



Hamilton County

Board of County Commissioners

Greg Hartmann
President
Phone (513) 946-4405
Fax (513) 946-4404

Chris Monzel
Vice President
Phone (513) 946-4409
Fax (513) 946-4407

Todd Portune
Phone (513) 946-4401
Fax (513) 946-4446

Room 603
County Administration Building
138 East Court Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

TDD/TTY (513) 946-4719
www.hamilton-co.org

Christian Sigman
Administrator
Phone (513) 946-4420
Fax (513) 946-4444

Jacqueline Panioto
Clerk of the Board
Phone (513) 946-4414
Fax (513) 946-4444

Memorandum

TO: Hamilton County Residents

FROM: Commissioner Greg Hartmann

DATE: August 5, 2011

RE: Hamilton County Land Bank Board of Directors

You have undoubtedly witnessed the consequences of blighted and vacant properties in your community and surrounding neighborhoods. Our County has been hard-hit by the economic downturn and the foreclosure crisis. During 2010 alone, Hamilton County saw 6,556 foreclosure filings. Residential and commercial foreclosures broadly impact our community by dragging down property values, increasing insurance costs to adjacent property owners, decreasing government revenue collection and increasing crime.

In response to the surge of vacant and abandoned properties in our community, the Hamilton County Commissioners recently established a land reutilization corporation (or "Land Bank") as permitted by Ohio law. A Land Bank in Hamilton County can acquire vacant and abandoned properties through tax foreclosures, from lenders and banks, or on the open market. The Land Bank then clears the titles and liens against these properties and redistributes them for productive use.

In order to implement the land acquisition, management and activities of the Land Bank in our community, the County will create a 9-member Board of Directors as established by Ohio law. Representatives will be appointed by each Commissioner, the County Treasurer, the City of Cincinnati, the Hamilton County Municipal League and the Hamilton County Township Association. The County is currently working with these parties to secure their appointees for the Board later this month.

Commissioners and Treasurer Goering are now seeking to fill the ninth seat on the Board of Directors. This appointee should be a Hamilton County resident with experience in property rehabilitation or real estate acquisitions, and have a keen interest in assisting with the important revitalization work of the Land Bank.

If you meet the guidelines listed above, please consider applying to serve on this important Board! To apply, download the application here: http://www.hamiltoncountyohio.gov/boards_commissions/forms/application.asp, and fax, email or mail your application to:

Jacqueline Panioto, Clerk of the Board
138 E. Court Street, Room 603
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
Phone: (513) 946-4414
Fax: (513) 946-4444
Email: Jacqueline.panioto@hamilton-co.org.

The deadline to apply is Monday, September 12, 2011.

To learn more about the Hamilton County Land Bank, visit the County's Web site: <http://www.hamiltoncountyohio.gov/hc/landBanking.asp>, or feel free to contact my office at (513) 946-4405.

Thank you for your interest in serving Hamilton County.