

# Explainer: What is a Community Land Trust?

When we talk about liberating 111 Taylor Street, we're not just talking about ending GEO Group's harmful presence. We're also talking about what comes next, how we ensure this historic site is protected for our communities, not sold off to the highest bidder. One of the most powerful tools we have is a **Community Land Trust (CLT)**.

## A Different Way of Holding Land

A Community Land Trust is a nonprofit organization that **owns land collectively on behalf of a community**. Instead of land being treated as a private commodity, something to speculate on, flip, or profit from, a CLT takes land out of the speculative market and **places it into permanent stewardship**.

That means:

- The community, not corporations, decides how the land is used.
- The land is **protected long-term** from harmful redevelopment.
- Housing, cultural spaces, and community projects built on CLT land stay affordable and accessible for generations.

## How It Works

1. **The CLT acquires the land** through purchase, donation, or transfer.
2. **The community governs the land** often through a board made up of residents, neighbors, and community members.
3. **The buildings or programs on the land are managed for community benefit** this could be housing, cultural hubs, gardens, or organizing space.

The land stays in the trust permanently, while the community decides how it should serve collective needs.

## Why It Matters for Compton's

111 Taylor Street is more than a building. It is the site of the **1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot**, the first well documented uprising of trans and queer people against police violence in the world. It's also where GEO Group currently runs a harmful reentry program under state contract.

By bringing 111 Taylor into a Community Land Trust, we can:

- **Protect history:** honoring the site's role in trans and queer resistance.
- **Prevent harm:** ensuring it will never again be used for carceral purposes.
- **Build futures:** creating an intersectional, community-stewarded hub for culture, care, and belonging.

## A Just Transition

Community Land Trusts are not just about land. They're about **justice**. They are about shifting land and power away from corporations and into the hands of people most impacted by displacement, incarceration, and inequality.

That's why the Compton's x Coalition is working toward a CLT model at 111 Taylor Street. We know that community stewardship is the only way to ensure this site is protected for generations to come.

## Learn More & Get Involved

- Read: [LandBack Manifesto](#)
- Join: [\[Sign our petition\]](#) to support the transfer of 111 Taylor into community stewardship.
- Support: [\[Donate here\]](#) to the Compton's Legacy Fund. Select TurkxTaylor Initiative

Together, we can transform 111 Taylor into a living archive of resistance and a beacon for liberation.