



Final – For Immediate Release

**The American City Coalition Announces New Leadership**

***Willie Bodrick, II, Senior Pastor of the Historic Twelfth Baptist Church and outspoken advocate for social and economic justice, named President and CEO of Roxbury-based organization***

Boston, MA (June 17, 2022) – The Board of Directors of The American City Coalition (TACC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Willie Bodrick, II, as its new President and CEO effective June 7, 2022.

Willie Bodrick, II, J.D., M. Div., is the Senior Pastor of the Historic Twelfth Baptist Church (TBC) and an outspoken advocate for social and economic justice.

TACC's Board Chair, Michael Corcoran, noted, "Willie's talents, experience, and enthusiasm for making transformational change in challenging times make him the ideal professional to lead TACC. TACC's Board Members recognize Willie as a catalyst for change and a leader who will work tirelessly to create opportunities for Roxbury residents and stakeholders. Willie is uniquely well-suited to lead this nonprofit organization founded by my father (Joseph E. Corcoran) in 1994."



"I'm excited to be appointed by the Board to lead as President and CEO of TACC," said Bodrick. "As we work to emerge from a pandemic that has disproportionately impacted our communities, we look to engage, partner, and economically empower our community."

Born and raised in Atlanta, Willie was inspired by the work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the history of the Civil Rights Movement; he is committed to continuing the legacy of creating a beloved community and balancing the scales of justice.

Willie holds a B.A. from Georgetown University and an M.Div. from Harvard Divinity School. In 2020, Willie graduated from Northeastern University School of Law receiving a J.D. degree. In May 2022, Willie received an honorary Doctorate of Community Service from Northeastern University.

His accomplishments span social and community development, healthcare, law, politics, and human development at the international level. At TBC, Willie successfully led the 182-year-old church through profound challenges created by the pandemic, partnering with Boston Medical Center to establish a vaccination clinic at TBC that vaccinated 2,500 people and leading efforts to feed over 15,000 residents in 2021 through the food pantry and special programming.

Prior to joining TACC, Willie worked at Brown Rudnick, LLP, as Senior Advisor for the successful

2020 Ed Markey Campaign for the U.S. Senate, and as the Outreach Coordinator in the Community Engagement Division of the Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General Maura Healey.

Actively engaged in the community of Roxbury, City of Boston, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Willie holds multiple leadership positions including President of the Boston Network for Black Student Achievement, member of the Boston Public Schools Opportunity and Achievement Gap Taskforce, Board of Directors of Massachusetts Advocates for Children, member of the Boston Medical Center Accelerator Community Advisory Committee, Co-Founder of the Forward Fund, The Boston Foundation's Harvard and the Legacy of Slavery Advisory Committee, and Board of Advisors of the Roxbury YMCA.

Willie has received numerous awards including the 2022 Harvard Business School Young American Leaders Program Fellow, 2021 Boston Business Journal (BBJ) 40 Under 40 Award, 2021 Boston Chamber of Commerce and City Awake Ten Outstanding Young Leaders Award, The Boston Foundation 20 Leaders of the 2020s, 2020 Eta Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Citizen of the Year Award, 2020 First District of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Citizen of the Year Award, 2019 Fletcher "Flash" Wiley Massachusetts Black Lawyers Association Legacy Award, and the 2019 Citizens for Public Schools Champion for Education Justice Award.

He is a member of the Boston Branch of the NAACP, the Massachusetts Black Lawyers Association, Georgetown University Alumni Club of Greater Boston, and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

A resident of Roxbury, Willie lives in the neighborhood with his wife, Dr. Devin Cromartie Bodrick, and son, Willie Bodrick III.

### **About The American City Coalition**

The American City Coalition (TACC) is a Roxbury-based 501(c)(3) organization with a mission to help revitalize urban neighborhoods so that families flourish in safe environments and fully benefit from the economic opportunities of American cities.

TACC advances multi-sector and multi-stakeholder collaborations to focus investments and resources on community-identified needs and opportunities. TACC initiatives increase collective impact and result in systems-level change that actively thwarts the status quo.

TACC conducts independent research to identify local needs and assets, then utilizes this information to develop responsive, effective initiatives to support residents, drive economic development and asset building, and increase neighborhood vitality. TACC increases impact by aligning the skills of partners around common outcomes responding to community-identified fundamentals. Aligning complementary partnerships and resources is a critical TACC focus.

TACC's community-based methodology starts with listening (meetings, focus groups, surveys) to community member needs, documenting (qualitative and quantitative data collection) what we learn, and amplifying (reports) the perspectives of Roxbury stakeholders so they have an active voice in their community's future and expanded access to places, resources, and opportunity.

Learn more about TACC at [tamcc.org](http://tamcc.org).

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