RANKING CRITERIA FOR CLEANUP GRANTS

1. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION

1.a. Target Area and Brownfields

1.a.i. Overview of Brownfield Challenges and Description of Target Area

The Project Site is located within the City of North Adams in Berkshire County, Massachusetts, the westernmost county in the state. Its population was 12,961, according to the 2020 Decennial Census, making it the least populous city in the state. For much of its history, North Adams was a mill town. Manufacturing began in the City before the Revolutionary War, largely because the confluence of the Hoosic River's two branches provided water power for small-scale industry. These fast-flowing waters provided power to drive the machinery in the cotton mills; it also served as a convenient way to get rid of waste from these mills. Sadly, even within the memory of current North Adams residents, the Hoosic River ran different colors, smelled awful, and carried toxic waste. Through this project, Greylock Flume Inc. proposes the remediation of hazardous building materials and the removal of soils contaminated with petroleum hydrocarbons, metals, and PCBs, associated with the former aluminum anodizing operations on site. This project is an important step toward addressing the challenges and impacts of brownfields within the City of North Adams by first removing the pathway of exposure and ultimately through the planned reuse of the south building as an independent cultural facility providing food system education and curating connections that fortify balanced ecologies as an interpretive science. Programs will engage with regional schools and create new opportunities for diverse creative communities to share hopeful solutions for a resilient world.

The Target Area is defined by Census Tract 25003921500. Route 2 and the Hoosic River run east-west through the northern, most densely populated portion of the Target Area. In fact, the Project Site is bounded to the north by the river and to the south by public ballfields, with Route 2 bifurcating it into two portions—all located at the center of the most densely developed portion of the Target Area. Although Route 2 itself is heavily commercial and industrial, the site is surrounded by residential neighborhoods, the Greylock Community Club, Greylock Elementary School, and the Alcombright Athletic Complex.

1.a.ii. <u>Description of the Brownfield Sites</u>

The brownfield property to be cleaned up under this grant (the Site) includes three parcels associated with a former textile mill (Greylock Mill).

Aluminum anodizing operations occurred at the Site since 1946 and continued through 2004. Numerous chemicals have been documented to be used during this process, including but not limited to: sulfuric acids, phosphoric acid, sodium hydroxide, nitric acid, nickel (and potentially other metals), and various dyes. Evidence of ten above ground storage tanks associated with such chemicals have been observed. The facility also stored former dip tanks (historical count of 30 tanks) and drums, with hazardous waste accumulated in designated areas.

The proposed project focuses on the South Wing of the larger Greylock Mill complex. In the 1950s, the South Wing was constructed as an addition to the original mill. At that time, the use of asbestos, lead paint and PCBs in building materials was prevalent. While the dip tanks have been removed and asbestos within portions of the roof have previously been abated and/or encapsulated, much

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of the roof structure which still contains asbestos is in dire disrepair and posing significant safety concerns.

1.b. Revitalization of the Target Area

1.b.i. Reuse Strategy and Alignment with Revitalization Plans

Greylock WORKS is the adaptive reuse of a 240,000 square foot former cotton-spinning mill with a synergistic mix of uses that include a restaurant, an incubator kitchen, artisanal food production areas, a co-work community, a fitness center, a waterfront park for public use, and 50 residential lofts, as well as an array of indoor and outdoor event spaces, ranging from intimate to vast. The vision for Greylock WORKS grew out of an appreciation for the Northern Berkshires, and listening to the community's clear desire to spur economic development while safeguarding its core characteristics of mills and farming. The goal: to create new culture, strengthen communities, and support a circular economy through regenerative design and connection to place.

In the early 1900s, the original Greylock Mills diverted a portion of the Hoosic River to harness hydropower via a Flume, which drove a network of belts that turned hundreds of cotton-spinning looms with renewable energy. Constructed with huge granite slabs, the Wheel Room, Belt Room, and barrel-vaulted Tail Race lie below the Main Mill and traverse under Route 2 to a vacant parcel of land along the waterfront. This inspirational infrastructure has since been contaminated by subsequent uses – primarily aluminum processing. Rather than viewing the Flume and surrounding South Wing as liabilities, we view them as assets – latent with the compelling story of a hydropower past – to inspire action and address the environmental imperatives of our time. We will harness the renewable energy of people by imbuing this once-abandoned brownfield site with a new sense of purpose and productivity. The Flume and surrounding South Wing will become the gateway to *Greylock* WORKS, an intersection of horizontal and vertical movement through the site, and a unique place for cultural programming.

Since 2015, Greylock FLUME has focused on its mission of delivering food system education with food ecology programs. Greylock WORKS' South Wing parcels will be redeveloped as an independent cultural facility for Greylock FLUME, providing food system education and curating connections that fortify balanced ecologies as an interpretive science. Programs will engage with regional schools and create new opportunities for diverse creative communities to share hopeful solutions for a resilient world. The movement to safeguard healthy regional food systems is growing. Greylock FLUME's independent cultural facility programming will feed directly into existing efforts throughout the Greylock WORKS campus working to increase access to nutrition, engage multiple generations through convivial interaction around the terroir of the region, train a hospitality workforce, and help support a philosophy that values the intellect, the arts, and the natural environment.

1.b.ii. Outcomes and Benefits of Reuse Strategy

Adaptive reuse at *Greylock* WORKS is about resilience and regeneration. We continue to heal a blighted brownfield site and imbue this industrial anchor with new and optimistic purpose. The transformation of the South Wing parcels into an independent cultural facility for *Greylock* FLUME will create a food system and culinary arts program of new regional impact with a mission to:

• Increase production, sales, and consumption of locally grown foods

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North Adams, Massachusetts

- Increase networking and marketing opportunities for North County farmers, food producers, and chefs
- Celebrate the terroir of this region with cultural collaborations and workshops highlighting excellence in local farming and cooking
- Create jobs and economic opportunity in food and farming, and improve the wages and skills of food system workers
- Protect the land and water needed to produce food, maximize environmental benefits, and ensure food safety
- Reduce hunger, increase the availability of healthy food, and reduce food waste

1.c. Strategy for Leveraging Resources

1.c.i. Resources Needed for Site Characterization

The *Greylock* WORKS redevelopment is projected to total \pm \$40M, which includes over \$13M of private equity and \pm \$7M of grant funding from an array of federal, state, and local sources. The project is strategically planned in sequential phases to engage the community, generate jobs, incubate new businesses, and provide much needed housing. To date, over \$24M of the total project sources have been secured.

1.c.ii. Resources Needed for Site Remediation

Enormous tangible progress has been made to transform much of this site from a blighted brownfield liability into an active mixed-use campus with a vibrant calendar of community events, walking paths, and abundant native plantings. However, one area of the site, comprised of the South Wing and adjacent underground Flume, requires additional substantial remediation. This involves the deconstruction of contaminated materials, structural bracing of existing buildings to facilitate access for heavy equipment, groundwater management, and the removal of contaminated soils.

1.c.iii. Resources Needed for Site Reuse

Resources Needed for Site Characterization, Remediation, and Reuse

Name of Resource	(1.c.i.) Assessment	Secured /	Additional Details or Information
	(1.c.ii.) Remediation	Unsecured	About the Resource
	(1.c.iii.) Reuse Activities		
ROUX Consulting	1.c.i. Assessment	Unsecured	

1.c.iv. Use of Existing Infrastructure

The Target Area is already served by existing infrastructure. According to the City's Master Plan, Vision 2030, the zoning within the Target Area encourages mixed-use redevelopment and facilitates redevelopment areas served by existing infrastructure. The Project Site is served by all public utilities and sidewalks, and this grant will facilitate the use of existing infrastructure at the Project Site, rather than encouraging development in previously undeveloped areas without existing infrastructure. Additional infrastructure is not needed to carry out revitalization plans; however, remediation of known contamination is needed in order to take full advantage of the existing infrastructure.

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2. COMMUNITY NEED AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2.a. Community Need

2.a.i. The Community's Need for Funding

The City of North Adams has experienced decades of disinvestment and population loss. Projects of this scale and visible prominence act as a catalyst for renewed hope and spur synergistic developments in the region. The known contamination from previous industrial uses makes a market-driven redevelopment untenable. If grant funding is not allocated alongside private equity, these buildings would deteriorate and become a major liability for the city. According to CEJST, the Target Area is considered disadvantaged because it meets more than 1 burden threshold and associated socioeconomic threshold. The target community has a low population of just 2,877 and the target community is within the 72nd percentile for people in households where income is less than or equal to twice the federal poverty level.

2.a.ii. Threats to Sensitive Populations

(1) Health or Welfare of Sensitive Populations

The target area is an underserved community with identified sensitive populations that include children, women of child-bearing age, people over age 65, and people with disabilities. The welfare of sensitive populations within the Target Area is impacted by lower education levels with 13% of people ages 25 years or older having a high school education less than a high school diploma and by a lack of prosperity evidenced by the fact that the target area is within the 86th percentile for unemployment and the 72nd percentile for people in households where income is less than or equal to twice the federal poverty level. According to the CEJST, the share of homes within the target are that are likely to have lead paint is over the 90th percentile and the EJScreen Tool identifies the target area as a food desert.

Known contaminants on site include lead, petroleum and asbestos. These contaminants can cause health impacts including damage to brain, nervous system, organs, and bone; cancer; headache; immune, liver, kidney, and respiratory damage; lung scarring, mesothelioma and lung cancer. The remediation of the site will address the risk of exposure and reduce threats to the health and welfare of sensitive populations.

(2) Greater Than Normal Incidence of Disease and Adverse Health Conditions

Together this grant and the planned site reuse will address threats to populations in the target area that suffer from a greater-than-normal incidence of diseases or conditions (including cancer, asthma, or birth defects) that may be associated with exposure to hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or petroleum. According to the health indicators in the EJScreen Tool, the target area is in the 91st percentile for persons with disabilities, 89th percentile for asthma, 82nd percentile for cancer and 81st percentile for heart disease. The cleanup activities conducted under this grant will protect against exposure and reduce the threats associated with contamination that can lead to adverse health conditions, and redevelopment will remove the threats associated with the vacant, abandoned, unsafe building.

(3) Environmental Justice

(3)(a) Identification of Environmental Justice Issues:

The target area is a disadvantaged census tract that meets more than 1 burden threshold and the associated socioeconomic threshold. The community has historically experienced disproportionate and adverse environmental, human health, climate-related and other cumulative impacts, as well

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as the accompanying economic challenges of such impacts. These disproportionate and adverse impacts resulted in part from the industrial history of the site.

(3)(b) Advancing Environmental Justice

This project and the planned site reuse will advance environmental justice through the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income. Environmental justice will be supported through an equitable development approach and intentional strategies to ensure that underserved communities, and other communities with environmental justice concerns, have the opportunity to participate in and benefit from decisions that shape their neighborhood. The planned site reuse will promote equitable development by promoting access to fresh food and access to high-quality jobs. The site remediation will prioritize local or first-source hiring of contractor or subrecipient employees to the extent allowable by law and by the terms and conditions of the grant. The site remediation will also facilitate participation by disadvantaged businesses pursuant to 40 CFR Part 33. The site reuse focuses on the creation of a food system and culinary arts program focused on locally grown food that will serve an area currently identified as a food desert.

2.b. Community Engagement

2.b.i. Project Partners & 2.b.ii. Project Partner Roles

List of Organizations/Entities/Groups & Roles

Name of organization/entity/group	Point of contact (name & email)	Specific involvement in the project or assistance provided
1Berkshire*	Ben Lamb blamb@1berkshire.com	Conduit for grant funding, collaborator for economic development
Berkshire Grown*	Margaret Moulton, margaret@berkshiregrown.org	Collaborator of Farmers Markets
Franklin County Community Development Corporation (FCCDC)	John Waite, johnw@fccdc.org	Co-applicant for grant opportunities, funding source for new food ventures
Greylock Elementary School		
Lever	Jeffrey Thomas, jthomas@leverinc.org	Consultant and investor for entrepreneurial initiatives
North Adams Chamber*	Nico Dery	Economic development networking
Northern Berkshire Community Coalition (NBCC)*	Amber Besaw, abesaw@nbccoalition.org	Collaborator for community engagement; many of their events are held at gWorks
Williamstown Chamber*	Susan Briggs, info@williamstownchamber.com	Economic development networking

2.b.iii. Incorporating Community Input

The Project partners will maintain a high level of community engagement by cultural events and meetings at a range of venues. Public meetings concerning the project will be held onsite. All

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community meetings will be advertised in the newspaper at least a week prior, posted in the City Hall, as well as websites and social media.

The Project Partners play active roles to engage and inform the community. The regular use of news media and social media is a strong foundation to effectively and appropriately communicate project progress, and solicit, consider and respond to community input in a meaningful way. The Project Partners will provide opportunities for public input and two-way communication to ensure the proposed cleanup activities are conducted in a manner that is protective of sensitive populations and nearby residents. The QEP will complete the site-specific Community Relations Plan prior to any cleanup planning, which will set forth in greater detail how the community can be involved in the project. Lastly the Project Partners will ensure that two-way communication is maintained throughout the duration of the project to communicate the progress to citizens and ensure that the communication is appropriate and effective for the Target Area. Methods of communicating with the public will be adjusted as needed to ensure that they are both appropriate and effective.

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES, AND MEASURING PROGRESS

3.a. Proposed Cleanup Plan

Currently unsafe conditions will be addressed and hazardous building material and contaminated soils will be remediated and disposed of off-site to prevent receptors from coming into direct contact with contaminated building materials and soil. A small portion of the south building roof will be remediated via removal to allow heavy equipment to access the remainder of the south building via the courtyard, and not damage the recently developed areas of the Site. Approximately 100 cubic yards (150 tons) of contaminated soil (based on an area of approximately 40 feet long by 20 feet wide by 4 feet thick) will be excavated and disposed offsite to facilitate the temporary construction of a gravel ramp to the courtyard area. The contaminated wood flooring and deteriorated decking material would then be removed to allow a safe working base for the heavy equipment, followed by abatement and removal of the dilapidated roof and windows. An average of 1-2 feet of contaminated soil underlying the recently-removed floor, equating to approximately 500 - 1,000 cubic yards (750 - 1,500 tons), will be excavated and disposed offsite. Based on existing information, we anticipate the excavated soil will be suitable for disposal at an out-of-state landfill as non-hazardous material.

3.b. Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs

Task 1: Cooperative Agreement Oversight:

3b.i. Project Implementation: Greylock Flume Inc. will solicit the services of an experienced Brownfields grant manager and a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) in accordance with applicable procurement laws. The grant manager will ensure that all federal cross-cutting measures are met. Required EPA quarterly reports, updates to the Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES) database and requests for reimbursement will be prepared and submitted by the grant manager with assistance from the QEP. A member of the project team will attend the National EPA Brownfields Conference. The Town will provide additional in-kind support to manage and develop the Brownfields program.

3.b.ii. Anticipated Project Schedule: 10/1/24 – 9/30/27

3.b.iii. Task/Activity Lead(s): Brownfields Grant Manager with QEP support

3.b.iv. Outputs:

· Signed contract with a QEP that meets the recipient's and EPA's expectations

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12 quarterly reports and MBE/WBE reporting

Task 2: Community Outreach and Engagement:

3b.i. Project Implementation: Greylock Flume Inc. will engage the community surrounding the Site, local neighborhood groups, lenders, realtors, property owners, developers, community health officials, throughout the cleanup process. The selected QEP will develop a Community Relations Plan (CRP) and prepare and advertise an Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA). Greylock Flume Inc. will hold a public meeting to discuss the Draft ABCA and solicit comments and encourage participation from the community on the proposed cleanup plan. Supplies will include meeting flyers, handouts for public meetings and site factsheets.

3.b.ii. Anticipated Project Schedule: 10/1/24 - 9/30/27

3.b.iii. Task/Activity Lead(s): Greylock Flume and QEP

3.b.iv. Outputs:

· CRP, Final ABCA, meeting minutes, presentation materials, and fact sheets.

Task 3: Site-Specific Cleanup:

3b.i. Project Implementation: The QEP to develop site-related documents pertaining to cleanup and costs related to the actual cleanup of the Site. The QEP will prepare a Site-specific Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) and a Health and Safety Plan (HASP) for review and approval by EPA prior to the commencement of work. The QEP will also prepare a Phase III Remedial Action Plan, a Phase IV Remedy Implementation Plan, and Soil Management Plan (SMP) describing proper soil excavation, groundwater additive injections, management, and offsite soil disposal procedures for submission to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) prior to the commencement of cleanup. This task also includes environmental oversight and monitoring by the selected QEP during soil excavation and loadout and groundwater treatment injections to ensure the cleanup is being conducted according to the technical specifications and all federal, state, and local laws.

3.b.ii. Anticipated Project Schedule: 1/1/25 – 12/31/26

3.b.iii. Task/Activity Lead(s): QEP

3.b.iv. Outputs:

Site specific QAPP, Phase III Remedial Action Plan, Phase IV Remedy Implementation Plan, Soil Management Plan, technical specifications

Task 4: Oversight, Compliance Reporting:

3b.i. Project Implementation: A Phase VI Completion Statement and Phase V Remedial Monitoring Report will be submitted to MassDEP. Upon completion of all response actions at the Site, a Phase V Completion Statement and a Temporary or Permanent Solution Report with an AUL will be submitted to MassDEP. The AUL will be recorded with the Southern Berkshire District Registry of Deeds.

3.b.ii. Anticipated Project Schedule: 1/1/27 – 8/30/27

3.b.iii. Task/Activity Lead(s): QEP

3.b.iv. Output(s):

• Phase VI Completion Statement, Phase V Remedial Monitoring Report and Completion Statement, and Temporary or Permanent Solution Statement with an AUL.

3.c. Cost Estimates

Only costs to be covered by EPA grant funds and the required cost share are included within the cost estimates and within the budget table. Funding resources that will be leveraged to meet the

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\$XM remediation budget are discussed under Section 1.c.i. and 1.c.ii. Resources Needed for Site Characterization and Remediation.

Task 1 – Cooperative Agreement Oversight

Contractual: Grant management expenses of \$9,000 plus QEP expenses of \$6,000 = \$15,000. *Travel:* A member of the project team will attend the National EPA Brownfields Conference 1 conference attendee: airfare/lodging/per diem = \$2,500.

Task 2 – Community Outreach and Engagement

Contractual: Grant management expenses of \$11,000 and QEP expenses of \$7,000 = \$18,000. Supplies: Meeting flyers, handouts for public meetings and site factsheets (XXX per meeting x X meetings = XXX).

Task 3 – Site-Specific Cleanup

Contractual: Grant management expenses of \$X,XXX to ensure all federal cross-cutting measures are met, assistance to procure cleanup contractors, and conduct Davis Bacon wage monitoring. QEP expenses of \$10,000 to prepare technical specifications for cleanup and assist with contractor procurement and coordination.

Construction: Cleanup expenses of \$1,620,000: \$1,060,000 for transportation and disposal of hazardous building materials based on an estimated 14,000 square feet of flooring and roofing along with the associated deteriorated supporting members to be removed and replaced while preserving the historic exterior shell, \$330,000 for transportation and disposal of contaminated soil (1,650 tons at \$200/ton), \$230,000 for 2-3 feet of imported clean backfill/gravel and installing a concrete slab as an effective exposure and moisture barrier and provide structural support for the new floor and roof, and \$10,000 for site security/erosion control.

Task 4 – Oversight, Compliance Reporting

Contractual: Grant management expenses of \$X,XXX and QEP expenses of \$60,000 for environmental monitoring and confirmatory sampling (\$50,000) and prepare a Release Abatement Measure Plan and Completion Report (\$10,000).

		Project Tasks (\$)				
Budget Categories		Task 1 Cooperative Agreement Oversight	1 Ammiinity		Task 4 Oversight, Compliance Reporting	Total
	Personnel					
70	Fringe Benefits					
	Travel					
Cot	Equipment					
Direct Cots	Supplies					
)ire	Contractual					
	Construction					
	Other (include subawards)					

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Total Direct Costs			
Indirect Costs			
Total Budget			
(Total Direct Costs +			
Indirect Costs + Cost			
Share)			

3.d. Plan to Measure and Evaluate Environmental Progress and Results

Greylock Flume Inc. will procure the services of a grant manager and a QEP to make up the Project Team. The Project Team will track, measure, and evaluate our progress in achieving project outcomes, outputs, and project results. The Project Team will develop a Workplan for approval by EPA Region 1 which will outline anticipated outputs and outcomes. This information will be tracked in the quarterly and final reports. The Project Team will utilize the Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES) to report, document, and track information such as funding received, contamination present, acres cleaned up, acres redeveloped, and funds leveraged. The Project Team will also work closely with our Project Officer, and selected QEP to track, measure and evaluate our progress.

4. **Programmatic Capability and Past Performance**

4.a. Programmatic Capability

4.a.i.-ii Organizational Structure and Description of Key Staff

Greylock Flume Inc. has the programmatic and administrative capacity to successfully manage and complete the grant within the 4-year performance period. Greylock Flume has a full time XXX. Greylock Flume has managed multiple grant projects in the past including a previous EPA Brownfields Cleanup Grant demonstrating a high degree of efficiency and effectiveness of the organizational structure to ensure the timely and successful expenditure of funds to complete all technical, administrative and financial requirements of the grant.

Name key staff and title, will directly oversee this project. Discuss experience, demonstrating that Greylock Flume has the expertise, qualifications and experience to successfully administer this grant. Greylock Flume has experience working with the local community to successfully assess, clean up and reuse sites as demonstrated through the previous cleanup grant and, long standing participation in the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission's (BRPC) regional brownfields program.

Karla Rothstein and Salvatore Perry are co-directors of *Greylock* FLUME.

The advisory committee is made up of experienced regional leaders in the fields of philanthropy, culture, grant writing, and law:

Joan Hunter - philanthropic advisor; Jacob's Pillow Trustee Emeritus Jennifer Trainer Thompson - programming advisor; Hancock Shaker Village Director and CEO Laurie Thomsen - capital campaign advisor; Williams College Trustee Elizabeth Goodman - legal advisor; Attorney, Partner at Cain Hibbard

4.a.iii. Acquiring Additional Resources

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The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) has been a valuable resource to Greylock Flume with a dedicated and experienced staff responsible for meeting the various requirements of state and federal agencies. BRPC has a strong track record with EPA Brownfields. Melissa Provencher is the Brownfields Program Coordinator, has been with the agency for over 24 years and has managed a Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Project for the Town of Lee along with numerous Brownfields Assessment, Cleanup, and Revolving Loan programs for BRPC and for numerous municipalities within BRPC's region. Greylock Flume plans to solicit the services a grant manager through a competitive procurement process and will include BRPC in the invitee list for the solicitation. Greylock Flume will work with the selected grant manager to hire an experienced QEP. Greylock Flume is well versed in conducting competitive bidding and securing qualified contractors, as it has done under its prior cleanup grant and subgrants through BRPC's revolving loan fund.

4.b. Past Performance and Accomplishments

4.b.i. Currently or Has Ever Received EPA Brownfields Grants

(1) Accomplishments

The previous Cleanup Grant (BF00A00244) awarded to Greylock Flume allowed for extensive site improvements to proceed without delay. Over 200 parking spaces were created, expanding the capacity of the Greylock Mill to host regional events, accommodate commercial tenants, and commence the construction of 50 apartments. The commercial viability of this project depends upon grants of this nature to rectify a legacy of contamination, the costs of which cannot be offset by conventional market revenues. There is also a critical perceptual value within the general public when city, state, and federal agencies come together to support the redevelopment of a complex site of this scale. It reinforces the credibility of the development vision and signals to a broad array of regional stakeholders that the substantial private investments being made are having positive impact. The city also benefits from a public easement to the parking areas adjacent to the Alcombright Athletic Complex.

(2) Compliance with Grant Requirements

Greylock Flume complied with the work plans, schedules, and terms and conditions and successfully closed out BF00A00244. Greylock Flume has an excellent track record of submitting quarterly performance and grant deliverables.

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