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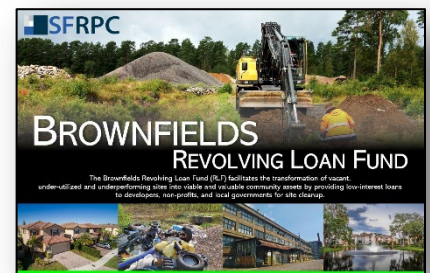
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**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS ANNOUNCES  
THE SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AS 2023 IMPACT AWARDS RECIPIENT**

**HOLLYWOOD, FL** – The National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) recently announced [the winners of the 2023 Aliceann Wohlbruck NADO Impact Awards](#). The 2023 class of awardees consists of 71 organizations spanning 28 states. The South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) is proud to be a recipient of this award and thanks NADO for their recognition of the Council's [Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Program](#) (BCRLF).

The Impact Awards program honors NADO members for their creative approaches to advancing regional economic development and improved quality of life. These projects have made significant impacts in their regions and demonstrate the diversity of services and program delivery provided by regional development organizations across the country.

Since 2001, the SFRPC has administered and managed a BCRLF with funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) which is used to facilitate assessment, remediation, and redevelopment projects in under-utilized and under-performing sites throughout South Florida into viable and valuable community assets such as affordable housing, mix-use centers, parks, and community centers. To date, the SFRPC has raised and committed more than \$4,200,000 to assist six (6) projects throughout Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties. These funds have enabled the following projects:



- The SFRPC, in conjunction with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, secured and committed \$600,000 to inventory, characterize, and test potential brownfield sites in Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, and Indian River counties.
- The SFRPC, after its development of the 79th Street Corridor Action Plan in 2015, secured and committed \$300,000 to the 79th Street Corridor Neighborhood Initiative to develop cleanup plans and reuse plans targeting west-central unincorporated Miami-Dade County. The 79th Street Corridor features industrial land, extensive transit and rail infrastructure, and a historic minority African American community. Building on these investments, in May 2023, the U.S. EPA awarded an additional \$500,000 in grant funding for environmental assessments, cleanup plans, and community engagement.
- The SFRPC has committed \$2,000,000 to help remediate and redevelop a [2.08-acre property in the Miami Health District](#) of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The former pest control site has remained vacant and blighted for decades and will be redeveloped into affordable housing for medical professionals.
- The SFRPC continues to work with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council and Miami Waterkeepers to improve coastal resiliency and reduce environmental impacts at public marinas and coastline access points. Through this partnership, the Councils further the assessment of potential environmental impacts and resiliency

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challenges while helping communities to move priority sites forward with cleanup and resiliency planning, design, and implementation.

- The SFRPC has committed \$500,000 to the City of Homestead, Florida to help address affordable housing challenges with funding to assess and remediate vacant land as a result from long-standing economic and environmental justice issues
- The SFRPC has committed more than \$800,000 to Malibu Bay Preservation, an affordable housing residential complex in West Palm Beach to help address needed groundwater monitoring to ensure a safe and clean environment for residents of the community.

These projects are essential for the revitalization of neighborhoods. They transform vacant and blighted properties that pose a health hazard, into areas that can be redeveloped for affordable housing, business development, and environmental rejuvenation. This redevelopment supports job creation and stimulates the economy. The Brownfields Program is an opportunity for communities normally passed over for major development and capital investments to leverage vacant and abandoned properties into workforce housing, mixed-use, and transit-oriented developments, community gardens, and neighborhood commercial businesses.

*“A critical part of the region’s vision for economic development includes proper land use management. Urban development patterns have an overwhelming impact on a region’s economy, sustainable growth, preservation of natural habitat, and quality of life. Through the Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund, the SFRPC supports prosperity without sacrificing natural resources, and continues to identify assessment and remediation opportunities to help facilitate redevelopment efforts of Brownfield sites to achieve the region’s vision for robust economic development, a cleaner environment, and improved quality of life.”*

**~ Jeffrey R. Tart, SFRPC Senior Loan Officer  
Brownfields Program Manager**

To learn more about the SFRPC Brownfields Program or how to get involved, please contact Senior Loan Officer, Jeffrey Tart at 954.924.3653 or [jtart@sfrpc.com](mailto:jtart@sfrpc.com). You may also visit our website at [www.sfreionalcouncil.org](http://www.sfreionalcouncil.org).

*Since 1974, the South Florida Regional Planning Council has served as the regional planning agency for Monroe, Miami-Dade, and Broward counties, 70 municipalities, and an estimated 4.8 million residents. The Florida Legislature has recognized that regional planning councils are the only multipurpose regional entity in position to plan for intergovernmental solutions to growth related problems and meet the other needs of communities in each region. The Council supports the region’s elected leaders and public, private, and nonprofit stakeholders through regional, collaborative planning and the development and implementation of programs and strategies shaping a better future for South Florida.*

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