

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 12, 2022

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**COOK COUNTY LAND BANK AUTHORITY CONGRATULATES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON
NEW ROLE AS CEO OF CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE CENTER**

CHICAGO —The Cook County Land Bank Authority (CCLBA) today announced its Executive Director Eleanor Esser Gorski will depart next month to serve as CEO of the Chicago Architecture Center.

As executive director of the Cook County Land Bank Authority, Gorski helped to grow the organization's impact in alignment with the Land Bank's mission to power community-driven economic development in disinvested communities throughout Cook County. She made possible the redevelopment of numerous residential and multifamily buildings and helped drive forward major deals like the redevelopment of Woodlawn's Washington Park Bank and the CTA Red Line Extension Project.

"It has been an honor to lead the Cook County Land Bank Authority and advance its work to make a meaningful difference in sustainable, equitable development in Cook County," **Gorski said.** "The Land Bank's approach to community development has been transformational for thousands of families, small business owners and developers, and I look forward to partnering with the CCLBA in the future.

Under Gorski's leadership, the organization grew community wealth creation to \$156 million and saw the redevelopment of its 1,000th home.

"Eleanor Gorski's leadership at the Cook County Land Bank Authority has moved the organization through significant milestones, from the development of the 1,000th home to the advancement of the redevelopment of Woodlawn's historic Washington Park Bank building," said **Toni Preckwinkle, Cook County Board President.** "I am proud of her contributions to our mission to empower small developers to thrive and create more equitable development and the way they have set the Land Bank up for continued success in the future. I look forward to her continued support of the Land Bank in the future."

"For nearly 10 years, the mission of the Land Bank has been to build homeownership and empower local developers to transform their neighborhoods, build businesses and create jobs while taking on blight and vacant housing," said **Cook County Commissioner Bridget Gainer,**

Board Chair of the Cook County Land Bank Authority. “Eleanor has helped CCLBA to grow and evolve its vision from a residential strategy to one that includes strategic projects that make neighborhoods come alive. We look forward to a great partnership with Eleanor at the Chicago Architecture Center to bring the world-class design Chicago is known for to all of our neighborhoods.”

“I am deeply appreciative of Eleanor Gorski’s leadership at the Land Bank and look forward to the organization’s continued leadership as a solution to blight and inequity,” said **Maurice Cox, Commissioner of the Department of Planning and Development at the City of Chicago.**

Gorski’s last day as CCLBA executive director is December 1.

For more information, visit www.cookcountylandbankauthority.com.

About the Cook County Land Bank Authority

The Cook County Land Bank Authority, an independent agency of Cook County, was founded by the Cook County Board of Commissioners in 2013 to address residents and communities hit hard by the mortgage crisis. CCLBA gives local developers, community groups and potential homeowners the tools to transform their own communities from within. The Land Bank acquires properties that have sat tax-delinquent, abandoned and vacant for years and sells them at below-market rates to qualified community-based developers, who then rehab the properties. This approach not only keeps revenue and jobs in the community, but it also helps local developers grow their businesses. Learn more about the Cook County Land Bank Authority at <http://www.cookcountylandbank.org> or email info@cookcountylandbank.org.

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