The Redevelopment Authority of the County of Montgomery, PA (The Authority) has been awarded a $300,000 Community-Wide Assessment Grant by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This grant will be used to conduct Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments (ESAs), community outreach and engagement, reuse and remediation planning, and cooperative agreement oversight. The grant funds will focus on project sites located in Pottstown but will also be available for use at eligible sites throughout the county.

**EPA Brownfields Program**

EPA’s Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country cleanup and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

**What are Assessment Grants?**

Assessment Grants provide funding for a recipient to inventory, characterize, assess, plan activities, develop cleanup plans, and conduct community functions related to brownfield sites. The overarching goal of the Assessment Grant program is to characterize sites and remove environmental uncertainty while engaging the community in order to plan effective cleanups.