

City Council – Action Request Form

Date: October 30, 2013
To: The City Manager
From: D. Ritchie Brooks, Community & Business Development Director

Council Action Requested:
 Resolution authorizing the City Of Winston-Salem to apply for a Brownfields Assessment Grant and a Brownfields Revolving Loan Grant from the Environmental Protection Agency.

Summary of Information:

The Community & Business Development Department is seeking authorization to pursue a Brownfields Assessment Grant and a Brownfields Revolving Loan Grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The EPA has announced a grant opportunity for communities to utilize to assess possible Brownfields sites in city locations and a revolving loan fund grant for property owners to borrow low or no interest funds to help clean up contaminated sites. General assessment studies and remediation plans for Brownfields sites can be a requirement for using federal sources of funding and also a requirement of local commercial financial institutions.

If awarded, the City will use the funding to assess petroleum and hazardous contamination at various sites including Union Station, the future Lowery Street location for the City Yard, the Old Brown Elementary School location, various previously used gas station sites around the city, and areas of the Wake Forest Innovation Quarter where plans envision utilizing factory and warehouse space for renovated lab, research, and educational uses. The revolving loan fund can be used by property owners to obtain low interest loans to help cover the expenses of cleaning up contaminated property. Among other requirements is the formation of a Brownfields Advisory Committee to provide community insight and recommendations for the initiatives.

The grant amount can be up to \$400,000 for Brownfields assessment purposes and up to \$1,000,000 for the revolving loan fund.

Committee Action:

Committee	Finance 11/18/13	Action	Approval
For	Unanimous	Against	

Remarks: