



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GENESEE COUNTY LAND BANK AND PARTNERS TO DEMOLISH 2320 & 2360 PIERSON RD TO MAKE WAY FOR THE NORTH FLINT FOOD MARKET

FLINT, MI – The Genesee County Land Bank Authority (GCLBA), in collaboration with the Michigan Land Bank Authority (MLB), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), City of Flint, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), and Genesee County Treasurer, is excited to announce plans to demolish two blighted structures on Pierson Rd. The demolition and cleanup would not be possible without crucial funding received through the Michigan Land Bank, U.S EPA Brownfields Clean-up Grant Program, and MDEQ Brownfields Grant Program. Demolishing the blighted and tax-foreclosed former Ross Oil Change and the adjacent abandoned office building will not only address long-standing health and safety concerns in the community, but will clear the way for new development. Once the site is cleared, the North Flint Reinvestment Corporation plans to use the site to construct the North Flint Food Market, a co-operative grocery store that will provide residents of north Flint with easy access to fresh fruits and vegetables.

The Director of the Michigan Land Bank, Josh Burgett, stated, "The Michigan Land Bank is proud to support the Genesee County Land Bank, one of our county land bank partners, to remove blight and pave the way for future development in the City of Flint." The project will further the transformation of the Pierson Road

Corridor. Susan Leeming, director of the Remediation and Redevelopment Division of MDEQ said, "The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) is pleased to be a partner in redeveloping this brownfield site in support of the North Flint Food Market to provide affordable fresh food options to Flint residents. The \$82,589 brownfield grant provided by MDEQ to the Genesee County Land Bank will help address possible environmental contamination and assist with demolition of the site to help ensure this property is cleaned up and reused." Once complete, the cleared site and subsequent redevelopment will help to stabilize surrounding neighborhoods, encourage re-investment, and increase public safety.

The GCLBA is in the process of completing required environmental testing work. Pre-qualified demolition contractors will be invited to bid on the demolition work in August with the demolition planned for early Fall. Contractors interested in becoming pre-qualified can find more information on GCLBA's website at: <http://thelandbank.org/democontract.asp>. Genesee County First District Commissioner and GCLBA Board Member Bryant Nolden said, "It is great to see the progress taking place on the Pierson Rd property, and we look forward to future development at the site."