



PRESS RELEASE

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V2V Awards Six Eclectic Properties for Redevelopment *Baltimore Housing sought creative development plans to renovate City relics*

(BALTIMORE, MD January 29, 2015) — Baltimore Housing is pleased to announce the award of six city-owned properties and property bundles as offered through Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake's Vacants to Value Initiative (V2V) "2014 Surplus Sale." Developers were asked to come up with creative solutions that would revitalize and put to good use these long standing vacant properties. After much review, the following awards have been issued:

1. **2101 E. Biddle Street** awarded to City Life Builders & Cross Street Partners (the historically significant former Hoen Lithograph Building located in the Middle East neighborhood).
2. **1500 block of Broadway Street** awarded to Baltimore Real Estate and Development (a bundle that includes fourteen 3-story row homes in the Oliver neighborhood).
3. **1600 block of E. Pratt Street** awarded to Grand Development, LLC (seven vacant lots in the Washington Hill neighborhood).
4. **31 S. Payson Street** awarded to Episcopal Housing (a former library in the Boyd-Booth neighborhood).
5. **1220 E. Oliver Street** awarded to African American Fire Fighters Association (a firehouse of significant importance in the Oliver neighborhood).
6. **1700 block of LaTrobe Street** awarded to Inhabit, LLC (two 2-story row houses and one vacant lot in the Greenmount West neighborhood).

This is also the first time Baltimore City has offered so many properties in a single RFP. "We want people to see what Baltimore has to offer and we are serious about bringing these vacant properties back with vitality," said Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake. "This City has a rich history steeped in great architecture and industry. We want to attract developers who have a vision and passion for building on Baltimore's strengths."

The June 2014 Request for Proposals (RFP) for the "Surplus Sale" offered a diverse assortment of properties. This offering is a great push to further the work that V2V is doing throughout the city. With the loss of industry and subsequent urban flight of so many former residents, these properties have since become relics, adding to the neighborhood blight.

"We see the development of these properties in particular, as a chance to offer economic development and residential opportunities in these still strong neighborhoods," said Baltimore Housing Commissioner Paul T. Graziano. "Baltimore has a lot to offer and we are ready and open for business."

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Baltimore Housing reflects the combined efforts of the Housing Authority of Baltimore City
and the Baltimore City Department of Housing & Community Development.

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