

VACANTS REVIEW PROGRESS REPORT



Project Brief: The City of Baltimore is implementing recommendations from the 30-Day Vacant Review directive issued by Mayor Brandon Scott. The directive was issued on January 31, 2022, and the recommendations were presented on March 1, 2022. This progress report represents an update on advancements made for the period of January through March of 2023 on operations, procedures, processes, and projects that help eliminate private and publicly owned vacant, blighted and unsafe properties.



PHYSICAL STRUCTURE AND SAFETY

Collapsed Roof Detection Project received the Maryland Association of Counties (MACO) top innovation award for developing a cutting-edge artificial intelligence (AI) tool to detect collapsed rooftops. Developed in partnership with Carnegie Mellon University, the tool is helping flag buildings for emergency demolition and providing advance warning of dangers to first responders.

1162 Boarding Request created, 1145 completed.

69 properties identified as threats and emergency demolitions conducted.

40 planned demolitions (39 CORE and 1 City) - **60** stabilizations.

1452 Failure to Abate citations issued.

3,772 Cleaning Work Orders Completed

| Requests | Created | Completed |
|------------------|---------|-----------|
| Boarding | 1162 | 1145 |
| Cleaning | 4071 | 3653 |
| High Grass/Weeds | 129 | 119 |



PREVENTION OF VACANTS & BLIGHT

In Rem foreclosure work advanced with first series of hearing held by the court. Purpose is to expedite the removal of nuisance properties from private owners.

Tax Sale Deferral Program marketing effort expanding to partner organization and targeted to senior citizen service providers.

Eviction Prevention - to illustrate the linkage between vacant buildings and public safety and highlight where cleaning, greening, lighting, etc., can improve space.

160 acquisitions initiated to prepare sites for redevelopment.

49 open bid applications received along with **6** side yard applications.

15 properties approved for sale by the Board of Estimates.

115 total licenses for green space.



FACILITATE REDEVELOPMENT

Expedited Grant Awards Process Established. DHCD and the Office of the Comptroller established a streamlined process to put grant funds into the hands of nonprofit providers. BOE can now approve multiple operational CDBG grants from HUD in a singular vote. Previously, the BOE voted individually on as many as 70 separate grants. The first action under this new process approved over \$7 million in funds in record time.

Community Land Trust (CLTs) Awards totaling \$2.4 million were announced for affordable housing projects and \$400,000 in operating support for Baltimore CLTs.

\$10,750,000 announced in Affordable Housing Trust Fund dollars for new construction or rehabilitation of affordable rental housing.

Inclusionary Housing report finalized, providing an analysis of the former Inclusionary Housing Ordinance and recommendations for a new Inclusionary Housing program



PROJECT ADVANCEMENTS/OUTREACH

Poppleton Community Conversation convened to discuss future development plans for the neighborhood. The community visioning process examined the remaining parcels for development in the Poppleton Land Disposition and Development agreement.

Shape Your City - DOP Comprehensive Plan Work Sessions convened with the public to explore affordable housing, community development, vacants reduction, and equitable development, among other topics.

Johnston Square Community Conversation held to discuss development plans in this neighborhood in the East Impact Investment Area. Gathered information informs the Implementation Strategy as part of the ongoing Community Development Framework.

Poppleton Lot J Presentation - discussing the Senior Building design concepts and development plans.