Environmental Response Fund Grants

Hennepin County offers grants to assist with the reuse of contaminated sites where the added cost of environment cleanup is a barrier to site improvement or redevelopment. Projects supported by ERF grants provide a variety of community benefits, including the creation of affordable or moderately priced housing, economic development, green space and infrastructure improvements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eligible recipients</th>
<th>Municipalities, economic development agencies, housing and redevelopment authorities, park districts, non-profit organizations, and private for-profit companies.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eligible expenses</td>
<td>Environmental consulting, MPCA review fees, laboratory, assessment, cleanup and cleanup plan development, asbestos and lead paint assessment and abatement and, in some circumstances, demolition.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application timeline</td>
<td>Typically two funding rounds per year. Applications due May 1 and November 1.</td>
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</table>
| Amount of funding available | • No minimum or maximum per grant. Grant amounts have ranged from $5,000 to more than $800,000 per project.  
                            • Variable – Approximately $1.0-1.2 million is distributed every grant round. |
| Matching funds      | No match requirement. |
| Project timeline    | • Site assessments that are funded or partially funded by ERF grants must be completed within one year of receiving the grant.  
                            • Grants for site cleanup must be spent within two years of receiving the grant.  
                            • Costs incurred prior to grant award approval are ineligible for funding. |
| Reporting requirements | • Relevant regulatory documents submitted with the application.  
                              • Submittals of applications for grant disbursement.  
                              • A Response Action Plan Implementation Report following the completion of cleanup activities.  
                              • Annual and final reports. |

El Patio recreation center at El Colegio Charter School in south Minneapolis.

El Colegio Charter School was awarded a $345,000 grant to remove contaminated soil, install a storm water infiltration system and other site restoration activities. This vacant lot is now a soccer field, basketball court and outdoor classroom that provides a community space for public recreation and environmental education.

For more information:
Visit hennepin.us/ERF
Our staff is available to answer questions and offer resources.
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