

Wilmington, Delaware
July 3, 2025

#0081

Sponsor:

**Council
Member
Darby**

WHEREAS, the Wilmington City Council 2022-2025 Strategic Plan seeks to foster a “Stabilized Wilmington,” as well as a “Transparent and Well-Represented Wilmington,” wherein residents are informed and engaged in public matters; and

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2025, the Wilmington City Council adopted Resolution 25-024- A Resolution Requesting a Public Hearing by the Wilmington Neighborhood Conservancy Land Bank (WNCLB) Regarding the Acquisition and Future Development of the Gibraltar Property, which resolved that the WNCLB should hold a public hearing within sixty (60) days of the passing of the Resolution to “address matters including, but not limited to, how the Gibraltar property was acquired and the process involved in its transfer to the WNCLB”; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 25-024 encouraged that the WNCLB provide at least thirty (30) days notice of a public hearing through publication in prominent print and media outlets to ensure that there was adequate time to inform residents when and where the meeting would take place. The announcement on the WNCLB website of a public meeting on the “Acquisition & Rehabilitation of the Gibraltar Mansion” scheduled for May 7, 2025, did not adhere to these recommendations; and

WHEREAS, this failure to comply with some fundamental tenets of transparency, public accountability, and good-faith governance is counterproductive to the public’s trust in the operations of the WNCLB.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON this Legislative body implores the Wilmington Neighborhood Conservancy

Land Bank (WNCLB) to develop a Corrective Action Plan, which includes steps for holding a meaningful public dialogue on the Gibraltar Mansion and broader concerns about the WNCLB's processes and operational practices, to be submitted to this Council within 15 calendar days of this Resolution's passage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Corrective Action Plan should also include a clear accountability mechanism for ensuring public transparency going forward.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: The Wilmington City Council 2022-2025 Strategic Plan seeks to foster a "Stabilized Wilmington," as well as a "Transparent and Well-Represented Wilmington," wherein residents are informed and engaged in public matters. This Resolution notifies the Wilmington Neighborhood Conservancy Land Bank (WNCLB) of its lack of compliance with the recommendations of Resolution 25-024, A Resolution Requesting a Public Hearing by the Wilmington Neighborhood Conservancy Land Bank (WNCLB) Regarding the Acquisition and Future Development of the Gibraltar Property, and prescribes actionable measures to remediate these concerns going forward.