

Brownfields Yellow Pages

Brownfields: Your Key to Revitalization



EPA Region 4 Land Revitalization Yellow Pages – Federal Partnership Resource Guide

Land Revitalization: Reusing Properties in Your Community

June 2009

The Land Revitalization Yellow Pages: Federal Partnership Resource Guide is published by Region 4 of the U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The primary audience for the Yellow Pages is the eight states and six tribes (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and six Tribes) which are served by EPA Region 4. The purpose of the Yellow Pages is to help local communities, organizations, states, tribes, and other interested parties identify federal programs which support land revitalization efforts and provide a single point of contact to facilitate use of these programs.

For more information on the Brownfields and Land Revitalization Program, please visit EPA Region 4's Land Revitalization Web site at www.epa.gov/region4/landrevitalization/

Or contact:

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Cover Photos:

Region 4 Land Revitalization Yellow Pages

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Federal Partnership Resource Guide

Introduction

The Land Revitalization Program

As part of its mission to protect human health and the environment, EPA is dedicated to revitalizing land by restoring contaminated and potentially contaminated sites to productive economic and greenspace use. EPA and Region 4 seek to support the reuse and redevelopment of all types of contaminated properties, including brownfields sites, Superfund sites, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) sites, Underground Storage Tank (UST) sites, and more. Land revitalization is important because it returns land to productive use, restores blighted properties, links to local job opportunities, creates recreational opportunities, energizes neighborhoods, and protects the environment.

The land revitalization activities in Region 4 help to ensure that reuse considerations are integrated into all cleanup decisions. Contaminated and formerly contaminated sites throughout the country have been transformed into major shopping centers, business parks, residential subdivisions, recreational facilities, and wildlife habitat. Many sites are being revitalized for use by small businesses.

The Land Revitalization National Partnership

EPA has established partnerships with federal agencies, states, cities, and other organizations to assure a coordinated strategy for addressing brownfield issues. In July 1996, the Interagency Working Group on Brownfields was formed as a forum for federal agencies to exchange information on brownfields-related activities. More than 20 federal departments and agencies now participate in the Brownfields National Partnership Agenda. These agencies offer technical and other assistance to selected communities. Collectively, they have invested more than \$3 billion in brownfields projects.

The Federal Partnership Resource Guide

The Brownfields Yellow Pages serves as a resource for individuals and organizations interested in accessing federal agencies that actively pursue brownfields solutions.

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Appalachian Regional Commission

Web Site: <http://www.arc.gov>

The mission of the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) is to be an advocate and partner with the people of Appalachia to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life. ARC was established by Congress in 1965 to support economic and social development in the Appalachian Region. The Commission is a unique partnership composed of the governors of the 13 Appalachian states and a presidential appointee representing the federal government. Grassroots participation is provided through local development districts, which are multi-county organizations with boards composed of elected officials, businesspeople, and other local leaders. ARC undertakes projects that address the four goals identified by the Commission in its strategic plan to fund projects in the following areas: education and workforce training programs; highway construction; water and sewer system construction; leadership development programs; small business start-ups and expansions; and development of health care resources.

Resources Available for Community Development

A large portion of ARC's Area Development funds is used for water and sewer system service extensions to industrial parks in support of local efforts to create and retain jobs in rural Appalachia. In the past, several of these projects have involved brownfields sites. Additionally, ARC has partnered with the National Association of Local Government Environmental Professionals (NALGEP) to conduct regional workshops in Appalachia that encourage brownfields redevelopment. ARC entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with EPA in FY 2000 for the coordination of policies and activities in support of brownfields assessments, cleanup, and redevelopment. In FY 2002, ARC approved five projects for over \$1,352,000 to be administered by EPA.

ARC commits to:

1. Increase job opportunities and per capita income in Appalachia to reach parity with the nation.
2. Strengthen the capacity of the people of Appalachia to compete in the global economy.
3. Develop and improve Appalachia's infrastructure to make the region economically competitive.
4. Build the Appalachian Development Highway System to reduce Appalachia's isolation.
5. Continue to encourage ARC's state partners to use their Area Development funds for projects that create/retain jobs in brownfields redevelopment areas
6. Reaffirm EPA/ARC MOU commitments, which include:
 - Providing support, including technical assistance, information sharing and workshops, to increase awareness of brownfields cleanup and redevelopment programs and benefits
 - Financial and technical assistance to Appalachian communities, local development districts and other grassroots organizations to develop proposals for integrating brownfields assessments and cleanup with economic development planning
 - Coordination of joint activities between Appalachian states, local development districts, and EPA field staff to assist the implementation of brownfields redevelopment projects at the state level
 - Financial and technical assistance to Appalachian communities to help leverage funds for assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment of brownfields
 - Collaboration on joint projects or proposal reviews for competitions sponsored by either agency

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Corporation for National and Community Service

AmeriCorps

Web Site: <http://www.americorps.gov>

AmeriCorps is a network of national service programs that engage nearly 75,000 Americans in intensive service to meet critical needs in education, public safety, health, and the environment. AmeriCorps members serve through thousands of nonprofits, public agencies, and faith-based organizations. They tutor and mentor youth, build affordable housing, teach computer skills, clean parks and streams, run after-school programs, and help communities respond to disasters. Created in 1993, AmeriCorps is part of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), which also oversees Senior Corps and Learn and Serve America. Together these programs engaged nearly 500,000 members of all ages and backgrounds in service since 1994.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT

AmeriCorps*State and National

More than three-quarters of AmeriCorps grant funding goes to Governor-appointed State Commissions, which distribute and monitor grants to local nonprofit agencies. The balance goes to national nonprofits that operate in more than one state. Organizations receiving grants are responsible for recruiting, selecting, and supervising AmeriCorps members participating in their programs. Grantees include national groups such as Habitat for Humanity, the American Red Cross, and Boys and Girls Clubs of America, as well as many small faith-based and community organizations.

AmeriCorps*VISTA

For more than 35 years, AmeriCorps VISTA members have helped bring individuals and communities out of poverty. Members serve full-time, working to fight illiteracy, improve health services, create businesses, increase housing opportunities, and bridge the digital divide. Today, over 6,500 AmeriCorps*VISTA members served in 1,200 local programs.

AmeriCorps*NCC

AmeriCorps*NCC is a 10-month, full-time residential program for men and women between the ages of 18 and 24. AmeriCorps*NCC combines the best practices of civilian and military service to bring new leadership and team building resources to local communities. Priority is given to projects in public safety, public health, and disaster relief.

Brownfields Partnership Role

1. Facilitates the placement of a VISTA volunteer in brownfields projects
2. Facilitates the recruitment of a VISTA volunteer for all of the EPA's Brownfields Assessment/Cleanup, Job Training, and Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund grant recipients
3. Promotes EPA's Brownfields program grants to all communities served by AmeriCorps volunteers
4. Offers volunteer labor for brownfields sites

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Department of Agriculture

Web Site: <http://www.da.usda.gov/hmmd/brownfields.htm>

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) was founded in 1862 as the “people’s department.” Today, USDA’s mission is to enhance the quality of life for the American people by supporting the production of agriculture; ensuring a safe, affordable, nutritious, and accessible food supply; caring for agricultural, forest, and range lands; supporting the sound development of rural communities; providing farm and rural residents with economic opportunities; expanding global markets to include agricultural and forest products and services; and working to reduce hunger in America and throughout the world.

USDA is increasingly involved in helping communities with the development of brownfields sites after the cleanup or determination that a site is suitable for development is completed. Historically, USDA supported urban forestry and greenspace projects from the Forest Service state grant programs and numerous Rural Development mission area programs for business, housing, community facilities, utilities, and waste water programs. New areas of support are emerging for sustainable farming and nutrition support for farmer’s markets, food assistance programs, and bio-based product development. Program assistance is typically provided on a state-by-state basis and within states through area or county offices depending upon the program and USDA agency.

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Department of Agriculture – Forest Service

Web sites: www.fs.fed.us/ and www.interfacesouth.org

The USDA Forest Service provides financial, technical, and related assistance in urban and community forestry “to state foresters or equivalent state officials” under the authority granted in Section 9 of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978, PL 95-331, as amended. The agency also has authority to “conduct, support, and cooperate” in research in “rural, suburban, and urban areas” through Section 3 of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Act of 1978, PL 95-307, as amended.

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment **Urban & Community Forestry (U&CF) Assistance Program**

The mission of the U&CF program is to promote conservation and management of forests and related natural resources in urban areas, with a focus on obtaining the highest social, environmental, psychological, and economic benefits.

The U&CF program is delivered through the state forestry agencies and local organizations. Many of the states provide financial assistance in the form of urban and community forestry cost-share grants to local governments, educational institutions, communities, and nonprofit groups. The program awards competitive, matching grants for projects that meet criteria established by the national U&CF Assistance Program and any additional state guidelines. Awards are made on a 50 percent cost-share basis. The grants provide the opportunity for local communities to develop or expand their forestry programs and build lasting capabilities to manage their urban natural resources. Examples of projects that have been funded by this program include tree inventories, urban forestry management plans, urban forestry brochures, publications or videos, conferences, and workshops.

Program Purposes

1. To increase public understanding of the economic, environmental, social, and psychological values of our urban and community forests and their related natural resources in urban and urbanizing areas
2. To improve education and technical support for proper tree selection, planting, maintenance, and protection
3. To enable the development of self-sufficient local urban and community forestry programs which will result in community sustainability and enhance the quality of life
4. To develop and maintain an urban and community forestry information network that is supported through examples of accomplishments combining technology with research-based partnerships

Program Requirements

The grantee state or local government agency, nonprofit organization, public university or school is required to match the grant on a 50-50 basis with non-federal dollars, in-kind services (volunteer time), and/or materials. The grantee is also required to keep accurate records for reporting, invoicing, and documenting the project's completion. Interested applicants should check with their state forestry agency or its local equivalent for specific requirements of their state or local government.

NUCFAC Grants

The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) is the official advisory body of the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture on urban forestry issues. NUCFAC sponsors the Challenge Cost-Share Program that supports urban community forestry activities with a national impact. Web site: www.treelink.org/nucfac

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Southern Center for Urban Forestry Research and Information

The Southern Center for Urban Forestry Research and Information was formed to help facilitate the exchange of information between researchers and communities across the Southern U.S. for the proper management of trees and forests where people live, work, and play. Web site: www.urbanforestrysouth.org

Southern Center for Wildland-Urban Interface Research and Information

This Center, also known as Interface South, was developed by the USDA Forest Service's Southern Region and the Southern Region Research Station to heighten awareness and provide information about wildland-urban interface issues. Critical interface issues include fire, watershed management, wildlife conservation and management, and land use planning and policy. Web site: www.interfacesouth.usda.gov

How to Access Partner Resources

The USDA Forest Service Southern Region is comprised of 13 states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia. Contact your state forestry agency for information about the grant proposal open season. For a current list of contact names in your state call the regional office or go to www.urbanforestrysouth.org.

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DRAFT

Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service Resource Conservation and Development Councils

Web Site: <http://www.rcdnet.org/>

Over 40 years ago, Congress established a unique program within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that empowered rural people to help themselves. The USDA focus was to assist local people by providing tools and technical support to stabilize and grow their own communities while protecting and developing natural resources. To carry out the Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) concept, diverse groups of local volunteers (The RC&D Council) are brought together in a unique partnership to find solutions to their problems. Local people are best able to determine needs and create solutions for their Community. The focus on local direction and control has made RC&D one of the most successful rural development programs of the federal government. The focus of the program provides for the sustainability of local economies and resources.

RC&D Councils play an important role in the conservation, development, and utilization of natural resources. RC&D Councils work to improve the general level of economic activity and to enhance the environment and standard of living in all communities. Councils provide a system of rural development to encourage the wise use of natural resources and improve the quality of life in America.

Congress created this public/private partnership as a way of engaging local leaders to promote their local economy by leveraging limited federal dollars.

Councils provide a focal point of local leadership and bring together private citizens and local, state, and federal agencies to improve the economic, social, and environmental well-being of their area. RC&D Councils have proven ability and strength of leadership to engage and accomplish projects from the local to the national level.

The RC&D program, first authorized by the Food and Agriculture Act of 1962, P. L. 87-703, received permanent authorization as part of the 2002 Farm Bill. The Natural Resources Conservation Service administers the program. The purpose of the RC&D program is to encourage and improve the capability of volunteer, locally elected, and civic leaders in designated RC&D areas to plan and carry out projects for resource conservation and community development.

Projects relate to the following four areas: 1) Land Conservation, 2) Community Development, 3) Land Management, and 4) Water Management

The RC&D program helps people care for natural resources and improve the quality of life in their communities. The RC&D Council (volunteers representing public and private sector sponsors and other local organizations) undertake community driven actions that are strategically focused on regional resource conservation and economic viability. RC&D priorities are set by area residents to meet their needs.

More than 32,000 volunteers serve on and with RC&D councils. On average, RC&D volunteers donate over 100,000 days per year. To date, 375 areas across the Nation including Guam, American Samoa, Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands have been designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as RC&D areas. They serve more than 85 percent (2,666) of U.S. counties and over 77 percent of the U.S. population. There are 25 Councils waiting for USDA designation.

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Department of Commerce – Economic Development Administration

Web Site: <http://www.eda.gov/>

Congress created the Economic Development Administration (EDA) pursuant to the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 (as amended). The administration's purpose is to generate new jobs, help retain existing jobs, and stimulate industrial and commercial growth in economically distressed areas of the United States. EDA provides grants for infrastructure development, local capacity building, and business development to help communities alleviate conditions of substantial and persistent unemployment and underemployment in economically distressed areas and regions.

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment

Public Works and Economic Development Programs

Through investments in locally developed public works infrastructure projects, EDA will help communities establish and support private sector businesses. Grant funds can be used for major construction projects, such as water and sewer lines and public facilities that encourage private investment as well as redevelopment of brownfields sites and eco-industrial development. Site assessment remediation can be funded through these grants provided they are not more than 10 percent of the total budget (with the exception of housing).

Economic Adjustment Assistance Program

This program assists communities that have been impacted by military base closures, coal industry downsizing, timber industry issues, severe job loss, out-migration, and underemployment impacts. In addition, this program is utilized for implementing investments in communities devastated by natural disasters.

Research and National Technical Assistance

EDA will fund proposals that increase knowledge about or demonstrate innovative economic development techniques as well as measure program performance. Assistance is intended to provide resources, often through intermediary organizations that give technical assistance to local and state economic development organizations and practitioners.

Local Technical Assistance

EDA's local technical assistance grants help fill the knowledge gaps that inhibit communities from responding to development opportunities or solving specific economic problems. A common purpose of these grants is to determine the feasibility of proposed economic development investments.

Planning Program

EDA will help communities build the capacity to focus on long-term economic challenges by supporting Economic Development District Organizations and Indian Tribes in development, implementation, revision, or replacement of economic development strategies. These organizations are often coordinating entities for various federal and state programs.

University Center Economic Development Program

EDA will encourage universities to integrate programs of higher education into the local community for the purpose of promoting private-sector job creation and economic development in a partnership between the federal government and academia.

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Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms Program

EDA administers assistance to trade-injured firms. EDA currently supports a nationwide network of 11 Trade Adjustment Centers that help U.S. manufacturing firms injured by imports to develop strategies for competing in the global market place.

Revolving Loan Funds

EDA will provide revolving loan funds, which provide opportunities for local investment in commercial development projects, creating community-based jobs. Upon repayment, principal and interest remain in the community for re-lending and further economic development activity.

How to Access Partner Resources

The EDA's resources can be accessed through the state's economic development representative (EDR) or the regional EDA office.

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Department of Commerce – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Web Site: <http://www.noaa.gov>

NOAA's mission is to conserve and wisely manage natural coastal and marine resources. NOAA's experience in solving critical environmental challenges, combined with its role as the nation's primary coastal stewardship agency, make it uniquely qualified to address brownfield issues in the nation's coastal communities. The Department of Commerce (DOC) and NOAA work to balance environmental and economic needs and benefits. Cleaning up and redeveloping coastal brownfields expands local economies, improves public access to the coast, restores natural coastal resources, and revitalizes waterfronts.

While EPA has primary authority and responsibility for identifying and cleaning up contaminated sites, opportunities to provide local communities assistance in revitalizing brownfields communities extend to the entire federal family. NOAA has developed a strong partnership with EPA through participation in the Brownfields Federal Partnership. Since 1997, DOC and NOAA have contributed funding, facilitation, and/or technical expertise at coastal brownfields across the country.

With its coastal focus and experience in solving critical environmental challenges, combined with its position within the Department of Commerce, NOAA balances environmental and economic needs in many ways:

- NOAA expertise improves cleanup and redevelopment and expedites decision-making
- NOAA benefits local economies and improves quality of life in coastal communities by applying sustainable and economic development programs
- NOAA sponsors local workshops focusing on brownfields revitalization – these workshops help communities gather input from all parties involved in the revitalization process, creating strong partnerships for more efficient action
- NOAA rebuilds community waterfronts and redevelops brownfields sites through its strong partnerships with coastal states' coastal zone management programs
- NOAA revitalizes port areas through the use of advanced marine transportation tools and services
- NOAA helps to improve quality of life, the environment, and the regional economy by working with local communities and other agencies on coastal brownfields sites

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment

NOAA does not offer resources through a consolidated brownfields program, nor are brownfields managed by one particular office. Rather, existing agency programs provide resources and technical assistance to coastal communities for brownfields cleanup and reuse.

Office of Response and Restoration (NOAA/NOS) – Protects and restores contaminated coastal resources and habitats (including brownfields) by first assessing and evaluating risks and then working towards cost-effective environmental cleanup and restoration solutions. Regional Resource Coordinators can provide technical assistance on site and risk assessments, approaches to cleanup, and habitat restoration. ORR is currently providing this support in 28 coastal communities.

Coastal Zone Management Program (NOAA/NOS) – Through its strong partnerships with coastal states, helps revitalize community waterfronts and redevelop brownfields sites.

NOAA Office of Education and Sustainable Development – Provided funding and sponsored workshops for coastal cities to assist them in more thoroughly planning their brownfields redevelopment activities.

Please note **Red font** indicates information that has not been verified by the Agency.

NOAA Coastal Services Center – Helps develop the expertise of coastal resource professionals by giving them the tools to engage communities in land and water issues, including the redevelopment of brownfields. Through Center-led workshops, planners and managers build valuable skills to help local governments collaborate with the public and manage conflict.

Regional Contacts

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Department of Defense

Web Site: <http://www.dod.gov>

The U.S. Department of Defense (DOD), through its work in communities affected by military base realignments and closures (BRAC), is experienced in economic readjustment activities. DOD's primary tools for its economic readjustment projects are the Defense Economic Adjustment (DEA) program and the BRAC Program. These programs govern DOD's efforts to close surplus military facilities and return them to local communities, assisting the community to remediate and redevelop sites. The Office of the Secretary of Defense coordinates DOD's brownfields efforts, operating through the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Installations and Environment)/Office of Economic Adjustment and the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Environment).

Resources Available for Community Development

DOD is included in the Brownfields Federal Partnership primarily in an advisory capacity, lending its economic readjustment experience to the development and evolution of EPA's Brownfields Economic Readjustment Initiative.

DOD commits to:

- Working with EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to clean up and redevelop closed and realigned DOD bases to return them to productive reuse
- Renewing the Department's commitment to long-term stewardship
- Linking pertinent DOD Web sites to EPA Brownfields Web sites

Regional Contacts

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Headquarters Contact for Base Cleanup

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Headquarters Contact for Base Reuse

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Department of Defense – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Web Site: <http://www.usace.army.mil>

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is made up of approximately 34,000 civilian and military men and women in more than 90 countries. USACE military and civilian engineers, scientists, and other specialists work hand-in-hand as leaders in engineering and environmental matters. USACE investigates, designs, constructs, and maintains a variety of projects for national economic and environmental security to city, state, and federal agencies. USACE has a diverse workforce of biologists, engineers, geologists, hydrologists, natural resource managers, and other professionals to meet the demands of changing times and requirements as a vital part of America's Army. The mission of USACE is to provide quality, responsive engineering and related services to the nation, specifically including:

- Planning, designing, building, and operating water resources and other civil works projects (Navigation, Flood Control, Environmental Protection, Disaster Response, etc.)
- Designing and managing the construction of military facilities for the Army and Air Force (Military Construction)
- Providing design and construction management support for other Defense and federal agencies (Interagency and International Services)

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment

Financial Management Services

USACE provides financial management services, including cost accounting, economic analysis, and budget planning.

Engineering Services

USACE provides engineering services, including civil, mechanical, electrical, environmental, and structural. USACE employs innovative technologies developed by its large research and development laboratories and from other sources.

Investigation and Assessment Activities

USACE provides site investigation and assessment services, including environmental, geotechnical, and cultural investigations; soil and water testing; health and safety support; environmental assessments; feasibility studies; groundwater modeling; asbestos and lead abatement; Phase I site assessments; geographic information systems (GIS) capabilities; remedial investigation/feasibility studies (RI/FS) capabilities; Due Diligence Audits; and archaeological and cultural resource investigations.

Planning Services

USACE provides planning services, including water resource planning, land use/master planning, architecture/interior design; mapping services; real estate planning; appraisal and acquisition services.

Other Management Services

USACE provides general management services, including project and construction management; contract administration; and scheduling.

How to Access Partner Resources

Congress generally funds USACE for traditional Civil Works programs. USACE also provides services to other local and state agencies (on a limited basis) as well as to other federal agencies on a cost-reimbursable basis. USACE has a variety of Civil Works Authorities that could be utilized for projects to restore and protect the environment. These authorities require cost sharing with a local sponsor, but also provide a mechanism to leverage and increase the effectiveness of available finances of state and local agencies in meeting their goals.

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Regional Contacts

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Dennis Barnett, Environmental Team Leader

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Department of Education

Web Sites: <http://www.ed.gov> and <http://www.ed.gov/nclb/landing.jhtml>

The Department of Education's mission is to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence throughout the nation. The Department promotes educational excellence for all students by:

- Providing financial support to states and local agencies in areas considered of national priority
- Promoting challenging standards
- Involving families and communities in schools
- Providing information on the research-based educational practices
- Ensuring post-secondary education is affordable
- Providing high-quality statistics and evaluations of federal programs

The principles embodied in *No Child Left Behind* legislation focus on: 1) accountability, 2) parental choice, 3) local control, and 4) research-based practices. The Department of Education encourages the use of funds by states or communities in programs with these basic principles in mind.

The Department is committed to sharing information about brownfields redevelopment goals with state and local education programs, and educational organizations and institutions. It encourages local partnerships in brownfields communities, which help focus on education needs in areas such as literacy, vocational and technical training, school-to-career experiences, and out-of-school youth and civic participation.

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment

Grants

Grants are available to education agencies and institutions to strengthen teaching and learning and prepare students for citizenship and lifelong learning. Grants are available for literacy, demonstrated academic achievement, and self-sufficiency training for adults. The Adult Education State Administered Basic Grant Program is the major source of federal support for basic skills under the Adult Education Act. Basic grants to states are allocated by formula, based upon the number of adults over the age of compulsory school attendance that have not completed high school in each state. Over the last several years, adult education programs increasingly have sought to meet the broad needs of their clients by coordinating with other programs serving the same population.

Student Loans and Grants

Student loans and grants to help pay for costs of postsecondary education.

Other Support

Other support services aid statistics, research, development, evaluation and dissemination of information.

How to Access Partner Resources

Access information regarding grants, student loans and other support services through the Web site or direct contact with local technical schools, community colleges or universities, as well as the State Department of Education or Council on Higher Education. Or contact the person listed below.

Regional Contact

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U.S. Department of Energy

Web site: <http://www.eere.energy.gov>

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), officially established in 1977, is a leading science and technology agency where research supports national energy, national security, and environmental quality. At DOE laboratories, scientists, and engineers conduct breakthrough research in energy science and technology, high-energy physics, superconductive materials, acceleration technologies, material sciences, and environmental sciences in support of DOE's mission. As part of DOE's stewardship of energy resources, it facilitates the cleanup of contaminated DOE sites. It is through these cleanup efforts that DOE is involved in the Brownfields Program, as DOE sites are often classified as brownfields. DOE has made environmental quality and health issues a number one priority for DOE facilities. As part of its energy efficiency efforts, DOE encourages the concept of Brightfields, applying energy efficiency and renewable energy to brownfields sites.

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment

DOE supports the Brownfields Program by sharing information about its unique site remediation technology and reuse experience. DOE also provides technical assistance and promotes redevelopment that incorporates energy efficiency and renewable energy at brownfields sites. DOE commits to:

- Linking the President's National Energy Policy with brownfields
- Promoting the construction of energy efficient buildings and the use of distributed and renewable energy at brownfields sites
- Bringing technical assistance through the *Rebuild America Program*
- Preparing a list of brownfields successes at DOE sites incorporating energy efficiency
- Developing regional relationships with federal partners
- Assisting other federal agencies with GIS and infrastructure needs
- Continuing to work on the refinement and development of environmental remediation tools, remedy selections, and lifecycle costs associated with institutional controls
- Continuing to support research and development activities
- Assessing DOE owned property to determine if the sites could be better used

Regional Contact

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Department of Health and Human Services – Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

Web Site: <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov>

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) is a federal public health agency within the Department of Health and Human Services. Headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, ATSDR has 10 regional offices consisting of three ATSDR staff members, who are located in each of the 10 EPA regional offices, plus an office for liaison work with EPA headquarters in Washington, D. C. ATSDR was created by the Superfund legislation of 1980 to prevent or mitigate adverse human health effects and diminished quality of life resulting from exposure to hazardous substances in the environment. ATSDR performs this function through various health-related activities, including the evaluation and assessment of environmental sampling data collected at sites; the performance of epidemiological, surveillance, and other studies; various health education activities; and applied research designed to further our understanding of how hazardous chemicals affect public health.

ATSDR's long-range goal for the Brownfields Program is to enhance the capacity of local and state health departments to protect the public health in areas near brownfields sites. ATSDR works closely with the National Association of City and County Health Officials in this endeavor.

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment

Review and Assess Environmental Sampling Data

ATSDR can review and assess environmental sampling data and other site-related information to determine if past, current, or future exposure to hazardous substances might have public health consequences. In essence, ATSDR or the state health department can provide an independent opinion on site conditions and offer recommendations on measures to ensure the site is characterized adequately and developed and reused in a safe manner. In those rare cases where it appears that significant exposure to hazardous chemicals is occurring or did occur, ATSDR may conduct an exposure investigation (an exposure investigation uses bio-medical and environmental sampling to better characterize the public health significance of site-related exposures).

Provide Health-Related Information

ATSDR can provide health-related information on specific hazardous substances, coordinate a response to a real or perceived elevated incidence of disease near a site, and help individual workers or community members find experienced, private medical attention for significant hazardous substance exposure.

How to Access Partner Resources

The extent of ATSDR's involvement at an individual site will depend on the health issues in question, the ability of ATSDR's state and local health department partners to adequately address those issues, and ATSDR resource capabilities.

Regional Contacts

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Department of Housing and Urban Development

Web Site: <http://www.hud.gov>

In 1999, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with EPA, which commits both agencies to implement strategies to revitalize urban areas and return them to productive uses. For fiscal year 2007, \$32.9 million was available through HUD's SuperNOFA for Brownfields Economic Development Initiative grant awards.

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment

Community Development Block Grant

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) is a formula program that allocates 70 percent of grants to units of general local government and 30 percent to states for the funding of local community development programs.

The primary objective of the program is to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities. Activities undertaken with the grants must meet one of the three broad national objectives: 1) benefit low and moderate income persons; 2) aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight; or 3) meet other particularly urgent community development needs that the grantee is unable to finance on its own. In addition, over a one, two, or three-year period, at least 70 percent of all CDBG funds received by a grantee must be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Through the Consolidated Plan process, recipients select eligible activities that are appropriate to their needs and that reflect local priorities; and they determine how their performance will be measured. In FY 2008 funding cycle, \$1.2 billion was available in HUD assistance.

Eligible Recipients

All states receive finds under the States CDBG Program. Under the Entitlement Program, grantees are those cities, counties, and other local governmental entities (e.g., Boroughs, Townships) that qualify to receive funds on the basis of one of two formulas. Components of the formulas include population, extent of poverty, housing overcrowding, growth lag, and age of housing.

Funding Cycle

Grants are provided on an annual basis in this non-competitive program.

Section 108 Programs

Under the Section 108 program, state and local governments receiving CDBGs can borrow up to five times their annual grants to carry out economic development projects and other revitalization activities.

Governments borrowing funds guaranteed by Section 108 must pledge their current and future CDBG allocations as security for the loan, as well as additional collateral.

Eligible Recipients:

State and local governments that qualify to receive CDBG funds can apply for Section 108 Loan Guarantee funds.

Funding Cycle:

Applications for loan guarantees are accepted year-round.

Brownfields Economic Development Initiative

HUD awards competitive Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants to local and state governments. BEDI funding may be used to provide additional security for a Section 108 Loan Guarantee, thereby reducing the exposure of the CDBG funds, for project costs, or to reduce the interest rate.

Lead Based Paint Hazard Control Program

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The Lead Based Paint (LBP) program provides competitive grants to states and local governments to be used for privately owned housing and for housing units on Superfund/brownfields sites. The grants can be used for a broad range of activities to reduce dangers from lead-contaminated dust, soil, and paint in private homes and apartments built before 1978 that are owned or rented by low-income families.

Eligible Recipients:

State and local governments.

Funding Cycle:

The deadline for applications for LBP grants is set forth in the SuperNOFA, which is issued each year.

Technical Guidance

The CDBG program is authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, Public Law 93-383, as amended; 42 U.S.C.-5301 et seq. Program regulations are at 24 CFR 570. HUD's CDBG Electronic Policy Guidance Library provides the regulations, program notices, and other relevant information in electronic form at: www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/library/index.cfm

The Office of Block Grant Assistance in HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development administers the program.

Regional Director

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Department of the Interior – Bureau of Land Management

Web Site: <http://www.blm.gov>

Because of past commercial activities, such as mining and landfills, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has many contaminated sites. With the rapid population growth of many western states, some of these sites are now located within or on the edge of towns and cities. These contaminated sites may be the only non-developed land in the surrounding area and could be attractive as greenspace or for recreational purposes. Many of these sites pose little risk to human health and the environment and are therefore not a priority for BLM's cleanup program; however, local communities and municipalities have expressed interest in acquiring these lands for redevelopment and recreational purposes.

DOI -BLM commits to:

1. Examining various means of surmounting the barriers posed by Section 120 (h) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) requiring federal agencies to clean up all land prior to transfer of the property, and the Brownfields legislation prohibiting Brownfields grants from being used on federal property in order to help facilitate the reuse of brownfields.
2. Working closely with the Department of the Interior in their coordination of the Brownfields Program to examine various strategies that would allow BLM to participate more fully in the Brownfields Program.

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Department of the Interior – National Park Service

Web Site: <http://www.nps.gov>

The National Park Service (NPS) of the U.S. Department of the Interior has a varied and experienced staff of rangers, natural resource managers, archeologists, historians, interpreters, landscape architects, engineers, and planners responsible for protecting more than 84.4 million acres of national parks, monuments, and reservations. NPS personnel promote and regulate the use of federal property, conduct research and educate the public, and are available to outside clients whose projects dovetail with those of the agency.

NPS created the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program to provide assistance directly to communities, counties, states, regions, and nonprofit groups to protect the rivers and streams in their own backyards—and to build hiking and biking trails. The program brings national perspective, capabilities, and experience to conservation and recreation projects driven by local initiatives. NPS' Federal Lands-to-Parks Program enables states and local governments to establish park and recreation areas and adapt historic buildings for public uses. Through this program, state and local agencies may acquire land and facilities once used for federal purposes at no cost to meet park and recreation needs. NPS also created the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) program in 1978, to provide matching grants and technical assistance to economically distressed urban communities to revitalize their recreation systems and facilities. The program has provided matching grants directly to local governments for rehabilitation of deteriorated recreation facilities in distressed urban areas.

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment

Technical Assistance Through the RTCA Program

The RTCA Program is an outreach program of NPS providing services throughout the nation. RTCA can help communities develop creative approaches to river conservation or trail management—or develop fund-raising strategies, broaden the local support base, or enhance public awareness.

River, Trail and Greenway Planning

RTCA can lend expertise in ecology, consensus building, landscape architecture, and recreation development. The program helps communities harness public involvement to identify resources, understand the issues, set goals, and choose among alternatives. RTCA also helps projects find ways to attract the financial support that leads to tangible results.

Regional Assessments

RTCA helps states or large metropolitan regions inventory and evaluate their significant river and trail corridors. Each assessment is tailored to specific regional needs and conditions.

Conservation Workshops and Consultations

RTCA provides training, advice, and information on river and trail conservation techniques. RTCA can put communities in touch with professionals and citizen groups that specialize in recreation, trail design, landowner liability, public involvement, and the economic benefits of land conservation.

Technical Assistance Through the Federal Lands-to-Parks Program

NPS assists states and local governments in acquiring, at no cost, surplus federal lands (including excess lands from decommissioned military bases). NPS helps identify which lands have high natural, historic, or recreational values, and then provides technical assistance to communities to work through the process of gaining title to the lands. Land or buildings obtained through this program must be open to the public and used exclusively for parks and recreation purposes. NPS can provide support in:

- Identifying historically and naturally significant surplus federal properties

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- Notifying communities of upcoming opportunities
- Assisting in preparing applications
- Acting as the liaison with other federal agencies, including the Department of Defense and General Services Administration
- Assisting in planning the reuse of military bases that are closing for park and recreation and open space purposes
- Ensuring the long-term preservation of properties transferred under the program

How To Access Partner Resources

Information and advice on many conservation and recreation topics is available from any National Park Service office. However, for a group to formally receive longer-term assistance, it must formally apply for it (see contacts below).

The RTCA program works on projects, by request, through a letter from the lead partner on the project. Project partners may be nonprofit organizations, community groups, and local, state or federal government agencies. The letter should provide a brief overview of the project including: the project's location and background; special resources of the project area; project goals; a list of the partners and how they will participate; how the project will involve the public; and specifically indicate what the partners would like NPS to do. NPS selects projects on a competitive basis annually, and requests that the project partners play a major role in carrying out the project. Partners sponsoring a project must help fund it, with either cash or in-kind services. NPS encourages project partners to contact the agency before preparing an application for advice and suggestions.

Only state or local units of government are eligible to apply for surplus real property for public park and recreation purposes. Applicants must agree to manage the property in the public interest and for public park and recreation use.

Regional Contacts

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Federal Lands-to-Parks Program

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Department of the Interior – Office of Surface Mining

Web Site: <http://www.osmre.gov>

Protecting the environment during coal mining and making sure the land is reclaimed afterward have been national requirements since 1977 when America's Surface Mining Law was signed by President Carter. The Interior Department's Office of Surface Mining (OSM) is responsible for making sure that those requirements are met.

The OSM is a small bureau with responsibility, in cooperation with the states and Indian Tribes, for the protection of citizens and the environment during coal mining and reclamation, and to reclaim mines abandoned before 1977. The Office of Surface Mining is organized around two principal requirements: regulating active coal mining and reclaiming abandoned mines. Additionally, OSM operates programs to: eliminate the environmental and economic impacts of acid mine drainage from abandoned coal mines; encourage reforestation of reclaimed mine land; develop techniques that can ensure reclamation of prime farmland soils; and publicly recognize outstanding reclamation by communicating the experience to others.

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment

OSM signed a cooperative agreement with EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER). OSM has participated in the Brownfields Program by providing training and support to OSM/VISTA volunteers and authoring grant applications for brownfields sites in coal impacted watersheds. The Brownfields bill recognizes mine-scarred lands as brownfields, further linking and strengthening the environmental management activities and goals of OSM, EPA, and the other federal partners.

DOI (OSM) commits to:

- Working with EPA and other federal partners to address environmental concerns on abandoned minelands and within contaminated watersheds
- Continuing to provide technical support to the brownfields initiatives in Coal Creek, TN, Kelley's Creek, WV, and interested new applicants
- Continuing to work with OSM/VISTA Watershed Development Coordinators to provide direct training on brownfields in coalfields grant writing and project development
- Continuing to provide administrative support Cooperative Agreements to first-year OSM/VISTA positions. OSM and VISTA are committed to expansion of the OSM/VISTA Watershed Development Coordinator positions to new states
- Participating in regional training with NALGEP and other agencies in coal country, bringing interested watershed VISTA's and other staff to the conferences whenever feasible

Regional Offices

Dr. T Allan Comp, Program Coordinator
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April Trent, Program Analyst
Appalachian Coal Country Watershed Team
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Email: coordinator@accwt.org

Appalachian Region
Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and
Enforcement
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Department of Justice – Community Capacity Development Office

Web Site: <http://www.usdoj.gov/ccdo>

The Community Capacity Development Office (CCDO) is housed within the Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs. CCDO’s mission is to promote comprehensive strategies to reduce crime and revitalize communities. CCDO works to achieve its mission by helping communities help themselves, enabling them to develop solutions to public safety problems and to strengthen leadership to implement and sustain those solutions.

The highly successful Weed and Seed initiative is CCDO’s flagship strategy. Operation Weed and Seed is a strategy that “weeds out” violent crime, gang activity, drug use, and drug trafficking in designated neighborhoods and then “seeds” the designated area by restoring those neighborhoods through social and economic revitalization. The Weed and Seed strategy recognizes the importance of linking federal, state, and local law enforcement efforts with social services, the private sector, and community efforts to maximize the impact of existing programs and resources. Four elements make up the Weed and Seed program: law enforcement; community policing; prevention, intervention, and treatment; and neighborhood restoration. Law enforcement activities constitute the “weed” portion of the program. Revitalization, which includes prevention, intervention, and treatment services, and neighborhood restoration, constitutes the “seed” element. Community policing is the “bridge” that links the Weed and Seed elements.

Resources Available for Community Development

DOJ allows designated Weed and Seed Communities to include brownfields projects in their Weed and Seed strategy and annual funding application submissions at their discretion.

DOJ commits to:

- Continuing to represent the interests of all federal partners in litigation
- Advising federal partners on legislative implementation
- Using settlements and assets to assist with brownfields redevelopment
- Continuing to work with the federal partners on the Weed & Seed program and assisting with the use of brownfields funds to clean up methamphetamine labs
- Distributing information and providing guidance to U.S. Attorney’s offices and to other partners on the EPA Brownfields Program through Web site linkages, a Federal Resource Guide, and other appropriate venues

Headquarters Contact

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Department of Labor

Web Site: <http://www.doleta.gov>

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) was created by Congress in 1913 to foster, promote, and develop the welfare of working people; to improve their working conditions; and to enhance their opportunities for profitable employment. Initially, DOL consisted of four bureaus transferred from the old Department of Commerce and Labor: the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Bureau of Immigration, Bureau of Naturalization, and Children's Bureau. A conciliation service was added to mediate labor disputes. Over time, the Department's role and size changed according to the needs of workers in the ever-changing economy.

The Department is actively promoting brownfields through its employment programs. As a part of this effort, DOL is working through stakeholders of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) to promote participation in the Brownfields Program. The WIA provides job training services for adults and youth, dislocated workers, and others who face significant employment barriers. The Act seeks to move jobless individuals into permanent, self-sustaining employment. There are currently 608 WIA designees nationwide. The WIA has appropriated \$3.4 billion in annual funding, although none of that money is specifically earmarked for brownfields projects.

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment

DOL's role in brownfields falls within the Department's existing mission: to provide job training and permanent job placement. DOL's basic job and life skills training serves as a necessary complement to other, more environmentally focused training programs designed to help assess and clean up brownfields. Together these programs ensure that the community residents most impacted by brownfields will directly benefit from their redevelopment.

DOL commits to:

- Awarding \$11 billion in grants to be used for workforce development, which DOL would like to link to brownfields
- Establishing links to EPA Brownfields Web sites on DOL Web sites
- Leveraging funds for training grants that may be used in brownfields communities
- Distributing training guidance to work force investment boards
- Working with the Office of Apprenticeship to develop competency standards certificates that will ensure adequate training standards are followed

Regional Contacts

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Department of Transportation – Federal Railroad Administration

Web Site: <http://www.fra.dot.gov>

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) of the U.S. Department of Transportation was created in 1966 to ensure, promote, and enforce safety throughout America's railroad system. The FRA implements railroad safety laws by developing regulations and applying them to the railroads. FRA safety personnel in eight regions across the U.S. monitor America's vast railroad network. FRA's Office of Safety performs a wide variety of functions to help ensure railroad safety. The headquarters and field staff enforce safety regulations and statutes through routine inspections, assessments, investigation and analysis of accidents, management of state involvement in rail safety programs, and implementation of highway-grade crossing safety programs.

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment

Transportation Planning

FRA transportation planning recognizes the major role the railroads play in the freight transportation system as well as their contributions to commuter and inter-city passenger service. Planning encourages innovative projects such as high-speed rail and magnetic levitation. The most important contribution is the requirement that rail alternatives be considered in the state and local planning process. FRA is working with other elements of the Department of Transportation, the private sector, and state and local governments to ensure rail transportation is fully considered.

National Inspection Plan

The FRA inspection plan is a method to allocate FRA's limited inspector resources by analyzing railroad accident and operating statistics and past inspection results in order to prioritize future inspections. Inspection time is allotted to specific railroad inspection points based on the safety risk each poses. Safety managers ensure that inspectors are geographically distributed to where they are most needed.

Federal Railroad Safety Act

The FRA must generally provide the public notice of, and an opportunity to comment on, a proposed rule. Additionally, the FRA basic statute, the Federal Railroad Safety Act, generally requires public hearings prior to issuance of a rule. These regulations cover tracks, locomotives, train cars braking systems, operating practices, locomotive engineer certification, control of alcohol and drug use, and regulation of transportation of hazardous materials via rail.

Highway Rail Crossings

The FRA promotes education and enforcement of crossing safety, primarily through Operation Lifesaver, a private organization in 50 states. The FRA also promotes engineering improvements to crossings and sponsors research to improve warning devices and visibility at crossings.

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Department of Transportation – Federal Highway Administration

Web Site: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov>

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is part of the Department of Transportation and is headquartered in Washington, DC, with field offices across the country. The agency's mission is to create a model transportation system for the American people through proactive leadership, innovation, and excellence in service. This mission is advanced through the following programs:

The Office of Planning, Environment and Realty (HEP) provides funding for environmental protection and planning for multi-modal transportation as well as management of real estate.

The Federal Lands Highway Program – provides access to and within national forests, national parks, Indian reservations and other public lands by preparing plans, letting contracts, supervising construction facilities, and conducting bridge inspections and surveys.

FHWA conducts and manages a comprehensive research development, and technology program to support all of these program areas.

Most highway programs are funded by the Highway Trust Fund (HTF), for which motor fuel taxes are the major source of income. Current legislation, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users for the 21st Century (SAFETEA-LU) authorizes FHWA expenditures from HTF for appropriate programs. This Act, which was signed into law in 2005, extends through September of FY 2009. The federal-aid highway program is an umbrella term generally referring to all activities funded through FHWA and administered by the state, local highway, or transportation agencies. Typical projects include new roads, road widening, and reconstruction; transportation centers; intermodal facilities and recreational trails; access improvements; bridge rehabilitation or replacement; and bicycle/pedestrian facilities.

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment

Transportation Planning

FHWA transportation planning includes support for metropolitan planning organizations to help them develop long-range transportation plans, including inventories of routes, types, and volume of vehicles using routes, predicting future population, employment and economic growth to meet future traffic demands.

Transportation Enhancement

Transportation enhancement support includes funding to support provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles, historic rehabilitation and preservation, landscaping, archaeological planning and research, control and removal of outdoor advertising, acquisition of scenic easements and sites, and mitigation of water pollution from highway runoff.

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)

Through CMAQ, FHWA provides funding for eligible transportation projects under certain criteria stipulated in TEA-21, with preference to programs that have documented emission reductions in an approved State Implementation Plan as a transportation control measure.

Welfare to Work Programs

- Access to Jobs – The purpose of this program is to provide transportation services for welfare recipients to and from jobs, and to develop transportation for residents of urban centers and rural

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suburban areas to suburban employment opportunities. Emphasis is placed on projects that use mass transportation services.

- Training – The Act allows states the opportunity to reserve slots for welfare recipients in an On-the-Job-Training program that leads to full journey level in skilled highway construction trades.

Transportation and Community and System Preservation Pilot

The Transportation and Community and System Preservation Pilot program is a comprehensive initiative of research and grants to investigate the relationship between transportation and community and system preservation and private sector-based initiatives. States, local governments, and metropolitan planning organizations are eligible for discretionary grants to plan and implement strategies which improve the efficiency of the transportation system; reduce environmental impacts of transportation; reduce the need for costly future public infrastructure investments; ensure efficient access to jobs, services, and centers of trade; and examine private sector development patterns and investments to support these goals. A total of \$53.4 million was appropriated for the TCSP Program under the FY 2008 Consolidated Appropriations Act.

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Department of Transportation – Federal Transit Administration

Web Site: <http://www.fta.dot.gov>

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) carries out the federal mandate to improve public mass transportation. As one of nine operating administrations or agencies within the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), FTA is the principal source of financial assistance to America's communities for the planning, development, and improvement of public transportation systems. Through FTA, the federal government provides financial and technical assistance and training to local transit systems, states, and planning organizations.

The federal mass transit assistance program is among the most successful domestic assistance programs that the federal government has ever sponsored. Federal highway and transit programs authorized under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991 were reauthorized under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA 21) signed by President Clinton on June 9, 1998 and the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) was signed into action by President Bush in 2005.

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment

DOT funds are directed to transportation purposes and do not explicitly target brownfields or community redevelopment. DOT policy encourages state and local transportation agencies to address community brownfields redevelopment in transportation planning and during project development.

FTA allocates transit funds primarily by formula, with a limited amount of discretionary funding. Following is a summary of FTA-funded transit programs and FTA programmatic activities and initiatives that focus on transit-community linkages.

Formula Grant Programs (matching ratio: 80 percent maximum federal share/minimum 20 percent local share)

Large Urban Cities Grants

Section 5307 of Title 49 of the United States Code provides capital and operating assistance to transit agencies in urban (50,000 or more in population) areas. This basic transit program is appropriated by statutory formula.

Rural and Small Urban Areas Formula Grants

Section 5311 provides capital and operating assistance through the states to transit operators in non-urban (less than 50,000 in population) areas. Under Section 5311, a state must use a percentage (15 percent) of the funds it receives for inter-city bus service unless the state can certify that its inter-city bus needs have been met.

Formula Grants for Transportation for Elderly Persons & Persons with Disabilities

Section 5310 provides capital assistance, through the states, to organizations that provide specialized transportation services to elderly persons and persons with disabilities. The funds may go to a nonprofit organization and, under certain circumstances, to public bodies.

Discretionary Investment Grants (matching ratio: 80 percent maximum federal share/20 percent minimum local share)

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This program (Section 5309) provides discretionary capital assistance for construction of new fixed guideway systems, extensions to fixed guideway systems, buses and bus-related facilities.

Transit Capital Investment Program

FHWA funds may be used for new and replacement buses and facilities, modernization of existing rail systems, and new fixed guideway systems (New Start). Under the New Start program, funds are provided for construction of fixed guideways or extensions to existing guideway systems. Eligible purposes are light rail, rapid rail, commuter rail, monorail, automated fixed guideway system, or a busyway/HOV facility.

Metropolitan & Statewide Planning Program

Metropolitan Planning Funds (Section 5303) are apportioned to each state on the basis of urban area population. The states pass the funds through to the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in urban areas with populations of over 50,000 to support the metropolitan planning and programming process. The planning process encompasses studies of transportation needs and demands, land use, economic, employment and demographic trends, and the cost effectiveness of alternative services and facilities. To be eligible for federal funding, a transportation project must be part of the regional Transportation Long Range Plan and included in the region's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Rural Transit Assistance Program

The Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP) promotes delivery of safe and effective public and private transportation in non-urban areas by providing training and technical assistance to agencies in the areas and develops national rural transportation training resources to aid in information dissemination. This program, administered through the states, increases emphasis on private sector involvement and on safety initiatives in rural transit.

Transit Cooperative Research Program

The Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP) (Section 5313) is a formula-allocated program that supports operating effectiveness and efficiency in the public transportation industry by conducting research to solve operational problems. The TCRP is sponsored by the FTA and is conducted under a three-way agreement among the National Academy of Sciences acting through the Transportation Research Board; the Transit Development Corporation and the FTA.

Job Access and Reverse Commute Program

The Job Access and Reverse Commute Program (JARC), established under SAFETEA LU, provides funding for the provision of transportation services to increase access to jobs and employment related activities. SAFETEA-LU established grant assistance for new and supplementary transportation for welfare recipients and other economically disadvantaged persons in urban, suburban and rural areas. The program will support access to jobs and employment-support activities including childcare, schools and medical facilities.

Joint Development

SAFETEA-LU authorizes Joint Development activities. Transit agencies may lease to other parties land and air rights at stations and may also sell portions of transit property and retain the proceeds. Under certain circumstances transit agencies may use federal funds to participate in construction elements of private and public development. Joint Development must be physically and functionally related to transit use and beneficial to the transit system. Joint Development activities are authorized under all FTA capital programs. (Sections 5307 and 5309).

The FTA's Section 5309 New Starts program provides capital funding for the development of new fixed guideway transit systems and extensions to existing systems. New Starts funds are allocated on a

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discretionary basis. Federal funding decisions are made jointly by the administration and the Congress through a four-step process:

- Projects are authorized in laws enacted by Congress and signed by the president
- Each year, FTA evaluates those projects that are in final design and preliminary engineering and assigns a rating of “highly recommended,” “recommended,” or “not recommended” based on project readiness, project justification, local financial commitment, and other factors
- Once an authorized and recommended project reaches final design, FTA and the grantee may enter into a Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) under which FTA agrees to seek New Starts funding for the project through the appropriations process and the grantee agrees to build the project
- Congress then appropriates the funds each year.

FTA Transit-Community Initiatives

FTA encourages locally directed land use policies and urban design that strengthen the link between transit and communities. Under the Transit-Oriented Development and Livable Communities Initiatives, FTA encourages local jurisdictions, when using their allocated transit funds, to emphasize pedestrian access, safety, community service facilities, and aesthetics in engineering and design of stations and immediately surrounding areas.

How to Access Partner Resources

FTA makes grants to public entities for activities meeting the eligibility requirements of the programs set forth in the law.

Activities proposed for FTA funding in urban areas of over 50,000 in population must be contained in a local Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and/or TIP. Capital projects must also be included in the regional Transportation Long Range Plan. The MPO Board approves these documents, which are cooperatively developed by the state, local agencies and jurisdictions, public transit operators and the MPO staff. Any supporting discussion and documentation of a proposed activity should clearly delineate transportation features and purpose(s). Once approved at the local level, planning activities from the UPWP are funded through a planning grant made to the state with funds passed through to the respective MPOs. The TIP is then incorporated into a State TIP (STIP), which must be approved by FTA and FHWA before agencies may apply for federal funds for specific projects.

In rural areas, FTA programs are administered through the state. The state Department of Transportation would be the first point of contact for information about developing and forwarding a proposal for transit-related funding.

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Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

Web Site: <http://www.fdic.gov>

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's mission is to maintain the stability of and public confidence in the nation's financial system. To achieve this goal, the FDIC was created in 1933 to insure deposits and promote safe and sound banking practices. The FDIC, in conjunction with other federal and state regulatory agencies, examines financial institutions to ensure they are conducting business in compliance with consumer protection rules and in a way that minimizes risk to their customers and to the deposit insurance funds. The FDIC promotes compliance with fair lending, Community Reinvestment Act, and other consumer protection laws and regulations. It also works with lenders, organizations, and the general public to revitalize and educate communities.

Resources Available for Community Development

FDIC encourages EPA to share its Money Smart financial curriculum with community members impacted by the revitalization efforts at brownfields sites across the country. The Money Smart curriculum helps individuals build financial knowledge and develop financial confidence; it is therefore well suited to the needs of many brownfields communities. Low and moderate income community members will be better prepared to fully participate in the job training and job creation efforts made possible by the Brownfields Program. There is a natural synergy to the two programs working together to help communities and community members survive.

FDIC commits to:

1. Partnering with EPA on financial education. Specifically, FDIC will make its Money Smart curriculum widely available to community members served by the Brownfields Program. Money Smart is a training program designed to help adults outside the financial mainstream enhance their money skills and create positive banking relationships. Financial education fosters financial stability for individuals and for entire communities. The more people know about credit and banking services, the more likely they are to increase savings, buy homes, and improve their financial health and well-being.
2. Sharing information about EPA programs (e.g., Brownfields, USTfields) with its state non-member financial institution population. Insured financial institutions making loans to finance environmental cleanup, redevelopment, or revitalization of properties in low or moderate income communities receive positive consideration for those loans in their Community Reinvestment Act performance evaluations.

Regional Contacts

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Div. of Supervision & Consumer Protection
Money Smart Contacts
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Federal Housing Finance Board – Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta

Web Site: <http://www.fhfb.gov>

The Federal Housing Finance Board (Board) regulates the Federal Home Loan Bank System (System), which consists of 12 member Federal Home Loan Banks (Banks). The System is a government-sponsored enterprise with the specific mandate of promoting housing and community investment finance. The Board has the statutory responsibility of ensuring that the member Banks carry out their housing and community investment finance mission. The 12 Banks have combined assets at year-end 2001 of approximately \$673 billion. Via the System, the Banks provide long-term, fixed-rate flexible financing to more than 7,900 member financial institutions (members) around the country. The System, therefore, is well positioned to assist communities in advancing local brownfields development because its members and customers are the local financial institutions that will be most disposed to respond to such projects.

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment

Advances

Advances are secured loans from the Banks to their members, and are the Banks' primary credit tools. The Banks offer members regular and discounted advance products. By law, each Bank is required to establish a program to provide discounted advances for targeted, community-oriented lending through its Community Investment Program (CIP). The Banks are also considering working with certain qualified members to provide regular, non-discounted advances for construction or other short-term loans for commercial development related to brownfields in these designated communities.

The Affordable Housing Program (AHP)

For 2001, the System made \$227.8 million available as subsidies for low and moderate income housing through AHP. Each Bank must contribute 10 percent of its annual net earnings to its AHP. The AHP may provide brownfields housing developments with additional points in the competitive process for grants if the community can make a case that the development promotes "community stability."

Support for Local Financing

Support for Local Financing comes via the Banks' purchasing qualified taxable bonds. The proceeds of these bonds could be used for brownfields development in the selected communities. The Banks could also offer advances to members to buy tax-exempt bonds that are issued to fund eligible costs involved in brownfields development.

Marketing

The Banks could develop marketing programs to encourage members to increase their brownfields lending. The Banks could inform their members of ways to access Federal Home Loan Bank resources to assist in brownfields development through member workshops and meetings, the Banks' various newsletters and other publications, and in presentations to trade associations and other meetings.

How to Access Partner Resources

The System resources may be accessed through the member banks.

Headquarters Contacts

Charles McLean
Federal Housing Finance Board
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Regional Contacts

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Atlanta, GA 30348

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Kentucky and Tennessee
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Mississippi
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U. S. Environmental Protection Agency

Web Site: <http://www.epa.gov>

The mission of EPA is to protect human health and to safeguard the natural environment – air, water, and land – upon which life depends. EPA is responsible for the implementation of federal environmental programs, including air and water pollution control; toxic substance, pesticide and drinking water regulations; wetlands protection; hazardous waste management; hazardous waste site cleanup; and some aspects of radioactive materials regulation.

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment

Brownfields and Land Revitalization

EPA's Brownfields Program is a proven, results-oriented program that has changed the way contaminated property is perceived, addressed, and managed. The Brownfields Program empowers states, local entities, tribes, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. When the [Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act](#) passed in 2002, EPA's assistance was expanded by providing new tools for the public and private sectors to promote sustainable brownfields cleanup and reuse.

Eligible Recipients

States or state-created government entities, municipalities, local government units, Indian tribes, and nonprofit organizations

Application Process/Funding Cycle

Grants for Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, Cleanup, and Job Training are selected competitively and awarded annually. In general, grants up to \$200,000 are awarded to eligible entities on a community-wide or site-by-site basis for site characterizations and remediation. Grants for the capitalization of revolving loan funds may not exceed \$1,000,000 per eligible entity.

Brownfields Assessment Grants

Assessment grants can be used to inventory brownfields, conduct environmental site or community-wide assessments, prepare cleanup and reuse plans, and carry out community and stakeholder outreach. Emphasis is on removing excessive regulatory barriers and facilitating coordinated public and private sector cleanup and redevelopment efforts at the federal, state and local levels.

Funding Cycle

Annual; application deadline is in the fall

Assessment Grant Types

Site-specific: Provides up to \$200,000 or \$350,000 with a waiver, over a three year period for environmental assessment and characterization of a single site

Community-wide: Provides up to \$400,000 over a three year period for a combined hazardous substance and petroleum assessment grant

Assessment Coalition: An assessment coalition consists of three or more eligible entities. Assessment coalition grants provide up to \$1,000,000 over a three year period to conduct environmental site assessments throughout the coalition area. A minimum of five sites must be assessed under an Assessment Coalition grant.

Eligible Recipients

States, cities, towns, counties, U.S. territories, and Indian tribes

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Brownfields Job Training Grants

Funds may be used to train community residents, impacted by brownfields, in procedures for the handling and removal of hazardous substances (includes training for jobs in sampling, analysis and site remediation). Grantees monitor the progress of trainees for at least one year as they seek employment in the environmental field.

Funding Cycle

Cooperative agreements are awarded on a competitive basis up to \$200,000 over a two-year period

Eligible Recipients

Colleges, universities, nonprofit training centers exempt from taxation under 26 USC 501(c)(3), community job training organizations, states, cities, towns, counties, U.S. territories, and federally recognized Indian tribes

Revolving Loan Fund Grants

Revolving Loan Fund grants provide funding for a grant recipient to capitalize a revolving loan fund and to provide subgrants to carry out cleanup activities at brownfields sites. A 20 percent match is required.

Funding Cycle

Up to \$1.0 million per eligible entity; application deadline is in the fall

Eligible Recipients

States, cities, towns, counties, U.S. territories, and Indian tribes

Brownfields Cleanup Grants

Cleanup grants are used to fund individual properties. Grantees must own properties at the time of the award and must contribute a 20 percent matching share in the form of money, labor, materials, or services that would be eligible and allowable costs under the grant.

Funding cycle

Up to \$200,000 per eligible entity per site; an eligible entity may apply for up to three sites in each annual competition; application deadline is in the fall

Eligible Recipients

States and tribes, local governments, state-chartered redevelopment agencies, and nonprofit organizations; applicant must own the site in order to receive a Cleanup grant

Targeted Brownfield Assessments

The purpose of the Targeted Brownfields Assessment program is to assess possible contamination at brownfields sites. An EPA contractor or state conducts the assessments with EPA oversight. Priority is given to eligible entities that do not currently have an EPA grant. No grant award is made. These may be conducted by EPA or a state. (State assessments are known as Site Specific Assessments.)

Additional Information

For more information about the Brownfields Program and specific application requirements contact: EPA Superfund Hotline at: (800) 424-9346 or the EPA Brownfields Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>.

Other EPA Grants

Superfund Technical Assistance Grants

Superfund Technical Assistance Grants enable groups affected by a Superfund National Priorities List (NPL) site to obtain technical assistance in interpreting information regarding the site.

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Funding Cycle

Up to \$50,000 any time after the site is proposed for NPL listing; additional funds may be available for complex sites

Eligible Recipients

Any incorporated nonprofit organization representing groups affected by a Superfund NPL site or a site proposed for NPL listing

Environmental Education

Environmental Education grants provide financial support for projects that design, demonstrate, or disseminate environmental education practices, methods, or techniques.

Funding Cycle

Up to \$25,000; application deadline is November 15

Eligible Recipients

Local, tribal, or state agencies; colleges and universities; nonprofit organizations and non-commercial educational broadcasting agencies; state environmental agencies

Environmental Justice Grants

Environmental Justice grants provide assistance to eligible community groups and federally recognized tribal governments who are working on or plan to carry out projects that address environmental justice issues.

Funding Cycle

Up to \$20,000; usually applications are due in March and recipients are selected in the summer

Eligible Recipients

Any affected community group, nonprofit organization, university, or tribal government; organizations must be incorporated

Environmental Justice Through Pollution Prevention (EJP2)

EJP2 grants provide financial assistance to environmental and environmental justice organizations for the purpose of assisting community groups and tribal organizations that address environmental justice concerns using pollution prevention as the proposed solution.

Funding Cycle

Currently not funded; may be funded again at some future date

Eligible Recipients

Any incorporated organization that does not intend to become profit-making; any federally recognized tribal organization, state, city, county, or local government

State and Tribal Environmental Justice Grants (STEJ)

STEJ grants provide financial assistance to state and tribal environmental departments working to address environmental justice issues and to comply with Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Emphasis is on meaningful, fully interactive two-way cooperation between states, tribes and grassroots community organizations seeking to solve environmental problems.

Funding Cycle

Historically up to \$100,000 each; five nationwide (currently not funded)

Eligible Recipients

States or tribes (EPA encourages the involvement of community-based grassroots organizations)

Water Quality Cooperative Agreements

Grants provide financial assistance for restoring impaired waters in priority watersheds.

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Funding Cycle

\$50,000 to \$150,000 per project anticipated; application deadline is undetermined

Eligible Recipients

States, tribes, public, and nonprofit private agencies, institutions and organizations

Nonpoint Source Grants

Grants provide financial assistance to states and tribes in implementing nonpoint source management programs. Each state sets its own priorities for funding locally sponsored projects.

Funding Cycle

\$4-9 million per state; application due dates vary

Eligible Recipients

States and tribes are the only entities within EPA Region 4 eligible to receive these grants; states will use a portion of their annual grant to fund locally sponsored projects that address nonpoint source pollution

Pollution Prevention Incentives for States (PPIS)

PPIS provides support for state, regional, and tribal programs that address the reduction or elimination of pollution across all environmental media: air, land, and water. Priorities include multimedia prevention programs; technical assistance to businesses and other outreach activities; projects that test and support innovative pollution prevention approaches; and coordinated pollution prevention planning efforts.

Eligible Recipients

State agencies and instrumentalities such as universities, federally recognized tribes, territories and possessions; states are encouraged to form partnerships with nonprofit organizations and local governments

Funding Cycle

Up to 120,000 per state; \$580,000 regionally

Solid Waste Management Assistance Grants

This grant program provides limited funds for demonstration projects that promote effective solid waste management through source reduction, reuse, recycling, and improved landfill technology. The program is funded through Regional and National Competition Grants. Priority is given to innovative recycling programs, outreach and training in source reduction and recycling, and projects that use integrated solid waste management systems to solve municipal solid waste generation and management problems at local, regional and national levels.

Funding Cycle

Up to 20,000; applications due March/April

Eligible Recipients

Nonprofit entities, state, and local governments

How to Access Partner Resources

For additional information regarding grant applications and other resources available for community redevelopment, please contact the appropriate representative listed below.

Brownfields Grants

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Region 4 Brownfields Coordinator
RCRA Division
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U.S. General Services Administration

Web Site: <http://www.gsa.gov>

Our Mission

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) leverages the buying power of the federal government to acquire best value for taxpayers and our federal customers. GSA exercises responsible asset management. It delivers superior workplaces, quality acquisition services, and expert business solutions. GSA develops innovative and effective management policies.

Our Vision

GSA means excellence in the business of government – excellence in the business of government means speaking to GSA customers with “One GSA-One Voice” whenever possible. GSA is a more diverse range of business lines compared with any number of large corporations.

Our Strategic Goals

Stewardship: Lead federal agencies in the economical and efficient management of federal assets by spearheading effective policy development and by the exemplary management of the buildings/workplaces, motor vehicles, and personal property provided by GSA.

Superior Workplaces: Deliver and maintain productive workplaces consisting of office space, furnishings, technology supplies, and related services.

Best Value: Develop and deliver timely, accurate, and cost-effective acquisition services and business solutions.

Innovation: Develop new and better ways of conducting business that result in more productive and effective federal policies and administrative operations.

GSA Quick Facts

11,792: Number of full-time employees (FY 2008)

\$26.3 billion: Budget (FY 2008)

\$500 billion: Amount of federal assets managed by GSA

8,600: Number of federally owned or leased buildings managed by GSA

208,000: Number of vehicles owned or leased by GSA

425: Number of historic properties preserved by GSA

98.1: Percentage of budget paid for through services provided by GSA

1.9: Percentage of budget paid for by congressional appropriations

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment

The U.S. General Services Administration’s Public Buildings Service manages over 350 million square feet of office space for federal agencies. This portfolio includes properties that are federally owned and leased space in commercially owned buildings. The FY 2008 value of GSA’s owned assets was \$70 billion in 8,600 properties. With FY 2007 revenue of \$7.7 billion, GSA was named the real estate industry’s leader by Real Estate Forum magazine in their ranking of the top 100 companies. GSA is committed to sustainable design, construction and operations with 21 Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design (LEED) certified buildings (10 Gold, 5 Silver and 6 Certified).

The Southeast Sunbelt Region (4) manages real property assets in eight states; Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi. The Region 4 portfolio includes nearly 40 million square feet in 1,500 buildings. One of Region 4’s largest client agencies is the federal courts serving 20 District Courts in 4 circuits. GSA Region 4 is dedicated to small business. In FY 2006, GSA Region 4 awarded contracts worth \$6.1 billion to small businesses representing 45 percent of total contract awards.

Please note **Red font** indicates information that has not been verified by the Agency.

GSA Region 4 executes two design and construction programs; capital construction (projects requiring Congressional approval) and the repair and alterations program. The repair and alterations program provides upgrades and renovations to existing federal buildings and courthouses through an annual budget of approximately \$30 million. The capital program includes new construction and major renovations of existing buildings. GSA develops planning for capital repair and alterations projects internally based on facility needs. Planning for new construction projects is initiated by client agencies. The largest portion of GSA's future capital construction is for new federal courthouses.

GSA Region 4's projected future capital construction workload includes the following:

New construction	\$1.477 billion
Repair and alteration	\$430 million
Lease-construct	\$127 million

Locations for new construction projects: Atlanta, GA (Annex to the Albert P. Tuttle Courts of Appeals); Mobile, AL; Tuscaloosa, AL; Ft. Pierce, FL; Savannah, GA; Greenville, SC; Nashville, TN; Charlotte, NC; Anniston, AL; Greensboro, NC; Ft. Lauderdale, FL; Chattanooga, TN; Lexington, KY; Macon, GA; Huntsville, AL; Durham, NC; Pikeville, KY; Panama City, FL; Aberdeen, MS; Birmingham, AL; West Palm Beach, FL and Bowling Green, KY.

Locations for capital repair and alterations projects: Atlanta, GA (Martin Luther King Federal Building); Miami, FL (Dyer Federal Building and Courthouse); New Bern, NC; Jackson, MS (Jackson McCoy Federal Building); Orlando, FL (Young Federal Building and Courthouse); Columbia, SC (Strom Thurmond Federal Building and Courthouse – 2 buildings) and Atlanta, GA (Albert P. Tuttle Court of Appeals).

Locations for lease-construction projects: Miami, FL; Atlanta, GA; Huntsville, AL; Plantation, FL; Memphis, TN and Tampa, FL.

GSA associates representing the capital construction program and property disposal will attend the EPA-sponsored multi-agency summit to discuss these programs further.

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U.S. Small Business Administration

Web Site: <http://www.sba.gov>

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is an independent federal agency, created by Congress in 1953 to assist, counsel and champion the efforts of America's small businesses. SBA's mission is to provide prospective, new, or established persons in the small business community with financial, procurement, management, and technical assistance. SBA's programs are available to any business that meets SBA size standards and eligibility requirements, is a for-profit organization, and is located and operates primarily in the United States.

Resources Available for Community Redevelopment

Loan Guaranty Program

The Loan Guaranty Program helps thousands of small companies get started, expand and prosper. The goal of the program is to increase the amount of capital available to small businesses through the commercial banking community and non-bank lending institutions.

The SBA's 7(a) Loan Guaranty Program is the agency's primary lending program. It provides loans to small businesses unable to secure financing on reasonable terms through normal lending channels. The program operates through private-sector lenders that provide loans, which are, in turn, guaranteed by the SBA. SBA can guarantee up to 85 percent of loans of \$150,000 or less and up to 75 percent of loans above that amount. The maximum loan amount that SBA can approve is \$2 million, although the maximum portion of that loan SBA can guarantee would be \$1.5 million (or 75 percent of the \$2 million). In 2009, a temporary 90 percent guarantee program became available. This program expires when funding is exhausted.

Minority Enterprise Development Program

The Minority Enterprise Development Program assists minority small business owners in developing managerial and marketing skills to succeed and grow, through government contracting opportunities.

Economic Development Program

The Economic Development Program provides free counseling and low-cost training resources designed to meet the needs of the existing small business owner as well as the new small business start-up. These services are tailored to the local community and available statewide through the Service Corps of Retired Executives, Small Business Development Centers, and Women Business Centers.

Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)

An independent, national, nonprofit organization of retired and active businessmen and women who volunteer their time to provide free business consulting and low-cost training to small business owners and prospective entrepreneurs. (www.score.org)

Small Business Development Centers (SBDC)

A cooperative effort between SBA, the academic community, the private sector, and state and local governments that provides management and technical assistance to existing and prospective small businesses. (www.sba.gov/sbdc)

Women's Business Centers (WBC)

Provides women entrepreneurs with business training and counseling, technical assistance, and mentoring. (www.sba.gov/womeninbusiness).

For further information about these programs, please access the SBA Web pages or answer desk at 800-827-5722 or answerdesk@sba.gov.

Please note **Red font** indicates information that has not been verified by the Agency.

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SBA Region IV District Offices

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Florida

Jacksonville, N Florida District Office
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