



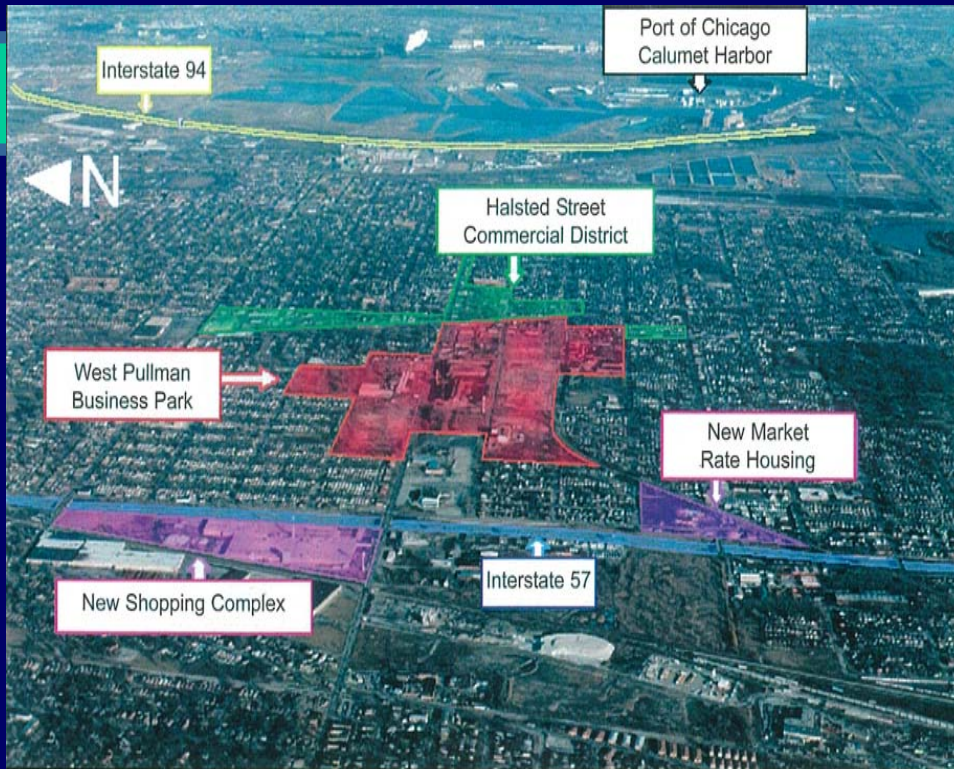
# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

## WITH A PURPOSE



COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY  
VICTORY HEIGHTS WEST PULLMAN  
GREATER SOUTH CHICAGO LAND AREA

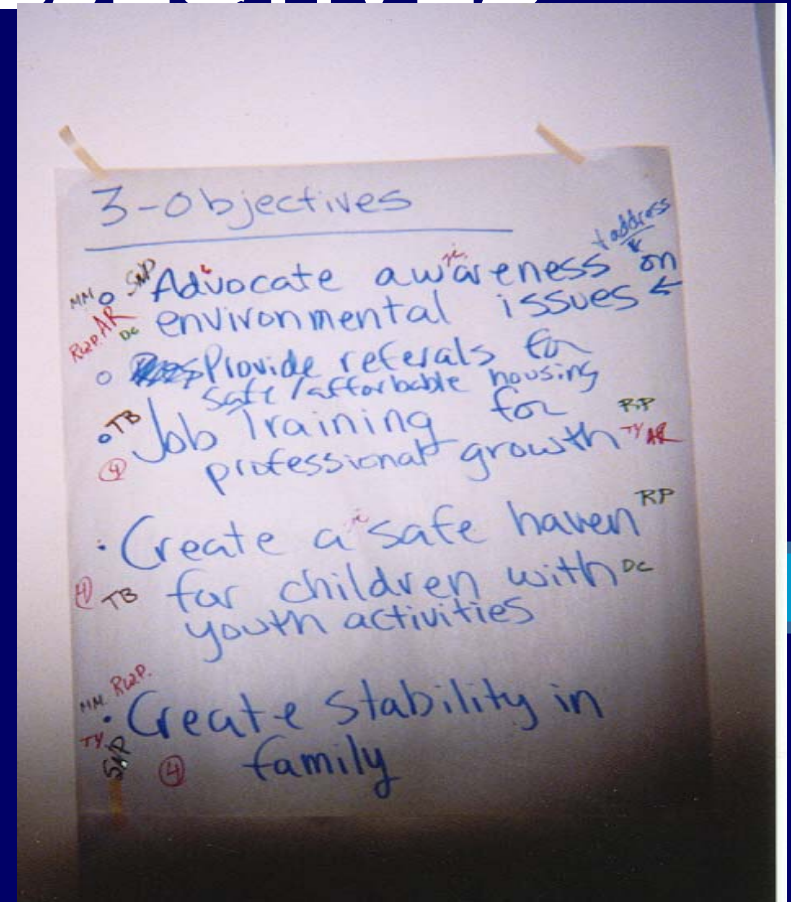
# VISION STATEMENT



Develop young minds and mend families, as we rebuild our communities “block by block” by creating living wage jobs, affordable housing, environmental friendly open space, recreation, and supportive social services for people of color, and low-income communities.

# STARTING POINTS OF OUR GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Build Economic Awareness of "Brownfield cleanups" thru partnerships, and collaborations.
- Create Living Wage Jobs, Affordable Housing, and supportive services in communities of color and low-income to create neighborhood sustainability.



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# TODAY'S SITUATION

- After ten (10) years of meetings, little have been accomplished by the community.
- Few jobs, if any were created for residents.
- Contamination still remains on the sites. And fly-dumping still exist.



# HOW DID WE GET HERE?

- **The Committee for Economic Recovery (CER), organized the community to seek the clean-up of five abandon industrial factories in the West Pullman communities.**
- **Innocent people suffer when we get cynical about the prospects of politics. It seems as if sometimes that politics are treated as a business as oppose to a mission.**
- **It was perceived that as” community folks” we did not understand how to organize our through or develop our neighborhoods. In plain English it was written and assumed that we did not have a plan to develop our community.**

# SNAP SHOTS OF THE WEST

## PULLMAN COMMUNITY

**Victory Heights  
community garden.  
Thanks to neighborhood  
residents.**

**Residents gather with  
area schools, and  
regional 4-H Club  
leaders to dedicate  
garden.**



# SNAPS SHOTS OF THE WEST PULLMAN COMMUNITY



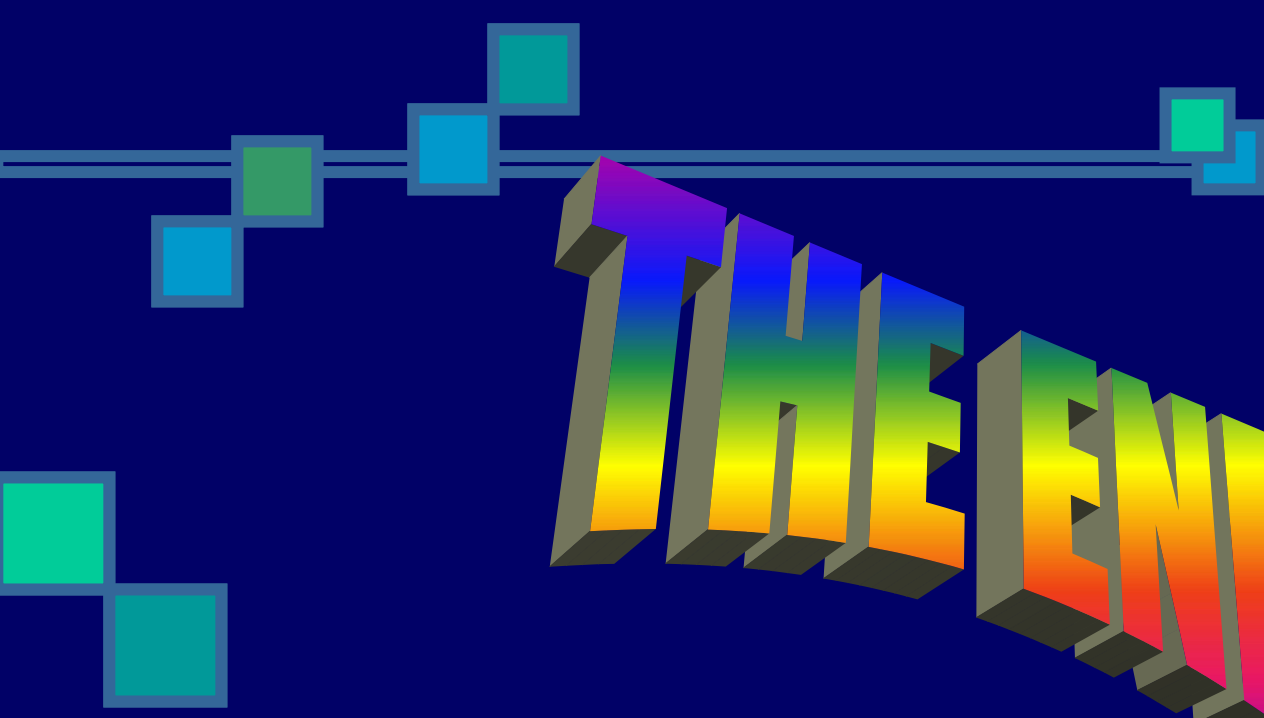


# AVAILABLE OPTIONS

- We were force to accept an outside facilitator to direct our meetings. In essence, CER lost respect. This process dwarfed our creative efforts, and opportunities to engage in the citizens' vision.
- The advantage to this is, we learn to think outside the box, to create other avenues to accomplish our goals, without resource i.e. *funding from any source*. We learned financing is not the backbone of all projects, but; people are , and money sure helps.
- The disadvantage was our community lost our fast track clean-up status. And became unequipped to move the process forward with the various agencies.

# RECOMMENDATION

- The lesson learned from this project was to always keep outsider- outside. All help, is not always good help.
- Ten years later we are still rehabilitating two sites. While others are planning the direction for the other four sites. Good Information leads to informed decisions, which West Pullman never received.
- My name is Sarah Shipp-Parran , Co-Founder of the Committee for Economic Recovery. For ten years I have worked tireless to gain respect for Victory Heights West Pullman. That's why I am here today.
- Our current plans are to restructure. And use the new tools of our lessons learned.



# THE END

# Thank You!

