



Think B.I.G.
(Brown Is Green)

B.I.G.'s Mission: To assist in the cleanup and reuse of Brownfields by helping property owners identify and mitigate environmental barriers that impede economic growth while directly creating and/or retaining jobs.

What is a Brownfield? Brownfields are real property where the expansion, redevelopment or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence, or potential presence, of hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant.

Who can receive a loan? Any public or private entity with control of, or access to, a Brownfield site is eligible if the property is within Gahanna's city limits and meets U.S. EPA eligibility requirements.

Funding: The City of Gahanna may provide low interest loans for environmental remediation of Brownfield sites and could provide a portion of these funds as a subgrant to non-profit organizations. The amount of funding allocated to specific projects is dependent upon the total amount of grant dollars remaining. Applications shall include cost estimates that must be detailed and justified. The city received these program funds through a grant from the U.S. EPA.

Process:

1. Letters with copy of preliminary application will be mailed to properties within the City of Gahanna's boundaries that have been identified as potential brownfield sites.
2. Public meetings will be held to discuss the Think B.I.G. program.
3. Preliminary applications are received by the Department of Planning and Development for initial screening of project eligibility.
4. Preliminary applications will be prioritized and full applications will be requested for those sites with the highest redevelopment potential.
5. Full applications will undergo an internal financial and environmental review.
6. Following these reviews, the internally approved applications will be presented to the **Steering Committee one week prior to them meeting.**
7. The Steering Committee will hear from staff and the applicant regarding to the proposed usage of funds.
8. The Steering Committee determines which applications receive funding and which are declined during this go around.
9. The city will enter into a contractual agreement with the applicant.
10. The city and Hull & Associates will follow-up on funded projects to determine that funds are being spent as approved.
11. Staff will track repayment.

If you have any further questions, please contact:

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