



# Resolution

## No. 2023-60

### **Create New State Funding for Demolition of Blighted Property for the Purpose of New Housing Construction**

**WHEREAS**, blighted properties pose significant challenges to communities, including decreased property values, increased crime rates, and negative impacts on public health and safety; *and*,

**WHEREAS**, repurposing blighted properties for housing development offers the opportunity to revitalize neighborhoods, improve living conditions, and stimulate economic growth; *and*,

**WHEREAS**, repurposing blighted properties allows for the efficient utilization of existing infrastructure, including transportation networks, water and sewer systems, and public services, resulting in substantial cost savings for both the state and local communities, rural and urban; *and*,

**WHEREAS**, leveraging existing infrastructure for housing development minimizes the need for costly new infrastructure construction, reducing the strain on public resources and promoting environmentally sustainable practices; *and*,

**WHEREAS**, the lower densities in rural areas make infrastructure costs much greater, providing an added benefit in rural areas; *and*,

**WHEREAS**, funding for blighted home demolition has long been available for contaminated properties; *and*,

**WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions and Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority previously funded blighted home demolition through the Strategic Blight Elimination Program; *and*,

**WHEREAS**, the availability of adequate funding plays a crucial role in addressing the issue of blighted properties and advancing housing development initiatives; *and*,

**WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin recognizes the importance of renewing and expanding housing stock, and supports efforts to create vibrant, sustainable communities; *and*,

**WHEREAS**, the demolition of blighted properties is an essential step towards repurposing the lots for housing development, allowing for the creation of new, safe, and affordable housing options; *and*,

**WHEREAS**, state funding specifically designated for the demolition of blighted properties would provide a significant boost to local governments and community organizations engaged in revitalization efforts; *and*,

**WHEREAS**, targeted funding can effectively address blighted properties in a timely manner, mitigating potential hazards and promoting new housing development and community cohesion;

