



Since 2008, the City of Tallahassee has received \$2 million in federal Brownfields grant funding from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Brownfields are real property, the redevelopment or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. Assessing, cleaning up and reinvesting in these properties protects human health and the environment, reduces blight, promotes reuse of properties and takes development pressures off greenspaces and working lands.

EPA's Brownfields Program is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse Brownfields sites. The program promotes the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields sites through policies, laws, and initiatives that explore sector-based solutions, enhance environmental quality, spur economic development, and revitalize communities.

The City's Environmental Policy and Energy Resources Department (EPER) is responsible for administering the grant funds, and guiding the assessment and cleanup activities. EPER staff worked closely with the City's Economic and Community Development Department to prioritize sites that have near-term redevelopment potential for use of the grant funds. Work is focused in the Gaines Street Corridor, the City's designated brownfields area, which encompasses approximately 450 acres.

In July 2008 the City received a Brownfields Assessment grant for \$400,000 to assess potential contamination on properties along the Gaines Street Corridor. The funds were used to complete 13 Phase I, Phase II, and/or supplemental Environmental Site Assessments at nine City-owned properties in the Gaines Street Corridor, covering approximately 15 acres. The assessment activities contributed data to later cleanup grants, and led to regulatory closure with conditions at the site known as CSX Parcel 5.

In July 2009 the City received three Brownfields Cleanup grants totaling \$600,000 to be applied to remediation projects in the Gaines Street Corridor. Funds from the Salie Property grant were used to remediate the site to residential cleanup standards, and the City received regulatory closure without conditions. For lots under the CSX Properties grant, funds were used at CSX Parcels 1 and 4 to remove contaminated soils, and the City is seeking regulatory closure with conditions at both sites. For the Gaines Street Corridor Properties grant, funds were used to remediate the Warehouse Property, where the City is seeking regulatory closure with conditions.

In July 2011 the City and the Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) received a \$1,000,000 Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grant (RLF) that allows them to issue subgrants or loan funds at competitive rates, to be used for the cleanup of environmental contamination. City and CRA staff have developed program policies and guidelines and applications, and established a Loan Review Committee that reviews financial information provided by applicants and recommends actions to the City Commission.