

Drexmore Building Finally to Come Down

July 2, 2015

Funding for demolition of two troubled apartment buildings has been approved, and those close to the situation are predicting they will soon be demolished. The vacated buildings, situated across from each other, are located at 13020 Drexmore Rd. (owner, Shakertown Apartments Ltd.), facing the Dave's Market and Shaker Square Cinema lot, and at 2790 E. 130th St. (owner, Corby Sable Trustee of the Mae Park Square Trust).

Shaker Square Area Development Corporation, Shaker Square Alliance, Ludlow Community Association, Larchmere Community Association, Thriving Communities Institute, and Shaker Square area residents attended the pre-trial hearings to urge court action. On July 2, 13020 Drexmore Rd. and 2804 South Moreland Blvd. (owner, Shakertown Apartments Ltd.) were the focus of a \$565,000 fine levied for housing code violations against the owner by Cleveland Housing Court Judge Raymond Pianka.

On September 24, SHAD President George Palda appeared before the Cleveland Landmarks Commission to report the recommendation for approval of demolition made by the Shaker Square/Ludlow Historic District 13020 Drexmore Local Design Review Committee. Palda and others also urged approval of the demolition, which the Commission granted by a unanimous vote. On October 13, Cuyahoga County Council approved a funding request from the City of Cleveland for the demolitions.

"Everybody's eagerly anticipating the demolition of these buildings. The removal of the blighted buildings should help improve safety around the southwest quadrant of Shaker Square," said Greg Staursky, co-director of SHAD. Staursky continued that a new security patrol for E. 130th between Drexmore and Buckeye Road is being actively discussed.

Meanwhile, a new owner is being sought for the condemned and vacated building at 2804 S. Moreland Blvd. Every effort is being made to transfer this property to a new owner who would rehabilitate and restore it.