



**Grant
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 20
AGENDA DATE: Thu 11/04/2004
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SUBJECT: Authorize the City Manager to apply for a \$200,000 Brownfields Assessment Community-Wide Hazardous grant offered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding in the amount of \$200,000 from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency over two years beginning Fiscal Year 2005.

FISCAL NOTE: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

REQUESTING Watershed Protection and **DIRECTOR'S**
DEPARTMENT: Development Review **AUTHORIZATION:** Tammie Williamson

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Catherine Esparza, 974-1954; Martha Vincent, 974-3371

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: April 9, 1998 - Resolution to apply for U.S. EPA Brownfields Pilot Demonstration Grant. September 10, 1998 - Resolution to accept the U.S. EPA Brownfields Pilot Demonstration Grant. February 25, 1999 - Resolution to accept U.S. EPA Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Demonstration Pilot Grant. August 26, 2004 - Resolution to conduct environmental survey of closed landfills.

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

In 1980 the City of Austin conducted an environmental study of area landfills. The study was conducted in order to document landfills in the Austin area, determine the need for any to be listed on the National Priority List, and document their history. In August 2004, the Austin City Council passed a resolution directing the Solid Waste Services (SWS) department to conduct an environmental survey of closed landfills and report back in 90 days.

In anticipation that several of these closed landfills will need further studies to help determine the extent and content of contamination, the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department (WPDRD) has partnered with the Solid Waste Services department to apply for a United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), Brownfields Assessment Community-Wide grant. This grant will fund additional environmental studies necessary to make these contamination determinations of closed landfills.

The US EPA has partnered with the City of Austin since 1998, the WPDRD is requesting council authorization to apply for the \$200,000 Brownfields Assessment Community-Wide Hazardous grant to further study these closed landfills. The grant will further the city's commitment to sustainable community development. Guided by the principles of sustainable community development, the Brownfields Program will allow the city to reinvest in the community through the appropriate reuse of existing underutilized urban brownfield properties.