

# What Have We Done for you Lately?

Read on to learn what the Association has done to promote safe and affordable housing in Brown County.

## **Government Affairs Committee**

The BCHBA Government Affairs Committee meets monthly to discuss numerous current topics including:

- The Wisconsin housing market and economic outlook
- Permit reports
- How to stimulate investment and growth in the building industry
- Housing incentives
- Housing industry trends
- Tax breaks
- Interest rates
- Mortgage options
- Workforce housing
- Multifamily Interests
- Proposed legislation and fees that would harm or help our industry

## **For 2018**

The Government Affairs Subcommittee will continue to meet with local municipalities throughout the year to discuss obstacles that may curb future development including a shortage of developed lots, erosion control permitting, wetlands mitigation mandates and financing hurdles.

## **October - November 2017**

The BCHBA Government Affairs subcommittee members met with both the City of De Pere and the Village of Howard. Committee members shared information including data on available lots, new construction in Brown County,

housing size trends, obstacles and fees that curb development, and problems builders and municipalities will face when the demand returns for housing. The Subcommittee plans to meet with additional municipalities on a continual basis.

## **July 14, 2017**

BCHBA members and staff attended a Town Hall meeting held by Senator Ron Johnson at WPS, sponsored by the Green Bay Chamber of Commerce. Senator Johnson discussed his views on the GOP Health Care Bill as well as the current opioid crisis our country is facing.

## **July 2017**

The BCHBA Government Affairs committee completed an updated Permit and Fee Study for municipalities throughout Brown County. The document compares the fees associated with building a new home, taxes, and types of permits needed for each municipality. The document is available upon request.

## **Spring/Summer 2017**

The BCHBA has been working with the Department of Workforce Development to help our members fill their open positions. Applications and resumes from the DWD and the general public are posted on the BCHBA website [www.bchba.org](http://www.bchba.org) for members to view.

## **April 20, 2017**

The BCHBA raised \$16,978 at its annual Build a Better Wisconsin Auction, which helped support candidates who believe in improving housing affordability and home ownership opportunities.

## **April 14, 2017**

The BCHBA Government Affairs Committee hosted the second annual "Bring Housing Home Legislative Breakfast". The Breakfast was attended by six of our State Representatives, staff from our local State Senator's office, Congressman Mike Gallagher and 64 BCHBA members. State Representatives presented current issues in their district and WBA Executive Director, Brad Boycks, presented housing issues at the state level. Congressman Mike Gallagher spoke on his motivations for running for office as well as some of the projects that he has been working on his first 100 days in office including, healthcare reform and his efforts to restore Congress to working order. This was a great opportunity for BCHBA members to have a one on one discussion with their local legislators.

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### **March 16, 2017**

Members of the BCHBA Government Affairs Committee attend WBA's Advocacy Day at the Capitol. Members were able to directly advocate to State legislators for issues that concern the housing industry including updates to the state commercial and electrical building codes, funding for a statewide version of REScheck, and the historical rehabilitation tax credit. Members met with Representatives Andre Jacque and David Steffen and State Senators Frank Lasee and Robert Cowles. Speakers at the event included, State Senate President Roger Roth and Governor Scott Walker.

### **February 22, 2017**

The BCHBA Government Affairs sub-Committee met with the City of Green Bay's Attorney, Director of Economic Development, Assistant Director of Economic Development, Director of Public Works, Neighborhood Division Manager, Principal Planner, Chief of Staff, and Mayor Jim Schmitt to discuss topics such as erosion control and development issues within the City of Green Bay. Members of the sub-committee and city staff both agreed that meeting was very productive and opened the door for future discussions on development within the City of Green Bay.

### **February 9, 2017**

The BCHBA Multifamily Committee met for a semi-annual roundtable discussion with the City of Green Bay. City staff present included the City Attorney, Assistant Director of Economic Development, Neighborhood Division Supervisor, Parking Superintendent, and members of the Green Bay Police Department including their Crime Analyst, Crimestoppers Manager, and District Captains. Topics discussed included relationships between landlords and community police officers, parking issues at apartment complexes, and the City of Green Bay's Landlord Training course. Overall, those who attended considered the meeting to be very productive and intention is to keep lines of communication open.

### **December 14, 2016**

The BCHBA Government affairs committee coordinated a meeting with members of the City of Green Bay Public Works Department and BCHBA builder and excavator members to discuss the City of Green Bay's increased enforcement of soil erosion control. City engineers presented a presentation explaining their new procedures and members were able to ask questions. This was first step in discussions with the City of Green Bay and their erosion control enforcements.

### **Continually**

The BCHBA staff continually informs the public about the housing market and provides tips and ideas to consider for their new home by sharing information in the monthly newsletter and on the BCHBA website. Visit: [bchba.org/resource-center/articles](http://bchba.org/resource-center/articles).