



Legislation Text

File #: 101178, Version: 0

101178
ORIGINAL

THE CHAIR

Resolution authorizing the transfer and expenditure of funds from the Development Fund for environmental testing, remediation and demolition on brownfield properties in the City of Milwaukee.

This resolution directs the Department of City Development to proceed with a proactive program of testing and remediation of brownfield sites with redevelopment potential, utilizing \$500,000 from the 2011 Development Fund, which includes \$250,000 for city-wide brownfields and \$250,000 for special assessments of properties located in the Menomonee Valley Industrial Center.

Whereas, The City of Milwaukee ("City") has recognized that brownfield properties, whose use and redevelopment are complicated by actual or perceived environmental contamination, are an important factor affecting tax delinquency, blight and other development issues facing the City; and

Whereas, The Menomonee Valley Industrial Center ("MVIC") includes brownfield properties owned privately and by the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee ("RACM") requiring special tax assessments in the approximate amount of \$250,000 per year; and

Whereas, State laws, particularly regarding municipal liability exemptions and cost recovery, allow the City to be more aggressive in dealing with brownfields with limited risk; and

Whereas, The City desires to take a proactive approach toward reclaiming brownfields and specifically provided funds to the Department of City Development's ("DCD") Development Fund for brownfield activities as a replacement for the previously existing Environmental Testing Subfund; and

Whereas, Environmental testing is important to demonstrate either that properties are clean or to define the extent of contamination so that property transactions and redevelopment may occur; and

Whereas, The additional funding will provide DCD with the tools and the flexibility needed to address brownfield sites, including assessment, remediation, demolition and other costs, across the spectrum of brownfield properties, including those on the "Do Not Acquire" List; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee, that the City Comptroller is directed to transfer \$500,000 from the Development Fund Project Account No. 9990-UR03311000A to the Environmental Fund Account No. 1910-UR03393102 and/or 1910-UR03393100; and, be it

Further Resolved, That these funds are designated for environmental testing, remediation, demolition and other costs (including tax foreclosure and special assessments) on city-wide, downtown and neighborhood brownfield properties; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the Commissioner of DCD is directed to enter into contracts and agreements necessary to carryout said brownfield testing, remediation and demolition in

accordance with City policies and procedures and making use of the existing Phase II/Phase III City contracts as appropriate; and, be it

Further Resolved, That RACM is authorized to apply for, monitor and accept PECFA eligible remediation reimbursements; and, be it

Further Resolved, That PECFA reimbursements and net sales proceeds from properties tested and cleaned up through the Environmental Fund are provided to RACM to fund additional testing and remediation of city-wide brownfield properties.

DCD:KD:kd
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