



## Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED)

**Date:** November 29, 2011  
**To:** Council Member Lisa Goodman, Community Development Committee  
**Subject:** Use of Hennepin County's Environmental Response Fund

**Recommendation:**

Approve the attached resolution authorizing the use of Hennepin County's Environmental Response Fund (ERF) to investigate environmental conditions related to properties acquired under the Neighborhood Stabilization Program in the tornado impacted area.

**Previous Directives:**

None

**Department Information**

Prepared by: Elfric K. Porte, II., Manager Single Family Housing Development 612-673-5145
Approved by: Thomas Streit, Director, Housing & Policy Development _____
Charles T. Lutz, Deputy CPED Director _____
Presenter in Committee: Elfric K. Porte, II., Manager Single Family Housing Development

**Financial Impact**

- No Financial Impact

**Community Impact**

- Neighborhood Notification: Not applicable
- City Goals: A Safe Place to Call Home
- Comprehensive Plan: Not Applicable

**Supporting Information**

Hennepin County supports its Environmental Response Fund (ERF) program from mortgage registry and deed taxes as authorized by Minnesota Statutes 383B.80 and 383B.81. The ERF grant program pays for environmental assessment and clean-up activities at selected Hennepin County sites. Minnesota Statute 383B.81, Subd. 4 states, "The county may not expend funds under this section unless the governing body of the city in which the site is located approves the project."

In March 2011, the Twin Cities Community Land Bank (TCCLB) received a two-year \$100,000 ERF award from Hennepin County. The funds will be used to support small (up to \$15,000) environmental assessment and clean-up activities.

The City of Minneapolis received Neighborhood Stabilization (NSP) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development and Minnesota Housing. City staff has engaged TCCLB's staff about the potential of leveraging the NSP funds to conduct Phase I assessments on projects in the tornado impacted area (see attached). The City of Minneapolis has further negotiated with TCCLB to limit the request to no more than \$20,000.

Staff has determined that this is an appropriate use of the funds. Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 383B.81, Subd. 4, staff is recommending that the City Council approves the attached resolution supporting the project as being eligible for the use of ERF grants awarded to the Twin Cities Community Land Bank.

**RESOLUTION**  
**of the**  
**CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS**

By \_\_\_\_\_

**Authorizing Hennepin County’s use of Environmental Response Funds to investigate environmental conditions of Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) funded projects in the tornado impacted area of Minneapolis.**

**WHEREAS**, Hennepin County supports its Environmental Response Fund (ERF) program from mortgage registry and deed taxes as authorized by Minnesota Statutes 383B.80 and 383B.81; and

**WHEREAS**, the Twin Cities Community Land Bank (TCCLB) received a two-year \$100,000 ERF award from Hennepin County to support small environmental assessment and clean-up activities; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Minneapolis has requested that TCCLB sub-award up to \$20,000 to conduct Phase I assessments on NSP-funded projects in the tornado impacted geography; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 383B.81, Subd. 4, Hennepin County may not expend ERF funds unless the governing body of the city in which the site is located approves the project;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Minneapolis, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 383B.81, Subdivision 4, supports the use of ERF funds on NSP-funded projects in the tornado impacted area (the “Project”).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that nothing in this resolution shall create a pecuniary obligation of the City to assist the foregoing Project nor shall the City be in any way responsible for any financing obligation or agreement of Hennepin County or the TCCLB with respect to their provision of financial assistance to the Project.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the support expressed herein extends only to the powers of Hennepin County or the TCCLB with respect to the financial assistance the County or the TCCLB proposes to provide to the Project and the City shall retain all other powers and jurisdiction over matters relating to the City and the Project.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after passage and publication.