

Urban Wealth Initiative

Preston Love Jr.

Community based collaborative framework as part of
Strategic Long Term and Tactical Short Term models

The Light House

- Challenge to Erie: to incorporate my suggested framework/model to develop both the greater city of Erie *jointly* with your Urban Core



Who Talking??

- 15 years with IBM
- Microcomputer Pioneer.
- Commissioner of Planning: City of Atlanta
- Consultant to City of Chicago
 - Collateral land use O'Hara Airport
- 12 years community activist
- Adjunct Professor at University of Nebraska-Omaha.
- Columnist Omaha Star Newspaper
- Author and Lecturer on the “fixes” for our Urban challenges



The Beach Head

- Erie's challenges are joined by **many** cities in the USA
- Erie's Urban challenges are joined by **most every** city in the USA
 - Some cities have adequate to booming Economies **but** the Urban core is struggling at best, most are in a crisis:*Omaha*
 - Some cities are Economically struggling at best, some are in a crisis **and** the Urban core is also struggling or in a crisis:*Erie*



The Life Boat

- Both city categories need the same solutions
 - Some form of a Urban Wealth Initiative
 - Public and Private Investment

Solutions to the Urban crisis

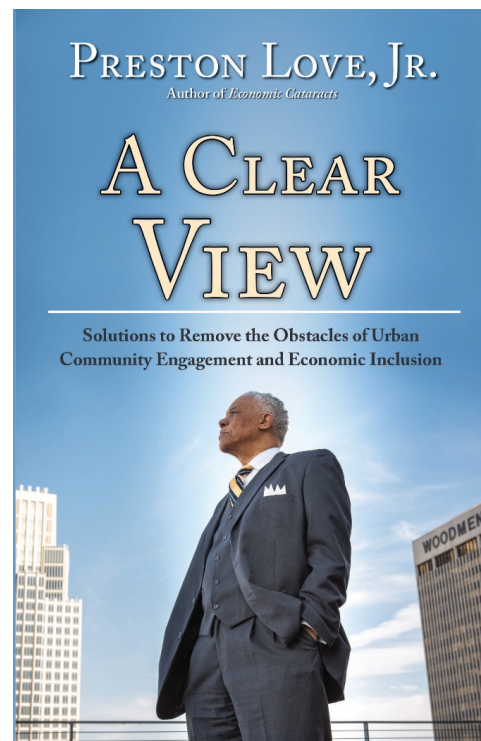
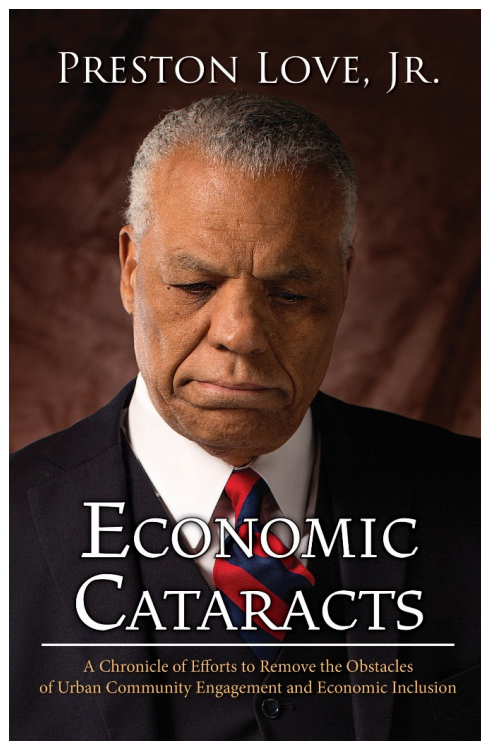
Omaha set: The question is **focus**

Erie set: The question is **priority**

It's Tuesday, I am in Erie



Captain's Log



Visit Erie, the Water is Cold!

- **Priority #1: Tactical: Recognize the residuals of Poverty, they need investments and nurturing, while the longer term Strategic work is developing.**
 - Poverty
 - Cultural Disconnect
 - Failure of Representation
 - Return of Jim Crow
 - Lack of understanding of the power of the vote
 - Failure to connect voting to our lives
 - Lack of Coalitions and unity
 - Need for civic education
 - Big \$
 - Strong core beliefs



Visit Erie, the Water is Luke Warm!

- **Priority #2: Strategic: Recognize the benefits from an Urban Wealth Initiative.**
 - Increase of Urban Wealth/net worth
 - Increase of Jobs
 - Growth of New and Existing small business growth
 - Increase of contractor inclusiveness
 - Positive impact on community health, education, home ownership, entrepreneurship
 - Greater Erie benefits
 - Increase in the Tax base and revenue
 - Reduction of crime
 - Increase in community engagement (Inc. voting)



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- **Priority #3: Strategic: Set the framework for the Initiative.**

- **FRAMEWORK**

- Baseline Requirements
 - Leadership from the public sector
 - Buy-in from private sector
 - Buy-in from philanthropic sector
 - Collaboration of on-going developments

Foundational Requirement

- Maintenance of the Urban Cultures and Historical integrity

Involvement of all Stakeholders: Round Table

- Bring initiative planning under One Tent
- Don't overlook TIF's

Side work

- Prepare workforce
- Prepare small businesses/contractors
- Establish and use of Community Benefits Agreements



Visit Erie, the Water is Prefect!

Summary

- You have recognized the residuals of urban poverty
- You have recognized the opportunity for Erie to reap benefits via the establishment of an Urban Wealth Initiatives in parallel with the efforts for all of Erie.
- * You have recognized the elements for a Framework of the initiative

• NOW

- Put up the Tent
- Develop the Plan

