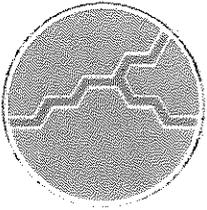


US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



City of YUMA

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL**

City of Yuma
Mayor and Council Office
One City Plaza
Yuma, Arizona 85364

(928) 373-5002
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MAYOR
Alan L. Krieger

COUNCILMEMBERS

Cody T. Beeson
Bobbi Brooks
Paul B. Johnson
Leslie L. McClendon
Raul Mendoza
Jerry Stuart

November 25, 2011

Mr. David R. Lloyd
Director
Office of Brownfields Cleanup and Redevelopment
Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1201 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20406

RE: City of Yuma, AZ's Application for FY 2012 Brownfields Assessment Funding

Dear Director Lloyd:

The City of Yuma is pleased to provide this transmittal letter providing applicant information, as specified in the U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant Guidelines.

- a. **Applicant Identification:**
City of Yuma, Arizona
One City Plaza
PO Box 13012
Yuma, AZ 85366
- b. **DUNS Number:** 078998184
- c. **Funding Requested:**
 - i. **Grant Type:** Assessment
 - ii. **Federal Funds Requested:** \$400,000
 - iii. **Contamination:** Hazardous Substances: \$200,000
Petroleum: \$200,000
 - iv. **Project Focus:** Community-wide
- d. **Location:** The historic downtown area of the City of Yuma will be served by the grant, an area roughly defined as 2010 Census Tract 1.
- e. **Property Name/Address:** N/A

f. **Contacts:**

i. Project Director:

Brant T. Hanson, MPA/MA
Management Analyst
(928) 373-5000 #1012 (p)
(928) 373-5012 (f)
Brant.Hanson@yumaaz.gov
One City Plaza
P.O. Box 13012
Yuma, AZ 85366

ii. Chief Executive/Highest Ranking Elected Official:

Mayor Alan L. Krieger
(928) 373-5002 (p)
(928) 373-5004 (f)
Alan.Krieger@yumaaz.gov
One City Plaza
Yuma, AZ 85364

g. **Date Submitted:** November 25, 2011

h. **Project Period:** April 1, 2012 – March 31, 2015 (Three Years)

i. **Population:** The City of Yuma has a population of 93,064, according to the 2010 U.S. Census.

j. **Special Considerations Checklist:** Please see attached for completed checklist.

Thank you for considering our application. I firmly believe that this funding can serve as a catalyst to revitalize our historic downtown and bring jobs and private investment into Yuma. The historic downtown was once the bustling center of commerce that helped Yuma develop into a great community, and it has the potential to serve as the economic engine that will rebuild our local economy. Initiating the process of assessing, inventorying and planning the cleanup and reuse of our Brownfield sites, will allow us to begin this revitalization by putting these sites back into productive reuse.

Please do not hesitate to contact Brant Hanson at (928) 373-5000 #1012, if you have any questions about this application.

Sincerely,



Alan L. Krieger
Mayor
City of Yuma

Attachments

Ranking Criteria

1. Community Need

Located along the Colorado River on Arizona's border with Mexico and California, Yuma was established in the early 1800s as a crossroads of trade and cultures. Early Yuma developed around the nexus of the Colorado Riverfront and the train station, in what is now considered Yuma's historic downtown.¹ Although once a vibrant hub of commerce and activity, this area of the city is now underutilized, underinvested, and blighted by significant brownfield properties associated with Yuma's freight rail sector. Although little work has been done to date to systematically identify and characterize the brownfields in the historic downtown, the City estimates that there are at least 15 sites contaminated by hazardous substances or petroleum in the area, including nearly 14 acres of property previously utilized by Union and Southern Pacific Railroad.

Yuma has suffered more than almost any other city in the country from the recent economic recession. Unemployment in the Yuma metropolitan area has not dipped below 20% since early 2009 and is now nearly 30%, higher than any other metropolitan area in the country other than neighboring El Centro, California. Over the past decade sprawling development pressures and vacant brownfields have pushed new economic development outside of the city center, to locations like the Yuma Palms Regional Center, a massive mall complex separated from the city proper by Interstate 8. Building a more economically vibrant and sustainable Yuma cannot be accomplished without a revitalization of the historic downtown, which is complicated by the presence of idle brownfields that remove significant parcels of land from productive use, discourage nearby development by blighting neighborhoods, and present health risks to Yuma residents. The City proposes to use EPA Brownfields Assessment grant funding to begin the process of characterizing and redeveloping these sites, thus facilitating the historic downtown's transition into a vibrant, mixed-use neighborhood.

a) Health, Welfare, and Environment

Yuma's historic downtown, bordered by the Colorado River waterfront and the Southern Pacific train tracks, has been the central hub of industrial activity since Yuma's inception. Although little environmental testing has been done at brownfield sites throughout the historic downtown, the City has identified at least 15 potentially contaminated properties in the area and the existence of additional brownfields is extremely likely. The following is an initial list of brownfield properties in the historic downtown. A more complete list of Hazardous and Petroleum properties will be compiled as part of this project.

Identified Brownfields

Site Name:	Acreage	Suspected/Known Contamination	Assessment Needed	Suspected/Known Impacts
Union Pacific	9.40	Petroleum	Phase I	Blight; safety threat; unutilized

¹ As used throughout the narrative, the term "historic downtown" refers to the area bounded on the north by the Colorado River, to the east by Interstate 8, to the south by 8th Street, and to the west by Orange Street/3rd Avenue. For statistical purposes, this area roughly consists of 2010 Census Tract 1.

Southern Pacific	1.43	Petroleum	Phase I	Blight; unutilized
Southern Pacific	2.27	Petroleum	Phase I	Blight; unutilized
Southern Pacific	0.85	Petroleum	Phase I	Blight; unutilized
Freight Depot	0.52	Petroleum/ Hazardous	Phase I	Blight; Safety threat; unutilized
Daily's Market	0.15	Hazardous	Phase I	Blight; Safety threat; unutilized
Coca-Cola Bottling	1.72	Petroleum/ Hazardous	Phase I	Blight; Safety threat; unutilized
Arizona Products	2.37	Hazardous	Phase I	Blight; building fire; unutilized
Union Oil	0.60	Petroleum/ Hazardous	Phase I	Blight; safety threat; unutilized
Barnicle Property	0.63	Hazardous	Phase I	Blight; unutilized
Citrus Packers	2.00	Hazardous	Phase I	Blight; unutilized
Arizona Alcohol Fuel	0.39	Hazardous	Phase I	Blight; unutilized
541 Gila	0.25	Hazardous	Phase I	Blight; unutilized
595 Gila	0.33	Hazardous	Phase I	Blight; unutilized

The vast majority of the historic downtown's brownfields are unsecured and pose a direct threat to community members that walk through or play at these sites. Few of these unsecured sites have standing structures, but many have other legacies from their previous use – foundation slabs, jutting pipes, or chunks of concrete. These remnants left on otherwise vacant and unsecured fields, within a short walk of several residential neighborhoods, present a threat to local children who are tempted to play pick-up sports at these sites, as well as laborers or residents who walk through these sites to minimize commuting time. Although there are no known recent incidents related to the identified brownfield sites, the mix of uneven footing, discarded metal fragments, and potential soil contamination does create a significant public safety concern.

Additionally, brownfields in the historic downtown have increased dependency upon vehicular transportation and discouraged healthier transportation modes, such as walking or biking. Since private sector development has taken place almost exclusively on the periphery of the city – only one major private investment, the \$30 million Hilton Garden Inn has materialized in the historic downtown over the past decade – Yuma residents have limited shopping, recreational and employment options within walking distance. As a result, only 3.2% of Yuma residents walk to work (2010 ACS 1-year estimate), despite the location of thousands of government jobs in the historic downtown.

This lack of non-vehicular mobility has a significant health impact upon Yuma residents. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 2007 data, an estimated 47.2% of Yuma area residents over 18 years of age are overweight, more than any other metropolitan or micropolitan statistical area measured (Data from CDC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2007). Since being overweight drastically

increases the risk of contracting chronic diseases such as diabetes, this trend is likely to mean higher healthcare costs and lower quality of life for Yuma residents for decades to come. Furthermore, reliance upon vehicular traffic contributes to air pollution and increases health risks for Yuma residents. Yuma County is designated by EPA as a non-attainment area for Particular Matter-10 (PM10) and a 2002 study conducted by Arizona State University found that approximately 6.5% of Yuma County children are treated for asthma each year, about 60% higher than the average rate in the United States. The redevelopment of historic downtown brownfields will enhance livability in Yuma, thus diminishing these health problems associated with automobile dependency.

b) Financial Need

Yuma is one of the most economically distressed communities in the country. Unemployment in the Yuma metropolitan statistical area is the second highest of any metropolitan region in the country (29.3% in August 2011), and unemployment within city limits is 23.3%, more than 2.5 times the national average. As the chart below indicates, on every major economic indicator Yuma performs significant below both national and state averages. Although current economic data is not available at the Census Tract level, the historic downtown and its surrounding neighborhoods (not in Tract 1) are overwhelmingly Latino, and include multiple impoverished neighborhoods.

Due to its location on the Mexican border, 54.8% of Yuma’s population is Hispanic or Latino (2010 Census), and a sizeable minority of these residents face significant language and citizenship barriers that hinder their ability to find gainful employment. A total of 20.4% of Yuma residents were born outside of the United States and 56.3% of these foreign-born residents are not U.S. citizens (2010 ACS 1-year). Spanish is the primary language spoken at home for 43.4% of Yuma residents and more than 12,000 Yuma residents lack English fluency (2010 ACS 1-year). As a result of these barriers, the Latino community of Yuma suffers disproportionately during periods of economic stagnation.

Demographic Information

	Census Tract 1	Yuma	Arizona	National
Population ¹ :	2,687	93,064	6,392,017	308,745,538
Unemployment ² :	N/A	23.3%	9.3%	9.1%
Poverty Rate ³ :	27.8%	16.5%	17.4%	15.3%
Percent Minority ⁴ :	71.5%	62.1%	42.2%	36.3%
Per Capita Income ⁵ :	\$15,846	\$18,364	\$23,618	\$26,059

1: Data from 2010 Census, www.census.gov.
 2: Data from Bureau of Labor Statistics (August 2011), www.bls.gov.
 3: Data from 2010 American Community Survey (ACS) (1-year estimate) with exception of Census Tract 1 data, which is from 2000 ACS (1-year estimate), www.census.gov.
 4: Data from 2010 Census with minority defined as persons who identify as Hispanic or Latino and all other persons that are not “White alone,” www.census.gov.
 5: Data from 2010 ACS 1-year estimate; Census Tract 1 from 2000 ACS 1-year estimate, www.census.gov.

The economic legacy of brownfields on Yuma is one of slow deterioration and divestment in the historic downtown. The most significant brownfields in Yuma’s historic downtown are associated with its rail industry, as the railroad runs adjacent to the

downtown area. As rail companies and associated industry began to utilize alternate routes or modes of transportation, or simply moved to upgrade facilities, they frequently abandoned outdated facilities. The anticipated environmental issues associated with these properties, along with market forces driving developers further away from the historic downtown area, have caused many of these sites to be vacant for years, if not decades. Despite a massive investment of public resources that has brought thousands of government jobs to the historic downtown – future home to the John M. Roll U.S. Courthouse and current home of the Yuma County Superior Court, Yuma City Hall, and Yuma County Administrative Offices – vacant brownfield properties have significantly hindered private investment. In the last ten years, only one large private investment has been made in the historic downtown, the construction of a Hilton Garden Inn on the Colorado River that was completed in April 2009.

Like many communities in the Southwest, Yuma benefitted from the housing boom of the 2000s, growing 20% from 2000 to 2010. Yet this growth took place almost exclusively on the city's periphery, as developers expanded into the cheap and abundant desert and largely ignored infill development. These sprawling pressures redirected economic investment from the downtown to the city fringes or unincorporated areas surrounding Yuma. The Yuma Palms Regional Center, a massive retail complex composed of four shopping districts that is separated from the city by Interstate 8, received much of this investment. In contrast, the historic downtown and the neighborhoods immediately surrounding the downtown saw nearly a 10% decrease in population from 2000 to 2010.²

Yuma was devastated by the collapse of the housing construction industry in 2008. On average, 1300 building permits were issued for new residential construction in Yuma between 2002 and 2007; in 2010 only 143 were issued. The recession not only precipitated Yuma's current unemployment crisis, it also caused local housing values plummet. According to a May 2011 Federal Housing Finance Agency report, the Yuma metropolitan area ranked sixth nationwide for percent losses in housing value over the past year. Data from the Yuma County Assessor's Office indicates that property values have dipped 42.5% from the second quarter of 2007 to the first quarter of 2011. This decline not only eliminated much of the savings accumulated by Yuma families, but also severely depressed the community's housing market, hindering the City's efforts to rebuild the historic downtown as a vibrant, mixed-use city center.

2. Project Description and Feasibility of Success

a) Project Description

The City of Yuma has not previously received funding from the EPA Brownfields Program and the brownfield sites in the historic downtown have not been characterized or prioritized. However, the City has invested substantial resources into planning and implementing the revitalization of the historic downtown and the cleanup and reuse of these brownfields will drastically accelerate these efforts.

In 2000, Congress designated the historic downtown as the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area, providing new authorities for the Heritage Area nonprofit organization

² Population of Tracts 1, 2 & 6 decreased from 12,400 in 2000 to 11,405 in 2010. (Census 2000, 2010)

and enabling the preservation and revitalization of this area to receive annual funding. Two years and dozens of community meetings later, the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area Management Plan was adopted to provide a community vision for this effort. Since then, both the Heritage Area and the City have worked to preserve green space in the downtown, encourage new sustainable and historically-sensitive development, and promote a more livable city center. However both the City and the Heritage Area's plans for the historic downtown focus on the economic and community development challenges of its revitalization and do not address the environmental and public safety complications of the area's many brownfield properties. This grant will enable the City to integrate its ongoing revitalization and community engagement efforts with a newfound focus on brownfield issues and provide a catalyst for new development in the historic downtown.

Yuma will use EPA funding to develop both a Hazardous and Petroleum inventory of brownfield sites in the historic downtown. This inventory will help identify brownfield sites beyond the approximately 15 known to the City, enable the City to prioritize the assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment of these sites, and accelerate their reuse by providing accessible information to developers. The City will develop this inventory in electronic format, but will also create a booklet that highlights the most pertinent information about the sites and can be distributed to interested developers. EPA funds will also be used to conduct approximately 8-10 Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) on Hazardous sites and another 8-10 Phase I ESAs on Petroleum sites.

Phase II ESAs will be performed on approximately 2 Hazardous sites and 2 Petroleum sites, which will be identified through the brownfield inventory and community involvement efforts. For each Phase II ESA conducted, quality assurance project plans, site-specific sampling and analysis plans, and remedial action work plans will be developed. EPA will be consulted before any work is conducted on sites that might impact historical properties. In addition, remediation and reuse plans will be created for each site that undergoes a Phase II ESA. Finally, Yuma will utilize EPA grant funding to conduct area-wide planning activities targeted at integrating brownfield reuse efforts with the community's vision for the historic downtown. One of the largest hurdles to the revitalization of the historic downtown to date has been that local planning and development initiatives have not incorporated brownfield-specific environmental and reuse concerns, despite the crucial impact of brownfields on this area. These area-wide efforts will enable the development of a community-led revitalization strategy that both facilitates brownfield cleanup and reuse and fosters broader economic development throughout the historic downtown by identifying solutions to economic, environmental, infrastructure, and market barriers that hinder brownfield redevelopment in the area.

b) Budget for EPA Funding, Tracking and Measuring Progress, and Leveraging Other Resources

i) *Hazardous and Petroleum Funding Budgets*

Hazardous Budget

Budget Categories	Project Tasks					Total
	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	Task 5	

Personnel						\$0
Fringe Benefits						\$0
Travel						\$0
Equipment						\$0
Supplies	\$3,000	\$2,000				\$5,000
Contractual	\$5,000	\$38,000	\$32,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$195,000
Other						\$0
Total	\$8,000	\$40,000	\$32,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$200,000

Task 1 (Community Outreach): Yuma plans to hold multiple community events during the implementation of this grant in order to educate community members on brownfield issues, solicit feedback on project direction, and ensure the project outcomes are consistent with the community’s vision for the historic downtown. These events will include a “kick-off” meeting, a two-day planning charrette, and a final meeting. Funding is requested in the “Supplies” category to cover the cost of printing flyers and educational information. Funds are requested under the “Contractual” category to allow consultants working on project implementation to participate in the charrette and meetings.

Task 2 (Inventory): Under this task, Yuma will engage consultants to develop an inventory of Hazardous sites in GIS format and produce a booklet version that can be used to market brownfield sites to potential developers. The budgeted cost of \$38,000 for consultant fees and \$2,000 for printed copies of this booklet is based upon an informal estimate provided by a local environmental contractor.

Task 3 (Phase I ESAs): Under this task, Phase I ESAs will be completed on approximately 8-10 Hazardous sites. The Phase I ESAs will be performed under the EPA’s All Appropriate Inquires rule and are estimated to cost approximately \$4,000 each, based upon estimates provided by a local environmental contractor.

Task 4 (Phase II ESAs): Under this task, Phase II ESAs will be completed for approximately 2 Hazardous sites identified as priorities. A quality assurance project plan, sampling and analysis plan, and a site-specific health and safety plan will be developed for each site investigation as part of this task. Approximately \$30,000 is budgeted for each Phase II ESA, based upon estimates from a local environmental contractor.

Task 5 (Reuse, Remediation and Area-Wide Planning): For each site that receives a Phase II ESA, remedial and reuse plans will be prepared to facilitate the cleanup of the property. In addition, Yuma will produce an area-wide brownfields plan that integrates brownfield cleanup and redevelopment strategies into the community vision for the historic downtown. During this task, sites evaluated may be entered into the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality’s Voluntary Remediation Program, if appropriate.

Petroleum Budget

Budget Categories	Project Tasks					Total
	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	Task 5	
Personnel						\$0

Fringe Benefits						\$0
Travel	\$8,000					\$8,000
Equipment						\$0
Supplies	\$3,000	\$2,000				\$5,000
Contractual	\$5,000	\$30,000	\$32,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$187,000
Other						\$0
Total	\$16,000	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$200,000

Task 1 (Community Outreach): Funding is included under this task to produce materials for community meetings, similar to those described under the Hazardous budget above and to fund consultant participation in community events. In addition, \$8,000 is included under the “Travel” category to fund two City staff to travel to and participate in two national EPA Brownfields Conferences over the course of the grant. These staff will share the Yuma story by participating in panels and workshops and learn brownfield best practices from other grantees and EPA staff.

Task 2 (Inventory): Under this task, consultants will develop an inventory of Petroleum sites in GIS format (Contractual category) and produce a booklet that can be provided to private sector developers (Supplies category). The costs provided in this task are based upon an informal estimate provided by a local contractor. This task is estimated to cost \$8,000 less than the equivalent task in the Hazardous budget because the consultant can reuse the same basic framework created for the Hazardous inventory and there are suspected to be fewer Petroleum sites to inventory.

Task 3 (Phase I ESAs): Under this task, Phase I ESAs will be completed on approximately 8-10 Petroleum sites. The Phase I ESAs will be performed under the EPA’s All Appropriate Inquires rule and are estimated to cost approximately \$4,000 each, based upon estimates provided by a local environmental contractor.

Task 4 (Phase II ESAs): Under this task, Phase II ESAs will be completed for approximately 2 Petroleum sites identified as priorities. A quality assurance project plan, sampling and analysis plan, and a site-specific health and safety plan will be developed for each site investigation as part of this task. Approximately \$30,000 is budgeted for each Phase II ESA, based upon estimates from a local environmental contractor.

Task 5 (Reuse, Remediation and Area-Wide Planning): For each site that receives a Phase II ESA, remedial and reuse plans will be prepared to facilitate the cleanup of the property. In addition, Yuma will produce an area-wide brownfields plan that integrates brownfield cleanup and redevelopment strategies into the community vision for the historic downtown. During this task, sites evaluated may be entered into the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality’s Voluntary Remediation Program, if appropriate.

ii) Tracking and Measuring

To track the success of this grant, Yuma’s project manager will record outputs in a comprehensive Excel spreadsheet as the grant is implemented. Contractors will be expected to report monthly not only on work performed but on outputs or outcomes

achieved and the project manager will summarize outputs/outcomes in quarterly reports submitted to EPA. This system will ensure that important milestones and deliverables are recorded as they materialize. The project manager will track data for both the Petroleum Assessment grant and the Hazardous Substances Assessment grant and will enter pertinent information into the EPA's Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES) database.

Yuma expects to collect data on the following outputs:

- Previously unknown brownfield sites identified;
- Inventory completed;
- Phase I ESAs completed;
- Phase II ESAs completed;
- Site-specific remedial action work plans and future reuse plans completed;
- Area-wide redevelopment plans developed;
- Stakeholder and community meetings and planning charrettes held;
- Participation at stakeholder/community meetings and charrettes; and
- EPA Brownfields Conferences attended.

Outcomes will be tracked using similar methods and will include quantitative results achieved during the grant period, including:

- Acres of brownfields investigated;
- Acres of brownfields remediated;
- Acres of brownfields secured (i.e. fenced or locked) to minimize safety hazards;
- Acres of brownfields redeveloped;
- Acres of greenspace created;
- Jobs created;
- Private economic investment in brownfield properties;
- End uses of sites redeveloped (i.e. retail/commercial/industrial/residential);
- LEED-certified buildings constructed on brownfields; and
- Change in property values within historic downtown.

iii) Leveraging

EPA funding is a key element of a comprehensive initiative already underway by the City, the County, Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area, the private sector, and dozens of community partners to revitalize the historic downtown. As such, this funding will directly leverage millions of dollars of investment that will be made in the historic downtown over the next several years, much of which the City intends to target at brownfield redevelopment with the help of this grant. Planned investments include:

- **\$3,000,000 investment from Craig Clark, President and Owner of C.W. Clark, Inc.** As a result of a development agreement signed with the City to construct the new Hilton Garden Inn, Mr. Clark is required to invest at least \$3 million in the next several years within the confines of the historic downtown. He is tentatively planning to construct new office space, which could potentially be developed on brownfields identified and characterized through this grant, or on neighboring properties that appreciate in value as a result of this grant.

- **\$400,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.** The City plans to dedicate at least \$400,000 of its CDBG funding to expand economic opportunities in the historic downtown over the three year performance period of the EPA grant. The EPA project manager will coordinate with the CDBG administrator to ensure that these funds leverage EPA funding to the greatest extent possible.
- **\$400,000 from the City's General Fund.** In addition to the CDBG funding expended in the historic downtown, the City plans to dedicate \$400,000 in local funding over the next three years to economic development efforts in the downtown.
- **In-kind contributions of staff time from the City** (e.g., City Administrator, Planning Director, City Engineer, Heritage Area Director and others). City staff will work to administer EPA grant funding, as well as to organize and participate in the community meetings and charrettes planned under this grant. No funding is requested from EPA for staff time invested in this project.

c) Programmatic Capability and Past Performance

i) *Programmatic Capability*

The City of Yuma has a history of successfully managing numerous state and federal grants. EPA funding will be administered by the Neighborhood Services Division, within the Office of the Yuma City Administrator. The Neighborhood Services Division also administers Yuma's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding, which equates to approximately \$1 million on an annual basis. The Division has been recognized by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as one of the most innovative and successful CDBG administrators in the region and Division staff are often consulted on grant administration matters by other cities and area non-profit organizations. Yuma has submitted all CDBG reports in a timely and complete manner and anticipates no problems administering EPA funding.

Yuma's EPA grant project manager will be Brant Hanson, a Management Analyst with the City. Mr. Hanson assists the City Administrator in overseeing the Neighborhood Services Division and holds a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Southern California. Mr. Hanson will work in collaboration with Nikki Hoogendoorn, the City's CDBG Administrator to ensure compliance with EPA requirements, coordinate with the assigned EPA project officer, and complete and submit grant reports. Mr. Hanson will also work closely with the Heritage Area's Executive Director, Mr. Charles Flynn, to implement and administer the grant. The Heritage Area has received \$370,000 annually in federal grant funding since being designated by Congress in 2000 and has administered millions of dollars more in grant funding from the Department of Interior and the Bureau of Reclamation in the past several years. Mr. Flynn has 15 years of experience working on economic development efforts in historic areas and has led the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area since 1999.

The City does not anticipate any change in project leadership and has sufficient experience and capacity within its Neighborhood Services Division to transition administration responsibilities to current staff in the case of employee turnover. Should the need arise to hire additional City staff for this project, the City will require that new

hires have experience managing federal grants, and provide a preference to applicants that have administered EPA Brownfields funding.

All contracts with outside consultants will be competitively awarded in compliance with the Procurement Standards in 40 CFR Part 30 or 40 CFR Parts 31.36, as appropriate. All subgrant recipients will comply with applicable requirements, including those contained in 40 CFR Parts 30 or 31, as appropriate. All transactions between the City and the subgrantees will be consistent with the standards for distinguishing between vendor transactions and subrecipient assistance under Subpart B Section .210 of OMB Circular A-133, and the definitions of subaward at 40 CFR 30.2(ff) or subgrant at 40 CFR 31.3, as applicable. The City also has a process in place that encourages proposals from small and disadvantaged businesses. As with all contracts with the City, any contracts awarded under this grant would be evaluated using a variety of criteria, including, but not limited to, expertise, availability, past work, and cost.

ii) Adverse Audits

The City has not had any adverse audits and there have not been any problems associated with grant administration.

iii) Past Performance

2. Never Received an EPA Brownfields Grant

Although the City of Yuma has never received an EPA Brownfields Grant, the City and its project partners have successfully administered grant funding from other federal agencies. Over the past ten years, the City's Neighborhood Services Division has administered approximately \$11 million in HUD CDBG funding and has successfully completed all grant management requirements for this funding. In addition, this funding has been instrumental for creating the community vision for the historic downtown that this brownfields project seeks to build upon. CDBG funding has been utilized to create and implement Neighborhood Revitalization Strategies for the Carver Park and Yuma High neighborhoods, including proactive code enforcement efforts, coordinated neighborhood cleanups, and construction of a neighborhood center. Both of these neighborhoods are areas of high poverty with significant minority concentrations and are located within short walking distance of the historic downtown. CDBG funding has also been successfully utilized to develop an 80-unit affordable rental housing project, increase and improve area green space, and create a Housing Rehabilitation Program for low-income homeowners.

Yuma has also received multiple grants in the last year for public safety and homeland security. Earlier this year, the Department of Homeland Security awarded the City a \$3.99 million grant through its Border Interoperability Demonstration Project to expand a regional interoperable communications system. In 2010, the Yuma Police Department received nearly \$1 million in COPS Hiring grant funding from the U.S. Department of Justice to hire five new police officers. Neither of these grants has been yet been completed, but all interim reporting milestones have been met.

The City's close partner on this project, the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area, has extensive experience in successfully managing federal grants. The Heritage Area has received more than \$27 million in federal grants since its authorization by Congress in 2000 and is widely recognized in the region as a leader in successfully implementing these grants. The Heritage Area has worked with the City on federally funded projects many times in the past, and has helped the City implement a total of \$1.5 million in Federal Highway Administration-funded Transportation Enhancement grants to reconstruct Main Street in the historic downtown. The Heritage Area has also utilized millions of dollars in National Park Service (NPS) funding to successfully expand public access to the East and West Wetlands that border the historic downtown along the Colorado Riverfront. The City's strong partnership with the Heritage Area will continue through the implementation of this EPA grant.

3. Community Engagements and Partnerships

For the past decade, the City and the Heritage Area have conducted significant community engagement and held dozens of stakeholder meetings to solicit input into the revitalization of the historic downtown. Despite this high level of community involvement, there continue to be significant under-represented populations that must be integrated into future planning processes, including immigrants (many who have limited English proficiency), senior citizens, and the unemployed. This grant will provide a unique opportunity for all of these historically underrepresented populations to fully participate in and shape the City's brownfield cleanup and redevelopment strategy.

Largely as a result of Yuma's proximity to the Mexican border, one in five Yuma residents were born outside of the United States. Although many of these immigrants are long-time Yuma residents and Yuma has a vibrant Latino culture, a significant number lack fluency in English and many are reluctant to participate in City-led initiatives. These barriers have prevented this population from being represented in proportionate numbers during local planning efforts. Yuma's senior citizen population fluctuates significantly over the course of a year. Roughly 70,000 people take advantage of Yuma's climate by spending the winter months in the community, and an additional 300,000 visit during the winter. This influx begins in September and during the peak months of January and February, Yuma's population is nearly double its summer average. Since they do not reside year-round in Yuma, these winter residents have historically not participated in local planning processes, yet they are a major driver of the local economy and have a lasting influence on the character of the community. Finally, unemployment in Yuma has recently reached catastrophic highs, leaving nearly one in three workers in the metropolitan area without a job. These residents have the most to gain from the revitalization of the historic downtown, but are also among the most vulnerable of Yuma residents and rarely participate in community planning processes.

a) Community Involvement Plan

The City is organizing community involvement in the historic downtown revitalization through the formation of the Historic Downtown Revitalization Working Group, a stakeholder council that includes representatives from community organizations that advocate for under-represented populations, the development community, local labor and

workforce development specialists, and key governmental bodies (see section C of this ranking criteria for a complete list of members). The Working Group will meet regularly throughout the implementation of the EPA grant, to provide input into project progress and guide site prioritization and selection decisions.

The Working Group will also help to schedule, organize, and recruit participants for the multiple community events scheduled to involve the broader community in this initiative. Specifically, the City will collaborate with the Working Group to:

- Schedule a community-wide “kick-off” meeting to discuss the properties that the City has identified as potential brownfield sites in the historic downtown and begin to identify the most crucial sites for assessment and remediation/reuse planning;
- Meet on a quarterly basis to update members on project progress and obtain input into project management (more meetings can be scheduled as needed);
- Hold a comprehensive, two-day community planning charrette, which will include broad outreach and advertising, recruitment of community stakeholders, community planning and input sessions, and establishment of an overall re-use vision;
- Conduct regular outreach to community members by distributing educational information about the progress of the historic downtown revitalization through social media, community email listservs, the City websites and local newspapers and newsletters;
- Participate in two annual community-wide meetings in 2013 and 2014 to discuss project scope and to make adjustments to scope or direction, as necessary; and
- Host a “close out” community meeting in 2015 in order to discuss primary outcomes of the grant, the next steps for continuing progress, and future opportunities.

b) Federal/State Partnerships and Local Brownfield Jobs

In the past decade, Yuma has built a strong relationship with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) during the City and Heritage Area’s habitat preservation efforts in the West and East Wetlands that surround the historic downtown. The City intends to further strengthen this relationship by inviting ADEQ to participate in community meetings and as a member of the Working Group. The Heritage Area has also received significant amounts of funding from the NPS and maintains a collaborative relationship with NPS staff.

One of the primary goals of this project is the creation of new jobs for Yuma residents, and the City plans to collaborate closely with local workforce development organizations to place unemployed residents into jobs created by EPA funding. Goodwill of Central Arizona, which provides career training skills and job placement assistance to persons with disabilities and low-income residents, is a crucial partner of the City’s and a member of the Working Group. Yuma is also working with the Yuma Private Industry Council, which provides Workforce Investment Act-funded training to Yuma residents. Additionally, although contract work awarded under this grant will be bid competitively, the City’s procurement process will provide preference to contractors located in Yuma.

c) Role of Community-Based Organizations

Community-based organizations have been instrumental in creating a vision for the revitalization of the historic downtown, and have played an integral role in preserving historical aspects of the sites and promoting education on the community's history. Community organizations will be deeply involved in the implementation of this grant and will help to guide its implementation as members of the Historic Downtown Revitalization Working Group. The following organizations are participating in the Working Group (letters of support from all organizations are attached):

- **Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area** – This Congressionally-recognized non-profit dedicated to the preservation of Yuma's rich heritage has been the driving force behind historic downtown revitalization and riverfront redevelopment in Yuma.
- **Goodwill of Central Arizona** – This non-profit is dedicated to helping people with disabilities or people who would otherwise face obstacles to entering the workforce find employment. With a Career Center based in Yuma, Goodwill provides a variety of workforce development services to disadvantaged Yuma residents, including free classes on resume writing, job interview skills, and computer skills.
- **Community Leadership Alliance of Yuma County** – The Community Leadership Alliance (CLA) is a local volunteer-based organization that provides services to members of Yuma's Latino community, including assistance with U.S. citizenship applications and interpretation services. The CLA also works actively to restore and preserve historical sites in the downtown and leads efforts to promote green space.
- **Western Arizona Council of Governments (WACOG): Area Agency on Aging** – WACOG is a governmental nonprofit that administers a variety of federal block grant programs in Yuma County. Its Agency on Aging is the primary provider of services to senior citizens in the community and helps seniors obtain legal assistance, information about health insurance benefits, and personal care.
- **Yuma Private Industry Council, Inc. (YPIC)** – YPIC is a private nonprofit organization that helps Yuma employers find qualified employees and places jobseekers in appropriate careers. Yuma County has designated YPIC as the community's CareerOneStop training provider under the Workforce Investment Act.
- **Housing Authority of the City of Yuma** – The Housing Authority's headquarters are located in the historic downtown and they are charged with encouraging the proliferation of affordable housing throughout the city.
- **Yuma Visitors Bureau** – The Visitors Bureau promotes tourism and economic investment in the city and has worked closely for the past decade on the revitalization of the historic downtown.
- **Greater Yuma Economic Development Corporation** – The Economic Development Corporation works to bring new businesses and development to Yuma and will play a key role in the redevelopment of brownfield properties.
- **Yuma County** – Yuma County's Office of Emergency Management works on environmental issues throughout the county and will serve as a liaison to the regional environmental community for this project.
- **Sustainable Cities Network** – Housed at Arizona State University's Global Institute of Sustainability, the Sustainable Cities Network works with local governments to spread sustainability best practices throughout the Southwest and provide training to local leaders on important environmental sustainability issues. The City has recently

begun working with the Network to receive assistance on developing a more sustainable and livable community in the historic downtown.

- **Arizona Western College** – Arizona Western is a community college located in Yuma, and Ted Martinez of the College’s Environmental Biology Department is a leading local environmentalist.

4. Project Benefits

a) Welfare and/or Public Health

The heavy schedule of community engagement that will accompany implementation of this grant will increase community awareness of potential public health and environmental contamination issues associated with these sites. As the extent and nature of environmental contamination at several of these unsecured sites is uncovered, community members will better understand how to limit their exposure to contaminants and community support for securing sites with fences or other barriers will rise. This community engagement will also facilitate the eventual redevelopment of these sites, as residents will become aware of the many benefits associated with reusing brownfield sites as opposed to expanding development to greenfield sites.

Redeveloping brownfield sites in the historic downtown, along with planned livability improvements, will increase the number of transportation options available to citizens, encouraging more to walk or bike rather than drive. This will promote healthier lifestyles for many residents that are currently dependent upon single vehicle transportation to access work, shopping, and recreational opportunities. Additionally, the creation of more jobs within walking distance of several impoverished communities will reduce transportation costs for low-income residents.

b) Economic Benefits and/or Greenspace

Vacant or idle brownfields currently occupy at least 20 acres of property in the historic downtown, much of which is located in marketable locations adjacent to the train tracks or government job centers and served by existing utility and road infrastructure. These brownfields represent some of the last undeveloped areas of the historic downtown and lack of understanding about the environmental issues associated with these properties has led businesses and developers to expand into the desert on the periphery of the city rather than the historic downtown. As long as these sites remain idle, they represent lost local property tax revenue for the City, lower property values for historic downtown residents, and unfulfilled opportunities to create jobs for the Yuma community. Environmental investigation of these sites will enable the City to capitalize on interest that developers and businesses have shown in the historic downtown by providing a clear picture of the environmental costs of redeveloping the sites. The redevelopment of one of the downtown’s larger brownfields, such as the 9-acre Southern Pacific site, into commercial office space and new multi-family residential units could produce more than a hundred new jobs and dozens of new housing units. The successful redevelopment of several of the downtown’s smaller sites could not only directly create dozens of new jobs but also spur new development interest in neighboring underutilized sites.

The preservation of green space in the historic downtown has been a key element of the

City's revitalization strategy for the area, and it is already home to an abundant number of parks. The Colorado Riverfront that forms the northern border of the historic downtown is anchored around the Gateway Regional Park, which connects the community to the Colorado River and directly connects to the East and West Wetlands Parks. With brownfield sites the primary undeveloped property in the historic downtown and developer interest in the area rising, there is concern within the community that the lack of available land will result in the development of currently dedicated green space areas. While the City is committed to resisting pressures to eliminate green space within the historic downtown, the development of the area's brownfield properties remains the best method of balancing the community's need for new economic investment with the need to preserve green space. As environmental work is completed on the identified brownfield sites, Yuma will evaluate the potential to reuse these properties as public green space and will work with community organizations to determine public interest in new green space in the historic downtown. Furthermore, redevelopment of brownfield sites helps prevent the greenfield development that has been rampant in the Yuma region, preserving additional open space outside of the historic downtown from development.

c) Environmental Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse/Sustainable Reuse

Yuma has experienced unsustainable growth patterns for the better part of the past decade, with nearly all new development occurring on cheap desert land outside of or on the outskirts of the city. This sprawling growth carries significant environmental impacts, as residents become dependent upon vehicular transportation and new infrastructure is needed to serve newly developed land. The lack of density associated with sprawling development also hinders the development of effective transit service and is one of the reasons why only 0.1% of Yuma residents use public transportation to commute to work (2010 ACS 1-Year Estimate). Although the economic recession has devastated Yuma's economy, it has also halted the area's sprawling growth, presenting an opportunity to encourage more sustainable economic growth and the development of a livable, mixed-use city center in the historic downtown.

The community's vision for the historic downtown calls for more walkable sidewalks, bikeable streets, greater development density, and mixed-use residential/commercial development. Redeveloping brownfield properties in the downtown is essential to the realization of this vision, as these sites are some of the only undeveloped parcels left in the downtown and they have the existing infrastructure necessary to support new development. The creation of a walkable downtown with shopping opportunities and restaurants will not only create a more vibrant city center for residents, but also will serve an emerging base of public employees that work in the historic downtown. Thousands of City, County, State, and Federal employees work in the downtown, but the lack of local businesses compels many of these employees to drive outside of the downtown for shopping, errands, and food. Keeping these employees in the downtown will alleviate congestion on local roads and make the historic downtown more vibrant. Finally, increased density will facilitate the expansion of transit service in the community, providing new opportunities for residents to access the downtown.

Attachments

FY 2012 EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant Application – City of Yuma, Arizona

Documentation of Threshold Criteria

Responses to Threshold Criteria

Letter from Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Letters of Support

Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area

Goodwill of Central Arizona

Community Leadership Alliance of Yuma County

Western Arizona Council of Governments: Area Agency on Aging

Yuma Private Industry Council, Inc.

Housing Authority of the City of Yuma

Yuma Visitors Bureau

Greater Yuma Economic Development Corporation

Yuma County Office of Emergency Management

Sustainable Cities Network

Arizona Western College

Special Considerations Checklist

Threshold Criteria Responses

1. Applicant Eligibility

The City of Yuma is a city government.

2. Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority

See attached letter from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

3. Site Eligibility and Property Ownership Eligibility

This is a community-wide application and thus this criteria is not applicable.



Janice K. Brewer
Governor

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

1110 West Washington Street • Phoenix, Arizona 85007
(602) 771-2300 • www.azdeq.gov



Henry R. Darwin
Director

November 17, 2011

SPU12-004

Brant T. Hanson, Management Analyst
City of Yuma
P.O. Box 13014
Yuma, AZ 85366-3014

Re: Support for City of Yuma's Brownfields Community-Wide Assessment Grant Application

Dear Mr. Hanson:

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Waste Programs Division (WPD) received your request for a letter of acknowledgement regarding your application for an EPA Brownfields Community-Wide Assessment Grant for FY2012. ADEQ understands that the City of Yuma intends to conduct both hazardous substance and petroleum assessments in Yuma's historic downtown area where Yuma's freight rail and many old warehouses and industrial sectors are located.

ADEQ is supportive of this project as it not only will assist in the redevelopment of Brownfields properties in the heart of Yuma's historic downtown, but the award of this grant would help reduce any threat to public health, reduce pollution in storm water runoff, and eventually provide needed economic benefits to the City by leveraging investment into these properties for future use.

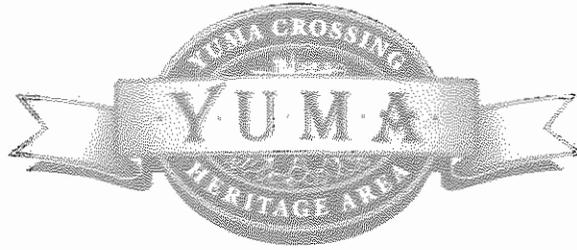
Just as a reminder, ADEQ technical support for the remediation of contaminated properties is provided by the WPD Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP). VRP can review voluntary remedial actions and provide a closure document for successful site remediation of your sites in the future that is accepted by all relevant ADEQ programs.

Please call Linda Mariner, ADEQ Brownfields Coordinator, at (800) 234-5677 ext. 771-4294 if additional assistance is required.

Sincerely,

Robin Thomas, Manager
Permits Section
Waste Programs Division

Southern Regional Office
400 West Congress Street • Suite 433 • Tucson, AZ 85701
(520) 628-6733



November 18, 2011

The Honorable Lisa Jackson
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Support for Yuma, AZ's FY 2012 EPA Brownfields Application

Dear Administrator Jackson:

I write to offer Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area Corporation's support for the City of Yuma's application for \$400,000 in EPA Brownfields Assessment grant funding. EPA funding would allow the City to begin the revitalization of multiple brownfield properties in historic downtown Yuma. Placing these sites back into productive reuse is an important step towards enabling this area to once again become the premiere commercial, residential and recreational center of Yuma.

My organization is proud to collaborate with the City on this project as a member of the Historic Downtown Revitalization Working Group. This Working Group is a multi-stakeholder initiative that includes local leaders from the public sector, private industry, and community organizations. By organizing a wide spectrum of community support and providing overarching vision and oversight for this effort, the Working Group will ensure that EPA funding will help leverage the community's vision for the historic downtown.

I appreciate this opportunity to express my support for the City of Yuma's application. My organization looks forward to working with City staff and local leaders on this project, if it is awarded funding.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Flynn
Executive Director

November 21, 2011

Emeritus Directors
William T. Corbin
Roy Heidemann

Officers
Chair

Jack W. Milligan
Leathers Milligan

Treasurer & Finance
Committee Chair

Lloyd J. Levidow
CPA

Secretary

James E. Holland, Jr.
Stinson, Morrison, Hecker
President & CEO
James C. Teter

Goodwill of Central Arizona

Board Members

Donald E. Beaver
PetSmart

Rebecca L. Brookson
Patrick Dinkel

Arizona Public Service
Company

Thomas Freeze

ESI Ergonomic Solutions,
LLC

Patrick T. Howley
The Howley Group

Dr. Victoria E. Jones
Apollo Group

Steve R. Kedzior
Avnet

Christopher J. Koziol
Mission Advisory Services

Patricia E. Levin
Emergency Animal Clinic
PLC

David H. Mayer
Microsoft Corporation

Dennis E. Mitchem
NAU

Dr. Edward F. Oxford
Banner Health

Marta Z. Williams
Avnet

The Honorable Lisa Jackson, Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

RE: Support for Yuma, AZ's FY 2012 EPA Brownfields Application

Dear Administrator Jackson:

Goodwill of Central Arizona supports the City of Yuma's application for \$400,000 in EPA Brownfields Assessment grant funding. EPA funding would allow the City to begin the revitalization of multiple Brownfield properties creating economic growth and generating employment opportunities for the residents of Yuma. Placing these sites back into productive reuse is an important step towards enabling this area to once again become the premiere commercial, residential and recreational center of Yuma.

Our organization is proud to collaborate with the City on this project as a member of the Historic Downtown Revitalization Working Group. This Working Group is a multi-stakeholder initiative that includes local leaders from the public sector, private industry, and community organizations. By organizing a wide spectrum of community support and providing overarching vision and oversight for this effort, the Working Group will ensure that EPA funding will help leverage the community's vision for the historic downtown.

We appreciate this opportunity to express our support for the City of Yuma's application. Goodwill of Central Arizona looks forward to working with City staff and local leaders on this project, if it is awarded funding.

Regards,



Yolanda Carrothers
Vice President, Workforce Development

cc: Marco Garcia, Director Yuma Mission Services



Yuma County Community Leadership Alliance
2544 W. 26th Drive
Yuma, AZ 85364

November 20, 2011

The Honorable Lisa Jackson
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Support for Yuma, AZ's FY 2012 EPA Brownfields Application

Dear Administrator Jackson:

I write to offer Community Leadership Alliance's support for the City of Yuma's application for \$400,000 in EPA Brownfields Assessment grant funding. EPA funding would allow the City to begin the revitalization of multiple brownfield properties in historic downtown Yuma. Placing these sites back into productive reuse is an important step towards enabling this area to once again become the premiere commercial, residential and recreational center of Yuma.

My organization is proud to collaborate with the City on this project as a member of the Historic Downtown Revitalization Working Group. This Working Group is a multi-stakeholder initiative that includes local leaders from the public sector, private industry, and community organizations. By organizing a wide spectrum of community support and providing overarching vision and oversight for this effort, the Working Group will ensure that EPA funding will help leverage the community's vision for the historic downtown.

I appreciate this opportunity to express my support for the City of Yuma's application. My organization looks forward to working with City staff and local leaders on this project, if it is awarded funding.

Sincerely,



Maria Chavoya
Leader

224 South 3rd Avenue
Yuma, AZ 85364
928-782-1886
928-329-4248 FAX
1-800-782-1886
www.WACOG.com



208 North 4th Street
Kingman, AZ 86401
928-753-6247
928-753-7038 FAX

Strengthening Communities, Empowering People

November 10, 2011

The Honorable Lisa Jackson
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Support for Yuma, AZ's FY 2012 EPA Brownfields Application

Dear Administrator Jackson:

WACOG: Area Agency on Aging would like to offer support for the City of Yuma's application for \$400,000 in EPA Brownfields Assessment grant funding. EPA funding would allow the City to begin the revitalization of multiple brownfield properties in historic downtown Yuma. Placing these sites back into productive reuse is an important step towards enabling this area to once again become the premiere commercial, residential and recreational center of Yuma.

My organization is proud to collaborate with the City on this project as a member of the Historic Downtown Revitalization Working Group. This Working Group is a multi-stakeholder initiative that includes local leaders from the public sector, private industry, and community organizations. By organizing a wide spectrum of community support and providing overarching vision and oversight for this effort, the Working Group will ensure that EPA funding will help leverage the community's vision for the historic downtown.

I appreciate this opportunity to express my support for the City of Yuma's application. WACOG: Area Agency on Aging looks forward to working with City staff and local leaders on this project, if it is awarded funding.

Sincerely,

Elisa Davis
Area Agency on Aging Director



November 16, 2011

Serving as Yuma County's Local Workforce Investment Board

WIA Administration

The Honorable Lisa Jackson
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460



Re: Support for Yuma, AZ's FY 2012 EPA Brownfields Application

Dear Administrator Jackson:

This letter is to offer Yuma Private Industry Council, Inc. (YPIC) support for the City of Yuma's application for \$400,000 in EPA Brownfields Assessment grant funding. EPA funding would allow the City to begin the revitalization of multiple brownfield properties in historic downtown Yuma. Placing these sites back into productive reuse is an important step towards enabling this area to once again become the premiere commercial, residential and recreational center of Yuma.

YPIC is proud to collaborate with the City on this project as a member of the Historic Downtown Revitalization Working Group. This Working Group is a multi-stakeholder initiative that includes local leaders from the public sector, private industry, and community organizations. By organizing a wide spectrum of community support and providing overarching vision and oversight for this effort, the Working Group will ensure that EPA funding will help leverage the community's vision for the historic downtown.

YPIC is a private non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide job seeker and employer services within Yuma County. We assist employers with finding quality employees and job seekers in finding the appropriate career which matches their skills and abilities with employment opportunities. Revitalizing the Historic Downtown will provide additional opportunities for both employers and job seekers.

We appreciate this opportunity to express our support for the City of Yuma's application. YPIC looks forward to working with City staff and local leaders on this project, if it is awarded funding.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Romant
Operations Director

(928) 329-0990

(928) 783-0886 Fax

3834 W. 16th Street
Yuma, AZ 85364

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF YUMA

420 S. Madison Avenue
Yuma, Arizona 85364
www.hacy.org



Phone Number: (928)782-3823 ext.128
Fax Number: (928)376-0399



Michael J. Morrissey
Executive Director

November 8, 2011

The Honorable Lisa Jackson
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Support for Yuma, AZ's FY 2012 EPA Brownfields Application

Dear Administrator Jackson:

I write to offer the Housing Authority of the City of Yuma's support for the City of Yuma's application for \$400,000 in EPA Brownfields Assessment grant funding. EPA funding would allow the City to begin the revitalization of multiple brownfield properties in historic downtown Yuma. Placing these sites back into productive reuse is an important step towards enabling this area to once again become the premiere commercial, residential and recreational center of Yuma.

My organization is proud to collaborate with the City on this project as a member of the Historic Downtown Revitalization Working Group. This Working Group is a multi-stakeholder initiative that includes local leaders from the public sector, private industry, and community organizations. By organizing a wide spectrum of community support and providing overarching vision and oversight for this effort, the Working Group will ensure that EPA funding will help leverage the community's vision for the historic downtown.

I appreciate this opportunity to express my support for the City of Yuma's application. My organization looks forward to working with City staff and local leaders on this project, if it is awarded funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Morrissey", with a long, sweeping underline.

Michael Morrissey
Executive Director



November 18, 2011

The Honorable Lisa Jackson
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Support for Yuma, AZ's FY 2012 EPA Brownfields Application

Dear Administrator Jackson:

I write to offer the Yuma Visitors Bureau's support for the City of Yuma's application for \$400,000 in EPA Brownfields Assessment grant funding. EPA funding would allow the City to begin the revitalization of multiple Brownfield properties in historic downtown Yuma. Placing these sites back into productive reuse is an important step towards enabling this area to once again become the premiere commercial, residential and recreational center of Yuma.

My organization is proud to collaborate with the City on this project as a member of the Historic Downtown Revitalization Working Group. This Working Group is a multi-stakeholder initiative that includes local leaders from the public sector, private industry, and community organizations. By organizing a wide spectrum of community support and providing overarching vision and oversight for this effort, the Working Group will ensure that EPA funding will help leverage the community's vision for the historic downtown.

I appreciate this opportunity to express my support for the City of Yuma's application. My organization looks forward to working with City staff and local leaders on this project, if it is awarded funding.

Sincerely,

Susan Sternitzke
Executive Director
Yuma Visitors Bureau

November 09, 2011

The Honorable Lisa Jackson
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Support for Yuma, AZ's FY 2012 EPA Brownfields Application

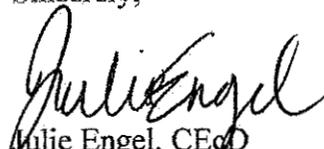
Dear Administrator Jackson:

I write to offer Greater Yuma Economic Development Corporation's support for the City of Yuma's application for \$400,000 in EPA Brownfields Assessment grant funding. EPA funding would allow the City to begin the revitalization of multiple Brownfield properties in historic downtown Yuma. Placing these sites back into productive reuse is an important step towards enabling this area to once again become the premiere commercial, residential and recreational center of Yuma.

My organization is proud to collaborate with the City on this project as a member of the Historic Downtown Revitalization Working Group. This Working Group is a multi-stakeholder initiative that includes local leaders from the public sector, private industry, and community organizations. By organizing a wide spectrum of community support and providing overarching vision and oversight for this effort, the Working Group will ensure that EPA funding will help leverage the community's vision for the historic downtown.

I appreciate this opportunity to express my support for the City of Yuma's application. My organization looks forward to working with City staff and local leaders on this project, if it is awarded funding.

Sincerely,


Julie Engel, CEO
President/CEO



899 E. Plaza Circle ★ Ste 2 ★ Yuma, Arizona 85365
928 782-7774 ★ Fax 928 782-7775
www.greateryuma.org



**County Administration
Office of Emergency Management**
198 S. Main Street,
Yuma AZ 85364

Gretchen Robinson
Emergency Management Director
928-373-1093
gretchen.robinson@yumacountyaz.gov

9 November 2011

The Honorable Lisa Jackson, Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460

**Re: Support for City of Yuma, Arizona
FY 2012 EPA Brownfields Application**

Dear Administrator Jackson:

As the Emergency Management Director of Yuma County, I am pleased to offer this letter of support for the City of Yuma's application for \$400,000 in EPA Brownfields Assessment grant funding.

Upon learning of the Brownfields Assessment program through our local representative from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, I was hoping that a community in Yuma County would participate in the application process. Successful EPA funding would allow the City of Yuma to begin the revitalization of multiple Brownfield properties in historic downtown Yuma, restoring these sites to productive reuse and refreshing an area known for its premiere commercial, residential and recreational qualities.

My office welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with the City on this project as a member of the Historic Downtown Revitalization Working Group, a multi-stakeholder initiative that includes local leaders from the public sector, private industry, and community organizations. This collaborative wide spectrum of community support can provide overarching vision and oversight for this effort where we can insure that EPA funding will help leverage the community's vision for the historic downtown.

Please accept this letter of support for the City of Yuma's application as we wait for word on successful funding. Personally, I look forward to working with City staff and local leaders on this project for the betterment of Yuma County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gretchen Robinson".

Gretchen Robinson
Emergency Management Director

Sustainable Cities Network

ASU GLOBAL INSTITUTE
of SUSTAINABILITY
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

November 21, 2011

The Honorable Lisa Jackson
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Support for Yuma, AZ's FY 2012 EPA Brownfields Application

Dear Administrator Jackson:

I am writing to you to endorse the City of Yuma's application for \$400,000 in EPA Brownfields Assessment grant funding. EPA funding would allow the City to begin the revitalization of multiple brownfield properties in historic downtown Yuma. Placing these sites back into productive reuse is an important step towards enabling this area to once again become the premiere commercial, residential and recreational center of Yuma.

The Sustainable Cities Network is happy to support the City on this project as a participant of the Historic Downtown Revitalization Working Group. This Working Group is a multi-stakeholder initiative that includes local leaders from the public sector, private industry, and community organizations. By organizing a wide spectrum of community support and providing overarching vision and oversight for this effort, the Working Group will ensure that EPA funding will help leverage the community's vision for the historic downtown.

I appreciate this opportunity to express my support for the City of Yuma's application. The Network looks forward to working with City staff and local leaders on this project.

Sincerely,



Anne Reichman, Program Manager
Sustainable Cities Network



November 21, 2011

The Honorable Lisa Jackson
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Support for Yuma, AZ's FY 2012 EPA Brownfields Application

Dear Administrator Jackson:

I write to offer my support for the City of Yuma's application for \$400,000 in EPA Brownfields Assessment grant funding. EPA funding would allow the City to begin the revitalization of multiple brownfield properties in historic downtown Yuma. Placing these sites back into productive reuse is an important step towards enabling this area to once again become the premiere commercial, residential and recreational center of Yuma.

I am proud to collaborate with the City on this project as a member of the Historic Downtown Revitalization Working Group. This Working Group is a multi-stakeholder initiative that includes local leaders from the public sector, private industry, and community organizations. By organizing a wide spectrum of community support and providing overarching vision and oversight for this effort, the Working Group will ensure that EPA funding will help leverage the community's vision for the historic downtown.

I appreciate this opportunity to express my support for the City of Yuma's application. I look forward to working with City staff and local leaders on this project, if it is awarded funding.

Sincerely,

Ted Martinez
Honors Director
Professor of Environmental Biology
Arizona Western College
2020 S Ave 8E
Yuma AZ 85365

Appendix 3 Special Considerations Checklist

Please identify (with an **X**) if any of the below items apply to your community or your project as described in your proposal. EPA will verify these disclosures prior to selection of the grant.

- Community population is 10,000 or less
- Federally recognized Indian tribe
- United States territory
- Applicant assisting a Tribe or territory
- Targeted brownfield sites are impacted by mine-scarred land
- Targeted brownfield sites are contaminated with controlled substances
- Community is impacted by recent natural disaster(s)
- Project is primarily focusing on Phase II assessments
- Community demonstrates firm leveraging commitments for facilitating brownfield project completion by identifying amounts and contributors of funding in the proposal and have included documentation
- Community experiencing plant closures (or other significant economic disruptions), including communities experiencing auto plant closures due to bankruptcy
- Applicant is a recipient of a HUD/DOT/EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities grant