



NEWS RELEASE

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City Seeks Public Comment in Preparing Grant Application to USEPA for Brownfields Funding

Moline, IL - The City of Moline is preparing an application for a \$200,000 Community-wide Assessment Grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to determine the condition of brownfield sites and to assist in advancing redevelopment opportunities.

The decision to prepare this grant application was based on recommendations made in the *Moline Brownfields Site Prioritization Strategy* completed this fall. This prioritization strategy was based on analysis of redevelopment feasibility and community goals for redevelopment. Input into this strategy was given by the Brownfields Advisory Committee, made up of members from downtown organizations and businesses representing a diversity of community interests.

According to Economic Development Manager, Patrick Burke, "The City has been supportive in efforts to redevelop brownfields through an Illinois EPA Municipal Brownfields Redevelopment Grant. Now that we have taken a comprehensive look at downtown brownfields, we're ready to ask for USEPA support of our initiative. The community's support of these efforts will make these applications stronger."

Drafts of the grant application will be available for review and comment by the public from December 7th through December 9th. The application and public comment sheets will be available at City Hall, 619 – 16th Street, and the Moline Public Library and also will be posted on the City's website at www.moline.il.us. Comments may also be directed to Patrick Burke, City Economic Development Manager, at (309) 797-0705. Comments may also be made in person in the Economic Development department at City Hall on December 7th.

To demonstrate community support for these applications to USEPA, **the City is asking any interested residents or community groups to write letters of support to include with the application.** Letters of support may be submitted to Patrick Burke, Economic Development Manager, City of Moline, 619 16th Street, Moline IL, 61265 or via fax at (309) 797-0479 by December 9th. Questions regarding the grant applications or letters of support may be directed to Patrick Burke at (309) 797-0705.

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