



CITY OF SOUTH BEND

PETE BUTTIGIEG, MAYOR

Office of the Mayor

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CITY, SOUTH BEND HERITAGE TO SHOWCASE RENOVATIONS OF FORMER VACANT HOMES

The City of South Bend and South Bend Heritage will celebrate the renovation of three formerly vacant and abandoned houses with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 2pm Monday, June 8 at one of the homes, 520 Cushing Street.

In addition to 520 Cushing Street, homes were renovated at 1215 Cedar Street and 1902 Prairie Street. The updated houses are available for purchase through South Bend Heritage's Homeownership Program, and are open for the public to tour from 3 to 6 pm on Tuesday, June 9.

"We are proud to be a partner in the City's vacant and abandoned properties initiative," says Marco Mariani, executive director of South Bend Heritage. "Stabilizing neighborhoods has been a part of our mission since 1974 and these renovations serve the needs of residents and help create a more cohesive community."

Addressing vacant and abandoned properties remains a top priority for Mayor Pete Buttigieg's administration. In February 2013, Mayor Buttigieg released a Vacant and Abandoned Properties Task Force Report calling for 1,000 abandoned houses to be addressed in 1,000 days. To date, action has been taken on 818 properties.

National NeighborWorks Week is celebrated June 6-14. Residents are encouraged to promote neighborhood engagement and celebrate community. South Bend NeighborWorks Week events include:

- A self-directed tour through the Lincoln Park neighborhood where construction on 24 new homes will begin later this summer.
- A free Home Buyer Education Course from 5:30 to 7:30 pm on Wednesday, June 10 at South Bend Heritage, 803 Lincolnway West. Register in advance at sbheritage.org.
- The Soul Food Luncheon from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm on Thursday, June 11 at the Charles Martin Youth Center 802 Lincolnway West, featuring keynote speaker Cristal Brisco, City of South Bend corporation counsel. A donation of \$15 is suggested to attend the luncheon. RSVP to jessicakitchens@sbheritage.org or 574-289-1066 ext. 214



For more information on NeighborWorks Week contact South Bend Heritage at 574-289-1066 ext. 214 or visit www.sbheritage.org.