

BAKERSFIELD COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

Board of Directors Initial Recruitment Notice

The City of Bakersfield is establishing a community land trust titled the "Bakersfield Community Land Trust" (BCLT) and is currently recruiting four individuals to join its seven-member board. At-Large Directors will serve a minimum of three years.

Mission and Purpose

The BCLT was established on February 12, 2024, and is in the process of obtaining 501(c)(3) nonprofit status. Its mission is to create housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income families in Bakersfield. The BCLT aims to support and steward these families by ensuring that homes remain affordable in perpetuity. For more information on Community Land Trust see **Attachment A**.

Board Member Responsibilities

The BCLT board of directors are responsible for providing strategic guidance and oversight for the organization. This includes working with community members and partners to fulfill its mission, develop the overall direction of the work, and ensure that the organization's finances, operations, and policies are well managed.

Please see the **Attachment B** summary of potential shared responsibilities of board members for the BCLT.

Qualifications and Commitment

We seek candidates who are passionate about BCLT's mission and goals and who can draw on their professional and/or personal experiences to help guide the organization. Currently, there are three board members, and as stated in the bylaws, BCLT shall have seven members. The role is voluntary and unpaid, requiring a time commitment of 1–2 hours for meetings once a month. Meetings are typically held at City Hall North (1600 Truxtun Avenue), 1st floor, though the venue may vary.

Application Process

To apply, please fill out **Attachment C** Board of Directors Application. Application packets are available at the Economic & Community Development (ECD) department at City Hall North (1600 Truxtun Avenue), 3rd floor, on the [City's website](#), and the [BCLT website](#). Completed packets should be returned to the ECD Department via email to Rogelio Martinez, Planner II rogmartinez@bakersfieldcity.us. To be considered in this initial recruitment, the board of director application is **due November 22, 2024**.

Attachment A

COMMUNITY LAND TRUST INFORMATIONAL SHEET

What is a Community Land Trust?

A Community Land Trust (CLT) is a non-profit organization whose primary mission is to provide and steward land and properties for the benefit of its low to moderate income community members through the use of a ground lease that ensures permanent affordability. Although the CLT model is well known for providing housing in a variety of tenant-controlled models, it is flexible, allowing for community-controlled businesses, services or other kinds of organizational adaptations depending on community need. Here are some of the numerous diverse ways in which California CLTs have implemented their models:

- Tenant control focused housing: Cooperatives, condominium developments, single family homes, multi-family acquisition/rehab projects and new construction.
- Mixed use and commercial properties; providing affordable business space to communities.
- Green spaces such as community gardens and urban farms.

How Do CLTs Create Permanent Affordability?

A CLT achieves its mission by acquiring land and properties from the speculative real estate market, then ensures permanent affordability by leasing the land for a renewable term of 99 years to its residents and community members in order to address their collective needs. Through acquisition and land stewardship, CLTs provide long term stability and resources for individuals and communities to thrive.

Shared Mission

Although there is a great diversity amongst California CLTs in both their size and how they implement their missions, they all still share several key attributes:

- They are organized as a non-profit public benefit corporation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- Has a primary purpose that includes the creation and maintenance of permanently affordable single-family or multifamily residences, community facilities and land under community control using the ground lease model.
- Centers on resident and community control or ownership of the improvements through direct engagement in individual projects and organizational governance. It accomplishes this by use of a tripartite board structure that includes equal representation of resident interests, community members and the public interest. The improvements (buildings, dwellings and developments) on the CLTs' land are either sold or leased to an income qualified owner, a resident cooperative, resident association organization to be their primary residence or rented to persons and families of low or moderate income.
- The CLT's land is leased to the owners of the improvements: residents and community organizations for a renewable term of 99 years. This helps ensure mutual accountability and guarantees the community investment in the land

stays in use for the benefit of residents and the community at large through ongoing stewardship and support.

Source: California Community Land Trust Network

For more information visit: <https://www.cacltnetwork.org/california-clt-definition/>

Attachment B

BAKERSFIELD COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

Board Recruitment & Criteria Summary of Potential Shared Responsibilities

The following are criteria that will be used in recruiting potential board and committee members to the organization. Candidates do not need to meet all criteria, however, a combination of several of these criteria may indicate a good fit with Bakersfield Community Land Trust (BCLT) mission and future direction.

- Passion for BCLT's mission, the willingness and capacity to share it throughout their communities. This criteria should be demonstrated by all potential recruits.
- An interest in/passion for protecting communities and neighborhoods.
- Leadership (through leadership, volunteerism, collaborative leadership, leadership within a partner) within the communities of the City of Bakersfield.
- Connections with racially and ethnically diverse communities of the City of Bakersfield.
- A wide range of experiences, both professional and lived.

People who work, volunteer, and/or advocate in any of the following areas:

- Environmental and social justice
- Regional thought-leadership and collaboration
- Public health dimensions of conservation and access to nature
- The intersection of conservation and housing and/or homelessness

People who have familiarity with any of the basics of:

- Financial management
- Non-profit management
- Real Estate
- Legal
- Planning
- Community/Economic Development
- Residential Construction

Summary of Shared Responsibilities of Board Members

Financial Responsibility: Board members are required to understand and actively participate in the planning and implementation of the organization's budget.

Legal Responsibility: Each member collaborates with others to approve policies, as well as any land acquisitions, easements, and long-term leases.

Organizational Responsibility: Board members support and engage in decision-making with constructive debate with a goal of reaching consensus. If consensus is not possible, decisions shall be made by a majority vote, and all members must uphold those decisions. Additionally, board members contribute to the development of the potential annual action plans and long-term strategic goals, while ensuring compliance with the organization's bylaws.

Fundraising Responsibility: Board members are expected to participate in fundraising initiatives. This includes hosting events, assisting with grant applications, and making personal solicitations, all in alignment with the organization's mission.

Attachment C

**BAKERSFIELD COMMUNITY LAND TRUST
APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO BOARD**

SUBMIT TO:

Bakersfield Community Land Trust
ATTN: Christopher Hinds, ECD Principal Planner
1600 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301
(661) 326-3767
Fax: (661) 323-3780

1. Mr. _____
Mrs. _____
Ms. First Middle Last

2. Address: _____

City County State Zip

Phone (_____) _____

3. If applicable list current board position(s) and organization

A. _____
B. _____
C. _____
D. _____

4. Business Title or Occupation: _____
Company: _____
Address: _____

City County State Zip
Phone (_____) _____

5. Education - List schools attended and/or graduated/degree(s):

6. Other Special Training or Experience:

7. Previous and present civic experience. Indicate when, position and duties:

8. Please explain why you wish to serve on the Bakersfield Community Land Trust Board:

9. Do you have any interests or associations which might present a conflict of interest? If yes, please explain:

Please attach your resume, and any additional information or statements which you feel would be helpful in reviewing your qualifications.

(AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE on Following Page)

AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE

If appointed, your name will be listed as one of the Board members on the Bakersfield Community Land Trust website (www.bakersfieldclt.org).

I understand that in connection with this application for appointment, the information contained herein will be made available to the general public upon request.

Signature of Applicant

Date

NOTE: This document is a public record and may be disclosed/released pursuant to the California Public Records Act.