



COUNTY OF ST. CLAIR

Metropolitan Planning Commission

WILLIAM KAUFFMAN, DIRECTOR



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 8, 2005

Contact: Geoff Donaldson
office: (810) 989-6950

St. Clair County Seeks Public Comment on Brownfield Redevelopment Grant Funds

Port Huron, MI – December 8, 2005- The St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission is planning on submitting a grant application on behalf of the St. Clair County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority and St. Clair County to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for a Community-Wide Brownfield Assessment Grant.

The Brownfield Redevelopment Authority is developing a grant proposal to conduct an inventory, characterization and assessment of potential brownfield sites throughout the county. The specific sites will be determined upon award notification. There is no cost share requirement to the Authority, or St. Clair County, for assessment grants.

The EPA has made these funds available to states, tribes, municipalities, and communities to promote site assessments, perform environmental cleanups, and enhance redevelopment options at contaminated properties.

Brownfields are abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. Brownfields in Michigan include old dumps, commercial and industrial properties, and sites where pollutants came into contact with soil and groundwater. Applications can be made for up to \$200,000 under this grant.

The Brownfield Redevelopment Authority's draft proposal will be available for public review at the offices of the St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission from 2:00 p.m., December 9, 2005 to 2:00 p.m., on December 14, 2005.

Proposals will be submitted to EPA by December 14. Comments and letters of support are welcome, and may be sent to: Geoffrey Donaldson, St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission, 200 Grand River Ave., Suite 202, Port Huron, MI 48060, or by email to gdonaldson@stclaircounty.org.

Additional information on the U.S. EPA Brownfield Grant program may be found on the Internet at www.epa.gov/brownfields.

###