



**1301 Third Street, Suite 606**  
**Detroit, Michigan 48226**  
**(313) 224-4737**  
[Demo-info@detroitmi.gov](mailto:Demo-info@detroitmi.gov)  
[www.detroitmi.gov/demolition](http://www.detroitmi.gov/demolition)

**TO:** CM Latisha Johnson, City Council District 4

**FROM:** LaJuan Counts, Director  
Detroit Construction & Demolition Department

**DATE:** March 24, 2023

**RE:** **FY 2023 – 2024 Budget Questions**  
**Detroit Construction & Demolition Department Response**

---

**Detroit Construction & Demolition Department answers to the following questions:**

1. How often are vacant properties assessed for demolition? Residents call requesting the demolition of a property which will be found “salvageable” by BSEED/Demo Department at one point in time; however, the property continues to sit vacant and deteriorate only to become more of an eyesore for the community.
  - a. **The Demolition Department is responsible for the execution of the demolition and does not make decisions on what is to be demolished.**
2. In the mission statement, there’s mention that “Through its demolition function, staff identify and strategically prioritize demolition targets...” How closely does said staff confer with residents in terms of identifying properties to be demolished and by what method(s) of engagement?
  - a. **The Detroit Demolition Department (3D) greatly values and frequently interfaces with residents regarding properties going through the demolition process. In 2022, 3D conducted 16 neighborhood tours with residents and attended/hosted 28 community meetings with residents. In each, the Department actively confers with residents to identify properties and answer questions they might have.**
3. On November 3, 2020, Detroit residents approved Proposal N for Neighborhoods, a comprehensive plan to address 14,000 vacant houses in Detroit through rehabilitation or demolition. Proposal N allows the City of Detroit to sell \$250 million in Neighborhood Improvement Bonds.



Demolition Department

1301 Third Street, Suite 606  
Detroit, Michigan 48226  
(313) 224-4737  
[Demo-info@detroitmi.gov](mailto:Demo-info@detroitmi.gov)  
[www.detroitmi.gov/demolition](http://www.detroitmi.gov/demolition)

- a. What is the amount of Bonds the city has sold?

**In reference to the Demolition Department Proposal N Bonds, the city has sold \$205 million in Neighborhood Improvement Bonds.**

- b. How much of the money has been spent?

**The Proposal N Bond program has disbursed approximately \$81 M to date in payments for program-related expenses.**

- c. What were the stated goals for demolition and rehabilitation?

**The stated goals of Proposal N were to complete 8,000 residential demolitions and 6,000 stabilizations.**

- d. On page of B16-4 the proposed budget indicates that about 3,700 hundred house have be demolished and about 3,700 have been boarded up. Are the “boarded up” houses going to be demolished or rehabilitated?

**Houses that have been boarded with plywood may be demolished or may be rehabilitated. Plywood boarding is intended to be a temporary measure to secure a property until action towards demolition OR rehabilitation may take place.**

- e. How many houses have been rehabilitated? How many of the rehabilitated houses have be sold through the DLBA?

**As of 3/21/2023, 1,410 properties have been stabilized and returned to the DLBA. It appears 823 properties have been sold by the DLBA.**