Infrastructure Project Development: Challenges and Opportunities

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We'll Get That Funded

Since 2011, we have assisted communities across the country to secure and implement over $100M in EPA and various state brownfield grants. We develop comprehensive, long-term redevelopment programs, leveraging grant funding to transform brownfields from liabilities to assets. We are your partners.

Justice40 Initiative

- President Biden signed *Executive Order 14008: Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad* within days of taking office

- Mandates that at least 40% of the benefits of certain federal investments must flow to disadvantaged communities

- Historic Levels of Federal Investment
  - Bipartisan Infrastructure Law ($1.2 trillion)
  - Inflation Reduction Act ($783 billion)

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Justice40 Covered Programs

- climate change
- clean energy and energy efficiency
- clean transit
- affordable and sustainable housing
- training and workforce development
- remediation and reduction of legacy pollution
- the development of critical clean water and wastewater

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Justice40 Agency Implementation

- US DOE – 146 programs
- **US EPA – 73 programs**
- USDA – 65 programs
- US DOI – 65 programs
- US DOT – 39 programs
- US HUD – 24 programs
- 11 more agencies with 13 or fewer programs

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Justice40 Initiative at EPA

- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Appropriation - **$55 billion**
  - $1.2 billion allocated for brownfield grants
  - $300 million allocated for 128(a) programs

- Inflation Reduction Act Appropriation - **$41 billion**
  - Creation of ECJ Program

https://www.epa.gov/invest/epa-funding-announcements-bipartisan-infrastructure-law-and-inflation-reduction-act

EPA Brownfield Grant Program

- Funding awarded for FY2020 competition = $65.6 million (inc. RLF)
- Funding awarded for FY2023 competition = $216 million (inc. RLF)
- Funding available for FY2024 competition = $235 million

• Multipurpose: 20 x $1M = $20M	18 of 24 funded (75%)
• CWA Assessment: 60 x $500K = $30M	110 of 282 funded (39%)
• CWA Assessment State/Tribe: 25 x $2M = $50M	11 of 14 funded (79%)
• Assessment Coalition: 26 x $1.5M = $40M	19 of 20 funded (95%)
• Cleanup: 65 grants totaling $95M	
– Up to $500K	31 of 40 funded (78%)
– Between $500K and $2M	34 of 41 funded (83%)
– Between $2M and $5M	26 of 33 funded (79%)

EPA ECJ Grant Program

- Funding awarded for FY2023 competition = $128 million
  - 98 EJCPS awards totaling $43.8 million
  - 88 EJG2G awards totaling $84.1 million

- Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grant Funding = $2 billion
  - Track I – Community-Driven Investments for Change – 150 x $10-20 million awards
  - Track 2 – Meaningful Engagement for Equitable Governance – 20 x $1-3 million awards

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U2xy4XZ5Oks

ENVIRONMENTAL & CLIMATE JUSTICE COMMUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM

EPA

A **holistic** grant and TA program to **meet communities at their needs** and propel them toward **implementing solutions** in their communities.

Assessment

- Thriving Community Technical Assistance Centers (TCTACs)
- Assessment Grants

Planning & Project Development

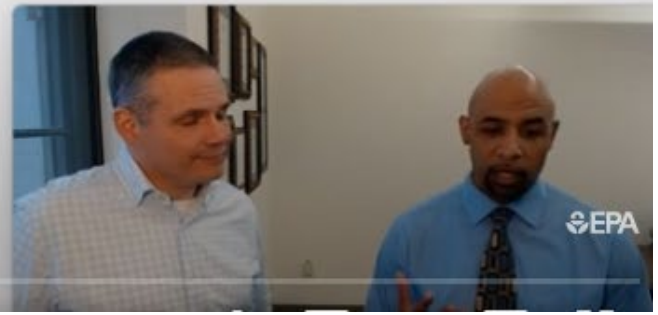
- Planning Grants
- Project Development Grants
- Technical Assistance

Pilots and Partnerships

- EJ Collaborative Problem-Solving Grants (EJ-CPS)
- EJ Government to Government Grants (EJ-G2G)

Implementation

- E&CJ Change Grants
- Evaluation and Reporting Technical Assistance



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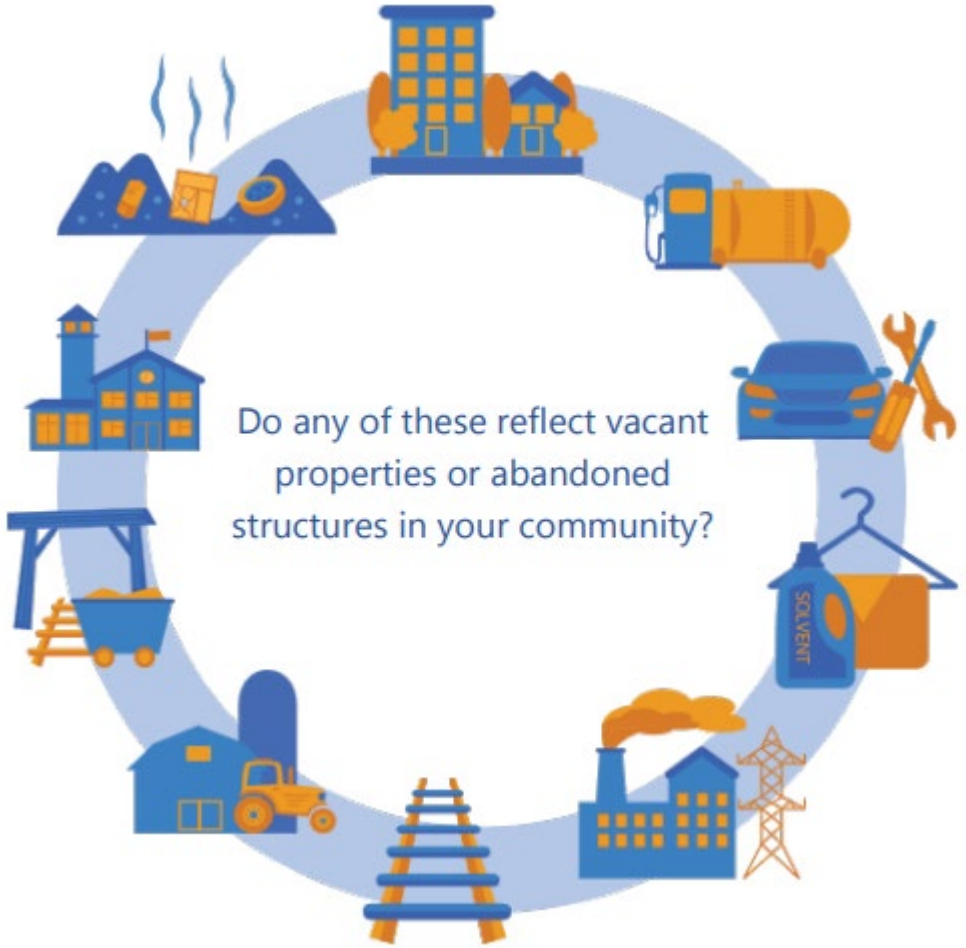
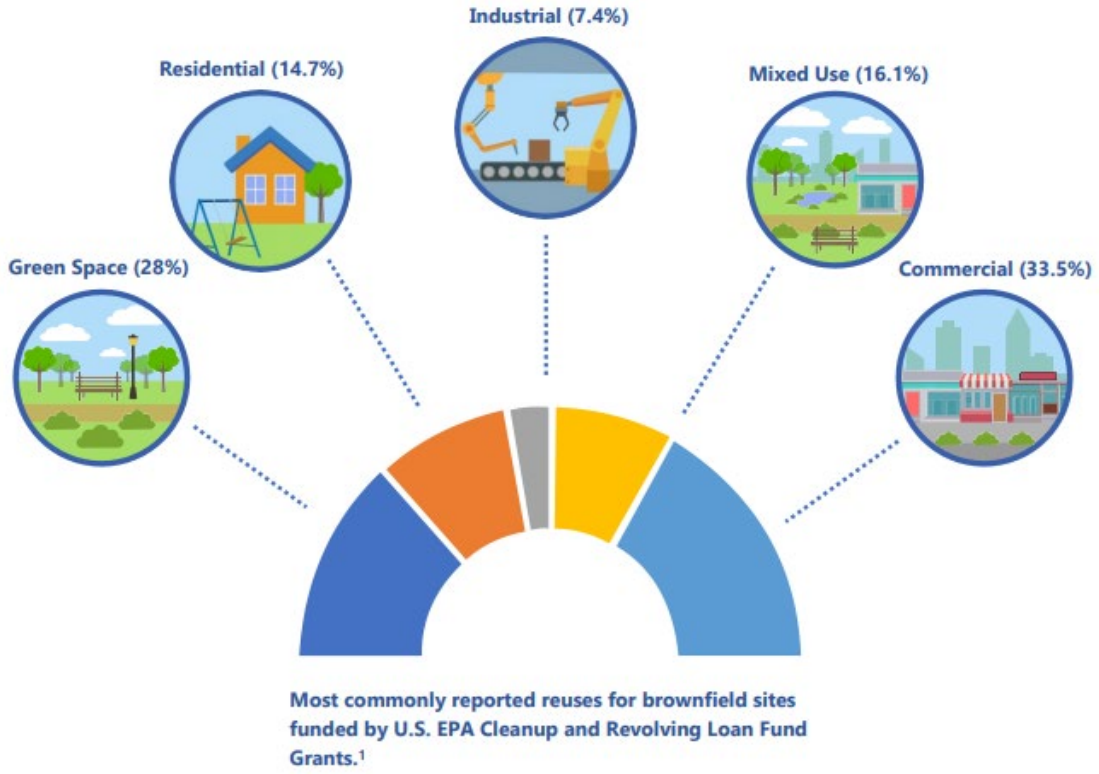
Brownfield Opportunities

- Long-term program with well-established infrastructure and bipartisan support
- Reauthorization in progress (US S2959)
  - Extends existing funding levels
  - Increased 128(a) funding levels from $50 to $75 million



Brownfield Challenges

- Application process counter to Justice40
- Implementation process county to Justice40
- Increase in funding has proven a management challenge for EPA



Most commonly reported reuses for brownfield sites funded by U.S. EPA Cleanup and Revolving Loan Fund Grants.[1]

ECJ Opportunities

- $2 billion in funding for Community Change Grants
  - Track 1 – 150 x $10-20 million awards
  - Track 2 – 20 x $1-3 million awards

- Continuation of EJCPS and EJG2G grant programs

ECJ Challenges

- Application process counter to Justice40
- Grantee must be a CBO
- Likely that increase in funding will result in substantial challenges for EPA
- Community Change grants will not be extended beyond 3-year project duration