



Legislation Text

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020847
ORIGINAL

THE CHAIR

Resolution authorizing environmental testing, remediation and demolition on brownfield properties from the Development Fund. (DCD)

This resolution will authorize and direct the Department of City Development to proceed with a proactive program of testing and remediation of brownfield sites with redevelopment potential, utilizing \$350,000, which was appropriated to the Development Fund for this purpose.

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, Changes in State law, 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 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 may occur; and

Whereas, Many brownfield properties, including those on the "Do Not Acquire" List, will continue to sit vacant and underutilized with back taxes continuing to build if environmental testing does not occur; and

Whereas, The additional funding will provide the Department of City Development with the tools and the flexibility needed to address brownfield sites, including testing, 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 authorized and directed to transfer \$350,000 from the Development Fund Project Account No. UR033010000 to the Environmental Fund Account No. UR03393100; and, be it

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

Further Resolved, That the Commissioner of the Department of City Development is authorized and directed to enter into contracts and agreements necessary to carryout said brownfield testing, remediation, and demolition in accordance with City policy and procedure and making use of the existing Phase II/Phase III City contracts as appropriate; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee 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 the Redevelopment Authority to fund additional testing and remediation of citywide brownfield properties.

DCD:TC:bc
09/24/02/A