

# THE PORT

Making Real Estate Work

February 11, 2025

The Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority  
3 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St. Suite 300  
Cincinnati, OH 45202

## **Re: Support for the City of Cincinnati's Vacant Building Registration**

Chairman Jeffreys and members of the Equitable Growth and Housing Committee,

The Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority (The Port) strongly supports the implementation of a vacant building registration. As the managing entity of the Hamilton County Land Reutilization Corporation (the Landbank), we are collectively guided by the mission of putting properties back to productive use. The registry will help protect residents while preserving a significant share of the city's housing stock.

In collaboration with local partners, including the City of Cincinnati, The Port has successfully secured and often stabilized numerous hazardous and vacant structures. Many of these homes have been rehabbed by The Port or purchased by applicants from the Landbank for renovation, helping to address the critical housing shortage.

Through this work, The Port has gained a deeper understanding of the risks and adverse impacts of negligent vacant properties on the health and safety of neighborhood residents. With the enforcement of a vacant building registry, more structures will be accounted for and held to a standard of compliance that mitigates harmful effects.

In Cincinnati, vacant structures are more prevalent in low- to moderate-income neighborhoods, where we are hyper-focused on restoring homeownership rates. The vacant structures, if left unchecked, can cause nearby home values to stagnate or decline, hindering neighborhood stability. By identifying and preserving vacant structures through this registration, we can better protect residents' wealth and neighborhood vitality, providing opportunities for further growth and development.

The vacant building registration is a critical step toward the revitalization of Cincinnati neighborhoods. Holding property owners accountable for maintaining safe buildings improves the safety and well-being of the entire region.

We appreciate your thoughtful consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Philip Denning  
Executive Vice President  
The Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority

