

2,000 Vacant Lots Available For Purchase

Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot announced that 2,000 vacant City lots are available for purchase and redevelopment by private buyers through a new land sale portal at [Chicago.gov/BlockBuilder](https://chicago.gov/BlockBuilder). This effort is part of an improvement plan to replace the City's land sale programs with a universal application process. The "ChiBlockBuilder" online portal includes an interactive map of available properties, pricing information, and a digital submission process that will foster infill development and open space projects within local neighborhoods.

The land is for sale for specific uses: side yards for adjacent neighbors, community open spaces such as gardens or plazas, housing developments, and commercial developments. The lots have established market value and environmental clearance.

Applicants that are owner/occupants of adjacent properties or community organizations creating open space are eligible to purchase lots at 10% of their market values. Applicants can also use ChiBlockBuilder to apply for lots to develop as affordable housing through the Chicago Department of Housing's City Lots for Working Families program.

The 2,000 lots are among approximately 10,000 owned by the City, most of which were acquired through foreclosures and demolition liens dating as far back as the 1950s. Almost 90% of the lots available for purchase are located in the 10 community areas participating in INVEST South/West revitalization strategy.

Applications will be accepted through Feb. 3rd, 2023. DPD will host three online webinars for potential purchasers this winter to answer questions about the process. Priority consideration will be given to adjacent property owners and applicants proposing to build new housing or other improvements that benefit the neighborhood.

For more information, visit [Chicago.gov/BlockBuilder](https://chicago.gov/BlockBuilder).