



## CITY OF DETROIT

GABRIELA SANTIAGO-ROMERO

COUNCIL MEMBER

---

# MEMORANDUM

**To:** Tammy Daniels, Detroit Land Bank Authority, Interim Director

**Through:** Council President Mary Sheffield

**From:** Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero submitting memorandum relative to

**Date:** 3/18/2022

**RE:** FY 2022-2023 Budget: Detroit Land Bank Authority

---

### SUMMARY:

1. What is DLBA's role in the "Make it Home" program giving tenant right of first refusal to tax-foreclosed properties?
  - a. What needs (marketing, homebuyer financing) are there to expand this program -- and what other means of home-buying accessibility is DLBA exploring through programs or partnerships?
2. When will the DLBA five-year strategic plan be available, and how will it be made available?
3. What is your communications and marketing budget – and what are the means of communicating programs?
  - a. Is this budget and set of outreach methods sufficient?
  - b. Do you include languages such as Spanish and Arabic in your materials and outreach? Which materials and/or outreach? If some programs are not yet marketed in languages other than English, please describe why not and provide a possible timeline or budget.

4. What role could the Land Bank play in promoting affordable housing through cooperative ownership models or land trusts? Will these kinds of models be included in your 5-year plan?
5. Many households cannot build generational wealth, take advantage of tax programs, and generally hold onto their property because of title issues, as pointed out by DLBA staff during your budget hearing. How can DLBA help with distributing simplified living trust forms or holding workshops to ensure homes are not hindered by probate issues and end up in tax foreclosure due to inheritance planning issues?

Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions. Thank you.

**DEPARTMENTAL CONTACT:**

**Name:** Hank Kelley

**Position:** Senior Policy Analyst