# OFFICE OF BROWNFIELD REMEDIATION AND DEVELOPMENT REMEDIAL ACTION AND REDEVELOPMENT MUNICIPAL GRANT PROGRAM – ROUND 12 QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES OCTOBER 17, 2018

### 1. Are councils of government eligible entities to apply for the Municipal Grant Program?

Yes, regional councils of government are eligible entities that can apply for the Municipal Grant Program. C.G.S. Section 32-763 lists economic development agencies as eligible entities to apply for the Municipal Grant Program. The definition of economic development agencies in C.G.S. Sec 32-760 (6) includes "... (D) an agency, as defined in section 32-327. C.G.S Sec. 32-327 defines "Agency" as "... any regional council of governments organized under sections 4-124i to 4-124p, inclusive, ..."

## 2. Can a municipality apply for an assessment grant under the program for a privately-owned property (auto body shop)?

A municipality can apply for an assessment grant for a privately-owned brownfield property as long as the owner enters into an access agreement with the municipality to perform the assessment or remediation work. At a minimum, a letter of intent from the private property owner that an access agreement will be entered into with the applicant once the grant award is made, should be included as part of the application. All reports and data produced with the grant funds would be state and municipal property.

## 3. Are Town-owned brownfields eligible for the program or is it only limited to privately-owned properties?

- Town-owned brownfield properties as well as privately-owned properties are eligible for the Municipal Grant Program. See Response 2 above with regards to privatelyowned properties.
- 4. Does DECD basically want to deal with properties that are under municipal ownership or control? If it was a private property that is not likely to be taken over by the town, but the owner grants the town total access, would that property be eligible and not disqualified or ranked very low?
  - O DECD is not restricting the program to municipally-owned or municipally-controlled properties. As described in Response 2 above, privately-owned properties are also eligible as long as proof of access is provided. DECD will not be discriminating an application based on the type of ownership (public versus private). DECD will be utilizing rating and ranking criteria provided in the Application package (please visit <a href="https://www.ct.gov/ctbrownfields/cwp/view.asp?a=2620&Q=605132">https://www.ct.gov/ctbrownfields/cwp/view.asp?a=2620&Q=605132</a>) and information regarding the merits of the project and the site provided by an applicant in the Application Form for its decision making process.

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#### 5. It seems like the website is a bit quirky, have been getting error messages.

Our website address has slightly changed and that may be the reason for the errors. Please try this new address <a href="https://www.ct.gov/ctbrownfields">https://www.ct.gov/ctbrownfields</a>. The Round 12 application package can be found at the following link <a href="https://www.ct.gov/ctbrownfields/cwp/view.asp?a=2620&Q=605132">https://www.ct.gov/ctbrownfields/cwp/view.asp?a=2620&Q=605132</a>. Please note that DECD is in the process of migrating to a new website platform in the coming weeks – but the current url should lead you to the ctbrownfields webpage irrespective of the changes.

### 6. Can DECD provide former submitted and/or approved applications as samples for review?

• We understand the intent of your request is to get a sense of the criteria for a successful application. Our Application Form, we believe, is mostly straightforward and self-explanatory. The key to a good application is providing clear responses to the questions asked or providing the information/documents that have been requested. The criteria presented in the rating and ranking matrix also helps. A winning application request is also dependent on the merits of the proposed project and the site (the characteristics of the site, the level of planning and predevelopment work completed, presence of a developer, consistency with state policies, proposed end use etc.) Please contact previous OBRD applicants directly to obtain the application forms that have been submitted to DECD.

## 7. Does the following language apply to Councils of Governments as it applies to municipalities, organizations, and land banks? "Each applicant may submit one (1) application for remediation funding and one (1) application for assessment funding."

o If a Council of Governments (COG) is submitting region-wide applications, then it can submit one region-wide assessment and one region-wide remediation. In addition, if certain municipalities within the COG are not planning on applying/submitting an application directly to DECD, the COG can then submit up to 1 assessment and 1 remediation application on behalf of each municipality.

#### 8. Do you anticipate that there will be another round in the near future?

O The timing of the next round for the Municipal Grant Program is not known at this time. It is highly unlikely however, to anticipate any new funding rounds before any new authorizations are approved by the legislature during the biennial budget process for OBRD's Brownfield Program.