



BEDCo. Top 10 Questions & Answers

#1. What is BEDCo?

The Barrett Economic Development Corporation (BEDCo) is local nonprofit run by volunteers. The founders don't get paid. We're here to help Barrett, not make money.

#2. Is BEDCo a corporation?

Not like Ford or Walmart. The IRS uses the word "corporation" for nonprofits focused on community development.

#3. Does BEDCo have power over my property?

No. BEDCo cannot make or enforce laws. Only the Township Supervisors can do that.

#4. Why was BEDCo formed?

Because:

- Canadensis has been sliding downhill for 25+ years.
 - Property rules, on the books since 2008, haven't been enforced evenly.
 - Neighbors need help with repairs that they can't afford.
 - Outside speculators buy land cheap, hide behind LLCs, and let buildings rot.
 - Taxes keep climbing.
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#5. Who runs BEDCo?

Three boards:

- **Directors** – Handle finances.
 - **Business Advisory** – Local business owners.
 - **Community Advisory** – Local residents (full or part-time).
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#6. What's the goal?

- Fix up Canadensis.
 - Help property owners with needed repairs.
 - Grow the local economy in a way that gives opportunity and resources to local residents.
 - Push for fair and consistent enforcement.
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#7. Why propose ordinances?

They were suggestions, not laws. Ideas included:

- Update old 2008 property code.
 - Quick fines for trash/junk/weeds.
 - Hold absentee owners accountable.
 - Make lazy landlords pay when they ignore court orders.
 - Last-resort tools for abandoned buildings.
 - Repair help for struggling homeowners and small businesses.
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#8. Is this eminent domain?

No. Eminent domain = government buying property for public use. That is *not* what's being proposed. Conservatorship only applies to abandoned, unsafe buildings when the owner is gone or refuses to act.

#9. Why does Barrett need economic development?

Because without new businesses and residents, taxes will keep rising. Growth spreads the load and keeps our town alive.

#10. What about Walmart or big box stores?

That's not BEDCo's plan - and it's not BEDCo's decision. The Township controls zoning. The new Community Advisory Board will give residents a say in what types of businesses we should attract.

Bottom line:

BEDCo is here to bring resources and ideas. It doesn't make laws. Your elected Supervisors do. We want to work *with* you to make Barrett a better place.