



The Most Livable
City in America

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City of Saint Paul receives four grants to assist in environmental assessments and cleanup at various sites

SAINT PAUL – Four of the city’s projects have been awarded Brownfield Cleanup Grants as part of the Metropolitan Council’s Livable Communities program. Of the 24 total grant applications received by the Council this funding round, 16 were selected to receive grant awards.

Three of the Saint Paul projects received pilot grants, a new category of grants for this program which encourage development on sites within areas of concentrated poverty. Two of the pilot grants were in the amount of \$27,100 to help fund environmental site assessments. 845-851 Payne Avenue is a small, currently vacant site previously used for motor repair. Rice & Sycamore historically housed a gas station and currently sits vacant.

The one-acre Saxon Ford site on University Avenue received \$22,500 in funding. A request for interest for development on the Saxon Ford property is [open for applications](#) until Monday, July 6, 2015.

In addition, the former Schmidt Keg House site will undergo asbestos and lead-based paint abatement, and soil remediation assisted by a \$94,500 Contamination Cleanup grant. Plans for the nearly two-acre site include renovation of a 27,000 square feet industrial building into restaurant and retail space. The vision for the Keg House development is specifically for including locally crafted artisan food and other products.

Since the Livable Communities program became law in 1995, the Council has made more than 400 brownfield investigation and cleanup grant awards totaling more than \$12 million.

About the Metropolitan Council

The Metropolitan Council is the regional planning organization for the seven-county Twin Cities area. It runs the regional bus and light rail system, including Northstar Commuter Rail, collects and treats wastewater, manages regional water resources, plans regional parks, and administers funds that provide housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals and families. The Council is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Governor.

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