# CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD ENVIRONMENT and LAND USE COMMITTEE (ELUC) AGENDA

County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois

Thursday, March 7, 2019 - 6:30 p.m. Lyle Shields Meeting Room Brookens Administrative Center, 1776 E. Washington St., Urbana



#### **Committee Members:** Aaron Esry – Chair Eric Thorsland – Vice-Chair Jodi Eisenmann Stephanie Fortado

Jim Goss Tanisha King-Taylor Kyle Patterson

1 - 4

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda/Addenda
- IV. Approval of MinutesA. ELUC Committee meeting February 7, 2018
- V. Public Participation
- VI. Communications

VIII.

IX.

Х.

XI.

#### VII. New Business: for Information Only

А.	Selected Legislative Bills of Potential Interest	5 - 7
В.	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Notice of Application and Public Hearing	
	For 401 Water Quality Certification, Dynegyy Midwest Generation, LLC Middle Fork	
	Vermilion River Bank Stabilization, Vermilion County	8 - 10
С.	Update on Dangerous Structures Enforcement Cases	11 - 14
	Update on Champaign County Land Bank	15 - 66
New Bu	siness: Items to Receive and Place on File by ELUC to Allow a 60-Day Review Period	
	Direction Regarding Proposed Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment for PV Solar	67 - 73
	Farm Requirements in Response to Municipal Concerns	
В.	Direction Regarding Proposed Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment for PV Solar	74 - 76
D.		74 70
	Farm Requirements Other than in Response to Municipal Concerns	
New Bu	siness: Items to be Recommended to the County Board	
Α.	Resolution Approving the Application for, and If Awarded, Acceptance of a 2019	(to be distributed)
_	ILCSWMA Mini-Grant	
В.	Resolution Approving the Application for, and If Awarded, Acceptance of a 2019	(to be distributed)
	American Water Environmental Grant	
Old Bus	iness	
Α.	Resolution Appointing Recycling Coordinator for Champaign County REVISIT – not	77
	taken to Feb CB meeting	
Other B	usiness	
Α.	Semi-annual Review of CLOSED Session Minutes	(to be distributed)
В.	Monthly Report – January 2019	78 - 86

- XII. Presiding Officer's Report
- XIII. Designation of Items to be Placed on Consent Agenda
- XIV. Adjournment



Champaign County Board Environment and Land Use Committee (ELUC) County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois

#### **MINUTES – SUBJECT TO REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

DATE: Thursday, February 7, 2019
TIME: 6:30 p.m.
PLACE: Lyle Shields Meeting Room Brookens Administrative Center 1776 E Washington, Urbana, IL 61802

#### **Committee Members**

Present	Absent
Aaron Esry (Chair)	
Jodi Eisenmann	
	Stephanie Fortado
Jim Goss	
	Tanisha King-Taylor
Kyle Patterson	
Eric Thorsland (Vice-Chair)	

County Staff: John Hall (Zoning Administrator), Susan Monte (Planner), Tammy Asplund (Recording Secretary)

Others Present: Giraldo Rosales (County Board Chair), Chris Stohr (County Board member)

#### MINUTES

#### I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Esry called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

#### II. Roll Call

A verbal roll call was taken and a quorum was declared present.

#### III. Approval of Agenda and Addenda

**MOTION** by Thorsland to approve the agenda; second by Patterson. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

#### **IV.** Approval of Minutes

A. ELUC Committee Meeting – January 10, 2019

**MOTION** by Eisenmann to approve the minutes with one amendment of the January 10, 2019 ELUC meeting; second by Goss. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

Eisenmann stated the minutes mistakenly noted her as present for the meeting on January 10, 2019.

#### V. Public Participation

#### Michael Butler

Butler stated he is with TLC Environmental, representing SolAmerica. He noted the four members of the ZBA supported this project. Butler explained the reason for the request for a special County Board meeting to discuss this project is the February 13, 2019 deadline for the lottery program application.

#### Chris Stohr

Stohr stated the Mahomet Aquifer Protection Task Force Report was released in December 2018 on the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency website. He offered several recommendations:

- 1. Support the HTEM Helicopter-borne Transient or Time-domain Electromagnetic geophysical soundings.
  - a. This \$19M will collect geophysical data for a framework upon which all the water well, geologic, and other drilling records can be interpreted and compared to refine knowledge of the sole source aquifer including likely recharge zones and perhaps where contamination is occurring.
  - b. Learning where water quality can be or already is affected alerts us to where management is wanted and specifically how to protect the resource.
- 2. Conservation and protection of water resources both quality and quantity.
  - a. The MAPTF final report did not address conservation of water resources. This was an oversight in the opinion of some observers.
  - b. There is no restriction on how much water can be pumped from the aquifer and how it can be used or where it can be relocated.
  - c. Residents of Joliet, Illinois recently learned that there is only 5 years of water remaining in the aquifer which serves their community of 200,000 about the same population as Champaign County. Discussion with a consultant shows that one of the likely alternatives is to cleanup and treat the sewage water to the extent possible and recharge the water back into the aquifer for reuse. This is called aquifer storage and recovery.
- 3. Encourage our legislators to implement the recommendations of the MAPTF in full and soon.
- 4. Requests County staff 'follow' these recommendations and report to the ELUC and the Committee of the Whole (CoW).

### VI. Communications

Esry reminded everyone to speak directly into the microphones.

#### VII. New Business: for Information Only

A. Notice of Non-Compliance with Illinois Noxious Weed Law

Hall explained Illinois requires the County to annually survey all noxious weeds in the County, create and implement a plan to remove them. Hall commented resources are not available to survey the more than 1000 square miles of the County. According to Hall, when the Planning and Zoning office receives a complaint, it investigates and acts accordingly.

B. Residential Electronics Collection Annual Report for 2018

Monte reviewed the results from 2018, including municipality participation, costs, collected amounts and community service volunteers. Monte stated Fund 676, the Solid Waste Fund, has decreased steadily since 2014.

### VIII. New Business: Items to be Recommended to the County Board

A. Resolution Appointing Recycling Coordinator for Champaign County

Monte stated this change is being requested due to her move from Regional Planning to Planning and Zoning.

MOTION by Goss; seconded by Thorsland. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

- B. Resolutions Authorizing Residential Electronics Collection in 2019
  - *i.Agreement between Collector, Coordinator, and Host Site Agreement for Residential Electronics Collection Events in 2019*

*ii.Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of Champaign, the City of Champaign, the City of Urbana, and the Village of Savoy to Share Costs of Residential Electronics Collection Events in 2019 iii.Letter of Understanding between the County of Champaign and MRM* 

Monte noted in 2019 we are operating under a different law called the Consumer Electronics Recycling Act. According to Monte, this is a progressive law for a Manufacturer Electronic Waste program, based on weight not a convenience standard. So far, only 51 Illinois Counties have opted in. The three resolutions reflect changes required to be consistent with this new program. Monte noted a 31% reduction in costs due to this new law. Monte stated all agreements were reviewed by the State's Attorney's office and will be reviewed by the other participating municipalities.

**OMNIBUS MOTION** by Goss; seconded by Thorsland. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously**.

C. Resolutions Approving Written Notice to Participate in the Manufacturer E-Waste Program in 2020 Under the Illinois Consumer Electronics Recycling Act i.Champaign County Opt-in Form to Illinois EPA

Monte stated the deadline is March 1, 2019. She noted the form can be modified in the future.

MOTION by Thorsland; second by Eisenmann. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

D. Zoning Case 922-S-18. A request by SolAmerica Energy LLC, 1819 Peachtree Road, Suite 100, Atlanta, GA 30309 via agent Ryan Peters, Environmental Engineer with SolAmerica Energy, with Executive Chairman and Co-Founder, R. Stanley Allen; President and Co-Founder, George Mori; and participating landowner Phyllis Jane Sinclair, 290 Chase St., Sonoma CA 95476-7155, to authorize one Community PV Solar Farm with a nameplate capacity of 2 megawatts (MW) and occupying approximately 14.6 acres, including access road and wiring, in the AG-2 Agriculture Zoning District. The subject property is a 75.33-acre tract in the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 9, Township 18 North, Range 14 West of the Second Principal Meridian in South Homer Township, and commonly known as the property bordered by the Norfolk-Southern railroad tracks to the north, the Village of Homer to the west, CR1050N to the south, and the Vermilion County line to the east. The following waivers of standard conditions are necessary:

Part A: A waiver for a distance of 1,340 feet between a PV Solar Farm and a municipal boundary in lieu of the minimum required one-half mile (2,640 feet), per Section 6.1.5 B.(2)a. of the Zoning Ordinance.

Part B: A waiver for not providing a Decommissioning and Site Reclamation Plan that includes cost estimates prepared by an Illinois licensed Professional Engineer prior to consideration of the Special use permit by the Board, per Section 6.1.1A.3. of the Zoning Ordinance.

Part C: A waiver for not entering into a Roadway Upgrade and Maintenance Agreement or waiver therefrom with the relevant local highway authority prior to consideration of the Special Use permit by the Board, per Section 6.1.5 G. of the Zoning Ordinance.

Part D: A waiver for not including a Landscape Plan as part of the Special use Permit application, per Section 6.1.5 F.(9)a.(b)iv. of the Zoning Ordinance.

Part E: A waiver for not including a Weed Control Plan as part of the Special use permit application, per Section 6.1.5 P.(3). of the Zoning Ordinance.

Hall noted the waivers (Parts B - E) will be approved by this committee prior to a Zoning Use Permit to allow construction. The committee discussed the decommissioning process and potential recycling of panels. In response to a question by Eisenmann, Butler stated panels are sometimes re-used in developing countries. According to Butler, these panels operate at 80% efficiency.

**MOTION** by Thorsland; second by Patterson. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously. Per Chair Esry, this item will not be on the consent agenda.

#### IX. Other Business

- A. Monthly Report i.December 2018
- X. Presiding Officer's Report None
- XI. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda VIII A, VIII B, & VIII C

#### XII. Adjournment

There being no further business, Esry adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Champaign County Department of

PLANNING & ZONING DATE:February 27, 2019TO:Environment and Land Use CommitteeFROM:Susan Monte, PlannerRE:Selected Legislative Bills of Potential Interest

Action Requested: Information Only

Brookens Administrative Center 1776 E. Washington Street Urbana, Illinois 61802

(217) 384-3708 zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us www.co.champaign.il.us/zoning

## Legislative Update

Several bills of potential interest are at various stages of review at the current IL General Assembly session. Attachment A contains a recent listing of bills, with hyperlinks to IGA bill status, from the ILCSWMA Legislative Update. Below I provide the current IGA synopses of two bills that pertain to recent Mahomet Aquifer Task Force findings, and two bills about a carryout bag fee/tax in Illinois that could feature a potential revenue source for counties.

### SB 2027 EPA-Mahomet Aquifer

Sponsor: Senator Scott Bennett

Synopsis As Introduced (excerpt from IL General Assembly website)

Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Codifies the findings and recommendations of the Mahomet Aquifer Task Force established under P.A.100-0403. Provides that the Environmental Protection Agency shall identify unlined, thinly covered legacy landfills for inspection and study the landfills after prioritizing them based on potential hazards to surface water and groundwater resources. Prescribes required qualifications for Agency inspectors designated to identify and inspect legacy landfills. Provides that the Agency shall collect and archive information about landfills for present and long-term use, including manifests and engineering records. Provides that the Agency shall assemble location information about industries and companies that generate waste and that the resulting records should be available for use as confidential information by regulatory agencies but shall not be subject to the Freedom of Information Act. Amends the Illinois Groundwater Protection Act. Provides that, subject to appropriation, the Agency, in consultation and cooperation with the Illinois State Geological Survey and the Illinois State Water Survey, shall design and implement a Pilot Project at the Pekin Metro Landfill in Tazewell County, to be completed by December 31, 2020. Provides that the Pilot Program shall perform specified tasks.

(continued)

#### SB 2073 Groundwater Protection—Mahomet

Sponsor: Senator Chapin Rose

#### Synopsis As Introduced (excerpt from IL General Assembly website)

Amends the Illinois Groundwater Protection Act. Creates the Mahomet Aquifer Council. Provides that 9 public members shall be appointed to the Council by the Governor, including 3 persons representing a nonprofit consortium dedicated to the sustainability of the Mahomet Aquifer, 5 persons representing local government bodies located over the Mahomet Aquifer, and one person from the University of Illinois Prairie Research Institute. Provides that the chairperson's term shall be for one year, and a Council member's term shall be for 3 years. Allows reimbursement to members for ordinary and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, except that such reimbursement shall be limited to expenses associated with no more than 4 meetings per calendar year. Requires the Agency to provide the Council with such supporting services as are reasonable for the performance of the Council's duties. Effective immediately.

#### HB 3335 Carryout Bag Fee Act

#### Sponsor: Representative An M. Williams

#### Synopsis As Introduced (excerpt from IL General Assembly website)

Creates the Carryout Bag Fee Act. Provides that a carryout bag fee of \$0.10 is imposed on each carryout bag used by a customer at retail establishments, except in municipalities with a population greater than 1,000,000, with \$0.03 being returned to the retail establishment, \$0.04 into the Carryout Bag Fee Fund, \$0.01 to the Prairie Research Institute of the University of Illinois, \$0.01 into the Solid Waste Management Fund, and \$0.01 into the Partners for Conservation Fund. Provides that the carryout bag fee does not apply to the retail sale or use of carryout bags that are used to carry items purchased under specified governmental food assistance programs. Repeals the new Act on January 1, 2026. Amends the State Finance Act making conforming changes. Amends the Counties Code and Illinois Municipal Code. Provides that a county or municipality may not ban, place a fee or tax on, or regulate in any other manner the use, disposition, content, taxation, or sale of carryout bags. Limits the applicability of the provisions as they relate to a county or municipality that charged a fee or tax on carryout bags on February 1, 2018 and specified recycling programs. Limits home rule powers.

#### SB 1240 Revenue-Plastic Bags

Sponsor: Senator Terry Link

#### Synopsis As Introduced (excerpt from IL General Assembly website)

Creates the Checkout Bag Tax Act. Imposes a tax of \$0.07 on each checkout bag used by a customer at a retail establishment in the State. Provides that the term "checkout bag" means a single use plastic, paper, or compostable bag provided by a retail establishment at the checkout, cash register, point of sale, or other point of departure to a customer for the purpose of transporting goods out of the retail establishment. Sets forth certain exceptions. Provides that the proceeds from the tax shall be distributed as follows: (1) the retailer shall retain \$0.02 per bag; (2) the wholesaler shall retain \$0.02 per bag; and (3) \$0.03 per bag shall be deposited into the Checkout Bag Tax Fund. Amends the State Finance Act to create the Checkout Bag Tax Fund. Provides that moneys in the Fund shall be remitted to counties and municipal joint action agencies. Amends the Counties Code and the Illinois Municipal Code to preempt certain actions by counties and municipalities concerning auxiliary containers or checkout bags.

Attachment: ILCSWMA Newsletter Excerpt, Legislative Update, January/February 2019

# **Illinois Solid Waste News**

#### Jan/Feb 2019 Page 5

## **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

ILCSWMA provides periodic updates to our members throughout the Illinois legislative session on bills of potential interest. Below is a list of such bills as filed to date. Click on the links to see details listed on the Illinois General Assembly website. This list will be updated and sent via email as needed.

**SB1240**— If you have questions on this particular bill, Walter Willis from SWALCO (wwillis@swalco.org) can answer them.

SB0009 Coal Ash Cleanup & Storage Act

SB1114 Amends Counties Code. Addresses imminent public health hazards.

SB1117 Coal Ash Storage Act

SB1184 Amends Counties Code. Allows ban on coal tar sealants.

SB1240 Checkout Bag Tax Act

SB1337 Energy Performance Contracting Act SB1618 Amends Environmental Protection Act to allow plastics processed by pyrolysis or gasification facilities to be considered recycled, and not regulated as waste SB1828 Creates the Needle and Hypodermic Syringe Access Program Act

SB1847 Environmental Protection Agency shall provide notice when a permit for a new facility is required SB2027 Amends Environmental Protection Act with Mahomet Aquifer Task Force recommendations SB2073 Amends the Illinois Groundwater Protection Act. Creates the Mahomet Aquifer Council. SB2094 Amends the Safe Pharmaceutical Disposal Act

HB0349 Drug & Sharps Waste Stewardship Act HB2095 Environmental Impact Note Act

HB2296 Lead acid battery and rechargeable battery disposal

HB2443 Amends Counties Code. Allows ban on coal tar sealants.

HB2491 Amends Environmental Protection Act to allow plastics processed by pyrolysis or gasification facilities to be considered recycled, and not regulated as waste

HB2651 Creates the Illinois Container Fee and Deposit Act

HB2728 Amends Environmental Protection Act .

Environmental justice considerations in permitting. HB2764 Special waste manifests

HB2988 Amends the Counties Code. Zoning of wind energy farms.

HB3058 Creates the Abandoned Residential Property Act

HB3068 Amends the Illinois Solid Waste Management Act. Requires development of Illinois Resource Management Plan.

HB3232 Creates the Prescription Drug Repository **Program Act** 

HB3246 Creates the Retail Store Sharps Disposal Act

HB3335 Creates the Carryout Bag Fee Act

HB3379 Creates the Plastic Straw Ban Act

HB3383 Amends the Hydraulic Fracturing Regulatory

Act. Adds provisions for county board consent.

HB3414 Creates the Prescription Drug Repository Pilot Program Act

HB3555 Creates the Junk Mail Opt-Out List Act

HB3563 Creates the Green Energy Business Act

HB0249 IL Hazardous Materials Workforce Training Act HB3647 Requires pharmacies to have free drug takeback kiosks

HB3675 Special waste manifests

(List as of 2/15/19)

DI ANINING 8.

PLANNING &	
ZONING	
Brookens Administrative	
Center	
1776 E. Washington Street	
Urbana, Illinois 61802	

DATE:	February 28, 2019		
TO:	Environment and Land Use Committee		
FROM:	Susan Monte, Planner		
RE:	IEPA Notice of Application and Public Hearing for 401 Water Quality Certification, Dynegy Midwest Generation, LLC Middle Fork Vermilion River Bank Stabilization, Vermilion County		
Action Requested: Information Only			
nequest	The Middle Fork of the Vermilion River is		

(217) 384-3708 zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us www.co.champaign.il.us/zoning

**Background.** Since 2016, we have provided ELUC members with data and updates from the Eco-Justice Collaborative, a team of local environmental consultants who have organized a grassroots campaign and partnered with many Illinois citizen groups to pressure Dynegy to move coal ash out of the floodplain of Illinois' only National Scenic River. Please visit the Eco-Justice Collaborative <u>website</u> to access detailed information about the coal ash pollution threat to this portion of the Middle Fork.

The Middle Fork of the Vermilion River is Illinois' only National Scenic River. It is threatened by Dynegy's three coal ash pits located in Vermilion County that contain 3.3 million cubic yards of coal ash in the floodplain. Two of the three pits are leaking. The third sits over a mine void. The banks of all three are being eroded by the natural forces of the river, raising serious concerns over a potential breach. (*Eco-Justice Collaborative* website, 2/28/2019)

**IEPA Public Hearing on March 26 in Danville.** This February, the IEPA issued its Notice of Application and Public Hearing to take place on March 26, 2019 in Danville, Illinois (attachment). Expectations are that IEPA may proceed to issue Dynegy the requested permit for a wall solution instead, and that IEPA may <u>not</u> require Dynegy to remove coal ash from the Middle Fork Vermilion River bank, which some believe should be the solution.

**Call to Action to Notify the National Park Service.** Eco-Justice Collaborative organizers want citizens to know that the National Park Service can stop Dynegy's massive riverbank project by following requirements of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968. The Eco-Justice Collaborative <u>website</u> explains:

"Because the Middle Fork is a designated National Scenic River, Dynegy's proposal must receive approval from the National Park Service (NPS). The NPS, along with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources as the state administrator, are bound by Sections <u>7(a)</u> and <u>10(a)</u> of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to protect and enhance the river's free-flowing condition, water quality, and outstanding remarkable values ... for which the river gained its designation. These values include scenic, recreational, ecological, geologic and historic resources."

Eco-Justice Collaborative organizers indicate that **this March** is a critical time for individual action to demand an acceptable remedy to the serious coal ash threat to the Middle Fork. Actions to take include:

- Attend the IEPA public hearing on March 26 to weigh in on the solution under consideration.
- "Send a letter to the National Park Service (NPS) and Illinois DNR, telling the NPS to follow the law." The <u>Eco-Justice Collaborative website</u> contains a suggested form letter and talking points.

**Attachment:** IEPA Notice of Application and Public Hearing for 401 Water Quality Certification— Dynegy Midwest Generation, LLC

Please post through April 25, 2019

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) Notice of Application and Public Hearing for 401 Water Quality Certification

## Dynegy Midwest Generation, L.L.C. Middle Fork Vermilion River Bank Stabilization Vermilion County

# **Public Hearing**

## Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

# Danville Area Community College (Gymnasium) 2000 East Main Street Danville, Illinois 61832

The IEPA Bureau of Water has received an application for a Section 401 water quality certification (Log. No. C-0091-18) for discharge into waters of the United States associated with a Section 404 permit application (COE appl. # 2018-602) received by the United States Army Corps of Engineers. The name and address of the applicant is Dynegy Midwest Generation, L.L.C., 1500 Eastport Plaza Drive, Collinsville, Illinois 62234.

The applicant has applied for Section 401 water quality certification for impacts associated with an erosion mitigation and streambank stabilization project along 2,000 linear feet of the right descending bank of the Middle Fork Vermilion River near Oakwood, Illinois. The purpose of the project is to protect the streambank from erosion and minimize the downstream sedimentation associated with the 2.3 feet per year erosion rate.

The IEPA will consider comments regarding whether the intended activities of the applicant will cause: 1) violations of the water quality standards of Subtitle C of the Pollution Control Board's rules, 2) violations of any other applicable Pollution Control Board regulation, 3) noncompliance with Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Clean Water Act, and 4) interference with existing water uses, particularly public recreation, on the affected water. The purpose of the hearing is to allow interested persons to provide comments to the IEPA regarding these issues before a final decision on the certification application is made.

Those desiring to make oral comments at the hearing will be asked to complete a registration card. Following opening remarks and instructions, those registered to speak, will be called forward, one at a time, by name, to make comments on the record. The hearing officer reserves the right to impose reasonable measures, including time limits on those providing comments, in order to conduct an orderly hearing.

The IEPA has made a tentative determination to issue the Section 401 water quality certification in accordance with 35 Illinois Administrative Code (IAC) Subtitle C (*Water Pollution*), the Illinois Environmental Protection Act and the federal Clean Water Act. The 401 certification process is governed by the provisions of 35 IAC Part 395, *Procedures and Criteria for Certification of Applications for Federal Permits or Licenses for Discharges into Waters of the State*, which can be obtained online at <a href="https://pcb.illinois.gov/documents/dsweb/Get/Document-12064/">https://pcb.illinois.gov/documents/dsweb/Get/Document-12064/</a>. Inquiries about the certification should be directed to the project engineer, Darren Gove, IEPA Division of Water Pollution Control, Permit Section, 1021 North Grand Avenue East, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276, phone 217-782-3362, or e-mail <a href="darren.gove@illinois.gov">darren.gove@illinois.gov</a>. The water quality certification application is available for examination at the IEPA offices in Springfield. Relevant documents, including the public notice for this project, can be viewed on the IEPA website: <a href="https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/public-notices/Pages/section-401-notices.aspx">https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/public-notices/Pages/section-401-notices.aspx</a>.

Requests for special needs interpreters must be made to the IEPA hearing officer by **February 28**, **2019**. The hearing will be held under the provisions of 35 III. Adm. Code Part 164, *Procedures for Informational Public Hearings,* which can be obtained online at <a href="https://pcb.illinois.gov/documents/dsweb/Get/Document-11864/">https://pcb.illinois.gov/documents/dsweb/Get/Document-11864/</a>.

Written comments must be received at IEPA headquarters in Springfield or emailed by 11:59 p.m., April 25, 2019, when the hearing record closes (e-mail comments <u>must be sent</u> to <u>epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov</u> and must specify <u>Dynegy Midwest Generation 401</u> or <u>COE 2018-602</u> in the subject line). Email comments originating on third party systems or servers intended for submittal of multiple emails of the same or nearly the same content will not be accepted without prior written approval from the hearing officer. Comments need not be notarized and are to be sent to:

Hearing Officer Dean Studer Dynegy Midwest Generation 401 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency 1021 North Grand Avenue East P. O. Box 19276 Springfield, IL 62794-9276 Phone 217-558-8280

E-mail: <u>epa.publichearingcom@illinois.gov</u> TDD (hearing impaired) 866-273-5488

Questions regarding the hearing process for this proceeding (and not intended to be included in the hearing record) can be emailed to the hearing officer at <u>dean.studer@illinois.gov</u>.

Champaign County Department of

PLANNING & ZONING

## To: Environment and Land Use Committee

From: John Hall, Director & Zoning Administrator Jamie Hitt, Zoning Officer

Date: February 28, 2019

RE: Update on dangerous structures enforcement cases

## BACKGROUND

The Committee last reviewed an updated timeline for prosecution of dangerous structure cases at the March 9, 2017, meeting. The attached table is an update of enforcement cases for dangerous structures.

Note the following:

- A. Since the 3/9/17 meeting Champaign County has demolished the following dangerous structures:
  - 504 South Dodson, Urbana
- B. Since the 3/9/17 meeting owners have repaired or demolished dangerous structures at the following properties pursuant to notices from Champaign County:
  - 3304 and 3306 South Pine Circle, Urbana (repaired)
  - 2218 East University Avenue, Urbana (repaired)
  - 1208 North Eastern, Urbana (demolished; in progress)
  - 202 Brady Lane, Urbana (demolished)
  - 205 Main Street, Penfield (demolished)
  - 1301 East Perkins Road, Urbana (in progress)
- C. Champaign County owns and is currently trying to sell the following properties which formerly had dangerous structures:
  - 2603 Campbell Drive, Champaign;
  - 1101 Carroll Avenue, Urbana;
  - 504 South Dodson, Urbana;
- D. Dangerous structures at the following properties have been referred to the State's Attorney's Office for legal action:
  - 404 South Dodson, Urbana

Center 1776 E. Washington Street Urbana, Illinois 61802

**Brookens Administrative** 

(217) 384-3708 zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us www.co.champaign.il.us/zoning

	v		or Dangerous Structur		Nataa
Approx.	Property	Date of	STATUS	Estimated	Notes
Timeline	Address	First		Cost or Appraisal	
		Complaint		Value	
FY2015	1518B CR 2700N,	2011	OWNER DEMOLISHED	NONE	Former Jones
	Rantoul	-	BY CONTROLLED	-	Building property
	(Case ZN 11-52/09)		BURN IN MAY 2015;		Durining property
	(Case 210 11-52/09)		CLEANED UP IN		
			DECEMBER 2015		
	1101 Carroll Avenue,		PROPERTY	ACTUAL COSTS:	
	Urbana (Case ZN 09-		CONVEYED TO	\$1,800 fencing;	
			CHAMPAIGN COUNTY;	\$100 title search;	
	105/21; also see below)		STRUCTURE	\$13, 750 demo.	
			DEMOLISHED BY	APPRAISED VALUE:	
			COUNTY IN FALL OF		
			2015;	\$30,000 (2017) \$20,000 (2018)	
			PROPERTY IS FOR	\$20,000 (2018)	
			SALE BY OWNER		
			(CHAMPAIGN COUNTY)		
FY2016	1512 CR2700N,	2010	NEW OWNER	NONE	Former Cherry
	Rantoul	_0.0	DEMOLISHED BY		Orchard
	(Case ZN 11-01/09)		CONTROLLED BURN IN		Apartments
	(Case 211 11-01/09)		JULY 2016		
		0/47/00		NONE	property
	3304 South Pine Circle,	8/17/00		NONE	Same owner as
	Urbana		PROPERTY;		3306 S. Pine
	(Case ZN 12-17/21)		COURT IMPOSED		Circle
			FINES (SEE 3306		
	2200 Couth Dire Circle	0/00/40	SOUTH PINE CIRCLE)	NONE	0
	3306 South Pine Circle,	2/02/12	OWNER REPAIRED	NONE	Same owner as
	Urbana				3304 S. Pine
	(Case ZN 12-18/21)		COURT IMPOSED		Circle
			\$155,000 IN FINES BUT COUNTY SETTLED		
			FOR \$109,800 AND FINES PAID IN		
			AUGUST 2018		
	1209 North Eastern	5/22/06	NEW OWNER	NONE	No County action
	1208 North Eastern	5/22/06	REMOVED	NONE	No County action
	Avenue, Urbana		STRUCTURE IN 2018		anticipated.
	(Case ZN -12-18/21)		BUT SOME CLEAN UP		
			STILL REQUIRED		
FY2017	2603 Campbell Drive,		COUNTY REMOVED	APPRAISED IN 2017	The former
F12017			PLAYGROUND	AT \$7,800	
	Champaign		EQUIPMENT;	AT \$7,000	Mefford property
	(Case ZN 01-30/14)		PROPERTY IS FOR		and also the
			SALE BY OWNER		former Mabel
			(CHAMPAIGN COUNTY)		Thomas Park.
	504 South Dodson,	4/27/10	PROPERTY	ACTUAL COSTS:	
	Urbana	7/2//10	CONVEYED TO	\$ 8,100 demo.	
			CHAMPAIGN COUNTY;	APPRAISED VALUE:	
	(Case ZN 12-32/21)		STRUCTURES	\$7,000 (2018)	
			DEMOLISHED BY	φ1,000 (2018)	
			COUNTY IN SPRING OF		
			2018:		
			PROPERTY IS FOR		
			SALE BY OWNER		
			(CHAMPAIGN COUNTY)		
			(		
•					

## Table 1. Recent History and Current Status of Dangerous Structure Cases<sup>1</sup>

-		STATUS		Notes
	First			
	Complaint			
210½ Brady Lane, Urbana	8/08/12	SOLD AT TAX SALE IN JANUARY 2017; SOME REPAIRS DONE	NONE	It is hoped the new owner will either make repairs or demolish.
2218 East University Avenue, Urbana (Case ZN-17-03/21)	5/7/12	STILL AN ACTIVE COURT CASE; OWNER REPAIRED PROPERTY AND IS IN DISCUSSIONS WITH CITY OF URBANA REGARDING ANNEXATION AGREEMENT	\$1,715	Same owner as 3304 & 3306 S. Pine Circle.
202 Brady Lane, Urbana (Case ZN 16-26/01)	8/2/16	COURT CASE RESOLVED; OWNER DEMOLISHED IN 2018	NONE	
2303 Brownfield Road, Urbana	3/08/07	NO CHANGE	ESTIMATED COSTS: \$24,400**	Same owner on all four
2305 Brownfield Road, Urbana	3/08/07	NO CHANGE	ESTIMATED COSTS: \$24,400**	properties; some cleanup was accomplished previously; the previous owner passed away in fall of 2016 and a new owner has acquired the properties; ZA has asked for clean-up by 6/28/19
2402½ Johnson Lane, Urbana		NO CHANGE	\$24,400**	
2312 Johnson Lane, Urbana	7/07/09		\$24,400**	
404 South Dodson, Urbana (Case ZN-17-24/21)	9/27/17	CASE REFERRED TO S.A.O. ON 8/9/18	ESTIMATED COSTS: \$19,000**	
205 Main Street, Penfield	9/23/14	DEMOLISHED BY OWNER	NONE	
1301 East Perkins Road, Urbana (ZN-18-02/21)	9/13/14	FIRST NOTICE SENT IN 2018; OWNER IS MAKING REPAIRS; NEED TO RE-INSPECT	ESTIMATED COSTS: \$19,000**	
303 North Main Street, Seymour	1/01/09	NEW OWNER IS SLOWLY MAKING REPAIRS	NONE	Former gas station; underground tanks may be left as is
	Urbana 2218 East University Avenue, Urbana (Case ZN-17-03/21) 202 Brady Lane, Urbana (Case ZN 16-26/01) 2303 Brownfield Road, Urbana 2305 Brownfield Road, Urbana 2402½ Johnson Lane, Urbana 2312 Johnson Lane, Urbana 2312 Johnson Lane, Urbana 404 South Dodson, Urbana (Case ZN-17-24/21) 205 Main Street, Penfield 1301 East Perkins Road, Urbana (ZN-18-02/21) 303 North Main Street,	AddressFirst Complaint210½ Brady Lane, Urbana8/08/122218 East University Avenue, Urbana (Case ZN-17-03/21)5/7/12202 Brady Lane, Urbana (Case ZN 16-26/01)8/2/16203 Brownfield Road, Urbana3/08/072305 Brownfield Road, Urbana3/08/072402½ Johnson Lane, Urbana7/07/092312 Johnson Lane, Urbana7/07/092402½ Johnson Lane, Urbana7/07/092312 Johnson Lane, Urbana7/07/1092312 Johnson Lane, Urbana9/27/17205 Main Street, Penfield9/23/14205 Main Street, Road, Urbana9/13/14303 North Main Street, I/07/091/01/09	AddressFirst Complaint210½ Brady Lane, Urbana8/08/12SOLD AT TAX SALE IN JANUARY 2017; SOME REPAIRS DONE2218 East University Avenue, Urbana (Case ZN-17-03/21)5/7/12STILL AN ACTIVE COURT CASE; OWNER REPAIRED PROPERTY AND IS IN DISCUSSIONS WITH CITY OF URBANA REGARDING ARREEMENT202 Brady Lane, Urbana (Case ZN 16-26/01)8/2/16COURT CASE; RESOLVED; OWNER DEMOLISHED IN 2018203 Brownfield Road, Urbana3/08/07NO CHANGE2305 Brownfield Road, Urbana3/08/07NO CHANGE2402½ Johnson Lane, Urbana7/07/09NO CHANGE2312 Johnson Lane, Urbana7/07/09NO CHANGE2312 Johnson Lane, Urbana7/07/109NO CHANGE205 Main Street, Penfield9/23/14DEMOLISHED BY OWNER205 Main Street, 2018; OWNER IS XoA, Urbana9/13/14FIRST NOTICE SENT IN 2018; OWNER IS Sevmour303 North Main Street, Sevmour1/01/09NEW OWNER IS SLOWLY MAKING	AddressFirst ComplaintCost or Appraisal Value210½ Brady Lane, Urbana8/08/12SOLD AT TAX SALE IN JANUARY 2017; SOME REPAIRS DONENONE2218 East University Avenue, Urbana (Case ZN-17-03/21)5/7/12STILL AN ACTIVE COURT CASE; OWNER REPAIRED PROPERTY AND IS IN DISCUSSIONS WITH CITY OF URBANA REGARDING ANNE SIN DISCUSSIONS WITH COURT CASE (Case ZN 16-26/01)\$1,715202 Brady Lane, Urbana (Case ZN 16-26/01)8/2/16COURT CASE RESOLVED; OWNER DEMOLISHED IN 2018NONE203 Brownfield Road, Urbana (Case ZN 16-26/01)3/08/07NO CHANGEESTIMATED COSTS: \$24,400**2303 Brownfield Road, Urbana3/08/07NO CHANGEESTIMATED COSTS: \$24,400**2402½ Johnson Lane, Urbana7/07/09NO CHANGEESTIMATED COSTS: \$24,400**2402½ Johnson Lane, Urbana7/07/09NO CHANGEESTIMATED COSTS: \$24,400**2404 South Dodson, Urbana9/27/17CASE REFERRED TO S.A.O. ON 8/9/18ESTIMATED COSTS: \$19,000**404 South Dodson, Urbana9/27/17CASE REFERRED TO S.A.O. ON 8/9/18ESTIMATED COSTS: \$19,000**205 Main Street, Penfield9/23/14DEMOLISHED BY OWNER IS MAKING REPAIRS; NEED TO RE-INSPECTNONE303 North Main Street, Seymour9/13/14FIRST NOTICE SENT IN 2018, OWNER IS MAKING REPAIRS; NEED TO RE-INSPECTSNONE

## Table 1. Recent History and Current Status of Dangerous Structure Cases<sup>1</sup>

Approx. Timeline	Property Address	Date of First Complaint	STATUS	Estimated Cost or Appraisal Value	Notes	
FY2020	306 Ferguson Street, Foosland	7/20/17	NEED TO SEND NOTICE	ESTIMATED COSTS: \$19,000**		
	207 Main Street, Foosland	8/12/15	NEED TO SEND NOTICE	ESTIMATED COSTS: \$19,000**		
	300 Third Street, Foosland	10/2/18	NEED TO SEND NOTICE	ESTIMATED COSTS: \$19,000**		
	<ul> <li>*includes title search, appraisal and engineering inspection costs</li> <li>**includes title search and appraisal costs</li> <li>FOOTNOTES</li> <li>1. At least four other dangerous structures have been removed by private action since 3/08/07.</li> </ul>					
	1. At least four other dangerous structures have been removed by private action since 3/08/07.					

## Table 1. Recent History and Current Status of Dangerous Structure Cases<sup>1</sup>

**TO:** Environment and Land Use Committee

**Champaign County** Department of PLANNING & ZONING

> **Brookens Administrative** Center 1776 E. Washington Street Urbana, Illinois 61802

(217) 384-3708 zoningdept@co champaign il us DATE: February 17, 2019

FROM: John Hall, Director

**RE: Update on Champaign County Land Bank Project** 

## BACKGROUND

At the 12/7/17 meeting ELUC recommended and the Champaign County Board supported the Village of Rantoul's application for Land Bank Capacity Grant from the Illinois Housing Development Authority on 1/15/18.

The report *Feasibility Analysis for a Champaign County Land Bank* (see Attachment C) was received on 12/12/18 and was reviewed in a presentation at the Regional Planning www.co.champaign.il.us/zoning Commission on 12/18/18. See the attached PowerPoint slides at Attachment B.

> Notes from the latest Champaign County Land Bank Project Meeting are included as Attachment A.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

- email notes from the February 14, 2019 Champaign County Land Bank Meeting A
- B PowerPoint slides from 12/18/18 Land Bank Presentation at the Champaign **County Regional Planning Commission**
- С Feasibility Analysis for a Champaign County Land Bank, Bryan White, STR Grants LLC, November 13, 2018

## John Hall

From:	Lori Busboom
Sent:	Wednesday, February 20, 2019 10:11 AM
To:	John Hall; Susan Burgstrom
Subject:	FW: February 14 Champaign County Land Bank project meeting - notes

From: Brian White <brian.white@strllc.com> Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2019 10:10 AM To: Brian White <brian.white@strllc.com> Cc: Ken Turner <kturner@village.rantoul.il.us>; Pat J. O'Shaughnessy (pat@vctitle.com) <pat@vctitle.com>; bdenzin@denzinlaw.com; John Heckler <John@vctitle.com> Subject: February 14 Champaign County Land Bank project meeting - notes

Hi All:

These are the notes from February 14, 2019 Champaign County Land Bank Project Meeting. We are sharing these to help keep all of our municipal stakeholders informed of the ongoing process.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact myself or Ken Turner.

Thanks!

Brian

\*\*\*

Notes from February 14, 2019 Champaign County Land Bank Project Meeting

Meeting opened at 11 am in the Council Chambers, Village of Rantoul, IL

Representatives from City of Champaign, Champaign County Treasurer, Champaign County Regional Planning Commission, Champaign County Planning Department, Champaign County Recorder of Deeds, Village of St. Joseph, Village of Rantoul in attendance. Also guests from Vermilion County Land Bank Authority and Denzin Soltanzadeh LLC.

Attendees heard from Pat O'Shaughnessy and John Heckler, Executive Director and Field Operations Manager of the Vermilion County Land Bank Authority, and Brent Denzin, who serves as counsel to the Cook County Land Bank Authority and South Suburban Land Bank Authority. Brent also provides the legal technical assistance to groups forming land banks through the IHDA Land Bank Capacity Building Program.

Pat and John shared some of the experiences they had establishing a land bank in Vermilion County:

- Started in 2015 with \$50,000 in funding from the county and Danville and Tilton as home rule members. County
  added \$40,000 in the second year. VCLBA also secured grants from IHDA through the Abandoned Property
  Program of \$40,000 and \$30,000. The funds were used for targeted demos. VCLBA has a joint marketing effort
  with Danville, whereby VCLBA helps sell vacant lots owned by Danville and collects a portion of the proceeds.
- 6 municipal members at the onset; up to 14 as of today.
- Started with volunteer staff and now have 1 volunteer and 1 PTE staff; lack of funding and staff limited the activities of the VCLBA "you get what you pay for."

 Despite modest budget, VCLBA has completed a number of acquisitions, has started to sell some of the lots, and has conducted a fair amount of education about blight, helping their members become more attuned to issues in their own communities.

Brent's presentation covered many topics, Some of the highlights:

- local governments in Illinois use intergovernmental agreements (IGA) to form land banks and pool resources and home rule powers to the benefit of their municipal members.
- Land banks apply a range of different interventions to execute relatively complex transactions on behalf of member communities.
- Land banks serve as central repository of information and expertise that might otherwise be scattered across the county or siloed in different departments.
- Land banks typically leverage parcel level data to identify properties that have common indicators of distress, such as tax delinquency, code violations, long-term vacancy, and/or crime. Land banks then assess individual properties, using visual inspections, title research and other means, to determine which properties might be candidates for land bank acquisition.
- Land banks only acquire properties with the permission of the member communities in which the properties are located, so land banks offer a flexible tool, without sacrificing local control or authority.
- Land banks can address a variety of properties, including commercial, and pursue new funding that might not be awarded to a single municipality

Following discussion, attendees expressed interest in asking Vermilion County Land Bank Authority (VCLBA) to allow members from Champaign County to join. The Village of Rantoul was requested to lead discussions with VCLBA about allowing members from Champaign County.

Meeting concluded at 11:30 am.

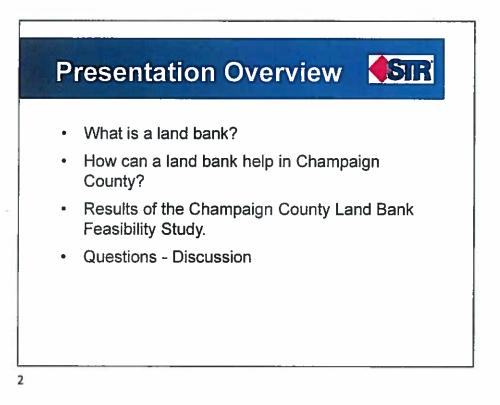
\*\*\*

Brian White Director, Strategic Engagement STR LLC

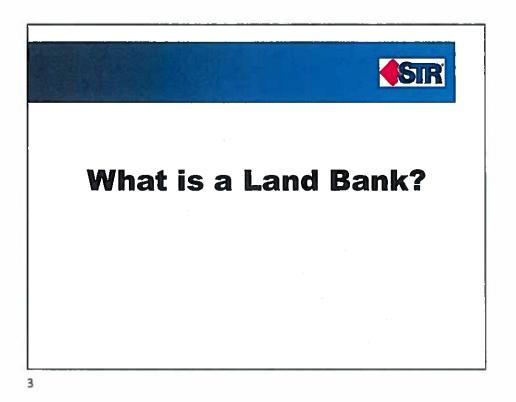
Direct (703) 460-9057 Mobile (773) 209-8552

STR has been supporting community revitalization since 1985

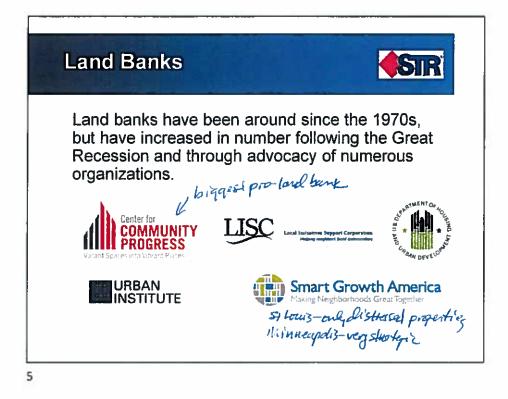




## 12/17/2018

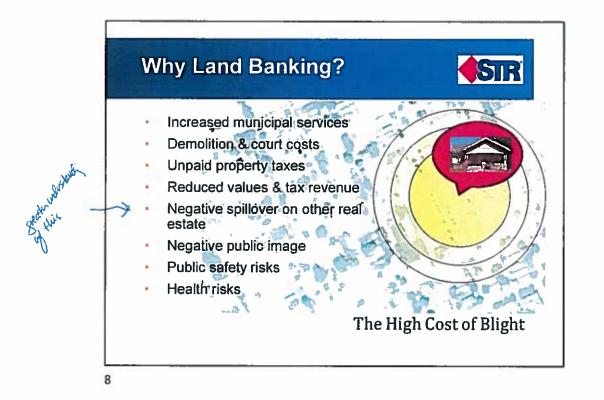


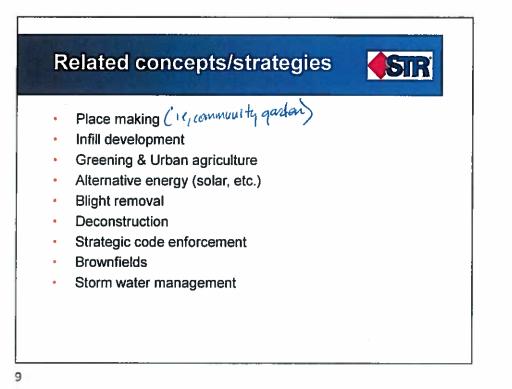


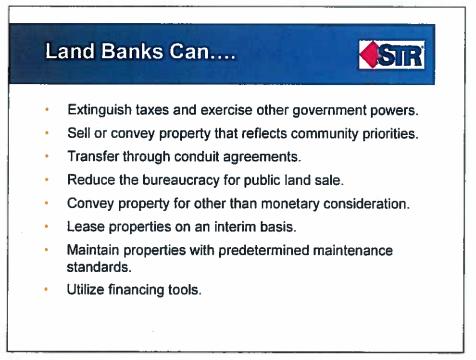




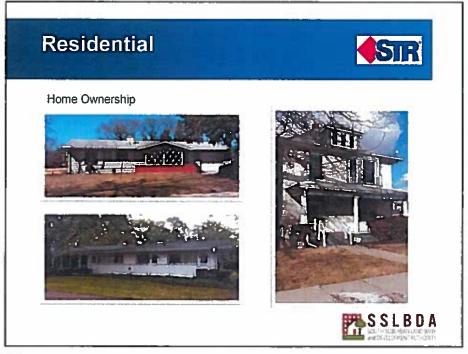


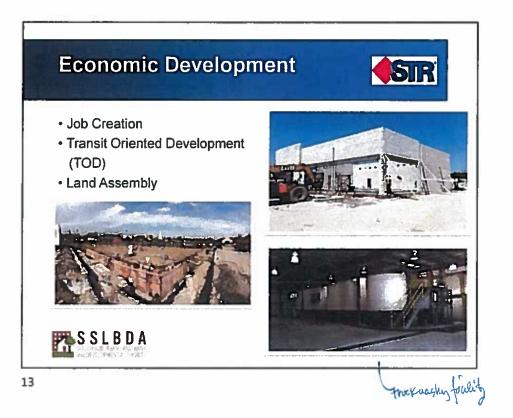






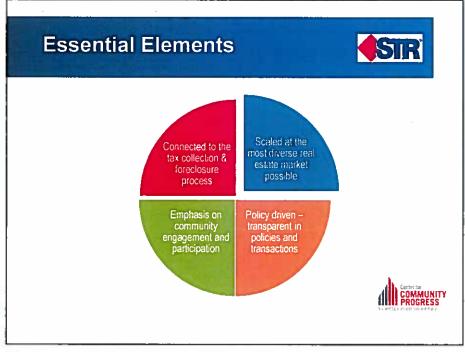




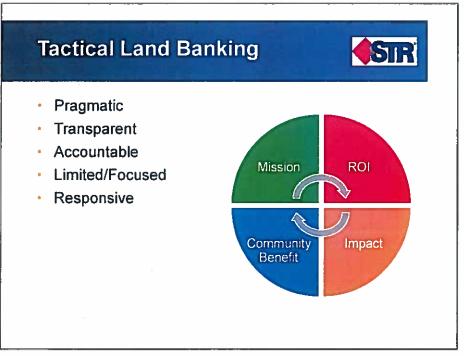




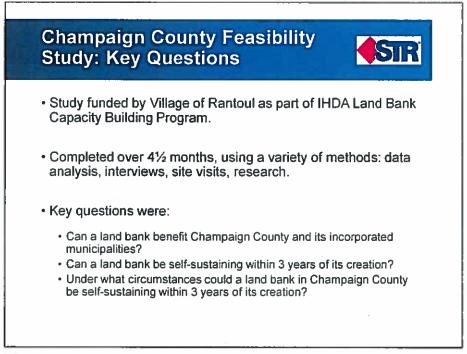


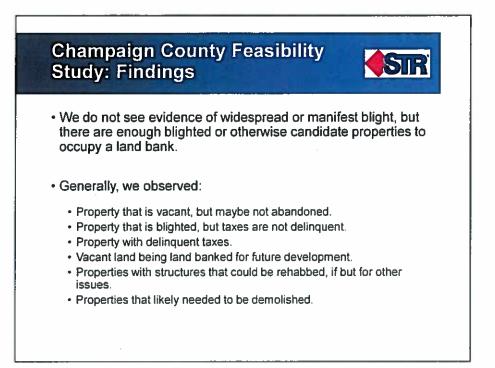




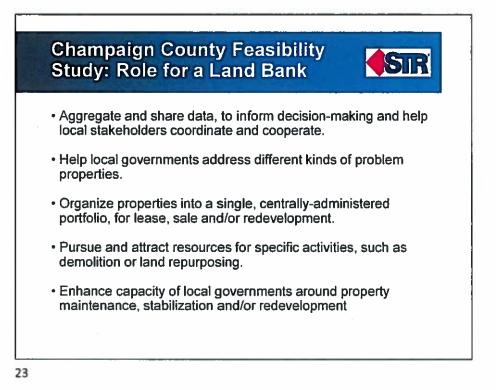


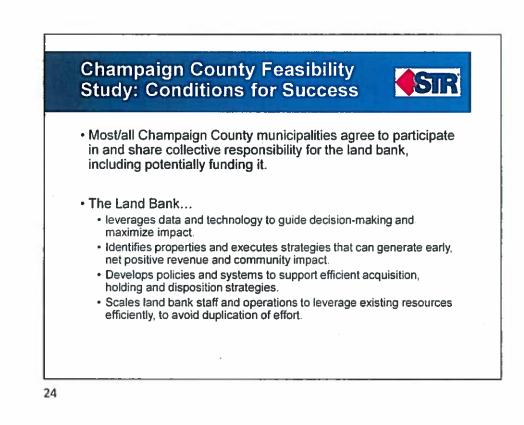




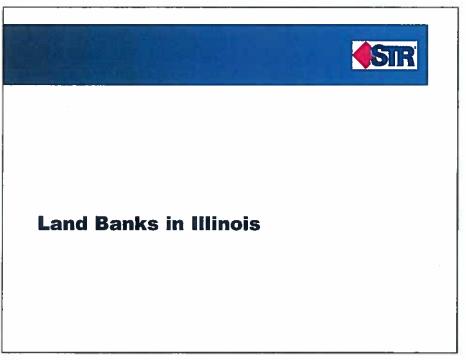








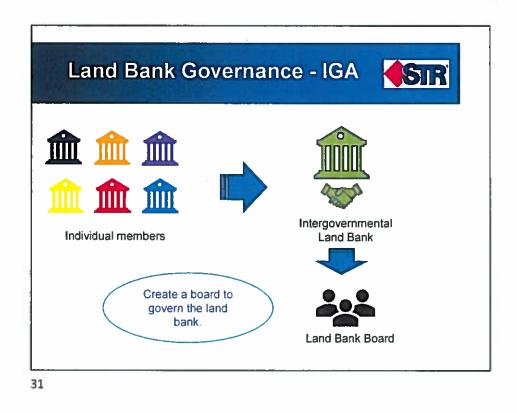


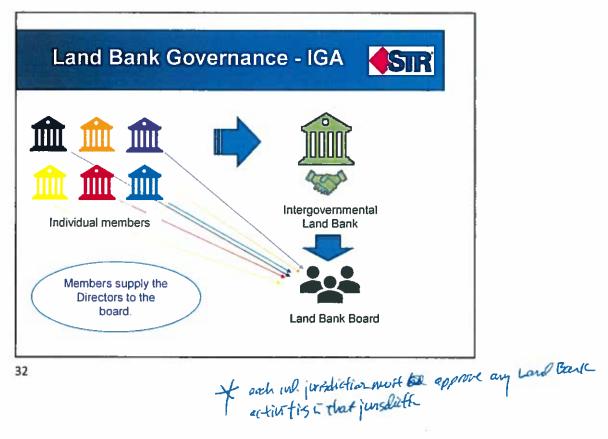
















# **Operating a Land Bank** Land Bank Board & Staff

# Revenue

- Budget needs
- Funding sources

#### Programs

- Nuisance abatement
- Demolition & deconstruction
- **Development & sale**
- Leasing
- Other

### Inventory type(s)

- Residential
- Open land •
- Industrial commercial

**STR** 

#### **Data System Needs**

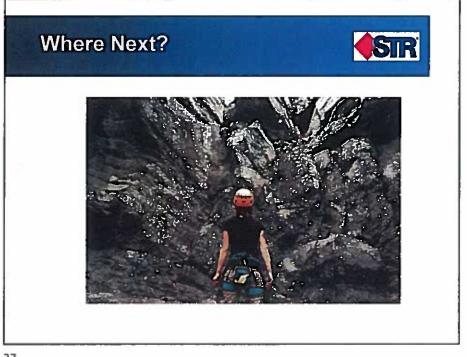
- **GIS / Inventory** •
- Financial •

•

- **Project Management**
- Property Management
- Policies













# Feasibility Analysis for a Champaign County Land Bank Page | 1

Prepared by Brian White Sr. Consultant, Community Development STR. Grants LLC

November 13, 2018

# Feasibility Analysis for a Champaign County Land Bank

Page | 2

# **Executive Summary**

The Village of Rantoul applied for a grant from Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) to explore creating a land bank in Champaign County. Rantoul subsequently retained STR. Grants LLC (STR) as a consultant to evaluate the feasibility of a land bank. Our feasibility study attempted to answer three questions:

- Can a land bank benefit Champaign County and its incorporated municipalities?
- Can a land bank be self-sustaining within 3 years of its creation?
- Under what circumstances could a land bank in Champaign County be selfsustaining within 3 years of its creation?

The short answer to the first two questions is "yes" and "yes."

- Yes, a land bank can benefit Champaign County and its incorporated municipalities.
- Yes, a land bank can be self-sustaining within 3 years, but... ...only if the land bank can generate a surplus of revenue over expenses.

The answer to the third question is what occupied the analysis, namely how could a land bank in Champaign County become self-sustaining within 3 years? And on that question, the answer is "it depends."

Among the dependencies we identify that will most likely influence the success of a land bank:

- Securing the commitment of most or all Champaign County municipalities to participate in and share collectively the responsibility for the land bank, including possibly funding it.<sup>1</sup>
- · Leveraging data and technology to guide decision-making and maximize impact;
- Identifying properties and executing strategies that can generate early, net positive revenue and community impact;
- Developing policies and systems to support efficient acquisition, holding and disposition strategies;
- Scaling land bank staff and operations to leverage existing resources efficiently, so the land bank fills in gaps and avoids duplication of effort.

If members decide to proceed, we recommend stakeholders consider between one of two options:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> We explored and evaluated a range of funding options, including selling tax trustee properties, using surplus funds held by the Champaign County treasurer to cover possible sale in error refunds, and raising the real estate transfer tax. Further analysis of these options is warranted.

## **Option 1:**

Form a stand-alone Champaign County Land Bank and scale it up using a "crawl/walk/run" approach. We anticipate that establishing a stand-alone land bank might occupy the better part of 6-9 months. That time would be devoted to organizing the legal structure, recruiting municipal members, hiring or recruiting staff, developing policies and Page | 3 procedures, and undertaking a comprehensive funding plan.

The land bank would be operational and ready to acquire properties by the end of its first year (crawl/walk). The land bank would take on more responsibility in direct proportion to its capacity in ensuing years and expand in a sustainable fashion (walk/run). We have outlined 3 possible models for a stand-alone Champaign County Land Bank in this report (see below).

If Champaign County municipal members proceed to form a stand-alone land bank, we recommend the land bank be formed through an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) of the members, including at least one home rule community member. Rantoul, Champaign, and Urbana are all home rule communities, so the land bank should include at least one of these communities.

Operating by IGA affords flexibility of a home rule community for all members and promotes collaboration and coordination across municipal boundaries. The IGA model is well-established in Illinois law, so establishing a land bank via IGA is straightforward.

In considering a stand-alone Champaign County Land Bank, we evaluated 3 different models and found that each model can be self-sustaining, given the volume of activity and resources committed to the operation of the land bank.

#### Model 1: Part Time Staff/Existing Organization

The land bank would help member communities identify, acquire and sell individual parcels that are not sold during the county's current tax sales, mostly focused on vacant lots and land, small residential properties, and small commercial properties.

The land bank would not try to acquire many properties itself. Instead it would arrange "conduit sales" between a current owner and an unrelated buyer. The land bank could maintain a central database of properties that might be available in the county, with information shared to it by local member communities and prospective buyers through a website. The land bank could also identify resources and programs and serve as an information clearinghouse with periodic educational sessions or meeting. If the land bank is funded to complete a special project, the staff person can help administer those program activities; for example, demolitions of dilapidated property.

Annual cost: \$50-75,000<sup>2</sup>. Likely impact: 10-20 properties per year.

#### Model 2:

A land bank that is staffed full-time with 2 to 3 FTE staff. The land bank could be housed at an existing organization. Staff would include a director or program manager and an assistant

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Primarily funding for staff and overhead, not property related expenses.

program manager well-versed in community development and real estate acquisitions and dispositions. The staff would assist local governments assemble and organize data, identify strategic property acquisitions, acquire, hold and dispose of property, and solicit for resources to fund land bank activities. Staff would have capacity to manage a small number of properties with support from vendors and service providers hired on contract.

The land bank would be an opportunistic buyer and partner in community development to member communities, acquiring property when there is a known end use or end user or at the invitation of a member community. The land bank would also tackle larger properties, such as commercial properties or decommissioned public buildings, where future redevelopment might involve more intensive planning, remediation, or related activities.

Page | 4

Annual cost: \$90-140,000. Likely impact: 15-30 properties per year, including 2-5 larger properties.

#### Model 3:

A land bank that is staffed full-time with 4-6 staff. The land bank would be housed at an independent location or within the offices of an existing organization. The land bank would have adequate staff to provide a full range of property acquisition, maintenance, and disposition services, plus data analysis and planning functions. Services would be provided by staff and from vendors and service providers hired on contract. Staff would address a full range of property types and use a variety of strategies: residential, commercial, public surplus, and vacant lots and land.

Annual cost: \$250,000 – \$400,000. Likely impact: 50-100 properties per year, including >5 larger properties.

#### **Option 2:**

There is an operational county land bank located in Vermilion County known as the Vermilion County Land Bank Authority (VCLBA). Municipalities in Champaign County can ask to join the VCLBA as an alternate to creating a stand-alone land bank in Champaign County.

Adding members from Champaign could increase the capacity of the VCLBA to serve both counties, provided Champaign County members helped support the VCLBA. This could make VCLBA a more effective organization overall and provide Champaign County municipalities access to an operational land bank much faster than if municipal members tried to stand up a separate land bank serving Champaign County.

The Vermilion County Land Bank operates through intergovernmental agreement, as does the South Suburban Land Bank Authority. Because VCLBA's IGA limits membership to Vermilion County municipal members, the IGA would need to be amended to allow the land bank to have members from Champaign County. Voting rights for the members might also need to be adjusted to account for one or more additional home rule communities, but no other substantive changes would be required.

There are arguments favoring each approach. In the balance of this report, we evaluate why a land bank would be beneficial for Champaign County and explain how a land bank might operate. We evaluated primarily evaluated Option 1, a stand-alone land bank,

because that was the task we were assigned. We believe that Option 2 may offer the better option and recommend that municipal members interested in proceeding explore the interest of the VCLBA. Much of the modeling performed for this report can be applied to a joint land bank covering two counties, as the basic premise is that the size and function of the land bank should reflect the types of properties and member interests with which it is occupied.

#### Background

In or around 2016, stakeholders in Champaign County began discussing whether and how a land bank might be of benefit to the county. The discussion was stimulated in part by the creation of Illinois land banks in Cook County and Vermilion County. Discussions took place between different communities and county staff, convened largely by the Village of Rantoul.

Page | 6

In 2017, the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) announced a grant program that would provide funding for municipalities to create new land banks in the state. The Village of Rantoul applied for and received a grant from IHDA to initiate creation of a land bank in Champaign County. In its application, Rantoul expressed interest in evaluating the feasibility of a land bank as a first step towards creating one, to ensure that whatever land bank was created could achieve meaningful results and outcomes.

Upon receiving a grant from IHDA, Rantoul retained STR. Grants LLC (STR) to evaluate the feasibility of the land bank. Work commenced in June 2018.

As noted, the feasibility seeks to address three questions:

- Can a land bank benefit Champaign County and its incorporated municipalities?
- Can a land bank be self-sustaining within 3 years of its creation?
- Under what circumstances could a land bank in Champaign County be selfsustaining within 3 years of its creation?

The short answer to the first two questions is "yes" and "yes."

- Yes, a land bank can benefit Champaign County and its incorporated municipalities.
- Yes, a land bank can be self-sustaining within 3 years, but... ...only if the land bank can generate a surplus of revenue over expenses.

Our analysis leads us to conclude that YES, a land bank can benefit Champaign County and YES, a land bank can be self-sustaining. Considering a stand-alone Champaign County Land Bank, we evaluated 3 different models.

In considering a stand-alone Champaign County Land Bank, we evaluated 3 different models and found that each model can be self-sustaining, given the volume of activity and resources committed to the operation of the land bank.

#### Model 1: Part Time Staff/Existing Organization

The land bank would help member communities identify, acquire and sell individual parcels that are not sold during the county's current tax sales, mostly focused on vacant lots and land, small residential properties, and small commercial properties.

The land bank would not try to acquire many properties itself. Instead it would arrange "conduit sales" between a current owner and an unrelated buyer. The land bank could maintain a central database of properties that might be available in the county, with information shared to it by local member communities and prospective buyers through a website. The land bank could also identify resources and programs and serve as an information clearinghouse with periodic educational sessions or meeting. If the land bank is funded to complete a special project, the staff

person can help administer those program activities; for example, demolitions of dilapidated property.

Annual cost: \$50-75,000<sup>3</sup>. Likely impact: 10-20 properties per year.

#### Model 2:

A land bank that is staffed full-time with 2 to 3 FTE staff. The land bank could be housed at an existing organization. Staff would include a director or program manager and an assistant program manager well-versed in community development and real estate acquisitions and dispositions. The staff would assist local governments assemble and organize data, identify strategic property acquisitions, acquire, hold and dispose of property, and solicit for resources to fund land bank activities. Staff would have capacity to manage a small number of properties with support from vendors and service providers hired on contract.

The land bank would be an opportunistic buyer and partner in community development to member communities, acquiring property when there is a known end use or end user or at the invitation of a member community. The land bank would also tackle larger properties, such as commercial properties or decommissioned public buildings, where future redevelopment might involve more intensive planning, remediation, or related activities.

Annual cost: \$90-140,000. Likely impact: 15-30 properties per year, including 2-5 larger properties.

#### Model 3:

A land bank that is staffed full-time with 4-6 staff. The land bank would be housed at an independent location or within the offices of an existing organization. The land bank would have adequate staff to provide a full range of property acquisition, maintenance, and disposition services, plus data analysis and planning functions. Services would be provided by staff and from vendors and service providers hired on contract. Staff would address a full range of property types and use a variety of strategies: residential, commercial, public surplus, and vacant lots and land.

Annual cost: \$250,000 – \$400,000. Likely impact: 50-100 properties per year, including >5 larger properties.

Ultimately, the decision about which model to adopt rests with the stakeholders who commit to participate. The quantity, types of properties, and property acquisition and disposition strategies they want to pursue will determine how much staff and funding is required.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Primarily funding for staff and overhead, not property related expenses.

# About Land Banks

Land banks have been around for decades and were originally conceived to address manifest conditions of blight (i.e. vacant and abandoned property). In the last decade or so, land banks were recognized as tools to align and connect certain government systems: tax collection, code enforcement, and community and economic development.<sup>4</sup> Even more recently, experts are exploring how land banks can operate in a wide variety of neighborhood and community settings to stabilize neighborhoods at risk of decline.<sup>5</sup>

Page | 8

For Champaign County, a land bank can be understood as a single-purpose entity organized to acquire, stabilize and repurpose properties that might otherwise go wanting for responsible development and/or that pose risks to the health, safety, and value of other property in targeted areas. The land bank might acquire:

- Properties that are abandoned;
- Properties where utilities are shutoffs (an indicator that a property is vacant);
- Parcels with more than 2 years' unpaid property;
- Chronic (and unabated) nuisance violations that may or may not have resulted in liens against property;
- Long-term vacant property (property with no legal occupant >6 months);
- Property that is dangerous to health and safety for occupants or neighbors (candidates for demo or substantial rehab);
- Structures and uses that are incompatible with current and anticipated future uses (side lots, property remnants, decommissioned public buildings, parcels needing to be rezoned);
- Evidence of property speculation without property investment (properties acquired through tax sale, but not rehabbed or updated); and/or,
- · Criminal activity associated with vacant and abandoned property.

Once problem properties are identified, the land bank would participate in the acquisition, stabilization, and redevelopment of those properties. It can also participate in the redevelopment of signature commercial property or larger scale residential development, by for example holding land for assembly where a long-term planning process must be completed or additional funds secured to complete a project.

There are other roles for a Champaign County land bank, such as:

- Provide single-purpose services (i.e. demolition manager for municipalities)
- Land stewardship (i.e. managing wetlands or flood-prone areas that are set aside)
- Setting aside land for future development (land banking; land assemblage)
- Boosting local community and economic development capacity (providing construction and rehab or leasing services, programming placemaking activities)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> There is extensive literature on land banks and land banking. See: "Land Banks and Land Banking, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition." Alexander, Frank S. Washington, DC: Center for Community Progress, 2015; also "Take it to the Bank: How Land Banks Are Strengthening America's Neighborhoods," Heins, Payton A. and Abdelazim, Tarik. Washington, DC: Center for Community Progress, 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See "On the Edge: America's Middle Neighborhoods," ed. Paul C. Brophy. New York, NY: The American Assembly, 2016.

Land banks around the country vary in size and scope, but they generally share certain characteristics.

- They are geographically specific, operating within a specific geography and with programming that is scaled to the appropriate geographic unit (municipality, neighborhood, block).
- They are oriented to respond to community needs and promote community engagement.

Page 9

- They fill in gaps in community development ecosystem and try to avoid competing with responsible development organizations.
- They are data driven in their decision-making.
- They tend to sit at the intersection of local government systems: tax, foreclosure, code enforcement, vacant property registration.
- They work to extend the capacity of other community and economic development partners.
- They are guided by policy and are generally more flexible than local governments as to acquisitions and dispositions.

In deciding to move forward, we wanted to determine if we can identify sufficient numbers of properties that a land bank can acquire, stabilize, and redevelop. We also think it is important to weigh the costs of NOT moving ahead with a land bank.

# The Cost of Vacant Property

Vacant property costs local communities considerable money and resources. Simply reducing those costs by reactivating property is often justification enough for creating a land bank. The costs of vacant property include direct costs – the costs paid by a municipality for services performed on a property. Costs also include indirect costs, which are costs borne by everyone else impacted by a vacant property. It is important that local governments factor in the total costs of vacant property and consider the likely direct and indirect benefits that will come from taking action.

Page | 10

Item – Vacant City Owned Lot	Direct City Costs	Indirect Costs
The cost to cut grass on a vacant lot.	\$400 per year	
The cost to remove illegally dumped debris,	\$500 per year	
abandoned cars, etc.		
Taxes not being collected for city-owned	\$400-1000 per	
property.	year	
5% negative impact on the value of 12		\$30,000 in
adjacent properties (within 250')		negative equity
Loss in taxes on properties within 250',	\$2500	
whose values are diminished		
Costs in legal fees for enforcement actions	???	
& liens.		
TOTAL COST	\$5595-6195	\$30,000

Consider these simple illustrations:

Item – Vacant Residential Home	Direct Costs	Indirect Costs
Min. 3% negative impact on the value of 12		\$18,000 in
adjacent properties (within 250'), average		negative equity
home value \$50,0006		
Loss in taxes on properties within 250'	\$2595	
(.0865 rate)		
Loss in utility taxes and revenues		?
Cost of city services – fire, police,		??
sanitation, vacant property registration, etc.		
Cost to demolish a property.		
Costs in legal fees for enforcement actions		
& liens.		
Cost to schools in the form of per pupil		???
student revenues		
TOTAL COST	\$2,595	\$18,000

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> There are various methods for calculation the impact of vacant property and the research suggests the impact is greatest for properties that are closest AND where there is a higher concentration of vacant properties. 3% is a very conservative estimate of the impact for a vacant property. See "Quantitative and Qualitative Impact Assessment of Land Bank Activity in Michigan," page 13, for a directory of research published concerning the spillover effects of vacant property. <u>http://269mag.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Assessment-of-Land-Bank-Activity.pdf</u>

The same sort of rough cost-benefit calculations can be done on commercial and industrial property, though the impact will be that much greater, depending on the size of the property. These costs are incurred, year over year, justifying interventions where possible and as early as possible.

# **Property Strategies**

A land bank typically concerns itself with properties that existing systems do not restore to the sort of productive use that communities desire. These include:

- Vacant and Abandoned Properties
- Tax Sale Properties
- Chronic Nuisance Violation Properties
- Surplus Lots and Land
- Bank-owned property (REO)
- Donations and Private Sale

The objectives of a land bank can be:

- reducing the number of dilapidated properties demanding municipal services
- restore properties to productive (re)use
- improving the occupancy of vacant land and property
- reactivating property for tax collection purposes
- eliminating threats to public health and safety, and/or,
- addressing community quality of life concerns.

Because of the range of things a land bank can do, we encourage stakeholders to take a holistic approach to the idea of a land bank and evaluate its value through multiple lenses or viewpoints.

In this section, we touch on our findings and offer recommendations for how a land bank might address each of these types of properties. We add a discussion on "special projects," which speaks less to the property type than to a special strategy that a land bank can participate in as a partner to one or more local communities.

#### Vacant and Abandoned Properties

Several Champaign County communities already require registration of vacant property<sup>7</sup>, so there is data to illustrate the number of properties that are vacant, provided the owners have registered. The county can also apply the definitions of "abandoned"<sup>8</sup> to



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Champaign, Urbana, and Rantoul require registration of vacant property. Each also requires registration of rental properties.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Under the state law, abandoned properties are properties that have 3 or more of the following: have not been occupied by a legal occupant for more than 6 months; where there is at least 2 years' worth of

identify parcels and properties that are vacant and/or legally abandoned. Under the state law, a local government can acquire those properties, provided they afford owners due process and notice. The land bank can focus attention on systematically crossreferencing available data, as well as visual inspections, to determine which properties are likely abandoned or at risk of being abandoned. The land bank would then target activities to acquire, preserve, and put back to productive use properties the land bank can acquire. It is likely that a fair number of properties, perhaps as many as 50, might be acquired by targeting properties that are vacant and functionally abandoned.

Page | 13

# Tax Sale Properties

Champaign County conducts tax sales and has active participation by tax buyers. The Treasurer reports that tax buyers bid on most delinquent taxes offered for sale, but few sales end up with the tax buyer taking property to deed because the original taxpayer redeems the taxes sold from the buyer. A much smaller number of properties are sold during the counties tax trustee sale, during which buyers can bid less than the total taxes owed to acquire tax deeds for properties that were forfeited to the county for nonpayment of taxes.

A review of the tax trustee sales from 2015 and 2017 shows that tax buyers purchased properties for very low amounts. At least some of these properties were subsequently rehabbed and rented.

Going forward, the Land Bank can assist the Treasurer:

- Market and sell properties that are not sold in the Tax Trustee Sale. Properties generally include vacant lots and mobile home sites.
- Assist in identifying properties where taxes were sold in past annual sales, but the owners did not take them to deed. On a case by case basis, the land bank would negotiate to acquire the properties and put them to productive reuse through resale or rehab and resale or lease.
- Acquire all properties offered in the Tax Trustee Sale and dispose of them through subsequent sales. On an annual basis, the Tax Trustee Sale generated \$25-75,000. The land bank may able to sell the properties for higher sale prices, conveyance to pre-qualified and approved buyers, or dispose of in ways that result in the timely reactivation of property.

#### **Chronic Nuisance Violation Properties**

Champaign County communities can pursue code enforcement aggressively, to minimize the number of properties that have accumulated significant code violations.

unpaid water service bills; where more than 2 years' worth of taxes are unpaid; and where a local competent building official has stated the property is unsafe, due to the property conditions.

Ultimately, the goal of code enforcement is voluntary compliance, so taking a property owner to court and ultimately, seeking possession of a property can be seen as a failure of the code enforcement system to achieve compliance. The flip side is that a key pathway to acquire properties for a land bank is to pursue abandoned properties through code enforcement.

Be that as it may be, there will be situations where an owner simply refuses to comply and the municipal government needs to pursue enforcement up to and through filing and foreclosing on a lien. In our interviews with local government officials, we heard anecdotally that they had properties where the town was considering moving to take properties from the owners and/or demolish them, mostly because the owners simply would not comply with past enforcement orders.

We heard from several municipalities that they placed liens on property, but did not move to foreclose on the liens because they did not have the capacity to dispose of properties or they considered the cost/benefit of acquisition to be unfavorable. In other words, "why would spend \$3500 (or more) to get the property, when we will end up being stuck with it?"

We searched Champaign County Recorder of Deeds records for liens recorded by type between January 1, 2013 and August 21, 2018. We searched for Lis Pendens, Junk & Debris Lien, Weed Lien, and Demolition Lien.

- 13 Demolition liens, all recorded by Champaign
- 346 Junk & Debris Liens, recorded by Rantoul (28), Urbana (40), and Champaign (271)
- 1079 Weed Liens, recorded by Rantoul (592), Urbana (216), Champaign (264), Homer (1), Sidney (1), and Savoy (1)

A third community was in the process of updating and strengthening its code enforcement ordinance, to give itself more leverage over property owners who would not maintain their properties to community standards.

Based on our analysis, we conclude there are properties in Champaign County that a local government might acquire or force to the land bank for stabilization and rehabilitation.<sup>9</sup>

The land bank can work with local municipal governments to accept properties that may be forfeited by an owner through a deed-in-lieu process, forced into receivership by court order<sup>10</sup>, or acquired through a foreclosure by the municipal government. Properties acquired by the land bank would be stabilized and resold or made available for use by responsible parties, subject to local community plans and priorities. Where the market value of property exceeds the cost to acquire the property, the land bank can apply grant or other funds to defray those costs as a suitable alternative to simply doing nothing. In some cases, the land bank might perform a demolition and seek to sell or otherwise

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> An immediate next step for the land bank would be to formally inventory properties that are candidates for acquisition and establish a system for tracking those properties. Such an inventory was beyond the scope of this project.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The land bank would need to establish its capacity to serve as court-appointed receiver.

dispose of a vacant lot. In short, the land bank provides an avenue for a local government to take action that does not exist at the present time. The land bank can also provide related services, such as managing a property inspection program for a municipality that lacks staff capacity.<sup>11</sup>

# Surplus Lots and Land

Communities in Champaign County identified surplus land or lots that were owned by a municipality. The land bank can assist to market and sell those properties, program them for intermediate uses, or take over responsibility for long-term maintenance and stewardship. Vermilion County Land Bank Authority currently performs this type of role for the city of Danville, IL and shares proceeds of any sale with the city.

Champaign County Land Bank can also develop a new home construction program to perform infill development where lots are buildable. Such a program would serve as a single-purpose development partner to local governments, though the program might require subsidy or gap financing to cover gaps between the costs to build and the market prices for homes in certain areas.

An idea worth exploring is whether and how a land bank might take advantage of new technologies in building materials and construction to build high quality and efficient housing at a cost that ensures properties are affordable to people seeking to purchase.

# Bank-owned property (REO)

Mortgage lenders or others have foreclosed on properties in Champaign County, resulting in properties that are sold at auction or taken back by the foreclosing party as "real-estate-owned" assets. A land bank can negotiate to acquire those properties from the owners and resell them or dispose of in other ways. Cook County Land Bank Authority<sup>12</sup> and South Suburban Land Bank Authority<sup>13</sup> both participate in REO acquisition and sales, ensuring that the properties are sold to responsible development partners who rehab and resell or lease the properties in a timely fashion.

We identified 40 residential properties held as REO in Champaign County using RealtyTrac,<sup>14</sup> representing 25 different financial institutions, HUD, the VA, and IHDA. RealtyTrac also included several properties where the REO entity was a local government. Estimated values of those properties ranged from \$51,000 to \$457,000. Properties were located in Champaign (19), Urbana (9), Rantoul (5), and St. Joseph, Sidney, Seymour, Foosland, Gifford, and Mahomet.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> For practical purposes, the land bank would likely contract to third party licensed inspectors to perform inspections.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See <u>http://www.cookcountylandbank.org/</u>

<sup>13</sup> https://www.sslbda.org/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> <u>https://www.realtytrac.com/</u>

Some banks participate in the National Community Stabilization Trust (NCST), an intermediary organization established to facilitate the sale and donation of residential REO properties to approved community partner buyers, including land banks. Through NCST or directly through a lender, the land bank may be able to receive or purchase property at less than market value. The land bank can then resell the properties to approved buyers, in most cases generating a modest surplus between what they paid and what the received. We were not able to determine if NCST participating lenders have any REO properties in Champaign County.

Page | 16

For the sake of illustration, there were 36 REO properties ranging in value from \$51,000 to \$195,000 and having total estimated value of \$3.4 million. Buying them at 85% of estimated value and selling at 90% of value can produce after-expense revenue of \$120,000.

The land bank can also explore partnering with banks, mortgage lenders, and others to purchase properties that are <u>at risk</u> of foreclosure. RealtyTrac listed 201 properties where owners are in mortgage default. For owners who wish to sell their homes to avoid losing them to the bank, a land bank provides an option.

#### **Donations and Private Sale**

A land bank will receive inquires from private owners seeking to sell or otherwise convey properties to the land bank. This may occur for a number of reasons:

- An owner's financial hardship or death;
- An owner wishes to avoid costs of complying with code enforcement
- An owner wishes to sell a property purchased speculatively;
- An owner has a property that is considered surplus

The land bank can establish policies for considering and proceeding on acquisitions of properties directly from private parties and offer itself as a potential acquirer. This can reduce the risk that properties might be functionally abandoned for want of an acquiring party.

#### **Special Projects**

We anticipate that each community may have special projects where the land bank can play a constructive role. Examples might include:

- Managing demolitions, which often requires significant planning and coordination of resources to generate efficiency and ensure optimal health and safety for residents;
- Assembling and holding title to land targeted for large-scale development;
- Serving as a court-appointed receiver for properties (requires the land bank to be certified by the court as a qualified receiver);
- Helping activate vacant lots and land as community gardens or other intermediate community uses; or,

 Helping local governments plan and execute the conversion of large parcels of vacant land through rezoning, marketing, sale and redevelopment. This may be particular helpful in Rantoul.

The land bank can serve as a responsible community development partner on these projects, playing a constructive role that extends the capacity of the local government. It can also help apply for and manage special purpose grant funds, including demolition funds or brownfield remediation funds. In each case where the land bank is participant to a special project, the land bank policies and a formal participation agreement (if applicable) would govern its role.

# **Proposed Budget – See Attached**

The budget that was developed illustrates a pathway for a land bank to generate sufficient revenues to cover expenses and become self-sufficient. The budget document should be viewed as a tool for running budget scenarios, not a fixed budget. This is because a land bank manages properties as a portfolio, balancing costs across multiple property types and scenarios. On some properties, costs may be more than expected. On others, they may be less. Sales prices may also be more or less than expected.

Budget items are also listed as if the land bank is paying for those expenses out of pocket. Costs that are contributed as in-kind expenses would obviously not hit the land bank budget and create more of a margin or profitability, all else being equal. The budget worksheet can be updated accordingly, which would generate more of a net surplus to the land bank.

With the model we constructed, the land bank can break even in the Start-up year; staff come on about 6 months into operation and there are very limited property costs. By the end of the first full year, the land bank may experience a net loss, absent funds besides the grant from IHDA and property related revenues. The loss is nominal (\$10,832) and can be offset by a combinations of adjustments to hiring schedule, property activities, in-kind costs, or grants paid in.

Our basic assumptions for this model:

- Staff of a director and part time staff admin during the Start up year, followed by
   the addition of ½ FTE of a program staff person in each subsequent year. The staff does not exceed 3.5 FTE by year 5 (Model 2)
- Contractors are used miscellaneous consulting, GIS analysis, professional fees, and software services.
- Purchase costs are kept to a minimum, as are rehab, maintenance and demolition costs. A certain portion of property is acquired via donation, acquisition by pursuit of abandonment, and bank REO purchases.
- Rehab expenses average \$17500 per property; sale prices on property are estimated at \$37500. This assumes the land bank is rehabbing to stabilize property, but not performing a complete rehab on any property.
- The land bank performs a certain number of demolitions per year at an average cost of \$12500 per demolition. This would be mostly on abandoned property with structures that the land bank acquires on behalf of a member community.

Based on our analysis, we think it is prudent for the land bank to anticipate the following:

- The land bank must identify properties that can be acquired with an anticipated net surplus of revenue over expense. The land bank does not need to generate a surplus on every property, but it does need to generate a surplus across the inventory.
- The land bank's break even or net self-sufficiency improves if the members of the land bank contribute something to the operating cost: property, staff or overhead,

program services, or cash. Members should join with the knowledge that they might be asked to contribute.

- The land bank should pursue funding from multiple sources: CDBG, private philanthropy, lending institutions, and private parties. Rantoul should consider developing a funding plan before initiating property acquisition, to ensure that the Page | 19 long-term funding model is well determined.
- The budget does not account for unique or larger projects that might require more funding or longer holding times. The budget assumes that properties in the inventory will be held ~1 year; costs for each property are estimated using annual costs.
- The budget is silent as to whether this is a budget for the Champaign County Land Bank or a Vermilion County Land Bank that has members from Champaign County. It is simply a projected budget for a land bank that performs a proposed scope of activity in Champaign County.

# The Promise of a Champaign County Land Bank

In Champaign County, we do not see evidence of widespread or manifest blight. We did find individual properties in different communities that were blighted, and in some cases, communities had many such properties. Generally, we observed:

- Property that is vacant, but not abandoned.
- Property with delinquent taxes, but not so delinquent or numerous as to be a significant problem for the county or local communities.
- Vacant land set aside for future development or owned by private parties.
- Properties with dilapidated structures that may offer opportunities for rehab and reoccupancy.

Based on our inquiry and analysis, we anticipate that a land bank operating **selectively** and with **single-minded focus** can help local governments address a variety of property types – tax trustee properties, REO, abandoned property, vacant lots and land – even if those problems occur in modest numbers in individual communities.

A land bank can organize properties scattered across the county into a single, centrally-administered portfolio, for eventual sale or redevelopment. Not only would this reduce the number of distressed properties and increase the reactivation of land and property, but it can enhance regional coordination and cooperation.

The land bank can also **hold property and lease it as an intermediate use**; operating rental property would ensure property is under responsible care and control, without restricting its use long-term.

The land bank could also help **pursue and attract resources for specific activities**, **such as demolition, or assist local governments with tasks that the local government might not have capacity to address**. For local governments that have limited community and economic development capacity, the land bank can lend its own expertise and capacity as needed. The land bank can also partner with communitybased organizations to increase their capacity and chances for success.

A land bank can also help **aggregate and share data**, to inform decision-making and help local stakeholders coordinate and cooperate. In the near term, this is likely to be one of more valuable functions of a land bank.

As noted above, the Vermilion County Land Bank Authority already exists and can do the exact same things, provided that VCLBA amends its IGA to allow municipal members from Champaign County.

Based on our analysis, we conclude that Champaign County can sustain a land bank that would operate to extend the community development capacity of its municipal members. The land bank could engage in several activities:

 identifying, acquiring, and repurposing low value property, including surplus properties owned by local governments, foreclosures, REOs, donations, and other properties that owners would like to part with;

- working with the County Treasurer and local government members to reduce harmful speculation by tax buyers and acquiring properties that might go into the Tax Trustee sale;
- supporting local governments to implement a data-driven approach to track the redevelopment of distressed property across the county, including REOs, foreclosures, and properties sold at tax sale;
- seeking to acquire chronic nuisance property from willing sellers and other properties from owners who are unwilling or unable to maintain them;
- assisting in community engagement and planning around larger parcels, whose redevelopment might require raising special funds and take an extended period of time (i.e. the former Chanute AFB parcels);
- Convening member communities to dialogue and coordinate activities, so that the land bank can serves as a vehicle to share knowledge and build capacity.

To execute these activities, the land bank will need staff, a defined operating structure, and resources to operate. Staff can be paid staff, contractors, or staff retained as in-kind contributions to the land bank. Operating structure can take many forms: a new program at an existing organization; a new organization; or, an extension of an existing land bank to allow Champaign County members. Resources can include everything from cash to real property to in-kind contributions of goods and services, such as rent and overhead, computers, and property-related services.

#### In general, the scope of the land bank's activities should be scaled to the need and the availability of resources from dedicated sources.

Based on our analysis, we concluded there is a lack of capacity in the county to address distressed property problems. We also conclude there is a need for local stakeholders to increase the capacity to address distressed property and we believe a land bank can be a vehicle for that capacity.

### **Additional Resources**

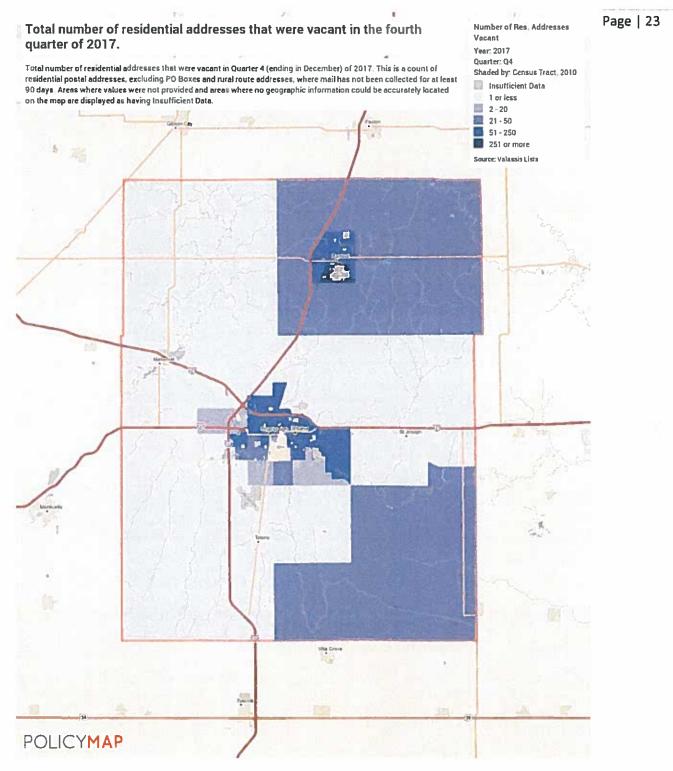
(Links to online resources available for download)

"Take it to the Bank: How Land Banks Are Strengthening America's Neighborhoods, by Peyton Heins and Tarik Abdelazim," Center for Community Progress, 2015. <u>http://action.communityprogress.net/p/salsa/web/common/public/signup?signup\_page\_K</u> <u>EY=8120</u>

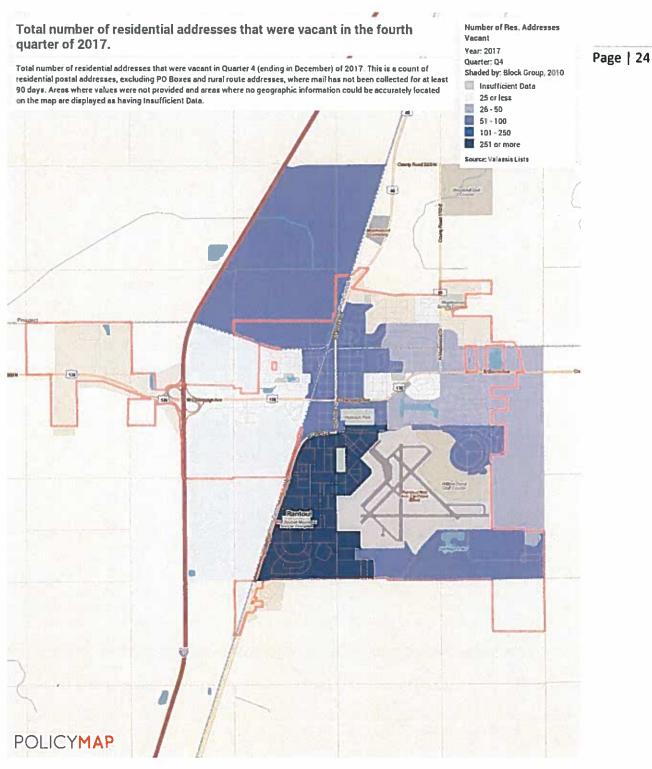
"Land Banks and Land Banking, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition." By Frank S. Alexander. Center for Community Progress, 2014.

"Qualitative & Quantitative Impact Assessment of Land Bank Activity in Michigan." Published by the Michigan Association of Land Banks, 2018. <u>http://269mag.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Assessment-of-Land-Bank-Activity.pdf</u> Maps showing the number of residential vacant properties in Champaign County and select communities at the census block group level. The maps show that vacancy is greatest in certain parts of a community within the county.

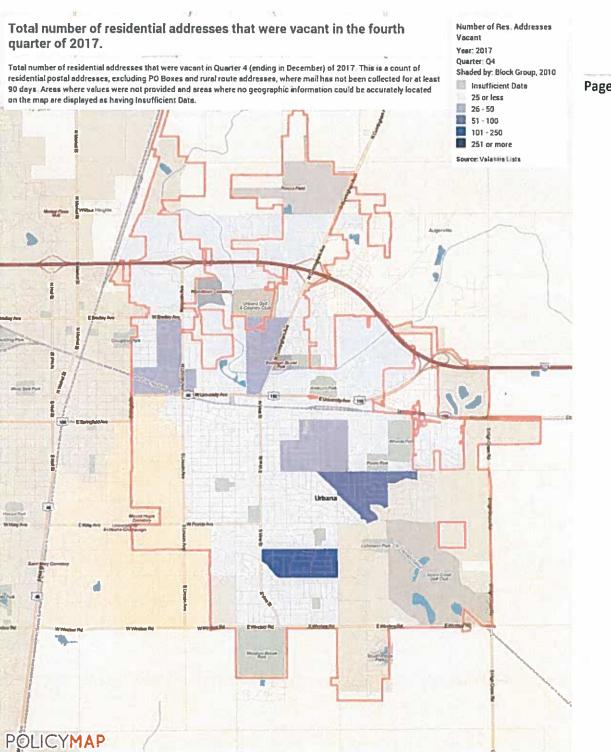
### Champaign County, IL (tract level)



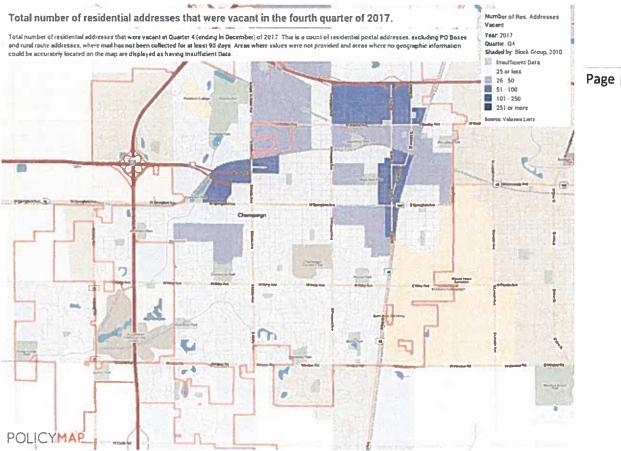
# Rantoul, IL



#### Urbana, IL



# Champaign, IL



Subicial Benefits         \$ 52,000         \$ 116,500         \$ 207,167         \$ 233,559         \$ 2 65,337         \$ 238,956         \$ 5           TOTAL STAFF         \$ 66,500         \$ 151,680         \$ 228,544         \$ 265,199         \$ 238,956         \$ 5         \$ 238,956         \$ 5	EXPENS	ES	Sta	art-up	Yea	ar 1	Yea	ar 2	Ye	аг 3	Ye	ar 4	Ye	ar 5
Acquisitions Specialist         S         24,000         \$         49,440         \$         49,440         \$         40,000         \$         49,440         \$         40,000         \$         49,000         \$         49,000         \$         49,000         \$         49,000         \$         49,000         \$         49,000         \$         49,000         \$         49,000         \$         49,000         \$         49,000         \$         49,000         \$         49,000         \$         49,000         \$         49,000         \$         49,000         \$         49,000         \$         49,000         \$         49,000         \$         40,000         \$         50,000         \$ <th>Staff</th> <th>Free dire Director</th> <th>~</th> <th>40 500</th> <th>•</th> <th>05 000</th> <th>•</th> <th>07.550</th> <th>•</th> <th>00 477</th> <th></th> <th>00.000</th> <th>~</th> <th>05 000</th>	Staff	Free dire Director	~	40 500	•	05 000	•	07.550	•	00 477		00.000	~	05 000
Asset Manager Administration         \$ 9,500         \$ 9,500         \$ 19,000         \$ 19,700         \$ 49,400         \$ 40,314         \$           Subtolal Benefits         \$ 5,200         \$ 11,600         \$ 19,670         \$ 40,314         \$			Ф	42,500							,			95,668
Administration         \$         9,500         \$         19,000         \$         19,570         \$         40,314         \$           Subtotal Benefits Benefits Benefits TOTAL STAFF         \$         52,000         \$         118,500         \$         207,187         \$         23,3599         \$         2         5,537         \$         2         5,537         \$         2         5         5         207,187         \$         233,559         \$         2         265,199         \$         233,559         \$         3         3         3         3         3         228,544         \$         265,199         \$         280,305         \$         3					φ	24,000					•			52,451 50,923
Subicital Benefits         \$ 52,000         \$ 118,500         \$ 178,550         \$ 207,187         \$ 233,559         \$ 2 65,397         \$ 298,356         \$ 5         2           TOTAL STAFF         \$ 66,500         \$ 151,600         \$ 228,544         \$ 265,199         \$ 298,356         \$ 5         \$ 298,356         \$ 5         \$ 298,000         \$ 5         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,200         \$ 5,200         \$ 5,200         \$ 5,200         \$ 5,200         \$ 5,216         \$ 5,216         \$ 5,218         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,200         \$ 5,210         \$ 5,213         \$ 5,788         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,200         \$ 5,250         \$ 5,513         \$ 5,788         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,200         \$ 5,210         \$ 5,210         \$ 5,210         \$ 5,210         \$ 5,213         \$ 5,788         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,200			\$	9,500	\$	9 500					•	•		41,524
Benefits TOTAL STAFF         \$ 14,560         \$ 33,180         \$ 49,994         \$ 56,012         \$ 65,397         \$ 298,956         \$ 3         3           FTE         \$ 1         \$ 2         \$ 24,677         \$ 265,199         \$ 298,956         \$ 3           PTE         \$ 16,615         \$ 19,527         \$ 24,467         \$ 265,297         \$ 28,009         \$           Northead         \$ 16,615         \$ 19,527         \$ 24,467         \$ 26,224         \$ 28,009         \$           Rent         \$ 3,600         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 2,250         \$           requipment         \$ 625         \$ 1,125         \$ 1,750         \$ 2,000         \$ 2,250         \$         1,823         \$           ravel         \$ 1,640         \$ 2,952         \$ 1,050         \$ 1,120         \$ 1,216         \$         1,823         \$           ravel         \$ 1,640         \$ 1,575         \$ 1,654         \$ 2,844         \$ 3,039         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$ <td< td=""><td></td><td></td><td>•</td><td>0,000</td><td>•</td><td>0,000</td><td>•</td><td>10,000</td><td>-</td><td>10,010</td><td>*</td><td>10,011</td><td>•</td><td>11,04-1</td></td<>			•	0,000	•	0,000	•	10,000	-	10,010	*	10,011	•	11,04-1
TOTAL STAFF         \$         66,660         \$         16,615         228,544         \$         265,199         \$         298,956         \$         3           FTE         \$         1         \$         2         \$         4         \$         4         \$         5         \$           Overhead         \$         16,615         \$         19,527         \$         24,677         \$         26,224         \$         28,000         \$           Station         \$         3,600         \$         19,527         \$         24,467         \$         26,224         \$         28,000         \$           Station         \$         3,75         677         \$         1,050         \$         1,200         \$         1,350         \$           Capulptics         \$         3,750         \$         1,654         \$         1,736         \$         1,820         \$           Araketing         \$         1,600         \$         1,527         \$         1,644         \$         1,736         \$         1,623         \$           Analysis - GIS and Mapping         \$         15,000         \$         15,000         \$         15,000		Subtotal	\$	52,000	\$	118,500	\$	178,550	\$	207,187	\$	233,559	\$	240,566
FTE         \$         1         \$         2         \$         4         \$         5         \$           Overhead         \$         16,615         \$         19,527         \$         24,467         \$         26,224         \$         28,009         \$           Rent         \$         3,600         \$         5,600         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         1,350         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$         \$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	67,358
S         16,615         \$         19,527         \$         24,467         \$         26,224         \$         28,009         \$           Rent         \$         3,600         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,260         \$         1,500         \$         1,103         \$         1,178         \$         1,216         \$         1,216         \$         1,216         \$         1,220         \$         1,216         \$         1,216         \$         1,216         \$         1,216         \$         1,216         \$         1,221         \$         1,216         \$         1,216         \$         1,216         \$         1,216         \$         1,216         \$         1,216         \$         1,216         \$         1,216         \$         1,216         \$         1,216         \$         1,216         \$         1,216 </td <td></td> <td>TOTAL STAFF</td> <td>\$</td> <td>66,560</td> <td>\$</td> <td>151,680</td> <td>\$</td> <td>228,544</td> <td>\$</td> <td>265,199</td> <td>\$</td> <td>298,956</td> <td>\$</td> <td>307,924</td>		TOTAL STAFF	\$	66,560	\$	151,680	\$	228,544	\$	265,199	\$	298,956	\$	307,924
Rent         \$ 3,600         \$ 3,600         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 5,000         \$ 1,350         \$ 1,216         \$ 1,350         \$ 1,216         \$ 1,350         \$ 1,216         \$ 1,350         \$ 1,216         \$ 1,350         \$ 1,500         \$ 1,500         \$ 1,200         \$ 1,500         \$		FTE	\$	1	\$	2	\$	4	\$	4	\$	5	\$	5
elephone       \$ 375       \$ 675       \$ 1,050       \$ 1,200       \$ 1,350       \$         icquipment       \$ 625       \$ 1,125       \$ 1,050       \$ 1,200       \$ 1,350       \$         icquipment       \$ 375       \$ 675       \$ 1,050       \$ 1,050       \$ 1,050       \$ 1,050       \$ 1,050       \$ 1,050       \$ 1,050       \$ 1,050       \$ 1,050       \$ 1,050       \$ 1,073       \$ 1,823       \$         icquipment       \$ 1,600       \$ 1,050       \$ 1,050       \$ 1,057       \$ 1,654       \$ 1,776       \$ 1,823       \$         icquipment       \$ 1,600       \$ 1,500       \$ 1,575       \$ 1,654       \$ 1,776       \$ 1,823       \$         isc       \$ 2,500       \$ 2,520       \$ 5,513       \$ 5,788       \$ 6,078       \$         isc       \$ 2,000       \$ 16,615       \$ 19,527       \$ 24,467       \$ 26,224       \$ 28,009       \$         Analysis - GIS and Mapping       \$ 15,000       \$ 5,250       \$ 5,513       \$ 5,788       \$ 5,788       \$       336,512       \$ 373,408       \$ 3       3         Professional Fees       \$ 143,175       \$ 212,707       \$ 296,786       \$ 336,512       \$ 373,408       \$ 3       3       \$ 326,965	Overhea	d	\$	16,615	\$	19,527	\$	24,467	\$	26,224	\$	28,009	\$	28,617
elephone       \$ 375       \$ 1,205       \$ 1,200       \$ 1,300       \$ 1,300       \$ 1,300       \$ 1,300       \$ 1,300       \$ 1,300       \$ 1,300       \$ 2,250       \$ 1,300       \$ 1,200       \$ 1,300       \$ 1,200       \$ 1,300       \$ 1,200       \$ 1,300       \$ 1,200       \$ 1,300       \$ 1,200       \$ 1,200       \$ 1,200       \$ 1,200       \$ 1,200       \$ 1,200       \$ 1,200       \$ 1,200       \$ 1,200       \$ 1,200       \$ 1,203	Rent		\$	3,600	\$	3,600	\$	5.000	\$	5.000	\$	5.000	\$	5,000
Equipment         \$         625         \$         1,125         \$         1,750         \$         2,000         \$         2,250         \$           Supplies         \$         375         \$         675         \$         1,050         \$         1,200         \$         1,350         \$           Supplies         \$         1,600         \$         1,610         \$         1,103         \$         1,200         \$         1,350         \$           egal         \$         1,000         \$         1,650         \$         1,103         \$         1,188         \$         1,216         \$           Arrating         \$         5,000         \$         5,250         \$         5,513         \$         5,788         \$         0,078         \$           Analysis - GIS and Mapping         \$         16,010         \$         15,000         \$         5,250         \$         5,513         \$         5,788         \$           Consulting         \$         15,000         \$         10,000         \$         10,000         \$         12,000         \$         13,000         \$         13,000         \$         33,0512         \$         37,408		e												1,350
Supplies         \$ 375         \$ 675         \$ 1,000         \$ 1,200         \$ 1,300         \$ 1,300         \$ 1,300         \$ 1,300         \$ 1,300         \$ 1,300         \$ 1,300         \$ 1,300         \$ 1,300         \$ 1,200         \$ 1,310         \$ 1,200         \$ 1,300         \$ 1,300         \$ 1,200         \$ 1,300         \$ 5,248         \$ 5,248         \$ 5,044         \$ 5,248         \$ 5,248         \$ 5,246         \$ 5,246         \$ 5,246         \$ 5,246         \$ 1,823         \$ 1,823         \$ 1,823         \$ 1,823         \$ 1,823         \$ 1,823         \$ 1,823         \$ 1,823         \$ 1,800         \$ 5,250         \$ 5,5788         \$ 6,078         \$ 1,800         \$ 1,200         \$ 1,800         \$ 1,2150         \$ 1,100         \$ 1,100         \$ 1,200         \$ 1,3140         <														2,250
ravel       \$ 1,640       \$ 2,952       \$ 4,592       \$ 5,248       \$ 5,240       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,216       \$ 1,223       \$ 1,223       \$ 1,226       \$ 5,513       \$ 5,788       \$ 6,078       \$ 5,070       \$ 5,250       \$ 5,513       \$ 5,788       \$ 6,078       \$ 5,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 2,250       \$ 2,250       \$ 2,250       \$ 2,262       \$ 2,624       \$ 2,8099       \$ 28,009       \$ 28,009       \$ 28,009       \$ 28,009       \$ 28,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 13,500       \$ 13,500       \$ 13,500       \$ 13,500       \$ 13,500       \$ 13,500       \$ 13,500       \$ 13,500       \$ 13,500       \$ 336,512       \$ 373,408       \$ 32       \$ 326,965       \$ 336,951       \$ 336,9512       \$ 373,408       \$ 326,965       \$ 33,75       \$ 8,100       \$ 12,150       \$ 16,875       \$ 16,875       \$ 16,875       \$ 10,125       \$ 5,201       \$ 16,875	• •													1,350
egal       \$ 1,000       \$ 1,050       \$ 1,103       \$ 1,173       \$ 1,173       \$ 1,216       \$         Printing & Publications       \$ 1,500       \$ 1,575       \$ 1,654       \$ 1,736       \$ 1,216       \$ 3,039       \$         Wisc       \$ 20,500       \$ 16,615       \$ 19,527       \$ 24,467       \$ 26,224       \$ 3,039       \$         Other       Consulting       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 12,155       \$       \$ 12,155       \$       \$ 12,155       \$       \$ 12,150       \$ 13,000       \$ 13,500       \$ 13,000       \$ 13,500       \$       \$ 336,512       \$ 373,408       \$ 3       326,965       \$ 3       326,965       \$ 3       \$ 36,917       \$ 291,423 <t< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1,640</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>5,904</td></t<>				1,640										5,904
Printing & Publications \$ 1,500 \$ 1,575 \$ 1,654 \$ 1,736 \$ 1,823 \$ Marketing \$ 5,000 \$ 5,250 \$ 2,756 \$ 2,894 \$ 3,039 \$ Subtotal \$ 16,615 \$ 19,527 \$ 24,467 \$ 26,224 \$ 28,009 \$ Dether Consulting \$ 15,000 \$ 5,000 \$ 5,250 \$ 5,513 \$ 5,788 \$ Analysis - GIS and Mapping \$ 15,000 \$ 13,500 \$ 13,500 \$ 13,500 \$ 11,025 \$ 11,576 \$ 20,6786 \$ 336,512 \$ 373,408 \$ 3 Subtotal - other \$ 20,000 \$ 11,000 \$ 12,500 \$ 13,000 \$ 13,500 \$ 13,500 \$ 13,500 \$ 13,000 \$ 13,500 \$ 10,125 \$ 10,157 \$ 3,73,408 \$ 3 Subtotal - other \$ 3,375 \$ 8,100 \$ 12,150 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 10,125 \$ 3,375 \$ 8,100 \$ 12,150 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 16,875 \$ 10,125 \$ 20,000 \$ 10,000 \$ 12,000 \$ 10,000 \$ 120,000 \$ 120,000 \$ 120,000 \$ 120,000 \$ 120,000 \$ 10,000 \$ 120,000 \$ 120,000 \$ 10,000 \$ 120,000 \$ 120,000 \$ 120,000 \$ 10,000 \$ 120,000 \$ 120,000 \$ 10,000 \$ 120,000 \$ 10,000 \$ 120,	egal			•	\$						\$			1,276
Marketing       \$ 5,000       \$ 5,250       \$ 5,513       \$ 5,788       \$ 6,078       \$         Misc       \$ 2,600       \$ 2,625       \$ 2,756       \$ 2,824       \$ 3,039       \$         Subtotal       \$ 16,615       \$ 19,527       \$ 24,467       \$ 26,224       \$ 28,009       \$         Other       Consulting       \$ 15,000       \$ 5,000       \$ 5,250       \$ 5,513       \$ 5,788       \$         Analysis - GIS and Mapping       \$ 15,000       \$ 5,000       \$ 5,250       \$ 5,513       \$ 5,788       \$         Professional Fees       \$ 10,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 13,000       \$ 10,0125       \$ 336,512       \$ 336,512       \$ 336,916       \$ 326,965       \$ 33         Property Related Expenses       \$ 33,775       \$ 8,100	Printing 8	& Publications		1,500	\$				\$	1,736	\$		\$	1,914
Viisc       \$ 2,500       \$ 2,625       \$ 2,756       \$ 2,894       \$ 3,039       \$ 2,8009       \$ 3,039       \$ 2,8009       \$ 3,039       \$ 2,8009       \$ 5,000       \$ 5,250       \$ 5,513       \$ 5,788       \$ 5,788       \$ 2,8009       \$ 5,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 15,000       \$ 11,025       \$ 11,376       \$ 12,150       \$ 11,376       \$ 12,150       \$ 13,000       \$ 13,408       \$ 3,375       \$ 8,100       \$ 8,100       \$ 10,125       \$ 3,26,965       \$ 3,375       \$ 8,100       \$ 8,100       \$ 8,100       \$ 10,125       \$ 5,13       \$ 2,6,965       \$ 3,375       \$ 8,100       \$ 8,100       \$ 8,100       \$ 10,125       \$ 5,13       \$ 3,26,965       \$ 3,375       \$ 8,100       \$ 8					\$				\$		\$		\$	6,381
Subtotal         \$         16,615         \$         19,527         \$         24,467         \$         26,224         \$         28,009         \$           Other         Consulting Analysis - GIS and Mapping Professional Fees         \$         15,000         \$         5,000         \$         5,250         \$         5,513         \$         5,788         \$           Software         \$         10,000         \$         15,000         \$         15,000         \$         15,000         \$         15,000         \$         15,000         \$         15,000         \$         15,000         \$         15,000         \$         15,000         \$         15,000         \$         15,000         \$         15,000         \$         15,000         \$         15,000         \$         15,000         \$         15,000         \$         15,000         \$         13,500         \$         13,000         \$         13,000         \$         336,512         \$         373,408         \$         3         326,965         \$         3         326,965         \$         3         326,965         \$         3         326,965         \$         3         326,965         \$         3         326,965         \$ <td>Visc</td> <td>-</td> <td></td> <td>2,500</td> <td>\$</td> <td>2,625</td> <td>\$</td> <td></td> <td>\$</td> <td>2,894</td> <td>\$</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>3,191</td>	Visc	-		2,500	\$	2,625	\$		\$	2,894	\$			3,191
Consulting       \$ 15,000       \$ 5,000       \$ 5,250       \$ 5,513       \$ 5,788       \$         Analysis - GIS and Mapping       \$ 15,000       \$ 13,000       \$ 13,500       \$ 13,500       \$ 336,512       \$ 373,408       \$ 3         Subtotal - other       \$ 8,3,775       \$ 17,1207       \$ 296,786       \$ 336,512       \$ 373,408       \$ 3         Property Related Expenses       \$ 3,375       \$ 8,100       \$ 12,150       \$ 16,875       \$ 16,875       \$ 16,875       \$ 16,875       \$ 16,875       \$ 16,875       \$ 16,875       \$ 16,875       \$ 16,875       \$ 16,000       \$ 10,0,000       \$ 10,12		Subtotal	\$	16,615	\$	19,527	\$	24,467	\$	26,224	\$		\$	28,617
Analysis - GIS and Mapping Professional Fees Software       \$ <ul> <li>15,000</li> <li>\$             <li>15,000</li> <li>\$             <li>15,000</li> <li>\$             <li>11,025</li> <li>\$             <li>11,025</li> <li>\$             <li>11,025</li> <li>\$             <li>11,025</li> <li>\$             <li>11,020</li> <li>\$             <li>11,000</li> <li>\$             <li>12,500</li> <li>\$             <li>13,000</li> <li>\$             <li>143,175</li> <li>\$             <li>212,707</li> <li>296,786</li> <li>336,512</li> <li>373,408</li> <li>326,965</li> <li>326,965</li> <li>326,965</li> <li>326,965</li> <li>326,965</li> <li>326,965</li> <li>326,965</li> <li>326,965</li> <li>326,965</li> <li>327,975</li> <li>8,100</li> <li>12,150</li> <li>16,875</li> <li>16,875</li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></li></ul>	Other													
Professional Fees       \$       10,000       \$       10,500       \$       11,025       \$       11,1576       \$       12,155       \$         Software       \$       20,000       \$       11,000       \$       12,500       \$       13,000       \$       13,500       \$         Staff and Overhead Subtotal       \$       143,175       \$       212,707       \$       296,786       \$       336,512       \$       373,408       \$       3         Subtotal - other       \$       83,175       \$       171,207       \$       296,786       \$       336,512       \$       373,408       \$       3         Property Related Expenses       \$       171,207       \$       296,786       \$       336,512       \$       373,408       \$       3         Property Related Expenses       \$       171,207       \$       291,423       \$       326,965       \$       3         Improved property - trustee       \$       3,375       \$       8,100       \$       16,875       \$       16,875       \$       16,875       \$       16,875       \$       16,875       \$       16,875       \$       10,125       \$       >       >       > <td></td> <td></td> <td>\$</td> <td></td> <td>•</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>•</td> <td>\$</td> <td>5,513</td> <td>\$</td> <td>5,788</td> <td>\$</td> <td>6,078</td>			\$		•			•	\$	5,513	\$	5,788	\$	6,078
Software         \$ 20,000         \$ 11,000         \$ 12,500         \$ 13,000         \$ 13,500         \$           Staff and Overhead Subtotal Subtotal - other         \$ 143,175         \$ 212,707         \$ 296,786         \$ 336,512         \$ 373,408         \$ 3 326,965         \$ 3           Property Related Expenses Purchases Unimproved property - trustee         \$ 3,375         \$ 8,100         \$ 12,150         \$ 16,875         \$ 16,875         \$ 16,875         \$ 16,875         \$ 326,965         \$ 3           Property Related Expenses Purchases Unimproved property - trustee         \$ 675         \$ 3,375         \$ 8,100         \$ 12,150         \$ 16,875 <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>\$</td> <td>15,000</td> <td>\$</td> <td>15,000</td> <td>\$</td> <td>15,000</td>									\$	15,000	\$	15,000	\$	15,000
Staff and Overhead Subtotal       \$ 143,175       \$ 212,707       \$ 296,786       \$ 336,512       \$ 373,408       \$ 373,408       \$ 373,408       \$ 373,408       \$ 373,408       \$ 373,408       \$ 373,408       \$ 373,408       \$ 326,965       \$ 373,408       \$ 326,965       \$ 373,408       \$ 326,965       \$ 373,408       \$ 326,965       \$ 326,965       \$ 373,408       \$ 31,012       \$ 36,100       \$ 36,000       \$ 31,000       \$ 31,000       \$ 31,000       \$ 48,000       \$ 61,000       \$ 66,											-		\$	12,763
Subtotal - other       \$ 83,175       \$ 171,207       \$ 253,011       \$ 291,423       \$ 326,965       \$ 3         Property Related Expenses       Purchases       Unimproved property - trustee       \$ 3,375       \$ 8,100       \$ 12,150       \$ 16,875       \$ 10,125       \$ Abandoned improved property - trustee       \$ 675       \$ 3,375       \$ 8,100       \$ 8,100       \$ 10,125       \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ -		Software	\$	20,000	\$	11,000	\$	12,500	\$	13,000	\$	13,500	\$	14,000
Property Related Expenses       Purchases         Unimproved property - trustee       \$ 3,375       \$ 8,100       \$ 12,150       \$ 16,875       \$ 16,875       \$ \$ 16,875       \$ 16,875       \$ \$ 16,875       \$ \$ 10,125       \$ Abandoned improved property - trustee       \$ 675       \$ 3,375       \$ 8,100       \$ 8,100       \$ 10,125       \$ Abandoned improved property       \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ -		Staff and Overhead Subtotal	\$	143,175	\$	212,707	\$	296,786	\$	336,512	\$	373,408	\$	384,382
Purchases       Unimproved property - trustee       \$ 3,375       \$ 8,100       \$ 12,150       \$ 16,875       \$ 100,125       \$ 100,125       \$ 100,125       \$ 100,125       \$ 100,125       \$ 100,125       \$ 100,000       \$ 100,125       \$ 100,000       \$ 100,000       \$ 100,000       \$ 120,000       \$ 100,000       \$ 120,000       \$ 1         Donations       \$ -       \$ -       \$ 50,000       \$ 70,000       \$ 100,000       \$ 120,000       \$ 1         Differ       Legal fees - closing       \$ 8,000       \$ 31,000       \$ 48,000       \$ 61,000       \$ 66,000       \$ 120,000       \$ 1         Differ       Legal fees - closing       \$ 8,000       \$ 30,000       \$ 46,800       \$ 58,200       \$ 64,200       \$ 64,200       \$ 100,000       \$ 125,000       \$ 542,500       \$ 542,500       \$ 542,500       \$ 542,500       \$ 125,000       \$ 125,000 <td< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>\$</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>336,541</td></td<>					\$									336,541
Unimproved property - trustee       \$ 3,375       \$ 8,100       \$ 12,150       \$ 16,875       \$ 16,875       \$ 16,875       \$ 16,875       \$ 16,875       \$ 10,125       \$ Abandoned improved property       \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ -	Property													
Improved property - trustee       \$       675       \$       3,375       \$       8,100       \$       10,125       \$         Abandoned improved property       \$       -       \$				3 375	¢	9 100	¢	12 150	¢	16 975	¢	16 976	¢	16,875
Abandoned improved property       \$       -       \$       \$       -       \$       -       \$       -       \$       -       \$       -       \$       -       \$       -       \$       -       \$       \$       -					-				-					10,075
Donations       \$       -       \$       \$       -       \$       1       \$       1       \$       1       \$       1       \$       1       \$       1       3       3       3       3       3       3       3				075		3,375		0,100		0,100		10,125		10,125
Bank foreclosures/REOs       \$       -       \$       50,000       \$       70,000       \$       100,000       \$       120,000       \$       1         Dther       Legal fees - closing       \$       8,000       \$       31,000       \$       48,000       \$       61,000       \$       66,000       \$         Portfolio Services       Maintenance Expenses       \$       6,600       \$       30,000       \$       46,800       \$       58,200       \$       64,200       \$       5         Portfolio Services       \$       6,600       \$       30,000       \$       46,800       \$       58,200       \$       64,200       \$       5         Portfolio Services       \$       35,000       \$       245,000       \$       402,500       \$       542,500       \$       5         Demolition expenses       \$       12,500       \$       62,500       \$       87,500       \$       125,000       \$       125,000       \$       125,000       \$       125,000       \$       125,000       \$       125,000       \$       125,000       \$       125,000       \$       125,000       \$       125,000       \$       125,000       \$			-	-		-		-		-	+	-		-
Legal fees - closing       \$ 8,000 \$ 31,000 \$ 48,000 \$ 61,000 \$ 66,000 \$         Portfolio Services       Maintenance Expenses       \$ 6,600 \$ 30,000 \$ 46,800 \$ 58,200 \$ 64,200 \$         Maintenance Expenses       \$ 35,000 \$ 245,000 \$ 402,500 \$ 455,000 \$ 542,500 \$ 5         Demolition expenses       \$ 12,500 \$ 62,500 \$ 87,500 \$ 125,000 \$ 12						50,000		70,000		100,000		120,000		120,000
Legal fees - closing       \$ 8,000 \$ 31,000 \$ 48,000 \$ 61,000 \$ 66,000 \$         Portfolio Services       Maintenance Expenses       \$ 6,600 \$ 30,000 \$ 46,800 \$ 58,200 \$ 64,200 \$         Maintenance Expenses       \$ 35,000 \$ 245,000 \$ 402,500 \$ 455,000 \$ 542,500 \$ 542,500 \$ 542,500 \$ 125,000 \$ 12	D41													
Maintenance Expenses       \$ 6,600 \$ 30,000 \$ 46,800 \$ 58,200 \$ 64,200 \$         Rehab expenses       \$ 35,000 \$ 245,000 \$ 402,500 \$ 455,000 \$ 542,500 \$ 5         Demolition expenses       \$ 12,500 \$ 62,500 \$ 87,500 \$ 125,000	Other	Legal fees - closing	\$	8,000	\$	31,000	\$	48,000	\$	61,000	\$	66,000	\$	66,000
Maintenance Expenses       \$ 6,600 \$ 30,000 \$ 46,800 \$ 58,200 \$ 64,200 \$         Rehab expenses       \$ 35,000 \$ 245,000 \$ 402,500 \$ 455,000 \$ 542,500 \$ 5         Demolition expenses       \$ 12,500 \$ 62,500 \$ 87,500 \$ 125,000	Portfolio S	Services												
Rehab expenses       \$ 35,000 \$ 245,000 \$ 402,500 \$ 455,000 \$ 542,500 \$ 5         Demolition expenses       \$ 12,500 \$ 62,500 \$ 87,500 \$ 125,000 \$ 125,000 \$ 1         Subtotal       \$ 66,150 \$ 429,975 \$ 675,050 \$ 824,175 \$ 944,700 \$ 9         Expense Total       \$ 209,325 \$ 642,682 \$ 971,836 \$ 1,160,687 \$ 1,318,108 \$ 1,3		+ + • • • • • • •	\$	6,600	\$	30.000	\$	46.800	S	58.200	\$	64.200	\$	64,200
Demolition expenses         \$ 12,500         \$ 62,500         \$ 87,500         \$ 125,000         \$ 125,000         \$ 1           Subtotal         \$ 66,150         \$ 429,975         \$ 675,050         \$ 824,175         \$ 944,700         \$ 9           Expense Total         \$ 209,325         \$ 642,682         \$ 971,836         \$ 1,160,687         \$ 1,318,108         \$ 1,3													•	542,500
Expense Total \$ 209,325 \$ 642,682 \$ 971,836 \$ 1,160,687 \$ 1,318,108 \$ 1,3		•											•	125,000
		Subtotal	\$	66,150	\$	429,975	\$	675,050	\$	824,175	\$	944,700	\$	944,700
	Expense	Total	\$	209,325	\$	642,682	\$	971,836	\$	1,160,687	\$	1,318,108	\$	1,329,082
s and the second s		Per property		26,166		-				19,028	\$	19,971	\$	20,138

REVENUES	Sta	art-up	Yea	ar 1	Yea	2	Ye	ar 3	Yea	ar 4	Yea	ar 5
Property Sales												
Unimproved property - truste	e \$	7,500	\$	18,000	\$	27,000	\$	37,500	\$	37,500	\$	37,500
Improved property – trustee	\$	35,000	\$	175,000	\$	420,000	\$	420,000	\$	525,000	\$	525,000
Abandoned property sales	\$	7,500	\$	37,500	\$	52,500	\$	75,000	\$	75,000	\$	75,000
Donations	\$	37,500	\$	150,000	\$	150,000	\$	150,000	\$	150,000	\$	150,000
Bank foreclosures/REOs	\$	-	\$	225,000	\$	315,000	\$	450,000	\$	540,000	\$	540,000
Subtotal - Property Revenues	\$	87,500	\$	605,500	\$	964,500	\$	1,132,500	\$	1,327,500	\$	1,327,500
Per property	\$	10,938	\$	19,532	\$	20,094	\$	18,566	\$	20,114	\$	20,114
Subtotal - Net Profit/Loss	\$	(121,825)	\$	(24.007)	\$	76,832	\$	227,813	\$	588,205	\$	1,260,437
Per property	\$	(15,228)	\$	(774)	\$	1,601	\$	3,735	\$	8,912	\$	19,098
Grants CDBG IHDA	\$	135,000	\$	25,000	\$	25,000		25,000	\$	25,000		25,000
Local government Private Contributions			\$	25,000	\$	25,000	\$	25,000	\$	25,000	\$	25,000
Banks			\$	20,000	\$	20,000	\$	20,000	\$	20,000	\$	20,000
Philanthropic and Civic			\$	25,000	\$	25,000	\$	25,000	\$	25,000	\$	25,000
Grants + Private- Subtotal Prior Year Net	\$	135,000	\$ \$	95,000 13,175	\$ \$	95,000 <i>84,168</i>	\$ \$	95,000 256,000	\$ \$	95,000 578,813	\$ \$	95,000 1,262,019
Net	\$	13,175	\$	84,168	\$	256,000	\$	578,813	\$	1,262,019	\$	2,617,455
Scenarios	• •	24 195	¢	24 169	¢	156 000	¢	420 942	¢	1 062 010	F	2 267 455
Net - No Grants, w Private	\$	31,135	\$	34,168	\$	156,000	\$	428,813	\$	1,062,019	\$	2,367,455
Net - no Private, with Grants	\$	31,135	\$	39,168	\$	166,000	\$	443,813	\$	1,082,019	\$	2,392,455
Net - no Grants or Private	\$	31,135	\$	(10.832)	\$	66,000	\$	293,813	\$	882,019	\$	2,142,455

	Start-up	Year 1		Year 2	Year 3		Year 4	Year 5	
Property Acquisition Type					#				
Unimproved property - trustee	5	i	12		18	25	2	5	25
Improved property - trustee	1		5	-	12	12	1:	5	15
Abandoned improved property	· 1		5		7	10	1	0	10
Donations	1		4		4	4		4	4
Bank foreclosures/REOs	0	)	5		7	10	1	2	12
TOTAL	8	1	31	4	18	61	6	5	66

		Total \$								
Closing Costs (\$1000)	8000	31000	48000	61000	66000	66000				
Maintenance Expenses	6600	30000	46800	58200	64200	64200				
Rehab expenses	35000	245000	402500	455000	542500	542500				
Demolition expenses	12500	62500	87500	125000	125000	125000				

Revenues	Total \$										
Unimproved property - trustee	7500	18000	27000	37500	37500	37500					
Improved property - trustee	35000	175000	420000	420000	525000	525000					
Abandoned improved property	7500	37500	52500	75000	75000	75000					
Donations	37500	150000	150000	150000	150000	150000					
Bank foreclosures/REOs	0	225000	315000	450000	540000	540000					

**TO:** Environment and Land Use Committee

Champaign County Department of PLANNING & ZONING

> Brookens Administrative Center 1776 E. Washington Street Urbana, Illinois 61802

(217) 384-3708 zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us www.co.champaign.il.us/zoning FROM: John Hall, Champaign County Zoning Administrator Susan Burgstrom, Champaign County Senior Planner

DATE: February 27, 2019

**RE:** Direction Regarding Proposed Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment for PV Solar Farm Requirements in Response to Municipal Concerns

# BACKGROUND

In January the Committee reviewed the letter received 11/5/18 the from Village of St. Joseph Mayor, the Village of Savoy President, and the Village of Mahomet President requesting re-evaluation of Zoning Ordinance requirements for "solar farm". See Attachment A. This memorandum reviews proposed changes in response to those concerns.

Attachment B is the existing Section 6.1.5B.(2) that establishes the minimum solar farm separation from a municipality. Attachment C includes the proposed draft changes to Section 6.1.5B.(2) in response to the 11/5/18 letter.

Municipal staffs at the 2/15/19 RPC Technical Committee meeting requested that these proposed changes stay at ELUC until 5/9/19 to allow adequate consideration by municipalities prior to the actual text amendment public hearing.

## **PROPOSED CHANGES**

Attachment C includes the following proposed changes in response to the 11/5/18 letter:

- The minimum separation from a PV solar farm to a municipality is proposed to be increased from one-half mile to one-and-one-half miles. See the proposed change to paragraph 6.1.5B.(2)a.(a). The 11/5/18 letter from nonhome rule municipalities requested an increase of the required separation to oneand-one-half miles and better notification to municipalities.
- Notice shall be provided to any relevant municipality as soon as a substantial (not necessarily complete) PV SOLAR FARM SPECIAL USE permit application is received. See the proposed change to paragraph 6.1.5B.(2)a.(b).
- Municipal subdivision approval may be required for any PV SOLAR FARM land lease exceeding five years, consistent with the requirements of the Illinois Plat Act. See the proposed change to paragraph 6.1.5B.(2)a.(d).
- Any solar farm within one-and-one-half miles of a municipality is proposed to be at a minimum of two ZBA meetings and a 28-day municipal comment period is proposed to be added during the solar farm review at the Environment and Land Use Committee. See the proposed new paragraphs 6.1.5B.(2)a.(e) and (g).

• **Correcting for nonconformities resulting from these changes**. Increasing the minimum separation to a municipality will make all solar farms approved to date non-conforming and those non-conformities are proposed to be corrected by changes proposed in Sections 8.2.3 and 8.2.4.

## ATTACHMENTS

- A Letter dated November 5, 2018, from the Village of St. Joseph to the Champaign County Board Chair
- **B** Existing Section 6.1.5B.(2) of the Champaign County Zoning Ordinance
- C Draft Changes to Section 6.1.5B.(2) Champaign County Zoning Ordinance Requirements for Photovoltaic Solar Farms in Response to Municipal Concerns

# VILLAGE OF ST. JOSEPH

207 EAST LINCOLN STREET, P.O. BOX 716 • ST. JOSEPH, ILLINOIS 61873-0716 PHONE 217-469-7371 • FAX 217-469-7019

November 5, 2018

Mr. Pius Weibel, Chair Champaign County Board 1776 East Washington Street Urbana, Illinois 61802-4581

RE: Solar Farm Zoning Text Amendment

Dear Chairman,

As you're aware, the County Board recently adopted text amendments in the Zoning Ordinance regarding Solar Farms in Champaign County. This has resulted in a flurry of zoning cases whereas many of the applicants are seeking various waivers to the said Ordinance. Of particular interest to the Local Municipalities, is the development of such Solar Farms within the one and one-half mile extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ). As we have long experienced; the County and Municipalities must work together within our shared jurisdictional limit that is mutually beneficial and respectful of each agency's planning efforts. This is why it was surprising to learn that the Solar Farm zoning changes did not adhere to the standard ETJ but reduced permitting to the one-half mile limit. In addition; the notification process is concerning given the potential of large-scale developments within our respective planning areas.

Pursuant of your Board Value **Teamwork** which includes "Intragovernmental Cooperation" and "Collaboration to Achieve Goals" definitions, we are requesting that County Board and/or the Environment and Land Use Committee (ELUC) reevaluate the application requirements for Solar Farms located in Champaign County. Specifically, we request that full ETJ one and one-half-mile distance be enforced when considering any application. In addition, we believe there is an opportunity to improve our collaborative efforts by implementing a requirement for the Municipality to consider a resolution which would accompany the application to the County. This resolution would be considered non-binding regarding the Solar Farm request however it would completely satisfy the notification requirements which has been called into question.

We look forward to your prompt attention to this matter and we stand ready to discuss further.

Sincerely,

Tami Fruhling-Voges. Mavol Village of St. Joseph Joan Dvkstra. Village President Village of Savoy

Sean Widener. Village President Village of Mahomet

Endorsed by Gabe Clements, Village President Charles White, Village President

cc: Environment and Land Use Committee Members Mr. John Hall, Department Head of Planning and Zoning

MAYOR CLERK TREASURER Tami Fruhling-Voges Tiffany McElroy-Smetzer Debbie Routh Andrew Gherna Anthony La

TRUSTEES Andrew Gherna Anthony Laubscher Roy McCarty Art Rapp Bob Rigdon Jim Wagner

#### The existing Section 6.1.5B.(2) is as follows:

- (2) The PV SOLAR FARM County Board SPECIAL USE permit shall not be located in the following areas:
  - a. Less than one-and-one-half miles from an incorporated municipality that has a zoning ordinance unless the following is provided:
    - (a) No part of a PV SOLAR FARM shall be located within a contiguous urban growth area (CUGA) as indicated in the most recent update of the CUGA in the Champaign County Land Resource Management Plan, and there shall be a separation of onehalf mile from a proposed PV SOLAR FARM to a municipal boundary at the time of application for the SPECIAL USE Permit, except for any power lines of 34.5 kVA or less and except for any proposed PV SOLAR FARM substation and related proposed connection to an existing substation.
    - (b) The PV SOLAR FARM SPECIAL USE permit application shall include documentation that the applicant has provided a complete copy of the SPECIAL USE permit application to any municipality within one-and-one-half miles of the proposed PV SOLAR FARM.
    - (c) If no municipal resolution regarding the PV SOLAR FARM is received from any municipality located within one-and-one-half miles of the PV SOLAR FARM prior to the consideration of the PV SOLAR FARM SPECIAL USE permit by the Champaign County Board, the ZONING ADMINISTRATOR shall provide documentation to the County Board that any municipality within one-and-one-half miles of the PV SOLAR FARM was provided notice of the meeting dates for consideration of the proposed PV SOLAR FARM SPECIAL USE Permit for both the Environment and Land Use Committee and the County Board.
  - b. Less than one-half mile from the CR Conservation Recreation Zoning District.

### 1. Revise Section 6.1.5B.(2) as follows:

- (2) The PV SOLAR FARM County Board SPECIAL USE permit shall not be located in the following areas:
  - a. Less than one-and-one-half miles from an incorporated municipality that has a zoning ordinance <u>except for any power lines of 34.5 kVA or less and</u> <u>any related proposed connection to an existing substation.</u> Any request for <u>a waiver of this minimum separation shall include</u> <del>unless</del> the following <del>isprovided</del>:
    - (a) No part of a PV SOLAR FARM shall be located within a contiguous urban growth area (CUGA) as indicated in the most recent update of the CUGA in the Champaign County Land Resource Management Plan, and there shall be a separation-of-onehalf mile from a proposed PV SOLAR-FARM to a municipalboundary-at-the-time of application for the SPECIAL USE Permit, except for any power lines of 34.5 kVA-or-less and except for any proposed-PV-SOLAR-FARM substation and related proposedconnection to an existing substation.
- {NOTE: The 11/5/18 letter from non-home rule municipalities requested an increase of the required separation to one-and-one-half miles and better notification to municipalities. Increasing the minimum separation distance to more than one-half mile will make all existing approved solar farms "nonconforming" which will interfere with the right to make repairs if an already approved PV SOLAR FARM is damaged to more than 50% of replacement value so changes are also proposed to Section 8 Nonconformities. See proposed changes to Zoning Ordinance Section 8.2.}
  - (b)The ZONING ADMINISTRATOR shall notify in writing any<br/>municipality that is located within one-and one-half miles of any<br/>proposed PV SOLAR FARM upon the receipt of any substantial<br/>PV SOLAR FARM SPECIAL USE permit application in addition<br/>to any notice otherwise required.
  - (b c) The PV SOLAR FARM SPECIAL USE permit application shall include documentation that the applicant has provided a complete copy of the SPECIAL USE permit application to any municipality within one-and-one-half miles of the proposed PV SOLAR FARM.
  - (d) Municipal subdivision approval for any PV SOLAR FARM land lease exceeding five years may be required by any relevant municipal authority that has an adopted comprehensive plan and when required said subdivision approval shall be necessary for compliance with Section 13.2.1.

### ATTACHMENT C. DRAFT Changes to Section 6.1.5B.(2) PV Solar Farm Requirements FEBRUARY 27, 2019

- (e) The public hearing for any proposed PV SOLAR FARM that is located within one-and-one-half miles of a municipality that has a zoning ordinance shall occur at a minimum of two BOARD meetings that are not less than 28 days apart to provide time for municipal comments during the public hearing, unless the 28-day comment period is waived in writing by any relevant municipality.
- (d f)For any proposed PV SOLAR FARM that is located within one-<br/>and-one-half miles of a municipality that has a zoning ordinance.<br/>the ZONING ADMINISTRATOR shall notify said municipality of<br/>the recommendation by the BOARD after the close of the public<br/>hearing.
- {Note: This part of the amendment was not requested in the 11/5/18 letter from non-home rule municipalities but a communication to any affected municipality at the end of the public hearing is reasonable to ensure good coordination.}
  - (e g) After the initial review of the BOARD recommendation for the PV SOLAR FARM SPECIAL USE permit by the Environment and Land Use Committee of the COUNTY BOARD, if the Environment and Land Use Committee makes a preliminary determination to accept the BOARD recommendation, the PV SOLAR FARM SPECIAL USE permit shall remain at the Environment and Land Use Committee for a maximum 30-day comment period, or until the next regularly scheduled meeting, to allow comments regarding the PV SOLAR FARM SPECIAL USE permit to be received from any relevant municipal authority prior to the Environment and Land Use Committee recommendation to the County Board, unless the municipal comment period is waived in writing by any relevant municipality. If a PV SOLAR FARM is not located within one-and-one-half miles of a municipality the Environment and Land Use recommendation can be referred to the County Board without a municipal comment period.
- {NOTE: This part of the amendment was not requested in the 11/5/18 letter from non-home rule municipalities but is consistent with comments made by some municipal planning staffs and should facilitate consideration by non-home rule municipalities. Note that the same review described above could be added under Section 9.2 Amendments to formalize the review of text amendments.}
  - (e<u>h</u>) If no municipal resolution regarding the PV SOLAR FARM is received from any municipality located within one-and-one-half miles of the PV SOLAR FARM prior to the consideration of the PV SOLAR FARM SPECIAL USE permit by the Champaign County Board, the ZONING ADMINISTRATOR shall provide

documentation to the County Board that any municipality within one-and-one-half miles of the PV SOLAR FARM was provided notice of the meeting dates for consideration of the proposed PV SOLAR FARM SPECIAL USE Permit for both the Environment and Land Use Committee and the County Board.

### 2. Add the following to Section 8.2.3 at the end:

The requirements of Section 8.2.3 shall not apply to any PV SOLAR FARM <u>authorized</u> <u>prior to {effective date of this amendment}</u> or PV SOLAR FARM equipment that is in the process of being repaired or replaced.

{Note: This part of the amendment was not requested in the 11/5/18 letter from non-home rule municipalities but is recommended to correct for making recently authorized PV SOLAR FARMS "nonconforming". This part of the amendment makes clear that any recently authorized PV SOLAR FARM that later fails to operate and is in the process of being repaired will not lose its zoning right to operate.}

### 3. Add new Section 8.2.4 as follows:

- 8.2.4 For purposes of applicability of this Section 8.2 to any PV SOLAR FARM, any PV SOLAR FARM for which a SPECIAL USE permit had been authorized prior to {effective date of this amendment}, said PV SOLAR FARM may be constructed in compliance with the SPECIAL USE permit and subject to a duly approved Zoning Use Permit so long as the construction shall be consistent with the SPECIAL USE permit expiration requirements of Section 6.1.5T. and any special conditions of approval that may be applicable.
- {Note: This part of the amendment was not requested in the 11/5/18 letter from non-home rule municipalities but is recommended to correct for making recently authorized PV SOLAR FARMS "nonconforming". This part of the amendment corrects for that part of Section 8.2 that refers to '...a lawful USE of land exists..." and it makes clear that any recently authorized PV SOLAR FARM may be constructed pursuant to the standard requirement of a Zoning Use Permit, provided that the Special Use Permit has not expired.}

Champaign County Department of PLANNING & ZONING

> Brookens Administrative Center 1776 E. Washington Street Urbana, Illinois 61802

(217) 384-3708 zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us www.co.champaign.il.us/zoning

# **TO:** Environment and Land Use Committee

FROM: John Hall, Champaign County Zoning Administrator Susan Burgstrom, Champaign County Senior Planner

DATE: February 27, 2019

RE: Direction Regarding Proposed Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment for PV Solar Farm Requirements other than in Response to Municipal Concerns

### PROPOSED CHANGES

Attachment B includes the following proposed changes:

- The minimum separation from a PV solar farm to the CR District is
  proposed to be eliminated. See the proposed change to paragraph 6.1.5B.(2)b.
  This separation does not seem to be needed. The vegetation required to be
  planted inside any solar farm on best prime farmland results in an environment
  that would actually be beneficial if adjacent to the CR District.
- Lower the minimum required credit rating for local financial institutions providing financial assurance. The Zoning Ordinance currently requires that a financial institution providing financial assurance for solar farm decommissioning must have a minimum corporate debt rating of "A" by S&P or "A2" by Moody's. Staff has been contacted about establishing alternative minimum credit ratings for local banks. <u>No proposed changes are included in</u> this memorandum. More information will be provided at the meeting.
- Authorizing a variance for replacement of a nonconforming structure before the structure is damaged. See the proposed change to Section 8.3.2. Note that this change is not related to the solar farm requirements and is included at this time for convenience. Section 8.3 of the Zoning Ordinance regulates "nonconforming structures" which are structures that existed on the date of adoption of the Ordinance (or an amendment to the Ordinance) but that do not meet some dimensional standard in the Ordinance (such as minimum yard, height, or floor area). Section 8.3.2 allows the Zoning Board of Appeals to grant a variance for replacement of such a structure <u>provided that structure has</u> <u>been destroyed to more than 50% of its replacement cost</u>. This change will allow a variance <u>before the structure has been destroyed</u>.

### ATTACHMENTS

A Proposed Changes to Champaign County Zoning Ordinance other than in Response to Municipal Concerns

### 1. Delete existing Section 6.1.5B.(2)b.:

- b. Less than one-half mile from the CR Conservation Recreation Zoning-District.
- {Note: This part of the amendment is not related to the 11/5/18 letter from nonhome rule municipalities. Based on the reviews of recently authorized PV SOLAR FARMS, a minimum separation from the CR Conservation Recreation Zoning District is not necessary and should be eliminated from the Ordinance.}

### 2. Amend Section 8.3.2 to read as follows (proposed new text is underlined):

- **8.3.2** Should such STRUCTURE be destroyed by any means to an extent of more than 50% of its replacement cost at the time of destruction, it shall not be reconstructed unless a VARIANCE is granted by the BOARD in accordance with Section 9.1.9. The BOARD may authorize such a VARIANCE prior to such STRUCTURE incurring any damage or destruction.
- {Note: This part of the amendment was not requested in the 11/5/18 letter from non-home rule municipalities and is not related to any recently authorized PV SOLAR FARM. This part of the amendment makes it clear that an owner can apply for a variance to replace a nonconforming structure prior to the structure actually being destroyed.}

# PLANNING & ZONING

### Memorandum

To: Environment and Land Use Committee
From: Susan Monte, Planner
Date: February 28, 2019
Re: Designate Recycling Coordinator Responsibilities

Action Request: Recommend to County Board

(217) 384-3708 zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us www.co.champaign.il.us/zoning

**Brookens Administrative** 

1776 E. Washington Street Urbana, Illinois 61802

Center

The updated request is to recommend that the County Board:

- 1) designate that County Recycling Coordinator responsibilities shall be included as position responsibilities of the new Planner position at the Department of Planning and Zoning, with the added qualifier "as designated by the County Board."
- 2) Approve an updated County Board Resolution to this effect.

### Background.

The Illinois Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act (415 ILCS 15/) requires that Champaign County maintain and regularly update its waste management plan that includes a recycling program, and further requires that the County Board designate a Recycling Coordinator.

In 2006, as specified in <u>County Board Resolution No. 5337</u>, the County Board delegated the responsibilities to maintain and regularly update the Champaign County Solid Waste Management Plan and to serve as Champaign County Recycling Coordinator to the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission (RPC) Planner. From April, 2006 through December, 2018, the RPC Planner was responsible for those job duties.

Since January 1, 2019, the new Planner position at the Champaign County Planning & Zoning encompasses job duties that include maintenance of the Champaign County Solid Waste Management Plan and County Recycling Coordinator tasks.

Susan Monte transferred employment from the Champaign County RPC to the Champaign County Department of Planning & Zoning effective January 1, 2019, and continue to assume County Recycling Coordinator responsibilities, in addition to Planner responsibilities.

# MONTHLY REPORT for JANUARY 2019<sup>1</sup>

### Champaign County Department of

PLANNING & ZONING

Brookens Administrative Center 1776 E. Washington Street Urbana, Illinois 61802

(217) 384-3708 zoningdept@co.champaign.il.us www.co.champaign.il.us/zoning

### **Zoning Cases**

The distribution of cases filed, completed, and pending is detailed in Table 1. Five zoning cases were filed in January and three cases were filed in January 2018. The average number of cases filed in January in the preceding five years was 2.4.

Three Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) meetings were held in January and four cases were completed. One ZBA meeting was held in January 2018 and two cases were completed and one was withdrawn. The average number of cases completed in January in the preceding five years was 2.8.

By the end of January there were 8 cases pending. By the end of January 2018 there were 10 cases pending.

Type of Case		uary 2019 A meetings		uary 2018 A meeting
	Cases Filed	Cases Completed	Cases Filed	Cases Completed
Variance	0	3	0	1
SFHA Variance	0	0	0	0
Special Use	2	2**	1	0
Map Amendment	2	0	0	0
Text Amendment	0	0	1	2‡
Change of Nonconforming Use	0	0	0	0
Administrative Variance	1	0	1	0
Interpretation / Appeal	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	5	5**	3	3‡
Total cases filed (fiscal year)	5	cases	3	cases
Total cases completed (fiscal year)	5*	* cases	3:	t cases
Cases pending*	8	cases	10	) cases
* Cases pending includes all cases **One special use permit applicatio ‡One text amendment case was w	on was wi	thdrawn in Jar	nuary 201	9

Table 1. Zoning Case Activity in January 2019 & January 2018

<sup>1</sup> Note that approved absences, sick days, and one part-time temporary employee resulted in an average staffing level of 88.6% or the equivalent of 6.2 full time staff members (of the 7 authorized) present on average for each of the 20 work days in January.

### Subdivisions

No County subdivision application was received in January. No municipal subdivision plats were reviewed for compliance with County zoning in January.

# **Zoning Use Permits**

A detailed breakdown of permitting activity appears in Table 2. A list of all Zoning Use Permits issued for the month is at Appendix A. Permitting activity in January can be summarized as follows:

- 5 permits for 4 structures were approved in January compared to 6 permits for 5 structures in January 2018. The five-year average for permits in January in the preceding five years was 5.4.
- 28 months out of the last 60 months have equaled or exceeded the five-year average for number of permits (including January 2019, February 2018, January 2018, October 2017, September 2017, March 2017, February 2017, January 2017, November 2016, September 2016, August 2016, July 2016, May 2016, April 2016, March 2016, February 2016, December 2015, October 2015, July 2015, June 2015, January 2015, December 2014, October 2014, July 2014, June 2014, May 2014, and March 2014).
- 6.75 days was the average turnaround (review) time for complete initial residential permit applications in January.
- \$899,950 was the reported value for the permits in January compared to a total of \$851,500 in January 2018. The five-year average reported value for authorized construction in January was \$549,038.
- 26 months in the last 60 months have equaled or exceeded the five-year average for reported value of construction (including January 2019, March 2018, February 2018, January 2018, October 2017, September 2017, April 2017, March 2017, November 2016, October 2016, September 2016, August 2016, May 2016, April 2016, March 2016, February 2016, January 2016, September 2015, July 2015, June 2015, December 2014, October 2014, June 2014, May 2014, March 2014, and February 2014).
- \$1,064 in fees were collected in January compared to a total of \$2,227 in January 2018. The five-year average for fees collected in January was \$2,051.
- 32 months in the last 60 months have equaled or exceeded the five-year average for collected permit fees (including December 2018, November 2018, September 2018, March 2018, February 2018, January 2018, December 2017, October 2017, May 2017, March 2017, January 2017, November 2016, October 2016, August 2016, April 2016, March 2016, February 2016, January 2016, December 2015, October 2015, September 2015, July 2015, January 2015, December 2014, November 2014, October 2014, August 2014, July 2014, June 2014, May 2014, March 2014, and February 2014).

### Planning & Zoning Monthly Report JANUARY 2019

	C	URRENT M	ONTH	FISCAL YEAR TO DATE			
PERMITS	#	Total Fee	\$ Value	#	Total Fee	\$ Value	
AGRICULTURAL: Residential							
Other	1	0	109,500	1	0	109,500	
SINGLE FAMILY Resid.: New - Site Built	2	837	750,000	2	837	750,000	
Manufactured							
Additions	1	161	30,000	1	161	30,000	
Accessory to Resid.							
TWO-FAMILY Residential							
Average turn-around approval time for the above permit categories			6.75 days				
MULTI - FAMILY Residential HOME OCCUPATION: Rural Neighborhood							
COMMERCIAL: New Other INDUSTRIAL: New							
Other							
OTHER USES: New Other							
SIGNS							
TOWERS (Incl. Acc. Bldg.)							
OTHER PERMITS	1	66	10,000	1	66	10,000	
TOTAL APPROVED	5/4	\$1,064	\$899,950	5/4	\$1,064	\$899,950	

### Table 2. Zoning Use Permits Approved in January 2019

**NOTE**: Home occupations and Other permits (change of use, temporary use) total 1 since 1/1/19, (this number is not included in the total number of structures).

There were 5 Zoning Use Permit Apps. *received* in January 2018 and 2 of those were *approved*. 3 Zoning Use Permit App.s *approved* in January 2018 had been *received* in prior months.

### Planning & Zoning Monthly Report JANUARY 2019

- There were also 13 lot split inquiries and 181 other zoning inquiries in January.
- One rural address was issued in January.
- Minutes were completed for four ZBA meetings.

### **Conversion of Best Prime Farmland**

Table 3 summarizes conversion of Best Prime Farmland as a result of any County zoning approval so far in 2018.

### Table 3. Best Prime Farmland Conversion in 2018

	January 2019	2019 to date
<b>Zoning Cases</b> . Approved by the ZBA, a Zoning Case January authorize a new principal use on Best Prime Farmland that was previously used for agriculture.	0.0 acres	0.00 acres
<b>Subdivision Plat Approvals.</b> Approved by the County Board outside of ETJ areas, a subdivision approval January authorize the creation of new Best Prime Farmland lots smaller than 35 acres:	0.00 acres	0.0 acres
Outside of Municipal ETJ areas <sup>1</sup>		
Within Municipal ETJ areas <sup>2</sup>	0.0 acre	0.0 acre
<b>Zoning Use Permits.</b> Approved by the Zoning Administrator, a Permit January authorize a new non-agriculture use on a lot that did not previously exist or was not previously authorized in either a zoning case or a subdivision plat approval.	0.0 acres	0.00 acres
Agricultural Courtesy Permits	0.0 acre	0.0 acres
TOTAL	0.0 acres	0.00 acres
NOTES 1. Plat approvals by the County Board. 2. Municipal plat approvals.		

### **Zoning Compliance Inspections**

- No zoning compliance inspections were made in January.
- No zoning compliance certificates were issued in January. The 2019 budget anticipated a total of 180 compliance inspections and certificates for an average of 3.5 certificates per week. However, compliance inspections are typically done by temporary staffing and all temporary staffing continues to be needed to prepare the MS4 Storm Sewer System Map. Temporary staffing will resume compliance inspections after the MS4 Storm Sewer System Map has been completed.

### Zoning and Nuisance Enforcement

Table 4 contains the detailed breakdown of enforcement activity for January 2019 and can be summarized as follows:

- 2 new complaints were received in January compared to 4 new complaint received in January 2018. No complaint was referred to another agency in January and no complaints were referred to another agency in January 2018.
- 19 enforcement inspections were conducted in January compared to 11 inspections in January 2018. None of the 2019 inspections were for a new complaint.
- No contact was made prior to written notification in January and one was made in January 2018.
- 19 investigation inquiries were made in January for an average of 4.8 per week in January. The 2019 budget anticipates an average of 11.5 initial investigation inquiries per week.
- One First Notice and no Final Notice was issued in January compared to 3 First Notices and one Final Notice that were issued in January 2018. The budget anticipated a total of 29 First Notices for 2019.
- No cases were referred to the State's Attorney's Office in January and none were referred in January 2018. The budget anticipated a total of 3 cases to be forwarded to the State's Attorney's Office in 2019.
- 2 cases were resolved in January compared to 4 cases that were resolved in January 2018. The 2018 budget anticipated a total of 62 resolved cases in 2019.
- 381 cases remain open at the end of January compared to 354 open cases at the end of January 2018.
- In addition to the activities summarized in Table 4, other activities of Enforcement staff in January included the following:
  - 1. Answering phones and helping customers when needed due to unavailability or absence of Zoning Technicians.
  - 2. Coordinated with land owners, complainants, and the State's Attorney's Office regarding enforcement cases that have been referred to the State's Attorney's. Office and particularly those cases that involve dangerous structures.
  - 3. Coordinated the marketing of County owned properties at 1101 Carroll Avenue, Urbana and 2603 Campbell Drive, Champaign.
  - 4. Continued coordinating with IEPA and IDPH regarding enforcement issues related to a nonconforming manufactured home park.
  - 5. Responded to miscellaneous inquiries including but not limited to the following:
    - continued organizing the project files and moving resolved cases to dead storage;
    - coordinated with the owner and the IEPA regarding clean-up of the collapsed structure at 1807 East Leverett Road, Champaign;

- coordinated with the IEPA regarding landscape waste at 3607 South Duncan Road
- followed up on a repeat barking dog complaint in Champaign Township;
- followed up on complaints about a burned house in St. Joseph Township.

### APPENDICES

- A Zoning Use Permit Activity In January 2019
- B Active Land Disturbance Erosion Control Permits In The Champaign County MS4 Jurisdictional Area

Planning & Zoning Monthly Report JANUARY 2018

lat	lable 4. Enforce	Enforcement Activity During J	ity Dur		anuary 2019	6									
		FY2018 TOTALS <sup>1</sup>	Jan. 2019	Feb. 2019	March 2019	April 2019	May 2019	June 2019	July 2019	Aug. 2019	Sep. 2019	0ct. 2019	Nov. 2019	Dec. 2019	TOTALS <sup>1</sup> FY2019
Con Rec	Complaints Received	62	2												2
Initi Refé	Initial Complaints Referred to Others	1	0												0
Insp	Inspections	423	$19^{4}$												195
Pho. Prio	Phone Contact Prior to Notice	9	0												0
First N Issued	First Notices Issued	27	1												Ţ
Final N Issued	Final Notices Issued	20	0												0
Refé Atto	Referrals to State's Attorney	8	0												0
Case	Cases Resolved <sup>2</sup>	35	26												27
0pe	Open Cases <sup>3</sup>	381	381												381 <sup>8</sup>
Notes 1. <sup>–</sup> 7	es Total includes cases from previous years.	ases from p	revious	years.											
2.	Resolved cases are cases that have been been found to occur on the property.	are cases thi ccur on the J	at have ł oroperty	een	oected, nc	tice give	en, and v	violatior	ı is gone	, or insp	ection ]	has occı	ırred an	ıd no vio	inspected, notice given, and violation is gone, or inspection has occurred and no violation has
3.	Open Cases are unresolved cases and includes any case referred to the State's Attorney or new complaints not yet investigated.	unresolved	cases an	id include	es any ca:	se referr	ed to th	e State's	; Attorn	ey or ne	w comp	laints n	ot yet ir	ıvestigat	ed.
4.	0 inspections of the 19 performed were for the 2 complaints received in January 2019.	the 19 perf	ormed w	vere for t	the 2 com	plaints 1	received	l in Janu	ary 2019	9.					
<u>ю</u>	0 inspections of the 19 inspections perfo	the 19 insp	ections J	performe	rmed in 2019 were for complaints received in 2019.	9 were fi	or comp	laints re	sceived i	in 2019.					
6.	None of the resolved cases for January 2019, were received in January 2019.	olved cases f	or Janué	ary 2019,	, were rec	ceived in	ı January	y 2019.							
7.	None of the cases resolved in FY 2019 were for complaints that were also received in FY 2019.	es resolved i	n FY 20	19 were	for compl	laints th	at were	also rec	eived in	FY 2019	9.				

# Table 4. Enforcement Activity During January 2019

ö.

Total open cases include 12 cases that have been referred to the State's Attorney (previously reported as 13 cases), one of which was referred as early as 2009. 2 of the 12 cases are currently active cases in Champaign County Circuit Court.

Permit Number	Zoning District; Property Description; Address; PIN	Owner Name	Date Applied, Date Approved	Project (Related Zoning Case)
313-18-01	Three tracts of land located in the SE ¼ of the SE ¼ of	Stonetown Capital	11/09/18 01/09/19	Replace the existing manufactured home on
R-5	Section 9 and the W ½ of the SW ¼ of Section 10, Urbana Township; Lots 54 & 85,			Lots 54 & 85 with new manufactured homes
	Woodland Acres Manufactured Home Park, Urbana, Illinois PIN: 30-21-10-351-023			CASE: 870-S-17
360-18-01	A tract of land being a part of the S <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> of the SW <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> of	Victor and Sherri White	12/26/18 01/10/19	Construct a breezeway and garage addition to an
AG-1	Section 18, Somer Township; 310 E. Leverett Road, Champaign, Illinois PIN: 25-15-18-300-003			existing single family home
360-18-02	A tract of land located in the SE Corner of the SW ¼ of	John Nolan	12/26/18 01/10/19	Construct a single family home with attached
AG-1	Section 17, Ogden Township; 1501 County Road 2650E, Ogden, Illinois PIN: 17-24-17-300-008			garage (prior home destroyed by fire)
11-19-01 CR	Lot 206R of a Replat of Lot 4 of Summerfield Subdivision and Lot 103 of a Replat of Lots 1, 2 and 3 of Summerfield Subdivision, Section 36, Newcomb Township; 535 County Road	Jason and Laura Yates	01/10/19 01/24/19	Construct a single family home with attached garage
*10.10.01	2500N, Dewey, Illinois PIN: 16-07-36-126-017			
*18-19-01	Under review		01/02/10	
23-19-01	An 8 acre tract of land located in the S ½ of Section	Clark Juday	01/23/19 01/25/19	Construct a detached agriculture equipment
AG-1	25, Condit Township; 2527 County Road 1200E, Thomasboro, Illinois PIN: 07-08-25-400-001			storage shed
*25-19-1	Under review			
*28-19-01	Under review			
	Disturbance Erosion Control F ved and reviewed, however, n	-		nth

# APPENDIX A. ZONING USE PERMITS ACTIVITY IN JANUARY 2019

Permit Number; Zoning;	Property Description; Address; PIN	Owner Name	Date Applied Date Approved Date of Final Stabilization	Project (Related Zoning Case)
302-15-01	A tract of land located in	Eastern Illini	10/29/15	Construct an
	the NE ¼ of Section 34,	Electric Coop	05/18/16	electrical substation
I-1	Tolono Township; 981			
	County Road 700N,			
	Tolono, Illinois			
	PIN: Pt. of 29-26-34-100-			
	006			
155-16-02	A 53.79 acre tract of land	Champaign	06/03/16	Construct a parking
	located in the NW ¼ of	County Fair	08/10/16	lot and bus shelter
CR	Section 8, Urbana	Association		
	Township; 1206 N. Coler			
	Avenue, Urbana, Illinois			
	PIN: 30-21-08-176-001			
195-16-01	A 53.79 acre tract of land	Champaign	07/13/16	Construct a detached
	located in the NW 1/4 of	County Fair	08/02/16	storage shed
CR	Section 8, Urbana	Association		
	Township; 1206 N. Coler			
	Avenue, Urbana, Illinois			
	PIN: 30-21-08-176-001			
97-17-01	Lot 12, Lincolnshire Fields	Tim and Toni	04/07/17	Construct a single
	West 1 Subdivision, Section	Hoerr	04/27/17	family home with
<b>R-1</b>	21, Champaign Township;			attached garage and
	3912 Clubhouse Drive,			detached pool house
	Champaign, Illinois			
	PIN: 03-20-21-301-012			

# APPENDIX B. ACTIVE LAND DISTURBANCE EROSION CONTROL PERMITS