



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Genesee County Land Bank and Concerned Pastors to Host Public Meeting on Demolition

FLINT, MI – The Genesee County Land Bank in partnership with the Concerned Pastors for Social Action is organizing a public information meeting on blight elimination in Flint. “It is great that we are doing this because it shows the public that the Land Bank is working proactively to address challenges in our community,” said Pastor Michael Pettigrew, Secretary of the Concerned Pastors for Social Action. The event will take place on Tuesday, August 20 from 5:30 to 7 PM at Mt. Calvary Church, 4805 N. Saginaw Street in Flint. Those planning on attending the event are asked to RSVP by calling (810) 257-3088 ext. 536 or e-mailing rspeed@thelandbank.org.

The purpose of the event is to increase public awareness and understanding of blight elimination efforts and challenges in the Flint area. The Land Bank’s blight elimination work includes demolition, boarding of vacant houses, mowing overgrown lots, removing garbage and debris, and supporting community-based blight management efforts. The Land Bank has demolished more than 2,000 blighted buildings since it formed in 2004.

Demolition is the main focus of the event. The Land Bank recently received \$3.7 million of funding for demolition through a Michigan Blight Elimination Grant from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority. Additionally, the Land Bank recently applied for \$25 million of funding for demolition from the U.S. Treasury Hardest Hit Fund. If the Land Bank receives both grants it will schedule the demolition of roughly 2,000 blighted structures in and around Flint over the next 18 months. “This scale of demolition is truly a big stride in removing properties that are negatively impacting our neighborhoods, preventing the spread of further blight, and ultimately improving our community,” said Deborah Cherry, Genesee County Treasurer and Chair of the Genesee County Land Bank Board of Directors.

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