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Senator Steve Geller, Chair  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) AWARDS \$3.5 MILLION TO THE SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL'S BROWNFIELDS REVOLVING LOAN FUND**

*The Council was one of just 31 existing, high-performing Brownfield RLF Programs from throughout the entire country selected as a grant recipient by the Biden Administration.*

**HOLLYWOOD, FL, June 18, 2024** - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently announced the recipients of more than \$300 million in Brownfield Grants through the Biden Administration's Investing in America Agenda to rehabilitate and revitalize communities. In addition to the \$3,200,000 in EPA funds already awarded, the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) was selected to receive an additional \$3,500,000 through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) because of its high-performing RLF Program to replenish the program's significantly depleted funds.

The investments are funded by the EPA's Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup (MAC) Grant Programs and Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grant Programs. The EPA issued 181 grant awards totaling \$231 million through EPA's MAC Grant Programs along with \$68 million in supplemental funding for 31 existing, high-performing Brownfields RLF Grant Programs, as well as the selection of Grow America, with an estimated \$3 million in grant funding.

The EPA's Brownfield Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfield sites. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

The SFRPC's RLF Program has successfully made loans leading to four cleanup projects that are either completed or in progress. Potential projects highlighted for use of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding include 1960 NW 27th Avenue in Miami and the old Baltuff Dump on Middle Torch Key. The BIL funding will extend the capacity of the program to provide funding for more cleanups in the most underserved and significantly disadvantaged communities in our region, such as:

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- **Park Road/Former Hollywood Incinerator Ash Dump (Hollywood, FL):** The Park Road redevelopment will result in the construction of 315 multifamily rental units, 40,000 square feet of commercial (grocery), and 31,000 square feet of commercial (general, retail with a gasoline station). The estimated investment (leverage) is \$71 million.
- **Claude Pepper Park (Miami, FL):** This multifamily redevelopment is named after the adjacent public park that is popular with sports lovers and features two basketball courts, 12 tennis courts, and three softball/baseball diamonds. Following the cleanup of an 11-acre former rock quarry, the redevelopment will construct 1,568 multifamily affordable rental units plus 180,000 square feet of retail/office space. The estimated private investment (leverage) is \$750 million.

*“This former 30.5 acre contaminated public works site that was once known as the Hollywood Incinerator Ash Dump, has an opportunity to finally be transformed into a highly desirable mixed-use commercial and residential neighborhood supporting workforce housing in the Hollywood vicinity. The South Florida Regional Planning Council continues to be instrumental in seeking funding from the Environmental Protection Agency and other agencies to assist with impactful projects in our region.”*

*~ Senator Steve Geller, Broward County Commissioner, District 5, SFRPC Chair*

*“I am thankful to the Environmental Protection Agency for providing this grant for the cleanup and restoration of this land, which will now be available to increase the housing stock at a time when it is sorely needed.”*

*~Commissioner Beam Furr, Broward County Commissioner, District 6, SFRPC Board Member*

To view the entire U.S. EPA award announcement to the SFRPC’s Brownfields RLF, as well as additional award recipients, please visit [2024 MAC and RLF Supplemental Grant Recipients](#).

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.sfrpc.org](http://www.sfrpc.org).

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