

Community-Wide Assessment Grant – State and Tribal (CWAGST)

Presented by

Kansas Brownfields Program

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Long-term Stewardship & Brownfields Unit



KDHE Division of Environment

Brownfields Redevelopment Program

How is the Kansas Brownfields Program funded?

- Annual appropriation from CERCLA Section 128a funds 100% implementation and management of the Brownfields program. No state funds are received for the Brownfields Program
 - Portions of the funding also goes to the SCP, VCP, RPID, LTS, and Identified Sites Listing/KEIMS
- BIL funding for ACM abatements and abandoned tank pulls



Community-wide Assessment Grant – State and Tribal (CWAGST)

**NEW for
FY26!**

- \$2 million to support BTAs, cleanup & redevelopment planning/visioning, and community engagement in Kansas

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What is CWAGST?

- 104k competitive grant
- only available to states, Tribes, and eligible native corporations in Alaska to address brownfield sites throughout their entire jurisdiction (as defined by the entity in their grant workplan).
- An applicant may request **up to \$2,000,000** to assess sites contaminated by hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants (including hazardous substances co-mingled with petroleum), and/or petroleum.
- The performance period for these grants is **up to five years**.

KDHE was notified by EPA this past spring that we were awarded \$2,000,000 for FY26-FY31

- Anticipate receiving funds October 2025 (beginning of FFY26)

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What are the goals of the CWAGST?

Focus will be on three target areas, initially, and priority sites within the target areas, with **116** BTAs anticipated to be completed in the areas of:

- **Eureka**
- **El Dorado**
- **KCK**

Could also be used statewide, as necessary

Community Outreach and technical assistance

- Quarterly community meetings
- Development of community information regarding potential redevelopment(s)
- Partnering with TAB for workshops or charettes for visioning or planning

Cleanup and Redevelopment Planning

- ABCAs
- Workshops or community meetings

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Oak Grove Neighborhood

- 716 parcels of land encompassing 278 acres
- Vacant parcels make up 32% of the lots
 - 227 vacant Landbank parcels – minimum of 110 sites will be assessed with grant
- Population of less than 2,000 residents
- Demolition practices
 - Homes fell into disrepair, demolish into foundation and use as fill
 - Concern for buried asbestos and lead based paint
- Redevelopment of parcels
 - Require a Phase I to determine if permits were obtained for proper disposal
 - If none, Phase II conducted for soil contaminants

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Eureka Downs

- Developed in 1902 as a horse-racing track, operated until 2011
 - Venue largely vacant
 - Historic maintenance shop and aboveground storage tanks (ASTs)
 - Suspected asbestos and lead based paint within remaining structures
 - Phase I and likely Phase II needed to address contamination concerns onsite
- Considerable interest in redeveloping property
 - Multi-use space for weddings and entertainment – major draw for community and area
- Other priority sites within the Eureka target area include
 - Eureka Former Nursing Home
 - Eureka Fire Department Expansion
 - Eureka Memorial Hall
 - Eureka Former Masonic Lodge

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Grizzly Development

- 255 acres total on northern edge of El Dorado
 - 118 acres south of W Refinery Road and 137 acres north of W Refinery Road
 - Historic Coastal El Dorado Refinery to east
 - Pester Superfund site also to the east
 - Historic oil and gas exploration area
- City interested in redeveloping area into a commercial business park
 - Rail access, water and other existing infrastructure is already nearby
- City pursuing obtaining Certified Sites listing from the Kansas Dept. of Commerce
 - In order to obtain, environmental concerns must be evaluated
 - Assist in marketing properties to potential developers if obtained

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How does CWAGST work with other Kansas Brownfields funding?

CWAGST should complement existing Brownfields funding and will not take away from current 128a funding

Funding for BTAs has historically been 100% 128a-funded

- Over the past years, K has experienced stagnant allocations from EPA, due to 128a
- Non-competitive – if an area is not eligible for 128a

If you have a site(s) or area(s) that you think may benefit from CWAGST, please reach out to KDHE!

For FY26, KDHE should have

- BTA applications received that are not associated with the CWAGST will be funded through 128a

BTAs in the CWAGST target areas (priority sites) will be funded through CWAGST for the next 5 years

- \$1,443,200 available for BTAs

Questions





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<https://www.kdhe.ks.gov/488/Kansas-Brownfields-Program>