

Brownsville revitalization receives mini-grant

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BROWNSVILLE — The study of Brownsville’s historic downtown area that is required before revitalization or demolition work can be done is getting some funding through another program operating in the community.

The Blueprint Communities Initiative of the Federal Home Loan Bank has awarded a \$10,000 mini-grant to the Brownsville Area Revitalization Corp. (BARC) to help fund the study that will be carried out by the National Road Heritage Corridor.

The downtown revitalization project is being carried out by the Fayette County Redevelopment Authority on behalf of the borough. The redevelopment authority has acquired a number of buildings in downtown Brownsville for the project. The next phase involves a comprehensive study of the current physical conditions of the vacant buildings in the downtown area, development of design guidelines for the district and a market analysis of the community to aid redevelopment efforts.

“It will be a pass-through to the National Road Heritage Corridor, which is doing the study,” Brownsville Bouncilwoman Tracy Sheehan Zivkovich said of the grant.

Zivkovich is a member of Brownsville’s Blueprint Communities committee, which was formed in 2005 as one of 22 Blueprint Communities participants in Pennsylvania.

The \$10,000 grant was awarded on a competitive basis. There were 16 applicants, with six receiving funding.