



CITY OF MANITOWOC
WISCONSIN, USA
www.manitowoc.org



Date: August 25, 2020
To: Finance Committee
From: Adam Tegen, Community Development
Re: EPA Site Assessment Grant Opportunity

As many of you are aware, the City of Manitowoc has been very successful in attracting grant dollars from the EPA to support our brownfield program. Examples include an award for \$1,000,000 to create a Revolving Loan Fund targeted to brownfield cleanup, and an additional \$1,000,000 in multiple awards for site assessment activities. In 2019 the City applied for additional funding to support our ongoing site assessment program. Unfortunately we were unsuccessful in those applications. During the debrief with the EPA, we received feedback that the EPA is looking more favorably on applications that are regional in nature. This is especially true in situations where a municipality has a track record of a successful brownfield program and can act as a mentor to the other partners.

Based upon that feedback, I am suggesting that the City of Manitowoc partner with Progress Lakeshore and the City of Two Rivers on a regional application for a site assessment grant. Traditionally the cap for a single award is \$300,000, by applying as a region the award ceiling is increased to \$600,000. The City of Manitowoc would act as the lead entity on the grant and we would continue to work closely with Stantec on the application and administration of the grant. To outline the inner workings of how funds would be distributed and monitored, a separate Memorandum of Understanding would be developed and signed on by the three entities.

We believe that this route has a greater chance of success while providing a benefit, not only to the City, but the larger Manitowoc area. Many of the smaller communities or unincorporated areas of the County are unable to bring the necessary resources necessary to apply or administer an EPA site assessment grant.

Thank you for your consideration and I am happy to answer any questions you may have. I can be reached at ategen@manitowoc.org or 920-686-6931.