# Revitalizing Neighborhoods

## Neighborhood Renaissance Savannah

February 22, 2011

#### **Key Components**

- Partnerships
- Participatory Planning
- Aggressive Code Enforcement
- Property Acquisition
- Housing
- Infrastructure
- Investment

#### **Partnerships**

- NRS Includes 20+ Partners Per Neighborhood
  - Neighborhood Associations/Leaders/Residents
  - Non-profits (Local, State, National)
  - Authorities (Housing, Land Bank, EOA)
  - Builders/Developers
  - Banks/Investors
  - Realtors
  - Federal (HUD, DOL YouthBuild)
  - State (DCA, DNR, Community Health)
  - City (Mayor, Aldermen, Departments)

### Participatory Planning

- Plans need community buy-in to work
- Build allies, not adversaries!
- Incorporate community ideas into plans
  - Identify minimum requirements and wish lists
  - Be candid about funding limitations
  - Use neighborhood association meetings to present ideas and gain input
    - Work with NA subcommittees
  - Design charettes for large projects can be very informative and helpful





### **Aggressive Code Enforcement**

- Political "Will" to Aggressively Enforce Housing & Property Maintenance Codes a Must
  - Blighted property discourages investment
  - Blighted property lowers values
  - Blighted property increases crime and other problems/costs for City
- Operation Clean Sweep
  - City' Inter-Departmental Coordinated Neighborhood Clean-Ups







#### **Property Acquisition**

- Targeted Acquisition of Vacant Property
  - High visibility
  - Problem properties
  - Vacant lots for housing & commercial development
  - Vacant structures
  - Vacant property for green space
  - Avoid acquiring occupied property when possible
- Who acquires property
  - City
  - Land Bank Authority
  - Housing & Development Authorities
  - Non-profits
  - Developers/Builders

#### **Property Acquisition**

- Biggest Problems When Acquiring Property
  - Clear title
  - Heir property
  - Low property taxes
  - Eminent Domain Law Changes

- Owner-Occupied Home Repairs
  - Savannah has repaired an average of 277 owneroccupied dwellings a year for 11 years
  - Volunteers maximize public investment
    - World Changers
    - Mission Serve
    - Group Work Camps
    - Youth Build
    - Rebuilding Together
    - Local Schools, Churches, Businesses, Civic Groups, Military
  - Focus on securing building envelope
    - Protect occupant and house from weather elements
    - Improves appearance of house in the neighborhood
    - Whole house renovations too costly
  - Avoid lead paint disturbance

Volunteers Help Elderly!



World Changers, Group Work Camps, Youth Build and Local Volunteers Repair The Homes Of Elderly Homeowners!

- Rental Property
  - Savannah has created and/or repaired an average of 158 dwellings a year for 11 years
  - Best Funding Sources
    - Low Income Housing Tax Credits (DCA)
    - Historic Tax Credits (DNR)
    - Section 202 Senior Housing (HUD)
- Non-Profits a Good Fit
  - CHSA
  - Mercy Housing
  - Paces Foundation
  - Parallel Housing









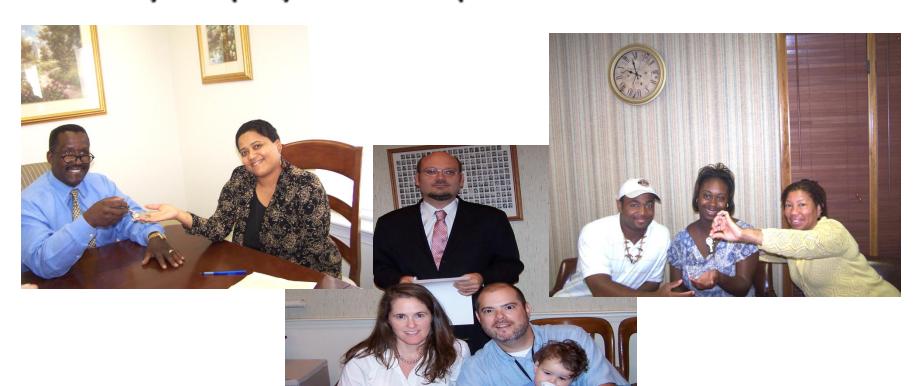
- Home Purchase
  - Savannah has assisted an average of 80 home buyers a year purchase dwellings over the past 11 years
  - DreamMaker Program (COS)
    - DreamMaker 1 (City Wide)
    - DreamMaker 2 (CDBG Neighborhood)
    - DreamMaker 3 (Redevelopment Area)
    - COS Employer Assisted Home Purchase Benefit
  - DreamSavannah Program (DCA)
  - Habitat

#### Infill Housing

- Savannah has averaged the construction of 41 single family homes a year for the last 11 years
- Catalyst for visible change
- Developer incentives
  - Financing
  - Plans/specs
- Design
  - Neo Traditional Neighborhood Sensitive Design
  - "Green" & Energy Efficient
    - Energy Star (Minimum Requirement)
    - EarthCraft (Higher Level)
    - EarthCraft With Geo-Thermal Heat Pump (Highest Level)
    - Smart Meters
- Builders
  - Non-Profits
  - For-Profits
  - YouthBuild

#### City of Savannah Employer Assisted Home Purchase Program

- Program launched on July 10, 2006
- 60 City Employees have purchased homes



# New Infill Housing & Home Buyers



#### New Infill Housing - Homeownership



#### New Infill Housing - Homeownership











#### Infrastructure

- Parks
- Tree Lawns
- Sidewalks
- Roads
- Storm Drainage





#### Cuyler-Brownsville 2006 CIP Re-Brick West 36<sup>th</sup> Street





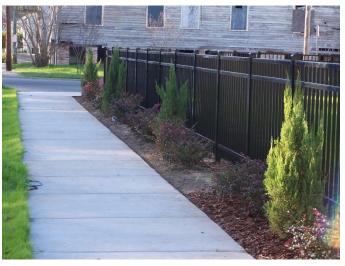


Re-laying brick on W. 36<sup>th</sup> Street in the Cuyler Brownsville Neighborhood. Began in October 2006 and is scheduled to be completed in February 2007



# **Cuyler-Brownsville 2006 CIP Kline Street Play Area**







Green space located on Kline Street between MLK & Burroughs is nearly complete.

# **Cuyler-Brownsville 2006 CIPs**

- 41st Street Historic Street Lighting
- 40<sup>th</sup> Street Lane Paving



# Investment Primary Funding Sources

- HUD
  - CDBG/HOME and Program Income
- DCA
  - Low Income Housing Tax Credits 4% and 9%
  - DreamSavannah
    - Down payment (HOME)
    - 1st Mortgage Home Purchase
- Federal Home Loan Bank
  - AHP Grants & Loans
- Housing Authority
  - Housing Choice Vouchers
- Historic Tax Credits
- Value of Volunteer Labor
- Banks & Mortgage Companies
- City of Savannah
  - SPLOST
  - General Fund
    - Acquisition
    - Employer Assisted Home Purchase Program

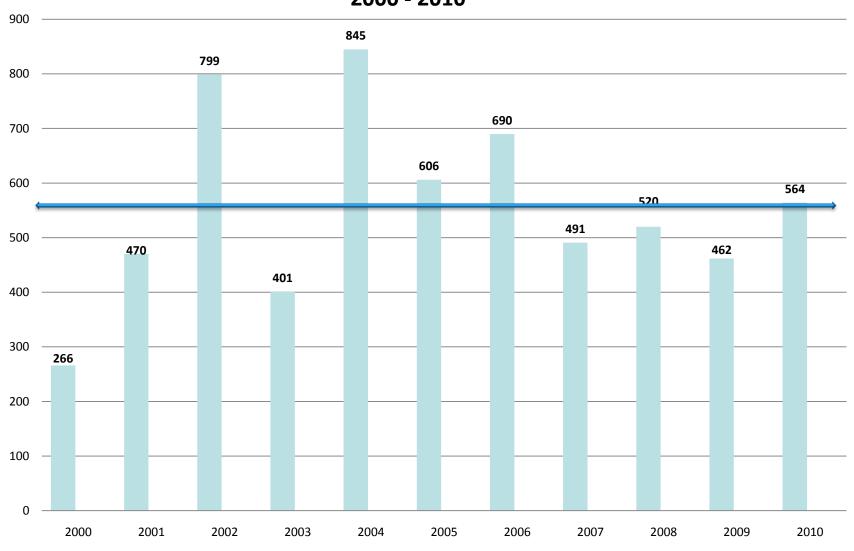
# Investment City of Savannah

- Public Infrastructure in Support of Affordable Housing & Revitalization (2000-2013)
  - \$23,500,000 SPLOST/General Funds
- Property Acquisition Fund (2004)
  - \$2,450,000 General Funds
- Employer Assisted Home Purchase Benefit
   Program for City of Savannah Employees (2006)
  - \$250,000 General Funds
- Housing Department Administrative Contribution
  - \$926,000 General Funds (2010)

# Investment Leveraging Resources

- Use Public Investment to Increase Private & Other Investment for Affordable Housing
- FY 2000
  - \$ 4.53 (71%) Million CDBG/HOME Investment
  - \$ 1.84 (29%) Million Private/Other Investment
- FY 2010
  - \$ 8.07 (17%) Million CDBG/HOME Investment
  - \$38.65 (83%) Million Private/Other Investment
- FY 2000-2010
  - \$ 56.59 (20%) Million CDBG/HOME Investment
  - \$233.49 (80%) Million Private/Other Investment

#### Affordable Housing Production 6116 Dwelling Units 2000 - 2010



## Neighborhood Renaissance Savannah

## Putting It All Together

## Cuyler-Brownsville

1997 Plan Approved 2000 Construction Begins

### Cuyler-Brownsville

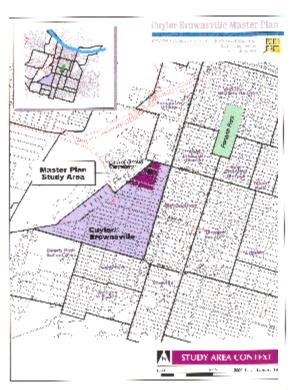
- Historic African American Neighborhood
- Mainly wood frame single family and row houses
- Neighborhood stores called confectionaries
- Overrun by crime and drugs by the 1990s
- Overrun by abandoned property and vacant lots
- Residents call on City to help revitalize neighborhood
- Residents want
  - Major and minor parks
  - New single family houses that attract homebuyers
  - High quality, affordable, rental housing
  - Home improvement assistance for existing owners
  - Save the dilapidated and abandoned, yet historic, Charity Hospital and Florance Street Elementary School

## Cuyler-Brownsville

- **\$ 1,800,000 Acquisition**
- \$ 1,800,000 Infrastructure
- \$ 34,230,000 Housing (359 Units)
- \$ 37,830,000 Total Estimated Cost

### **Urban Redevelopment Plan**

### **Urban Redevelopment Plan & Area Map**



#### Land Use Plan & Map



#### **Design Standards**











#### Property Acquisition & Infrastructure



New Square, Fountain, Gazebo, Streets, Sidewalks & Historic Street Lighting







#### Low Income Housing Tax Credits & HOME



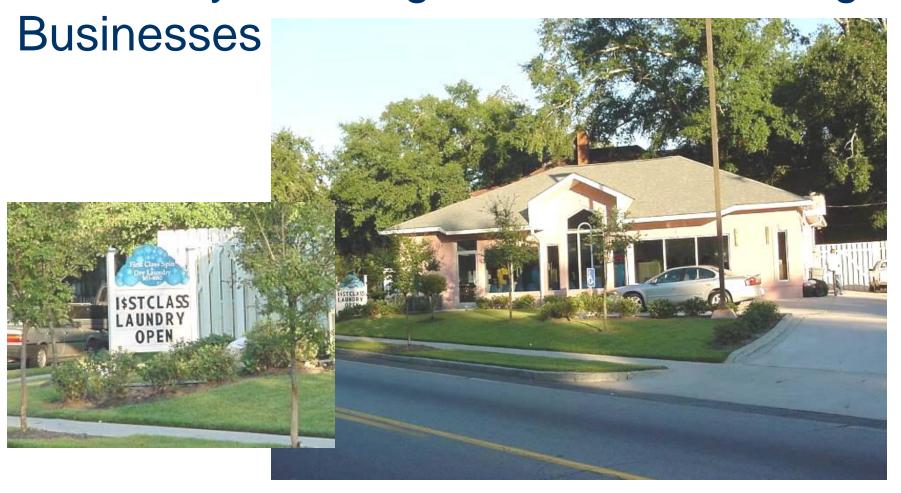
Mercy Housing's
Florance Street School
Adaptive Reuse Into
63 Affordable Rental
And Attached Multi
Family Infill Housing Units

#### Low Income Housing Tax Credits & CDBG



Mercy Housing's
West 41<sup>st</sup> Street
Historic Row House
Renovations & Infill
Housing Into 70
Affordable Rental Units

New Housing And Other Urban Redevelopment Plan Improvements Pave Way For Neighborhood Benefiting



2006 Demo Begins 2008 Construction Begins

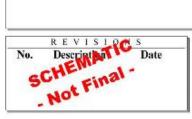
- 26 acre <u>public housing</u> site developed 1939 & 1952
- Demo 303 dilapidated apartments
- Construct 333 new dwellings
  - 13 Single Family (homeowners)
  - 220 Apartments (renters)
  - 100 Senior Apartments (renters)
- Construct "town center" and neighborhood commercial
- Save large trees
- Create community park
- Connect to adjoining neighborhood
- LEED ND / EarthCraft Coastal Community

- \$ 3,250,000 Acquisition (HAS)
- \$ 4,500,000 Infrastructure
- **\$ 44,170,000** Housing (333 Units)
- \$ 51,920,000 Total Estimated Cost











#### Isometric View

| Project number | 2007-01  | A200  |
|----------------|----------|-------|
| Date           | 03/19/07 |       |
| Drawn by       | AS       |       |
| Checked by     | FRL      | Scale |

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### Sustainable Fellwood Phase-I









## Savannah Gardens

2005 Acquisition Negotiations Begin 2007 Acquisition 2010 Construction Begins

#### Savannah Gardens

- 44 acre <u>former public housing</u> site developed during WWII for shipyard workers
- Site had become last resort housing, high crime area, negatively impacting adjoining neighborhoods and new Savannah High School
- Demo 370 dilapidated apartments
- Construct 550 new dwellings
  - 120 Single Family (homeowners)
  - 330 Apartments (renters)
  - 100 Senior Apartments (renters)
- Construct "town center" and neighborhood commercial
- Save and enhance distinguishing site features
  - Crescent Drive
  - Major and minor parks
  - Trees
- Connect to adjoining neighborhoods
- EarthCraft Coastal Community

#### Savannah Gardens

- \$ 12,500,000 Acquisition
- \$ 13,000,000 Infrastructure
- \$ 67,200,000 Housing (550 Units)
- \$ 92,700,000 Total Estimated Cost













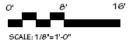




ROW HOUSE

SAVANNAH GARDENS SAVANNAH, GA

3-18-10





ROW HOUSE - BUILDING #200

SAVANNAH GARDENS - PHASE I SAVANNAH, GA

5-18-10







### For More Information Contact

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