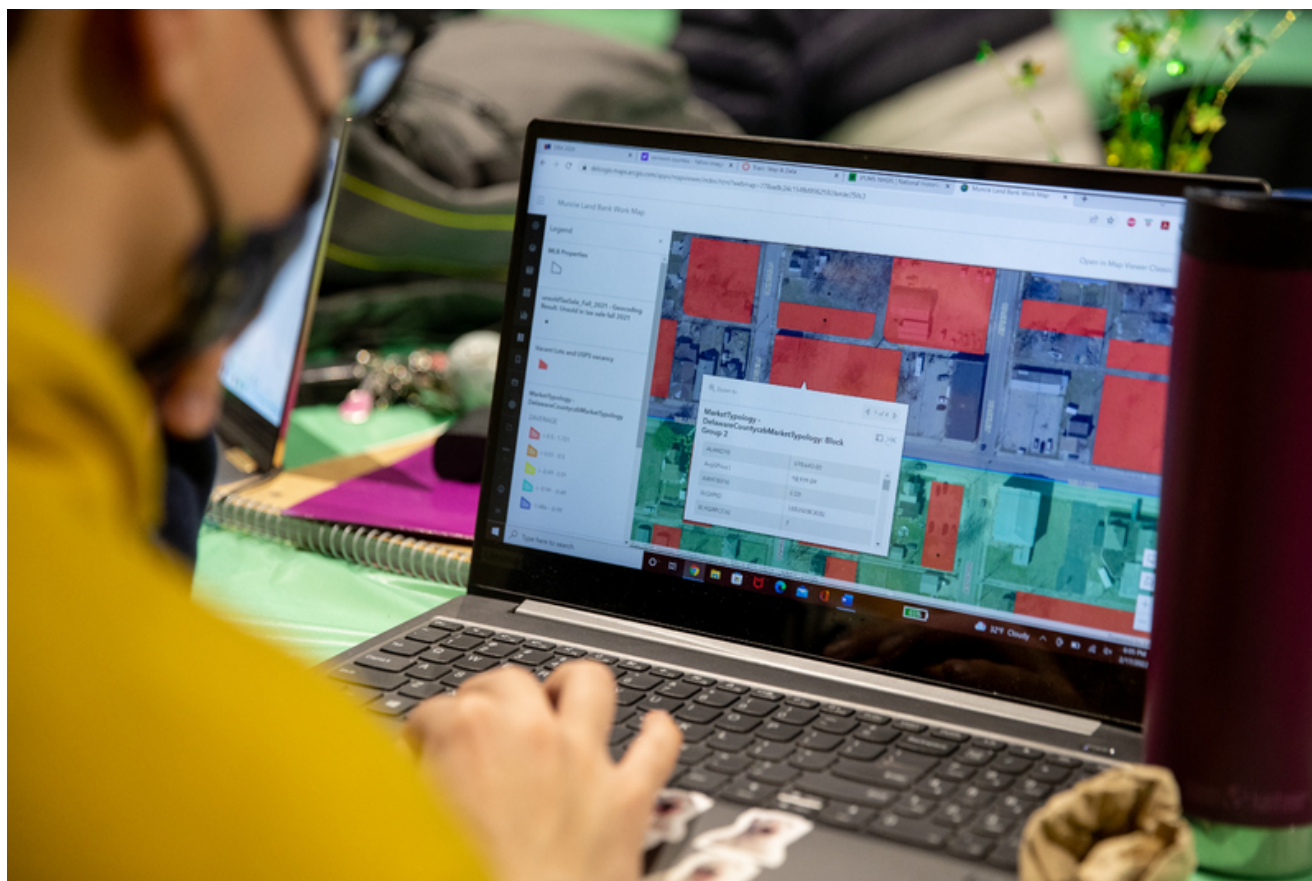


Overview · Understanding and Repurposing Land in Muncie · Immersive Learning Showcase Spring 2022

digitalresearch.bsu.edu/immersive-learning-showcase-spring-2022/exhibits/show/understanding-and-repurposing-/overview

Overview



Understanding and Repurposing Vacant Land in Muncie

In the spring 2022 semester, the Urban Planning 498 class worked with the Muncie Land Bank to find appropriate properties for the land bank to acquire. The mission of the Muncie Land Bank, Inc., is to acquire abandoned and blighted property, preserve it, and provide it to the public for strategic redevelopment. The class engaged the community in 1) Producing knowledge about vacant land in Muncie and 2) Proposing strategic reuse of abandoned properties. Faculty, students, and community partners will collaboratively publish the results of this immersive learning effort and share them publicly.

Over the course of the semester, the class achieved the following objectives:

- Reported stories about the impacts of vacant, publicly owned land

- Analyzed local data on abandonment (SCOUT Muncie) to answer practical research questions.
- Defined community priorities for vacant properties
- Sought community partners for achieving community re-use priorities.
- Proposed plans for the reuse of vacant land.

An important feature of this immersive learning class was meeting ‘community consultants’ who attended class with the students and provided strategic input into their work. Community consultants were individuals who currently work in local government, philanthropies, or have personal experience with vacant and abandoned properties.



Watch Video At: <https://youtu.be/1sdA4JhbWRE>

Faculty Mentor: Dr. John West, Department of Urban Planning

Students: Phillip Boadi, Lauren Bouslog, Adam Coleson, Lauren Doppke, Joe Fillenwarth, Andrew Kanwit, Kaelyn Leach, Alyssa Liebman, Ainsley Ludema, Taylor Matthews, Bryce Muller, Jessica Muncie, Matthew Pytel, Christian Terrell, Genevieve Zircher

[Project Photos](#) →

Overview

Land Bank Class Photos

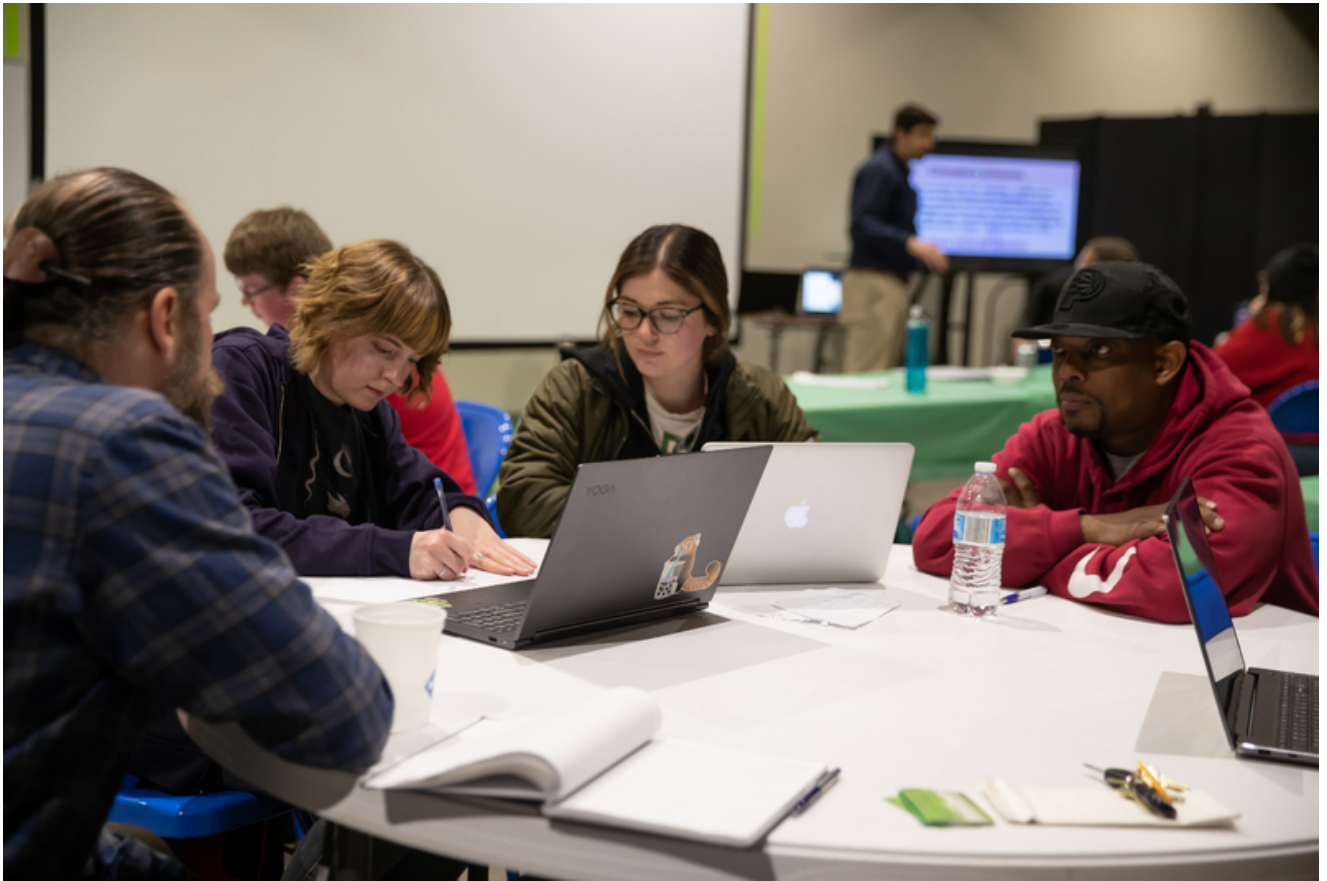
digitalresearch.bsu.edu/immersive-learning-showcase-spring-2022/exhibits/show/understanding-and-repurposing-/item/192

[Skip to main content](#)

[Immersive Learning Showcase Spring 2022](#)











Dublin Core

Title

Land Bank Class Photos

OWNER Cluster

digitalresearch.bsu.edu/immersive-learning-showcase-spring-2022/exhibits/show/understanding-and-repurposing-/owner-cluster



Genevieve Zircher, Joe Fillenwarth, Kaelyn Leach, Matthew Pytel

This group worked with Rebekah Hannah of the Old West End Economic Development Corporation (OWNER) to find potential properties, not for the group itself but for the Muncie Land Bank to acquire to provide aid in stabilizing the neighborhood. OWNER has expressed interest in the patterns of abandonment within the Old West End Neighborhood. A potential hope is that owners will be local to stop a large influx of out-of-town owners. Potential properties will have adequate access to food sources and fall in areas that classify as "lower demand markets."



Watch Video At: <https://youtu.be/mnENOEQJOAI>

Housing the Homeless

digitalresearch.bsu.edu/immersive-learning-showcase-spring-2022/exhibits/show/understanding-and-repurposing-/housing-the-homeless

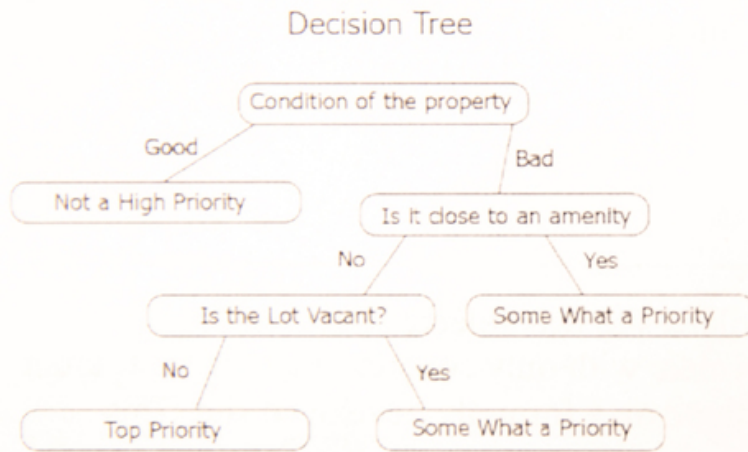


Figure 1: Decision Tree

Selected Properties

Based on the rationale outlined above, we chose three properties that would serve as sites for a tiny village. All are serviced by the MITS bus, they are all within reasonable walking distance of downtown, and they all are large, open lots with plenty of space to provide temporary housing for people.

Lauren Doppke, Taylor Matthews, Christian Terrell

Muncie has a rising number of homeless individuals. While some resources exist, shelter and amenities are seriously lacking. This group worked with Advocacy 4 Housing Homeless to pinpoint potential locations in Muncie that would be ideal for tiny home clusters. Ideal amenities would include, shelter from the weather, an address (often required for employment,) and within walking distance of public transportation. Muncie has a multitude of properties that are considered abandoned or vacant that could meet the criteria for a tiny home village.

of acquiring a property with a renovated, the focus should be on tiny homes (no bigger than small) with basic amenities to individuals.

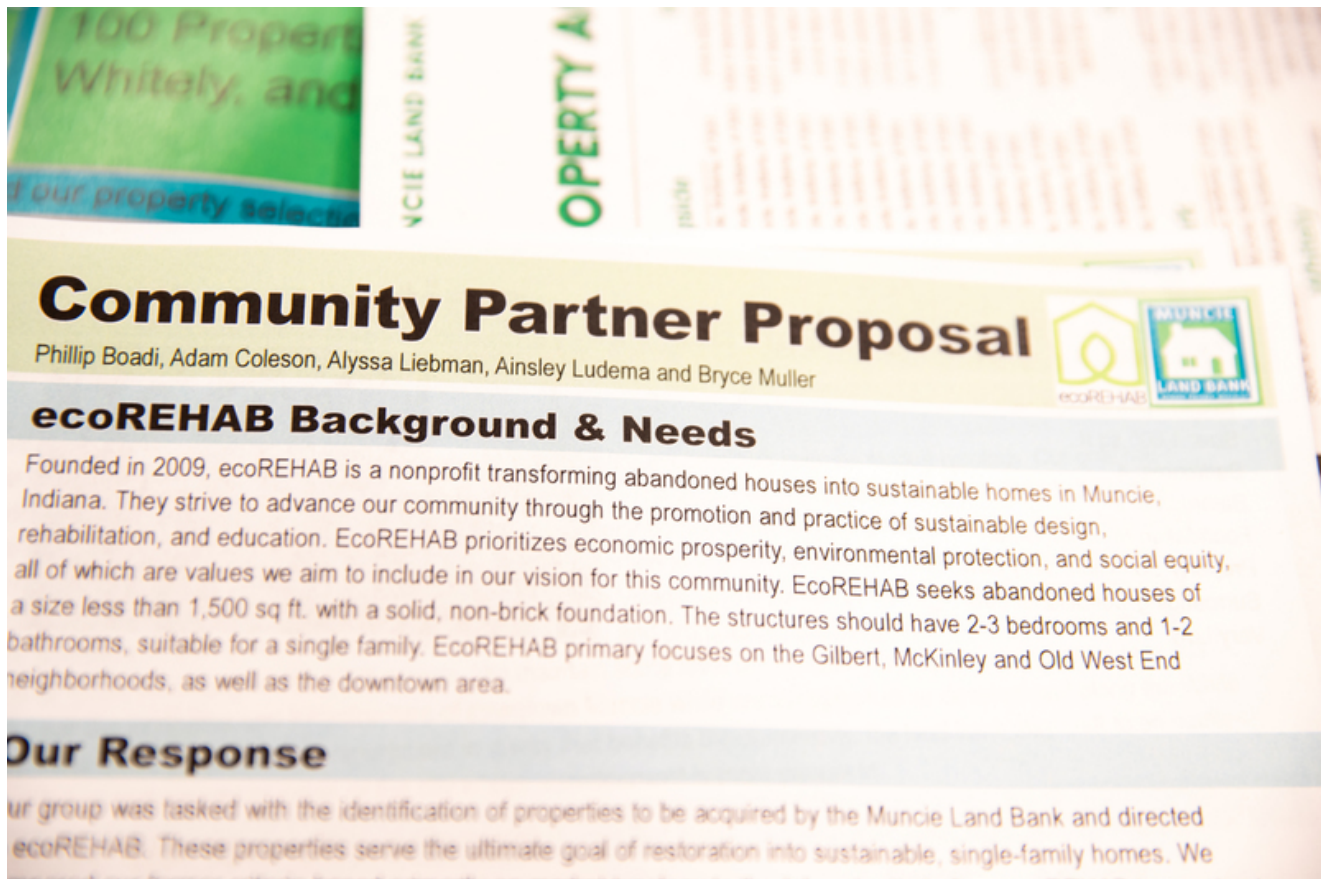
The ideal amenities that would provide are: 1) a place with shelter from the weather and for safety, 2) to provide temporary residents to acquire housing within walking distance of downtown Muncie and a MITS bus to allow for easy transportation.



Watch Video At: <https://youtu.be/m-ztugj7psk>

ecoREHAB Cluster

digitalresearch.bsu.edu/immersive-learning-showcase-spring-2022/exhibits/show/understanding-and-repurposing-/ecorehab-cluster



Phillip Boadi, Adam Coleson, Alyssa Liebman, Ainsley Ludema, Bryce Muller

This group worked with ecoREHAB, a nonprofit that transforms abandoned housing into sustainable homes in Muncie. ecoREHAB prioritizes economic prosperity, environmental protection, and social equity. The ideal structures are beginner homes that have 2-3 bedrooms and 1-2 baths, suitable for a single-family.



Watch Video At: https://youtu.be/7UEbja1o_TU

Urban Light CDC Cluster

digitalresearch.bsu.edu/immersive-learning-showcase-spring-2022/exhibits/show/understanding-and-repurposing-/urban-light-cdc-cluster



Lauren Bouslog, Andrew Kanwit, Jessica Muncie

This group has been working with the Urban Light CDC, an organization that helps the community through housing revitalization, neighborhood engagement, and a faithbased recovery home for women. They are looking for 1-3 bedroom houses in decent condition - with structural or roof damage which can easily be rehabilitated. They are particularly focused on the Industry Neighborhood.

Properties were chosen based: on 1) availability, 2) clusters, 3) on a major road, 4) along a major bus route, 5) modulation of the other categories if not enough properties were located.



Watch Video At: <https://youtu.be/BX34qD8bvWY>

← ecoREHAB Cluster

Urban Light CDC Cluster