



December 13, 2016

Ms. Vicki Cummings
Executive Director
Grays Harbor Council of Governments
115 South Wooding Street
Aberdeen, WA 98520

RE: Letter of support for U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant

Dear Ms. Cummings:

The Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority (Flood Authority) is writing in support of the Grays Harbor Council of Governments' effort to obtain U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants during the FY2017 grant competition as part of a coalition that includes the City of Cosmopolis, City of Hoquiam and City of Aberdeen. We understand the Coalition will use funding to support the inventory/prioritization, assessment and reuse/redevelopment planning of brownfields sites located throughout the Cosmopolis downtown corridor, East Hoquiam and West Aberdeen areas including sites located along Fry Creek.

The mission of the Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority is to minimize hazards associated with flooding and catastrophic flooding. To that end this includes minimizing hazardous events and effects from flooding, like adverse effects on wastewater treatment infrastructure, emergency response infrastructure, municipal utility infrastructure, and hazardous pollution generated by erosive and aggressive flood waters. Cleaning up contaminated brownfields is the best way to prevent recontamination and hazardous exposure from floodwaters and catastrophic flood events.

The Flood Authority is excited to partner with the Coalition to help guide this important initiative. If the Coalition is successful in securing one or more U.S. EPA grants, the Flood Authority pledges to assist with successful implementation of the grant by attending meetings and participating in a brownfield advisory committee. It is our understanding that the Grays Harbor Site Revitalization Coalition intends to host brownfield advisory committee meetings at a minimum of two times per year over the three-year grant period, including a post-grant award kick-off meeting, a site inventory meeting, site prioritization meeting(s), remedial action meeting(s) and redevelopment planning meeting(s), for a total of at least six meetings.

Our in-kind contributions are conservatively estimated at 20 hours per year of staff time to prepare for and attend brownfield advisory committee meetings and otherwise participate in the grant implementation process. With an estimate of \$135/hour over the three-year grant period, it is estimated our local contribution will conservatively total \$8,100 (20 hours x \$135/hour x 3 years).

We look forward to continuing our long and successful partnership with Coalition members and are excited for this opportunity to revitalize and transform our neighborhoods and economy.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, or Scott Boettcher (staff to the Flood Authority) at 360/480-6600, scottb@sbgh-partners.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vickie L. Raines". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "V".

Vickie Raines, Chair
Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
360/590-4100
vraines@co.grays-harbor.wa.us

CC: Correspondence File