

# HERC Funding

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GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AND POSITIONING



# Two types of project subsidy funding

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## PLANNING AND DEMOLITION

Brownfields Grant Program

## CONSTRUCTION

USDA Community Facilities Program

Other smaller funders

amenity specific, i.e. skatepark  
Foundations possibly

EDA – depending on uses facility serves

Donors – small or large

‘Friends Of’ organization

# EPA Brownfields Program

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## **Purpose:**

Provide funding and technical assistance to facilitate the assessment, cleanup and reuse of properties

- whose redevelopment is complicated by contamination, and
- that have an identified vision for reuse and strong community support

**BIL Funding:** \$910 Million Investment in Grant Programs for 2022-2023

Awards are expected to be 10-50 times larger than previously

Average success rate of applications is 30%

# Types of Brownfields Grants

	Assessment Grants	Cleanup Grants	Multipurpose Grants	
Eligible Activities	Inventory, prioritize & assess sites Cleanup planning Reuse planning Community outreach	Cleanup activities Reuse planning Community outreach	Inventory & prioritize sites Phase II Assessment Revitalization planning Cleanup planning Conduct cleanup activities	
Grants Up To	\$10 million	\$5 million	\$10 Million	
Cost Share	None	None	None	
Performance	3 years	3 years	5 years	
Timing	<b>NOFO Out</b> Sept 2022	<b>Apps Due</b> Nov 2022	<b>Awards Announced</b> Spring 2023	<b>Grants Awarded</b> Summer 2023



# USDA Community Facilities

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## **Purpose:**

Provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. Rolling application period while funds available.

## **Kinds of funding are available:**

- Grants
- Fixed low interest direct loans, or
- A combination of the two, as well as a loan guarantee program.

These can be combined with commercial financing to finance a project if all eligibility and feasibility requirements are met.

# Community Facilities Eligibility

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Grant funds are prioritized provided on a graduated scale  
Smaller communities with the lowest median household income are eligible for a higher proportion of grant funds.

## **75% grant funding of total project cost**

- 5,500 or less and median household income below 80% of the state nonmetropolitan median household income (MHI).

## **55% - 15% grant funding (if grant funds remain)**

- 20,000 or less population and MHI from 60-80% MHI or below the poverty line.

# Pre-positioning Projects for Grant Funding

**There's not enough time and staff capacity after NOFO is out!**

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## PROJECT PRE-POSITIONING

- ✓ Prioritize community capital needs and develop project pipeline
  - Community needs assessment, prelim design & cost estimate, operating feasibility
- ✓ Target funding in the BIL
- Establish relationships with regional offices
- Engineering, environmental and fiscal analyses, and evaluation of alternative clean up strategies

## PROPOSAL PREPARATION

- Community engagement / equity planning letters of support
- ✓ Site environmental assessment
- Site clean up strategy according to laws, regs and standards and evaluation of alternative clean up strategies
- Need statements / Narratives / Implementation plan

# Grant Funding

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## BENEFITS

- + Provides additional funding
- + Can fill project funding gap
- + Frees money for other projects

## CHALLENGES

- Uncertainty
- Will not cover entire demo/construction costs
- Staff Capacity – time & focused effort
- Technical expertise
- Delivery deadlines & reporting requirements



# Council Considerations

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1. Should City staff pursue grants as part of project financing?
2. Plan for Brownfields Grant Timeline?

NOFO released Sept 2022; apps due Nov 2022  
Obligate funds summer 2023; expend by 2028

3. Seek consultants through an RFP process?
  - A thorough understanding of environmental cleanup regulations, relevant Federal laws and regulations (e.g., asbestos-containing materials, etc.)
  - Experience in projects that are similar in scope and nature; and
  - Excellent oral and written communication skills and can assist to leverage additional funding & resources

