



DETROIT BLIGHT REMOVAL TASK FORCE RELEASES BLIGHT PLAN AND RECOMMENDATIONS TODAY

Data Driven Detroit (D3), an affiliate of Michigan Nonprofit Association (MNA), is excited to participate in the release of the Detroit Blight Removal Task Force’s final report, “Every Neighborhood Has a Future...And It Doesn’t Include Blight.”

Eight months ago, the Task Force sought to develop a straightforward and detailed implementation plan to address every blighted structure and vacant lot in the city of Detroit. The three co-chairs organized a team of experts from all levels of government, the private and nonprofit sectors, and the foundation community to provide insight on the topic of blight elimination.

The report uses the data collected from the Motor City Mapping project as a foundation to understand the city’s landscape and create informed recommendations.

As you flip through the pages of the report, you’ll find detailed descriptions and recommendations on how to

- Define the overall scope of blight in Detroit;
- Focus efforts for greatest geographic impact;
- Choose the appropriate intervention on a structure-by-structure basis;
- Conduct blight elimination in a way that’s sensitive to environmental and public health factors;
- Institute policy reform that will proactively address future blight; and
- Fund blight elimination initiatives across the city.

What is Motor City Mapping?

The Motor City Mapping project was a groundbreaking effort to survey each of the 380,000 parcels in the city of Detroit, implemented by D3, MNA, LOVELAND Technologies, the Quicken Loans family of companies, and a dedicated team of 200 resident surveyors and drivers. For every property, the survey identified condition, occupancy, and use, providing the information necessary to understand the challenge of blight on both a micro and macro scale.

The data from the survey, as well as data from over 20 additional third-party datasets, together created a detailed description of every property in the city.

In the spirit of open data, all of the survey data are available for download on the project’s website, <http://www.motorcitymapping.org>. Check back to the project website as we make more data available for display and for download.

Everyone at D3 is looking forward to the implementation of the Task Force’s recommendations. We are committed to making this information accessible to all and hope to serve as a resource for those interested in bringing about change. Additional information on the survey implementation and D3’s participation on the Motor City Mapping project can be found on today’s blog.

For more information on the Detroit Blight Removal Task Force and their report, go to timetoendblight.com.

To visit the Motor City Mapping project website, go to motorcitymapping.org. For more information on Data Driven Detroit, go to datadrivendetroit.org.

Contact Diana Flora, Data Driven Detroit’s Revitalization Fellow and Project Manager, for any questions relating to the Motor City Mapping project.

Contact Dana Politi for any media inquiries.