

Minette M. Genuchi

Subject: FW: Brownfield question

Hi Tom, I'd like to talk with you regarding what you are proposing for Lancaster County. The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD) would like to be involved in any work or outreach you are proposing on environmental issues in Lancaster County or Lincoln. I believe we could provide a letter of support for this grant.

LLCHD's Environmental Public Health Division includes Air Quality, Waste Management and HazMat Response, Water Quality, Food Safety, and other areas. We provide both educational and regulatory services throughout Lancaster County. Here is a link to our website: <https://lincoln.ne.gov/city/health/enviro/index.htm> The Environmental Public Health Division highly trained and qualified staff that would be valuable assets to this proposal. For example, in our Waste Management and HazMat Response programs, our staff include six environmental health specialists, two environmental health educators, support staff, interns and a supervisor. Our work includes: HazMat Emergency Response (24/7); operating Lincoln's Hazardous Waste Center, mobile household hazardous waste collections (including some in the County), coordinating small business hazardous waste collections; investigating and cleaning up illegal dumping; special waste permitting; public education on litter prevention and toxics reduction; and nuisance complaint investigations. We provide responses to about 100 requests per year for information on known areas of environmental contamination in Lancaster County from engineering and consulting firms and public agencies. In addition, our Water Quality Program has been directly involved in the assessment of environmental contamination of groundwater in Lancaster County.

Please give me a call at your earliest convenience.

Scott

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From: Tom Bliss [<mailto:tbliss@sendd.org>]
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2019 3:04 PM
To: Kerry P. Eagan <KEagan@lancaster.ne.gov>
Cc: Scott E. Holmes <sholmes@lincoln.ne.gov>
Subject: Brownfield question

Kerry,

I hope you are doing well. SENDD is preparing an EPA Brownfield Coalition Assessment grant. We are working with a few Lincoln-based civic organizations as well as DEQ. The grant encourages the applicant to identify 'target communities'.

These are communities with demand for brownfield funds that will have a higher funding priority than other SENDD members.

The reason I am writing is rather than use the City of Lincoln as a target community, I would rather use Lancaster County. This would give us a lot more latitude in how dollars are used... assuming we are awarded funds. There is no financial commitment from the County. Frank Uhlarik from the city suggested contacting you.

The way a coalition grant works is SENDD would apply for \$500,000. There is a set aside for coalition members to assess specific areas of their community. For example, if you have an area that AAEDC would like to redevelop you can apply for a corridor/area study. (For example, when I worked in St. Joseph, I applied for an area assessment for the entire downtown.) Environmental consultants complete a windshield survey of potential brownfields. With this list, you can identify priority sites for free Phase One environmental reviews. Once you get the list of Phase Ones you can investigate further with free Phase Twos. Your community will get a list of more 'development ready' sites, and save \$10,000s on environmental review costs. My goal is to generate a regional inventory of brownfields for next year's EPA Brownfield RLF.

*(Normally a Phase I costs \$1,500 to \$3,000, and a Phase II costs \$7,000 and higher, so it can save \$10,000s. Basically, it becomes a tool in your economic development toolkit.)

Coalition member responsibilities? Write a letter stating that you're interested, and designate someone to take part in a quarterly phone call to discuss new programs. I was a coalition member for a statewide grant in Missouri. The calls were scheduled for an hour, they lasted 20 minutes. They aren't mandatory, but attendance is taken.

I can send additional information if you're interested.

Best regards,
Tom Bliss
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