



ANNUAL REPORT



2024

REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OF THE CITY OF ERIE

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A MESSAGE

from the Executive Director



The Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie is proud to present our 2024 Annual Report, reflecting a year of meaningful progress in urban renewal, housing rehabilitation, and economic development. This year, we in collaboration with the Erie Land Bank, acquired 26 blighted properties, assisted more than 150 households, and secured \$4.8 million in new grant funding to expand our redevelopment initiatives. Through strategic investment in housing, infrastructure, and public spaces, like the East Bayfront Greenway Trail, we continue to make Erie a more vibrant and livable community.

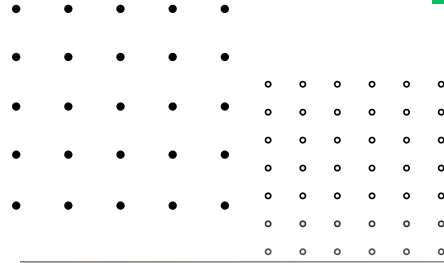
Neighborhood revitalization is more than just improving buildings – it's about improving lives. Every day, families are forced to live next to vacant, abandoned, and deteriorated properties, impacting their quality of life. Through our work, we speak for the residents who deserve safe and thriving neighborhoods. We actively seek funding to assist those on fixed incomes and single parents in making critical repairs to their homes, ensuring they can live in dignity. Additionally, we continue to leverage funding to address and mitigate the lead-based paint crisis, which has plagued Erie and other Rust Belt cities for decades, poisoning our youngest and most vulnerable residents.

I am incredibly proud of the tremendous work being done by our team of passionate individuals who are dedicated to making a real impact in the Erie community. Through their hard work, we are transforming Erie one home, one block, and one neighborhood at a time. Our success would not be possible without our partners, stakeholders, and the people of Erie, who share our vision for a stronger city. Thank you for your continued support as we build a brighter future together.

Aaron J. Snippert
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Snippert', written in a cursive style.

VISION & MISSION



Our Vision

The Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie is committed to Renewing, Rebuilding, and Revitalizing Erie’s neighborhoods, business districts, and public spaces. Since 1955, we have played a pivotal role in transforming communities, addressing blight, and fostering economic growth to create a thriving and sustainable city for all residents.



Our Mission

Through strategic redevelopment efforts, community-driven initiatives, and targeted investments, RACE continues to lead the way in improving Downtown Erie, strengthening neighborhood business districts, and enhancing residential communities. Our mission is to ensure that Erie remains a vibrant, inclusive, and opportunity-rich city, where every resident has access to safe housing, strong neighborhoods, and economic prosperity.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Charles Scalise, *Chairman*



Jeremy T. Toman, *Vice Chairman*



Kevin Nelson, *Secretary*



Ethan Tabakin, *Treasurer*



Andi Fair, *Assistant Secretary/Treasurer*



DEDICATED STAFF

04

Aaron Snippet
Executive Director

April Decker
Director of Finance and Administration

Holly Cook
Director of Program Administration

Tracy Applebee-Davis
Community Relations Manager

Pat Otteni
Housing Rehabilitation Manager

Luanne Martino
Risk Assessor/Healthy Homes
Coordinator

Dave Schaefer
Housing Rehabilitation Inspector

Kyle Mulligan
Blighted Property Manager

Cynthia Johnson
Executive Assistant

Angel Conrad
Data Entry/Administrative Assistant

Kendra Wilson
Community Engagement Specialist

Corey Reich
Finance Specialist



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie has successfully managed a diverse portfolio of grants and funding resources dedicated to redevelopment, housing assistance, and community revitalization.

As of December 2024, RACE has secured over **\$13.3 million** in grant funding for the Erie community, ensuring long-term investment in housing rehabilitation, lead hazard mitigation, and economic development projects.

“Our financial strength enables us to make a tangible, lasting impact on Erie’s neighborhoods by addressing blight, improving housing conditions, and supporting economic growth.”

- Erie Land Bank Operations
- Erie County Whole Home Repair & CDBG
- Erie County ACT 137 Housing Assistance
- HUD OLHCHH Lead Hazard Control Grant
- ARPA Blight Mitigation & Healthy Homes



Revenue

In 2024, the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie generated just under \$4.8 million in total revenue from 19 grant, fund, fee-for-service, and investment sources. This diverse funding portfolio allows us to revitalize homes, support homeowners, and develop key public infrastructure projects that contribute to the city’s long-term growth and stability.

2024 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2024, the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie made significant strides in blight mitigation, housing rehabilitation, community engagement, and economic revitalization. Our efforts focused on creating safer, healthier neighborhoods while fostering new opportunities for residents and businesses.

HUD OLHCHH Lead Hazard Control Grant (LHRD)

We secured our sixth direct HUD award of **\$4.7 million**, reinforcing our ongoing commitment to lead hazard reduction through inspections, remediation, and public education programs.

Our previous award allowed us to provide support to 150+ households through lead hazard control, home repairs, and housing improvement programs, injecting over \$1.9 million into the Erie community to create safer, healthier living conditions.



Public Asset Development – East Bayfront Greenway Trail

Progressed on transforming vacant lots into a dedicated greenway trail system, bringing new public spaces, connectivity, and recreational opportunities to the East Bayfront neighborhood.

Erie East Bayfront Greenway Trail Project
East 6th Street Park

CONCEPT: #3
AUGUST 2024

Blight Mitigation & Property Rehabilitation

Work continues on the rehabilitation and repurposing of blighted properties for residential and commercial use, ensuring vacant structures contribute to the city’s economic and social fabric. Under the Blight Mitigation Program, RACE has acquired 88 properties, with 58 already completed and efforts ongoing to finalize the remaining properties in 2025. This program primarily focuses on residential and light commercial properties within Erie.



Workforce Development & Training Expansion

We strengthened partnerships with the Erie Center for Arts & Technology to expand lead training programs, equipping more residents with certifications and job opportunities in lead hazard remediation. Additionally, workforce development programs expanded to create new job opportunities in construction and rehabilitation, ensuring that redevelopment efforts also benefit Erie's workforce.



Historic Preservation Efforts

Preserved and restored 46 historically significant structures across the city through dedicated historic preservation funding, protecting Erie's architectural heritage while supporting revitalization efforts.



Affordable Housing Development

Invested in the creation of 14 new affordable housing units within Erie through grant contracts with neighborhood groups and nonprofit developers, increasing housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income families.



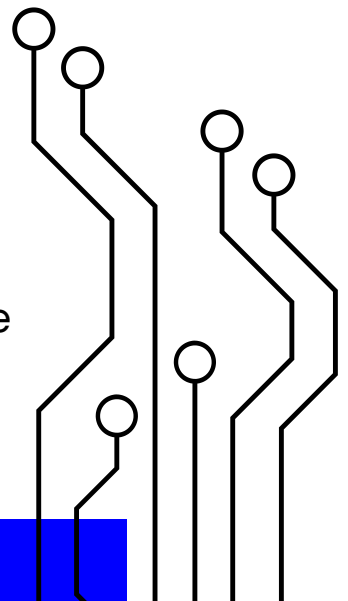
Economic Development Investment

Provided a \$5 million loan to the Enterprise Development Center of Erie County to support the development of Iron Works Square on West 12th Street, a project aimed at spurring economic activity and job creation.



Erie Neighborhood Growth Partnership

Dedicated staffing for resident outreach and resource access, ensuring Erie's neighborhoods thrive.



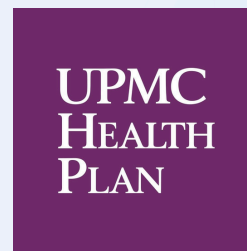
IN PARTNERSHIP



**ERIE
LAND BANK**



**Love
Your
Block**
ERIE, PA



**HAMOT
HEALTH
FOUNDATION**



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect

**Erie County
Department
of Health**



OWB
OUR WEST BAYFRONT



**CHANGING PLACES
CHANGING LIVES**



ERIE FAMILY CENTER

Supporting families to GROW step by step.



Protecting 18 Kids by Ending Lead Paint Poisoning



**ERIE COUNTY
LAND BANK**



**Pennsylvania
Council on the Arts**



ENGP

**ERIE NEIGHBORHOOD
GROWTH PARTNERSHIP**

LOOKING AHEAD ¹¹ 2025

Building on the successes of 2024, the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie (RACE) is committed to expanding housing rehabilitation, strengthening blight mitigation efforts, and fostering economic growth in 2025.

01 Scaling Up Housing Rehabilitation Efforts

to meet the growing demand for safe, quality housing, with expanded support for homeowners and affordable housing development.



02 Advancing Blight Mitigation

by completing the remaining 30+ properties in the Blight Mitigation Program and targeting scattered blight through strategic interventions.

03 Enhancing Community Engagement

by dedicating resources to the Erie Neighborhood Growth Partnership and expanding outreach efforts to better serve residents.



04 Continuing East Bayfront Greenway Trail

by transforming vacant lots into vibrant public spaces to improve connectivity and community recreation.

05 Expanding Workforce Development

through partnerships with the Erie Center for Arts & Technology, increasing training and job opportunities in lead mitigation and housing rehabilitation.

