

## BHC

## Faith Based Land





# About Better Housing Coalition



## Our History: A 35-Year Record of Success

#### **Community Impacts**

1,600 quality apartments

250+ homes sold

**50,000** sq. ft. of commercial properties

More than **15,000** individuals served since 1990

#### **Economic Impacts**

Over **\$300 million** in real estate investments in the region

More than **\$15 million** in real estate revenues added back to local tax rolls

Economic Multiplier Regional Ripple Effect: **\$300 million** 





Image from the Community Foundation for a greater Richmond

## Where we work

- 1. Cary West
- 2. Randolph Place
- 3. Lincoln Mews
- 4. North Oak
- 5. Jefferson Mews
- 6. The Goodwyn at Union Hill
- 7. Beckstoffer's Mill Loft Apartments
- 8. Somanath Senior Apartments
- 9. Carter Woods
- 10. Monarch Woods
- 11. Rockwood Village
- 12. Winchester Greens
- 13. Markets Campus
- 14. Claiborne Square



### Development Highlights The Goodwyn at Union Hill (2019) 52 apartments for families \$8.8mm





#### Claiborne Square, Petersburg (2011) Senior housing, 47 units \$6.5mm Developed on land owned by Tabernacle Baptist Church





#### Proposed development in Short Pump area, Henrico County





## Grove Ave. Church







## Real Estate Challenges

Site Identification – Ideally 2-5 +acre, near community amenities, transportation

Acquisition Cost – approximately less than \$15,000 /unit

Zoning – proposals for affordable multifamily housing typically encounter community resistance which adds to the predevelopment cost and is subject to political pressures.

Opposition follows typical pattern, affordable housing would lower property values, traffic concerns, loss of "open land" often used by neighborhood

## Advantages of Partnership with Faith Communities

- Churches are typically located in established residential neighborhoods and are near schools and community resources
- Churches enjoy positive and trusted relationships with neighbors
- Churches usually have ample adjoining property
- Housing development can provide financial support, e.g. through a land lease agreement that can help support church's operations and programs
- Changes previously tax exempt land into taxable real estate

How HB 1124 could facilitate affordable housing development

By right zoning would eliminate the political pressure for elected officials

Design standards including density, height, open space can be established by locality that would ensure compatibility to surrounding area

Ensures long term affordability for low to moderate income households



# Questions?