

Date

Dear (Name of local elected official)

I am writing to ask that you support the establishment of the Oakland Community Land Trust (Oakland CLT).

As a (resident) (business owner) in (City Council District), I have been increasingly concerned by the damage that the foreclosure crisis is doing to families, our neighborhoods and communities in Oakland. Urban Strategies Council estimates that there may be over 1,000 vacant properties as a result of foreclosures in Oakland. The Oakland CLT, as proposed by ACORN and Urban Strategies Council, represents a unique opportunity to create an institution that will benefit generations of Oakland residents.

The Oakland Community Land Trust would

- Transform vacant foreclosed properties from neighborhood blight into true community assets.
- Create permanently affordable home ownership opportunities for low and moderate income Oaklanders.
- Constitute a wise use of public dollars. For about the same investment as the city spends on developing affordable rental housing, the Land Trust would create permanently affordable home ownership units in Oakland's neighborhoods.
- Be governed by a board of community representatives who would be responsible for its operations.

Please do what you can to assist this effort to create opportunities for Oakland's working families by (specific vote or action requested.) If you or your staff would like more information about the Oakland CLT, please contact Andy Nelsen, Urban Strategies Council
Ph: (510) 893 1373 Email: andyn@urbanstrategies.org or visit the website at http://www.urbanstrategies.org/foreclosure/Community_Land_Trust/

Sincerely,

Name
Organization
City Council District