



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Department of Metropolitan Development Announces Vacant to Vibrant, Indianapolis' New Land Bank Management Program

Reimagined land bank provides opportunities for redevelopment of vacant lots or properties in Indianapolis following successful pilot program

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Indianapolis, IN – The Department of Metropolitan Development (DMD) has announced a newly reimagined Indianapolis land bank called Vacant to Vibrant. Vacant to Vibrant (V2V) is a new pathway to transforming Indy's vacant lots into vibrant spaces. V2V acquires residential properties for redevelopment, with a focus on creating affordable housing, eliminating blight, and improving neighborhood quality of life.

The pilot Vacant to Vibrant program, launched in 2023, utilized funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to bring affordable housing projects to various Indianapolis neighborhoods. Due to its initial success, DMD is transitioning its land bank to align with the standards established during the pilot program—prioritization of affordable housing developments for Indianapolis residents.

"Vacant to Vibrant will help transform neighborhoods around Indianapolis," said Mayor Joe Hogsett. "By providing new pathways for affordable housing development and breathing new life into blighted properties, this program supports the City's ongoing efforts to improve housing access in our community."

There are four different application types that offer communities a range of affordable housing and neighborhood beautification options. These application types are Standard, Homestead, Affordable, and Side Lot.

- **STANDARD:** Properties that the applicant must rehabilitate or build new construction and may be used as a rental property or resold to other buyers once the project agreement is released.
- **HOMESTEAD:** Properties that the applicant must rehabilitate or build new construction to be used as their primary residence for a period of not less than two (2) years from the execution of the Project Agreement.
- **AFFORDABLE:** Properties that the applicant must develop as affordable housing, defined as being made available for occupants at 80% or below Area Median Income.
- **SIDE LOT:** Properties that are available exclusively to adjacent property owners. These properties do not require immediate development and may be used for gardens, side yards, parks or held for investment.

"The importance of the Vacant to Vibrant program for us is really partnering with our community and the city to provide opportunities for affordable rental and homeownership developments in our neighborhood," said Abigail Lane, Director of Near Eastside Initiatives with the Englewood CDC.

"A big part of the affordable housing development pipeline is acquisition. Without opportunities to acquire land through the land bank, we wouldn't be able to build the homes, build the rental units that we do and keep them at an affordable level," said Kelli Mirgeaux, President of the Southeast Neighborhood Development Corp.

To participate in the Vacant to Vibrant program, interested communities and developers should visit [Vacant to Vibrant webpage](#) and click the green "Get Started" button to apply. Applications are reviewed monthly.

For more information, helpful resources, and access to testimonials, visit www.indy.gov/vacant-to-vibrant.

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**CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS DEPARTMENT OF METROPOLITAN
DEVELOPMENT**

The Department of Metropolitan Development works to shape the city's identity by strengthening people and places, building upon our history, and fostering visionary development. The DMD team envisions Indianapolis as a growing, vibrant, and beautiful city where people and businesses thrive in an inclusive, world-class community.

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