IV.D. Narrative Information Sheet

1. **Applicant Identification:** City of Hernando, Mississippi
   475 West Commerce Street
   Hernando, Mississippi 38632

2. **Funding Requested:**
   a. Assessment Grant Type: Community-wide
   b. Federal Funds Requested:
      i. $409,000
      ii. NOT Applicable to Community-Wide Assessment Grant

3. **Location:**
   a. City: Hernando
   b. County: DeSoto County
   c. State: Mississippi

4. **Target Area and Priority Site/Property Information:**
   a. **Target Area:** Hernando has selected two target areas that encompass the majority of the brownfield sites within the city limits. They include the **Commerce Street Corridor** and the **Westside**. The Commerce Street Corridor is Hernando’s primary gateway into our city and extends westward from I-55 to Highway 51 where they intersect at the heart of downtown Hernando. The West Side Community begins at Highway 51 and extends west approximately 0.35 miles to College Street and the north boundary starts at Robin Street and extends southward approximately 1.4 miles to Packing Plant Road. The entire Westside Community encompasses approximately 360 acres of land.
   
   b. **Census Tract Number:** US Census Block Group 711.21 (Westside and Commerce Street Corridor)
   
   c. **Priority Sites:**
      o Priority Site #1: Sayle Oil, 630 E. Commerce Street, Hernando, MS 38632
      o Priority Site #2: Buddy’s Antiques, 1515 E. Commerce Street, Hernando, MS 38632
      o Priority Site #3: Highway 51 Bulk Oil Terminal and Gas Station, 2380 US-51, Hernando, MS 38632

5. **Contacts:**
   a. **Project Director:**
      Gia Matheny, Community Development Director
      662.429.9092
      gmatheny@cityofhernando.org
      475 West Commerce Street
      Hernando, Mississippi 38632
b. **Chief Executive/Highest Ranking Elected Official:**
   Mayor Chip Johnson  
   662.429.9092  
   mayor@cityofhernando.org  
   475 West Commerce Street  
   Hernando, Mississippi 38632

6. **Population:**  
   Hernando, Mississippi - 15,942 (Data source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2015-2019)

7. **Other Factors:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Factors</th>
<th>Page #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community population is 10,000 or less.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The applicant is, or will assist, a federally recognized Indian tribe or United States territory.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The priority brownfield site(s) are impacted by mine-scarred land.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The priority site(s) is in a federally designated flood plain.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The reuse of the priority site(s) will facilitate renewable energy from wind, solar, or geothermal energy.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The reuse of the priority site(s) will incorporate energy efficiency measures.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30% or more of the overall project budget will be spent on eligible reuse/area-wide planning activities, as described in Section I.A., for priority site(s) within the target area.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The target area(s) is located within a community in which a coal-fired power plant has recently closed (2011 or later) or is closing.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. **Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority:** See attached letter from MDEQ

9. **Releasing Copies of Applications:** Not Applicable
November 12, 2021

Mayor Chip Johnson
City of Hernando
475 West Commerce Street
Hernando, MS  38632

RE:   EPA Brownfield Grant Application Acknowledgement
       104(k) Assessment Grant
       Hernando, Mississippi

Dear Mayor Johnson:

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) hereby acknowledges the City of Hernando’s plans to conduct brownfield assessments and apply for federal grant funds through the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Brownfields initiative. The collaboration between MDEQ and the City on previous assessment grants has given the city the necessary experience to turn future assessment and cleanup plans into a reality. Since many brownfields are abandoned, underutilized, and contaminated, MDEQ is expressly interested in seeing entities like the City of Hernando taking the initiative to assess, remediate, and return these sites to productive use. These efforts are consistent with our mission to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of present and future generations of Mississippians.

MDEQ looks forward to our continued role in the City’s Brownfield Initiative and are available to assist you at any time. Should you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please contact me at (601) 961-5240.

Sincerely,

Thomas L. Wallace, P.E.
Branch Chief – GARD I
Mississippi Brownfield Coordinator
1. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION

a. Target Area and Brownfields

i. Background and Description of Target Area

   A front porch is a gathering place where traditions are made, tall tales are told, plans are crafted, families grow stronger, and history is remembered. A front porch is as American as apple pie, and “Mississippi’s Front Porch”, Hernando, Mississippi is no different. The City of Hernando (county seat of DeSoto County) was incorporated in 1836 and took its name from Hernando Desoto, the Spanish explorer who was the first documented European to cross the Mississippi River. Our “front porch community” of Hernando is a gathering place for families, artists, historians, and entrepreneurs. We are a city that simultaneously pays homage to our rich history – through numerous Mississippi landmarks speckled throughout the City – while planning diligently for our future.

   Our home state, Mississippi, is either ranked 49th or 50th in the US for economic hardship, per capita income, unemployment, poverty, quality of care, food insecurity, drinking water violations, preventable hospitalizations, diabetes, high blood pressure, obesity, low birthweight, physical inactivity and premature deaths. We in Hernando are working to reverse these statistics. Providing a future full of opportunities for our citizens is our main priority, and this has been exemplified so far by City leadership through various health and environmental initiatives. In 2010, we were named the “Healthiest Hometown in Mississippi” by the Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Mississippi Foundation. We also started a Healthy Heroes Initiative to improve quality of life for the members of the police force and city employees. Also meant to encourage healthy lifestyle habits in children. In addition, we have the only bike club in the country boasting over 100 members. We also host the largest Farmers Market in Mississippi, which serves a two-fold purpose: providing economic opportunities and providing a choice of healthy fruits and vegetables to our residents. Not only do we care about our citizens’ physical health, but we also care about our City’s environmental health. We require developers to set aside a minimum of 10 percent of land that is being urbanized to open space. We also require that streets are connected in order to make our city more walkable and bikeable.

   Even with our best efforts, in 2012, we came to the inescapable conclusion that we could not completely achieve our goals without addressing the systemic environmental and brownfield economic redevelopment issues that plague our community. Therefore, we at the City proactively looked for a solution and a way to get the ball moving on addressing environmental concerns in our community. In 2012 and 2016, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded the City of Hernando with Brownfield Community-Wide Assessment Grants – totaling $700,000. Through these grants, we were able to create a thriving Brownfields Program that has created real change in our community. The City of Hernando’s Brownfields Redevelopment Program has been a tremendously effective partnership of government, industry, and community working together to clean up our brownfield properties, create jobs, encourage economic growth, and benefit the community.

   Although we have made great strides in addressing Brownfields through these past grants, we still have a long way to go to address environmental concerns through the City and to make economic growth a tangible thing in Hernando. Several sites from past grants have not been fully assessed or require further assessment and planning. Additionally, major business closing like Kawneer Aluminum, our largest employer, has resulted in the loss of numerous jobs. While approximately 250 jobs were lost by Kawneer alone, countless other businesses, which were associated with the plant or served its employees, closed in its wake. As a result, there are dozens of closed and abandoned businesses all over our city that have real or perceived environmental issues, which need to be addressed before redevelopment and revitalization can occur. A particularly interesting fact about Hernando, which sets us apart from the majority of our rural State, is that much of our City is already developed with buildings and other structures. Therefore, if we want to expand economically and if we want to expand opportunities, we must expand into existing buildings and structures – many of which are Brownfields. While this fits with our model of sustainability, we have found that environmental issues have served as continuous hindrances to economic expansion.

   Hernando has selected two target areas (both in Census Tract 711.21) that encompass the majority of these brownfield sites. They include the Commerce Street Corridor and the Westside Community. The Commerce Street Corridor is Hernando’s primary gateway into our city and extends westward from I-55 to Highway 51 where they intersect at the heart of our downtown. “Commerce” Street is just that, the main artery of commerce with a number of low-income, minority neighborhoods located 1-2 blocks off Commerce Street. Our Westside Community, which is roughly 360 acres, is bounded to the east by

1 https://www.cityofhernando.org/our-city/about-hernando/healthy-community
Highway 51, to the west by College Street, to the north by Robin Street, and to the south by Packing Plant Road. Westside is where our blue collar residents have traditionally lived and where blue collar jobs and businesses, such as equipment shops, repair shops, and full service gas stations have disappeared over time. However, Westside has seen some renewed interest, like the Mississippi Municipal League Award winning brownfield transformation of the Reliable Equipment brownfield into Uncle Bubba's BBQ by a local dentist/entrepreneur. It's where creative place-making is emerging which is also expanding the footprint of our downtown courthouse square into the Westside Community.

ii. Description of the Priority Brownfield Site(s)

The City of Hernando has developed a GIS database, which is available for public viewing on our website, of Brownfields that have been identified and addressed in our City from our previous grants. Our inventory also includes at least 25 “potential” brownfield sites within the target areas needing assessment. These brownfield sites include former gas stations, automotive repair shops, printing shops, an old lumberyard, and many vacant lots and abandoned buildings that has a variety of businesses that once operated on them. From our combined inventories, we have determined three sites are a priority for this grant. The three priority sites are Sayle Oil Gas Station and Buddy's Antiques located in the Commerce Street Corridor target area, and Highway 51 Bulk Oil Terminal and Gas Station located in the Westside Community target area.

1. Sayle Oil Gas Station (Commerce Street Corridor Target Area) is located at 630 East Commerce Street immediately off the west exit of I-55 and encompasses roughly 0.6 acres. The property is a priority because a Phase II ESA for a pre-purchase assessment identified petroleum contaminants. A major fast-food restaurant withdrew from the purchase agreement due to numerous environmental uncertainties. The gas station building and canopy are still present, but it is unclear whether the USTs have been removed. Chemicals of concern are volatile organic compounds (VOC), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOC), and metals. Also of concern is that one of Hernando’s two public wells is located less than 1,000 feet away from the station.

2. Buddy’s Antiques (Commerce Street Corridor Target Area) is also located at 1515 East Commerce Street. The site was reportedly once occupied by a gas station and an automotive repair shop. The site is approximately 0.44 acres in size and is partially covered with a concrete building foundation and parking lot. The MDEQ contracted with a consultant to perform a Phase II ESA under their Brownfields Program in November of 2020. Results of the Phase II ESA indicated the presence of chlorinated solvents in both the soil and groundwater at the site. Metals and other VOCs are also a concern at the site. This site was selected because it is on a very busy corner lot along the Commerce Street that is a prime location for redevelopment.

3. The Highway 51 Bulk Oil Terminal and Gas Station (Westside Community Target Area) is located at 2380 US-51. The property is approximately 1 acre in size and over 75 percent of the site is covered with asphalt or concrete pavement. The site has two USTs and four aboveground storage tanks (AST) along with a store building and a separate garage building that may have been used as an automotive repair shop. Chemicals of concern are VOCs, SVOCs, and metals. This site was selected as a priority site because it is located hydraulically up-gradient from Uncle Bubba’s Barbeque Restaurant which is a newly redeveloped site and the Bulk Oil Terminal represents a potential environmental threat to this new redevelopment. Additionally, based on its prime location next to a revitalized Brownfield, it is a sought-after candidate for redevelopment; however, environmental uncertainties have stalled past acquisitions.

b. Revitalization of Target Area

i. Reuse Strategy and Alignment with Revitalization Plans

The City of Hernando completed our Draft Comprehensive Plan in March of 2021. The Plan heavily relied on public input that helped determine the types of redevelopment that Hernando should encourage within the downtown area, which encompasses the Commerce Street Corridor Target Area and our West Side Community Target Area. Input from the public was received from Focus Group meetings held on July 23rd and 24th in 2020. Outcomes of these meetings identified the needs of the community, which included: better transportation options especially along Commerce Street; more housing variety including affordable housing options; more retail options; more dining options, and more greenspace development. This community input was fully incorporated into the Draft Comprehensive Plan. Hernando’s redevelopment plans for the priority sites are in perfect alignment with these same redevelopment interests expressed in the Comprehensive Plan, which are a reflection of community needs. We are encouraging redevelopment of the Sayle Oil Gas Station into a restaurant or a hotel, which is discussed on page 24 of Hernando's Comprehensive Plan. The Hampton Inn in Hernando is located on the opposite side...
of I-55 from the Sayle Gas Station and has been reported to have the highest occupancy in the state, which exemplifies the need for more high-quality hotels in the area. **Buddy's Antiques** is closer to the center of town. We encourage retail and/or mixed-use development within the Comprehensive Plan, which would serve the residents that will be residing in affordable housing currently under development one block south of the property. This type of redevelopment helps provide the underserved community living in the affordable housing with walkable choices for retail shopping fulfilling the public’s desire for more mixed-use properties discussed in the Comprehensive Plan. The City has plans for the **Highway 51 Bulk Oil Terminal and Gas Station** to be redeveloped into a restaurant. Hernando worked with the MDEQ and facilitated redevelopment of the site across the street into a successful brownfield cleanup and transformation of the former Reliable Equipment brownfield into Uncle Bubba’s Barbeque. The redevelopment of the former Brownfield into a bustling restaurant has resulted in the creation of 50 jobs, so using Uncle Bubba’s as a go-by, it is possible that the redevelopment of the **Highway 51 Bulk Oil Terminal and Gas Station** into a restaurant will result in the creation of another 50 jobs for Hernando citizens.

**ii. Outcomes and Benefits of Reuse Strategy**

The most significant outcome and benefit from redevelopment of brownfield sites in the target area is tourism. Recently we contracted with a local commercial marketing consultant, Retail Strategies, in order to assess current market strategies and to perform a market study for Hernando. Retail Strategies estimated that approximately $76 million of sales revenue is being lost in Hernando due to lack of redevelopment. Both target areas are gateways to downtown and are important in establishing the character and unique flair of our community. More options for lodging, dining, and shopping will contribute to our “front porch” by further creating a welcome atmosphere for citizens and tourists alike. These new businesses will also certainly create more jobs and spur further redevelopment. Hernando estimates that redevelopment of the three priority sites could easily create 80 or more jobs alone, which would also increase tax revenues for the City. Another benefit of redeveloping brownfield sites in the target area will help increase our greenspace and help reduce urban sprawl.

c. **Strategy for Leveraging Resources**

i. **Resources Needed for Site Reuse**

In 2020, Hernando received $1.25 million from the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Desoto County for a new interchange on McInvale Road. The City of Hernando is supplying matching funds of $1.25 million. This project includes plans to create biking trails connecting to the Commerce Street Corridor Target Area. Hernando was also awarded $100,000 in funding from the MDOT for developing a Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan. In addition, Hernando has been awarded $600,000 for a Transportation Enhancement Grant to create a 10-foot wide multi-use path to link the northern portion of the City with the Commerce Street Corridor Target Area. The City was also awarded $99,000 for a USDA Rural Development Grant for feasibility studies to bring in new job opportunities. Hernando will be able to use this funding to identify and market potential redevelopment and recreational uses for properties in both target areas. In addition, Hernando received a $107,000 grant from Blue Cross/Blue Shield which is being used to renovate Conger Park, which is greenspace located in the Westside Target area. The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) recently awarded Hernando with a grant of $5.500 to increase tourism in the downtown area, which is included in the two target areas. Incentives listed below can promote public/private investment throughout our community, but can especially offer assistance with our priority and catalyst sites to advance their assessment, cleanup, and reuse.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leveraging Tax Incentives</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi Economic Redevelopment Act (MERA)</td>
<td>Assessments and Corrective Action Plans for sites like <strong>Highway 51 Bulk Plant</strong> funded through this grant will provide a private developer the environmental information needed to reach a Brownfield Agreement with MDEQ, which then allows the developer to receive a brownfield tax rebate on the clean-up costs that will be expended. Through the MERA tax incentive, all sales, income, and franchise taxes collected from businesses located in a designated redevelopment project area will be used to reimburse developers for cleanup costs. Reimbursement to developers is made semi-annually for a period of up to 15 years, with a maximum distribution to the developer of up to 2.5 times the site’s remediation cost, as was done with the Reliable Equipment (Uncle Bubba’s BBQ) brownfield project in 2018.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leveraging Tax Incentives</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic Preservation Tax Incentives</td>
<td>Private developers are eligible for the Historic Tax Credit program, and eligible priority sites particularly in the Westside Community to support reuse of buildings and existing infrastructure. The program offers a 25% tax credit for the rehabilitation of historic structures used for residential or business purposes. A project must exceed $5,000 or 50% of the total basis of the building.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advantage Jobs Incentive Program</td>
<td>Provides for the rebate of a percentage of Mississippi payrolls to qualified employers for a period of up to 10 years. Available to businesses that promise significant expansion of the economy through the creation of jobs. All priority sites are eligible with Sayle Oil priority site being the best candidate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brownfield Voluntary Cleanup &amp; Redevelopment Incentives</td>
<td>Provides an income tax credit for a property owner equal to 25% of the costs of assessing and remediating a brownfields property, with the annual credit capped at $40,000, and the total credit not to exceed $150,000. Any unused portion of the tax credit may be carried over into succeeding tax years. In lieu of the state income tax credit, the property owner may claim a job tax credit for each new employee created as a result of the cleanup and redevelopment of a brownfield site. This incentive supports both assessment and remediation for all sites.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ii. Use of Existing Infrastructure

Both Target Areas have already been developed with full utility and roadway infrastructure to support any new businesses that could potentially desire to purchase and redevelop the existing brownfield sites. Since all of the priority brownfield sites and other sites identified in the inventory are located within the target area, no new infrastructure is required for these sites. Use of the existing infrastructure will ensure the reduction of raw materials needed for redevelopment and thereby will also help in reducing Hernando’s carbon footprint.

2. COMMUNITY NEED AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

a. Community Need

i. The Community’s Need for Funding

Hernando faces a unique challenge in obtaining funding to address brownfields within the target areas. Although the Desoto County has the fourth highest per capita income in the State of Mississippi, this actually negatively affects the City of Hernando’s ability to secure funding for our low-income neighborhoods within the Target Areas. For example, US Census Block Group 711.21, which comprises both target areas, only has a per capita income of $17,583. This income is about half of the national average and more than 70% lower than the county average. Approximately 42% of the population living in the target areas is classified as low-income, which is about 30% higher than the national average. However, due to the higher county average, Hernando is ineligible to receive any US Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant annual funding. In addition, even the statistics do not accurately portray the level of poverty that exists in the Westside Target Area. The homeless have taken up residence in abandoned housing in the Westside. Much of this housing very dilapidated and unsafe.

The minority populations are even more distressed within the target areas. The median family income for people of color is $35,000 less than white people living in the same target areas. In the Westside Target area, people of color earn approximately 40% less than whites ($24,374 compared to $33,643). Money is not readily available either to spend in these target areas. Recently, Hernando was forced to issue $4.5 million in bonds to support critical city services and infrastructure, and we have an insufficient tax base to fully support the community. In addition, we find ourselves caught with a rapidly growing population without the tax revenue to support the storm water and wastewater management needed to support this growing population. Although Hernando has limited funds for leveraging, none of this funding is available for assessment of the brownfield properties.

ii. Threats to Sensitive Populations

(1) Health or Welfare of Sensitive Populations

The target areas are full of sensitive populations that include minorities, low income populations, disabled, elderly, and children. Families with Children in the Westside comprise 51.65%, which is 68% higher than the national average of 30.77%. The people of color population in the target areas is 42%

---

2 US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2015-19
compared to the national average of 27.5%. The city's growth rate has been recorded at a rate of 16.8%, with the growth rate among people of color at 221.5 percent. The number of black children living below the poverty level in the target areas is over double that for Desoto County. The rate of incarceration in the target area is also almost double that of the national average of 1.3%.

The disabled population within the target areas is 14.97%, which is 18.5% higher than the national average of 12.62%. The percentage of low-income population is 42% compared to the national average of 33%. The target area households receiving public assistance income is 3.66%, which is 55% higher than the national average of 2.36%. The population living in the target areas are also less educated with only 19.7% having a B.S. degree or higher compared to the national average of 32.1%.

Based on these statistics, it is clear that our target areas are full of people of color, children, and disabled citizens – most of whom are living below the federal poverty level. Job opportunities afforded by the development of a hotel (Sayle Oil), retail (Buddy's), and a restaurant (Highway 51 Bulk Oil Terminal and Gas Station) will provide entry-level job opportunities for those in the target who are either in high school or who do not have a college degree. These jobs will help our most vulnerable residents improve their resumes and skills. Additionally, these jobs will provide important, competitive salaries so that the standard of living in this target area can be improved.

(2) Greater Than Normal Incidence of Disease and Adverse Health Conditions

We in Hernando are dedicated to the health of our citizens as shown by our proactive push to develop safe bike trails and our selection by Blue Cross/Blue Shield as the "Healthiest Hometown in Mississippi". However, the Brownfields plaguing the target areas serve as unsafe sites that are potentially impacting the health of our most vulnerable residents.

There is a greater the normal incidence of disease and adverse health conditions within the two target areas such as cancer, asthma, and birth defects. Although Mississippi is ranked 13th among the states having the highest incidences of cancer, the target areas have even higher rates of cancer than the average rates for Mississippi. Cancer incidences are 6% higher than the state average but over 12% higher than the national average. Certain cancers such as cervical cancer is 22% higher than the national average and lung cancer is 34% higher than the national average in the target areas. Other cancer data was not available for the target areas but is still much higher in the county than in the US. For example, Desoto County has the sixth highest incidence of brain cancer in the state. Cancer has been tied to the same contaminants that are believed to be present at all three priority sites.

In addition to cancer, multiple chronic conditions are reported to be 7% higher in the target areas than the national average. Kidney disease is reported to be 14% higher than the national average in the target areas. Heart Disease is higher than the national average in the Target areas by 17%. Asthma rates exceed the state average in the target areas by 13%. Infant mortality and low birth rates are both 9% higher in the target area than the national average. Mississippi was ranked the highest in the Country for premature births at 14.9%, which is 52% higher than the national rate of 9.8%. This rate was unavailable for the target areas but the rate for the county that includes the target areas was 13.6%, which is still 39% higher than the national average.

Potential contaminants that could be present at the Sayle Oil Gas Station, Buddy's Antiques, and Highway 51 Bulk Oil Terminal and Gas Station priority sites are directly linked to asthma, kidney damage, cancer, lung disease, low birthweight, and premature births. Redevelopment of these sites will first lead to the quantification and delineation of the contaminants so that next steps in addressing exposure can be taken.

(3) Promoting Environmental Justice

In the relatively small target areas of Hernando, there are three large manufacturing industries and several smaller ones. In 2019, EPA reports indicate that over 45,000 pounds of toxic releases occurred in the target areas. However, in 2008 past releases in the target areas were as much as 231,000 pounds, which contributes to a significant cumulative exposure considering methanol and toluene were the majority pollutants released. EJ Screen indicates the target areas to be in the 81st percentile in the state for hazardous waste proximity and 80th percentile in the state for RMP proximity. In addition, EJ Screen shows that the target areas are in the 83rd percentile in EPA Region 4 for wastewater discharge and 75th

---

4 State Cancer Profiles, 2014 to 2018
5 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS-Geographic Variation Public Use File, 2018 Source Geography County
for lead paint (pre-1960s housing). The target areas are also in the 71st percentile in the nation for air toxics cancer risk, respiratory hazard, and particulate matter.

Although some of these factors cannot be changed immediately because they are a result of active industry operations, we recognize that the people of color in our City are overwhelmingly living nearer to sites with environmental stigma and issues than our white population. Therefore, we want to work to improve the things that we can so that all in our City can experience a healthier and safer standard of living. Assessing and addressing priority sites and other Brownfields that have lead-based paint and/or asbestos issues will help to reduce the lead paint, air toxics cancer, respiratory hazard index, and particulate matter indices.

b. Community Engagement

i. Project Involvement & ii. Project Roles

The City of Hernando has been successfully involving the public on brownfield issues for more than a decade since before we received their first grant in 2012. Public involvement was also sought out concerning redevelopment of potential brownfield sites during the development of Hernando’s Draft Comprehensive Plan. Through these past grants and planning processes, Hernando has also developed partnerships with a wide group of business organizations, community organizations, property owners, lenders, developers, real estate organizations and others to ensure a collaborative effort resulting in successful implementation of these efforts. A table showing these partnerships that will be leveraged to promote a cohesive strategy for this grant is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner Name</th>
<th>Point of contact</th>
<th>Specific role in the project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi Development Authority</td>
<td>Sara Watson (601) 359-5769 <a href="mailto:swatson@mississippi.org">swatson@mississippi.org</a></td>
<td>Provides economic development support, particularly related to the brownfield cleanup incentive (MS Economic Redevelopment Act), advertisement of properties available for development, and identification of additional leveraging resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hernando Main Street Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td>Sibonie Swatzyna (662) 429-9055 <a href="mailto:sibonie@hernandoms.org">sibonie@hernandoms.org</a></td>
<td>The Chamber will serve by helping to select brownfields for redevelopment and attract new businesses to locate at redeveloped brownfield sites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interfaith Council on Poverty</td>
<td>Roxanne McIngvale (901) 647-6655</td>
<td>The Interfaith Council on Poverty is an ecumenical collaboration of more than fifteen Christian churches in Hernando. They will assist Hernando by helping provide the community with updates on the grant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hill Hernando Church Family</td>
<td>Pastor Michael Minor (901) 490-2041 <a href="mailto:info@thehillhernando.com">info@thehillhernando.com</a></td>
<td>Pastor Minor of the Hill Hernando Church Family will serve in an advisory capacity. He is very active in the community and in touch with low income families within the target area and will help identify redevelopment opportunities that will better serve his community as well as acceptable cleanup methods for the community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi</td>
<td>Tom Pittman (662) 469-5002 <a href="mailto:tompittman@cfnm.org">tompittman@cfnm.org</a></td>
<td>The Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi will assist in community outreach and securing additional grant funding for addressing food insecurity within the target areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest Community College</td>
<td>Daniel Hollowell (662) 560-5272 <a href="mailto:dhollowell@northwestms.edu">dhollowell@northwestms.edu</a></td>
<td>The Northwest Community College will provide career workforce training for many of the type businesses that may locate to many of the brownfield properties.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hernando Bike Club</td>
<td>Bo McAninch 901-299-7940 <a href="mailto:hernandobike@aol.com">hernandobike@aol.com</a></td>
<td>Provide project updates to members and provide guidance on connectivity and safety pertaining to the expansion of greenspace and biking trails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant &amp; Company Builders/Realtors</td>
<td>Martha Fondren (901) 316-1048 <a href="mailto:mfondren@grantnewhomes.com">mfondren@grantnewhomes.com</a></td>
<td>Will confer with the City regarding available properties for construction of affordable housing.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
iii. Incorporating Community Input

The City of Hernando has already cultivated a culture within the community that encourages discussion and input pertaining to the redevelopment of brownfield sites. This has been achieved through community outreach events that have taken place during the six years of previous grants awarded in 2012 and 2016 and development of the recent draft Hernando Comprehensive Plan. These efforts have involved over 150 participants from the community and has helped to shape Hernando’s entire brownfields program. Therefore, Hernando will continue along the same track that has been successful in obtaining and incorporating community input to date. This includes holding an initial kickoff meeting and at least two community outreach events per year. Hernando will also reach out to the community through the distribution of flyers, newspaper advertisements, the City’s website, social media, and local news media. Community input will be encouraged through visioning sessions to gain input on which redevelopments are most important to the community. Adjacent property owners/occupants to priority Brownfield sites will be personally invited to community meetings. Based on the latest US Census data, there will be no need for translation services, however, these services will be provided if it is determined to be needed in the future, based upon those individuals attending the meetings. All documents associated with the project will be made available through document repository located with Ms. Matheny at City Hall.

In addition to the Community Outreach meetings, Hernando will hold brownfields advisory committee (BAC) meetings that will include the key stakeholders and partners listed in the above table. These meetings will be held at a minimum of an annual basis and up to a quarterly frequency if needed. The BAC will assist in site selection, cleanup and future reuse planning. COVID-19: We will also provide both virtual and non-digital outreach alternatives that meet CDC guidelines during periods when Covid cases are high. Meetings will be held outdoors when possible, and will adhere to social-distancing guidelines. When feasible, Hernando will utilize phone calls and virtual-conferencing.

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES, AND MEASURING PROGRESS

a. Description of Task/Activities and Outputs

Task Activity: Project Management (PM)

I. Project Implementation:
The City of Hernando will select a Qualified Environmental Professionals (QEP) following a procurement process per 2 CFR Part 200 and 2 CFR Part 1500. Hernando’s Brownfields Coordinator will complete the EPA Grant Application Package (SF424, SF-424A, 5700-54, 4700-4 etc.), develop the Grant Work Plan, correspond with the EPA, oversee the grant and the Consultant, approve quarterly and annual reports, approve/check budgets, perform drawdowns, and prepare annual financial and DBE reports. Hernando will communicate with stakeholders, manage tasks, timelines, and budgets, and submit performance and financial reports throughout the project. The QEP will assist with reporting requirements, upon request from the City. Hernando’s Brownfields Coordinator (Gia Matheny) will update ACRES, correspond with ADEM, and the EPA, and will prepare quarterly/annual reports.

II. Anticipated Project Schedule (5 points):

- Cooperative Agreement & Work Plan – July 2022
- Kickoff meeting – October 2022
- Quarterly reports – Jan 30, Apr 30, Jul 30, Oct 30 for each year of the 3-year grant period
- Federal Financial Reports (FFR) – Dec 30 annually
- DBE Reports – October 30 annually
- Final Performance Report – end of grant
- ACRES Updates – Continuously

III. Task Activity Lead(s) (5 points): Gia Matheny with QEP Assistance

IV. Output(s): ACRES updates, reports (quarterly & annual progress, financial, and DBE)

Task Activity: Site Selection, Inventory, Community Engagement, Site Access (I&O)

I. Project Implementation: (a) Site Selection: In Q1, the BAC will review and prioritize the target sites using input from community partners. Key criteria will include environmental justice, redevelopment plans, community need and impact, funding support, project size and scope, existing infrastructure, health conditions, and ease of completion. (b) Inventory: The QEP will complete Eligibility Determinations in Q1 for the selected sites from the previously completed inventory. Activities will include reviews of environmental records, property records, and historical documentation for prior uses and concerns. It will also include surveys of property owners, employees, real estate brokers, and other people with knowledge of site operations. The Site Inventory will be recorded using a GIS Inventory. (c) Community Engagement:
Community participation in the projects is critical to project success. During quarter 1, Hernando, the BAC, and the QEP will work together to complete the Community Involvement Plan (CIP), which will be a living document that is updated throughout the project period. Hernando, the BAC, the QEP, and community partners will work together to engage the community continuously.  

**Site Access:** Hernando and the QEP will begin contacting property owners to secure site access and obtain signed Access Agreements in Q1.

**Task/Activity Lead(s):** Gia Matheny with QEP Assistance

**Output(s):** Eligibility Determinations, Access Agreements, GIS Inventory, CIP, community information materials, website updates.

### Task/Activity:Phase I & II Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs)

**Project Implementation:** The QEP will begin by preparing a Generic Quality Assurance Project Plan (GQAPP). Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) will include site investigation and inspection and report preparation. Phase I ESAs will be prepared in accordance with All Appropriate Inquiry (AAI) and ASTM E1527-13 (or ASTM E1527-21 once adopted). Phase II ESAs will involve the collection of soil, groundwater, surface water, and/or soil vapor samples for analysis of COCs and may include ground penetrating radar (GPR) surveys for UST identification. Phase II ESAs can also include asbestos-containing materials (ACM) surveys and lead-based paint (LBP) surveys – along with report writing. Each Phase II ESA will require a Site-Specific Quality Assurance Project Plan (SSQAPP) addendum and will include sampling and analysis activities, health and safety planning, and standard operating procedures for field work activities. Activities will be performed concurrently to complete the projects as expeditiously as possible. Any realized savings will be used on activities beyond the priority sites, which will occur after it is clear priority sites can be fully addressed, completed on time, and funded.

**Anticipated Project Schedule:** GQAPP – Q1; 7 Phase I ESAs – Q2-Q6; SSQAPPs – Q3-Q8; 3 Phase II ESAs – Q4-Q7; 3 Non-Priority Site Phase I ESAs (1 per target area) – Q7-Q9; 3 Non-Priority Site Phase II ESAs (1 per target area) – Q8-Q11, 2 Phase III ESAs – Q7-Q11

**Task/Activity Lead(s):** QEP

**Output(s):** 1 GQAPP, 10 Phase I ESAs, 8 SSQAPPs, 6 Phase II ESAs with GPR, 2 Phase III ESAs.

### Task/Activity: Cleanup Planning and Area-Wide Planning (Planning)

**Project Implementation:** The City of Hernando will rely on its selected QEP to perform cleanup planning activities that may include Analysis of Brownfields Cleanup Alternatives (ABCAs), development of Corrective Action Plans (CAPs), and redevelopment planning. ABCAs for each site will include an analysis of three different remedial alternatives and a cost/benefit analysis for each alternative. We estimate that four ABCAs will be developed and they will be performed in the second and third years of the grant period. CAPs will be developed after the Phase I and Phase II ESAs have been completed for a site and will only be developed for sites that have pending redevelopment interests, have the greatest likelihood of being redeveloped, and/or are subject to EPA Cleanup Grant applications. We also propose to compile a Resource Roadmap with funds provided through this grant. The Resource Roadmap will allow us to condense the brownfields project into distinct, fundable components and assign lead responsibilities; develop a multi-layered funding plan to support brownfields cleanup and reuse; and create a timeline for pursuing grants, loans, private, and other sources of funds related to our brownfield project. The Resource Roadmap will allow us to continue the momentum that is created through this Brownfield Community-wide Assessment Grant and provide a framework for obtaining additional resources to complete cleanup and redevelopment.

**Anticipated Project Schedule:** All ABCAs will be completed immediately following Phase II results. The Resource Roadmap will be initially compiled in Q4 and will be updated continuously. The Resource Roadmap will be finalized at closeout.

**Task/Activity Lead(s):** QEP, under the direction of the City

**Output(s):** 3 ABCAs, 3 CAPs, 1 Resource Roadmap
3.b. Cost Estimates; 3.b.i. Development of Cost Estimates & 3.b.ii. Application of Cost Estimates: The following table breaks down the planned allocation of grant funds for each of the project tasks:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUDGET CATEGORIES</th>
<th>PROJECT TASKS ($)</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>$22,500</td>
<td>$22,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fringe Benefits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>$5,400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractual</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Direct Costs</td>
<td>$42,900</td>
<td>$39,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect Costs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Budget</td>
<td>$42,900</td>
<td>$39,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Costs were developed with the assistance of TAB provider ICMA and from our previous EPA grant experience.

**TASK 1 - Program Management Cost Breakdown:** Personnel: $22,500 budgeted at 450 hrs. x $50/hr; Travel: $5,400 budgeted for two personnel to attend two conferences. Contractual: $15,000 budgeted for an average professional rate of $150/hour x 100 hours; Total $42,900.

**TASK 2 - Community Outreach Cost Breakdown:** Personnel: $22,500 budgeted at 450 hrs. x $50/hr; Supplies estimated at $1,600 (breakdown below); Contractual - $15,000 (average professional rate of approximately $150/hour x 100 hours; Total $39,100.

Supplies - $1,600
- 1000 postcards @ $0.73 each = $730
- Six 40” by 60” poster display boards @ $75 each, one per public meeting = $450
- 500 tri-fold brownfield project brochures @ $0.72 each = $360
- 50 property owner brownfields program brochures @ $1.20 each = $60

**TASK 3 – Project Assessments Cost Breakdown:** $288,000 Total. One generic QAPP will be prepared. It is estimated that there will be 10 Phase I ESAs, 6 Phase II ESAs, and 2 additional delineation Phase III ESAs will be performed. It is estimated that some of these sites will cost more due to the larger size but the table below reflects the average costs (priority sites will be assessed before non-priority sites).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subtask</th>
<th>Est. Cost</th>
<th>Output</th>
<th>Est. Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Generic QAPP</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase I ESA</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase II ESA (w/ GPR and SSQAPP)</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$210,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase III ESA</td>
<td>$28,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$28,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assessments (72.5% allocated to Phase I and II ESAs)</td>
<td>$288,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TASK 4 – Planning Cost Breakdown:** A total of 3 ABCAs are budgeted for an estimated cost of $4,000 each (3 x $4,000 = $12,000), and 3 Corrective Action Plans budgeted for an estimated cost of $5,000 (3 x $5,000 = $15,000) and 1 Resource Roadmap for an estimated cost of $12,000 (80 hours at $150/hr.). Total $39,000

3.c. Measuring Environmental Results
Hernando understands the importance of tracking progress and measuring results. Therefore, Hernando’s Brownfields Coordinator, Gia Matheny, together with the QEP will track the following: the number community outreach events with the number of people attending these events; the number of Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III ESAs (contaminant delineation) completed; the number of ABCAs and cleanup plans completed; the amount of sites and acres of property redeveloped; acreage of greenspace created; amount of private investment leveraged; amount of other funding leveraged; number of jobs created/retained from redevelopment projects; increased property/sales tax revenue generated; and increased property value. All applicable information will be uploaded to EPA’s ACRES database on a
quarterly basis, at a minimum.

4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY AND PAST PERFORMANCE (25 points) a. Programmatic Capability

i. Organizational Capacity; ii. Organizational Structure; and iii. Description of Key Staff

The City of Hernando has an outstanding record of managing federal grants and has already managed two EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants in the past. The same staff that successfully managed the previous grants will be present to meet the programmatic, administrative, technical and financial requirements of this grant. In addition, Hernando’s selected QEP has helped successfully manage over 30 EPA grants and has dozens of experience staff members to support us in this effort.

The brownfields grant will be managed by our Community Development Department, which falls directly under the supervision of the Mayor. The Office of Community Development writes and manages private, state and federal grants and secures funding for community programs. The staff of this office has extensive experience working with the EPA and the MDEQ concerning brownfields.

The Department of Community Development is headed by Gia Matheny, Director. Gia has been with the City eight years and is responsible for grant management within her department. Gia has access to many other staff that will support this grant such as Eva Ward and Pam Pyle. Pam is the City Clerk, and supports the financial requirements and submits any invoices for reimbursement through the EPA management system. Eva also provides financial management support and issues check requests for payment to the board docket for approval at board of aldermen meeting.

iv. Acquiring Additional Resources

In accordance with 2 CFR Part 200 and 2 CFR Part 1500, a QEP experienced in brownfield projects will be contracted once the grant is announced. This will allow us to move quickly on this project to ensure that all goals and milestones are met as efficiently as possible. The QEP will assist Hernando in the management of this grant and will help ensure the highest rate of project success.

b. Past Performance and Accomplishments

i. Currently Has or Previously Received an EPA Brownfields Grant

The City of Hernando has been the recipient of two EPA Brownfields Grants. The first was awarded in 2012 for the Downtown and surrounding area. The second grant was awarded in 2016 for the Downtown and Nesbit areas. Both of these grants were awarded for $400,000. Both grants are closed.

(1) Accomplishments

Outputs of the 2012 grant included 26 Phase I ESAs, 6 Phase II ESAs and 4 ABCAs. Outputs of the 2016 grant included 26 Phase I ESAs, 7 Phase II ESAs, and 5 ABCA’s. These two grants successfully leveraged planning initiatives that resulted in numerous sites being assessed and redeveloped within the target areas. One such site is Uncle Bubba’s Barbeque which was formerly an equipment maintenance and sales company with petroleum contaminated soils and 2 leaking USTs. Uncle Bubba’s is now a restaurant and entertainment venue that has increased tourism to the Westside Target Area. These two grants have served to spur greater interest from developers, removed some of the stigma associated with the brownfield sites, and provided an opportunity for us to share its redevelopment success stories at regional and national conferences. Hernando estimates that over $50 million in investment has been leveraged due to these two grants, 73 jobs created, and over 91 acres of property assessed. One additional success story from the previous grants was the transition of the closed Kawneer Aluminum Manufacturing Plant into the Schultz Extruded Products facility which created 51 jobs and a multi-million-dollar investment in the community. All of these accomplishments were reported to ACRES in a timely manner, including leveraged resources.

(2) Compliance with Grant Requirements

The City prepared and submitted all EPA-required reports including quarterly, semi-annual, and final reports within the timeframe required by the EPA. In addition, the City updated the ACRES online database to accurately and consistently track project outputs and outcomes. All compliance requirements were successfully met for the Cooperative Agreement, including the submittal of the Work Plan, Generic QAPP, eligibility determinations, Site Specific QAPPs, Quarterly Reports, Annual Reports, Financial Reports, and ACRES Database reporting. Over 70% of the last grant in 2016 was used directly for assessments.
THRESHOLD CRITERIA - CITY OF HERNANDO, MISSISSIPPI

1. Applicant Eligibility
The City of Hernando, Mississippi, is a “General Purpose Unit of Local Government” as defined under 2 CFR § 200.1. This allows the City of Hernando to be eligible to apply for an EPA Assessment Grant.

2. Community Involvement
The City of Hernando has been successfully involving the public on brownfield issues for more than a decade since before they received their first grant in 2012. Public involvement was also sought out concerning redevelopment of potential brownfield sites during the development of Hernando’s Draft Comprehensive Plan. Through these past grant and planning process, Hernando has also developed partnerships with a wide group of business organizations, community organizations, property owners, lenders, developers, real estate organizations and others to ensure a collaborative effort resulting in successful implementation of these efforts. A table showing these partnerships that will promote a cohesive strategy for this grant is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner Name</th>
<th>Point of contact</th>
<th>Specific role in the project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi Development Authority</td>
<td>Sara Watson (601) 359-5769 <a href="mailto:swatson@mississippi.org">swatson@mississippi.org</a></td>
<td>Provides economic development support, particularly related to the brownfield cleanup incentive (MS Economic Redevelopment Act), advertisement of properties available for development, and identification of additional leveraging resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hernando Main Street Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td>Sibonie Swatzyna (662) 429-9055 <a href="mailto:sibonie@hernandoms.org">sibonie@hernandoms.org</a></td>
<td>The Chamber will serve by helping to select brownfields for redevelopment and attract new businesses to locate at redeveloped brownfield sites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interfaith Council on Poverty</td>
<td>Roxanne McIngvale (901) 647-6655</td>
<td>The Interfaith Council on Poverty is an ecumenical collaboration of more than fifteen Christian churches in Hernando. They will assist Hernando by helping provide the community with updates on the grant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hill Hernando Church Family</td>
<td>Pastor Michael Minor (901) 490-2041 <a href="mailto:info@thehillhernando.com">info@thehillhernando.com</a></td>
<td>Pastor Minor of the Hill Hernando Church Family will serve in an advisory capacity. He is very active in the community and in touch with low income families within the target area and will help identify redevelopment opportunities that will better serve his community as well as acceptable cleanup methods for the community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi</td>
<td>Tom Pittman (662) 469-5002 <a href="mailto:tompittman@cfnm.org">tompittman@cfnm.org</a></td>
<td>The Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi will assist in community outreach and securing additional grant funding for addressing food insecurity within the target areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest Community College</td>
<td>Daniel Hollowell (662) 560-5272 <a href="mailto:dhollowell@northwestms.edu">dhollowell@northwestms.edu</a></td>
<td>The Northwest Community College will provide career workforce training for many of the type businesses that may locate to many of the brownfield properties.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hernando Bike Club</td>
<td>Bo McAninch 901-299-7940 <a href="mailto:hernandobike@aol.com">hernandobike@aol.com</a></td>
<td>Provide project updates to members and provide guidance on connectivity and safety pertaining to the expansion of greenspace and biking trails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant &amp; Company Builders/Realtors</td>
<td>Martha Fondren (901) 316-1048 <a href="mailto:mfondren@grantnewhomes.com">mfondren@grantnewhomes.com</a></td>
<td>Will confer with the City regarding available properties for construction of affordable housing.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The City of Hernando has already cultivated a culture within the community that encourages discussion and input pertaining to the redevelopment of brownfield sites. This has been achieved through community outreach events that have taken place during the six years of previous grants awarded in 2012 and 2016 and development of the
recent draft Hernando Comprehensive Plan. These efforts have involved over 150 participants from the community and has helped to shape Hernando’s entire brownfields program. Therefore, Hernando will continue along the same track that has been successful in obtaining and incorporating community input to date. This includes holding an initial kickoff meeting and at least two community outreach events per year. Hernando will also reach out to the community through the distribution of flyers, newspaper advertisements, the City’s website, social media, and local news media. Community input will be encouraged through visioning sessions to gain input on which redevelopments are most important to the community. Adjacent property owners/occupants to priority Brownfield sites will be personally invited to community meetings. Based on the latest US Census data, there will be no need for translation services, however, these services will be provided if it is determined to be needed in the future, based upon those individuals attending the meetings. All documents associated with the project will be made available through document repository located with Gia Matheny at City Hall.

In addition to the Community Outreach meetings, Hernando will hold brownfields advisory committee (BAC) meetings that will include the key stakeholders and partners listed in the above table. These meetings will be held at a minimum of an annual basis and up to a quarterly frequency if needed. The BAC will assist in site selection, cleanup and future reuse planning. COVID-19: Hernando will also provide both virtual and non-digital outreach alternatives that meet CDC guidelines during periods when Covid cases are high. Meetings will be held outdoors when possible, and will adhere to social-distancing guidelines. When feasible, Hernando will utilize phone calls and virtual-conferencing.

3. Named Contractors and Subrecipients
Not applicable

4. Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds
The City of Hernando does not have an active assessment grant. The City of Hernando’s most recent Assessment Grant period was closed out in 2019.