

CITY OF CAMDEN REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
RESOLUTION SUMMARY

Economic Development /Brownfields

Resolution No.: 05-13-26A

Resolution Title:

Resolution Authorizing a Loan to the City of Camden Redevelopment Agency Division of Economic Development in the Amount of \$ 988,894.00 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund for the Remediation of the Judge Robert B. Johnson Park Site Designated as Block 520, Lot 26; Block 522, part of Lot 9; and Block 523, Lot 13 of the City of Camden Tax Map in the Liberty Park Redevelopment Area

Project Summary:

- In 2013, CRA, with a grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”), established a Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (“EPA RLF Program”) to make loans and sub-grants to fund environmental cleanup of Brownfield sites in the City of Camden. In 2020, EPA awarded CRA supplemental funds for the RLF Program.
- The EPA Brownfields RLF program allows CRA to make loans to itself for eligible projects and uses.
- The Judge Robert B. Johnson Park Site is owned by the City of Camden and designated as Block 520, Lot 26; Block 522, Lot 9 (part); and Block 523, Lot 13 of the City of Camden Tax Map and located in the Liberty Redevelopment Area (the “Site”).
- CRA by Resolution 10-22-22A entered into a Shared Services Agreement with the City of Camden for CRA to secure, manage, and implement on behalf of the City funding agreements to conduct environmental remediation activities at the Site.
- Environmental assessment activities conducted at the Site have identified the presence of contaminated soils that require remediation.
- Project costs for addressing the contaminated soil material are estimated at \$3,550,580.00.
- CRA by Resolution 12-14-22A awarded the City a \$500,000 sub-grant from the CRA’s EPA RLF Program for the Site’s remediation.
- In addition, CRA successfully applied for a \$1 million EPA and a \$1,967,944.00 State Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund (“HDSRF”) cleanup grant for the Site’s remediation.

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- The proposed EPA RLF Program loan is structured as a "bridge loan" to pay contractors timely because of the delays in the state's HDSRF disbursements.
- CRA proposes to make a loan to itself to fund the environmental cleanup activities. The loan will be for a term of 20 years at 0% interest. The loan will be repaid from HDSRF grant funds.
- After the remediation is completed, Camden County will fund and manage the design and construction of park improvements.

Purpose of Resolution:

To authorize and accept a loan.

Award Process:

N/A

Cost Not To Exceed:

\$988,894.00

Total Project Cost:

\$3,550,580

Source of Funds

US EPA Clean Up Grant (2022)	\$1,000,000.00
CRA US EPA RLF Subgrant	500,000.00
City SSA	82,636.00
HDSRF Grant	1,967,944.00
Total Sources	\$3,550,580.00

Repayment

HDSRF 75%

Brownfield Development Area Remediation Grant \$1,967,944.00

Resolution Authorizing a Loan to the City of Camden Redevelopment Agency Division of Economic Development in the Amount of \$ 988,894.00 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund for the Remediation of the Judge Robert B. Johnson Park Site Designated as Block 520, Lot 26; Block 522, part of Lot 9; and Block 523, Lot 13 of the City of Camden Tax Map in the Liberty Park Redevelopment Area

WHEREAS, the City of Camden Redevelopment Agency (“CRA”) is charged with the duty of redevelopment throughout the City of Camden; and

WHEREAS, CRA also manages the Camden Brownfields Program on behalf of the City of Camden (the “City”); and

WHEREAS, CRA by Resolution 06-08-22C applied for and accepted a Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (“RLF”) Grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) to continue with the CRA’s Revolving Loan Fund Program and entered into EPA Cooperative Agreement BF 96236900 (the “Cooperative Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, the Cooperative Agreement provides funding in the form of low to no-interest loans and subgrants that may be made available in support of environmental cleanup of Brownfield sites in the City of Camden, and

WHEREAS, the EPA Brownfields RLF Program allows for a grant recipient to make loans to itself for eligible projects and purposes; and

WHEREAS, the City of Camden owns the Judge Robert B. Johnson Park located at 723 Carl Miller Boulevard (Block 520, Lot 26; Block 522, Lot 9 (part); and Block 523, Lot 13 on the City of Camden Tax Map) within the Liberty Park Neighborhood (the “Site”); and

WHEREAS, environmental assessment activities conducted at the Site have identified the presence of contaminated soils, requiring remediation; and

WHEREAS, funding is needed to properly remediate the contaminated soil and construct a protective cap at the Site; and

WHEREAS, an EPA Brownfield RLF loan is needed to serve as bridge financing to ensure that timely payments are rendered to contractors during the remediation of the Site; and

WHEREAS, funds necessary to repay the proposed loan will be obtained from the New Jersey Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund (the “HDSRF Grant”); and

WHEREAS, CRA has received notification of approval of an HDSRF grant in the amount of \$1,967,944.00 for remedial action activities at the Site which will serve to repay the proposed RLF loan; and

WHEREAS, CRA will manage the RLF loan and remediation of the Site pursuant to a Shared Services Agreement with the City of Camden as authorized by Resolution 10-12-22A; and

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WHEREAS, the Loan Summary and Recommendation for this proposed loan was reviewed and approved by the CRA Finance Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the City of Camden Redevelopment Agency that the Agency is hereby authorized to make a loan to the City of Camden Redevelopment Agency Division of Economic Development and that the Agency is authorized to accept such loan in an amount not to exceed \$988,894.00 from the U.S. EPA Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund for the purpose of conducting environmental cleanup activities at the Judge Robert B. Johnson Park Site designated as Block 520, Lot 26; Block 522, Lot 9 (part); and Block 523, Lot 13 of the City of Camden Tax Map which loan shall have a term of twenty years at a zero percent interest rate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, a duly authorized representative of the City of Camden Redevelopment Agency is hereby authorized and directed to execute a loan agreement and other documents and to take all actions necessary to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

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ON MOTION OF: **Maria Sharma**

SECONDED BY: **Gilbert Harden, Sr.**

COMMISSIONER	AYES	NAYS	ABSTENTIONS
Christopher Collins			
Gilbert Harden, Sr.	X		
Tasha Humphrey	X		
Ian K. Leonard	X		
Jose Javier Ramos	X		
Maria Sharma	X		

Ian K. Leonard

Ian K. Leonard
Chairperson

ATTEST:



Olivette Simpson
Executive Director

The above has been reviewed and approved as to form.

Mark P. Asselta

Mark P. Asselta, Esq.
Board Counsel