



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

CITY OF SACRAMENTO

## NEWS RELEASE

*Joint release with City's Parks and Recreation Department*

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### **\$600,000 BROWNFIELDS GRANT AWARDED TO SACRAMENTO**

*Money bolsters shovel ready revitalization efforts in Sacramento*

*Sacramento, Calif.* – The City of Sacramento was recently selected as a recipient of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Community-wide Brownfields Assessment and Clean up Grants, which helps promote revitalization efforts of potentially contaminated sites. The grants – totaling \$600,000 – will fund necessary environmental assessments on projects that have immediate clean-up and redevelopment potential in the South Sacramento area, and provide funds to remediate land for a future park at 19th & Q streets.

“We have a real opportunity to use this grant to leverage redevelopment activities throughout Sacramento,” said Mayor Kevin Johnson. “Key infill areas are ripe with redevelopment potential, and the capital from these grants will go a long way in jumpstarting some of those projects.”

The first assessment project likely to receive grant funding is the Florin Road redevelopment effort, a key infill and redevelopment opportunity area for the City. Currently, city staff is working with the Florin Road auto dealerships on a comprehensive planning and economic development revitalization strategy to reposition the corridor into a vibrant, mixed use area. One component on the way to making the site attractive for redevelopment includes a Phase II environmental analysis. In short order, the City of Sacramento will conduct the analysis of the auto dealership sites to evaluate the current environmental conditions for future uses.

“Florin Road is certainly in need of repositioning and given the economy, this is a great time to start planning and prepping for future retail, residential and office use opportunities,” says Councilmember Bonnie Pannell.

The future park site located at 19<sup>th</sup> and Q streets – which will use \$200,000 of the grant – will fund a remediation action plan and clean up of a vacant parcel that the City’s Department of Parks and Recreation acquired for the development of an urban plaza. With this funding, work will be slated to begin as soon as grant funds are made available.

“The conversion of this former industrial site into an urban plaza is the final piece needed to creating a walkable, mixed use neighborhood right next to light rail at 19<sup>th</sup> Street,” said Councilmember Steve Cohn. “It will also leverage the millions of dollars in private investment made recently by Safeway and Paul Petrovich just across the tracks.”

Additional projects will be examined to determine if the remaining grant funds can be applied to other Brownfield-related clean up efforts.

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*What is a Brownfield? Brownfields are idled, abandoned, or under-used industrial and commercial properties where redevelopment is complicated by possible environmental contamination. The uncertainties surrounding liability and cleanup costs usually discourage reuse and redevelopment.*

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