

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Rostraver Township Joins Westmoreland County Land Bank**

**GREENSBURG (September 6)** - The Board of Directors of the Westmoreland County Land Bank today announced that Rostraver Township is the latest municipality to join the countywide Land Bank along with the Belle Vernon Area School District. This brings the Land Bank's total member count to 22 municipalities and 13 school districts within Westmoreland County.

“The Rostraver Township Board of Commissioners is committed to continuing the proactive approach to keep Rostraver Township developing,” says Chairman Gary Beck. “By joining the Westmoreland County Land Bank, we are adding another opportunity for delinquent properties to be demolished or redeveloped to reduce blight and to add to the economic development of Rostraver Township. This partnership with Westmoreland County, Belle Vernon Area School District and Rostraver Township is beneficial to all three taxing bodies.”

Municipalities often find themselves in difficult predicaments when trying to acquire blighted properties in areas targeted for redevelopment and a Land Bank can offer the tools and powers necessary to make that kind of redevelopment possible. The Westmoreland County Land Bank acquires, holds, and transfers interest in real property throughout the county as approved by the Board of Directors. The overall goals are to deter the spread of blight, promote redevelopment and reuse of vacant, tax delinquent properties, stabilize neighborhoods, and stimulate industrial development.

Westmoreland County Land Bank Executive Director April Kopas adds, “The Land Bank is enthusiastic about its new partnership with Rostraver Township and the Belle Vernon Area School District. By eliminating blight and stabilizing these communities, we are targeted in our efforts to stimulate new investment.”

To learn more about the projects of the Westmoreland County Land Bank and to view development opportunities, please visit [www.westmorelandlandbank.com](http://www.westmorelandlandbank.com).

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