

Email obtained via  
FOIA request

**Mike Burns**

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**From:** Lindsay Viviano (MEDC) <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 11, 2018 3:52 PM  
**To:** Mike Burns  
**Subject:** RE: Commercial Redevelopment Act

Hi Mike,

At first blush it seems like you are correct, but I'd recommend talking with your City Attorney and the Department of Treasury as they're the department that administers the tax exemptions. I recommend talking with Emily Leik at the Department of Treasury, she's an outstanding resource. She can be reached at [REDACTED]. Sorry we can't really answer that question, but please let me know if there's anyone else I can connect you with!

Thank you,

Lindsay Viviano  
Community Assistance Specialist  
Community Development  
Region 4 – Kent, Ottawa & Muskegon Counties  
**Michigan Economic Development Corporation**  
300 N. Washington Square Lansing, MI 48913  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Mike Burns <mburns@ci.lowell.mi.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 10, 2018 1:20 PM  
**To:** Lindsay Viviano (MEDC) <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Commercial Redevelopment Act

Good afternoon Lindsay,

I have a question regarding the Commercial Redevelopment Act and the former Unity School property. In 2014, the Lowell Area Schools sold the emptied out school property to a private developer who never moved forward on a project. The property currently is in a mixed use zoning district (which will now be PUD). However, while the property has been owned by a private entity for about 4 years but the building has never been a Commercial Property. The majority of the school building would be a retail development where a small portion of it would be residential. I realize the residential component is not eligible for the abatement. In my reading of the fact sheet, it looks like the commercial might not be eligible because the building never functioned as commercial property but was a school. Is this correct in my reading of it?

Thanks,  
Mike