



ONE GRIFFIN CENTER, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
100 SOUTH HILL STREET P.O. BOX T | GRIFFIN, GA 30224 | P: 770-228-5356

Application Information Sheet

City of Griffin, Georgia FY2026 Community-wide Assessment Grant

1. Applicant Identification:

City of Griffin
100 S. Hill Street
Griffin, GA 30223

2. Website URL: [Griffin, GA | Home](https://www.cityofgriffin.com) <https://www.cityofgriffin.com>

3. Funding Requested:

- a. Assessment Grant Type: Community-wide
- b. Federal Funds Requested: \$500,000

4. Location:

- a. City: Griffin, GA
- b. County: Spaulding County
- c. State: Georgia

5. Target Area and Priority Site Information:

- a. Target areas:
 - 1) TAD 1 Town Central and North Hill Street; Census Tract 132551603, persistent poverty further back than 1989
 - 2) TAD 2 West Griffin; Census Tract 132551608 and 1603, persistent poverty further back than 1989¹
- b. Priority sites: TAD 1: Old County Jail 232 E. Broad Street Griffin, GA; TAD 2: Rushton Mill 1240 Lyndon Street Griffin, GA

6. Contacts:

- a. Project Director: Mr. Bruce Ballard, Urban Redevelopment Agency Chairman, 100 S. Hill Street, Griffin GA email: Bruce.Ballard@GSCS.org phone: 770.367.7683
- b. Chief Executive Officer: Mr. Bruce Ballard, 100 S. Hill Street, Griffin, GA email: Bruce.Ballard@GSCS.org phone: 770.367.7683. By Charter, The City of Griffin operates under a Commission/City Manager organization wherein the City Manager serves as the Secretary to the Board of Commissioners responsible for the administrative and fiscal head of the city's government.

7. Population

Griffin population 23,650 (ACS 2023 5 year est)
Target areas: TAD 1 population: 1,893; TAD 2 population: 2,853

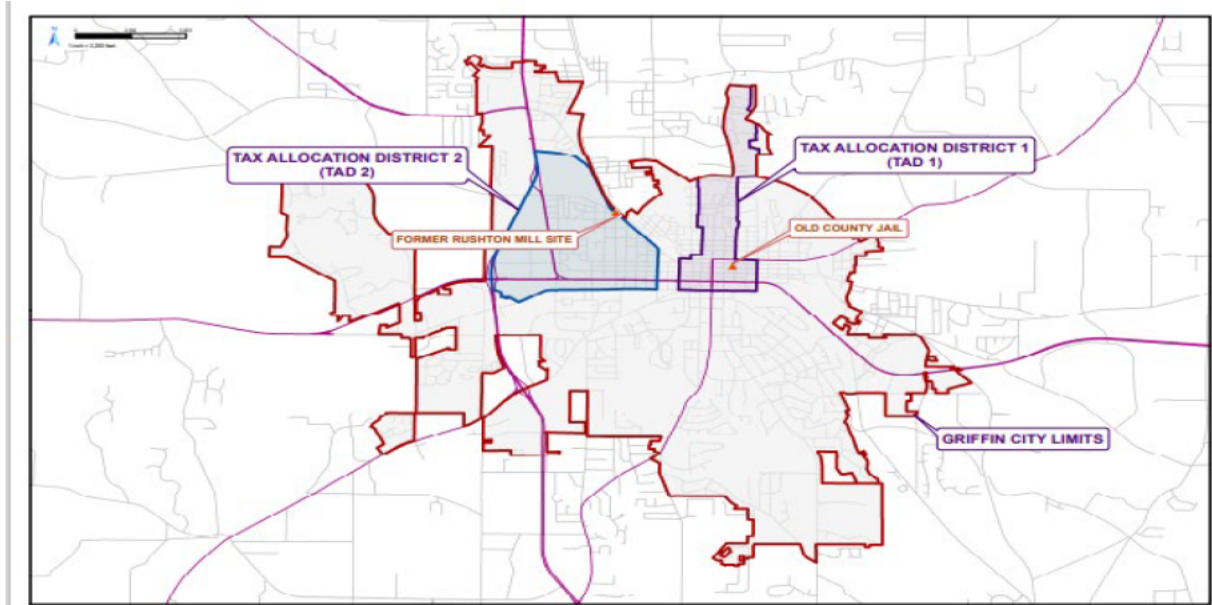
¹ [list-of-census-tracts-in-persistent-poverty.xlsx](#)

8. Other Factors

| Other Factors | Page number |
|--|---------------------------|
| Community population is 15,000 or less. | P1, 2 (for TADs and CT's) |
| The applicant is, or will assist, a federally recognized Indian Tribe or United States territory. | |
| The priority site(s) is impacted by mine-scarred land. | |
| The Priority site(s) is adjacent to a body of water (i.e. the border of the priority site(s) is contiguous or partially contiguous to the body of water, or would be contiguous or partially contiguous with a body of water but for a street, road or other public thoroughfare separating them.) | |
| The priority site(s) is in a federally designated flood plain. | |
| The reuse of the priority site(s) will facilitate renewable energy from wind, solar, or geothermal energy. | |
| The reuse of the priority site(s) will incorporate energy efficiency measures. | |
| The proposed project will improve local resilience to the impacts of extreme weather events and natural disasters. | 4 |
| At least 30% of the overall project budget will be spent on eligible reuse/area-wide planning activities, as described in Section 3.A.(2), for priority site(s) within the target area(s). | 9 |
| The target area(s) is located within a community in which a coal-fired power plant has recently closed (2015 or later) or is closing. | |

9. Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority:
See Attached.

10. Releasing Copies of Application:
Not a problem; no portion of the application is confidential.



1. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION

1. Target Area and Brownfields

a. Overview of Brownfields Challenges and Description of Target Areas (TAs): The City of Griffin, Georgia (pop 23,650; 14.6 sq mi) is mid-way between the 90 miles stretch from Atlanta to Macon. Griffin is in the outer most ring of the Atlanta “metro” area (1-1.5 hour drive), to the point of ruralness and lack of developmental benefit from Atlanta. However, Griffin is a hub in its own right. US Hwy 19 and 41 align Atlanta and Macon (which then connects to coastal areas north and south) and pass directly through Griffin, as do three railroad lines.

Griffin is the county seat of Spalding County. Originally inhabited by the Creek Tribe, European colonists began settling in the area in the early 1820s. The City of Griffin was founded in 1840 as a railroad boomtown situated along the Macon Railroad. The city was named after General Lewis Lawrence Griffin, the president of the Monroe Railroad and Banking Company who established the City after purchasing 800 acres of land where, by his calculations, the Monroe Railroad would eventually intersect with the Western Railroad (eventually becoming Norfolk Southern). These lines are now largely defunct but being explored for potential for reuse as passenger lines. In 1840 General Griffin began auctioning off lots in what would eventually become the City of Griffin, officially incorporated in 1843. Unfortunately, soon after the city’s founding an economic depression began and the Monroe Railroad and Banking Company collapsed.

The city experienced several periods of both economic growth and decline. The greatest changes were brought about by the rise and fall of the textile industry which acted as the economic engine of the city beginning in the 1880s. In 1883, the first textile mill, Griffin Manufacturing, later Thomaston Mill (down town) was built. The textile industry steadily grew through the 1920s to as many as seven (7) mills. Eventually a majority of these mills became consolidated under Georgia-Kincaid Mills, later named Dundee Mills, after the famous towel brand during the 1920s. “Mill villages” sprouted around the large mills which shaped the development of the city. Mill villages are where worker housing, schools, community churches and other community functions were immediately adjacent to or within a short walk of each mill. These public structures were typically built and owned by the mill owners and what salary was made by workers was largely given back to the company to pay for the services provided by the mill. Mill structures were slave built but not slave operated. Slaves were too valuable to use in the mills where machinery was dangerous and accidents common. Georgia’s legacy and primary economic engine for the State, even today, remains agribusiness. At that time, slave labor worked the agricultural fields. Following the Civil War blacks became tenant farmers, which was followed by Jim Crow laws and racial disparities can still be seen in residual “redlining” real estate practices which sees blacks bundled into neighborhoods separate from whites.

Most of the goods produced in the various Griffin area mills included basic goods such as sheeting, ticking, denim, diaper cloth, corduroy, flannels, and towels. Specialized spinning created weaves and knits were also produced, including cotton crepe, damask, velvet, fine hosiery, and socks. The local mills adapted to special needs and circumstances throughout the years. Mills produced goods for the U.S. Army during the Spanish American War – including denim for uniforms - and continued the tradition through World War II – manufacturing tire cord and the towels used in U.S. Army hospitals across the globe. As production needs increased, the on-site mill buildings increased, each with an increased need for water. Old water tanks and retention pond sites are still evident on some of the former factory sites, even if the brick buildings have been razed or repurposed. Many of the homes located along the railroad and near mills are still occupied today. The textile industry experienced a sharp decline in the early 2000s as companies relocated manufacturing operations out of the United States. Thomaston Mill, for example, located downtown, once had as many as 4,000 employees. When it closed in 1998, the workforce dwindled down to 150. The last remaining mill in Griffin, The 1888 Mill, ceased manufacturing in April 2024, a loss of over 340 jobs.

Today, however, manufacturing in Griffin has diversified and it has moved more significantly toward support of the auto manufacturing, supplies and warehousing. Caterpillar (farm equipment) has expanded from Illinois to Griffin, and Otsuka Chemical (specialty materials to support several industries including automotive friction materials, as well as paints and adhesive), are part of the Griffin landscape. As expected, many of the cotton and knitting mill buildings across the city have been demolished although some survive, and one has recently been repurposed as an apartment home site and some others house retail stores. Griffin has among its many historic 19th century structures, a largely preserved downtown area. It has benefited from its proximity to the movie industry in Atlanta and its downtown historic district has vignettes in several well-known movies including Black Panther, The Originals, The

Hunger Games, The Walking Dead, among many others. Over the years Griffin has also been home to several notable residents. It is perhaps most well known as the birthplace of dentist and gunslinger John Henry “Doc” Holliday. Today visitors can see the Holliday Family Home and the Soloman Street Dental Office where Doc Holliday practiced dentistry as a young man. Griffin also boasts as the birthplace of famous aviator Janet Harmon Bragg, one of the first black female aviators and one of the first black women to hold a commercial pilot’s license. Mrs. Bragg was inducted into the Georgia Aviation Hall of Fame in 2022.

The distance to Atlanta however, has also left Griffin beyond the outskirts of the rapid growth and development that Atlanta has experienced in the last decade. The housing remains relatively inexpensive because it’s generally of older, degraded quality. The industrial redevelopment has not yet significantly come to Griffin. However, extensive City planning has put the administrative and organizational structures into place to facilitate growth! Therein lies *the Brownfields challenge*: many commercial and industrial buildings are abandoned without significant near-term developer interest. They are degraded by the ravages of time, abandoned and tax defaulted to the city, overgrown, with broken windows from vandals. They represent a health risk to trespassers as housing is immediately next to industrial property. The city planning efforts seek worker housing in anticipation of future jobs, better transportation options with greater connectivity throughout the city and beyond, pedestrian friendly redevelopment, with green space and expanded manufacturing in previous industrial space.

Target Area 1: Tax Allocation District 1 (TAD 1, 0.74 sq mi) The town center is more than the historic district. It is also where the railroads and US19/41 converge and bisect the downtown area. It was the subject of the Town Center LCI (Livable Centers Initiative, 2008). The work there was supplemented with the North Hill Street Connectivity Study, 2008 – straight north along North Hill Street from downtown). *These two study areas combined form TAD 1.* Demographics in the study areas are similar, 88.7% non-white. The combined TAD population is 1,893, making it a micro-community. Both town center and North Hill Street areas share similar demographics. The population is predominately African American, with 80% renter occupied housing and home values about 55% of the city average and high poverty rates shown in the census block data below. The downtown area has a high commercial vacancy rate, is surrounded by neighborhoods fractured by a lack of clear zoning as well as roads/railroads. Residual mill village identity no longer aligns with a central town center concept, vacant land and blighted/abandoned old buildings, overgrown with broken windows and absentee landlords and/or tax default. The North Hill Street portion of the TAD focuses on transportation, especially as it relates to pedestrian walkable mixed-use centers, with multi-modal transportation enhancements including new sidewalks, trails, bike lanes, tree lined streets and improve recreational options.

Target Area 2: West Griffin Village (TAD 2, 1.46 sq mi) covers most of the western portion of Griffin including the entrance to the city along US19/41 to the downtown area. This somewhat triangular area features the University of Georgia (UGA – located in Athens, GA) extension campus (1,045-acre) at the tip of the triangle, followed by residential and industrial areas including Griffin Technical College, the Rushton Mill and several closed industries. The population of TAD 2 is 2,853, making it a micro-community. This area is also 72.4% non-white, predominantly African American with a small percent of Hispanic. Without extensive redevelopment planning, the area struggles to address the blight, underinvestment and lack of infrastructure the resident’s desire. Residential housing is aged, rental units are at 65% of housing, and home values are typically 65% of the rest of the city¹. The area also lacks connectivity to the rest of the city without pedestrian oriented or public transportation options. This TAD is largely the result of the West Griffin LCI study (Livable Centers Initiative, 2010). The expected impact of the West Griffin Village TAD will be on the overall increase in area appearance, parks and open spaces, improved schools, quality job creation, decreases in crime, increases in pedestrian-oriented safety features and the area’s basic quality of life.

b. Description of Priority Brownfield Sites: Priority Site #1: (TAD 1) Old County Jail, 232 E. Broad St. in the heart of downtown Griffin. The Jail was originally the old Spalding County Courthouse. Built in 1855 as the county’s first courthouse, this building has witnessed more than 160 years of local history, serving as the heart of government, later transformed into the county jail in 1914, and finally repurposed for various county office uses. Vacant since 2015, detailed Italianate brickwork, and distinctive window treatments set it apart from other civic buildings of the time. It is two stories with the second floor serving as the jail, then later, only the basement served as the jail. It had isolation rooms for women and men, and it also housed the jailer and his family! The exterior of the building is intact, and is listed on

¹ Data from West Griffin LCI Study estimates for 2019. Census track data bears similar results.

National Register of Historic Places, but the interior has suffered neglect. Lead, asbestos and petroleum from heating are suspected. *Reuse plans: Mixed use with restaurant/s downstairs and residential housing on the higher floor.* **Priority Site #2: (TAD 2) Former Rushton Mill site, 1240 Lyndon Ave. 18.5 acres, 3 buildings (2 stories), 141,000 sq ft.** This cotton mill first opened in 1899. This mill made cotton sheeting but also had equipment for processing such as carding, spinning and dye operations. It employed about 300 people. In 1908 a fire resulting from a tornado which damaged much of the city as well, took off the second floor of the main mill building. It was rebuilt. Sometime in the 1990's Dundee (maker of towels) purchased the mill. Dundee later merged with Springs Industries both of whom owned a number of mills in the southeast. With outdated equipment and competition from overseas, Rushton Mill closed all operations in the early 2000's. It was purchased by various investors including Woody Heath who used it to store his antique cars, opening the Rushton Car Museum and Antique Venue. The property has been vacant for many years now. Interestingly as mill villages go, this one also included the Rushton Mill Cemetery (still on site) for workers and community. *Reuse plans: Residential and green space for connectivity/pathways.*

c. **Identifying Additional sites:** Textile production was not the only industry in the Griffin area. In the early days of Griffin industries, agricultural product fruit evaporators (think Georgia Peaches!), cotton seed oil mills, and cotton warehouses were housed in many downtown buildings. Livestock sales, livery stables, and iron and brass foundries, a fertilizer factory, among others were also near downtown. Lumbar yards and woodworking businesses and wood product manufacturers were large footprints in the blocks around the center city core. Leather tanning operations were located within four blocks of City Hall. On the outskirts of the town food processing and canning operations existed for decades. Each of these industries created the Griffin of today, but left shadows of their former self on the landscape. The sites below were preliminarily selected due to proximity to downtown and public exposure due to low-income housing immediately next to it, in the high need TAD areas, the need for new housing sites and blight removal and likelihood of reuse and economic benefits.

| Priority Site Name & Address | Size | Site Description & Environmental Concerns | Contaminants of Concern (COCs) | Site Reuse Plans |
|--|-------------|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| (Target Area 1 - TAD 1) | | | | |
| Old Mill Bleachery 349 Railroad Ave | 2.75 acres | 1 story brick, old Dundee Mill bleachery circa 1966; unknown before; now abandoned; Adjacent to UGA Ag Research; acids, dyes, solvents | Metals, VOCs, PCBs, Petroleum | Possible UGA expansion, greenhouses |
| Industrial Property 355 Railroad Ave | 21.83 acres | building demolished, concrete slab remains; unknown prior industrial use | unknown | Industrial |
| Former Spring Company 21 Chestnut St | 13.19 acres | 1 story brick; metal springs, wire forms, washers, metal stamping/forming, use prior to 2005 unknown; solvents, metals, PCBs | Metals, VOCs, PCBs | Commercial |
| Northside School 502 N Hill St | 4.21 acres | Abandoned elementary School in high need area adjacent to affordable housing, concerns are heating oil tanks, RBMs | Petroleum, RBM | Housing |
| (Target Area 2 – TAD 2) | | | | |
| Former Service Ctr 235 E. Taylor St | 0.53 acres | Former Service Station for auto repair and gas for decades. USTs, solvents, and unknown | Petroleum, Metals, PAH, PCB, VOCs | Commercial, coffee shop |
| Industrial Property 109 E. Taylor St | 0.22 acres | 0.22-acre 1 story cinder block warehouse, 1938 of unknown history | unknown | Commercial |
| Dry Cleaners Var. downtown locations | various | Several Dry Cleaners have operated for decades in and near the downtown area, vapor intrusion concerns | VOCs, metals | Various Commercial |

Definitions: PAH = Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons; PCB = Polychlorinated Biphenyls; RBM = Regulated Building Material; UST = Underground Storage Tank; VOC = Volatile Organic Compounds

Identifying additional sites in the target areas will be largely the result of outreach efforts to the residents, the Brownfields Advisory Committee (BAC), community leadership and property owners. Additional sites in the target areas will also be identified by the QEP searching EPA and GEPD records and databases. Criteria for site prioritization after priority sites are addressed will follow one or more of the national models that already exist for developing scoring rubrics, such as the Delta Institute and/or EPA's Community Reuse Property Prioritization Tool, adapted as needed. Among criteria, potential environmental risk will weigh more heavily due to proximity to residents, current risks, hazards described above and location suitable for housing. After that, alignment with existing redevelopment plans, with particular focus on properties with near-term cleanup and/or redevelopment likelihood.

Revitalization of the Target Areas (TA's)

d. Reuse Strategy and Alignment with Redevelopment Plans: The City of Griffin has completed an impressive level of planning. Two of the critical planning efforts were funded as LCI studies by the Atlanta Regional Commission. They define Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) as *"intended to promote greater livability, accessibility, mobility, and development in existing and emerging employment centers, town centers and corridors. The rationale is that directing development towards areas with existing infrastructure will benefit the region and minimize sprawling land use patterns. Minimizing sprawl, in turn, will reduce the amount of vehicle miles traveled and the air pollution associated with those miles."* Griffin seeks to strengthen its role in the Atlanta metro area as a hub with strategic highway and railway connections. It further plans to build a new regional airport with capacity for commercial and cargo aircraft, supplementing Atlanta's air traffic options. Planning includes strategic realignment of property specifically in the TAD areas to support four broader objectives within each for 1) improved and expanded affordable housing; 2) transportation that supports connecting neighborhoods to commercial areas, with a focus on walkable neighborhoods, bike lanes and transit; 3) Improved Land Use to meet recreational, public, as well as commercial and industrial zones with intentional planning; and, 4) Economic Development consistent with the City of Griffin's hub location and existing abandoned or underutilized commercial and industrial properties available. Reuse for each property is noted above, however, the context and specific alignment within plans is noted below:

TAD 1 (3 Plans): • Town Center LCI Study, November 2006, and • North Hill Street Redevelopment Plan 2008, • Downtown Plan November 2022: (target sites: Old Jail House, as well as Industrial properties at 349 & 355 Railroad St., 21 Chestnut St) See Town Center plan linkages at: P1:5 Housing, P1:7 Retail needs in area; P1:16 specific mention of mills and abandoned industrial properties in area for reuse; North Hill plan says 1,500 seniors retirement units downtown near sites, parks in vacant lots, historic markers, greenway; Downtown Plan focuses on in-fill on abandoned/underutilized properties for implementing other plans; and, all plans recommend establishment of the TAD to ensure funding allocated to projects in TAD. **TAD 2 (1 Plan):** • West Griffin LCI Study 2010: (site: Rushton Mill, as well as Industrial properties at 235 & 109 E Taylor St) See site and plan linkages at: P94 – high density mixed use residential, core commercial uses; pedestrian and bike friendly, connection to green space & trails, among others related to transportation improvements esp. US 19/41, plan recommends establishment of the TAD to ensure funding allocated to projects. **City-wide Plans (3 Plans):** • 2012 Consolidated Housing & Community Development Plan; • 2018-2038 Comprehensive Plan; • City of Griffin 2024 Comprehensive Plan : Umbrella plans focus on four (4) Objectives noted above, as well as ordinance work and operational approaches to achieve multiple planning goals.

e. Outcomes and Benefits of Reuse Strategy: Several Plans noted above estimate outcomes, however, as implementation is still in its infancy, actual jobs and new revenues are estimates only. The West Griffin Planning effort estimates that implementation of recommendations will result in **749 Permanent Jobs** (after 687 temp construction jobs), **\$535 Million in market value**, netting **\$6.8 Million in new revenue** for the city. The North Hill St Plan, for examples expects a \$25 million (only small from local funds) in public funds could generate more than **\$83 Million in market value** and translate to **\$1.2 Million in new revenue** for the city. The creation of the TADs and the Downtown Development District allow the city to take a slice of the existing revenue to be dedicated only to the target areas. This ensures continuous infusion of funding to achieve planning objectives – once funds generated. Green space creation or other quality of life metrics have not been estimated, but bike and trail plans exist. Resiliency work with the county emergency management focuses on "continuity of operations" processes, including communications with community, and designating shelters in the event of emergency conditions. Engineering controls include stormwater management. Green space will be designed for stormwater overflow, incl. bioswales, and other water filtration approaches, as well as public use.

Strategy for Leveraging Resources

f. Resources Needed for Site Reuse: The City of Griffin and the URA are well versed in site reuse financing tools; examples are many. The URA manages the **TADs** (established under State law) which have bonding authority and who allocate collected tax revenue from the designated areas to implement priority projects. Incremental tax increase amounts over the base year of 2008 (when the TADs established), go to TADs improvements. However, as tax increases have been very few, this isn't much, but with site reuse, it will be in the future. Funding has so far been allocated for site preparation for a new Kroger Grocery in TAD 2. **Private developers** are currently converting one of the mill sites into much needed housing. Once other industrial properties are cleared environmentally, they are likely to attract additional interest from developers. The city and developers have also taken advantage of tax credits for

building rehabilitation through National Historic Preservation, and **Georgia Historic Preservation** (Thomaston Mill). **FEMA** funds have been used for various projects after Hurricane Helene, including replacement of telecommunications lines throughout the city. **HUD/CDBG** has been used for water line replacement on the south part of the Rushton Mill property. **Opportunity Zone** tax credits will apply to any investment in TAD 2 as they are all included in an OZ. **Georgia Job Tax Credits** apply to OZ's at up to \$4,000 per new job. **Georgia Cities Foundation** offers a Revolving Loan Funds for downtown projects which was used to help develop the Piedmont Brewery downtown. The Griffin Housing Authority routinely uses **State Housing Finance Authority** to fund housing needs dedicated to providing housing solutions for low-income, elderly and disabled persons.

This grant will stimulate the cleanup and redevelopment of the priority sites by removing environmental uncertainty and demonstrating the readiness of these communities to fulfill their intended plans.

g. Use of Existing Infrastructure: Existing Infrastructure, including roads, lighting, water and sewer, broadband already accommodates future use in the target areas. Where structurally possible, buildings will be reused. Plans are structured around "in-fill" as a means to prevent sprawling land use patterns.

2. COMMUNITY NEED AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

a. Community Need

i. Community's Need for Funding: The City of Griffin has significant financial challenges. The existing tax revenue (\$4.5 million/yr) does not nearly cover existing city expenses. The city uses \$50 million in Enterprise Funding each year to cover city operating expenses! Enterprise Funding is the term used to capture all the city utility user fees. Uniquely, the City of Griffin owns Griffin Power, and along with water and sewer user fees, cover the majority of city expenses in lieu of real estate and sales taxes. The economic target is for commercial and industrial sectors to contribute 75% of revenue (currently at 30%); residential 25%, and the total to cover 100% of city operating costs. The "stealing from Paul to pay Peter" current scenario slows infrastructure improvements. The city also needs to prioritize a new recreational facility with a pool in the West Griffin TAD 2 as a strategic measure to deter teenage crime. Crime in Griffin is 43.7 crimes/1000 people (compared to 27.75 in Spalding County)². The City along with the county operate the Griffin-Spalding Land Bank. The Land Bank clears title from properties that have tax defaulted and working with the City's Housing Department and Economic Development, target new housing and/or new industry consistent with area plans. In addition, severe storms in recent years did significant damage in Griffin, especially in the TAD 2 area. The City is helping to rebuild homes and businesses but funding is limited. The City has created effective organizations, but implantation is slowed by lack of funding given the size of the challenges faced.

As shown below, high poverty rate among the working employed means existing jobs are low wage. Overall higher unemployment across the city exceeds State and nation. The low tax base in Griffin reflects existing conditions: **small population, esp in the TADs, high poverty rates, low wages**. The substandard housing means low market value and low tax value reflecting low median household income. The City of Griffin is a small community with neither the initial funding potential nor an ability to fund the assessment or remediation of the target sites. Creation of the TADs are laudable and a symbol of determination to make redevelopment happen but alone are not yet generating the income needed to achieve the objective. Griffin struggles with the legacy of numerous industrial sites and disinvestment. The city prioritizes necessary infrastructure improvements (roads, parks, utilities) which are high-cost items.

This grant will help fund brownfields in communities and underserved neighborhoods that cannot yet meet these needs on their own and empower local redevelopment moving them toward financial stability which would help prevent displacement, create higher paying jobs and improve the quality of life.

| Data Type | TAD 1 ^{1,3} | TAD 2 ¹ | CT ² 1603 (TAD 1) | CT ² 1608 (TAD 1 & 2) | City ² | County ² | State ² | United ² States |
|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Population | 1,893 | 2,853 | 2,936 | 4,198 | 23,650 | 69,946 | 11.18M | 340M |
| 1-yr Unemployment Rate | NA | NA | Not Avail | Not Avail | 3.8% | 4.0% | 3.5% | 4.2% |

² City data and Crimegrade.org for county

³ TAD 1, TAD 2, CT 1603, CT 1608 – are designated Food Deserts – USDA [Food Access Research Atlas | Economic Research Service](#), and they are areas of [decades long Persistent Poverty list-of-census-tracts-in-persistent-poverty.xlsx](#)

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Median HH Income | \$31,121 | \$44,054 | \$53,169 | \$34,031 | \$44,021 | \$60,217 | \$74,664 | \$78,538 |
| Poverty Rate | | | 25.10% | 31.70% | 25.50% | 18.70% | 12.60% | 10.60% |
| SNAP benefits HH w/children <18 | | | 34.5% | 33.10% | 27.50% | 9.00% | 8.70% | 7.60% |

1. City provided data from ERSI 2025, where available 2. Census Tract (CT) and defined areas 2023 ACS 5-yr est. except 1 yr unemployment. Bold is greater/less than County or State, shaded is greater than /less than (depending on the metric) state/nation.

b. **Health or Welfare of Sensitive Populations:** The sensitive populations - children, the elderly and minority populations are typically higher in these TA's than the nation and/or the State. These numbers demonstrate the continued theme related to high poverty, unemployment and life in distressed neighborhoods resulting in disproportionate exposures and higher than average health and welfare impacts. They also show that these areas are typically worse than the state, which already measures among the lowest in the nation (see next section). Children in poverty are often more than twice the national rate. These sensitive populations are more likely to be exposed to contaminants in the home (older housing), the air (3a below) and possible sources within the community (3a below and site descriptions above). This grant will help address these metrics by identifying real or perceived contamination in blighted structures within the community, positioning them for creating green space for better health outcomes, creating jobs in redeveloped spaces and improving housing for high need populations.

| Data Type | TAD 1 ¹ | TAD 2 ¹ | CT ² 1603 (TAD 1) | CT ² 1608 (TAD 1 & 2) | City ² | County ² | State ² | United States |
|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Population | 1,893 | 2,853 | 2,936 | 4,198 | 23,650 | 69,946 | 10.82M | 332M |
| Children <5 | 6.7% | 7.4% | 9.3% | 6.7% | 7.4% | 6.10% | 5.7% | 5.5% |
| Children <18 | 27.6% | 28.7% | 29.5% | 25.6% | 25.2% | 22.9% | 22.7% | 21.5% |
| Fam w/children<18 poverty | | | 44.0% | 34.80% | 27.1% | 24.7% | 15.0% | 13.5% |
| Elderly >65 | 16.2% | 14.6% | 13.2% | 12.1% | 14.0% | 19.7% | 15.7% | 18.0% |
| Disability rate <65 | | | 19.20% | 23.20% | 10.1% | 9.1% | 9.30% | 9.10% |
| Minority (non-white) | 88.7% | 72.4% | 57.5% | 84.4% | 63.4% | 42.2% | 41.7% | 25.2% |

1. City provided data from ERSI 2025, where available 2. Census Tract (CT) and defined areas 2023 ACS 5-yr est. Bold is greater/less than County, shaded is greater than /less than (depending on the metric) state/nation.

c. **Greater Than Normal Incidence of Disease and Adverse Health Conditions:** Comprehensive health data are only available at the county level in Georgia. Georgia, like several southern states, ranks among the lowest in the nation in most health measures – 45th overall out of 51 States/Territories nationally. Georgia ranks 47th for health care access & affordability; 48th in Income Disparity; 40th in racial health equity; and 43rd in infant mortality⁴.

Spaulding County ranks 113th out of 158 counties in Georgia for poor health outcomes⁵. Although a function of rural poverty, site conditions, contaminants and exposure pathways can contribute to these adverse health data. Older housing built before the mid-1970's and commercial/industrial buildings are known for lead, asbestos and sometimes PCBs. PCBs will also be found in old transformers at these historic sites such as the Rushton Mill. Regulated Building Materials (RBM) such as lead, asbestos & PCBs at sites such as the Old Jail are known to contribute to asthma and cancer, especially lung. More acute

| Health Condition ¹ | Spaulding County | Georgia State | United States |
|--|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Cancer ² | 506.9 | 468.9 | 444.4 |
| Colorectal Cancer ^{1,2} | 41.3 | 39.4 | 36.4 |
| Lung Cancer ^{1,2} | 63.0 | 56.8 | 53.1 |
| Heart Disease ^{1,3} | 390.25 | 178.4 | 203.3 |
| Asthma (% of pop) ⁷ | 10.8% | 8.9% | 9.8% |
| Birth Defects ⁶ (low birth weight ⁴ /infant death rates ⁵) | 13.2/6.2 | 10.2/7.1 | 8.5/5.6 |

¹ per 100,000 population. ²Statecancer profiles.cancer.gov 2017-2021. ³CDC.gov/NCHS/faststat/ heart-disease.htm. ⁴ % of live births ⁵ per 1,000 live births ⁶ Welstar.org community health needs assessment **Bold** indicates above state/national; shaded above national. ⁷ CDC 2023

⁴ <https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/scorecard/2025/jun/2025-scorecard-state-health-system-performance>

⁵ [County Health Rankings | Georgia Data](#)

impacts can also be attributed to unregulated use and potentially improper on-site handling of VOCs, SVOCs metals and petroleum associated with any of the industrial properties within the TADs. Exposure can be exacerbated by releases from damaged buildings caused by hurricanes or extreme weather, as impacts in TAD 2 are noted. Any prolonged exposure to these contaminants can also cause cancer and non-cancer health effects such as liver disorders, neurological impacts, immune system impacts and skin rashes or other impacts. Sensitive populations, such as the very young and old, minority and the low-income populations served in these TAD’s would likely be disproportionately impacted.

This grant will facilitate assessment followed by cleanup and redevelopment of these sites and mitigate contributing factors to these cancer and non-cancer endpoints. Mitigating RBMs and contaminated soil will meaningfully reduce contaminated dust and fine particles from inhalation and ingestion.

d. Economically Impoverished/Disproportionately Impacted Populations: In addition to the above data showing disproportionate impacts within these impoverished populations, the CT areas (1603, 1608) inclusive of the TADs also rank high in the Social Vulnerability Index (SoVI)⁶ at 0.85 (CT1603) and 0.93 (CT1608) with 1.0 being the maximum (meaning that 85%/93% of CT’s in the nation score better and have better conditions than these CT’s). Social vulnerability refers to the demographic and socioeconomic factors such as poverty (both were 0.91), No High School diploma (0.92/0.76), renters (0.75/0.96), and many other aggregate stressors that also serve as indicators. Lack of access to transportation, limited access to recreational parks, poor walkability, and others, have cumulative impacts on these populations.

The high need stems from historical patterns related to City development and social separation common in the last centuries with residual legacy today. Through the creation of the TADs, Griffin is specifically targeting old land use patterns lot by lot and creating a newly connected community for future decades. The Land Bank, the Housing Department, Economic Development all work together with significant community input to redraw zoning to create commercial areas walkable to all nearby residents, improved transportation including bikes lanes and public transit options, connected greenways with pocket parks to add to quality of life, industrial use zones for job creation. The following plans help the community to visualize what they can expect to see. Visualization for the changes in zoning can be seen among all the pages. • Town Center LCI Study in November 2006; • North Hill Street Supplemental Connectivity Study 2008; • West Griffin LCI Study in 2010; • 2012 consolidated Housing & Community Development Plan; • 2018-2038 Comprehensive Plan; • Downtown Redevelopment Plan 2022; and • City of Griffin 2024 Comprehensive Plan

This grant specifically targets the TAD areas. In doing so, it will be tasked with creating an inventory of sites of concern based on historical operations. This list will be created by the URA, the QEP and community input. Sites will be prioritized and phase I and II assessments will be completed. Identification will be the first step toward elimination. It will be followed by cleanup either by TAD collected taxes, developers or through funding options explored 1f above (page 5), and possibly with an EPA Brownfields Cleanup grant.

Community Engagement

e. and f. Project Involvement and Project Roles: Diverse organizations will be engaged who can bring important perspectives to the table. Partners noted here will be involved in all aspects of site selection, cleanup and reuse planning. In addition, they often bring specialized perspectives to guide group decision making. Small Community Based Organizations (CBO’s) are few, and no homeowners associations are present in the target areas.

| Name of Organization | Entity’s Mission | Point of Contact (Name & Email) | Specific Involvement in the project or assistance provided |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Griffin Spalding Ministerial Alliance | Works across churches to organize support at the community level (food, coat drives, etc) | Will Doss [Redacted] | <u>Involvement:</u> sounding board for wants/needs in community <u>assistance:</u> outreach & feedback |
| Chamber of Commerce | Promote Griffin’s business climate & Quality of Life | Cindy Jones cjones@cityofgriffin.com 770.228.8200 | <u>Involvement:</u> marketing the work outside Griffin <u>Assistance:</u> site selection input |

⁶ <https://atsdr.cdc.gov/place-health/php/eji/eji-explorer>

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Environmental Council | Volunteer-based advisory group for preservation of natural resources | Dr. Gibb Cotton gcotton@cityofgriffin.com 770.233.2929 | <u>Involvement:</u> environmental oversight/feedback <u>assistance:</u> site cleanup considerations |
| Griffin Spalding Historical Society | Preservation of community architectural, cultural & historic heritage | Maggie Saunders info@griffinhistory.com 770.229.2432 | <u>Involvement:</u> historic preservation perspective <u>assistance:</u> site cleanup considerations |

g. **Incorporating Community Input:** Community Input will be the cornerstone of this project because in small rural communities like Griffin, people engage more and feel more vested in outcomes for their future. The target areas are small; messaging will be easily transmitted through either school, churches or gathering places like restaurants. The URA will form a Brownfields Advisory Committee (BAC) to assure equitable access to site selection decisions as well as to ensure that members advise on the best means for reaching communities they represent. The BAC will be formed largely through self-nomination from community organizations, economic development organizations, developers, property owners and other interested parties. Communication methods will include announcements at community events, Griffin and URA websites, social media posts, flyers and other means of communication that are known to reach residents of these communities. The City of Griffin and URA staff have successfully used these methods recently to engage in the City’s 2024 Comprehensive Plan development. At least 2 in-person public meetings are planned in each TAD, once at the beginning before sites are selected and will seek site nomination, and at the end to report accomplishments and explore next steps. URA’s Project Manager will respond to all comments through the URA & Griffin websites, as well as BAC members websites within 1 week. Communications will be a 2-way street in which comments are not just taken in, but response will include how the comments will be incorporated into the planning process. If members of the public are not comfortable with in-person participation, or Covid-19 restrictions are reinstated, on-line participation in the meeting will be available through a commercial video conferencing platform. URA staff will also seek events, such as city celebrations to engage the community and TADs at large.

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS (NEW)

Description of Tasks/Activities & Outputs

| |
|---|
| Task 1: Project Management |
| a. <u>Project Implementation:</u> The City’s URA staff will manage the grant – including securing the QEP in compliance with 2CFR200 and 2CFR1500 requirements, oversight of the QEP, quarterly and annual EPA reporting, ACRES reporting. QEP will assist with program management tasks. URA staff to attend State, regional, national Brownfields conferences twice = 6 travel/trainings |
| b. <u>Anticipate Project Schedule:</u> QEP solicitation Q1, QEP Kick-off meeting -Q2, reporting Q’s1-16, final reporting and ACRES update Q16 |
| c. <u>Task/Activity Lead:</u> URA staff as lead, assisted by QEP |
| d. <u>Outputs:</u> EPA workplan (not funded by grant), 16 quarterly reports; 4 MBE/WBE & FFR’s annually; final closeout report; 6 state, regional, national conferences; continuous ACRES rptng |
| Task 2: Community Engagement |
| a. <u>Project Implementation:</u> Community meetings will be lead by the URA staff, supported by QEP. 2 meetings in each TA, 2 outside TA’s. |
| b. <u>Anticipated Schedule:</u> CIP complete Q1, Community meetings in Q2, Q15, monthly updates of website each month |
| c. <u>Task/Activity Lead:</u> URA staff as lead, assistance of QEP |
| d. <u>Outputs:</u> 1 CIP; 4 community meetings in TAs; 2 outside TA’s monthly website updates (12x4 yrs) |
| Task 3: Assessment Activities, Site Inventory |
| a. <u>Project Implementation:</u> QEP prepares generic QAPP; city selects priority sites; QEP provides prioritization rubric if needed; site access agreements and site eligibility forms completed; Phase I’s completed according to current ASTM methods; Phase II’s may include ground penetrating radar; Site-specific sample plans; approval by ADEM and EPA prior to any field work; lead/asbestos surveys; phase I and II reports; updates to site inventory completed quarterly |
| b. <u>Anticipated Project Schedule:</u> Generic QAPP -Q1; phase I’s Q2-12; phase II’s Q3-16; QAPPs; site access, eligibility, QAPPs, site screening techniques (GPR, etc.) prior to phase II on site. |
| c. <u>Task/Activity Lead:</u> QEP with oversight by URA staff; site access completed by URA staff. |

| |
|---|
| d. Outputs: 1 Generic QAPP; 7 phase I's; 6 site-specific QAPP/HASP; 6 phase II's; 3 lead/asbestos |
| Task 4: Cleanup and Area-wide Planning |
| a. Project Implementation: QEP will complete site specific cleanup planning; draft ABCA/CAP/RAP; market or other implementation study for 2 of target sites; enter 2 sites in GEPD VCP program |
| b. Anticipated Schedule: Up to 2 ABCA's Q8-16, 2 market or implementation studies Q12-16, 2 VCP Q12-16 |
| c. Task/Activity Lead: QEP with oversight by URA staff. |
| d. Outputs: 2 ABCA; 2 market/site reuse studies; 2 sites enter in VCP program |

e. **Cost Estimates:** The URA staff time is in-kind, as are the community members in the BAC. Construction and Indirect rate categories are not needed

| Budget Categories | | Task 1: Proj Mgt | Task 2: Comm Engagement | Task 3: Assess ment/site invntry | Task 4: Cln up & Redev Pln | Total |
|---------------------|--------------|------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Direct Costs | Personnel | | | | | |
| | Fr. Benefits | | | | | |
| | Travel | 7,720 | | | | 7,720 |
| | Supplies | | | | | |
| | Contractual | 27,442 | 36,040 | 334,798 | 44,000 | 442,280 |
| | Other | | | | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| Total Budget | | 35,162 | 36,000 | 334,798 | 94,000 | 500,000 |

Budget notes: **Task 1: Travel** to national conf 2 URA staff 2x in grant cycle @\$1,500 (hotel 4 days @\$130, airfare \$800, per diem @ \$60/day) = \$3,000 x 2 ppl = \$6,000. 2 state brownfields workshops, same assumption, 50 miles = \$1,720. Total for Travel = \$7,720. **Contractual:** monthly check ins: 2 hr/mo x 48 mos @ \$215 = \$20,640; reporting 1 hr/mo @ \$141/hr = \$6,802; total = \$27,442. **Task 2: contractual:** CIP 30 hr @\$200/hr = \$6k x 2 TA's = \$12,000; 6 community meetings 6 hr incl prep & travel @\$200/hr=\$7,200, 2-1 day charettes 8 hrs @\$200/hr = \$3,200; visioning drawing @2 x \$400/event = \$800; final reports 13.7 hr @ \$200/hr x2 = \$5,490. QEP support 5hr x 6 @\$245/hr = 7,350. Total = \$36,040. **Task 3: Contractual:** site inventory 15 hrs x2 TA @\$170/hr for inventory = \$5,093, prioritization process 8 hrs @\$210 = \$1,680; Phase 7 Phase I's (38 hr@ \$145/hr = \$5,500) = \$38,500; Site Eligibility forms (~\$1,450/site) 10 hr x \$145 x 6 sites = \$8,700; **6 phase II's @ \$35k = \$210,000;** 1 QAPP, 6 SAPs (41 hr @\$145/hr) = ~\$5,500 = \$38,500, 6 Health/Safety Plan (HASP) ~\$1,400/site = \$8,400; **3 RBM surveys** (incl SAP) (55 hr x \$145/hr= \$23,925. Total=\$334,798. **Task 4: Contractual:** CAP/RAP/ABCA @ \$7k x 2 sites = \$14,000, **2 redev feasibility study** or market study @ \$15k=\$30,000; **Other:** enroll **2 sites into GEPD VCP program** @\$25k = \$50k.

f. **Plan to Measure and Evaluate Environmental Progress and Results:** Quarterly and annual reports to EPA noted in tasks will keep the project on schedule, ACRES reporting. URA staff will meet with QEP monthly to work schedule and make adjustments if needed. Metrics important to the State will also be reported including sites enrolled and certificates of completion issued. Over time, outcomes will also be shared with the public and EPA via ACRES for jobs and dollars leveraged as each site is redeveloped, housing units developed, green space created.

4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY AND PAST PERFORMANCE

Programmatic Capability

a-c. Organizational Capacity, Organizational Structure, and Description of Key Staff: The Urban Redevelopment Law (URA) was established by the State of Georgia O.C.G.A Title 36, Chapter 61 to improve economic and social conditions within substantially underutilized and economically and socially depressed urban areas that contribute to or cause unemployment, depress tax revenue while creating a greater demand for support resources. The City of Griffin operates with a Board of Commissioners and City Manager. On April 22, 2025, the Board of Commissioners for the City of Griffin adopted a resolution which created a URA organization within the City to enable bonding authority the city does not have, allocate collected TAD taxes and facilitate implementing TAD plans. Mr. Bruce Ballard was appointed as the Chair of the newly formed URA, with Mr. Jeremy Stratton, current Director of Economic Development for the City as the Assistant Chair of the URA. Both individuals hold both positions with the URA and the City simultaneously. The URA will report to the City Manager, who reports to the Board of Commissioners. Both will have access to City staffing and resources needed to complete this work.

URA has a City team that has vast experienced in federal grant management. URA’s Chair, Mr. Bruce Ballard, will serve as Project Director for this grant. Mr. Ballard has a degree in Civil Engineering from Georgia Tech. He joined the city of Griffin in 2011 with the Downtown Development Authority. He previously worked with the Griffin Spalding School System since 2001. Serving as back-up Project Director for this grant will be URA Assistant Director, Mr. Jeremy Stratton. Mr. Stratton is a Certified Economic and Community Developer and serves as the Economic Development Department for the City. Mr. Stratton has an MS in Urban & Regional Planning. Mr. Stratton has prior Brownfields experience from his years in North Carolina. He has 26 years of planning experience and has worked for the City of Griffin for 4 years. Ms. Christina Ortiz is a Senior Accountant in the Finance Department for the City of Griffin. Ms. Ortiz is Accountant IV (title) and has been with the city for 20 years. Ms. Ortiz will ensure all the financial and administrative responsibilities including all documentation for and completion of the ASAP draws. Additional planners, community development coordinators, and staff at URA are also available to ensure the success of this grant.

d. Acquiring Additional Resources: URA has not procured or selected a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) to provide the technical support needed for the implementation of this grant. This solicitation will follow the competitive process defined at 2 CFR Part 200 and 2 CFR Part 1500, issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) in widely advertised newspapers and on the website in this fair and open competition for the minimum 30-day requirement once notice of award has been received from EPA. The selected QEP will assist URA in meeting any hiring requirements imposed by EPA or its own laws, such as DBE/WBE firms for subcontract work including drilling, lab analysis, community engagement, and AWP or feasibility/market studies. No subawards are anticipated for this project.

Past Performance and Accomplishments

f. Has Not Received an EPA Brownfields Grant but has Received Other Federal or Non-Federal Assistance Agreements: The City of Griffin nor URA have received an EPA Brownfields Grant but have managed many federal and non-federal grants similar in scope to the EPA Brownfields grant.

1. Purpose & Accomplishments:

| Awarding Org | Purpose of award | Amount of award | Accomplishments (Outputs / outcomes); and reporting |
|--|---|-----------------|--|
| Federal Emergency Mgt Agency (FEMA) ¹ | Hurricane Helene damage mitigation for City Wide Telecommunications Damage 2023 | \$267,795 | Repair telecommunications lines throughout the city. <u>Output:</u> completed repair/replacement of overhead telecommunications lines <u>Outcome:</u> service restored; <u>reporting:</u> quarterly/annual |
| Federal Aviation Admin (FAA) | Resurface 3,800 linear feet of airport runway 2023 | \$747,505 | <u>Output:</u> completed resurface of runway <u>Outcome:</u> safer landings and use of runway <u>reporting:</u> quarterly/annual |
| HUD/CDBG ² | Replacement of water main line to southern area of Rushton Mill 2024 | \$500,000 | <u>Output:</u> Replace 3,860 linear feet of old water line no longer code for water pressure <u>Outcome expected:</u> water line replaced (compliance with Build American / Buy American <u>Reporting:</u> quarterly/annual |
| Department of Transportation (DOT) | Construction of new regional airport 2024 | \$98 million | <u>Output:</u> new airport <u>Outcome:</u> Relieves congestion at ATL airport, serves regional growth needs; also Build American / Buy American <u>reporting:</u> quarterly/annual |

¹Several FEMA grants and projects due to Hurricane. Only one listed here. ² Many CDBG projects, most recent listed here.

2. Compliance with Grant Requirements:

The City of Griffin and URA have successfully met all grant compliance requirements including workplan Terms & Conditions, project schedules, reporting requirements (Quarterly/annual), including financial management and grant closeout for its grants for those being administered on behalf of member communities. All reports submitted on time. No adverse findings have ever been asserted by awarding organizations.

Threshold Criteria

Urban Redevelopment Agency, City of Griffin, GA

1. Applicant Eligibility – indicate your applicant type and provide information that demonstrates how you are an eligible entity for an Assessment grant.
 - a. Urban Redevelopment Agency (URA) is a “land clearance authority or another quasi-governmental entity that operates under the supervision and control of, or as an agency of, a General Purpose Unit of Local Government. See attached documentation that demonstrates the relationship between the URA and the City of Griffin.

The Urban Redevelopment Law was established by the State of Georgia O.C.G.A Title 36, Chapter 61 to improve economic and social conditions within substantially underutilized and economically and socially depressed urban areas that contribute to or cause unemployment, depress tax revenue while creating a greater demand for support resources. On April 22, 2025, the Board of Commissioners for the City of Griffin adopted a resolution which created an Urban Redevelopment Agency (URA) organization within the City with bonding authority the city does not have and to streamline approvals and execution of work needed to facilitate implementation of the TAD plans. The City of Griffin operates with a Board of Commissioners and City Manager. The URA reports to the City Manager.

- b. The URA, as a subunit of local government is not exempt from federal taxation under section 501 (c)(4) of the IRC.

2. Community Involvement

The City of Griffin, has engaged the community through its years of neighborhood planning processes, including:

- Town Center LCI Study in November 2006;
- West Griffin LCI Study in 2010, (Livable Centers Initiatives (LCI) funded by Atlanta Regional Commission);
- 2012 Consolidated Housing & Community Development Plan;
- 2018-2038 Comprehensive Plan;
- Downtown Redevelopment Plan 2022; and,
- City of Griffin 2024 Comprehensive Plan.

Community Input will be the cornerstone of this project because in small rural communities like Griffin, people engage more and feel more vested in outcomes for their future. The target areas are small; messaging will be easily transmitted through either school, churches or gathering places like restaurants. The URA will form a Brownfields Advisory Committee (BAC) to assure equitable access to site selection decisions as well as to ensure that members advise on the best means for reaching communities they represent. The BAC will be formed through self-nomination from community organizations, economic development organizations, developers, property owners and other interested parties. Communication methods will include announcements at community events, Griffin and URA websites, social media posts, flyers and other means of communication that are known to reach residents of these communities. The City of Griffin and URA staff have successfully used these methods recently

to engage in the City's 2024 Comprehensive Plan development. At least 2 in-person public meetings are planned in each TAD, once at the beginning before sites are selected and will seek site nomination, and at the end to report accomplishments and explore next steps. Two (2) additional, "at large" meetings may also be planned to further support the City's Brownfields mission. A big part of this outreach will be to help residents see how this EPA grant implements/accomplishes the planning work from previous efforts. URA's Project Manager will respond to all comments through the URA website and Coalition members websites within 1 week. Communications will be a 2-way street in which comments are not just taken in, but response will include how the comments will be incorporated into the planning process. If members of the public are not comfortable with in-person participation, or Covid-19 restrictions are reinstated, on-line participation in the meeting will be available through a commercial video conferencing platform. URA staff will also seek events, such as city celebrations to engage the community and TADs at large.

3. Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds:

The City of Griffin nor URA have received EPA grant funds in the past.

4. Contractors and Named Subrecipients:

The City of Griffin/URA have not procured the services of a QEP/contractor for implementation of this grant. When it does so, it will comply with 2CFR200 and 2CFR1500, as well as seeking participation in the Disadvantaged Business program.

No subrecipients are identified for this grant.