

City of Oelwein, IA**CLIENT LIAISON:**

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DATE:

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**COMMUNITY CHANGE GRANT – PROJECT #08884014**

The City received an email from EPA stating they had received a significant amount of applications requesting an amount significantly exceeding the dollars available. The email did not state the City was not going to be funded, but said they were still reviewing applications and not to be hopeful. In light of the new Federal Administration's desire to reduce or rescind Federal grants related to social justice, etc., it is possible this source of funds could be dissolved altogether.

We have not heard of any further correspondence regarding this grant.

BRIC FMA FUNDING – PROJECT #08884015

Met with HSEMD on April 7 to receive comments on the initial application. The most important comment was that BRIC has been eliminated by FEMA as a funding source. Therefore, we are pivoting to apply only for the FMA grant. Application deadline was previously April 18. HSEMD is unsure if this is still the deadline, as FEMA has yet to respond to questions.

The application as it stands is strong and a good contender; HSEMD's consultants are providing MSA with comments to help bolster the application and give the best possible chance for the City to receive the funding. MSA will update the application and work with HSEMD to have the application ready by April 18, just in case the deadline is the same.

PROJECT UPDATE

RAIL YARD BROWNFIELD

Eocene has provided options for next steps with cost estimates for each of those options. Please let us know, if you would like to move forward with any of those options.

In addition, MSA and Eocene have begun discussions with Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission regarding and EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant application similar to one they secured in 2012. The RPC is very interested and has been talking to other agencies in the region to determine the need beyond Oelwein in order to put forth the strongest application. If successful, this would be an excellent source of funding to move forward with the next steps provided in Eocene's report.