

Council Agenda Item [25-0852R]



MEETING DATE: November 10, 2025

SUBJECT/TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A \$1,000,000 BROWNFIELDS REVOLVING LOAN CLEANUP FUND GRANT FROM THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AND AFFIRMING ENTERING INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.

SUBMITTED BY: Tricia Hobbs –Manager, Economic Development and DEDA

RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: NA

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION:

Back in 2012 the City of Duluth received a \$650,000 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) grant that was utilized to establish a Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund (“BRLF”). The City Council officially approved the BRLF program guidelines in January of 2017 by Ordinance 16-077-O, authorizing the city to manage the fund and use the grant money for loans for brownfield remediation.

February 2020- Council approved a Resolution 20-0159R authorizing the acceptance of a \$300,000 Brownfields Community Wide Planning Grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and authorized execution of a cooperative agreement for that grant.

BACKGROUND:

In 2022, the City was awarded a \$1,000,000 Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (BRLF) grant from the EPA to recapitalize the BRLF and continue providing loans for brownfield cleanup. The grant also included funding to competitively procure a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) to oversee environmental site activities, develop community involvement plans, and maintain administrative records for each remediated site. Although the cooperative agreement with the EPA was entered into at that time by default of receiving the award as no signature is required by the EPA on the cooperative agreement, internal staffing transitions and turnover delayed formal acceptance of the grant by the city council. This resolution serves to officially authorize acceptance of the funds and affirm the City's commitment to implementing the grant activities.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:

This will have a positive impact on the budget in 255 for Brownfield Cleanup work.



OPTIONS:

Approve to continue to move forward with important Brownfields work in our community, or a no vote would be to return the money to the EPA

NECESSARY ACTION:

Approve the request.

ATTACHMENTS: 2022 Cooperative Agreement