




City of Detroit  
Detroit City Council - District 4

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 17, 2024

TO: David Whitaker, Legislative Policy Division

FROM: Latisha Johnson  
District 4 Councilmember 

**SUBJECT: Blighted Commercial Properties**

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Greetings,

Blighted commercial properties and real estate speculation hinder economic growth and progress in Detroit neighborhoods. Please provide a report that answers the following questions:

1. What are the enforceable actions that the City of Detroit can take to discourage speculation and seize blighted property?
2. Does the Detroit Building Authority currently have the authority to execute a program to seize blighted commercial property?
3. Please provide a list of commercial properties in District 4 inclusive of property ownership, blight violations, and taxes owed.

If you have any questions, please contact Yolanda Jackson, our Senior Policy Analyst, at [yolanda.jackson@detroitmi.gov](mailto:yolanda.jackson@detroitmi.gov).