

## **Roundtable on “Using Property Acquisition/Disposition as a Strategic Asset”**

A roundtable was sponsored by the Community Development Institute at the Bloustein School of Planning & Public Policy on August 15, 2002 on the theme of “Using Property Acquisition/Disposition as a Strategic Asset.” Over twenty experts representing community based organizations, local and state governments, redevelopment agencies and nonprofit intermediaries participated in the discussion with CDI staff. The purpose of the roundtable was to discuss how the property acquisition/disposition process is now used by municipalities and how it can be implemented more strategically as a catalyst for community development. (Property includes land and buildings).

In a number of municipalities, there are large inventories of vacant/abandoned/severely neglected buildings and land. These assets hold the potential to be significant resources to further development. Often, however, the process for acquiring and disposing of property, e.g. which tax liens to foreclose upon, is not done on a targeted basis. With better understanding, planning and management, the land assembly process could be used to spur development in redevelopment areas, Urban Coordinating Council targeted neighborhoods or other areas of municipalities needing revitalization. The roundtable also considered two bills now pending in the New Jersey State legislature that would move property acquisition/disposition in a more strategic direction: A-2543 (S-1675) concerning property abandonment and A-2539 (S-1676) revising receivership.

A white paper on the findings from the roundtable is being developed. Below are links to an overview paper and annotated bibliography that were developed for the roundtable.

### [Property Acquisition/Disposition:](#)

Annotated Bibliography (Articles & Case Studies) 1992-2001

### [Property Acquisition and Disposition Strategies:](#)

An Overview of Issues for the August 15th Roundtable