

# CITY OF PORTLAND

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE BUREAU OF REVENUE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

(503) 823-4090

Ted Wheeler, Mayor Thomas W. Lannom, Interim Chief Financial Officer Tyler Wallace, Interim Revenue Division Director

Mail to: PO Box 8834 Portland, OR 97207-8834 Email: <u>liens@portlandoregon.gov</u>

## **Foreclosure Recommendation Report**

The Revenue Division recommends foreclosure on 9124 NE Prescott St delinquent City liens. The lien accounts meet delinquency requirements for foreclosure and no mitigating factors were discovered that would prevent foreclosure or indicate that an adjustment of the lien amount is in order.

#### **Summary Information**

Site Address: 9124 NE Prescott St

Recorded Property Owner: Gerald K. & Vicki L. Decker

**Property ID:** R261715

**Lien Account Numbers:** 156339, 165072, 171664, 172853 and 174879

Type of Liens: Code Enforcement and Nuisance Use of Property: Single family, currently unoccupied

Amount of Delinquent Lien: \$118,964.53

Payoff Amount Recommended: \$118,964.53, plus ancillary cost for foreclosure sale

#### **General Information**

Properties with delinquent liens greater than 90 days outstanding surface as part of a coordinated effort collaborating with the Bureau of Development Services (BDS) about "Distressed Vacant Properties" for a potential Council Foreclosure Sale List. BDS and the Portland Police Bureau have expressed concerns that these properties are nuisances in their neighborhoods. In many instances, the Police Bureau is called to disturbances at these properties frequently or within the surrounding area. Neighbors complain that many of these properties are inhabited by unlawful occupants and there are commonly drug activities taking place, which jeopardizes the public health, safety, and welfare of the neighborhood.

Some of the properties are investment properties owned by absentee owners and financial institutions. These vacant and distressed properties are not generating income for the owner. The neglect by the owner caused the problems to exacerbate and the lien balance to increase over time. These properties drain City resources whether through services being rendered by BDS to secure the property or by the Police and Fire responding to calls at the residence or in the immediate area. These properties become eyesores in the community and pose a safety hazard.



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For the above mentioned reasons, the Revenue Division's recommendations are to retain the balance owed for these type of properties, except in cases where mitigating circumstances point toward improved property owner compliance resulting in a reduced lien amount approved by BDS.

#### Lien Details

Liens No.	Assessment Date	Lien Type	Balance
156339	1/1/2015	Code Enforcement	\$47,316.29
165072	6/18/2018	Code Enforcement	\$50,884.40
171664	12/10/2019	Nuisance	\$3,935.60
172853	1/10/2021	Nuisance	\$13,503.81
174879	2/10/2023	Nuisance	\$3,324.43
Total amount due as of August 31, 2023			\$118,964.53

Please note the balance will be recalculated on the sale date.

### Property Summary

This property has been on the Extremely Distressed Property Enforcement (EDPE) Program watchlist for several years. Subject of periodic complaints for squatters/campers on property, but no confirmed occupancy. Property is deteriorating with portions of building open to weather. Violation case has been open since 2018. Presents as attractive site for unsafe occupancy.

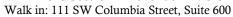
The oldest delinquent lien on this property is eight and one half years past due.

#### Police Involvement

From January 29, 2012 to July 23, 2023 there were 7 calls for service at this address. All of the calls were for disorder. Outside of the listed address, 222 other calls were made within 200 feet of the property.

#### Evaluation Criteria

City Code 5.3.060 states that "the Revenue Division may evaluate individual delinquent open liens to develop recommendations on revising the payment amount of the lien and the payment terms.





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Recommendations for any adjustments must be based on the criteria summarized in the table below:

Criteria (City Code 5.30.060)		No	Unknown
Property owner has committed prior City Code violations or has a			
delinquent account			
Property owner has taken steps to correct violations or resolve any		$\checkmark$	
delinquency			
Property owner's financial condition allows to resolve the problem			✓
Violation of high gravity and magnitude			
Violation was repeated or continuous			
Violation was intentional or negligent caused by the property owner			
High degree of difficulty to protect the violation or delinquency			
Economic or financial benefit accrued to property owner as a result of		<b>✓</b>	
the violation			
Property owner is cooperative and making an effort to correct the		<b>✓</b>	
violations			
Cost to the City to investigate and correct the violation			
Any other relevant factors			

The Revenue Division has reviewed the information related to this property and its history of violations using the criteria listed above. The review found no mitigating factors that would suggest that a reduced lien amount would encourage improved compliance, property improvement, or elimination of hazards.

#### Communication with Owner

The Liens Team sends monthly billing statements. If a property owner is unable to pay in full, the liens team can set up a payment arrangement plan. When an account is 30 days past due, a courtesy call is placed to offer assistance and set up a payment arrangement plan and a delinquency letter is mailed. A second delinquency letter is mailed when the account is 60 days past due and a certified with return receipt letter is mailed when the account is 90 days past due. Thereafter, the Foreclosure Prevention Manager calls the property owner and sends additional certified with return receipt foreclosure notices to the property owner and parties with an interest.

### Liens Section - Revenue Division

Walk in: 111 SW Columbia Street, Suite 600



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The Liens Team has mailed out 18 letters to the owner from March 2015 to August 2023. There were 5 letters mailed in 2023. The first Foreclosure notice was mailed out certified on July 11, 2023 with a return receipt request. We received confirmation the notice was delivered and signed by the owner. The second Foreclosure notice was mailed out certified on August 14, 2023 with a return receipt request. We received confirmation the letter was delivered on August 17, 2023 and signed by the owner.

We have called the owner by phone on several different occasions and have not been able to leave a voice mail, because the mailbox is full. There has been no phone response from the owner.