

Minneapolis Community Development Agency

## Request for City Council Action

Date: April 22, 2003

To: Council Member Lisa Goodman, Community Development Committee  
Council Member Barbara Johnson, Ways and Means/Budget Committee  
Refer to: MCDA Board of Commissioners

Prepared by Sharrin Miller-Bassi, Project Coordinator Phone 612-673-5019

Approved by Lee Sheehy, MCDA Executive Director  
Chuck Lutz, MCDA Deputy Executive Director \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Accept and Appropriate U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Grant for  
Empowerment Zone Orphan Site Reinvestment; Execute Grant &  
Subrecipient Agreements

**Previous Directives:** On April 21, 2000 the City Council accepted and appropriated the original Pilot Program grant of \$200,000.

**Ward:** To be determined with site selection.

**Neighborhood Group Notification:** Will be integral part of process.

**Consistency with *Building a City That Works*:** Goal 3: Support strong and diverse neighborhoods where people choose to live. B. Eliminate barriers and blighting influences that prevent or inhibit healthy neighborhood environments and economies.

**Comprehensive Plan Compliance:** Will comply.

**Zoning Code Compliance:** Will comply.

**Impact on MCDA Budget:** (Check those that apply)

- No financial impact
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the MCDA Budget
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- Other financial impact (Explain):

**Living Wage / Business Subsidy:** Not applicable.

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**Job Linkage:** Not applicable.

**Affirmative Action Compliance:** Will comply.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**City Council Recommendation:** The Executive Director recommends that the City Council:

1. **Accept the EPA Empowerment Zone Orphan Site Reinvestment Grant - \$200,000**
2. **Increase the 2003 MCDA Appropriation Resolution in Fund FEZ by \$200,000**
3. **Increase MCDA Revenue Budget in Fund FEZ(3210-14 Other Federal Funds) by \$200,000**
4. **Forward this report to the MCDA Board of Commissioners for its review and approval**

**MCDA Board Recommendation:**

5. **Authorize Interim Executive Director to execute grant and subrecipient agreements**

**Introduction:**

On September 23, 2002 the City of Minneapolis and the MCDA were awarded a \$200,000 Brownfields Supplemental Grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Staff will be working with appropriate government officials to identify sites to enroll in the program for Phase I and Phase 2 environmental assessment.

The Supplemental Grant funds need to be appropriated in Fund FEZ Federal Empowerment Zone to carry out the purposes of the grant.

**Status of Pilot Program Activities**

Six sites were enrolled under the Pilot Program. Phase 1 and Phase 2 environmental assessment has been completed on all of the sites except 942 Lowry avenue NE which will be completed with the Supplemental Grant. Redevelopment planning has been completed on four sites; specifically 3408 Snelling Avenue South, 2800 Bloomington Avenue, 2845 Garfield Avenue South and 113 East 26<sup>th</sup> Street. Redevelopment planning is ongoing for 2704 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue South.

**Supplemental Grant Work Tasks**

1. Continuation with Pilot Program environmental consultants and Quality Assurance Project Plan

2. Management and coordination including preparation of site investigation reports
3. Assignment of new sites to the program
4. Carry out neighborhood coordination and community involvement for selected sites
5. Redevelopment planning and RAP preparation
6. Redevelopment actions
7. Reporting and project assessment
8. Complete environmental assessment of 942 Lowry

**Environmental Consultants:**

EnecoTech and Peer Environmental performed the assessments for the Pilot Program and will continue in that role for sites selected for the Supplemental Grant.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

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