Neighborhood and Community Development Committee
Standing Committee Meeting Agenda
Monday, March 03, 2014
5:00 PM

Location:
Municipal Office Building
701 N 7th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
5th Floor Conference Room

Name	Absent
Vacant	☐
Commissioner Brian McKiernan, Chair	☐
Commissioner Gayle Townsend	☐
Commissioner Ann Brandau-Murguia	☐
Commissioner James Walters	☐

I. **Call to Order/Roll Call**

II. **Approval of standing committee minutes from January 6, 2014**

III. **Committee Agenda**

Item No. 1 - COMMUNICATION: LAND BANK POLICIES

Synopsis:
Communication requesting that the Neighborhood and Community Development Committee discuss the following:

- Role of Land Bank in hold Property
- Land Bank Manager sending letters to developers of "Hold" areas to get an update on their progress and future commitments
- Land Bank Manager will report at future N&CD committee meeting w/ recommendations for "Hold" areas

Tracking #: 140063

IV.   <u>**Outcomes**</u>

V.   <u>**Adjourn**</u>

NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES
Monday, January 6, 2014

The meeting of the Neighborhood and Community Development Standing Committee was held on Monday, January 6, 2014, at 5:00 p.m., in the 5th Floor Conference Room of the Municipal Office Building. The following members were present: Commissioner McKiernan, Chairperson; Commissioners Walters, Murguia, and Townsend.

I.   Chairman McKiernan called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken and members were present as shown above.

Chairman McKiernan stated normally the first item on our agenda is the approval of the minutes from our last meeting. However, there were some issues getting the minutes for this particular committee included in the packet and so we will approve two sets of minutes at our next meeting.

That then brings us to kind of a related announcement. That is several of us on the committee had talked about how we would like to have the agenda packets for these committee meetings a little bit earlier in time to give us time to go through them, to read a little bit more thoroughly, maybe to get some questions answered before the meeting so that when we do come to the meeting, we're more informed and we can make a better decision and a better vote on any items that come forward for a vote. I've been talking with our staff and we're going to try an experiment starting next month. Normally we have agenda review on the Wednesday prior to a Monday meeting. The agenda packets are then distributed on the Thursday prior to a Monday meeting. We're going to try to move everything up by a week so that we have our agenda review two Wednesdays before the meeting and so the packets get distributed two Thursdays before the meeting.

Now, the first month or two we're going to have to figure out how this is going to work. We have to be especially sensitive to Economic and Development items that are timely and need to be brought forward to the meeting even if they don't make the initial early deadline for bringing materials forward. Starting next month, you should expect to find your agenda packet two Thursdays prior to the meeting which will give you a full week for review before the meeting. As we go through, we'll

continue to work out any kinks in the processing to make sure that we meet the demands of plenty of time for staff, but also plenty of time for commissioners to review. That's just an announcement.

II.   Committee Agenda

Item No. 1 – 130430…   **Communication requesting consideration of the following applications and report, submitted by Chris Slaughter, Land Bank Manager. The Land Bank Advisory Board has recommended approval of the applications.**

                            Side-lot applications
                            1127 Haskell Ave. - Jose Rodriguez
                            3036 N. 31st St. - Jose Sottile
                            1886 N. 38th St. - Antionio Enriquez
                            18 S. Minnie St. - Karen Odom
                            3724 N. 35th St. - Lorenzo Garcia
                            2710 Walker Ave. - Timothy Leonard
                            61 S. 26th St. - Peyton Leslie
                            63 S. 26th St. - Peyton Leslie
                            854 Orville Ave. - Deborah Bennett

Chris Slaughter, Land Bank Manager, stated first I just want to note a quick typo on your packet. It did say 12 applications. It is 9 that we'll be reviewing tonight for side-lot applications.

Action: **Commissioner Murguia made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Walters, to approve**.

Commissioner Murguia stated just a couple of questions for clarity. You cannot obtain a side lot through this process, through the Land Bank process, if you're currently tax delinquent, correct? **Mr. Slaughter** stated correct. If you currently are showing any sort of code of violation as well, we will ask that the applicant get that remedied before we move the application forward. **Commissioner Murguia** asked how current can their last code violation be. **Mr. Slaughter** stated before I submit these through the RFA process, I do review Accela and Maui; I believe either way is correct, system to check for any current code violations. I will check either by the person's name or that current mailing address that they have.

     Commissioner Murguia stated we don't have to do this tonight. I would like to see us look at maybe a policy with this process that says that you can't have had a code violation in the last 12

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months. I'm a little flexible on that. I'd go down to six months. It's not that hard. Our codes aren't that strict. It would be great. I know that this is not your fault because when you checked, they did not have a code violation. Now we have a side-lot that came through this process in my district and it's full of junk and it has numerous code violations sitting on a side-lot that was given to them through this process.

Mr. Slaughter asked this individual received this property through the Land Bank. **Commissioner Murguia** stated yes. That's not your fault because you followed process which was, is there a current code violation. When that happened, there wasn't a violation. I think they needed the lot to put their junk on. We can't allow that to happen.   If there is a way, not saying it would have prevented this particular situation, but if there's a way to add to our policy that we have to look back 6 months or 12 months, whatever you all think is reasonable. I think not having a current code violation is a pretty minimal standard.

Mr. Slaughter stated I'm just a little unclear. Do they currently have the violation and do we know when they received the property? According to their deed, they have—if it's within the first year, we have the right to retain the property.   **Commissioner Murguia** stated it's all been within a year and I didn't know that. You have the option to bring the property back? **Mr. Slaughter** stated we will ask them to remedy the situation. Based on our large inventory number, I don't know if the board would want to consider taking that back into the inventory. I feel the best way to handle this would be to give them the opportunity to remedy this. Let them know that this is not encouraged. If they don't comply with that, then yes, we can use that clause in their deed. **Commissioner Murguia** stated I'll get you that address. **Mr. Slaughter** stated I appreciate that.

Chairman McKiernan stated but I think that goes to a bigger point. First of all, is it possible that we could look 6 or 12 months retroactively and look for violations on that property?   I think this comes down to how much time and person power can we invest, can we afford to invest upfront or after the fact to enforce the policies that we actually have in terms of these code violations. **Mr. Slaughter** stated I believe if it's stated in the policy, we need to be enforcing that.   I apologize. It was probably an oversight on my behalf but with that information, I'll see what I can do.

Commissioner Murguia stated you're managing a lot of property and you're one person in your department. There's nobody else working with you. That's understandable. That's why I'm saying if we can get ahead of the game and look at what they've done six months prior or a year prior that might be better than having to react once it's already done. **Chairman McKiernan** stated exactly and after the fact, do you get a tickler notice from codes if a property that you transferred out of the

Land Bank then generates a violation within those first 12 months. **Mr. Slaughter** stated I don't want to speak for codes, but I would say it'd be pretty hard for them to know that, that had previously been owned by the Land Bank. I'm sure they have a lot on their plate too and the last thing they want to be checking back is past ownership. I think it's something worth exploring. I don't know if we have any discussions coming up about that. That may be something to put on a checklist of possible ways to set up that red flag to notify myself, codes, or whoever else would need to know, the commissioner of that district, because if we wanted to just get rid of this property, I think we would be giving it away. We have asked them to go through a certain set of criteria to be eligible and to hold the property for a short period of time. I think that's the least that the applicants can do is to turn around and do what we ask them to do.

  Commissioner Murguia stated it doesn't mean that they can't—if somebody has a code violation currently, whatever we decide is a reasonable amount of time, they just have to remain code free, code violation free, for 6 months or a year. It doesn't mean they can't come back and apply. It's not like people are clamoring for these side-lots. I doubt there is going to be anybody taking it over it the meantime. It does, I think, send a message early on that they're not going to be allowed to treat even their own property like that because that affects surrounding property owners.

Commissioner Townsend stated the concern I would have is whether or not we are going to prohibit people from getting lots through the Land Bank merely if they've had a code violation. The issue for me would be has it been remedied. The fact that they've had it for 6 months or 12 months certainly if it's open, then that's already a no-no under our current provisions. What if they had a code violation that was remedied and there's been no further problem? Is that significant enough or reason enough to preclude them from the side-lot if they are complying with all the requirements? We don't know what somebody is going to do after they get it. That's the only thing I would want us to consider and be aware of; we don't know. If they've been compliant, then what is the reason? **Mr. Slaughter** stated there's going to be different types of scenarios that present different types of responses. One that comes to mind real quickly is graffiti. You may have been cited for your house for graffiti even though you didn't put it there. You may be in some certain circumstances where you can't immediately get out there and remedy that. That may not be a reason to keep you from getting that side-lot, to put a garden or to expand your yard for your kids. I think it would just be an interesting conversation to have and to come up with some solutions for that.

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Commissioner Murguia stated we have a big agenda. I didn't mean to go on. I do agree with Commissioner Townsend. Staff is completely capable of coming up with suggestions. This is my concern. It's not the one time violator that fixed the violation. I look at code violators sometimes like I do offenders. They tend to repeat their behavior over and over and over again. My concern is that just because the code violator has resolved their issue, if they've had 10 code violations in 6 months even if they resolved them, I have concerns about the repeat offenses. **Commissioner Townsend** said okay. **Commissioner Murguia** said I should have been clearer. You're exactly right. We definitely don't want to penalize a one-time person especially if it's on a graffiti issue. I don't want to belabor this issue. I'm just saying, I'm sure staff, you know what you do and you know what you run up against. If you can maybe vet that a little bit better. What I'm just trying to prevent from happening is from people being code free for a couple of days so they can get a side-lot and then cause a lot of problems for the neighborhood. That's all. **Mr. Slaughter** stated I appreciate it. Generally with everything I have to do, that's not at the top of my list once I transfer a property to check that on a daily or weekly basis nor should it probably be, but I appreciate that you brought that up.

Roll call was taken on the motion and there were four "Ayes," Walters, Murguia, Townsend, McKiernan.

2013 Wyandotte County Land Bank Conveyance Report

Mr. Slaughter stated each year I provide this report to you. It's also published in *The Echo*. It provides the past year's activity of property that we conveyed out of the Land Bank. Just to pay attention to the last page, we did convey a total of 105 properties. The amount of revenue generated to the Unified Government from the Land Bank sales was $50,546.32. Also, 25 of those 105 properties were conveyed to CDCs, Habitat for their ongoing projects.

Commissioner Murguia stated they were charged nothing. **Mr. Slaughter** stated correct. **Chairman McKiernan** asked this $50,000 is simply the amount of the transfer, not the amount of taxes then that are generated from those properties. **Mr. Slaughter** said that's the amount of money generated through the sales.

Action: **No action taken.**

IV. Public Agenda

Item No. 1 – 140003…   **Appearance of Pamela Garcia to discuss city ordinances on backyard hens.**

Action: **Ms. Garcia did not appear.**

Chairman McKiernan stated we will double-check and follow up with her and offer her an opportunity to come back to our next meeting and lead her discussion.

V. Outcomes

Item No. 1 -120136…   **Discussion regarding data that could be collected that would help in the creation and completion of housing goals.**

Chairman McKiernan stated one of the things, and this last discussion about the Land Bank has started to hint at is, one of the things that we've been talking quite a bit about, at least some of us have been lately is, we generate a lot of data or we could generate a lot of data about our function as the Unified Government about businesses, about homes, about properties, about code violations, licenses, and rentals, and deeds. The ability to quickly and easily gather, store, access in some meaningful way those data would really be of help to us. As we've talk about for a couple of meetings now, we're going to continue our discussion of data tonight.

Tonight, our staff is going to begin to give us an idea about data that they already gather that is actually quite large in volume but may be stored in multiple locations and start to educate us as to some of the challenges they face to gather, store, and then report on all the data that we're currently gathering and use that as a springboard for a discussion into how can we make the system better and more usable in the future.

Doug Bach, Deputy County Administrator, stated tonight we have several staff members present that are going to walk through a demonstration of the systems we have so you all can see and probably just by noting the fact when I say several staff members here, that probably shows you how many different masters we have of different systems that are out there. Coming to the microphone now is Chris Cooley from our Base Mapping area. Also, joining though, I think Chris Slaughter might be coming back in from stuff he has. We have Peggy Englehart and Greg Talkin from the Neighborhood Resource Center. Captain Quinn is here from the Police Department. We talked about different police records as well as

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George Brajkovic has worked on this and Mike Grimm. I'll turn it over to Chris and you can kind of walk through what you're going to present, but our emphasis here is, as the commissioner said, is to really show you what we're tracking now and how people can get into that and then kind of get feedback from that standpoint and then go to the point of where we can look at other data we do have but it's not available to the public.

Chris Cooley, Base Mapping, stated what I want to talk about is a little bit about applications, data, reports, and things like that, and also talk about tonight about public access. What's available to the public through applications through the web and so forth. Certainly, any of our information is open records and it's available to them at any time. Sometimes they have to do a request and a report will be generated and so forth. What we're showing you tonight is really just kind of the tip of the iceberg. There are for any of these systems that we show you these applications that are accessible to the public, there is a business system or multiple business systems that have much richer and deeper sets of data that feed what's going on there. What you're seeing in summary or the most commonly asked for kind of information.

What are talking about here? Data, reports and applications. This is something that kind of come up in discussions as we were preparing for this. Just to clarify some terminology and get us kind of all on the same page.

Data is simply raw tabular lists. It's unsynthesized and has very little meaning. This is tax data, tax information for several years. It doesn't have a lot of meaning until we synthesize it. This isn't a tax bill. This is a list of tax bill information; the status of those payments and so forth.

A report would then be synthesized from that. Here's one that Mike Grimm's department prepared on population information. This is available on our website today. It's comparing population from 1990 to 2000 and those changes in population. This is synthesized. It has content. It has meaning. It allows us to answer our question. What is going on in this neighborhood as far as population growth, a trend over 10 years or something like that? It's far better than just the raw data that's out there.

Applications allow us to on demand to kind of generate those reports. You search, grade, and explorations is what you're doing with an app. What you are seeing here is kind of some screenshots of the applications that we're going to talk about tonight. These will probably be the primary applications for people to get to, a lot of our primary data within the Unified Government and what's been going on with them.

The applications that we have today, the majority of them tend to be focused on single record generation. You're inquiring about a single address or a single parcel or a single incident, a single code violation or something like that. It isn't a more telling dashboard or report that gives you trends and statistics and charts and things like that. They tend to be individual inquiries; just kind of setting the groundwork there.

Talk about some of the specific applications. I'll go into the ones that I'm most familiar with and the ones that I work with. Certainly, I'll talk about DOTMAPS which my office maintains. We developed this application several years ago. It's a basic interactive web mapping viewer. It allows people to do what I call pan, zoom, and identify (PZI). It's the basic kind of thing. It's what we also refer to as being a map zilla. There are dozens of layers. It's not targeted at any one particular use. It tends to provide a lot of information. The basic stuff it does, it allows people to search by parcel number or an address. They can click and identify a property and get basic information about it, the parcel number, address, and basic subdivision information so they can get a little bit deeper into it. They can certainly turn on aerial photography so that they can see some context behind it. That's one application we have.

LANDSWEB

www.wycokck.org/landsweb

- detailed parcel information
- parcel number
- address
- owner name (if logged in)
- value
- taxes

Another one would be our LANDSWEB application. It goes by a few other synonyms like real estate search or parcel search, depending upon what department you're linking to. The basic application is LANDSWEB. To show you the basics of it, users can come to it and do a real estate search. If they've obtained the parcel number or address from the mapping site, they can come over here and they can enter that in. Not many people use parcel numbers but if they have it off of a tax bill or something like that, they can see this. If we have a current photo, it will appear here. Parcel number, obviously the property address. If I was a logged in user into this system, citizens have the ability to create a user account. If they're a logged in user then they will see owner name information here. This was a decision made several years ago when we were building these types of sites. We would freely and anonymously allow access to owner information. That's the way we're presenting things now. This goes on and it shows obviously the appraised value for many years and taxable information.

Going back to the search page, people can search by parcel number. They can sort things by subdivision and see what's going on within an individual subdivision. The state ID is by the Appraiser's Office, and then search by an address.

If you're ever talking to anybody about this stuff and they're having problems doing an address search, computers are very literal. If I type in 123 N. Main St. and it's just 123 Main St. and there's no north, they're going to get no results. I often tell people less is more. You're going to get a better search result if you type in less, so just type 123 Main rather than being North St. and everything that goes along with that.

APPRAISER PARCEL SEARCH

http://appr.wycokck.org/appraisal/publicaccess/

-detailed datasheet

-comp sales

-property images

-value

-sales history

The next application I'm going to show is from the Appraiser's Office. I don't support this directly but certainly some other property related information. They have their parcel search which is just a little bit more detailed information. A person can come in here and I'm going to use a parcel number. They could also use an address or the state ID that the Appraiser's Office uses. The results they get back are a little bit different. Click on this link and I'm going to see more detail. This is the basic information; obviously address information repeated from the site, some basic property characteristics, property values, current ones, as well as any validated sales they will present there, the sale values there.

They also have their detailed inventory data sheets available here. This is a PDF that will come up. This is a far more detailed look at the property as far as square footages, type of construction, condition, and those kinds of things. This is close to what they're actually using in their office to value a property.

Comparable sales. It shows us the sales that were used in the most recent value generation. It shows the subject property and each of the individual comps; validated sales that were used for their market analysis, and the most current property image of the property, that is available as well.

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Those are the applications that I'm most familiar with.   I am going to ask Peggy Englehart to come up here and talk a little about the NRC's E-link Program and its links to the NRC stuff.

Peggy Englehart, NRC, stated this link gets us to the Maui data. You might have heard that. It's also referred to as Accela. That happens to be the company that designed and continues to enhance it. This is their public facing page. The name E-link is something that we gave it just so we had something to call it. What it does, it lets you access, you as a citizen, access the data. I know you guys are familiar with the NRC, but just to say again the kind of data that we have in it is all the building permits, code enforcement, licenses which are both business licenses and rental licensing plus their inspections. Then Planning, we have certain agenda items that they have, vacations, change of zone, and so on.

Just to show you how this works, you can access the individual divisions up here, you can come down here; you always have more than one way to get at the data. I'm going to show you code enforcement. Again, you're going to have a couple of different ways to search it. I'm going to go by case type and pull up graffiti items for the last year. These are cases that were initiated since last January. These are other items. As you look here, you can see you can search by street number and case number, but people don't always know that case number because they just call in and report it. Just to give you an idea of kind of the data that's in here, I'm going to go by case type and it should pull back all of those records for the year.

What it does, it's just going to give you about 10. This is a little clunky. That's why we haven't really pushed it out with a lot of gusto. It shows you that it uses bing maps here. It will show you that those are the first 10 graffiti cases in the last year.   If you hover on them, it will pop up here and tell

you what the address is and there's the case number so a citizen could write that down and call in about it if they wanted to, but most likely they're going to call you about the address.

If you click this, more info link, you're going to peak into the case. So you see again the case, what type it is; here's its location. If you go into more details, you'll see that we have some parcel information. This is a linkage that we have to the other data bases that Chris talked about where we pull in real estate information, legal descriptions. We don't show it, well we do, land value. There's a couple of other things that we carry into the case for staff purposes like creating notices and property information sheets for court and those kind of documents that they need on the daily basis. We carry over a lot more information than what we put to the public facing.

Under additional information, depending upon what the case is, you'll see a lot more information there that's particular to that function. Rental licensing, you're going to see how many units it has, who the owner is, the business owner or manager. For building permits, you're going to see the things that are particular to building permits are going to be shown there. If these are associated, you would see them here. A lot of code cases don't have these associated with them. Here are the inspections associated with this so it would tell you the type of inspection it is, what the status was if they found violations. This is the date of it and these are the initials of the inspector.

Click that little doohickey there and you're going to get the comments that were recorded on the case. This tells you it was an environmental problem; remove graffiti. It tells you where it is. This is the same thing that goes out on the notice of violation letter to the people, to the citizen, to the violator, so they can see it right here. This is case status.

This is also what we call workflow. These are all the steps that have to be done to resolve the case from initiation to completion. So the checkmarks says done, done, done, and each of these things if there's a little bit more about it or their status would be showing. If there are any attachments to the case, they will display for the public but the public can't open them. That was one of the decisions we have. You can see there is a photo associated with the case and here is a PDF of the violation letter that was actually sent to the citizen telling them what the problem was and what to expect in terms of the following procedures. If there's any related permits, you would see those. If you had a rental license case, you'll most likely see related permit because any inspections that were required for that rental license would then show there so then you could click to that and easily move to it.

So for any of the cases that we have in the Maui system, be it any of these divisions, then you could find them and see them on-line. This is found on the home page if you go to wycokck, departments, NRC, and you'll see the E-link or we could give you this little URL too.

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Rance Quinn, KCK Police Department, stated I'm here to talk about how our Police Department currently shares crime data, at least a generic form of crime data with our citizens of our community. The way we do that is we use a free service called Spotcrime. If you were to go to any of your favorite search engines and type in spotcrime, all one word, s-p-o-t-c-r-i-m-e, it would give you this link and you could click on this link here. Once you get to the homepage, you can browse by state. You would find Kansas obviously and you would find our city, Kansas City crime map there, and then you can see the crimes that we share with them. It's shown in hundred blocks so you can't see a specific address where a crime would have occurred; however, you can see if it occurred on your block. What it shows here is either 300 crimes or two months worth of data. Typically, we hit the 300 crimes first. It uploads daily. If it was to upload tomorrow, it would kick off the crimes, the oldest crimes and run back up to 300. When you see these crimes here, you can see that there are several crimes that they show which are arrest, arson, assault, burglary, robbery, shooting, theft, vandalism, and others. These are kind of generic in terms and they may not necessarily match what we call a particular crime in our city, but this is because this is a national website, these are pretty generic. The crimes are kind of put into these generic category.

If I want to go up here and look at a particular crime, I can go up here and click on a particular crime like so, and it shows—that one is not a good one. This one occurred in the 200 Block of S. 10th St. and it's a vandalism and the report date was 12/17/2013. If I wanted to see some more information about it, I could click there and it will tell me a little bit more about where the location is and it pulls up a street view of the address location, not the particular address, but within the street itself. If I wanted to click on another one, I would just go to a different location. I can zoom in, that sort of thing so I can see the crimes for the different areas of the city.

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Another function that this has is if I was a particular citizen and I wanted to get an alert every time a crime occurred within my neighborhood, I could go in here and I could type in "get alert" and I can set up a radius around my house like one-eighth of a mile, one-half of a mile, that sort of thing, and then whenever the report came in and its entered into our system and it appears on this website, you'll be sent an email and it will say this crime occurred at this particular hundred block and you'll be able to see what's occurred in your neighborhood.

It has some other tools on here. It has some analytics. You can select the different crimes that you want to see or you can view them all. Right now, we're viewing them all. That's pretty basic. The analytics portion of this kind of shows our crime trend. Again, we only do 300 crimes on here so it looks like the oldest we'd go back is November 2013. It compares. It kind of shows—it shows November and December here on our crime trend. If you scroll down here, it can kind of show you that we had 2 shootings reported on here, robberies 0, burglaries 3, assaults 14, theft 17, and vandalism 10. The big blue portion here is arrests. Obviously, we've had more arrests than we have those particular crimes and that's why it appears big in this slice of the pie. It's just something simple that a person within our community can see our crime stats.

Chairman McKiernan stated the question I have probably goes to Chris. So far we've seen four different types of data. We've seen parcel data, we've seen appraisal data, we've seen code data, and now we've seen crime data. All of these data are available to the public currently through our website. Is that correct? **Mr. Cooley** stated yes, it is.

Mr. Cooley said that kind of concludes what we had put together. We can certainly go on to a discussion about anything that you guys may have regarding this. These are the highlights. In the context of maybe Land Bank or properties, what people are commonly asking questions about, is what's the property. What have the taxes been on it? What's the value? What are the code violations or building permits; those kinds of things. What's the crime in the area? Those are common questions we hear as in regards to these contexts. You can see that this data has uses in so many other ways. Not just in context, but maybe Land Bank or vacant properties that we've had this ongoing discussion about. There is opportunity for doing things differently for a change. We've got a lot there now, but there is room for improvement.

Chairman McKiernan stated certainly it seems to me that we want to collect data to do several things. We want to help make decisions, to help create policy, to help solve problems. I guess the first question

that I would ask—and this is more rhetorical—I expect an answer right now, but are we collecting the types of data that would help up us make decisions, create policy, and solve problems in our city? I have earlier—unfortunately members of the committee already got this from me—I have about three pages of do we have data questions. Do we know how to access it, I think would be the next question. I would wonder how many citizens would know how to go find these data on our website. Should one of the things that we do going forward be to try our best to educate people that it's there and how they can rather easily get to some of it. I think it might be good for all the commissioners to have a similar in-service on how to get to some of these data. If they want to look something up on their own, they can.

I have a follow up question. It seems like all of these data that we've seen here pretty much are good at showing us a single record or a range of singe records, but what about tabular reports. What if I want to collapse it across timeframes or geography? How easy is it to get tabular reports? **Mr. Cooley** stated that's something—it becomes an open records request that falls on the staff. It usually takes a little work from the skilled analyst. Peggy's office has many reports that are pre-canned that they can run upon a request; asking for the kind of thing that you're asking for, but it has to be a specific kind of thing. It isn't necessarily user driven or interactive on demand kind of thing.

To reiterate your observation, yes. This is very much to find an individual record. You do get a range of things so that you can drill down and see that individual record and get that story on that one property, that one site, that one incident; getting those summaries and statistics and those kinds of things. Not so good at that with these applications right now.

Chairman McKiernan stated I think that would be one thing that I would suggest that we all, both staff and elected alike, start to think about. What sorts of tabular reports? What sorts of summary reports would help us make decisions and create policy and solve problems? Then we can ask the question, how easy or how hard are those reports to create or to generate within our various systems. How confident are we that our data is accurate? **Mr. Cooley** asked how confident are we. **Chairman McKiernan** said yes. **Mr. Cooley** said it depends on the dataset. Certainly some datasets we're less confident in. I think that Peggy is very confident with the data that they're doing and people generating that data on a daily basis that's going in there. Certainly the things we're dealing with, with taxation and tax delinquent, it's very accurate. We're getting the right thing there. People generally holler when we get it wrong so we correct that form. There's fairly good confidence, I think, in what we've got there.

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Chairman McKiernan stated excellent because the next general observation I would have is if I'm going to try to make decisions and create policy and solve problems based on data, I want to make sure that it's as accurate as possible so I make the right decision.   **Mr. Cooley** stated there are some shortcomings in some datasets and I won't go into details right now.   Anytime you would ask a question, I think that staff would warn you that we can give you the answer to that, but here are the limitations of the data we have to answer that question.   I think that would be an important caveat we would want to give you.

Chairman McKiernan stated it seems like some of our data lives in different places.   There is the appraisal system, there's the code system, there's the crime system, and there are other systems.   How well do those systems talk to each other?   **Mr. Cooley** stated not very well.   They can be made to, but it takes expertise to make them talk or to make them integrate.   You're talking about a skilled analyst or a skilled developer, somebody like that, that knows and understands the data, knows and understands the daily basis, and probably a little bit of coding and computer programming.   We have some of those people on staff that do some of that today.   Peggy was mentioning that they were pulling over property information from the tax and appraisal systems into the code enforcement data that they're using in their business system.   Some of that, those linkages are happening, but it isn't always happening.   Some of that is just because of the way we operate.   We're set up and we have departments and we focus on our business and that's what we collect our data for is to do our job.   It has value to others and we're certainly willing to share it, but making those linkages can be a challenge sometimes.

Chairman McKiernan stated if I were to ask today, let's say, for a report that shows me all of the properties that have had code violations in the last year and I wanted to know what are the appraised values of all those properties, that report could be generated because you're bringing those data into your data base.

I think one of the other things, generically, that we should think about is how we allow or make all of our data systems talk to one another so that we can cross-reference the data and create richer reports that may give us more background for making decisions and for creating policy.   **Mr. Cooley** stated to that thought, one of the things—we just finished a year with Code For America.   One of the big pushes behind Code For America is opening data.   Certainly our data is open.   But law it is.   It's created with public funds; therefore, its public data.   Opening it up and providing access to it is making it easier to access is one of the key points of what Code For America pushed for.   Making the data out there, putting it out there in a tabular form that may be machine readable so that other users and other departments can bring it together on their own; maybe not have to ask that expert analyst over in the

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Police Department to generate it; maybe not have to go to the Appraiser's Office. An analyst in one department could pull that data together and generate, as you say, be able to generate some statistics or reports that can drive decisions.

We've already collected the data for our business needs. Our primary business needs, whatever it is we've collected the data from that. Let's use it for some other things and generate more value out of it. That's certainly a possibility and it requires us to kind of shift our thinking. Change the way that we think about open data.

The Obama administration, he changed the thought about federal data. It's open by default. Government data is always open by default, but what they mean by that is it is no longer a request and response. It's out there for somebody else to consume and use. That's a little bit of background behind that and thoughts behind it.

Chairman McKiernan stated well, I certainly have monopolized this conversation. I would ask is a couple of things, and certainly, I'll open it up to any other questions or comments. I'll ask a couple of things. First, for the members of this committee and actually for all of the commissioners, I'll ask that we start thinking about what sorts of data would help us solve problems, make decisions, and create policy. If you want to send those to me, I'll take responsibility for collating those lists and make sure that we pass them on.

If I could ask Chris, Chris, could you facilitate among staff just a discussion about what barriers or what challenges we run into in collecting and reporting on those data currently and kind of brainstorming how we can get better at it in the future; just a brainstorming discussion on how we collect and use data both for public consumption and then for special reporting like we might ask for on a particular case. If we can just bring updates on those two discussions to our next meeting, we'll continue this discussion then.

Do any of the other commissioners have any questions or comments that they'd like to bring forward on data? **Commissioner Murguia** said on this particular data, no.

Commissioner Townsend stated well, I think you hit the nail on the head. It was enlightening for me to know that this is just there first of all and available and a lot of our constituents viewing this may have that same, oh wow, I didn't know this was available in a fashion that would allow me to access it directly other than calling someone here at city hall and have them do it. That's number one. I guess the question for me or how this could be accessed or put together to be more effective, would be predicated on what question I'm trying to answer and I don't know the question to that. I think at this

level for me, it's just good to know it's there and available. We recently did the virtual tours and a lot of us did stats on who is in our district, ethnicity, education, income, so I'm sure these are some of the data bases that information was pulled from. We had a task and there it was.

Chairman McKiernan stated I think one of the things we also want to be mindful of is the fact that this is having access to data and having rich datasets comes at a price. We have to buy hardware, servers, and other connections to be able to both store and then serve or give out that data and it comes at a cost of personnel as well. We have to have people who will input the data and manage the data and report the data; program the data. Although it can be enormously useful, I think we need to continue to think about the costs that it comes with as well.

Action: **No action taken.**

V. Adjourn
Chairman McKiernan adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

tk

Staff Request for Commission Action

Tracking No. **140063**

☐ Revised

☐ On Going

Type: Standard

Committee: Neighborhood and Community Development Committee

Date of Standing Committee Action: 3/3/2014

(If none, please explain):

Proposed for the following Full Commission Meeting Date: **Confirmed Date:** 3/20/2014

3/20/2014

☐ **Changes Recommended By Standing Committee (New Action Form required with signatures)**

Date:	Contact Name:	Contact Phone:	Contact Email:	Ref:	Department / Division:
2/19/2014	Chris Slaughter	573-8977	cslaughter@wycokck.org		Administration/Land Bank

Item Description:

The Land Bank Manager respectfully requests that the Neighborhood & Community Development Committee discuss the following:

- Role of Land Bank in holding Property
- Land Bank Manager sending letters to developers of "Hold" areas to get an update on their progress and future commitments
- Land Bank Manager will report at future N&CD committee meeting w/recommendations for "Hold" areas

Action Requested:

No Action Required

☐ Publication Required

Budget Impact: (if applicable)

Amount: $
Source:

☐ Included In Budget

☐ Other (explain)

📎 File Attachment	📎 File Attachment	📎 File Attachment	📎 File Attachment