



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lansing Regional Brownfield Coalition Awarded Maximum Grant from EPA

Coalition awarded \$500,000 for environmental assessment on economic development projects

LANSING, MI – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced today that the Lansing Regional Brownfield Coalition, led by LEAP on behalf of the City of Lansing and its regional partners, has received the maximum grant award of \$500,000 through the 2015 EPA Brownfields Program. Of this award, \$400,000 is to be used to investigate economic development sites for hazardous substances and \$100,000 is to be used on petroleum-related activity. The Coalition model is unprecedented in our region and allows the community to work together on brownfield-related activities. Coalition partners include the cities of Lansing and East Lansing, and Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties.

“This grant announcement is huge for the community as it is a perfect example of how we can access big dollars by embracing the regional partnership between the cities and counties,” said Bob Trezise, President and CEO of LEAP. “We want to thank the leadership of Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero, East Lansing Mayor Nathan Triplett, Clinton County Chair Bob Showers, Ingham County Chair Brian McGrain and Eaton County Chair Blake Mulder, U.S. Senator Gary Peters and U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, as well as Calvin Jones, chair of the Lansing Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, which was the lead applicant for this grant. Additionally, we congratulate Keith Lambert, TriCounty Development Manager for LEAP, for his leadership in bringing together these partners to secure this grant award.”

The EPA Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to identify, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse environmentally contaminated properties, known as brownfields.

“The City of Lansing is delighted to collaborate with surrounding communities through the Lansing Regional Brownfield Coalition as it allows us all to be stronger together,” said Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero. “This is a huge win for Lansing and the metro region – especially at a time when our economic development tools are being reduced. We will be able to support dozens of redevelopment projects across metro Lansing with these funds.”

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The Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP) is a coalition of area leaders committed to building a prosperous and vibrant region where business can thrive. To do this, we help entrepreneurs start new businesses, help existing businesses grow, and attract new businesses to the region. For more information about LEAP, please visit www.purelansing.com.