



NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENTS of STATE and ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

BROWNFIELD OPPORTUNITY AREAS PROGRAM

The Brownfield Opportunity Areas Program, made possible by the Superfund/Brownfield law in October 2003, provides municipalities and community organizations with assistance, up to 90 percent of the eligible costs, to complete revitalization plans and implementation strategies for areas or communities affected by the presence of brownfield sites, and site assessments for strategic sites. A "brownfield" or "brownfield site" is defined as any real property, the redevelopment or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a contaminant.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES- Communities may apply to enter the program at the most appropriate of the three program steps described below leading to New York State's designation of the Brownfield Opportunity Area:

Step 1: Pre-Nomination Study - The Pre-Nomination Study provides a basic and preliminary analysis of the area affected by brownfield sites including: a description and justification of the study area and associated boundaries; a basic description and understanding of current land use and zoning; the delineation and description of existing brownfield sites and other underutilized properties; and a description of the area's potential for revitalization.

Step 2: Nomination - The Nomination provides an in-depth and thorough description and analysis, including an economic and market trends analysis, of existing conditions, opportunities, and reuse potential for properties located in the proposed Brownfield Opportunity Area with an emphasis on the identification and reuse potential of strategic sites that are catalysts for revitalization. The Nomination concludes with a description of key findings and recommendations to advance redevelopment of strategic sites and to revitalize the area.

Step 3: Implementation Strategy - The Implementation Strategy provides a description of the full range of techniques and actions, ranging from actions and projects that can be undertaken immediately to those which have a longer time-frame, that are necessary to implement the area-wide plan and to ensure that proposed uses and improvements materialize. Site assessments on strategic brownfield sites may be eligible for funding if environmental data is required.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS - Applicants that are eligible to apply for a grant include:

New York State Municipalities - New York State municipalities are defined as: cities; villages; towns; counties; local public authorities; local public benefit corporations; school districts; improvement districts; and Indian tribes.

Community Based Organizations - Community based organizations are defined as: not-for-profit corporations that are incorporated under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code whose stated mission is to promote community revitalization within the geographic area in which the community based organization is located; has 25 percent or more of its Board of Directors residing in the community in such area; and represents a community with a demonstrated financial need as indicated by high unemployment, low resident incomes, depressed property values, and/or high commercial vacancy rates.

Community Boards - Community Boards are defined as New York City Community Boards as set forth in Section 2800 of the New York City Charter.

Joint Applications - Two or more eligible applicants may, and are encouraged to, submit a joint application.

SOURCES TO OBTAIN A GRANT APPLICATION

Web Address - Copies of this application are available at the Department of State's web site at:

http://www.nyswaterfronts.com/BOA_package.asp

E-mail Request - Applications may be obtained through an e-mail request addressed to: coastal@dos.state.ny.us

Telephone Request - You may call 518-474-6000 to request a paper copy of the application.

Contact Information - For general or technical questions about this grant program, the application, and guidance for applicants, you should contact your regional New York State Department of State representative identified at:

http://www.nyswaterfronts.com/BOA_contact.asp