

“What Is To Be Done? Legislators Look at Redevelopment Reform”
Results of the Joint Interim Hearing

The results of the November 17, 2005 hearing at the State Capitol on redevelopment reforms appear in a newly-published summary report. This new document contains six legislative staff findings:

- ☞ *Community support for redevelopment projects is possible when redevelopment officials explain their motives and their methods.*
- ☞ *Although redevelopment remains controversial in some communities, it can be a tool that benefits residents by removing blight, reducing crime, and promoting affordable housing.*
- ☞ *Legislators showed interest in possible amendments to the statutory “blight” definition.*
- ☞ *Legislators shared the concern that “blight” designations continue after redevelopment succeeds.*
- ☞ *Legislators expressed interest in increased enforcement of redevelopment laws.*
- ☞ *Most of the property owners who spoke at the hearing were opposed to redevelopment officials’ use of eminent domain for economic development.*

The report includes a 23-page summary of what the speakers and legislators said, the 21-page briefing paper, and copies of the extensive written materials that the speakers and others gave to the legislators.

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