



# **INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC UHURU MOVEMENT**

## **The Reparations Land Trust And Development Authority**

### **A Democratic Proposal for the Gas Plant and Other City Owned Property**

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## **1.0 Overview**

The Reparations Land Trust and Development Authority (RLTDA) is a plan to secure reparations in the form of the 86 acres of land under the Tropicana Field which was at one time a Black community with over 800 residents and 100 businesses.

The RLTDA will be a quasi-governmental department that controls the reparations plan for St. Petersburg in the form of seizures of large tracts of city owned land on the Southside of St. Petersburg.

Large tracts of city owned or corporate owned land that have been determined by RLTADA to be of strategic economic interest, will be seized for reparations and development use.

The jurisdiction of the RLTADA will be initially designated as a Community Empowerment Corridor within a 53 block by 46 block area between 1st Avenue South and 54th Avenue South from 49th Street to 3rd Street.

## **2.0 Powers of the Reparations Land Trust and Development Authority**

2.1 The Reparations Land Trust is empowered to buy, sell, and develop land within the aforementioned CEC boundaries.

2.2 The RLTADA is empowered to use eminent domain to secure corporate owned land or property needed for development within the CEC.

2.3 The RLTADA is also empowered to create a Black Contractor Consortium to assure that Black contractors and businesses are always involved in the projects of the city in general and the CEC in particular.

2.4 The Consortium will consist of Black contractors, businesses, individual skilled and unskilled workers as well.

This approach guarantees that companies and tradesmen who have been traditionally left out of city construction opportunities will not only be sought out but will also have the opportunity to lead major projects.

### **3.0 Membership in the RLTADA**

3.1 The objective of the RLTADA will be to have a membership that is commensurate with the percentage of the Black population existing in the gas Plant area between 1975 and 1985.

3.2 Residency requirements for election to the RLTADA are as follows:

3.2.1 Candidates must have been a resident of the designated RLTADA precincts for one year prior to the election.

3.2.2 The RLTADA Precincts are:

- 105, 112, and 115 in District 5
- 116, 117, and 119 in District 6
- 113, 114, and 120 in District 7

3.3 Members of the RLTADA will be elected utilizing a single member district system for voting. Only the residents of a particular precinct will be able to vote for the representative of that precinct. Example: The top three vote getters in precinct 115 will be elected to the RLTADA. Only the residents of precinct 115 would be allowed to vote for the Precinct 115 representatives.

3.4 Each representative will receive a part time stipend of \$6,000 a year.

3.5 To maintain membership on the Authority representatives must attend or be represented by a predetermined alternate at all 24 RLTADA community meetings. There will be 24 meetings annually. Attendance at each meeting is mandatory unless there is an emergency.

3.6 Members of the Reparations Land Trust and Development Authority must actively participate in the work of the RLTADA.

3.7 Members of the RLTADA will serve a maximum of two consecutive, four year terms.

## **4.0 Goals of the RLTADA**

- 4.1 To develop, and maintain control over designated sites within the Community Empowerment Corridor (CEC).
- 4.2 To buy and sell land when necessary within the CEC.
- 4.3 Educate city residents on the question of reparations to the Black community using various outreach methods such as town hall meetings, teach-ins, public hearings, social media promotions, advertising and public service announcements.
- 4.4 Create a thriving economy in the Black community that will add to the tax base of the entire city.
- 4.5 Create a Black Contractor Consortium that will recruit Black construction companies and both skilled tradesmen and unskilled workers.
- 4.6 Develop land use policies that serve the interest and impact the residents within the Community Empowerment Corridor.

## **5.0 Structure of the Reparations Land Trust and Development Authority**

### **5.1 Chairperson**

- Chairs the RLTADA meetings, makes the agenda for the meetings
- Provides the political leadership for the authority
- Acts as the primary spokesperson for the RLTADA

### **5.2 Vice Chair**

- Acts as the second in command on the RLTADA
- Acts as the spokesperson for the Authority in the absence of the Chairperson
- Carries out special projects on behalf of RLTADA under the direction of the Chairperson

### **5.3 Outreach Coordinator**

- Ensures that city residents are informed about the role of the RLTADA and its powers and projects, gathers community input on reparations policy through surveys, teach-ins, forums, town hall meetings, pamphlets etc.

- Submits a written monthly report to the RLTADA that will include the number of people reached and their names and contact information
- Builds a volunteer outreach committee to carry out the promotion strategy

#### 5.4 Precinct Representatives

- Will represent their precincts on the RLTADA in an effort to advance the interest of the entire community where reparations projects are being executed
- Will participate in RLTADA meetings and work
- Will submit suggestions and proposals from their particular districts

#### 5.5 Secretary

- Works with the Chairperson to develop the RLTADA meeting agenda
- Takes minutes at the RLTADA meetings and sends the minutes to the members of the RLTADA within two days subsequent to the meetings

#### 5.6 Treasurer

- Will work with the City Finance Department to ensure that all monetary collection by the RLTADA is deposited into the RLTADA bank account
- Ensures that the stipends for the RLTADA members are paid to the members bi-weekly
- Will adjust the stipend payment of any member who misses a meeting (**this is a staff position**)

#### 5.7 Governmental Liaison Officer

- Maintains communication with the City Council concerning projects and activities of the RLTADA
- Will report at the last City Council meeting of each month
- Will convey information to the RLTADA concerning legal issues affecting the Authority
- Submits a written report to the RLTADA containing a synopsis of legal issues, and council proceedings affecting the Authority (**this is a staff position**)

Note: The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson are elected by the RLTADA members. They will serve a term of four years with a maximum of two terms.

## **6.0 Summary**

The Reparations Land Trust and Development Authority will help to define reparations, maintain the reparations projects and assure that economic development and sustainable commerce is at the forefront of every project.

The primary mission of the RLTADA will be to restore economic vitality and commerce to the proposed Community Empowerment Corridor.