



Tribal Response Programs and the Infrastructure Law

With funds from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, EPA will provide an extra \$1.5B in brownfields program funding over the next 5 years. EPA is projecting \$300 Million directly toward 128(a) state and tribal response programs and an additional \$1.2 Billion toward project grants. The **KSU Tribal - Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Program** can help your TRP be in position to take advantage of these funds. We are focusing on the following three preparation areas:

1. Brownfields Inventory - Tribal TAB staff are available to assist TRPs in developing a robust inventory of brownfields properties. Our services include:

- brainstorming/education regarding properties which could qualify as brownfields
- on-site visits to identify brownfields
- assistance with database and historical property use searches
- coordination with other departments (housing, THPO office, other environmental programs, etc.) regarding Infrastructure Law funds from multiple federal agencies
- help with planning for future brownfields
- KSU TAB's online Brownfields Inventory Tool (BiT) for inventory management

2. Community Visioning and Planning - Historically, EPA favors funding projects for which there is strong public support. Tribal TAB staff are available to lead visioning events to include the community in selecting future redevelopment plans for brownfields properties. Future reuse goals need to recognize the beneficial aspects of interim uses, cultural preservation, and greenspace. Tribal TAB's network of Expert Partners can provide market analyses for proposed business reuse options, and identify financial resources (other than EPA brownfields) available to complete redevelopment.

3. Building an Information Base for Grant Applications - The Infrastructure Law adds substantial funding for Assessment, Cleanup, Multipurpose, and Job Training Grants in the EPA Brownfields Program. In past competitions for these grants, some tribal communities have found it challenging to provide all information requested in the grant application guidelines. Tribal TAB staff can help potential grant applicants find information related to potential health impacts at/near brownfields properties; community demographics; property ownership; and community income and economic data. Specific to Job Training Grants, we can help connect TRPs to existing Job Training Programs.

Other Areas of Assistance from KSU Tribal TAB

Tribal TAB personnel are available to support TRPs' use of Infrastructure Law funds in many ways not listed above, such as finding creative uses of 128(a) funds, prioritization of brownfields, and the use of land banks. Please contact us to discuss how KSU Tribal TAB might help you.

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