Conversations with Property Owners

Volunteers may be approached by property owners or neighboring property owners with questions when conducting windshield surveys in their communities. This document guides volunteers through these conversations and is intended to open lines of communication between Team Members and community members who may not have heard about the process. It is important for all members of the community to feel welcome, so setting a positive tone is important!

Who am I?

I am one of a group of volunteers in [insert community name] working to improve the overall conditions of our community by addressing brownfield, abandoned, dilapidated, and blighted properties. We are working with all residents to make it a safe and healthy place to live. Our goal is to return properties to productivity so they become assets to the community.

What is the goal?

As a team, our goal is to:

- Collect background information on the site, where possible.
- Determine what the owner's intentions may be for the site.
- Determine what challenges the owner may face, if any.
- Determine how we can bridge gaps to assist with challenges and address blight.

What will the BAD Buildings Team do with collected information?

Our survey team will share collected survey information with the rest of the team. We are going through the properties in our town and collecting data on current conditions. We will work on prioritizing sites that will support an improved community aesthetic and are realistic. We want to make our community a safe and healthy place to live.

The owner has plans, but has run into challenges. How can I help?

As volunteers in our community, we always want to encourage transparency! We plan to work with property owners on overcoming challenges. We can provide assistance with helping to sell the property, managing cleanup, and working with local government or other agencies to get connected to resources or funding.

Property owners are welcome and encouraged to attend future BAD Buildings meetings to discuss properties. I'd like to keep you in the loop, and we can continue to exchange ideas about how we can best support you and hear what actions you have taken or want to take on your property. How does that sound?