



## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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### PRESS RELEASE

# City to Resume HOMES Initiative, Property Sales, and Homebuyer Resources

*First City-Wide HOMES event of 2020 set for this Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>*

**SCHENECTADY** – As the community looks to bounce back from COVID-19, Mayor McCarthy announced that the City of Schenectady will resume the HOMES initiative (Homeownership Made Easy in Schenectady). The program is a partnership between the City, area banks, realtors, and other housing-related entities that helps promote and facilitate homeownership.

“We are very proud to reinvigorate the HOMES initiative as our community looks to rebound from the COVID-19 pandemic,” **Mayor McCarthy said**. “Today we’re excited to celebrate those partnerships working together that continue to strengthen neighborhoods by creating new homeownership opportunities in our community.”

On Friday, the Mayor joined representatives from Better Community Neighborhoods (BCNI) to highlight a recent HOMES success story of a first time homebuyer. BCNI offers housing rehabilitation assistance, pre-purchase counseling, and education workshops to potential homebuyers and current homeowners.

“We are proud to partner with the city in the HOMES initiatives because these programs empower our own neighbors to own their own home, and, in turn, that strengthens our neighborhood, community and city,” **said Jennica Huff, BCNI executive director**.

Rivquah Caldwell recently purchased her first home at 442 Anthony after completing the Homebuyer Education Workshop through BCNI. Ms. Caldwell contacted the City of Schenectady’s HOMES initiative to learn about available resources and grant opportunities. She was approved for \$10,000 in down payment assistance through the City’s [First Time Homebuyer Assistance Program](#) and earlier this month was able to move into her family’s new home.

“I would like to thank the City of Schenectady and its partners for helping me achieve my goal of Home Ownership,” **Rivquah Caldwell said**. “I hope that my story can be an example to others; there are resources that can help you if you want to own a home in Schenectady.”

This year’s first HOMES City-Wide event is this **Sunday, June 28, 2020**. Available listings are featured in Sunday’s Daily Gazette. Additional information on the Open House as well as other

housing opportunities, financial assistance, and program offers are available at [www.CallSchenectadyHome.com](http://www.CallSchenectadyHome.com). The properties included in this Sunday's City-Wide event are:

- 1424 Wendell Avenue
- 140 Hillcrest Avenue
- 537 Paige Street
- 804 Strong Street
- 450 Hegeman Street
- 319 Twelfth Street
- 238 Linden Street
- 352 Clayton Road
- 1827 Broad Street
- 2 Columbia Street

The Capital Region residential real estate market began to rebound in May, with sales volume substantially higher than in April, according to a [recent report](#) from the Greater Capital Association of Realtors (GCAR).

For additional information about the HOMES City-Wide listings, or information on available resources for homebuyers in the city, please contact Maurice Brown, Homeownership Coordinator, at (518) 382-5199 ext. 5348, or [mbrown@schenectadyny.gov](mailto:mbrown@schenectadyny.gov).