

# Land Banks



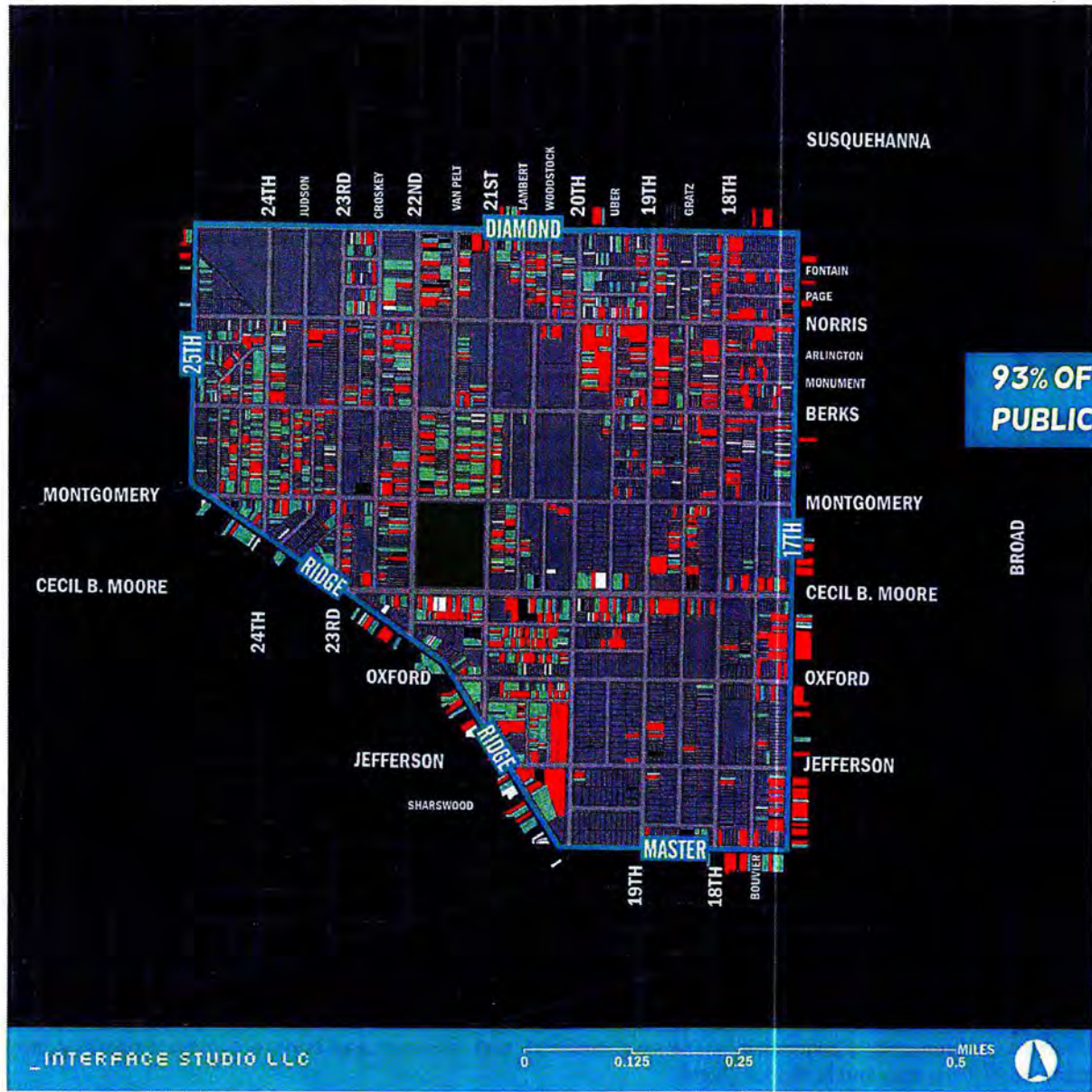
A land bank is a public authority or nonprofit created to efficiently acquire, hold, manage and develop foreclosed property, as well as other vacant and abandoned properties.



# SUSCEPTIBLE TO CHANGES IN OWNERSHIP

Figure 20 - Publicly-Owned & Tax-Delinquent Vacancy

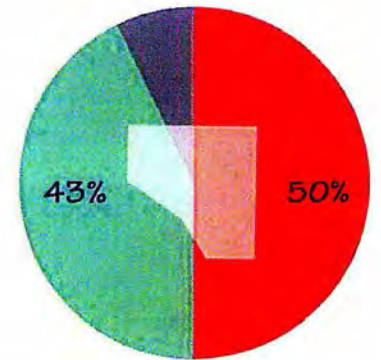
Data Source: Office of Property Assessment (September 2012), Philadelphia Inquirer, PlanPhilly.com, City of Philadelphia Revenue Department



## PRIME FOR A CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP

Taken together, there are over 1,600 vacant properties in Lower North Central considered to be more susceptible to a change in ownership (from public or negligent private owner to community ownership) because of their ownership (by public agency) or tax status (delinquent). These parcels, which encompass a surprising 93% of the neighborhood's vacancy, represent the greatest opportunity for community-driven change in the neighborhood.

**93% OF VACANT PARCELS ARE PUBLICLY-OWNED OR TAX-DELINQUENT!**



PERCENTAGE OF VACANT PROPERTIES THAT ARE PUBLICLY-OWNED OR TAX DELINQUENT

- TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTY
- PUBLICLY-OWNED PROPERTY
- VACANT BUILDINGS
- VACANT LAND

# TAKE BACK VACANT LAND:

## WORKING FOR A LAND BANK WE CAN TRUST

VALUE

WHAT THIS MEANS TO US

PART OF BILL #130156  
introduced in March 2013

**FAIR**

public land for  
equitable development



**ACCOUNTABLE**

community representation on  
land bank board



**TRANSPARENT**

public access to information:  
**1:** each sale/transfer of land  
**2:** annual impact statement on  
progress toward goals





# Urban Garden Initiative

Breathing Life Into  
Dead Space

**December 4, 2013**

**Public Participation Taskforce**

**Delaware Valley Regional Planning  
Commission**

# Timeline 2009-2013

## ● The Challenge 2009

- Clean & Green Vacant Land
- Access the Green Economy
- Create New Jobs
- Promote Environmental Justice Issues

## ● Accomplishments 2013

- Urban Garden Initiative
- Workforce development program on healthy food preparation & youth entrepreneurship
- "Green Divide" Coalition
- Healthier more informed community

# Collaborative Activities to Create Community



2009 Annual Meeting economist Judy Claude discusses new economic realities post recession 9/09



**LETICIA GARCIA PRESENTS**  
 "The Social Construction of Urban Garden Space as a Site for Anti-Racist Struggle" based on feminist research conducted with African American United Fund  
**April 21, 2011 at AAUF's Earth Day Commemoration**  
 African American United Fund  
 Conference Center  
 Thursday April 21 7-8pm  
 2023 North Broad Street  
 Philadelphia, PA 19132  
 © 2010-2011 AAUF

1. "The Social Construction of Urban Garden Space as a Site for Anti-Racist Struggle" Leticia Garcia explores the gender dimensions of urban garden space as a site for anti-racist struggle, based on her feminist action research conducted at AAUF in addition to her academic work at Temple University. Leticia currently works as a Director

2. Leticia Garcia received a Ford Foundation award program for students at a summer school in North Philadelphia. She continues to work with local community groups in communities of color through coalition building and volunteer activities. Support the African American United Fund and take advantage of this educational opportunity open to the public.

## Research Papers

**Harambee**  
 a Celebration of Community Culture and Collaboration  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2010**  
 10:00 am - 5:00 pm  
**2200 BLOCK OF N. BROAD ST.**  
 between Susquehanna Ave. and Dauphin St.

Family Fun Games Giveaways Rides Raffles ... and more!

Sponsored by:  
**AAUF** African American United Fund  
**BLACK WOMEN'S HEALTH ALLIANCE PHILADELPHIA**  
**IDAAY** Institute for the Development of African-American Youth, Inc.

**UPTOWN THEATRE GROUND BREAKING**  
 for more information call:  
**215-454-2583**  
 aaufmail@aol.com  
**215-235-9116**  
 mensley@idaay.org  
**215-382-3292**  
 bduinstun  
 @blackwomenshealthproject.org

... and many other community partners ... **Harambee = All Pull Together**

## Fairs

**Fall Voter Education Forum**

Sponsored by:  
 African American United Fund, DNA Corbett, Ethos Historical Society of Philadelphia, Grand Ali Pavers, Greater Philadelphia Caucus of the C.W.A.D., Institute for the Development of African American Youth, Men United for a Better Philadelphia, Philadelphia, The Frisco House Institute, Uptown Entertainment & Development Corporation, and 8-Officers for Community Engagement.

**The Green Divide Series:  
 Preparing for the New Economy**

**Wednesday, October 23, 6:30 to 8:30 PM**

**6:30 PM - Welcome**  
 Aissia Richardson, President, African American United Fund

**8:40 PM - Keynote Presentation**  
 7:25 PM - Katherine Gajewski, Greenworks 2013 Update  
 7:40 PM - Importance of Voting: Voting Rights Act  
 Candidate Introductions (5 minutes each)  
 Aissia Richardson, Moderator

**Audience Questions**  
 8:00 PM - Design Education for a Sustainable Future by Rob Fleming, Book Signing

**2222 N. Broad Street  
 Phila., PA 19123  
 @ Spring Garden St.  
 Entrance in REAR on Noble and American St.**

**AAUF**  
 African American United Fund  
 2222 N. Broad Street  
 Ph: 215-454-2583  
 To RSVP call 215-236-1576  
 www.aauf.org

"Sustainability is a powerful force that is fundamentally reshaping humanity's relationship to the natural world and is ushering in the Age of Integration. The move from well-intentioned environmental righteousness to the higher bar of integral sustainability and regenerative design demands a new type of design professional, one that is deeply collaborative, ethically grounded, empathetically connected and technologically empowered." Design Education for a Sustainable Future is the guide for the reader to be well versed in modern practices that effect today's realities.

## Forums

Place holding: Creative  
Reuse of Space

Typical City Vacant Lot



Farmers Market 11/09



Farmers Market 11/09



## Neighbors helping Neighbors

Philly Spring Clean Up 4/10



Clean Up Volunteers 4/10



Clean Up Volunteers 4/10



2229 Ready for Garden Build





## Garden Build

PHS Garden Build Volunteers 5/10



3 Raised Beds Completed 5/10



3 Raised Beds Planted 5/10



Plant Growth 5/10



# Freedom School Clean Up 8/10



Conviviality stimulates diversity

Harambee Event 6/10



Harambee Event 6/10



Garden Party 8/10



Garden Party 8/10



## Garden2Plate Classes



Cooking Class - Training



Healthy Food – Nutrition



## Garden2Plate Students

Winter Lettuce



Spring planters



Asset with Potential



Greened Asset



# Key Accomplishments

- Received training and a garden build from the PA Horticultural Society
- Obtained design and construction services and technical assistance from Urban Studio
- Joined with other gardeners to support the Garden Justice Legal Initiative advocacy to preserve green space across the region and received support from the Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia to preserve space
- Joined Health Food Green Space Coalition
- Benefited from academic research completed by PhD candidate Leticia Garcia ("The Social Construction of Urban Garden Space as a Site for Anti-Racist Struggle" based on feminist research conducted with the African American United Fund)
- Continue to provide services due to grants from the Alston Beech Foundation and other mini grant funders
- Create vibrancy in our community by joining with our student neighbors from Temple University, Freedom Schools, area nonprofits and long term residents to perform community clean ups.
- Founder, Philadelphia Home Grown Music Festival planning committee

# QUESTIONS ?

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