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## **TWO ORANGE COUNTY LOCATIONS TO RECEIVE GRANTS TO SUPPORT FUTURE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL**

ORANGE COUNTY, Va. – Two locations in Orange County have been selected to benefit from Virginia Brownfields Restoration and Economic Redevelopment Assistance Fund (VBAF) Site Remediation Grants totaling over \$600,000. The selected locations are the former Virginia Metal Industries property on Old Gordonsville Road and the former Earl’s Glass Shop at the intersection of Caroline and West Church streets in the Town of Orange.

Brownfields are properties where the presence of hazardous materials, pollution, or contaminants may complicate the reuse or redevelopment of the location. VBAF grants help local governments address these obstacles. Orange County and the Orange County Economic Development Authority will utilize these funds with the aim of making these former commercial locations attractive for new business uses.

“In Orange County, we are always seeking to attract new businesses while preserving the character of our community’ said Julie Perry, Interim Director of Economic Development and Tourism. “Rehabilitating brownfields is particularly gratifying work because it occurs at the intersection of old and new. Rehabilitating and reutilizing existing properties to attract new businesses maximizes the utility of our available buildings and allows us to breathe new life into a space,” she added.

More information about this year’s grant awards is available in a press release from the Governor’s Office at [www.governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/news-releases/2024/february/name-1020891-en.html](http://www.governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/news-releases/2024/february/name-1020891-en.html). Visit [www.vedp.org/brownfields](http://www.vedp.org/brownfields) for more information on the Virginia Brownfield Restoration and Economic Redevelopment Assistance Fund. For more information about these locations, or Economic Development in Orange County, contact the Economic Development Office at (540) 672-1238.

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