

Community Planning and Economic Development Media Advisory

Contact: Rose Lindsay, 612.673.5015

For Immediate Release

City to Showcase Vacant Housing Recycling Program at Open House Event Friday, February 19

What: On Friday, February 19, 2016, the City of Minneapolis invites the public to attend an open house at 2207 16th Ave. S. showcasing a completely rehabilitated home through the City's Vacant Housing Recycling Program by Wilson Molina. The celebration will begin at 1:00 p.m. with a brief program at 1:30 p.m. including comments from Wilson Molina and City staff.

The Vacant Housing Recycling Program seeks to revitalize Minneapolis neighborhoods by turning vacant properties into new housing opportunities. Through the program, the City typically acquires tax-forfeited properties and sells them to either developers or residents. Purchasers construct new homes on vacant land or rehabilitate vacant structures to meet the program's minimum rehabilitation standards. Currently, there are 19 vacant structures and 321 vacant lots the City is marketing through the program.

Beyond providing new housing opportunities, homes sold through the program have an impact on their surrounding neighborhood. Often the vacant structures in the program were registered as vacant buildings for two or more years before the City purchased the property and are typically in desperate need of investment. By rehabilitating the homes, a blighting influence is removed from the block, positively impacting the other properties on that block. Vacant lots that are developed through the program result in an increase in tax base, which enables government agencies to provide services such as police, fire, schools, and streets. For more information about the Vacant Housing Recycling Program, visit the [City of Minneapolis website](#).

When: Friday, February 19
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Where: 2207 16th Ave. S., Minneapolis

More: 2207 16th Ave. S. was sold for \$42,000 to Mr. Molina through the Vacant Housing Recycling Program in May 2015 and the rehabilitation of the property was completed in February 2016. The rehabilitation of the home was extensive: all plumbing, heating, and electrical systems were replaced, a new kitchen and bathroom were installed, and all of the walls and floors in the home were refinished. In addition, the basement was newly finished and a bathroom was added. On the first day the property was listed, Mr. Molina received and accepted an offer from an owner

occupant, who will purchase the property for \$299,000. The property has 4 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms, along with two office spaces. Mr. Molina is a licensed realtor whose office and home are both located in South Minneapolis.

###