

**APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET:
SPRINGFIELD-SANGAMON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
FY26 BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT COALITION GRANT APPLICATION**

1. Applicant Identification

Applicant Name: Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission

Applicant Address: 200 S. 9th St., Room 252, Springfield, IL 62701

2. Website URLs

- Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission: <https://sangamonil.gov/departments/m-r/regional-planning-commission>
- City of Springfield: <https://www.springfield.il.us/>
- Village of Grandview: <https://villageofgrandview.gov/>

3. Funding Requested

a. Assessment Grant Type: Assessment Coalition

b. Federal Funds Requested: \$1,500,000

4. Location

a. City: City of Springfield and Village of Grandview

b. County: Sangamon County

c. State: Illinois

5. Coalition Members' Target Areas and Priority Site Information

- Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission (SSCRPC): Target Area 1 (Browning Rd./Veterans Pkwy. Corridor in unincorporated Sangamon County), Priority Site 1 (125 W. Browning Rd.)
- City of Springfield: Target Area 2 (10th St./Rail Corridor), Priority Site 2 (vacant lots on 10th St. rail corridor including 846, 844, 842, 820, 818, 816, and 814 N. 9th St., 1004 and 920 Phillips St., and 815 N. 11th St.)
- Village of Grandview: Target Area 3 (N. Grand Ave. E. Corridor), Priority Site 3 (2303 N. Grand Ave. E.)

6. Contacts

a. Project Director

Name: Mrs. Lisa Peterson, Senior Planner – Policy Analysis

Address: 200 S. 9th St., Room 252, Springfield, Illinois 62701-1629

Phone: (217) 747-5913

Email: lisa.peterson@sangamonil.gov

b. Chief Executive/Highest Ranking Elected Official

Name: Mrs. Shannan Karrick, Acting Executive Director and Senior Planner - Transportation

Address: 200 S. 9th St., Room 252, Springfield, Illinois 62701-1629

Phone: (217) 753-6754

Email: shannan.karrick@sangamonil.gov

7. Population

195,217 (Sangamon County Population - U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 ACS 5-Year)
 113,714 (City of Springfield Population - U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 ACS 5-Year)
 1,077 (Village of Grandview Population - U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 ACS 5-Year)

8. Other Factors

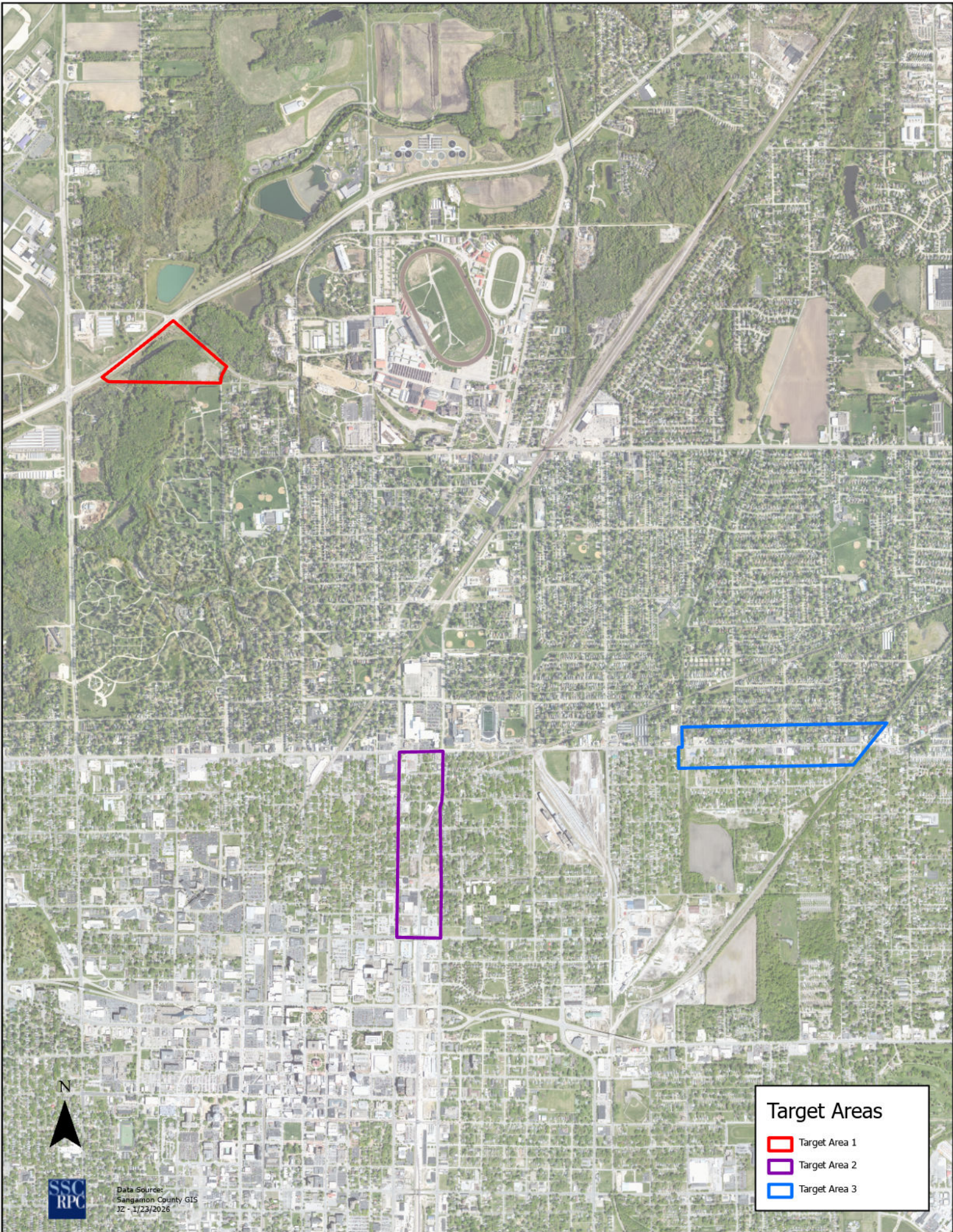
	Page #
Community population is 15,000 or less.	1
The applicant is, or will assist, a federally recognized Indian Tribe or United States Territory.	N/A
The priority site(s) is impacted by mine-scarred land.	6
The priority site(s) is adjacent to a body of water (i.e., the border of the priority site(s) 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).	1
The priority site(s) is in a federally designated flood plain.	1
The reuse of the priority site(s) will facilitate renewable energy from wind, solar, or geothermal energy.	4
The reuse of the priority site(s) will incorporate energy efficiency measures.	5
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 sites within the target areas.	10
The target area(s) is impacted by a coal-fired power plant that has recently closed (2014 or later) or is closing.	6

9. Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority

Please find attached a letter dated **January 5, 2026**, from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency acknowledging our intent to apply for FY26 grant funds and conduct assessment activities.

10. Releasing Copies of Applications

Not applicable. This application does not include confidential, privileged, or sensitive information that cannot be shared.



Target Areas

-  Target Area 1
-  Target Area 2
-  Target Area 3



Data Source:
Sangamon County GIS
JZ - 1/23/2026



ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

2520 WEST ILES AVENUE, P.O. BOX 19276, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62794-9276 • (217) 782-3397

JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR

JAMES JENNINGS, ACTING DIRECTOR

217/785-8726

01/05/2026

Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission
ATTN: Shannan Karrick
200 S. 9th Street, RM 252
Springfield, IL 62701

**Subject: State Acknowledgement Letter for the Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission (SSCRPC)
FY2026 US EPA Brownfield Assessment Coalition Grant Application**

Dear Shannan Karrick,

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) has received your request for a letter of acknowledgement for an upcoming Brownfield Assessment Coalition Grant application to U.S. EPA. The SSCRPC is applying for a \$1,500,000 Brownfield Assessment Coalition Grant.

The grant will be a Brownfield Assessment Coalition for Hazardous Substances and Petroleum.

Illinois EPA acknowledges SSCRPC's efforts to obtain federal Brownfields funds for this project. If you have any questions, I may be contacted at the above address or telephone numbers below, or at Jacob.fink@illinois.gov.

Sincerely,

Jacob Fink
Brownfield Program Administrator
Bureau of Land/Office of Site Evaluation
Office# (217) 785-8726
Cell# (217) 986-0818
Jacob.fink@illinois.gov



2125 S. First Street, Champaign, IL 61820 (217) 278-5800
115 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 2203, Chicago, IL 60603
1101 Eastport Plaza Dr., Suite 100, Collinsville, IL 62234 (618) 346-5120
9511 Harrison Street, Des Plaines, IL 60016 (847) 294-4000

595 S. State Street, Elgin, IL 60123 (847) 608-3131
2309 W. Main Street, Suite 116, Marion, IL 62959 (618) 993-7200
412 SW Washington Street, Suite D, Peoria, IL 61602 (309) 671-3022
4302 N. Main Street, Rockford, IL 61103 (815) 987-7760

1. Project Area Description and Plans for Revitalization

Coalition Members, Target Areas, and Brownfields

a. Coalition Members: The Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission (SSCRPC), an instrumentality of Sangamon County, will serve as the Lead Coalition Member. The City of Springfield and the Village of Grandview, both units of local government, will serve as Non-Lead Coalition Members. Neither community has the staff capacity or technical expertise to apply for or administer an EPA Brownfields Grant. They lack access to environmental professionals and the financial resources to assess and address brownfield sites independently. Participation in the Coalition provides them with the technical assistance, shared staffing, and coordinated planning support needed to address high-impact areas and advance redevelopment goals they could not achieve alone. No Members have received a Brownfields MARC Grant.

b. Overview of Brownfield Challenges and Description of Target Areas: Eligible activities will take place in Sangamon County, a central Illinois community with 195,217 residents, which includes the City of Springfield and the Village of Grandview. Springfield, the state capital and largest municipality, has 113,714 residents, while Grandview has 1,077 (1). Despite its many strengths, the region continues to face challenges related to brownfields, including aging properties, vacant parcels, and suspected contamination. Additionally, much of the county, including areas within Springfield and Grandview, is underlain by abandoned mines that contribute to subsidence risks and long-term redevelopment uncertainty. These conditions contribute to blight, health concerns, population decline, and disinvestment in older corridors, limiting the region's ability to attract new development. Reflecting these trends, the population has declined by 25.26% in Grandview, 2.18% in Springfield, and 1.14% in Sangamon County since 2010 (2). EPA funding is needed to inventory brownfield sites, conduct environmental assessments, and prepare cleanup and reuse strategies that address contamination concerns and support reinvestment in the designated Target Areas. These areas contain properties that pose risks to sensitive populations, hinder economic activity, and limit redevelopment opportunities.

The **SSCRPC** is assigned **Target Area 1**, the Browning Rd./Veterans Pkwy. Corridor, in unincorporated Sangamon County. Located at 125 W. Browning Rd., the area covers approximately 17.63 acres (roughly bounded by W. Browning Rd., N. 1st St., Browning Ave., and Veterans Pkwy.). This vacant property is likely contaminated from its historical use as a junkyard and car repair facility, and it has remained largely undisturbed under a court order restricting alternative uses that could introduce additional hazardous materials. Situated within the Spring Creek floodplain, a tributary of the Sangamon River, the site poses a significant risk of water pollution that could affect nearby water sources and endanger public health. Potential contamination also poses a threat to surrounding agricultural operations and may contribute to long-term habitat degradation. Assessment would also advance the Illinois State Fairgrounds Master Plan (ISFMP), which identifies the Browning Rd. and 1st St. corridors for future connectivity and roadway realignments. EPA assessment funding is needed to determine the extent of environmental impacts, guide appropriate mitigation strategies, and support community-aligned reuse.

The **City of Springfield** is assigned **Target Area 2**, the 10th St./Rail Corridor, bounded by N. Grand Ave. E. to the north, Carpenter St. to the south, 9th St. to the east, and 11th St. to the west. This corridor is a high-priority location for affordable housing due to its proximity to downtown Springfield and the Mid-Illinois Medical District, and its adjacency to the Enos Park Neighborhood, one of the city's most active and diverse neighborhoods. However, this area contains an active rail line and multiple former industrial/commercial properties with suspected

contamination. The 9th St./Peoria Rd. Master Corridor Plan identifies an opportunity site along this stretch of the corridor for new housing and public green space. The plan envisions a mix of affordable brownstones, apartments, and single-family homes in this area, but brownfield conditions and redevelopment uncertainty currently limit investment.

The **Village of Grandview** is assigned **Target Area 3**, the N. Grand Ave. E. Corridor, a compact, historically industrial and commercial area roughly bounded by Grandview Ave. to the north, E. Reservoir St. to the south, the active rail line to the east, and N. Wheeler Ave. to the west. As the primary thoroughfare running the full length of the village (roughly four blocks long) and a key east–west connector for the Springfield area, it serves as the main route linking residents, businesses, and surrounding neighborhoods. The corridor is home to a mix of aging commercial and residential properties, former industrial sites, and vacant parcels that collectively create a barrier to reinvestment. A major infrastructure improvement, the planned underpass at the nearby rail crossing, will enhance traffic flow, reduce delays, and provide safer, more reliable access for residents, businesses, and emergency services. This improvement will strengthen connectivity and increase the corridor’s appeal for reinvestment. These conditions position the N. Grand Ave. E. corridor for meaningful revitalization.

(1) U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles, <https://data.census.gov>

(2) U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles and 2010 Decennial Census data, <https://data.census.gov>

c. Description of Priority Brownfield Sites: Across the three Target Areas, the Coalition has identified over 10 properties with actual or suspected brownfield conditions stemming from historic industrial, commercial, and auto-related uses. These include vacant or underutilized parcels, former manufacturing sites, and properties with potential petroleum or hazardous material concerns, underscoring the need for EPA funding to address environmental uncertainties that hinder redevelopment. The following Priority Sites represent the most significant opportunities to address environmental uncertainty and advance redevelopment efforts.

Priority Site 1 (Target Area 1), 125 W. Browning Rd.: This approximately 17-acre property is the SSCRPC's Priority Site due to its long history as a junkyard and car repair facility, its location within a residential area, and its proximity to the floodplain. These past uses present the most significant known contamination concerns in Target Area 1, including potential petroleum, metals, and residual chemical pollutants. Visible piles of debris remain on the property. The site has remained largely undisturbed under a court order limiting activities that could introduce additional hazardous materials, making it an ideal candidate for assessment to determine the nature and extent of contamination. The property owner is actively engaged and supportive of assessment and cleanup efforts, increasing the feasibility of successful reuse.

Priority Site 2 (Target Area 2), vacant lots on 10th St. rail between Enos Ave. and Phillips St. (bounded by 9th St. to the east, and 11th St. to the west – including 846, 844, 842, 820, 818, 816, and 814 N. 9th St., 1004 and 920 Phillips St., and 815 N. 11th St.): Springfield’s Priority Site consists of several vacant lots formerly associated with the International Shoe Company Factory and later used for low-intensity residential and commercial purposes. These parcels include demolished building sites now held by the city, county, or private owners. Their long industrial history, combined with demolition debris and unknown fill materials, raises concerns about potential soil contamination. The 9th St./Peoria Rd. Master Corridor Plan views this area as a key location for affordable urban brownstones and public green space, but environmental uncertainty has limited developer interest. Assessing these parcels (approximately eight acres combined) will clarify conditions, reduce redevelopment risk, and support Springfield’s housing revitalization goals.

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Priority Site 3 (Target Area 3), 2303 N. Grand Ave. E.: Grandview’s Priority Site is a former neighborhood gas station that now operates as Winners Slots. For decades, the property (approximately 0.34 acres) supported petroleum storage and fuel-dispensing activities, creating the potential for subsurface contamination such as petroleum releases or the presence of aging underground storage tanks. Although the building remains in active commercial use, no environmental assessment has been conducted to verify current conditions. Its location along the village’s primary commercial corridor and its proximity to residential properties make it a critical site for evaluation. Establishing the environmental status of this property will reduce uncertainty for nearby residents and strengthen the corridor’s readiness for future reinvestment.

d. Identifying Additional Sites: The Coalition will engage a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) and form a Brownfield Redevelopment Advisory Committee (BRAC) to identify and prioritize additional brownfield sites within Sangamon County. After completing work in the designated Target Areas and Priority Sites, the QEP and BRAC will expand the inventory by reviewing historical land-use records, GIS data, code enforcement files, and community nominations to identify properties with potential contamination. Across Sangamon County, additional brownfield concerns include former commercial corridors, industrial sites linked to the Pillsbury Mills and Sangamon Ordnance operations, vacant institutional properties, and floodplain parcels affected by dumping - each with a high likelihood of petroleum, hazardous substance, or asbestos contamination requiring assessment before reuse.

The BRAC will establish community-driven criteria and develop a scoring matrix to prioritize sites based on redevelopment potential, proximity to underserved populations, ability to deliver health and economic benefits, and alignment with local planning goals. The QEP will assign parallel scores based on environmental risk and the likelihood of contamination. Combined scores will determine which sites become new Priority Sites, ensuring a transparent and repeatable process that directs remaining resources to sites with the greatest need.

Revitalization of the Target Areas

e. Reuse Strategy and Alignment with Revitalization Plans: The Coalition’s reuse strategies align with the Springfield Comprehensive Plan, the 9th St./Peoria Rd. Master Corridor Plan, and the ISFMP, which prioritize infill housing, corridor reinvestment, environmental resilience, and expanded public green space. Priority Site assessment will remove redevelopment barriers and support the community’s long-term land-use and revitalization goals.

Priority Site	Projected Reuse	Plan Alignment
125 W. Browning Rd. (Target Area 1)	Expected to remain or be enhanced as green space due to its floodplain location, supporting habitat protection and stormwater management.	Springfield Comprehensive Plan & ISFMP: preservation of floodplain areas, expansion of natural open space, and improved connectivity.
Vacant Lots (10th St./Rail Corridor) (Target Area 2)	Urban brownstones facing 9th St. with public green space buffering the rail line; assessment will reduce risk for affordable housing development.	9th St./ Peoria Rd. Master Corridor Plan & Springfield Comprehensive Plan: infill housing, mixed-use redevelopment, and improved neighborhood connectivity.
2303 N. Grand Ave. E. (Target Area 3)	Assessment will guide future reuse options such as small-scale commercial or mixed-use infill consistent with corridor revitalization goals.	Grandview priorities: strengthen the N. Grand Ave. E. corridor and support commercial uses.

f. Outcomes and Benefits of Reuse Strategy: Completing these brownfield redevelopment projects will strengthen Sangamon County’s economy, attract new residents and businesses, and make the region a better place to live, work, and play. The redevelopment outcomes described below directly support the reuse strategies identified for the three Target Areas, including new housing, commercial redevelopment, and expanded green space.

Priority Site 1 (Target Area 1), 125 W. Browning Rd.: Cleanup of this former junkyard will remove long-standing environmental hazards and reduce risks to nearby waterways, agricultural lands, and habitats within the Spring Creek floodplain. Because the

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property lies almost entirely within the floodplain, future reuse will focus on green space, habitat restoration, and stormwater management rather than structural development. Assessment will guide appropriate mitigation strategies and support the ISFMP, which calls for improved connectivity and potential roadway realignments along the Browning Rd. and 1st St. corridors. Restoring this environmentally sensitive area as natural open space will improve water quality, reduce flood impacts, enhance ecological function, and create opportunities for passive recreation or trail connections.

Priority Site 2 (Target Area 2), vacant lots along 10th St./Rail Corridor: Assessment of these former industrial and residential parcels will support Springfield’s plan for new affordable urban brownstones, complementary small-scale commercial spaces, and public green space that buffers the rail corridor. These reinvestment opportunities will increase housing supply, reduce cost burdens, and strengthen walkability and access to neighborhood services. Planned pocket parks, shade trees, and community gathering areas will expand recreational opportunities and reduce heat exposure in a neighborhood with limited green space. These improvements will advance environmental justice by reinvesting in an underserved corridor and reducing exposure to legacy contaminants.

Priority Site 3 (Target Area 3), 2303 N. Grand Ave. E.: Assessment of this former gas station will reduce uncertainty along Grandview’s primary commercial corridor and position the site for reinvestment. Cleanup will support new commercial activity, create jobs, and improve access to goods and services for nearby residents. Redevelopment of this small, centrally located parcel presents opportunities to incorporate energy-efficient building practices and, if feasible, small-scale solar installations. Eliminating potential petroleum risks will also improve environmental health for adjacent homes and businesses.

Strategy for Leveraging Resources

g. Resources Needed for Site Reuse: The Coalition is well-positioned to secure additional public and private resources to support assessment, remediation, and redevelopment at the Priority Sites. By reducing environmental uncertainty, this grant will make these sites more competitive for state, federal, and private financing and enable the Coalition and future developers to leverage the following resources:

Resources	How they will aid site reuse
EPA Cleanup Grants	Coalition members are eligible applicants. Assessment results will establish the conditions needed for competitive Cleanup Grant applications.
Tax Increment Financing (TIF)	Priority Site 2 is in the Enos Park TIF. Defined environmental conditions will make the site eligible for TIF-supported demolition, infrastructure, and site preparation.
Enterprise Zones (EZs)	Priority Site 2 is in an EZ. Clarified environmental conditions will increase the likelihood that developers use EZ incentives to reduce redevelopment costs.
Opportunity Zones (OZs)	Priority Site 2 is in an OZ. Reducing environmental risk will make the site more attractive for OZ investment.
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds	Springfield receives annual CDBG allocations. Priority Sites 2 and 3 are in 2026 QCTs/DDAs; due diligence will strengthen competitiveness for CDBG-supported housing and infrastructure.
Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE)	Eligible commercial and multifamily projects can access C-PACE. Knowing environmental conditions will allow developers to qualify for financing.
Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Funds	Local governments are eligible for OSLAD. Sites with green space components will be more competitive once conditions are confirmed.
Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC)	Developers are eligible for LIHTC. Environmental due diligence is required for LIHTC applications and will strengthen future proposals.
Federal New Markets Tax Credits (NMTC)	Sites in tracts that may qualify for NMTC will be more attractive to Community Development Entities once environmental conditions are known.
Private Investment	Reducing uncertainty and multiple incentive districts will increase the likelihood of attracting private capital.

This grant is the critical first step in unlocking these resources by reducing environmental uncertainty, lowering redevelopment risk, and making the Priority Sites finance-ready.

h. Use of Existing Infrastructure: The Priority Sites are located in areas already served by water, sewer, electric, broadband, and transportation infrastructure, allowing redevelopment to connect to existing systems without costly extensions. Most sites are vacant parcels suitable for infill development, which can efficiently leverage existing utilities. Phase I and II assessments funded through this grant will clarify environmental conditions that may affect site design, utility connections, or construction, helping determine whether existing infrastructure is sufficient or if modifications are needed. If upgrades are required - such as utility modernization, stormwater improvements, or targeted streetscape enhancements - the Coalition will pursue appropriate funding sources, including TIF, CDBG, state infrastructure programs, and C-PACE for energy-efficient improvements. These resources align with the types of upgrades that may be necessary and will support cost-effective, sustainable redevelopment within the Target Areas.

2. Community Need and Community Engagement

Community Need

a. The Community’s Need for Funding: The Target Areas (TA) fall inside Census Tracts 4, 7, 8, and 9 - among the most socioeconomically distressed neighborhoods in Sangamon County. These tracts experience chronic disinvestment, high unemployment, low incomes, and poverty rates more than twice the state and national levels, limiting the community’s ability to draw on other funding sources for environmental or redevelopment activities. These areas also contain a high concentration of vacant and potentially contaminated properties. With limited local revenue, aging infrastructure, and a constrained tax base due to extensive tax-exempt state property, Coalition members lack the financial capacity to conduct environmental assessments or develop cleanup and reuse plans. EPA funding is needed to address long-standing brownfield conditions and support revitalization in communities that cannot undertake this work without federal aid.

	TA 1	TA 2		TA 3	Average	Sangamon County	Illinois	U.S.
Census Tract	4	8	9	7				
Population	2,599	1,546	2,029	1,588	7,762	195,217	12,692,653	332,387,540
Unemployed	5.7%	16.8%	2.7%	4.1%	7.3%	3.4%	3.8%	3.3%
Median Household Income	\$53,884	\$37,986	\$30,340	\$46,859	\$42,267	\$74,114	\$81,702	\$78,538
% of People Below Poverty Level	23.0%	24.2%	39.4%	21.9%	27.1%	12.9%	11.7%	12.4%

	TA 1	TA 2		TA 3	Average	Sangamon County
Census Tract	4	8	9	7		
Minority Populations	12.7%	62.7%	30.2%	16.6%	30.6%	20.9%
< High School Degree	7.7%	35.3%	16.9%	9.9%	17.5%	6.3%
Disability	19.3%	28.8%	24.4%	16.9%	22.4%	13.6%
Children Under 10	13.0%	7.8%	3.9%	13.8%	9.6%	11.8%
Elderly Over 65	11.3%	7.7%	13.4%	16.7%	12.3%	18.9%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles, <https://data.census.gov>

b. Health or Welfare of Sensitive Populations:

In addition to the socioeconomic and demographic vulnerabilities described above, Census Tracts 4, 7, 8, and 9 contain

some of the highest concentrations of sensitive populations in the county, including minority residents, children and seniors, individuals with limited educational attainment, and people with disabilities. These groups face disproportionate health and welfare challenges, including higher rates of chronic disease, mobility limitations, and reduced access to healthcare and services. Children and seniors together make up nearly one-quarter of residents in the Target Area Census Tracts, who are more vulnerable to environmental contaminants due to developing or declining immune systems. Brownfields in these neighborhoods increase exposure risks, contribute to blight, and limit access to safe housing, employment, and community services. This grant will identify and assess potentially contaminated sites, reduce exposure threats, and guide cleanup and reuse strategies that support healthier living environments. Redeveloping these sites into housing, community facilities, and employment uses will directly benefit sensitive populations by improving safety, expanding opportunity, and reducing environmental burdens.

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CDC, Interactive PLACES Map 2023 data, <https://www.cdc.gov> – percent is the estimated prevalence of the disease in residents ages 18 years and older.

	TA1	TA 2		TA 3	Average	Sangamon County
Census Tract	4	8	9	7		
Asthma	11.6%	14.1%	12.7%	11.5%	12.5%	10.5%
Cancer	8.2%	5.0%	6.7%	7.9%	7.0%	9.1%
Diabetes	14.9%	18.0%	19.5%	13.5%	16.5%	11.9%
Heart Disease	8.0%	7.4%	9.0%	7.4%	8.0%	6.6%
Prevalence of Fair to Poor Health	25.3%	35.7%	32.7%	23.9%	29.4%	18.2%

c. Greater than Normal Incidence of Disease and Adverse Health Conditions: Residents in Census Tracts 4, 7, 8, and 9 experience

higher-than-normal rates of asthma, diabetes, heart disease, and fair-to-poor health compared to Sangamon County. These elevated chronic disease burdens increase vulnerability to contaminants commonly found on brownfield sites. Although birth defect data are not available at the Census Tract level, potential contaminants within the Target Areas are linked to developmental and reproductive harm, including increased risk of birth defects. Sangamon County experienced 70 deaths per 100,000 children under the age of 20 (compared to 50 for both Illinois and the U.S.) and seven infant deaths per 1,000 (compared to 6 or both Illinois and the U.S.) (3), which are consistent with health risks associated with exposure to hazardous substances found on brownfield sites. These contaminants are also associated with respiratory illnesses, cardiovascular disease, metabolic disorders, cancer, and other conditions, as reflected in the elevated chronic disease rates in the tracts. While cancer prevalence is lower than the county average, carcinogenic exposures remain a concern given historic industrial uses. Overall, life expectancy is slightly lower in Sangamon County, at 76.8 years, than Illinois (78.1) and the U.S. (77.6) (3). This grant will identify and assess contaminated properties, characterize exposure pathways, and guide cleanup and reuse strategies that reduce these threats. Redeveloping these sites into green spaces, housing, or other amenities will decrease exposure risks and support improved health outcomes.

(3) County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, Sangamon, IL <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/>

d. Economically Impoverished/ Disproportionately Impacted Populations: Populations in the Target Areas are disproportionately affected by the environmental consequences of historic industrial and commercial activity. Census Tracts 4, 7, 8, and 9 have significantly higher residential vacancy, older housing stock, industrial and heavy-commercial zoning, and direct adjacency to rail corridors and floodplains - conditions that are less common elsewhere in Sangamon County. These factors increase risks from deteriorated structures, legacy contaminants, and exposure pathways associated with past industrial and commercial uses. All Target Areas also face legacy subsurface hazards from historic mining and documented coal ash contamination from City Water Light & Power’s (CWLP’s) former disposal sites that contribute to elevated environmental risk. Economically disadvantaged households in these neighborhoods (as described in Section 2.a) have limited ability to remediate hazards, relocate, or influence land-use decisions, resulting in a disproportionate share of cumulative environmental burdens. This grant will address these issues by identifying contamination and exposure risks through targeted environmental assessments, prioritizing the most burdened sites. The cleanup and reuse strategies will reduce threats to residents by supporting safer housing, green space, and community-serving redevelopment, helping to correct long-standing environmental inequities.

	TA1	TA 2		TA 3	Average	Sangamon County
Census Tract	4	8	9	7		
Vacant housing units	11.5%	23.4%	13.3%	17.6%	16.5%	9.5%
Housing units built before 1970	89.0%	65.0%	75.9%	78.3%	77.1%	44.6%

U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles, <https://data.census.gov>

Community Engagement

e. Project Involvement and f. Project Roles: Coalition Members will be actively involved in all phases of the project, meeting monthly with additional coordination by phone and email to

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maintain progress. They will work with a diverse set of local organizations, community-based groups, neighborhood associations, economic development partners, and public agencies, as listed in the table below, who will participate in the BRAC. Coalition and BRAC Members will be meaningfully involved in decision-making for site selection, cleanup planning, reuse strategies, and overall revitalization efforts.

Each organization will contribute in ways that align with its mission, expertise, and connection to the community. Community-based groups and neighborhood organizations will identify community priorities and ensure that site selection and reuse decisions reflect local needs and perspectives. Economic development partners and business organizations will provide insight into redevelopment feasibility, market conditions, and potential end uses. Public Health will communicate environmental and health-related information to residents and offer guidance on exposure concerns, health priorities, and strategies that support long-term public well-being. The Farm Bureau will contribute rural perspectives, ensuring that the needs and priorities of agricultural communities are incorporated into site selection and reuse planning. All partners will leverage their community networks to share information and gather input, maintaining open, two-way communication with residents.

Organization Name	Point of Contact (name and email)	Specific Role in the Project
Springfield Sangamon Growth Alliance (SSGA)	Name: Ryan McCrady Phone: (217) 679-3500 Email: rmccrady@ThriveInSPI.org	The SSGA will help shape the economic vision for brownfield reuse, connecting redevelopment opportunities with businesses, the workforce, and the community. They will help build public-private partnerships, attract investment, and ensure projects support long-term goals. They will participate in decisions related to site selection and redevelopment feasibility for priority and non-priority sites.
Moving Pillsbury Forward (MPF)	Name: Chris Richmond, President Phone: (217) 899-2749 Email: movingpillsburyforward@gmail.com	MPF will guide redevelopment of the former Pillsbury Mills site and the surrounding area, bringing community insight into environmental, health, and reuse priorities to ensure revitalization reflects neighborhood needs and supports equitable outcomes. They will help evaluate and prioritize sites based on community concerns and reuse potential.
Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce (GSCC)	Name: Mike Murphy, President/CEO Phone: (217) 525-1173 Email: mmurphy@gsc.org	The GSCC has strong connections with businesses in the Springfield area. They will assist with outreach, contribute to community engagement, and advocate for the business community. They will contribute to decisions about commercially viable reuse options and cleanup strategies that support business growth.
Downtown Springfield Inc. (DSI)	Name: Carlos Ortega, Executive Director Phone: (217) 544-1723 Email: carlos@downtownspringfield.org	DSI is the downtown business association and Main Street organization dedicated to creating and supporting a vibrant neighborhood. They will advocate for businesses, help assess reuse options, and provide input on site selection for properties affecting the downtown area.
Springfield Inner City Older Neighborhoods (ICON)	Name: Jill Steiner, President Phone: (217) 652-7603 Email: chair@springfieldicon.org	ICON preserves, improves, and promotes older neighborhoods. They will represent homeowners and neighborhood associations and help identify and prioritize sites that have the greatest impact on neighborhood stability.
Faith Coalition for the Common Good	Name: Tyshianna Bankhead, Executive Director Phone: (217) 544-2297 Email: tyshianna@faithcoalition-il.com	The Faith Coalition will represent faith congregations, nonprofits, and union labor organizations. Members are also community advocates who can assist with community engagement and education. They will ensure cleanup and reuse decisions reflect equity priorities and local values.
Sangamon County Farm Bureau	Name: Jim Birge, Manager Phone: (217) 753-5200 Email: jbirge@sangamonfb.org	The Farm Bureau provides a collective voice for the many farmers in Sangamon County. They will advocate for rural residents and businesses and participate in decisions about sites affecting agricultural lands, drainage, and rural environmental health.
Sangamon County Department of Public Health	Name: John Ridley, Public Health Director Phone: (217) 535-3100 Email: john.ridley@sangamonil.gov	Public Health will bring expertise in environmental health, community wellness, and risk communication. They will help ensure that residents receive clear information throughout the project and advise on cleanup approaches and reuse decisions that reduce health risks.

g. Incorporating Community Input: The Coalition will use a multi-layered, accessible engagement approach to keep residents and community partners informed and meaningfully

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involved throughout the project. A Community Engagement Consultant (CEC) will support outreach and help design culturally appropriate tools. A dedicated brownfields website will serve as the primary alternative to in-person engagement, providing project updates, meeting materials, surveys, interactive maps, and a portal for submitting questions or comments at any time.

To encourage participation, the Coalition will distribute fliers linking to the website, share updates through partner networks, and attend community events to provide information and gather feedback. Eight public meetings will be held in trusted, ADA-accessible locations near the brownfield sites to present findings, discuss site priorities and reuse options, and report back on how community input influenced decisions. All input - whether collected online, at events, or during meetings - will be documented, reviewed by the Coalition and BRAC, and incorporated into site selection, cleanup planning, and reuse strategies.

3. Task Descriptions, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Progress

Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs

a. Project Implementation, b. Anticipated Project Schedule, c. Task/Activity Lead, d.

Outputs: The table below presents the project implementation plan, including the anticipated schedule, task leads, and associated outputs. The task-level timelines collectively represent a complete and achievable four-year project schedule.

Task 1: Cooperative Agreement Oversight	
a. Project Implementation	<p>EPA-Funded Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize Cooperative Agreement and Work Plan with EPA Manage grant administration, reporting, and compliance Procure QEP, CEC, and other contractors via competitive RFP process Submit Quarterly and Annual Reports Attend National Brownfields Training Conferences (2027, 2029) <p>Non-EPA Resources: SSCRPC will contribute in-kind staff time for grant administration and oversight</p>
b. Anticipated Project Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Q1, Year 1: Finalize Cooperative Agreement and Work Plan, procure and retain QEP and CEC Years 1 through 4: Ongoing grant management, Quarterly Reports, Annual Reports Years 2 and 4: Staff attend National Brownfields Training Conferences
c. Task Lead	<p>Lead: SSCRPC</p> <p>Role: Oversees Cooperative Agreement and Work Plan finalization, grant management, procurement, reporting, contractor oversight (QEP/CEC), coordination with EPA and Coalition Members, and staff participation in National Brownfields Training Conferences</p>
d. Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final Cooperative Agreement and Work Plan 16 Quarterly Reports 4 Annual Reports Procurement documentation and executed contracts for QEP, CEC, and other contractors Participation in 2 National Brownfields Training Conferences
Task 2: Community Engagement	
a. Project Implementation	<p>EPA-Funded Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct regular meetings with Coalition Members and the BRAC Collaborate with the CEC to design and implement community engagement strategies, outreach materials, and event facilitation Notify and engage the community through a project website, community events, and 8 public meetings Coordinate with local health agencies (Sangamon County Public Health) to support health monitoring activities <p>Non-EPA Resources: SSCRPC staff, Coalition Members, and BRAC Members will contribute in-kind time to support community engagement activities; health monitoring activities will be maintained through in-kind contributions</p>
b. Anticipated Project Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Q2, Year 1: Launch community engagement activities, initiate health monitoring coordination Years 1 through 4: Ongoing community engagement, website updates, community events, and health monitoring activities Annually: Conduct 2 public meeting per year (8 total) Monthly: Coalition Members meet with SSCRPC As Needed: Coalition and BRAC Members share information with their extensive community networks
c. Task Lead	<p>Lead: SSCRPC</p> <p>Supporting Entities: CEC, Coalition Members, BRAC Members, Sangamon County Public Health</p> <p>Role: Oversees community engagement planning and implementation, manages and directs the work of the CEC, coordinates Coalition meetings, shares information with Coalition and BRAC Members to distribute through their community networks, manages public outreach and oversees maintenance of the project website and engagement tools, facilitates collaboration with local health agencies, and ensures community input is documented and incorporated into decisions</p>
d. Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting minutes for Coalition and BRAC meetings Community engagement events (6 to 8 anticipated over the grant period) 8 public meetings Health monitoring reports Updated project website and outreach materials Documentation of community input and feedback summaries
Task 3: Inventory and Prioritization	

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a. Project Implementation	<p>EPA-Funded Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a Resource Roadmap to identify funding and technical assistance opportunities • Update and maintain the GIS-based Brownfields Inventory • Enter site data in EPA’s ACRES system • Manage and refine the Coalition’s brownfield inventory throughout the grant period • Document the site selection process and prioritize sites for assessment • Secure site access agreements for selected properties <p>Non-EPA Resources: Coalition Members and BRAC Members will contribute in-kind time to support inventory review and site prioritization</p>
b. Anticipated Project Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Years 1 and 2: QEP assists with inventory updates, ACRES entries, and site data verification • Years 1 through 4: Ongoing inventory management, site prioritization, and site access coordination • As Needed: Coalition and BRAC Members hold joint meetings to review inventory progress and identify additional sites • Monthly: Coalition Members meet with SSCRPC • As Needed: BRAC convenes to review site prioritization and provide guidance (anticipated 2 to 3 times per year)
c. Task Lead	<p>Lead: SSCRPC</p> <p>Supporting Entities: QEP, Coalition Members, BRAC Members</p> <p>Role: Oversees inventory development and maintenance, manages and directs QEP activities related to inventory and ACRES, coordinates site selection with Coalition and BRAC Members, and leads site access negotiations</p>
d. Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Roadmap (funding and technical assistance guide) • Updated GIS-based Brownfield Inventory • ACRES data entries and updates • Site selection documentation (criteria, prioritization summaries) • Executed site access agreements
Task 4: Environmental Assessment & Clean-up Plans	
a. Project Implementation	<p>EPA-Funded Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct 25 Eligibility Determinations • Complete 25 Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) • Prepare 12 Sampling and Analysis Plans (SAPs) • Conduct 16 Phase II ESAs • Prepare 14 Site Investigation Reports (SIRs): <i>These reports are required for sites enrolled in the Illinois EPA Site Remediation Program (SRP)</i> • Develop 6 Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCAs) • Develop 5 Remedial Action Plans (RAPs) • Support IEPA review of cleanup planning documents: <i>In accordance with EPA requirements for Assessment Coalition Grants, at least two sites within each Coalition Member’s jurisdiction will be assessed. Environmental assessment activities will focus on the Priority Sites identified in Section 1 first, ensuring that the highest-need properties are addressed early in the grant period.</i> <p>Non-EPA Resources: SSCRPC staff, Coalition Members, and BRAC Members will contribute in-kind time to support site access coordination and review of assessment findings</p>
b. Anticipated Project Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Years 1 through 4: Conduct Eligibility Determinations, complete Phase I ESAs, prepare SAPs, conduct Phase II ESAs, and prepare SIRs, ABCAs, and RAPs • Year 4: IEPA conducts review of cleanup planning documents
c. Task Lead	<p>Lead: SSCRPC</p> <p>Supporting Entities: QEP, Contractors, Coalition Members</p> <p>Role: Oversees environmental assessment and cleanup planning activities, manages and directs QEP and contractor work, coordinates site access, ensures quality and completeness of assessment documents, and facilitates IEPA review of cleanup planning deliverables</p>
d. Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 Eligibility Determinations • 25 Phase I ESAs • 12 SAPs • 16 Phase II ESAs • 14 SIRs • 6 ABCAs • 5 RAPs • IEPA review documentation
Task 5: Revitalization Implementation	
a. Project Implementation	<p>EPA-Funded Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and pursue additional grant funding to support remediation and redevelopment of Priority Sites • Identify and leverage federal, state, and local resources to incentivize private investment and support preliminary redevelopment planning discussions • Share assessment findings with potential funders, partners, and developers • Identify potential reuse scenarios for Priority Sites <p>Non-EPA Resources: SSCRPC staff and Coalition Members will contribute in-kind time to support funding applications, resource coordination, and redevelopment planning</p>
b. Anticipated Project Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q1 and Q2, Year 4: Research and apply for supplemental grant funding for remediation and redevelopment • Q1 and Q2, Year 4: Identify and leverage available resources to incentivize private development at Priority Sites • Q3 and Q4, Year 4: Continue coordination with funding agencies and private partners as needed
c. Task Lead	<p>Lead: SSCRPC</p> <p>Supporting Entities: Coalition Members</p> <p>Role: Leads efforts to identify and secure additional funding, coordinates resource leveraging strategies, collaborates with Coalition Members to support redevelopment planning and private investment attraction, and ensures that revitalization activities are documented and integrated into the overall project record</p>
d. Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant applications and coordination summaries documenting engagement with funding agencies and development partners • Secured funding commitments (as available) • Documentation of leveraged resources and incentives to support private development • Preliminary redevelopment concepts or reuse scenarios for Priority Sites

e. Cost Estimates: The following table details the project budget, showing how resources will be allocated across each task to support successful implementation.

	Project Tasks
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Budget Categories		<u>Task 1:</u> Cooperative Agreement Oversight	<u>Task 2:</u> Community Engagement	<u>Task 3:</u> Inventory & Prioritization	<u>Task 4:</u> Environmental Assessments & Cleanup Plans	<u>Task 5:</u> Revitalization Implementation	TOTAL
Direct Costs	Personnel	In-kind	In-kind	\$22,500	In-kind	In-kind	\$22,500
	Fringe Benefits	In-kind	In-kind	\$5,000	In-kind	In-kind	\$5,000
	Travel	\$3,850					\$3,850
	Equipment						-
	Supplies						-
	Contractual	\$14,250	\$56,300	\$22,500	\$1,155,250		\$1,248,300
	Construction						-
	Other (IEPA Fees)				\$220,350		\$220,350
Total Budget		\$18,100	\$56,300	\$50,000	\$1,375,600	-	\$1,500,000

Development of Cost Estimates

Task 1: SSCRPC will provide approximately 160 hours of in-kind staff time (valued at \$45/hour for 160 hours = \$7,200 in-kind) and fringe benefits for all procurement, reporting, and cooperative agreement management activities. A total of \$3,850 is allocated for SSCRPC staff to attend the National Brownfields Conference (2 staff with airfare of \$750 each (\$1,500), hotel at \$210 each for 3 nights (\$1,260), meals at \$112 per day for 3 days (\$672), and ground transportation at approximately \$70 per day for 3 days (\$418)). Staff's second conference trip will be in-kind. Contractual work includes 95 hours of QEP time (\$150/hour × 95 hours = \$14,250).

Task 2: SSCRPC will retain a CEC to draft fact sheets and website content, facilitate public meetings, respond to the press, and work with community residents. Contractual work includes 376 hours of CEC time (\$125 per hour × 376 hours = \$47,000) and 62 hours of QEP assistance (\$150 per hour × 62 hours = \$9,300). SSCRPC will provide 200 hours of in-kind staff time (valued at \$45 per hour for 200 hours = \$9,000 in-kind) and fringe benefits to assist the CEC. Health monitoring activities will be in-kind, well below the 10% cap. This project does not include participant support costs.

Task 3: This task includes \$22,500 of personnel time at \$45 per hour for site inventory and prioritization, along with \$5,000 in fringe benefits. This will provide 500 hours of staff time to review the inventory and guide the prioritization process with the community and QEP. Administrative costs are below the 5% cap (Coalition Members are fully committed to this project and will absorb the personnel costs for the remaining tasks). Contractual work includes 150 hours of QEP assistance (\$150 per hour × 150 hours = \$22,500). No additional equipment or software purchases are required.

Task 4: This task includes conducting 25 Eligibility Determinations at \$750 each (\$18,750); 25 Phase I ESAs at \$3,500 each (\$87,500); 12 SAPs at \$1,500 each (\$18,000); 16 Phase II ESAs at \$30,000 each (\$480,000), which include mobilization, drilling, sampling, laboratory analysis, and reporting; 14 SIRs for SRP-enrolled sites at \$26,000 each (\$364,000); 6 ABCAs at \$2,000 each (\$12,000); and 5 RAPs at \$35,000 each (\$175,000), prepared by the QEP and submitted to IEPA SRP. The IEPA review fee totals \$220,350. SSCRPC staff, Coalition Members, and BRAC Members will contribute in-kind time to support site access coordination and review of assessment findings. More than 60% of EPA funds will be used for site-specific assessment and cleanup planning activities, consistent with EPA requirements.

Task 5: Revitalization implementation will be executed by Coalition Members in their roles as land-use planning and economic development specialists. SSCRPC staff and Coalition Members will contribute in-kind time to support funding applications, resource coordination, and redevelopment planning.

f. Plan to Measure and Evaluate Environmental Progress and Results: The Coalition will track, measure, and evaluate environmental progress through the systems and milestones established in the EPA-approved Work Plan. The SSCRPC, along with the QEP, will monitor progress using clear metrics tied to expected outputs (e.g., assessments completed, reports submitted, community engagement activities) and outcomes (e.g., increased developer interest, movement of sites toward reuse, improved community awareness).

Progress will be tracked through:

ACRES updates, including site entries, assessment activities, and cleanup planning outputs.

Quarterly performance reports documenting completed tasks, deliverables, and any deviations from the work plan.

Brownfield inventory updates, including the number of sites added, prioritized, or advanced toward reuse.

Assessment outputs, including the number of Eligibility Determinations, Phase I ESAs, Phase II ESAs, SAPs, SIRs, ABCAs, and RAPs completed.

Community engagement metrics, such as the number of meetings, attendance, demographics reached, and feedback themes.

Developer and stakeholder interest, including inquiries, site tours, and follow-up actions.

Internal project management reviews, where the SSCRPC and the QEP evaluate progress against milestones and adjust implementation strategies as needed.

In addition to tracking outputs, the Coalition will evaluate longer-term environmental and economic outcomes. These outcomes include acres made available for redevelopment, acres converted to green space or community amenities, reduced exposure risks through identification and mitigation of hazardous substances, funding leveraged for cleanup and redevelopment, and indicators of economic revitalization such as construction jobs created, private investment attracted, and properties returning to productive use. Together, these measures will demonstrate

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progress and strengthen community understanding of brownfield issues by showing how assessment and cleanup activities reduce risks, create reuse opportunities, and deliver visible neighborhood benefits. This tracking system will allow the Coalition to measure both short-term results and longer-term environmental outcomes, ensure accountability, and support continuous improvement throughout the project.

4. Programmatic Capability and Past Performance

Programmatic Capability

a. Organizational Capacity, b. Organizational Structure, and c. Description of Key Staff:

The SSCRPC serves as the joint planning body for Sangamon County and the City of Springfield. It has the organizational capacity, structure, and staffing necessary to administer this grant. The agency conducts numerous studies, analytic reviews, and planning projects each year, and it serves in regional leadership roles, including acting as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the federally supported Springfield Area Transportation Study (SATS). The SSCRPC has an extensive history of managing grants, including recent grants from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) via the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA). This experience demonstrates the agency’s ability to meet programmatic, administrative, and financial requirements consistent with federal standards. Organizationally, the SSCRPC will serve as the lead coalition member, managing all grant funds, overseeing program implementation, and ensuring compliance with federal and state requirements. The SSCRPC will act as the administrative and fiscal agent, oversee the QEP, CEC, and other contractors, and coordinate all reporting, procurement, and documentation. The SSCRPC’s established financial controls, procurement procedures, and internal review processes ensure timely expenditure of funds and full compliance with federal requirements. The SSCRPC will regularly consult with Coalition Members to ensure that assessment activities reflect local priorities. Each member will participate in decision-making regarding site selection, community engagement, and the distribution of resources to ensure that grant benefits are shared equitably across their communities. Additional community partners will contribute perspectives that inform Coalition decisions and strengthen outreach efforts. The SSCRPC’s staffing structure provides the expertise needed to manage the grant:

Name	Title	Role
Shannan Karrick	Acting Executive Director and Senior Planner–Transportation	Karrick will provide executive oversight. She has nearly 10 years of experience in regional planning and deep community relationships that will support effective coordination across jurisdictions.
Lisa Peterson	Senior Planner–Policy Analysis	Peterson brings nearly 10 years of experience in project management, community engagement, and grant administration. She will oversee consultant activities and ensure that technical tasks remain on schedule.
Lindsay Kovski	Planning Specialist	Kovski manages the SSCRPC’s financial logistics and will ensure fiscal compliance, accurate expenditure tracking, and adherence to federal financial requirements.
Schylar Thomas	Administrative Secretary	Thomas will support scheduling, preparation of outreach materials, documentation of engagement activities, and general administrative coordination.

Through this structure and staffing, the SSCRPC is fully equipped to manage the grant’s technical, administrative, and financial responsibilities and ensure timely, compliant, and community-driven implementation.

d. Acquiring Additional Resources: The SSCRPC has established procedures to acquire additional expertise and resources as needed to complete the project. All procurement will follow federal and state requirements, including full and open competition consistent with 2 CFR 200.319, 200.320, and 200.324. No contractors or subrecipients have been pre-selected. In line with EPA’s Brownfields procurement guidance, the SSCRPC will ensure that no prospective contractor assists in preparing solicitation materials, that RFPs/RFQs do not restrict competition, and that evaluation criteria include weighted factors such as experience, capacity, and cost. The

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SSCRPC will competitively procure a QEP for environmental assessment activities and a CEC for community engagement. If only one bid is received, the SSCRPC will negotiate profit separately and document reasonableness, consistent with 2 CFR 200.324(b). All consultants must comply with applicable federal, state, and local regulations, including non-discrimination, Equal Employment Opportunity, and Drug-Free Workplace requirements. If subrecipients are incorporated, the SSCRPC will follow EPA’s subaward requirements and ensure appropriate oversight. If additional assistance is needed, the SSCRPC will coordinate with the Illinois EPA, the Sangamon County Department of Public Health, the SIU School of Medicine, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and/or the U.S. EPA Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Program. These procedures ensure the SSCRPC can scale resources as needed.

Past Performance and Accomplishments

f. Has Not Received an EPA Brownfields Grant but Has Received Other Federal or Non-Federal Assistance Agreements

(1) Purpose and Accomplishments and (2) Compliance with Grant Requirements: The SSCRPC has not previously received an EPA Brownfields grant but has successfully managed multiple federal and state financial assistance agreements of similar scale, complexity, and reporting requirements. The following examples highlight recent financial assistance agreements that demonstrate their capacity to manage complex, multi-year projects similar to this grant.

Agreement	Award	Purpose	Accomplishments	Compliance
FHWA / IDOT – MPO Transportation Planning Funds (FY26)	\$511,398.36 (FHWA) + \$124,937.16 (FTA) + \$49,283.88 (IDOT) + \$109,800.00 (Local Partners)	Conduct regional transportation planning as the MPO for the SATS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed the Unified Planning Work Program, Long-Range Transportation Plan, and Transportation Improvement Program Conducted public engagement, stakeholder meetings, and technical analyses Delivered required reports, data products, and planning documents on schedule 	The SSCRPC met all work plan milestones, adhered to federal planning regulations, and submitted all required quarterly and annual reports on time. Financial audits confirmed proper expenditures, and the project remained in full compliance with all programmatic and financial requirements.
Our Region Our Vision: Future Growth Plan (IDOT SPR Program) <i>*Project currently underway</i>	\$240,000	Develop a long-range regional growth and land-use plan through community engagement and data-driven analysis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed major data collection and analysis phases, entering into scenario planning phase Engaged in public outreach through a project website, promotional materials, a community survey, one of two planned public meetings, two Technical Advisory Committee meetings, and upcoming interviews and focus groups Currently developing draft GIS mapping, scenario modeling, and preliminary strategies 	The SSCRPC is meeting all work plan deadlines and submitting required progress reports on time. IDOT has accepted all interim deliverables, and the project remains in full compliance with procurement, financial, and documentation requirements.
9th Street/Peoria Road Master Corridor Plan (IDOT SPR Program)	\$250,000	Prepare a master corridor plan integrating transportation, land use, redevelopment, and revitalization strategies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed corridor plan identifying redevelopment/transportation improvements, delivered conceptual designs and provided implementation steps Conducted community engagement efforts, including a project website, promotional materials, a community survey, public meetings, Technical Advisory Committee meetings, interviews, and focus groups 	Deadlines were extended in coordination with IDOT due to COVID-19 impacts. The SSCRPC met all revised milestones, maintained full financial compliance, and submitted all required reports on time.

Across recent agreements, the SSCRPC has consistently delivered strong grant management - completing all deliverables on time, maintaining full compliance with reporting and financial requirements, and coordinating effectively with federal and state partners. The SSCRPC has had no compliance findings, corrective actions, or unresolved audit issues. These projects required extensive public engagement, technical analysis, procurement oversight, and multi-year project management. This experience demonstrates the core competencies necessary to administer the proposed EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant.

Threshold Criteria

1. Eligibility of Lead and Non-Lead Coalition Members

a. Lead Coalition Member: The Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission (SSCRPC) is eligible to apply for this grant as an instrumentality of Sangamon County. The SSCRPC was established under the authority of Sangamon County and operates as a governmental entity empowered to carry out regional planning functions on behalf of the County and its municipalities. As an instrumentality of county government, the SSCRPC is authorized to enter into binding agreements with federal agencies and to administer grant funds in accordance with applicable federal and state requirements. Documentation of this authority is provided in the attached resolution.

Non-Lead Coalition Members:

- City of Springfield: Eligible as a General Purpose Unit of Local Government (city).
- Village of Grandview: Eligible as a General Purpose Unit of Local Government (village).

b. 501(c)(4) Status Statement: The SSCRPC, City of Springfield, and Village of Grandview are units of government and are not 501(c)(4) organizations.

2. Target Areas:

- SSCRPC: Target Area 1
- City of Springfield: Target Area 2
- Village of Grandview: Target Area 3

3. Non-Lead Members that Never Received an EPA MARC Grant: No Coalition Members (SSCRPC, City of Springfield, or the Village of Grandview) have ever received an EPA Brownfields MARC Grant. In addition, none of the Coalition Members have an open EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant or Multipurpose Grant.

4. Legal Authority to Expend Funds on Behalf of Non-Lead Coalition Members:

a. Attest: As the Lead Coalition Member, the SSCRPC has the legal authority to expend grant funds on behalf of the City of Springfield and the Village of Grandview to conduct the proposed grant activities. This authority is established through its status as an instrumentality of Sangamon County (*see attached resolution*).

5. Coalition Agreement: Each Non-lead Coalition Member has signed a letter to SSCRPC agreeing to be a part of the Coalition (*see attached letters of commitment*).

6. Community Involvement: The Coalition will hire a CEC to support outreach and help design accessible, culturally appropriate engagement tools. A dedicated brownfields website will share project updates, surveys, interactive maps, meeting materials, and environmental and health-related resources. Informational fliers with a website link will be distributed throughout the community, and Coalition, BRAC, and partner organizations will share updates through their established networks. The Coalition will attend community events to provide information, answer questions, and gather feedback, and will host four public meetings in accessible community spaces near the brownfield sites. Community members may contact the SSCRPC at any time with questions or concerns and will receive timely responses. All input collected through meetings, events, and online tools will be documented, reviewed by the Coalition and BRAC, and incorporated into site selection, cleanup planning, and reuse strategies.

7. Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds: Not Applicable. The SSCRPC, City of Springfield, and Village of Grandview do not have any open EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant or Multipurpose Grant.

8. Contractors and Named Subrecipients: Not Applicable. The SSCRPC has not procured any contractors or named any subrecipients.