; Communicating Project Progress

Meaningful involvement by the communities and residents most impacted by the assessment and cleanup of abandoned/contaminated properties in each KeepSpace Community is a priority for RIDEM and all partners identified below (3b and 3c). As the leading state agency for environmental affairs in the State of Rhode Island, RIDEM is experienced with the process of notifying and engaging the public in high-priority environmental and land use decisions which will have significant local impacts. In addition, RIDEM's well-established brownfields program has developed cooperative partnerships with organizations in each KeepSpace Community and other state entities focused on brownfields revitalization.

Community outreach and stakeholder involvement is essential to the success of this funding opportunity as is shown by RIDEM's commitment to the creation of formal Public Involvement Plans (when requested). RIDEM, in partnership with community leaders and the CBOs listed herein, plans to educate residents and stakeholders about the process of prioritizing and assessing brownfield sites. Comments which are received will be reviewed and, as appropriate, incorporated into the decision making process. In addition, the environmental justice requirements of RIDEM's *Remediation Regulations*, which focus on creating timely and effective processes for on-going engagement, will be adhered to. In partnership with its CBOs, RIDEM may use a combination of the following approaches for community engagement:

- Factsheets/flyers for soliciting continued community engagement
- Open stakeholder meetings with interested/engaged members of the public
- Local media (newspaper & TV) will be updated periodically with press releases and official notices
- Social media tools (e.g. Twitter)/Key websites will be kept up-to-date with the latest information
- Utilize RIDEM's full time Press & Communications Office to notify and engage the public
- Strategically utilize KeepSpace partners in each community to notify and engage the public

Updated information will be disseminated (in multiple languages, if needed) to impacted residents and CBOs in a timely manner so as to ensure the public is fully aware of the progress of the project. In the process of establishing an open dialogue, environmental justice will be a key objective to provide improved lines of communication with harder-to-reach individuals. RIDEM is sensitive to the fact that not all persons affected by this proposal have regular access to a computer, and as such, will make every attempt to not over-rely on web based outreach efforts. RIDEM's relationship with the Environmental Justice League of RI may be utilized to promote outreach. RIDEM will: be sensitive to cultural/language differences & disabled individuals who want to participate in the execution of this project; proactively collaborate with residents, community leaders and CBOs to ensure we are appropriately responding to comments and information is being provided in a manner that is helpful to the public; and, identify one single point-of-contact, Cynthia Gianfrancesco, to handle all inquiries.

3b. Partnerships with Government Agencies

3b.i State Environmental and Health Agencies

RIDEM is the primary agency which holds jurisdiction over protection of human health and the environment in the State of Rhode Island. Due to Rhode Island's small size, there are no local or county environmental or health agencies. The RI Department of Health frequently becomes involved in projects where human health issues are complex. The two agencies routinely cooperate on key public outreach efforts relative to brownfield assessments and cleanups.

All assessment activities will be conducted under RIDEM's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) in accordance with the *Remediation Regulations* and other applicable regulations. The purpose of the *Remediation Regulations* is to create an integrated program requiring reporting, investigation and remediation of contaminated sites in order to eliminate and/or control threats to human health and the environment, both on and off of the site. To ensure openness and transparency, RIDEM amended the *Remediation Regulations* in November 2011 to expand public involvement in the site remediation decision making process. Sites assessed under this grant will proceed through RIDEM's VCP process as follows:

- Obtain EPA approval, complete Phase I & Site-Specific QAPP addendum (w/EPA approval)
- Conduct public notice (w/ public meeting & comment period if EJ area, school, daycare, etc.)
- Conduct Field work and complete TBA Report, with remedial alternatives and cost estimates
- RIDEM issues Program Letter to performing party and conducts second public notice period
- RIDEM issues Remedial Decision Letter requiring Remedial Action Work Plan
- Remedial Action Work Plan is submitted by performing party
- RIDEM issues Remedial Approval Letter to performing party
- Performing Party then proceeds with remediation and redevelopment under the close oversight of RIDEM's VCP until completion, at which time a Letter of Compliance is issued

3b.ii Other relevant federal, state, and local governmental agencies

Many partnerships with federal, state and local governmental agencies are already established under the KeepSpace initiative. Under this grant we expect that these partnerships will continue as the RIDEM Brownfields Assessment and KeepSpace programs continue with its ongoing community revitalization and preservation efforts. To assist us towards achieving that goal, the following entities are committed partners:

Agency/Entity	Expected Role
RI Dept. of Energy Resources, Dept. of Transportation, Dept. of Statewide Planning, Commerce Corp., Public Transit Authority	KeepSpace Advisory Committee
RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission	KeepSpace Advisory Committee & SHPO reviews
Cities of Cranston, Providence, Central Falls, Pawtucket and Westerly.	KeepSpace Host City and Advisory Committee
US HUD/EPA/DOT	HUD/EPA/DOT Sustainable Communities Grant Provider

RIDEM also has a long-standing working relationship with the EPA Brownfields program, as well as the EPA Superfund NPL, Pre-Remedial and Removals programs. We will continue to work closely with the EPA to maintain the successful Brownfields program we have established. In addition, RIDEM is a partner in "A Sustainable Rhode Island/RhodeMap RI" (HUD/EPA/DOT Sustainable Communities Grant – see Attachment D), working towards our mutual goal of creating a healthy and prosperous future for all of Rhode Island.

3c. Partnerships with Community Organizations:

See Attachment B for letters from the following 7 CBOs RIDEM will partner with on this grant.

CBO	Description, Role and Services Provided During the Grant
Groundwork Providence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An EPA Environmental Job Training grant recipient providing urban residents with hazardous materials handling and cleanup certifications and sustainable landscaping training in EJ areas • RIDEM will look to Groundwork to conduct outreach and distribute materials to stakeholders and the community, and assist with site assessment activities

Grow Smart Rhode Island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statewide non-profit public interest group representing a broad coalition of business/non-profit/government partners fighting sprawl & leading the charge for better-managed growth • Will leverage its communication resources & member network to promote brownfields remediation projects & host/participate in public meetings
Brown Univ. Superfund Research Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research & outreach program seeking solutions to hazardous waste site issues, communicating health hazards, guiding plans for site reuse & building capacity of state agencies/community groups • RIDEM will look to Brown Univ. to help identify sites, utilize students for any necessary research or similar tasks & communicate with the public about the risks from contaminated sites
RI Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A statewide privately funded public purpose corporation founded in 1973 striving to ensure that all Rhode Islanders can afford a healthy, attractive home that meets their needs • RI Housing will provide it's communication resources via electronic notifications to its network of partners and developers, sponsor trainings on the program, and share relevant materials
Olneyville Housing Corporation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A non-profit community development corporation formed in 1988 working with residents to build a safe, healthy and stable community • Will identify sites, organize community empowerment information exchanges, provide neighborhood-specific policy advise
Pawtucket CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A non-profit community development corporation formed in 1990, managing affordable housing, empowering residents to create healthy neighborhoods, and encourage economic opportunity • Will organize meetings and outreach in KeepSpace area, educate community on risks and benefits associated with brownfields, choose sites for cleanup that result in positive impacts
The Community Development Consortium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formed in 1996, its primary role is to manage the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant programs of its member towns, including Westerly, which is scattered with old mill villages • Will leverage resources to help identify sites, facilitate owner's involvement, coordinate access to sites, invite RIDEM to public meetings, & dedicate local financial resources as necessary

4. Project Benefits

4a. Health and/or Welfare and Environment

Every community in Rhode Island has blighted neighborhoods that are in need of revitalization, and our KeepSpace Communities have developed a program to address these issues in an effort to bring about positive changes to the health, welfare and environment of these areas. By concentrating on brownfields assessments and the KeepSpace Six Elements, residents of the KeepSpace neighborhoods will see the following environmental, social and public health benefits both during and beyond the life of this grant:

Environmental Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remediation of contaminant impacted soil, groundwater, surface runoff, and sediment • Removal of chemical/physical/biological exposure risks and migration to neighboring properties • Reduction of water quality impacts to rivers, ponds, and Narragansett Bay as sites are remediated • Reclamation of fisheries and recreational resources and increase in scenic and recreational value • Remediation of blighted properties to kick-start revitalization
Social/Welfare Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designing the community for improved community/public safety and reduction of crime • Improved quality of life via a reduced number of underutilized properties • Increased number of clean/affordable housing units; ensuring historic preservation • Stimulating local minority business growth; increased number of local jobs • Pedestrian/streetscape improvements; improved traffic and parking management strategies • Increase in civic pride, resident voice/municipal participation via holistic place-making techniques
Public Health Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in numbers of abandoned structures that pose health and safety risks (e.g. mill fires) • Asthma reductions due to improved air quality & reduction in childhood lead poisoning levels • Overall reduction of exposure pathways (e.g. vapor intrusion, dermal contact) • Decreased risk associated with contact with impaired waters in the local neighborhoods • Increased recreational opportunities and healthy lifestyle

4b. Environmental Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse/Sustainable Reuse

4b.i. Fostering and Implementation of Sustainable Development

RIDEM has and will actively promote sustainable development principles through the following programs:

KeepSpace Initiative and Community Design Plans	Its mission is to create a healthy & sustainable future, incorporating livability, sustainability and smart growth. Existing infrastructure and community design plans promote the following: <i>equitable/affordable housing, sensible infrastructure & transportation, green buildings, historic preservation, communities & neighborhoods, energy/resource efficiency, green renovation/deconstruction, innovative storm water controls, low-impact development, and mixed-use.</i>
Land Use 2025 - RI State Land Use Policies & Plan	Through the implementation of this statewide planning document, RI places particular emphasis on steering growth to those places that can best accommodate sustainable growth.
Groundwork Prov. , EPA Job Training Partner	Groundwork will conduct outreach and distribute materials to stakeholders and the community on sustainable reuse practices.
HUD Sustainable Communities Planning Grant	RIDEM is an active participant in the RI Consortium that received a FY 2011 HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant. RIDEM will contribute \$30,000 of in-kind staff time during the grant period to support RhodeMap RI.
Local Comprehensive Plans	KeepSpace cities have comprehensive plans which promote many of the KeepSpace principles, and have re-zoned areas to facilitate mixed reuse of brownfield properties.

Through these alliances and programs, Rhode Island is aligned with the goals of EPA Strategic Plan Objective 3.1 of Promoting Sustainable and Livable Communities. In supporting our KeepSpace Communities with this grant, and the key principles of livability, sustainable reuse, and smart growth they promote, we will foster the type of forward thinking and progressive leadership needed to help assess and revitalize brownfields. The health, well-being, and sustainability of Rhode Island and the KeepSpace Communities depend upon it.

4b.ii. Example of Planning to Integrate Livability Principles

Through this grant we plan to integrate livability principles in numerous ways. The TBA application we will utilize prioritizes projects that integrate livability principles, propose improved transportation options, promote mixed-use development and access to services, and create open space. Livability principles are also considered through the RIDEM's Environmental Justice rules to ensure that communities have a say in how redevelopment promotes equitable/affordable housing and limits gentrification. In addition, by concentrating our efforts in KeepSpace Communities, we support livability principles in some of Rhode Island lowest income and highest minority population neighborhoods. In this manner, we are in keeping not only with the KeepSpace principles, but also with the Rhode Island HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC) grant which is being implemented by the RI Division of Planning as RhodeMap RI. RhodeMap RI is a statewide collaborative effort overseen by a Consortium of decision-making member organizations, agencies and municipalities, which are also on the KeepSpace Advisory Committee. As such, the PSC grant, KeepSpace initiative and this brownfields assessment grant will be inextricably linked together as we seek to achieve the common goal of building strong, resilient communities with increased access to jobs and fair housing, while coordinating and leveraging federal policies and investments.

4c. Economic or non-Economic Benefits (long term benefits)

4.c.i Economic and non-Economic Benefits

The long term economic benefits brought about by the revitalization of brownfields site in blighted areas, such as our KeepSpace Communities, can be far reaching. From creating jobs to increasing tax bases, the funding provided through this grant could be the catalyst needed to jump-start major redevelopment projects. By stabilizing real estate values and reducing vacancy rates through redevelopment, lenders are more likely to

provide funding for surrounding redevelopment projects. The benefits of positive development in depressed and underinvested areas can help reduce blight (e.g. graffiti), crime (e.g. prostitution, etc.), homelessness and instability, and increase property values. Since we do not know at this time which projects will be initiated under this grant, it is not possible to project quantitative estimates of job numbers, or other economic benefits; however, funding for site assessments in these areas is the first step to removing one of the key financial barriers to the redevelopment of these properties and stimulate ongoing area-wide development.

Throughout our urban KeepSpace Communities there are countless opportunities for the assessment and redevelopment of brownfields into greenspaces that will provide multiple benefits for residents in these areas. RIDEM promotes the importance of access to our natural resources and the TBA application awards extra points for projects that include open space or recreational components. KeepSpace design plans, local comprehensive plans, and the PSC grant also all promote the inclusion of open space and recreational facilities and we will all work together to find ways to incorporate these into every redevelopment project, which in turn can spur economic benefits by attracting further redevelopment to the area.

4.c.ii Local Hiring, Procurement and Job Training

RIDEM understands the importance of partnering with job training programs and was instrumental in assisting Groundwork Providence with obtaining a FY2012 EPA Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant. Groundwork Providence provides training to residents of EJ communities with a broad range of certifications and training in hazardous materials handling and cleanup. RIDEM has committed to providing expertise in the field of site assessment and remediation by providing Groundwork Providence with updates on ongoing assessment projects under our grants. RIDEM and its Contractors will continue to provide valuable classroom instruction on brownfields topics to students enrolled in the training. Groundwork Providence is a committed partner to our grant proposal as is evidenced by their willingness to sign-on as a CBO.

5. Programmatic Capability and Past Performance

5a. Programmatic Capability

The RIDEM TBA program, managed by the Office of Waste Management (OWM), has a proven track record of experience, knowledge and resources necessary to successfully carry out all required aspects of the grant within the 3 year grant period. The program is managed by Cynthia Gianfrancesco, a Principal Environmental Scientist, who has worked for RIDEM for over 25 years in hazardous waste and site assessment/remediation programs. Ms. Gianfrancesco has been managing EPA grants since 1990, including the Superfund Pre-Remedial Program, the 128(a) TBA program, and Brownfields Assessment Grant program, all of which the majority of funding is dedicated to carrying out site assessments. Ms. Gianfrancesco carries out the day-to-day responsibilities of managing these grants, including oversight of contractors, processing of invoices, site-specific decisions, and quarterly and ACRES reporting. In the event that Ms. Gianfrancesco vacates her position another qualified OWM staff person will be assigned to manage the program. Ms. Gianfrancesco reports to Kelly Owens, Supervising Engineer, who assists with grant management activities. Ms. Owens has worked for RIDEM for 21 years and has been the supervisor of the RIDEM Brownfields/VCP program for the past 12 years. The OWM currently employs 12 engineers and scientists in the Brownfields Program whose experience and expertise can be drawn upon. All financial management is carried out by RIDEM's Office of Management Services who handles all grant accounting, including issuance of purchase orders, payment of invoices, drawdown requests, budget tracking and completion of all final grant closeout reports. RIDEM also has a staff of attorneys who are available for any legal matters which may arise.

The majority of TBA work, including completion of Phase I assessments, QAPPs, and Phase II assessments will be carried out by one of our 6 pre-qualified Contractors. As described in Section 2.a.ii above, our Contractors are environmental professionals who were selected to participate in the State of RI Master Price

Agreement (MPA) #309 for site assessment and remediation activities. After completing a public bid process that complies with the Federal procurement procedures contained in 40 CFR 31.36, Contractors are selected for a period of four years based on technical capability and their rates are pre-approved. As a cost saving measure, these Contractors have all been required by RIDEM to possess a Region I approved Generic Brownfields QAPP so that each project only needs a Site-Specific QAPP Addendum for field work conducted. This will allow additional funding to be available for actual assessment work at sites. RIDEM staff and the Contractors will be dedicated to carrying out all assessment activities under this grant. This method ensures that all work is carried out in a timely manner with the highest level of technical expertise available.

5b. Audit Findings: Based on information provided by RIDEM's Office of Management Services, there have been no adverse audit findings reported.

5c. Past Performance and Accomplishments

5c.i) Currently or Has Ever Received an EPA Brownfields Assessment, RLF, or Cleanup Grant

5c.i.1. Compliance with grant requirements

OWM currently manages two EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants and one 128(a) grant, and as well as over 70 federal grants for which the accounting is managed by RIDEM's Office of Management Services. OWM has been managing EPA Cooperative Agreement grants since 1985 with the first Superfund Pre-Remedial Multi-Site Cooperative Agreement. Since that time, OWM has managed annual cooperative agreements, including Superfund National Priority List, CORE, Superfund Pre-Remedial, Brownfields 128(a), and Brownfields Assessment Grants. The five most recent Brownfields grants received by RIDEM currently have or are on schedule to expend all funds on or before the end of the grant period, as follows:

Grant Name/Number	Grant Period	Original Funded Amount	Balance of Funds as of 12-31-13 or end of grant period	Approx. amount of funding allocated	Approx. % of Work Plan Tasks Completed
FY2009 Brownfields Coalition Assmt. Grant(Stimulus)/ 2B-96115201-1 (closed)	8/4/09-8/4/12	\$1,000,000	\$ 0	100%	100%
FY2011 BF Assessment Grant/BF96151101 - Hazardous Substances - Petroleum	10/1/11-9/30/14	\$200,000	\$ 33,510	100%	83%
		\$200,000	\$ 39,960	100%	80%
FY2012 BF Assessment Grant/BF96166701 - Hazardous Substances - Petroleum	10/1/12-9/30/15	\$200,000	\$ 112,945	100%	45%
		\$200,000	\$ 194,500	5%	<5%
FY2012 Section 128(a)/RP96170201 (closed)	10/1/12-9/30/13	\$896,500	\$ 0	100%	100%
FY 2013 Section 128(a)/RP96174201	10/1/13-9/30/14	\$874,708	\$669,921	100%	25%

For these grants and all previous grants RIDEM has consistently met the Terms and Conditions and work plan requirements of the grants, is current on all required submittals (quarterly reports/technical reports/financial status reports), and is up-to-date with ACRES data inputs. For all grants, RIDEM has substantially completed or is on schedule to complete all work plan tasks and has completed the majority of expected results - or more - under each grant within the grant period, with the exception of our 2012 Petroleum grant. We are currently in discussion with several potential applicants who may be eligible for the Petroleum funding, which, due to eligibility restrictions, is frequently difficult to meet; however, we expect this funding to be fully allocated by the second quarter of the 2014 calendar year. None of these grants have been extended or is expected to be extended beyond the original grant period.

RIDEM is requesting additional funding at this time due to the fact that all existing open Hazardous Substance grants are fully allocated and will be fully expended by the end of 2014. Also, due to annual reductions of our 128(a) funding, we currently do not have any contractual funds allocated from that grant for brownfields assessment. As such, if we do not receive this Assessment Grant, we will have no funding available for brownfields assessment work in Rhode Island after 2014.

5c.i.2. Accomplishments

Since the implementation of our Brownfields Showcase Community Pilot in 1998, RIDEM has established a successful brownfields assessment program which has continued with the successful management of our 128(a) TBA funding and EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants. Our TBA program has developed into a well respected assessment program which municipalities and non-profits have come to depend upon. In 2009, the RIDEM TBA program manager, Cynthia Gianfrancesco, was the recipient of an EPA Environmental Merit Award for her work in expanding Rhode Island’s brownfields assessment program. Under this program RIDEM currently has 11 TBAs ongoing and has completed over 76 TBAs for municipalities and non-profit organizations to date, nearly 50% of which have been or are in the process of being redeveloped. Due to our years of experience, our existing process for soliciting priority brownfields sites and acquiring access from property owners, and our environmental professional contracting mechanism, we are able to proceed from Phase I to Phase II assessments and cleanup planning in a timely and efficient manner. All accomplishments have been reported to EPA through quarterly reports and ACRES, including reporting of all outputs (Phase I and Phase II reports) and outcomes (acres remediated). Below is just a sample of the projects that have been successfully completed with the assistance of the RIDEM TBA program:

Site Name	Brownfields Status	Redevelopment Plan	Redevelopment Status
Paul Cuffee School	Former electroplating plant w/ lead & PAH contamination in EJ Area	athletic field & parking lot for inner-city school	TBA: 10/2011; 2012 EPA Cleanup grant ; Reuse completed 12/2012
Knowles Mill River Park	Derelict mill adjacent to river & nearby homes w/ lead & PAHs	Historic/tribal interpretive park/canoe portage	TBA: 2007.; 2008 EPA cleanup grant; Reuse completed 2012
Liberty St School	Vacant school building in urban historic district	Theater Company	TBA completed 2012 Reuse completed 2012
Woonsocket Middle Schools*	Vacant/burned mill w/ TCE, lead & petroleum in EJ Area	Much needed inner-city middle school campus	TBA 2008; 2009 EPA cleanup grant; Reuse completed 2010
L&L Gas Station	Underutilized gas station with lead, PAH & PCB in EJ area.	High end bakery and café	TBA: 10/2012; 2013 EPA Cleanup grant; Cleanup ongoing.
WaterFire Providence	Train engine repair shop w/ lead, asbestos, PAH & TCE in EJ Area.	Arts district, WaterFire HQ, & community art ctr.	TBA 9/2012; 2013 EPA cleanup grant. Cleanup ongoing
Riverside Square	Decrepit former electroplating facility with lead, PAH & TCE .	Mixed use commercial and affordable housing	EPA cleanup grant 2009; TBA/ RAWP 2012; Remediation ongoing.
Laurel Hill Playground	Former school in inner-city EJ Area Lead & petroleum contamination.	Affordable Housing	TBA 2010; 2012 EPA cleanup grant; Cleanup/redevelopment ongoing.

* Received 2012 Brownfields Renewal Award for Social Impact

The above table is just a sample of the number and types of successfully completed brownfields redevelopment projects/cleanup completes initiated through the RIDEM TBA program. While these are notable accomplishments, the TBA program has barely made a dent in assessing the thousands of brownfields in Rhode Island. However, with the federal assistance we currently receive, we are able to continue to identify the priority properties and chip away at the never-ending list of brownfield sites. Our greatest challenge at this time is a lack of funding to initiate new projects to keep our program active and moving forward. The RIDEM brownfields program’s continued success is dependant upon receiving this EPA brownfields assessment grant as we believe we have aptly shown in the presentation of this proposal.

Attachment A

Threshold Criteria:

1. Applicant Eligibility

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management ("RIDEM") is a government entity created by the Rhode Island General Assembly and is eligible to apply for funding through EPA's Brownfields Assessment Grant Program. RIDEM's enabling statute can be found at R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-17.1.

2. Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority

Not required. Applicant is the Rhode Island state environmental authority (RIDEM). Implementation by RIDEM will ensure efficient compliance with state regulations and will facilitate interactions with other state programs to support redevelopment.

3. Community Involvement

Meaningful involvement by leaders and residents most impacted by the assessment and cleanup of properties in each KeepSpace Community is a priority for RIDEM and our Community Based Partners (as identified in Section 3.a of this proposal). RIDEM's well established TBA program has strong connections to organizations in each KeepSpace Community and other local/state entities focused on brownfields revitalization. RIDEM will also be able to draw upon the resources of the other state agencies/entities already participating in KeepSpace (as identified in Section 3b.ii)

RIDEM intends to involve and inform impacted communities in this project via a plethora of community involvement tools (including but not limited to): open stakeholder meetings, factsheets/fliers, social media tools, local media (newspaper and/or TV), etc. RIDEM will be sensitive to the following factors: 1) a realization that not all persons affected by this proposal have regular access to a computer, and as such, will make every attempt to not over-rely on web based outreach efforts; and 2) cultural/language differences & the needs of disabled individuals who want to participate in the execution of this project. In addition, the environmental justice requirements of RIDEM's *Remediation Regulations*, which focus on creating timely and effective processes for on-going engagement, will be adhered to. Many of our Community Based Partners have committed to leveraging their own communication resources and network of partners throughout KeepSpace neighborhoods to promote the assessment opportunities provided for in this grant.

4. Site Eligibility and Property Ownership Eligibility (Site-Specific Proposals Only)

This is an application for Community-wide assessment funding.

Attachment B

Letters from Community Based Organizations



Town of East Greenwich

Community Development Consortium

125 Main Street

P.O. Box 111

East Greenwich, RI 02818

Office: (401) 886.3213

Fax: (401) 886.8625

East Greenwich, West Greenwich, Exeter, Hopkinton, North Kingstown, Charlestown, Richmond, Westerly, Narragansett

6 January 2014

Ms. Cynthia Gianfrancesco
Principal Environmental Scientist
R.I. Dept. of Environmental Management
Office of Waste Management
235 Promenade Street
Providence RI 02908

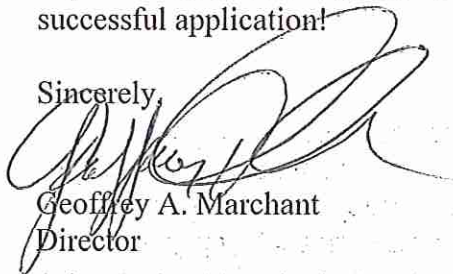
RE: Support for EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant Proposal

Dear Ms. Gianfrancesco:

We once again write in enthusiastic support of your application to the EPA for Brownfield Assessment funding! Your Targeted Brownfield Assessment (TBA) program, made possible by the EPA grant you seek, was critical to our recent successful Knowles Mill Project in Shannock Village, Richmond. Twice more since then you invested in the Shannock area and we now have a better understanding of the issues as we seek productive reuse of two more sites in this historic village. I understand that you plan to invest in KeepSpace areas and look forward to some good work in downtown Westerly!.

The Consortium was formed in 1996 primarily to manage the members' CDBG Programs. The Consortium is able to focus on issues of village and neighborhood revitalization more intently than Town staff people can thereby doing a more comprehensive job than otherwise would be possible. The Consortium pledges to work cooperatively with RIDEM to identify potential sites, facilitate owners' involvement, coordinate access to sites, invite RIDEM to public meetings as applicable to our work, to dedicate financial resources as possible to sites and to generally support RIDEM in the implementation of this grant. We look forward to hearing word of yours being a successful application!

Sincerely,



Geoffrey A. Marchant
Director



Rhode Island Housing
working together to bring you home

January 7, 2014

Ms. Cynthia M. Gianfrancesco
Principal Environmental Scientist
RI Department of Environmental Management
Office of Waste Management
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908

Subject: Support for RIDEM FY2014 Brownfield Assessment Grant Proposal

Dear Ms. Gianfrancesco,

On behalf of Rhode Island Housing this letter is in support of our strong commitment to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) in your proposal for a FY2014 EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant. We are committed to working cooperatively with RIDEM and other community based organizations to provide the assistance listed below.

Rhode Island Housing is a self sustaining organization that strives to ensure that all people who live or work in Rhode Island can afford a healthy, attractive home that meets their needs. A good home provides the foundation upon which individuals and families thrive, children learn and grow, and communities prosper. Rhode Island Housing uses all of its resources to provide low-interest loans, grants, education and assistance to help Rhode Islanders find, rent, buy, build and keep a good home. Created by the General Assembly in 1973, Rhode Island Housing is a privately funded public purpose corporation.

KeepSpace, a ground breaking approach to creating thriving, lasting communities in Rhode Island was launched in the summer of 2007. KeepSpace is a widely inclusive partnership initiative to change the way we think about, build and approach "community." For KeepSpace to truly improve Rhode Island's communities, especially when funds are limited, partners agree to come to the table in a spirit of collaboration. Understanding that we must think beyond our own spheres of interest - the bounds of our expertise, the charge of our employment, the borders of our neighborhoods - we consider multiple perspectives to create a healthy, prosperous, sustainable future. KeepSpace partners embrace the KeepSpace philosophy of working together to create vibrant communities. The KeepSpace philosophy brings together everyone involved in or affected by the community to work together, instead of separately, toward a common goal.

The RIDEM has been a valued KeepSpace partner. The RIDEM's Brownfields Assessment Grant program has provided valuable resources for our development partners throughout the state and within KeepSpace communities including Providence and

Gianfrancesco, Cynthia
January 7, 2014
Page 2

Pawtucket. We hope that you are successful in securing this much needed funding in FY2014.

Rhode Island Housing is committed to leveraging its communication resources and network of partners throughout the state to promote the brownfield assessment opportunities provided with this grant. Specifically, Rhode Island Housing will commit to notify electronically the numerous developers with whom we partner on the opportunity for assessment funding and to directly refer developers who come to us with relevant proposed projects in the target areas to the program. We are prepared to participate in or sponsor trainings on the program and share any relevant materials with our partners. Through KeepSpace we will share information on the program with our Advisory Committee and the contacts from our KeepSpace communities.

Funding assistance from the EPA will ensure that we are able to revitalize neighborhoods through a sound approach to remediation of contaminated sites. Resources will allow for the productive re-use of land and buildings, will create jobs and facilitate the creation of affordable homes.

Thank you for the opportunity to partner with you on this initiative.

Sincerely,



Carol A. Ventura
Director of Development



GROUNDWORK PROVIDENCE

Groundwork Providence

8 Third Street
Providence, RI 02906
Ph: 401-351-6440
Fax: 401-351-0118

www.groundworkprovidence.org

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Clint Lank

January 17, 2014

Ms. Cynthia Gianfrancesco
RI Department of Environmental Management
Office of Waste Management
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908

Re: Rhode Island DEM FY 2014 Brownfields Assessment Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Heath:

I write to you now to express Groundwork Providence's support for the Rhode Island DEM (RIDEM) FY 2014 Brownfields Assessment Grant Proposal. Groundwork Providence is pleased to support RIDEM to maximize the community, educational and sustainability impacts of RIDEM's Brownfield programs.

Groundwork Providence is an environmental and community development organization devoted to providing the residents of environmental justice communities with the skills and resources that they need to improve the health, beauty and sustainability of their own neighborhoods. Groundwork Providence runs several programs supporting this mission; most notably, and EPA funded Brownfield Remediation Job Training Program.

Groundwork Providence supports RIDEM in engaging graduates of our adult job training programs. We have had great success with this in the past; we are looking forward to future success in our support of RIDEM.

As a community based organization committed to helping RIDEM make this grant a success, Groundwork Providence commits to the following:

- Assist in KeepSpace community site assessment.
- Create a dialog with our stakeholders about the role of brownfields redevelopment in the community.
- Maintain communication with RIDEM in terms of community outreach and opportunities to speak with community members directly.
- Creating and/or distributing community outreach material (web, newsletters or direct mail/delivery).

Thank you and please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Marcus Mitchell
Interim Director



January 14, 2014

Ms. Cynthia M. Gianfrancesco
Principal Environmental Scientist
RI Department of Environmental Management
Office of Waste Management
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908

RE: *Support for EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant Proposal*

Dear Ms. Gianfrancesco:

On behalf of Olneyville Housing Corporation (OHC) this letter is being provided to confirm our commitment to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) in their proposal for a FY 2014 EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant. We agree to work cooperatively with RIDEM to provide the type of assistance highlighted below.

OHC is a 25 year-old, 501(c)3 community development corporation focused on the physical revitalization and economic stabilization of Providence's poorest neighborhood, and Rhode Island's poorest census tract. Our activities are generally divided into 2 separate but complementary business lines: real estate development and community asset building. In 2008 OHC was designated a KeepSpace Community Partner in recognition of our holistic approach to community revitalization.

It is through the real estate development business line that OHC will most directly assist RIDEM in the following ways:

- Identification of environmentally impacted sites for RIDEM investigation
- Advocacy for the remediation of those sites once identified
- Acting, through our role as fiscal agent and convening entity of the 21-member Olneyville Collaborative, to organize opportunities for community empowering information exchanges
- Providing neighborhood-specific policy advice- particularly around the reclamation of vacant and/or abandoned properties

Brownfield ID / assessment assistance from EPA, if awarded, will provide the critical resources that will help support our visible, ongoing local efforts to redevelop the Olneyville community in environmentally sound ways and to bring additional properties back into productive reuse, generate jobs and revenue. We shall work cooperatively with RIDEM and other community based organizations to identify properties ripe for brownfields intervention.

Sincerely:

J. O'GRADY

REAL ESTATE PROS. MNG.

66 Chaffee Street, Providence, RI 02909
401.351.8719
www.olneyville.org



GrowSmartRI
Sustainable Economic Growth
& Quality of Place

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January 10, 2014

Ms. Cynthia M. Gianfrancesco
Principal Environmental Scientist
RI Department of Environmental Management
Office of Waste Management
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908

RE: *Support for RIDEM FY2014 Brownfield Assessment Grant Proposal*

Dear Ms. Gianfrancesco:

On behalf of Grow Smart Rhode Island this letter is being provided to confirm our strong commitment to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) in your proposal for a FY 2014 EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant. We agree to work cooperatively with RIDEM and the other community based organizations to provide the type of assistance highlighted below.

Grow Smart is a statewide coalition of business interests, non-profit organizations and government agencies that have come together to address the issue of sprawl in Rhode Island. Our purpose is to make Rhode Islanders aware of the environmental, economic and social impacts of sprawl and to promote policies and practices that direct future growth toward urban and town centers while reducing development pressures on our farming and forest land.

A centerpiece of our work over the last eight years has been promoting the connection between Rhode Island's State Historic Tax Credit program and its resulting and successful impact on brownfield clean-up. A 2007 study by Grow Smart found that the tax credit program has provided the necessary financial support to clean up contamination found on many of the historic sites being recycled into use. Based on data from the Rhode Island DEM and the RI Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission, 65% (or slightly over \$1 billion) of the total investment in completed and planned projects is going into contaminated sites that are being cleaned up in the process. And these environmental gains are occurring in urban, suburban and rural communities throughout Rhode Island.

The RIDEM's Brownfields Assessment Grant program has provided and hopefully will continue to provide much needed funding for assessment work in many Rhode Island communities. Assessment of these sites is the first step to revitalizing the community and bringing properties back to beneficial reuse.

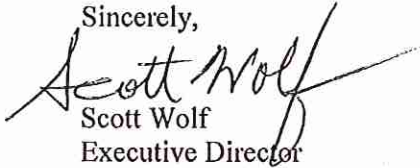
Grow Smart stands prepared to leverage its communication resources and network of more than 5,000 civic leaders, state & local officials, development professionals, journalists and active citizens to promote the brownfield assessment opportunities should this grant be awarded. We are also committed to hosting/participating in public meetings to help promote the many advantages that brownfield reclamation offers to communities.

Grow Smart Rhode Island
January 10, 2014
Page Two

Assistance from EPA will provide the critical resources that will help support the very visible, ongoing local efforts to redevelop these communities in environmentally sound ways and to bring additional properties back into productive reuse, thus generating jobs/revenue and providing affordable housing.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,



Scott Wolf
Executive Director



PAWTUCKET CITIZENS
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION

www.pawtucketcdc.org

PAWTUCKET CITIZENS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

"Healthy neighborhoods for all"

Friday, January 10th, 2014

Attn: Cynthia M. Gianfrancesco
Principal Environmental Scientist
RI Department of Environmental Management
Office of Waste Management
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908

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RE: *Support for EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant Proposal*

Dear Ms. Gianfrancesco:

Pawtucket Citizens Development Corporation (PCDC) is happy to provide this letter to express our commitment to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) in their proposal for a FY 2014 EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant. We look forward to working with RIDEM to provide assistance in the implementation of this grant.

PCDC has been developing affordable housing for the past 24 years. In that time, we have created more than 170 units in Pawtucket and nearby Central Falls, RI. Our organization strives to take foreclosed and distressed properties that were once neighborhood eyesores and turn them into high quality, safe units of affordable housing that often times lead to a major neighborhood transformation. Our most recent developments have revitalized the Barton Street neighborhood of Pawtucket; turning what was once a hotbed of crime and transient housing to a community that is now full of homeowners, affordable condominiums, parks, bike paths, new businesses, mixed use construction, and deed restricted affordable housing.

Our staff is focused on not only developing housing but also connecting and engaging with community residents. Over the past few years alone, PCDC has sponsored four major resident engagement programs, including the KeepSpace Initiative. These activities allow us to not only better understand the needs of the community, but also act on them and provide programs that are relevant to our tenants and neighbors. As a result, we feel that our organization has a strong connection to the Pawtucket/Central Falls community. If Rhode Island DEM is awarded this grant, PCDC will assist in the implementation in a number of ways. First, our staff will help identify potential Brownfield cleanup sites in this KeepSpace community. Our real estate development team has a strong understanding of site that have historically not been developed because of environmental issues. Second, PCDC will connect RIDEM to local residents. Our organization regularly reaches out to community residents with newsletters, social media and community meetings. Our outreach includes translation services for what is an extremely diverse and multi-cultural neighborhood.



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"Healthy neighborhoods for all"

In order to help in the implementation of this Brownfields award, we will include RIDEM in future meetings and outreach to the Pawtucket and Central Falls community. This will include education on the risks of brownfields and the benefits of remediation. Finally, PCDC will work with RIDEM to ensure that the cleanup of chosen sites leads to development that fits the need of the community and ensures a positive impact and neighborhood revitalization.

As a non-profit real estate developer we are all too aware of the significant burden that brownfields and hazardous materials can place on a project. Being located in an historic New England community with a strong heritage of manufacturing and industry only compounds the likelihood that each local development will encounter a need for environmental remediation. Many times, local developers are trying to clean up mills and environmental damage left by previous generations. If awarded, this grant will provide funding for much needed assessment work across in our KeepSpace communities. Assistance from EPA will provide the critical resources that will help support the very visible, ongoing local efforts to redevelop these communities in environmentally sound ways and to bring additional properties back into productive reuse, generate jobs and revenue. With the grant funding, the RIDEM will be able to assess the environmental conditions at sites so that exposure risks to contaminated media will be determined and ultimately remediated. Assessment of these sites is a crucial first step in bringing properties back to beneficial reuse. We hope you will strongly consider this application and its potential to significantly improve the quality of life for residents in our low income industrial New England KeepSpace communities.

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Maia Thurlow Small

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Nancy Whit
Executive Director

January 6, 2014

Ms. Cynthia M. Gianfrancesco
Principal Environmental Scientist
RI Department of Environmental Management
Office of Waste Management
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908

RE: Commitment to Serve as Partner for EPA FY 2014 Brownfield Assessment Grant Proposal

Dear Ms. Gianfrancesco:

On behalf of the Community Engagement and Research Translation Cores of Brown University's Superfund Research Program (SRP), we are confirming our strong commitment to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) in their proposal for a FY2014 US EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant (hazardous substances). As one of the premier research and educational institutions in Rhode Island, we agree to work with RIDEM to provide the assistance and services highlighted below. Our staff will leverage our research and communication strengths to promote the brownfield assessment opportunities should this grant be awarded.

The Community Engagement Core has worked extensively with numerous community environmental organizations in the state, and has partnered with RIDEM. Indeed, RIDEM is a regular part of our Superfund Research Program, which makes it unique among the nation's select small number of SRPs. Our Research Translation Core also works extensively with RIDEM, and we are the only Superfund Research Program in the US to have State Agency Liaisons, PhD level persons who spend a major part of their time on RIDEM collaborations. SRP staff have aided RIDEM in assessing the quality of vapor intrusion models used in remediation activities, and in providing workshops to waste management officials, lawyers, and developers.

Two major accomplishments of our Community Engagement Core have come in partnership with RIDEM. One is the Environmentally Compromised Homeowners Act, the nation's first program to provide state-housing funds for home equity loans for residents in highly contaminated communities. The other is the Penalties Bill, which increased fines from \$1,000 per day to \$25,000 per day for corporations that disregard RIDEM's Notice of Violations. These two legislative efforts are a strong testimony to the Community Engagement Core's interaction with RIDEM. In addition, we have worked for several years on the RIDEM Brownfields Environmental Equity Stakeholder Group. This has successfully introduced new



guidelines to guarantee environmental justice communities (based on EPA's definition) the proper role in brownfields development processes.

Along the way, our Community Engagement Core has recruited talented Brown students to work on various projects that directly benefit RIDEM. One was a senior Environmental Studies thesis evaluating the first year that the Brownfields Equity guidelines were in place. Another Environmental Studies thesis examined the cleanup of a major contamination episode in Tiverton, RI. In much of our work, regular contact with RIDEM is key to the Community Engagement Core's work. For example, with our community partner, Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council, we have taught middle school students about the contamination and proposed cleanup of the NPL site at Centredale Manor. RIDEM's site manager played a key role in the curriculum development and in helping teach that course. For another example, we work with the RIDEM site manager at the Gorham Silver Co. site, a highly contaminated brownfields site, as part of an overall effort to speed the cleanup and to reclaim land for beneficial use.

The Community Engagement Core works with another community partner, the Environmental Justice League of Rhode Island, which secured an EPA CARE grant. This has enabled us to cooperate with citizen's groups and municipal and state agencies in developing a large alliance that assesses environmental health needs for Providence. RIDEM staff have been important players in this work as well. Continued collaboration is necessary.

We look forward to more collaboration with RIDEM in this new proposal. We and our doctoral and undergraduate research assistants, will work with RIDEM in the following ways:

- Help RIDEM identify potential sites
- Talk to our many community organization partners and collaborators about specific sites and the role of brownfields redevelopment in the community
- Host public meetings and invite RIDEM to those public meetings so it can connect with residents
- Create and distribute community outreach material (via the Brown SRP website and at public meetings)
- Conduct public education/outreach about brownfields and their risks
- Recruit students for specific tasks, as in past efforts
- Help in examining the role of Health Impact Assessments for brownfields policy

The awarding of this grant will provide opportunities for much needed assessment work across Rhode Island. Rhode Island's extensive industrial history as the birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution has resulted in many distressed and underutilized properties with actual or potential contamination throughout the state. With the grant funding, RIDEM will be able to assess the degraded conditions of sites so that exposure risks to contaminated media will be determined and ultimately remediated. Assessment of these sites is a crucial first step in bringing properties back to beneficial reuse and revitalizing key areas of our small state.

This much-needed assistance from the USEPA will provide the critical resources that will help support the very visible, ongoing, and local efforts to redevelop these communities in environmentally sound ways and to bring additional properties back into productive reuse and generate jobs and revenue. We intend to work cooperatively with RIDEM and various community-based organizations to identify properties in need of assessment and bring about the type of change many Rhode Island communities are striving to achieve.

Sincerely,



James W. Rice, PhD
Engineering State Agencies Liaison
Postdoctoral Research Associate
Superfund Research Program
Brown University, School of Engineering
182 Hope Street
Providence, RI 02912
James_Rice@brown.edu, (401) 863-1073



Marcella R. Thompson, PhD, MS, CSP, RN, COHN-S, FAAOHN
Environmental Health State Agencies Liaison
Co-Leader, Community Engagement Core
Superfund Research Program
Brown University, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
70 Ship Street
Providence, RI 02912
Marcella_Thompson@brown.edu, (401) 569-7548

Attachment C

Leveraging Documentation



RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908-5767

TDD 401-222-4462

20 January 2014

Frank Gardner, Brownfields Coordinator
EPA Region 1
5 Post Office Square
Suite 100, Mail Code: OSRR7-2
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Re: Letter of Commitment for Leveraged Funds to Support RIDEM 2014 EPA
Brownfields Assessment Grant

Dear Mr. Gardner,

This letter is being written to confirm the commitment of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) for funding to be provided in support of the RIDEM Brownfields Assessment Program and its 2014 EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant. The majority of personnel costs for staff who will oversee and manage this grant will be provided through a State funded account in the amount of approximately \$75,000 annually. In addition, RIDEM expects to be able to allocate \$50,000 annually in funding from natural resource damage claims it has settled with responsible parties to support contractual funding for assessment and remedial assistance work of brownfield sites in the target communities. As such, these sources of non-Federal leveraged funds are estimated at approximately \$375,000 for the grant period.

Sincerely,

Matthew D. DeStefano
Deputy Chief
RIDEM – Office of Waste Management

cc: Cynthia Gianfrancesco, RIDEM

Attachment D

HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities Documentation

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

By and Between the Members of the Consortium for

A Sustainable Rhode Island

This Agreement is made between the Rhode Island Division of Planning and Janet Coit, hereinafter referred to as the "Member," for the purpose of establishing the agreed conditions under which the Member shall participate in the Governance and Management of the Consortium (Attachment A) in development and implementation of A Sustainable Rhode Island, as described below, effective as of the date of the last execution below.

Whereas, a consortium has been created, comprised of state governmental units, municipal governmental units and nonprofit organizations that seek to develop and implement A Sustainable Rhode Island, which will guide the State towards a sustainable future; and,

Whereas, the consortium is intended collectively to have the capacity and experience to carry out the proposed activities within the work program (Attachment B) executed under a cooperative agreement with HUD for development of A Sustainable Rhode Island; and,

Whereas, the members of the consortium have authorized one member, the Rhode Island Division of Planning, as the lead applicant, to act in a representative capacity with HUD on behalf of all members of the consortium and to assume administrative responsibility for ensuring that the consortium's program is carried out in compliance with all HUD requirements; and,

Whereas, while the lead applicant holds fiscal and administrative responsibility for regular interaction with HUD, the consortium has developed a governance and management structure that reflects the diversity of its partners and allows for maximum participation in strategy development and decision-making;

Whereas, the result of this effort will be the development and implementation of A Sustainable Rhode Island; a unified effort of local governments, organizations, state agencies and the public to create a regional plan for sustainable development and implement several action items as described in the work program;

Whereas, upon completion of all project activities or within ninety (90) days of the end of the funding period (whichever is sooner), the bodies described may be dissolved and this Agreement terminated; and,

Whereas, this Agreement may be extended and amended by both parties, if desired, for the purpose of continuing to work on post-grant sustainability and coordination issues.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, all parties to this agreement, as "Members" of the consortium, accept the responsibility of carrying out their role in the successful completion of the work program of *A Sustainable Rhode Island*;

Furthermore, upon execution of the agreement, each "Member" will participate in accordance with the governance and management structure as attached (Attachment A).

Both parties hereto represent that they have authority to enter into this Partnership.

So agreed this, the 23rd day of May, 2012

Janet Coit
Janet Coit, Director, RI Department of Environmental Management

Department of Environmental Management
Name of the Member Organization

Janet Coit, Director
Chief Official of the Member Organization

So agreed this, the 11 day of June, 2012

Kevin M. Flynn
Rhode Island Division of Planning, Associate Director



RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908-5767

TDD 401-222-4462

May 15, 2012

Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 7th Street, S.W., Room 10180
Washington, D.C. 20410

Re: Letter of Commitment - HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant

To Whom it May Concern:

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management has agreed to serve as a member of the Rhode Island Consortium applying for this grant opportunity.

As an organization, we commit to provide \$30,000 of in kind contribution from Scott Millar's salary and fringe benefits.

Scott Millar, Administrator Sustainable Watersheds: Annual Salary: \$103,489
Fringe Benefits: \$59,912
Total: \$160,408

DEM is committing a minimum of 341 hours of Scott Millar's time @\$88/hour over the three year grant period.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terrance P. Maguire".

Terrance Maguire, Assistant Director Finance



30% post-consumer fiber

State of Rhode Island: Division of Planning

Staff Contact

Melanie Jewett Army, Supervising Planner
401-222-6183
Chris Witt, Principal Planner
401-222-4719



Rhode Island residents have an opportunity to shape the state's future through RhodeMap RI: Building a Better Rhode Island, a project to develop a statewide, integrated plan to advance sustainability and equity and to create a better place for all Rhode Islanders. The state in collaboration with public and community leaders will seek answers to basic questions about what we want for Rhode Island.

How do we build strong, resilient communities with jobs and housing for all Rhode Islanders? How do we improve our economy while also preserving those qualities that make Rhode Island special? Where should we direct future investments in housing, infrastructure, and businesses to have the greatest

positive impact on the state?

The state has the opportunity to answer these questions because of a three year, \$1.9 million Sustainable Communities Regional Planning grant it received from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development in 2012. The Sustainable Communities program is a joint effort of HUD, the US Department of Transportation, and the Environmental Protection Agency that recognizes the connections among land use, housing, transportation, environmental, and economic issues.

RhodeMap RI has eight key elements: housing, economic development, growth centers, technical assistance, public participation, social equity, performance measures, and implementation.

For more information about RhodeMap RI visit the project website, RhodeMap RI