# Uplifting Communities with Infill Housing

October 20, 2023











#### Todd Wiltse, Moderator

- Partner at WJW Architects in Chicago
- Licensed Architect in Illinois, Indiana, and surrounding states
- LEED AP
- 29 years of practice
- Designed dozens of affordable housing projects which currently house thousands of Illinois residents
- Professional focus on community-based supportive housing, residential healthcare settings, and trauma-informed design



#### Dena Bell, Panelist

- Managing Director of IFF's Home First Development Team
- Focus on creating affordable, accessible housing for people with disabilities.
- Has developed ten projects under the program since 2012.
- Projects are designed to revitalize vacant lots and abandoned buildings with small scale infill buildings



#### Jane Genzel, Panelist

- Executive Director of Peoria Opportunities Foundation
- Non-profit affordable housing developer
- Renovated 55,000 SF building for PSH
- Renovated 5 single-family homes
- Partnered with two for-profit developers on affordable senior housing developments
- Developed 30 scattered site units of affordable housing
- Neighborhood focused



#### Michelle Sablack, Panelist

- Licensed Architect in Illinois and Indiana
- Associate at WJW Architects in Chicago
- 15 years of practice primarily in the Midwest
- Firm Member of Illinois Housing Council
- Member of IL Green Alliance and IL Energy Conservation Advisory Council
- LEED AP BD&C and EDAC Certified Professional
- Chair firm's sustainability committee, which includes oversight of WJW's AIA 2030 Commitment



## The Problem: Anywhere, USA

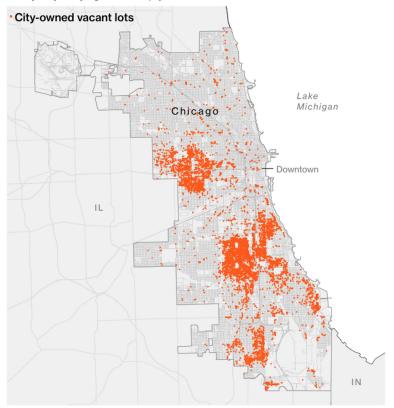




## The Problem: Anywhere, USA

#### **Chicago Vacant Lots**

Windy City is trying to sell empty lots to curb crime



Source: City of Chicago



## The Problem: Anywhere, USA





## Solution(?) Chicago, IL

Hope Manor Village Englewood neighborhood







## East Bluff Homes Peoria, IL

Project Snapshot







### Neighborhood Characteristics

- Distressed neighborhood
- Scattered vacant lots and buildings
- Primarily low income residents
- Almost 100% single family homes
- Good access to public transportation
- Proximity to several major employers
- Access to health care clinics, shopping centers, parks and the neighborhood community center





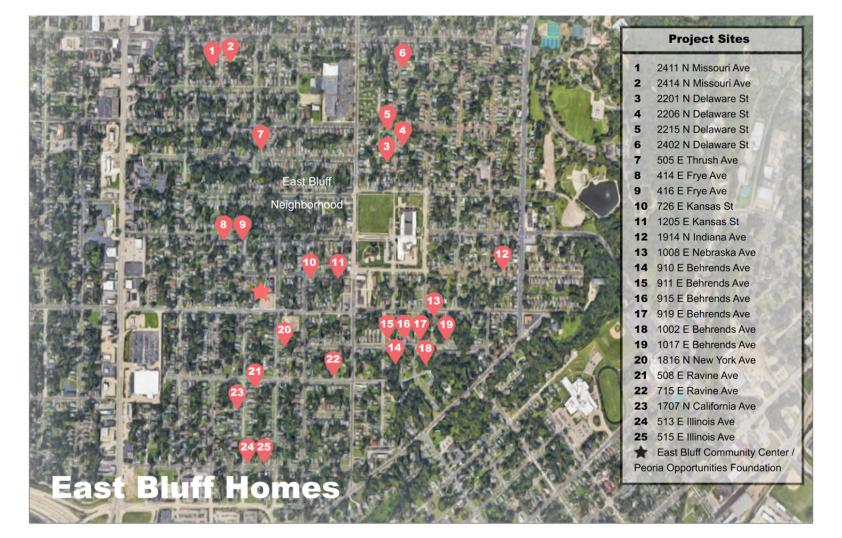
#### East Bluff Homes



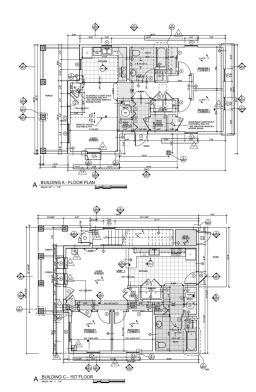
- New Construction
- 30 Units of affordable housing on 25 sites
- 20 Single family homes
- 5 Two-Flats
- 2 & 3 Bedroom Units
- 18 lots city owned
- 4 lots county owned
- 3 lots private owners

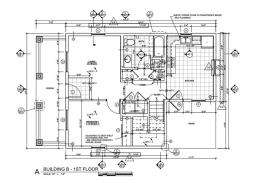


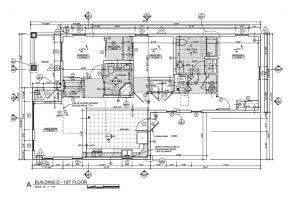




#### East Bluff Homes - 4 Floor Plans















Designed to be contextual with historic character of surrounding homes





Capital Funding	
City of Peoria HOME	\$660,077
City of Peoria TIF	\$300,000
IHDA HOME	\$1,725,560
Federal Home Loan Bank	\$350,687
Deferred Developer Fee	\$277,604
State Capital Fund	\$250,000
LIHTC Equity	\$7,866,165
TOTAL	\$11,430,0934











## Access Health & Housing + Access West Cook

Maywood, IL

Project Snapshot





### Two Projects, One Community

- Access West Cook part of a four-community scattered site
   LIHTC project. Completed in June 2020
- Access Health & Housing sister project funded under IHDA's Permanent Supportive Housing Round. Completed October 2023
- Both projects were developed on vacant land and abandoned property
- New management office and resident service space will serve both housing phases and the greater community





## Neighborhood Characteristics

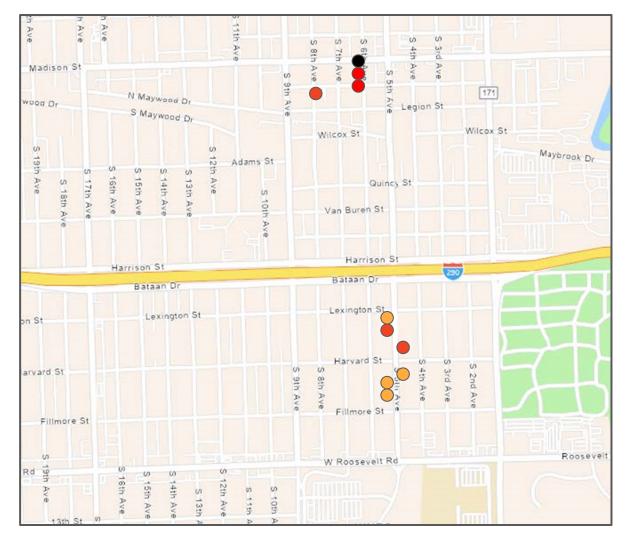
- Distressed neighborhood
- Vacant lots and abandoned buildings
- Primarily low income community
- Active local government
- Access to public transportation
- Limited availability of accessible housing
- Limited access to local health care system





### Funding Partners

- IHDA funding programs provided the majority of project funding
- Trinity Health (operating locally as Loyola Hospital) is a funding partner and will provide health-focused services in the resident services space
- A philanthropic Foundation provided funding to advance both projects
- Rental assistance provided by the Housing Authority of Cook
  County and the IL Dept. of Human Services supports low
  income residents with disabilities



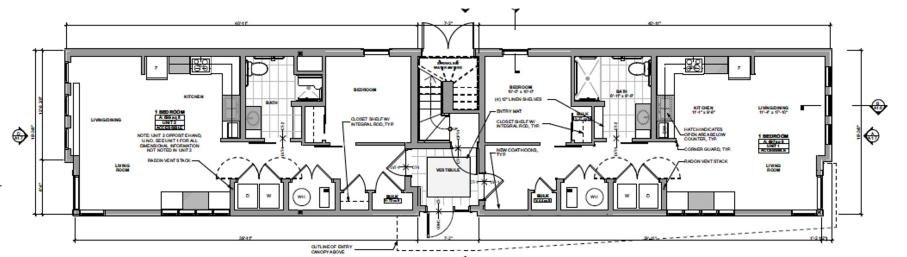
- Access West Cook (9% LIHTC) 2020
- Access Health & Housing (PSH)2023
- Management and Resident Services
   Space

32 Units of affordable housing on 10 sites





## Designed for Accessibility



- Sites were designed to maximize the buildable space of a standard 25x125 infill lot. Two accessible one-bedroom units on the first floor and one walk-up unit on the second floor
- Interiors are open, roomy and accessible. Additional features include casement windows and barn-style interior doors

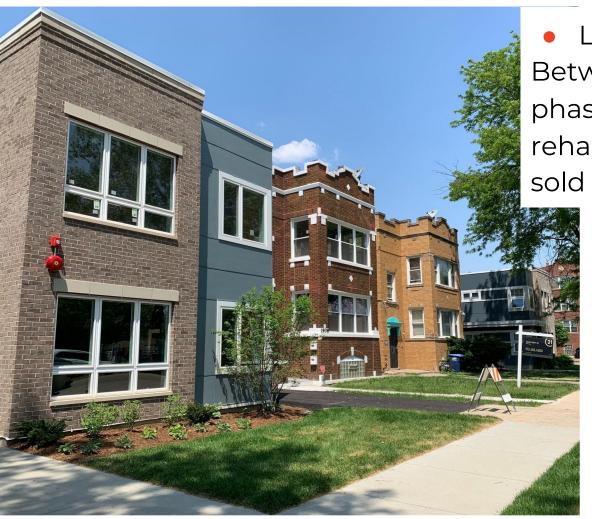




Abandoned, foreclosed property purchased from Land Bank Authority. Four unit new construction rental building on same site.







Local impact of projects
 Between initial and second
 phase, adjacent buildings were
 rehabilitated and rented or
 sold







• Local Impact of Projects
New construction housing built on
long-vacant land. Site was
extensively remediated due to
former industrial use.





## North Point Homes Sullivan, IL

Project Snapshot



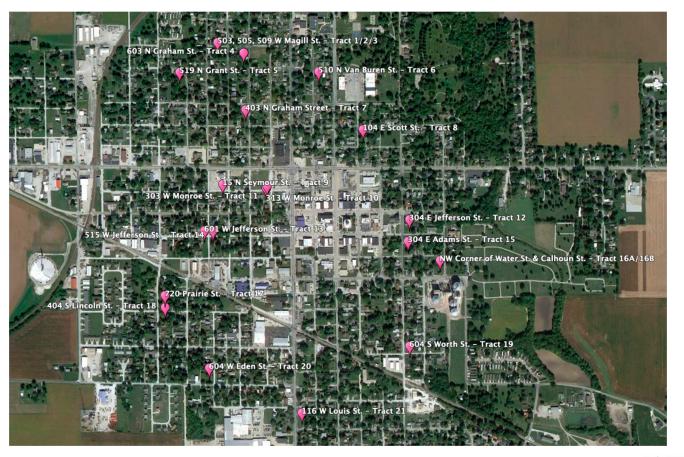


#### North Point Homes



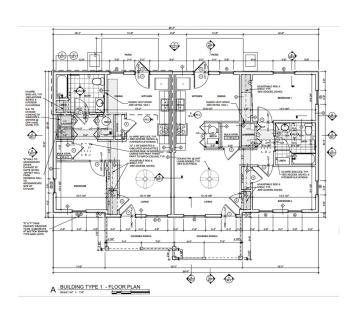
- New Construction (Not Yet Built)
- 37 Units of affordable housing on 21 sites
- 11 Single family homes
- 13 Duplexes
- 1, 2, & 3 Bedroom Units
- 9% Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC)

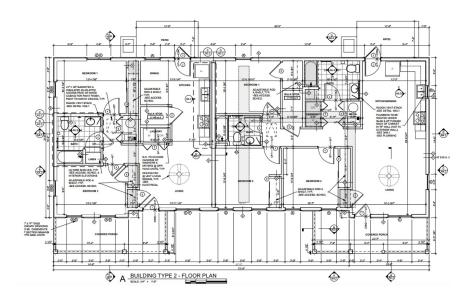






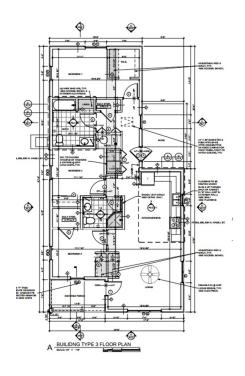
#### North Point Homes - 4 Floor Plans

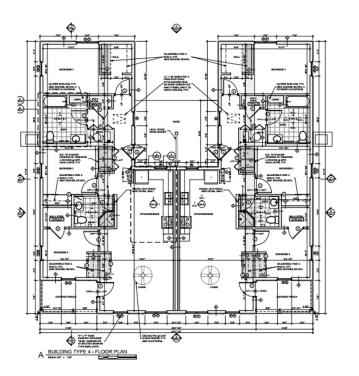






#### North Point Homes - 4 Floor Plans







### North Point Homes - Sustainability

- Highly Energy Efficient
- All-Electric
- Designed to Meet 2020
   Enterprise Green
   Communities (EGC)
   Certification & DOE Zero
   Energy Ready Homes
- Photovoltaic Ready





#### Contact Us!

Dena Bell Managing Director - IFF dbell@iff.org

Jane Genzel
Executive Director Peoria Opportunities Foundation
<a href="mailto:jane.genzel@gmail.com">jane.genzel@gmail.com</a>

Todd Wiltse
Partner - WJW Architects
toddw@wjwarchitects.com

Michelle Sablack
Associate - WJW Architects
michelles@wjwarchitects.com







