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Westmoreland County Redevelopment Authority & Land Bank Blight Boot Camp 2022 leads the charge in the county's fight on blight

Greensburg, PA (March 03, 2022) – The residents of Westmoreland County are probably familiar with blight, even if they haven't heard the word before: the dangerous, crumbling, vacant, and abandoned properties littered throughout their towns. The mission of The Westmoreland County Redevelopment Authority & Land Bank (RACW) is to lead the fight on blight, helping to build healthy neighborhoods and downtown business districts by preventing, remediating, and eliminating these unsightly, costly, and hazardous properties. To empower the municipalities and communities of Westmoreland County to join the fight on blight, the RACW is hosting their inaugural Blight Remediation Summit, "Blight Boot Camp 2022," on April 22, 2022, from 9am–3pm at the Event Center at WCCC Youngwood Campus.

Coinciding with the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Westmoreland, 2022 will see the RACW host Westmoreland County's first-ever Annual Blight Remediation Summit, Blight Boot Camp 2022. This one-day conference is intended to be an informative, hands-on event to educate the municipalities, cities, communities, and relevant service providers of Westmoreland County on the causes of and solutions to blight in their neighborhoods. An audience of about 75–100 attendees is projected, made up of municipal and county-wide elected and appointed officials and staff, code enforcement officers and professionals, school district administrators, solicitors, and business managers, magistrates, developers, real estate agents, and other relevant county participants.

Local and national experts on blight remediation are scheduled to lead informational and Q&A sessions to give participants actionable steps to start implementing in their communities right away, as well as answer all their burning questions on blight. Such presenters include Keynote Speaker Brian Larkin, Executive Director of the National Land Bank Network, and session speaker Kim Graziani of the Center for Community Progress. Other session speakers include President and Founder of Branton Strategies, LLC and author of The Pennsylvania Land Bank Resource Guide, Winnie Branton, as well as Christy Bean Rowing, Executive Director of City of Washington Citywide Development Corporation, among other knowledgeable and experienced professionals in the fight on blight.

The Westmoreland County Redevelopment Authority & Land Bank strive to work hand in hand with local officials and like-minded organizations to carry out blight demolition, residential and commercial rehabilitation, acquisition and repurposing of vacant and tax-delinquent properties, accessible and affordable housing, training and education partnerships, historic preservation, and brownfield redevelopment, all to make the communities of Westmoreland County more desirable places in which to live, work, raise a family and prosper.

To learn more about the schedule, speakers, and topics of Blight Boot Camp 2022, visit www.tinyurl.com/BlightSummit2022