

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 **July thru September 2022**, on operations, procedures, processes, and projects that help eliminate private and publicly owned vacant, blighted and unsafe properties.



PHYSICAL STRUCTURE AND SAFETY

- **Roof study completed** -Carnegie Mellon University's Data Science for Social Good Group visited in July and completed the roof study work. DHCD is utilizing the data and the model created to help prioritize demolition work.
- **Collaboration with BCFD** in reinstating a vacant marking decal for structures considered unsafe. Will launch in October.
- **1188** Boarding Requests created - 922 closed.
- **30** properties identified as threats and emergency demolitions conducted.
- **56** planned demolitions conducted (41 CORE and 15 City) - **91** stabilizations.
- **1236** Failure to Abate citations issued.
- **11,350** Cleaning Workorders Closed

Requests	Created	Completed
Trash only	1122	736
Trash&Weeds	2980	2405
High Grass/ Weeds	9067	8209



PREVENTION OF VACANTS & BLIGHT

- The City issued its first **Urban Agriculture RFP** for vacant city owned properties.
- **Processed 264 Tax Sale Exemption** applications. Accepted and removed 117 properties with a total lien value of \$729,329.
- Moved forward with the hiring of **Grant Services Specialist** - these positions will support the monitoring, prevention, elimination of vacant homes.
- **Assistant Counsel** positions approved for the Land Resources division to support the advancement of In Rem foreclosure work and expediting the removal of nuisance properties from private owners.
- **Paralegal positions** approved to support acquisition efforts.
- **78 Adopt-A-Lot** application received - 23 licenses approved for green space.



FACILITATE REDEVELOPMENT

- **Fall RFP issued** offering key City sites for future development. The offering includes vacant buildings and lots across nine different areas of the city. Proposals are being received until November 14.
- **Community Land Trust** Notice of Funding Availability issued. Up to \$4 million is available for homeownership projects and \$1.5 million for rental projects.
- **Community Catalyst Grants** application period opened, making \$1.9 million in operating funds available for local community development organizations.
- **43 open bid applications** received along with 4 side yard applications.
- **28 properties acquired by City** to prepare sites for redevelopment.
- **16 property sales** approved by the Board of Estimates.



PROJECT ADVANCEMENTS/OUTREACH

- **West Impact Investment Area Community Conversation** held to advance redevelopment work in the area with community-driven input.
- **Poppleton Land Disposition and Development Agreement** amendments achieved, including progress on the redevelopment of the historic houses on Sarah Ann Street.
- **Natural Dye Initiative** groundbreaking held at the historic Harriet Beecher Stowe School and fields. DHCD worked with this group on the acquisition of the historic building.
- **Thurgood Marshall Amenity Center Groundbreaking** held for the redevelopment of the historic PS 103. The City stabilized this vacant structure for future development and selected the development team.
- **Hope Villiage Groundbreaking** for the development of container homes. 27 vacant lots were conveyed for this development.