



Office of the Chicago City
Clerk



R2011-838

Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

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| Meeting Date: | 7/6/2011 |
| Sponsor(s): | Austin, Carrie M. (34) |
| Type: | Resolution |
| Title: | Gratitude extended to various organizations for community service to West Pullman |
| Committee(s) Assignment: | |

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Industrial roots established in the late 1800s served as the catalyst for the growth and merger of what became South Chicago's West Pullman community area in the 1920's; and

WHEREAS, The West Pullman community prospered from strong locally-based industry for generations, until facing the significant closure of the industry in the early 1980's; and

WHEREAS, After the closure of industry, the West Pullman community discovered the legacy and burden of environmental contamination left by the previous generations that had not known the impacts of chemicals and processes on the land; and

WHEREAS, Acres of land in the heart of the West Pullman community sat idle for nearly two decades due to environmental contamination; and

WHEREAS, In 1966, a dedicated council of community residents, former property owner Navistar, Inc., the State of Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the City of Chicago began working closely together to accomplish the remediation of a major tract of land; and

WHEREAS, All parties worked with single focus, mutual respect and rigorous standards toward the accomplishment of the common goal; and

WHEREAS, The remediation goal was accomplished with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency issuance of a *No Further Remediation* letter for the Former West Pullman Works site on October 14, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Today, the West Pullman community hosts Chicago City Solar, the nation's largest urban solar energy facility, which generates 10 megawatts, ample power to supply 1,500 homes; and

WHEREAS, A significant portion of the Chicago City Solar site is the remediate industrial property; and

WHEREAS, The combined efforts of community, corporation, city and state have offered a new beginning for the West Pullman community; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered here this 6th day of July 2011 A.D., do hereby commend the members of West Pullman's Victory Heights/Maple Park Advisory Council for their dedicated community service; Navistar, Inc. for voluntarily returning to conduct the remediation with a fully engaged approach to community relations; the City of Chicago Department of Environment for cooperatively working with community, corporation and agency; and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for providing the remediation program and unwavering technical guidance throughout the process.

Be It Further Resolved, That the record shall always reflect that all parties may take great pride in knowing that before renewable energy was generated at the site, the land itself was renewed.

Be It Further Resolved, As the result of the remarkable cooperation of community, corporation, city and state, a common goal and greater good have been achieved and West Pullman is now a community rising with the energy of the sun.

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CITY CLERK
JUL 10 2011
22:30 PM
CARRIE M. AUSTIN
Alderman - 34th Ward