



STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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ALBANY, NY 12231-0001

DAVID A. PATERSON
GOVERNOR

LORRAINE A. CORTÉS-VÁZQUEZ
SECRETARY OF STATE

October 7, 2008

Dear Eligible Applicant:

I am pleased to announce that the Department of State is soliciting grant applications from communities to participate in the Brownfield Opportunity Areas (BOA) Program. Effective immediately, the program will accept applications on a continuous basis throughout the year, providing greater convenience for applicants to apply to and advance through the program.

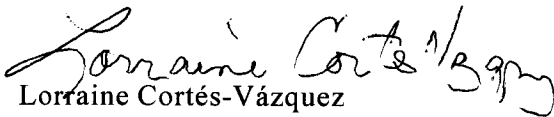
Eligible applicants for the BOA Program are New York State municipalities, community-based organizations and New York City community boards. Two or more eligible applicants may, and are encouraged to, partner to submit a joint application.

The BOA Program is an innovative program that empowers municipalities and community organizations to undertake redevelopment planning to revitalize areas affected by brownfields, abandoned or vacant buildings and economic distress. The program funds a range of flexible pre-development activities necessary to attract investment to transform underutilized properties for new uses.

Activities eligible to receive assistance include the assembly and development of information to complete revitalization plans and implementation strategies for affected areas and site assessments for strategic brownfield sites.

For the application and guidance to complete the application, please go to http://www.nyswaterfronts.com/BOA_package.asp. Applicants that are interested in participating in this program are encouraged to contact their regional Department of State representative at: http://www.nyswaterfronts.com/BOA_contact.asp; or call the Department at (518) 474-6000.

Sincerely,


Lorraine Cortés-Vázquez
Secretary of State