

Conquering Blight 
Strengthening
Neighborhoods 
Redeveloping Communities

### Chautauqua County Legislature

**Planning & Economic Development Committee** 

February 18, 2015

### Why Land Banking

- Reduces blight
- Stems the tide of serial foreclosures and disinvestment
- Right-sizes the market (demolitions)



Blighted and abandoned properties dilute the real estate market, invite crime, incur public expense and discourage neighborhood reinvestment

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## Community-driven Initiative

- 2007 Chautauqua County Housing & Neighborhood Trust Fund set aside \$200,000 for blight abatement and established a task force
- 2010 Chautauqua 20/20 Comprehensive Plan completed, with land banking recommendation
- April 2011 Chautauqua 20/20 Plan adopted
- May 2012 Chautauqua County's Land Bank application approved by NYS
- **September 2012** CCLBC officially incorporated
- October 2012 CCLBC holds first official Board of Directors meeting
- October 2013 Chautauqua County Land Bank was awarded \$1.5 million by New York State for 2014-15 activities





### Chautauqua County Housing Trust (from Tobacco Settlement Fund)

- \$150,000 to establish Land Bank and create business plan
- NYS Office of Attorney General (from the Mortgage Settlement Fund)
- \$2.8 million to establish Demolition program, Side lot dispositions, REO acquisition fund, staffing and marketing costs



## **Board of Directors**

- Peter Lombardi, Chair, JRC– Community Development
- Jim Caflisch, Treasurer, Real Property Tax Dir.
- Jeff Gossett, Secretary, Planning Board Rep, Engineer
- Bill Carlson, Member, Real Estate
- Bill Morrill, Member, Ret. Property Tax Dir.
- John Hemmer, Legislative Rep,
- Hugh Butler, Member, Org Development Consultant
- Scott Butler, Member, Business Development, TLC
- Steve Neratko , Member, Dunkirk Development Director
- Vince DeJoy, Member, Jamestown Development Director
- Paul Whitford, Legislative Rep

STAFF:	Mark Geise, Executive Director	Steve Abdella, Attny.
	Gina Paradis, Administrative Director	
	Jennifer Cameron, Project Specialist	

## \$1.5M funding from OAG 2013

- **\$1 million** for demolition (all residential)
- \$150,000 for purchasing bank-owned properties (REOs)
- **\$31,000** for side lot disposition
- \$25,000 for Marketing
- \$300,000 for Staffing, Shared Services & Consultants

## \$1.3 Million from OAG 2014

- \$1 million for demolition
  - \$500,000 for Mixed Use
  - \$500,000 for Residential
- \$151,000 for Administrative Support
- \$ 8,500 for Marketing
- \$ 15,500 for Side lot Disposition
- \$125,000 for REO Acquisition

## County Legislature Support

- Transfer Properties from Auction for \$1.00, plus one year's Tax Revenues.
- Hold designated properties from auction for demolition or side lot disposition
- In-Kind Services Legal and Real Property Tax guidance



## **Expected Outcomes**

- Higher Property Values
- Stabilized Neighborhoods
- Right-Sized Housing Markets
- Reduced Blight (& decreased public cost)
- Increased Property Tax Revenues
- Strategic Land Reuse
- Sustainable Program

### **Acquisition Strategy**











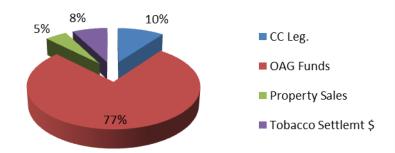




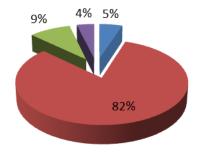
## **Statistics to Date**

\$2.86 Million in grant funding secured in 2013-2014 to support program operations through 2016

#### 2014 % Operating Revenues



#### 2015 % of Operating Revenues



- CC Leg.
- OAG Funds
- Property Sales
- Tobacco Settlemt \$

#### **Acquisitions from Legislature**

Rehabs 4Sale:	34
sold:	16
rehab complete:	5
demo:	4

#### Private investment : \$675,000

(incl. cash purchase + reno investments)

Demolitions:	
pulled from auction	23
Completed by Q1,2105:	22
Jamestown:	19
Dunkirk:	3

[Plus both cities match 1:1] Anticipate completing 200 demolitions by December 2016

 Side lots:

 back on tax rolls by Q1 2015:
 16

 In 2014:
 4



#### 81 Risley, Fredonia



Before Assessed: \$32,000 Appraised: \$13,000

After Reinvestment: \$100,000





#### 768 Eagle St., Dunkirk



#### BEFORE

\$16,000 Appraised

\$28,000 Assessed

#### AFTER

Re-Investment: \$45,000





#### 1115 Prendergast, Jamestown



#### BEFORE

\$25,000 Appraised

\$46,500 Assessed

#### (almost) AFTER Re-Investment: \$ 68,000





#### 1309 Newland, Jamestown



\$32,000 Appraised

\$54,000 Assessed





#### AFTER

Re-Investment: \$48,000

# COUNTY CO

## It's all about the Outcomes

- 16 Properties x \$ 5,500 average auction price = \$88,000 lost revenue
  - Generated \$188,000 in sales revenue for operating expenses \$487,000 in private reinvestment
- Total Private Investment = \$675,000
- Properties back on tax rolls at higher values
- Blight removed; public cost and risks mitigated
- Property values increased
- Neighborhoods stabilized
- Neighbors happy & incentivized to reinvest



## Conquering Blight Strengthening Neighborhoods Redeveloping Communities

Contact: Mark Geise, Executive Director Gina Paradis, Administrative Director 200 Harrison Street, Suite 300, Jamestown, NY 14701 716-661-8913 www.chautauqualandbank.org