

# Environmental Justice/Brownfields Community Resource Roundtable

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*Florida Brownfields Association  
Annual Conference – Environmental  
Justice Workshop*

*Facilitated by the Florida Brownfields  
Association – Environmental Justice  
and Public Health Committee*

*Date: 6/27/24*



# EPA Region 4

David Champagne

Brownfields and Redevelopment Section  
Manager (Acting)

(770) 639-6927

Champagne.David@epa.gov



*June 27, 2024*



# EPA'S BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM

## What is a Brownfield?

A brownfield 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."

Are you frustrated with the blighted commercial or industrial properties? Is reuse stalled due to concern of contamination? Are nearby residents potentially impacted by a property? The EPA's Brownfields Program helps communities with assistance to characterize and revitalize brownfield sites.

Your community can apply for environmental site assessment, contamination cleanup, reuse planning and environmental job training grants. Eligible recipients include local governments, states, state-chartered units of government, tribes, and 501(c)(3) non-profits. Requests for Proposals (RfP) for most Brownfields grants are announced in early fall. Grants are nationally competed and usually require proposal submittal within 60 days of the RfP.

## Targeted Brownfields Assessments

EPA's technical assistance is provided by EPA contractors under the Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA) program. Typically, this assistance consists of EPA contractors conducting environmental assessments in lieu of a community consultant.

The TBA program is intended to help communities that do not have brownfield assessment grants and only need a minimal number of sites assessed. Applications are accepted year-round and reviewed by the Regional office. The TBA program can conduct Phase I and Phase II site assessments, but TBAs do not cover site cleanups.

## Types of Financial Assistance offered in FY24\*

### Assessment Grants

Assessment grants can be used to develop a brownfields inventory, conduct environmental site assessments, prepare cleanup and reuse plans, and conduct community outreach. Single eligible entities can receive up to \$500,000 and coalitions can receive up to \$1,500,000 to assess hazardous substances and petroleum contaminants at eligible sites over a four-year grant period. States and tribes can apply for up to \$2,000,000 for a five-year period.

### Cleanup Grants

Cleanup grants provide funds to conduct environmental cleanups at a brownfields site owned at the time of application by an eligible applicant. Recipients can receive up to \$5,000,000 in cleanup funding. EPA will make a limited number of awards available to applicants requesting above \$500,000. Awards are funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) which waives the previous 20% cost share requirement. The grant project period is four years.

### Multipurpose Grants

Multipurpose grants provide funding for both assessment and cleanup work at brownfield sites. Assessment and cleanup do not have to be for the same site. Eligible recipients can receive up to \$1,000,000 to conduct these activities over a five-year grant period. Awards are funded by BIL which waives the previous \$40,000 cost share requirement.

*\*All amounts are subject to change.*

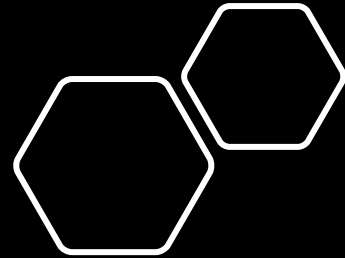
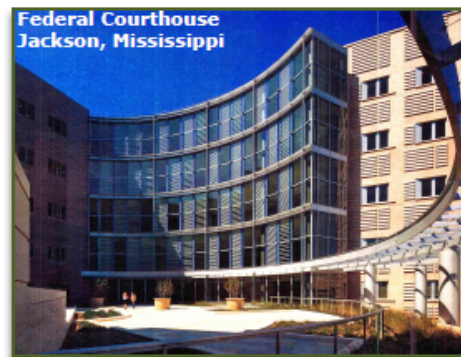
### Revolving Loan Fund Grants (RLF)

Once a successful RLF recipient receives funding, they are eligible to apply for non-competitive funding for future years. Eligible recipients can receive up to \$1,000,000 over a five-year period. Awards are funded by BIL which waives the previous 20% cost share requirement.

*New RLFs will not be offered in FY24.*

### Job Training Grants

An Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant is used to recruit, train and place under-employed and unemployed residents in the environmental field. Training programs may focus on hazardous and solid waste management, wastewater treatment, cleanup technologies and environmental health and safety. Eligible recipients can receive up to \$500,000 to conduct training over a five-year period.



# Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Providers



A brownfield is a property where the expansion, redevelopment or reuse may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant. TAB providers offer free technical assistance to address brownfield sites and increase understanding and involvement in cleanup, revitalization and reuse.

## **TAB providers can help communities:**

- Prepare Brownfields grant applications.
- Perform site inventories.
- Review historical information.
- Design site investigations, sampling and field analysis.
- Plan cleanup and redevelopment.



For more information,  
visit the QR code or  
[www.bit.ly/EPA-TAB](http://www.bit.ly/EPA-TAB)

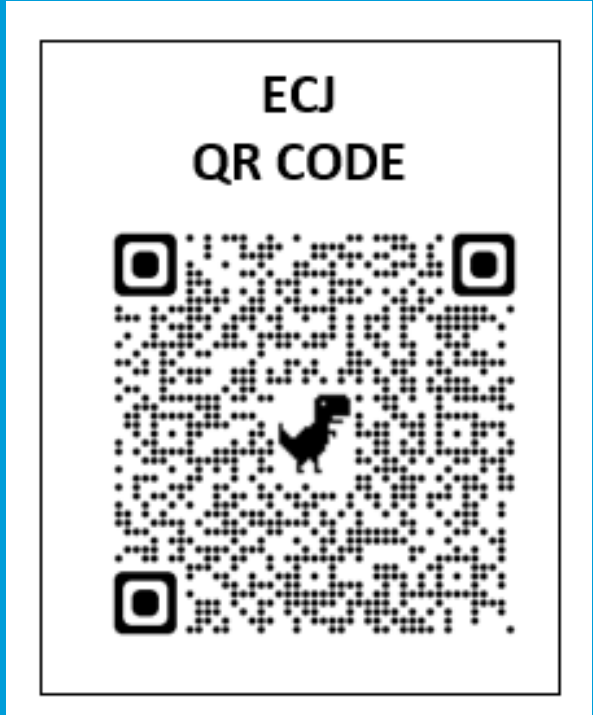


# Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Grants

Provides up to \$500K for projects that address local environmental/public health issues and build collaborative partnerships to address those issues.







# Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants

This new program will invest approximately \$2 billion dollars nationwide in Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funds to benefit communities most adversely and disproportionately impacted by climate change, legacy pollution, and historical disinvestments.







# TARGETED BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENT (TBA) / SITE SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES (SSA)

Florida Brownfields 201





# FLORIDA'S TBA/SSA PROGRAM



## Florida's Targeted Brownfields Assessment/Site-Specific Activity Program

### Brownfields Redevelopment Supplement

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection can help municipalities – especially those without federal Brownfields Assessment grants – reach their redevelopment goals by supplementing cleanup and redevelopment efforts through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Brownfields Initiative and the Florida Brownfields Redevelopment Program.

Cleaning up and remediating contaminated or underused property protects both public health and the environment. Additionally, successful revitalization of former brownfields sites has been proven to bolster local economies and strengthen community pride.

The brownfields projects approved in 2019 alone are projected to create over 5,700 new direct and indirect jobs, and over \$527 million in capital investments throughout the life of the projects.

DEP's Targeted Brownfields Assessment and Site-Specific Activity program provides brownfields supplement service to conduct environmental assessments and/or limited cleanups.

- Up to \$200,000 per site for cleanups
- Up to \$200,000 per site for assessments

### Types of services provided

- Screening: background and historical investigation, preliminary site inspection
- Full site assessment to identify types and concentrations of contaminants and areas to be cleaned
- Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives to establish cleanup options and cost estimate based on future uses and redevelopment plans

- Site Assessment Report to delineate contamination
- Limited cleanups for source removals and remediation
- Site monitoring

### Selection criteria

- Legal permission to access the property
- Ability to complete the project within the budget period
- Locally approved redevelopment plan in place for the property
- Preference will be given to applicants who demonstrate community need

### Eligibility

- Local governments
- Nonprofit organizations
- Community redevelopment agencies
- Housing authorities
- Regional planning councils
- Water management districts
- Private landowners

### Restrictions

- Services cannot be used for assessments or cleanups at sites that do not meet the legal definition of a brownfield
- Assessments and cleanups must comply with federal and state laws
- Properties must be eligible for EPA Brownfields funding

### Learn how your community can benefit

Contact DEP's Brownfields Program Manager at [Kelly.Crain@FloridaDEP.gov](mailto:Kelly.Crain@FloridaDEP.gov) or call 850-245-8953.

### Apply

Download application: [FloridaDEP.gov/SSA-Application](https://FloridaDEP.gov/SSA-Application)



[FloridaDEP.gov/BrownfieldsProgram](https://FloridaDEP.gov/BrownfieldsProgram)

## Assessment and cleanup services performed by DEP contractors.

- Up to \$250,000 per site for assessment tasks.
- Up to \$250,000 per site for remediation tasks (including source removal).





# TBA/SSA PROPOSED BUDGET

FY 2023-24

**BIL Funds**

**Annual Appropriations**

**Funds Available For  
TBA/SSA**

**\$620K**



**\$280K**



**\$900K**





# THANK YOU

**Scott Sweeney**  
Brownfields Redevelopment Program  
Division of Waste Management  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Contact Information:  
[Scott.L.Sweeney@FloridaDEP.gov](mailto:Scott.L.Sweeney@FloridaDEP.gov) or (850) 245-8958



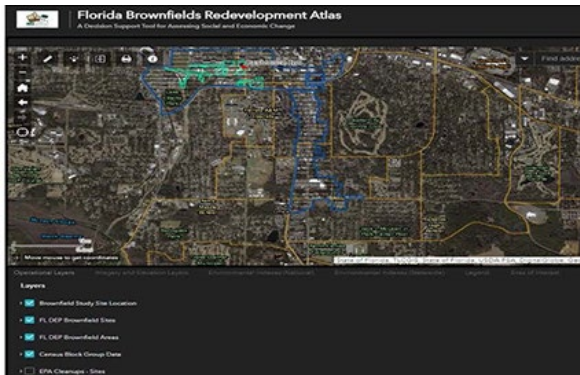


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Our mission is to leverage interdisciplinary scientific expertise at the University of South Florida to inform outcome-driven research on environmental contaminants in soil and water, land use legacies, environmental justice, and sustainable and equitable development.



## RESEARCH



### **Florida Brownfields Redevelopment Atlas: A Decision Support Tool**

**U.S. EPA Section 128(a) &  
104(k) funding through the  
Florida Department of  
Environmental Protection,  
2017-2024; U.S. EPA TAB  
funding for student  
internships**

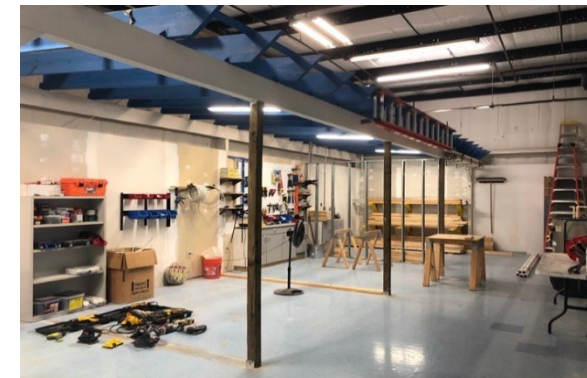
## REDEVELOPMENT



### **Brownfields Redevelopment Planning and Environmental Site Assessments for Tampa Bay Communities**

**U.S. EPA Brownfields Area-  
Wide Planning Grant, 2017-  
2019; U.S. EPA Community-  
wide Assessment Grants,  
2019-2022, 2023-2025; U.S.  
EPA Coalition Assessment  
Grant, 2024-2026**

## EDUCATION



### **Environmental Workforce Development and Brownfields Job Training Programs for East Tampa**

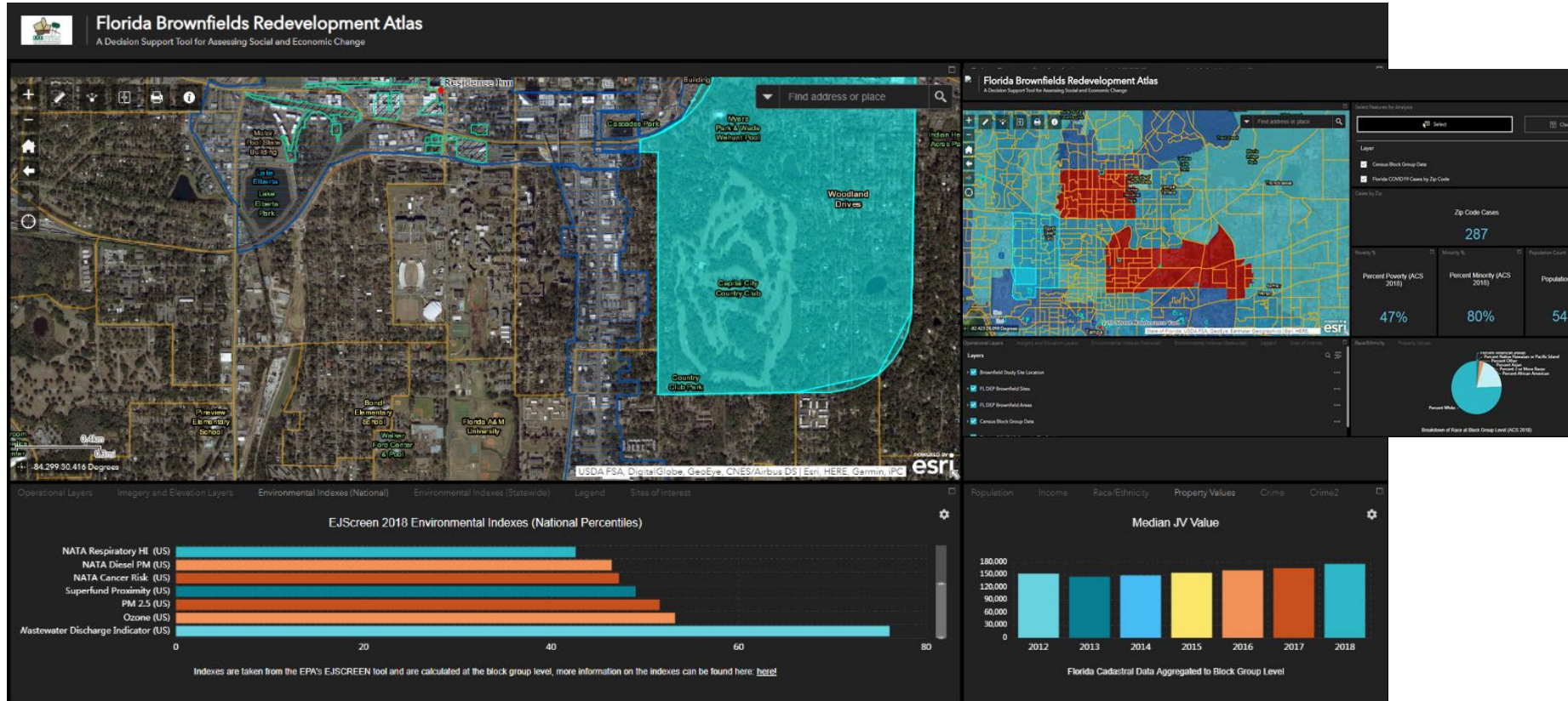
**U.S. EPA Environmental  
Workforce Development and  
Job Training Grant, 2020-  
2022; U.S. EPA Brownfields  
Job Training Grant, 2023-  
2025**



# Florida Brownfields Redevelopment Atlas

*An Online Decision Support Tool for Florida's Brownfields Communities*

available for free at: [usf.edu/brownfields](http://usf.edu/brownfields)



The Atlas is an online discovery tool that allows researchers to explore, summarize, and extract various types of environmental, socioeconomic, and health data, with an emphasis on change over time, at the census block group level for the entire state of Florida.



# Technical Assistance to Brownfield Communities (TAB) Program

**Elise Molleur**

*Brownfield Redevelopment Specialist*  
**NJIT TAB**



**NJIT**

**TAB** TECHNICAL  
ASSISTANCE TO  
BROWNFIELD  
COMMUNITIES

*Made possible with funding from the US EPA*

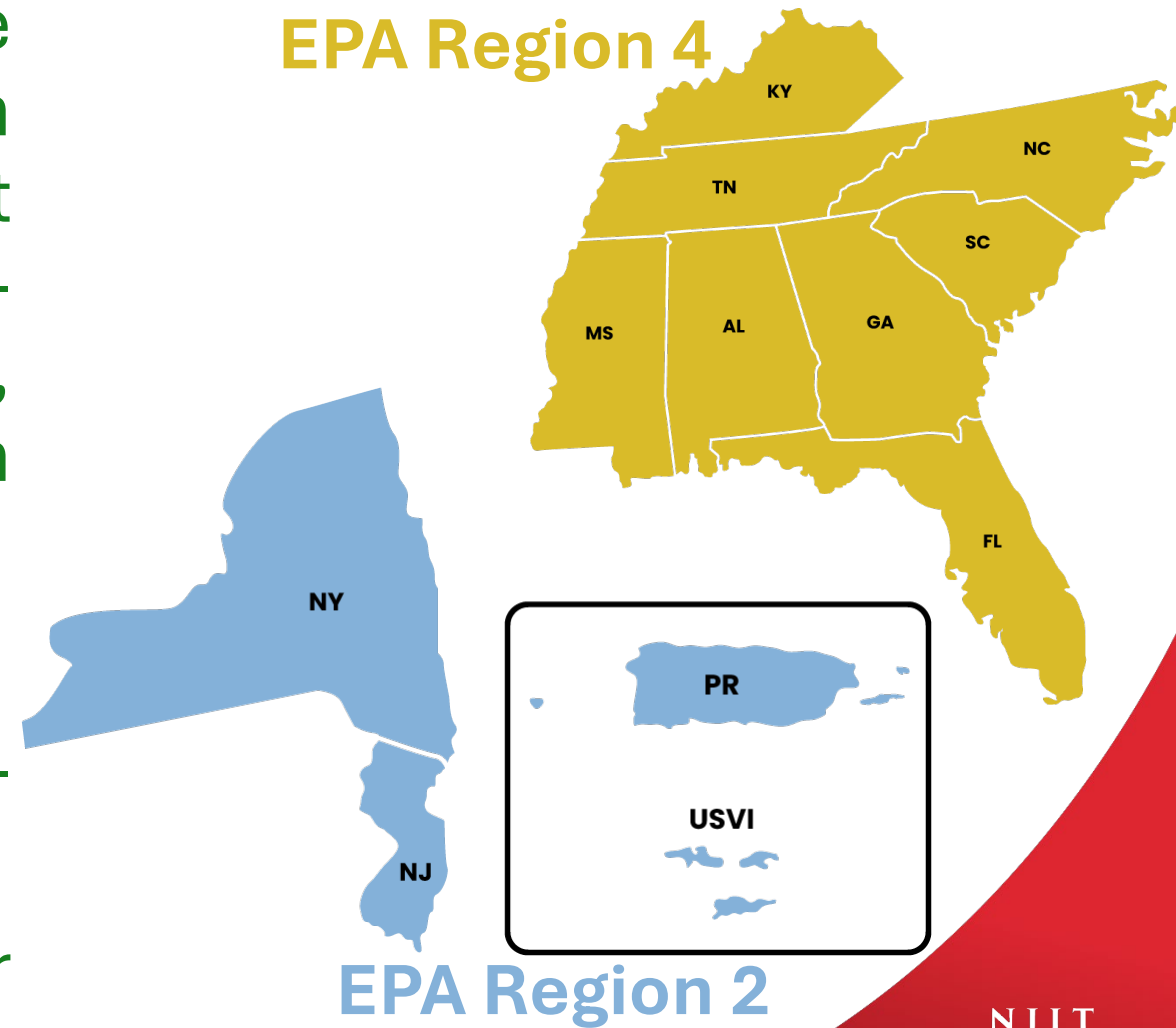


# What is a Technical Assistance to Brownfield Communities (TAB) Program?

TAB is a **FREE** technical assistance program funded by the USEPA, which is intended to serve as an independent resource to communities and non-profits attempting to learn about, identify, assess, cleanup, and reclaim brownfields.

 **NJIT** New Jersey Institute of Technology has served as an EPA-designated TAB provider since 2008.

NJIT TAB is currently the provider for EPA Region 2 and Region 4.



# We provide free assistance through our...

**1. Brownfields Academy** – How-to videos, infographics, success stories, news and upcoming events, federal and state funding sources, EPA and State contacts, previously-recorded webinars, downloads of workshop and seminar presentations, and successful grant applications

**2. Brownfield Community Engagement and Educational Forums** – Brownfield Basics Workshops, Grant Writing Workshops, Community Workshops, Webinars, Breaking Brownfields, Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG), Brownfield Summits, and Conferences

**3. One-on-One Technical Assistance** – We can...

- Answer your brownfield questions
- Develop a redevelopment strategy
- Review draft EPA grant applications
- Explain the regulatory programs
- Develop your redevelopment roadmap
- Identify funding sources
- Explain clean-up technologies
- Guide you on developing brownfield inventories
- Create site prioritization processes
- Develop strategies on marketing brownfield sites
- Develop Assets and Needs strategies
- Design and conduct community development vision workshops



# Contact Us:



**Elise Molleur, *Brownfield  
Redevelopment Specialist***  
***elise.molleur@njit.edu***  
***(973) 642-7280***



tab@njit.edu



(973) 642-4165



www.njit.edu/tab



company/njit-tab

Our Website



Our LinkedIn







**Yewande O. Addie**  
**Florida**  
**State Rep**  
Narrative  
Change Researcher  
[yaddie@rti.org](mailto:yaddie@rti.org)



**Odemari Mbuya**  
**Florida**  
**Team Lead**  
Professor of Soil  
Science  
[odemari.mbuya@fam  
u.edu](mailto:odemari.mbuya@fam.u.edu)



Resource for Assistance and  
Community Training in Region 4  
on Environmental Justice

# The EPA Region 4 Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center (TCTAC)

**Website:**  
<https://www.REAC4EJ.org>



**Phone:**  
866-309-4559

# How can REACT4EJ help?

Through our network of partners, we provide connections, training, and resources.

Connections with...	Training	Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Funders and funding opportunities</li><li>• Subject-specific experts</li><li>• Government and government agencies (e.g., EPA)</li><li>• Academic institutions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Subject-specific trainings</li><li>• General and state-specific trainings</li><li>• Webinars and web-based workshops</li><li>• In-person training sessions</li><li>• Peer-to-peer learning</li><li>• Mentoring</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Topic-specific resources</li><li>• Guidance documents</li><li>• General and state-specific resources</li><li>• Navigating online government systems and tools</li><li>• Guidance on environmental sampling</li></ul>



# Coming Soon

## EJ Thriving Communities Grantmaking (TCGM) Subgrants Program

### About the TCGM Subgrants Program



**Support capacity-building**  
through assessment,  
planning and  
project development.



**Increase efficiency  
and reduce barriers**  
to accessing federal  
grant funding.



**Encourage meaningful  
involvement** of community  
members in decision-making that  
may affect their communities.





# Questions?

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*Thank you!*

