



# P R E S S   R E L E A S E

## B O A R D   O F   C O M M I S S I O N E R S

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Tuesday, September 20, 2016**

**Commissioners:**  
Steven A. Davis  
David L. Levacy  
Mike Kiger

**County Administrator**  
Carri L. Brown

### **Fairfield County Land Bank Receives Second Neighborhood Initiative Program Grant**

**Clerk**  
Rachel A. Elsea

**Lancaster, Ohio-** The Fairfield County Land Bank has been awarded a \$443,000 Neighborhood Initiative Program (NIP) Grant to continue their mission to improve vacant and blighted properties throughout Fairfield County in an effort to prevent future foreclosures for existing homeowners.

Fairfield County Land Bank board member and Fairfield County Commission President, Dave Levacy, stated, “The Land Bank is a tremendous community asset for its critical role in acquiring and repurposing vacant, abandoned, and foreclosed properties. The collaborative efforts help to improve property and the economy overall. We are thrilled with the second grant for Fairfield County.”

This grant will allow for the demolition of roughly 30 additional properties in Fairfield County while expanding the target areas beyond Lancaster, Violet Township, and Walnut Township. This is the second grant the Land Bank has received, bringing the total grant funding to \$843,000 and extending the program through December 2019. The first NIP grant was used to demolish twenty one properties with another four scheduled. The average acquisition, asbestos testing/remediation, demolition, and greening of a single property costs around \$17,000.

Signs will soon be placed at properties that have been improved by the Fairfield County Land Bank informing citizens of improvements.

For more information, please contact Michael Kaper at [mjkaper@co.fairfield.oh.us](mailto:mjkaper@co.fairfield.oh.us)

###

S E R V E   •   C O N N E C T   •   P R O T E C T