

Understanding Community Power in Influencing Change

**Presented on December 2, 2020-
National Zero Waste Conference**

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**Creating community led development without displacement and
Zero Waste in Baltimore**

www.twitter.com/BaltimoreSouth



SBCLTs Values:



- **EQUITY:** Leading a just Zero Waste transition away from burning and burying resources.
- **PARTICIPATION:** Building power by those directly impacted by our failed waste system that violates our basic human rights.
- **UNIVERSALITY:** Everyone has the right to live in a healthy community with our lives or the lives of others that are most at risk especially in the midst of this pandemic.

Presentation Objectives and Goals

SBCLT will explain how the campaign for fair development in Baltimore aligns with and advances:

- Managing Resources and converting problems into assets
- Community Land Trusts turning vacant land and properties from speculative commodities to community owned assets
- Work with dignity and living wage jobs
- Equitable siting of facilities, sharing benefits and challenges fairly



Campaign Findings

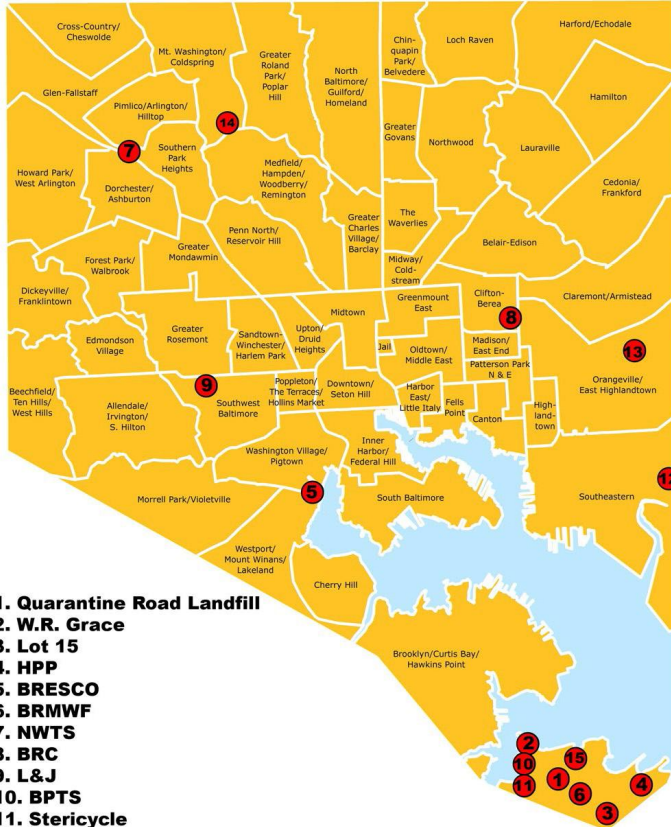


- 1. Free Your Voice: a youth led grassroots effort stopped the largest trash incinerator proposal in US history (2012-2016). We learned that Maryland has structures that incentivize trash burning (policies, public contracts, authorities)**
- 2. Locally, we found that we lack sufficient tools to lead and execute a development vision in our communities. We react to the cumulative decisions of individuals for profit polluting developments that, together, create a toxic environment and exploit workers.**
- 3. We uncovered the power of narrative based strategies, and identified community land trusts and zero waste as core elements to use with the community power we were building. Two outcomes were the development of SBCLT and creating Baltimore's Fair Development Plan for Zero Waste, which City Council unanimously adopted.**

Charles, Shashawnda, Destiny and many more worked for 5 years to stop the plan to build the nation's largest trash burning incinerator from being built less than a mile from our school...



Solid Waste Processing and Disposal Facilities Directly Serving Baltimore City



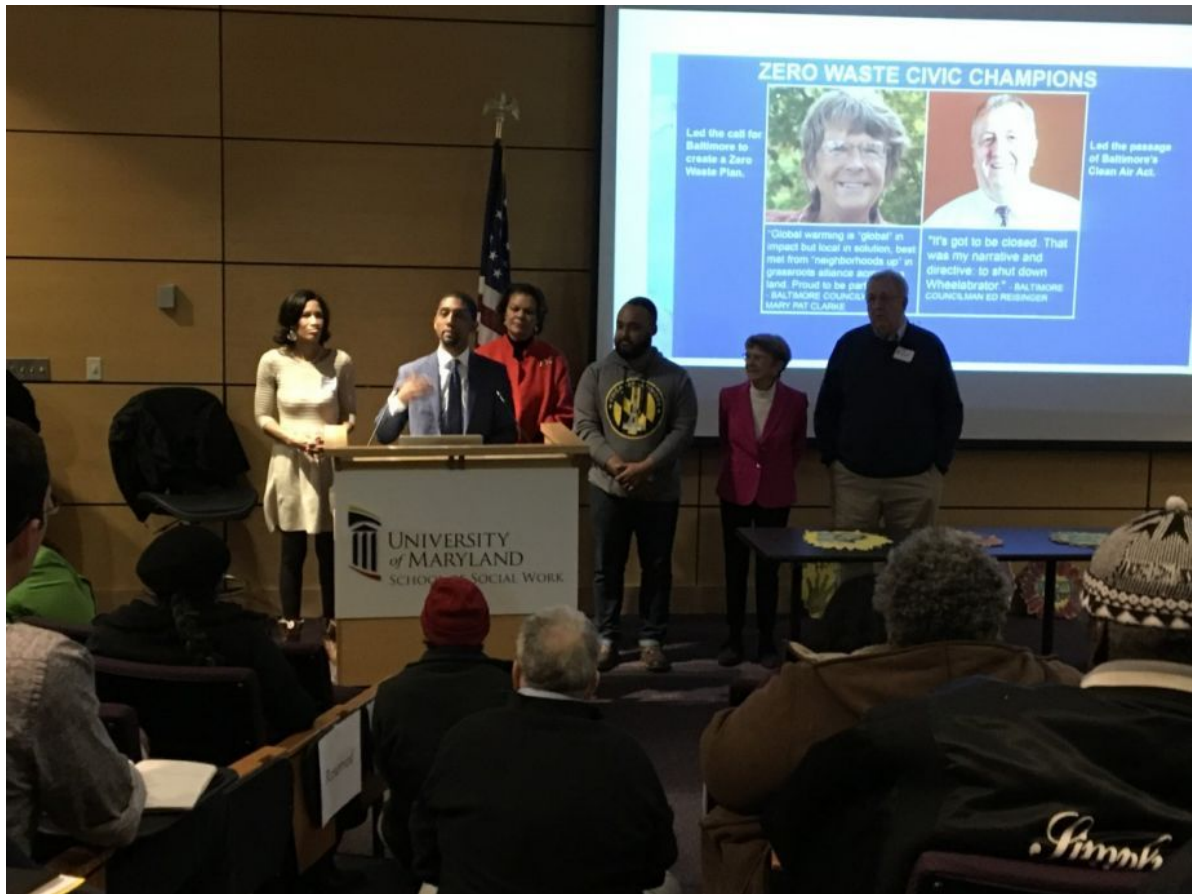
1. Quarantine Road Landfill
2. W.R. Grace
3. Lot 15
4. HPP
5. BRESKO
6. BRMWF
7. NWTs
8. BRC
9. L&J
10. BPTS
11. Stericycle
12. D. SharpSmart
13. Quad Ave.
14. Camp Small
15. BCFF
16. BRPF

A Centralized Waste Burning System That Costs Us All



Baltimore neighborhood's trash is burned at the BRESKO incinerator in South Baltimore. The incinerator causes 55 million dollars in health damages each year.

Mayor Elect Brandon Scott speaking at our Zero Waste Plan Launch





Youth leading a Zero Waste and fair development tour for city officials and stakeholders on a community owned green space.



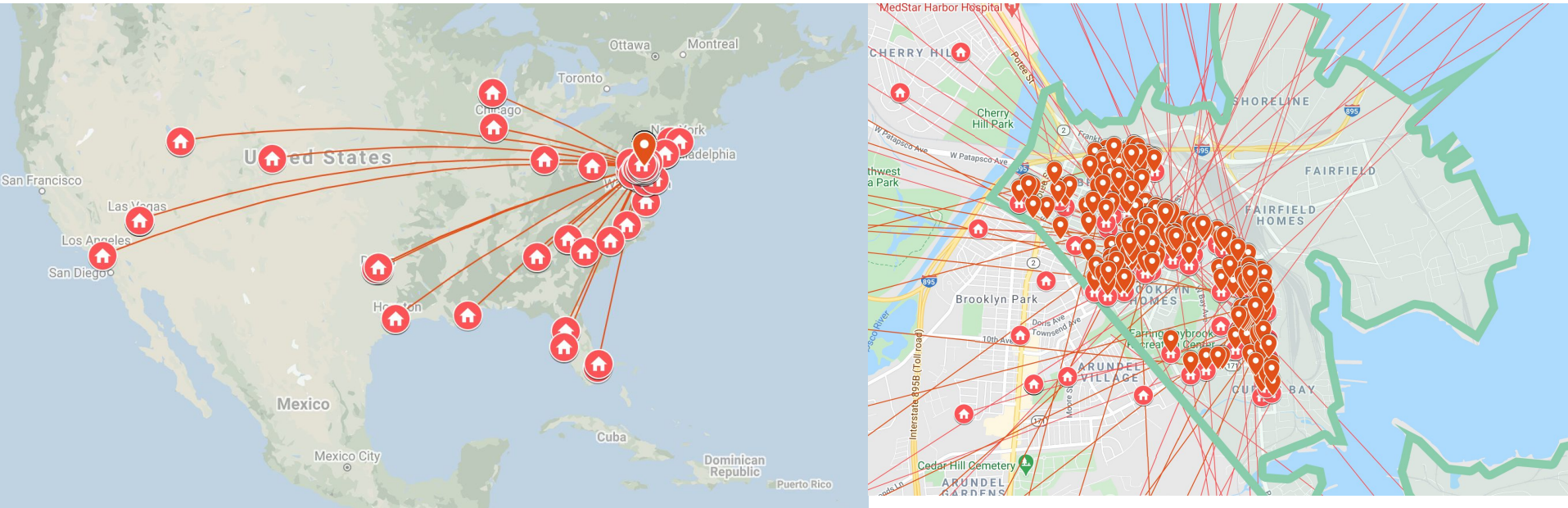
Community residents researched ways to preserve and develop land in their community



Another VICTORY- the community saved the decade old Community Garden from being taken back by the city! There is power in unity!

Hundreds of vacant buildings kept vacant by private speculators

A Map generated by youth leaders entitled: ***“Who owns our community?”***

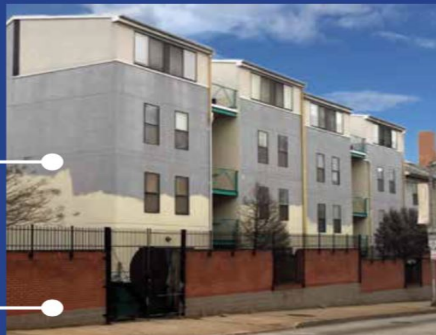


What Is a Community Land Trust?

A community land trust (CLT) keeps properties affordable and in the hands of the community by putting the house, not the land it occupies, on the market and allowing only people with low incomes to buy.

Individuals and families own the home

The CLT retains ownership of the land



A New Homebuying Process

- 1 New resident buys home
- 2 Annual fee for leasing land paid to CLT
- 3 Mortgage payment each month goes to pay down the principal, building equity
- 4 House is sold through at affordable price set by resale formula in Land Trust Agreement
- 5 Homeowner may share in some price appreciation in the market and secure return on equity
- 6 Opportunity to own home granted to a new resident

Community Land Trusts (CLTs) are governed by:

**$\frac{1}{3}$ CLT residents,
 $\frac{1}{3}$ community residents and
 $\frac{1}{3}$ community stakeholders who decide what priority areas are for development.**

This model will allow for development without displacement in the city, and will be led by the people most impacted: the community residents!



Residents and CDCs came together...



Community Development Corporations and residents joined efforts to discuss, explore, and learn more about how we can have a successful CLT in the city.

BALTIMORE'S FAIR DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR

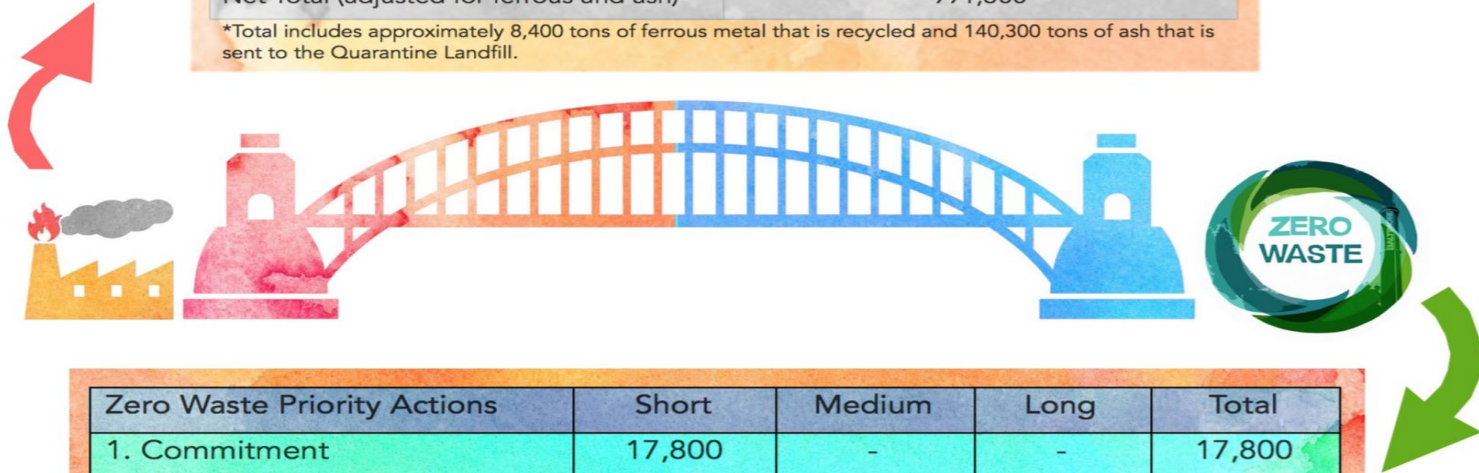


Produced by Zero Waste Associates in collaboration with Baltimore residents and stakeholders in response to City Council's call for a Zero Waste Plan to transition away from incineration in Baltimore. This plan was unanimously adopted by City Council and we are striving to

Thank you Gary Liss and Associates for helping to get Baltimore ready for a transition to Zero Waste.

Facility	Tons
Baltimore Refuse Energy Systems Co. (now Wheelabrator)	378,500*
Quarantine Road Landfill	481,600
Other Disposal Facilities	279,900
Total	1,140,000
Net Total (adjusted for ferrous and ash)	991,300

*Total includes approximately 8,400 tons of ferrous metal that is recycled and 140,300 tons of ash that is sent to the Quarantine Landfill.



Zero Waste Priority Actions	Short	Medium	Long	Total
1. Commitment	17,800	-	-	17,800
2. Clean Air				
3. Clean Communities	84,400	84,400	99,900	268,700
4. Reclaim Communities	57,100	375,800	-	432,900
5. More Jobs				
6. Less Waste	5,000	5,000	12,500	22,500
7. Build Community Power	19,800	35,600	-	55,400
Total	184,100	500,800	112,400	797,300

Baltimore's Just Transition to Zero Waste



**Bottom Line for
Baltimore:
800,000 tons
diverted**



Zero Waste initiatives will divert 800,000 tons of materials resulting in 90% per year diverted from landfills.

**Bottom Line for
Baltimore:
1,800 JOBS**



By implementing the Zero Waste Plan we will create 1,800 good green jobs.

“Under my administration, we’re going to work to not burn as much at the incinerator as possible,” Scott told *The Brew*. “And I will work my butt off to make sure that this is the last time we ever give them a new contract.”





Under legal pressure from BRESKO, Baltimore County just settled a \$32 Million Dollar Lawsuit by agreeing to a 5 year “put or pay” contract.

At the same time, we are helping to spark a regional shift to Zero Waste from the long standing burn and bury systems in place.

Baltimore County Executive: “We’re fully committed to a zero-waste future in Baltimore County. In the past, the county has refused to innovate for our solid waste needs, but our administration is finally changing that,”





Zero Waste Coalition



The coalition that created the city Zero Waste plan is now growing to advance implementation.

Community: 6 South Baltimore Communities are at the center of Baltimore's current burn/bury system

Labor: Teamsters Union

Anchor Institutions: Johns Hopkins and other local universities

City: Member of Mayor's transition team, also participation from City Council champions.

National networks: guidance from GAIA and Zero Waste networks is invaluable

What do we need to do now?

Can you help?

Convert political commitments into implementation of Baltimore's Fair Development Plan for Zero Waste to create jobs and protect our health and environment. To do so we must:

- 1. Tap into the strength of the Zero Waste national community in response to the search for Baltimore's next DPW director to put forth candidates eager to put their skills to work.**
- 2. Amplify Baltimore residents' message to City and County officials that a just transition to Zero Waste is achievable but requires ongoing commitment and political will.**
- 3. Leverage the diverse experience of the Zero Waste network to support implementation in Baltimore through technical support, lesson sharing, etc...**

Thank you, please stay connected

Email us: MYSBCLT[@gmail.com](mailto:MYSBCLT@gmail.com)

Donate: www.paypal.me/SBCLT



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