

# C Community Development Committee

Meeting date: February 16, 2010

## ADVISORY INFORMATION

<b>Date:</b>	February 10, 2010
<b>Subject:</b>	TBRA Investigation Grant Category
<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	All
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	Minnesota Statutes Section 473.252
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Marcus Martin, Senior Planner; Paul Burns, Manager, Livable Communities; Beth Reetz, Director, Housing & Livable Communities
<b>Division/Department:</b>	Housing & Livable Communities/Community Development

### Proposed Action

None at this time, this is presented as an informational and discussion item.

### Background

The Tax Base Revitalization Account (TBRA) awards grants for the cleanup of contaminated land and buildings. A broader availability of TBRA funds for environmental site investigation program is proposed in order to improve the effectiveness of this brownfield cleanup program.

### Rationale

The costs of environmental site investigation are a barrier to redevelopment. Contamination investigations are a required pre-requisite for applying for contamination cleanup funding. In order to improve access to Council contamination cleanup funding and encourage the redevelopment of properties anticipated to be contaminated an environmental investigation grant category independent of the cleanup grant category is proposed.

### Funding

Funding for TBRA grants comes from an annual levy capped at \$5,000,000. The environmental investigations category would be capped at a small portion of the existing levy probably no more than \$500,000.

### Known Support / Opposition

Staff expects local governments and their associations will support the concept.