



Reform tax abatement now!

In the next few days Cleveland City Council will vote to reauthorize the city's residential tax abatement program. The program currently gives 15-year property tax abatements for new housing construction or renovation projects. Increasingly, these abatements are subsidizing multi-unit, market-rate buildings in a few high-priced neighborhoods. This places an unfair burden on existing city taxpayers and widens economic and racial disparities.

Contact your Councilperson and demand changes to the proposed tax abatement legislation (Ordinance No. 482-2022).

Here are three changes to make the program more equitable:

- Stop giving tax abatements in strong market neighborhoods (such as Ohio City and Tremont) that are already saturated with high-end development.
- Require multi-family projects (buildings with 4 or more units) to make a portion of units affordable to households making less than Cleveland's median income (not the median income for the metropolitan area).
- If developers are allowed to pay a fee instead of setting aside affordable units, set the fee high enough to enable affordable units to be built (the proposed legislation sets the fee at \$20,000, which is way too low).

Tax abatement is one of our city's most important housing policies. Contact your Councilperson today and call for needed reforms. Contact information is on the Cleveland City Council website: <https://www.clevelandcitycouncil.org/>.

We want a community where everyone has access to safe, decent, affordable housing. It's time for Cleveland to align all its policies and incentives to make that happen.

A Better Cleveland for All
<https://abettercle4all.com/>