

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

JERRAMIAH T. HEALY
MAYOR



CITY HALL
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302
TEL:(201) 547-5200
FAX:(201) 547-4288

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Contact: Jennifer Morrill
Press Secretary
201-547-4836
201-376-0699

Mayor Healy Announces City's Plan to Publish Abandoned Property List

JERSEY CITY – The city's 40 worst abandoned properties are about to be put on the public record through publication in the local newspaper in an effort by the Healy Administration to place pressure on those owners to improve their properties which are currently a blight to their neighborhood.

“We want these property owners to know that we are serious about holding them accountable,” said **Mayor Healy**. “And if they continue to allow their properties to be an eyesore for the community, we will utilize the means available to us to acquire and remediate those properties.”

The New Jersey Abandoned Properties Rehabilitation Act provides municipalities with tools to address the problems of abandoned properties in their communities.

The law defines “abandoned property” as any property that has not been legally occupied for six (6) months, and which also meets any one of the following criteria; (a) the property is in need of rehabilitation, and no rehabilitation has taken place for six (6) months; (b) construction was initiated and then discontinued prior to completion, and no construction has taken place for six (6) months; (c) the property is in property tax arrears by at least one installment; or (d) the property is determined to be a nuisance by the public officer.

“The properties being listed are the most egregious in the City and are the site of numerous complaints and often criminal activity and we will not tolerate this type of neglect in our city,” added **Mayor Healy**.

Municipal powers that can be utilized per the provisions of the state law include, but are not limited to, Accelerated Foreclosure of Tax Liens and Spot Blight.

The Department of Housing, Economic Development and Commerce Division of Housing Code Enforcement, in conjunction with the Division of Community Development, has allocated funding from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and other sources to be utilized should the city need to reclaim any of the properties.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///