



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 8

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[www.epa.gov/region08](http://www.epa.gov/region08)

Ref: EPR-ARP

June 2, 2015

Mayor Mark Johnson  
City of Kalispell  
P.O. Box 1997  
Kalispell, MT 59903

Subject: City of Kalispell, MT: Glacier Rail Park and Kalispell Core Area Development and Trail

Dear Mayor Johnson:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8, I am sending this letter documenting the EPA Brownfield Program's involvement with the Glacier Rail Park and Kalispell Core Area and Trail, for which the City of Kalispell, MT, and the Flathead County Economic Development Authority are applying to the U.S. DOT TIGER 2015 Discretionary Grant Program.

Beginning in 2009, the EPA Brownfields Program has awarded the City of Kalispell a total of \$1.4 million in competitive grants to advance the City's goals related to the assessment, remediation and reuse of potentially contaminated brownfield properties. The City used a portion of these grant funds to conduct due diligence in the form of Phase I and II environmental site assessments at the rail park property. The City has also conducted several assessments and a cleanup in the Core Area and has \$700,000 in available EPA cleanup loan funds that could be used in the Core Area.

Additionally, in 2010 the City was awarded a \$175,000 Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant under the HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities. Based on the completed area-wide plan, the new rail park is a precursor that will allow for the removal of the current railroad track through the City and in turn facilitate reinvestment and redevelopment to occur.

The EPA is currently working with the City of Kalispell to conduct Phase I and II environmental site assessments and any necessary clean-up planning at catalytic properties in the Core Area that are proposed to be transferred to the Flathead County Economic Development Authority (FCEDA), as well as the railroad track property running through Kalispell to be rail banked to the City for the construction of a multi-use trail. It is anticipated that this work will occur throughout summer-fall 2015 under the EPA Targeted Brownfields Assessment Program.

Please contact Stephanie Metz (metz.stephanie@epa.gov / 303-312-6184) with any Brownfields related questions.

Sincerely,



Daniel Heffernan  
Brownfields Coordinator  
Assessment and Revitalization Program

CC: Katharine Thompson, Community Development Manager, City of Kalispell

