Baltimore-Johns Hopkins University Partnership on Smart Blight Remediation

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Presentation overview

- Baltimore's blight challenges
- Making informed decisions
- City/university partnership to meet data needs



Baltimore overview

- Baltimore has lost 1/3 of its population since 1950
- Today, we have 16,500 boarded up vacant buildings
- Of these, 13,000 are in distressed markets
- Despite these conditions, we have developed capacity and made progress through strategic partnerships





DHCD's data infrastructure

- DHCD maintains its own mapping system, CodeMap
- We bring in information from our internal business systems that track vacant property notices and code enforcement interventions, and from the State Department of Assessments & Taxation, along with a host of other context data





DHCD uses different interventions to combat vacants, grow markets, and improve communities in different housing market typologies.

- Streamlined Code Enforcement
- *Community Development Cluster*
- Demolition Cluster













AFFORDABLE HOUSING REHABBED OR BUILT (MORE THAN 600 UNITS IN GREENMOUNT WEST AND BARCLAY)







Middle market vacancy trends



Unoccupied as indicator of neighborhood stability



Many properties that were likely unoccupied 1.5 years ago have now become vacant.



Unoccupancy and demolition in a rowhouse environment



1800 block of Lauretta

Based on an imperfect water data proxy, the two non-VBNs on the south side of this block are likely to be unoccupied. If so, demolition may be more affordable than it would otherwise appear.

1800 block of Lauretta (2011)



Identifying contiguous vacants in a rowhouse environment



2000 block of Harlem

Among many vacants, it might not be obvious that 2019-23 could be demolished without building any walls, but for GIS analysis.



Using data to identify imminent dangers



N. Calhoun & W. Lafayette

Using data to identify end of group properties that may present an imminent danger, and demolishing those that present a safety risk.



903 N. Calhoun





City+University Partnership

Close collaboration for several years

- Depts. of Applied Math & Stats and Sociology
- Policy evaluation, rapid response, and research

Projects

- Vacant and Unoccupied properties
- Demolition priorities and imminent danger
- Understanding the impact of residency trends with qualitative data – Who is moving in?







City+University Partnership



Projects

- Vacant and Unoccupied properties
- Demolition priorities and imminent danger
- Understanding the impact of residency trends with qualitative data Who is moving in?







Who's Moving In? Divestment and Investment in Baltimore's Neighborhoods

Poverty and Inequality Research Lab Johns Hopkins University

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