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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE

Since 2023, CDA has been a leader in city-wide resident collaboration, co-hosting nearly 100 resident collaboration sessions with neighborhood organizations, and co-creating Milwaukee's first city-wide Resident Advisory Council on Housing (RACH). These resident conversations reveal an incredible passion for our community, and a wide range of opinions on both policies and priorities. Although there will never be one unanimous opinion among residents we collaborate with; there are two powerful issues that the vast majority of resident collaborators have elevated:

Prioritizing Homeowners over Investors, and Protecting Vulnerable Families from Displacement.

2025 Policy Objectives

Vacant Lots Preserved for Attainable Homeownership

- A new city ordinance is needed to preserve residential vacant lots for aspiring homeowners that already live in Milwaukee Neighborhoods.
- A new city ordinance would be adopted so that city-owned residential vacant lots would only be sold to Qualifying Families, in all census tracts where the median income is 80% of AMI or below.

Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act (TOPA)

- Using Policy to Prioritize Homeowners over Investors.
- When passed by the City of Milwaukee, will reverse the trend of predatory investing by empowering tenants with the first right of refusal to purchase their rented homes, thereby preserving and strengthening community footholds.

Tax Foreclosures preserved for Attainable Homeownership

- No tax foreclosures should be sold to investors, and all of them should be preserved as opportunities for homeownership.
- A new city ordinance is needed to preserve Tax Foreclosed homes for aspiring homeowners that already live in Milwaukee Neighborhoods.

A lower property-tax rate for low-income seniors

- Low Income Seniors should receive a lower property tax benefit to avoid displacement.
- The families most vulnerable to displacement are seniors on a fixed income whose neighborhood is changing around them.
- Collective Action to produce and advocate for an exemption to the State of Wisconsin's Uniformity Clause is needed now.

