

This was all done by design

As CSX, the operator of the coal facility put it, how do you know which of the 12 other chemical facilities is causing the harmful emissions that you are measuring with your monitors.

As the current Baltimore Government administration put it, we have other area zoned just like it, so why are residents complaining or seeking specialized treatment hear.

Let's talk about this design. A structure where white people created a system to benefit or profit off the health of Black, brown and low-income people. This design was done at the City, State and federal levels of government with the support of the press, institutions and philanthropic organizations. In Curtis Bay, we know this has been going on for over 120 years. We can call this modern day red-lining or use the Baltimore phase, the Black butterfly.

Tow years ago, I did not know this. Am I to blame for this system? I most certainly benefited from this system.

Right now, we are at a turning point, our eyes are now fully open to this injustice where a group of people are shown to live around 10 years less than wealthy white neighbors. They can expect all their kids to get asthma. Just to have a few companies increase their bottom lines, the creations of several hundred jobs and a few millions of dollars of tax revenues.

If we don't do something now, we are all complicit in maintaining this sacrifice zone. What can and should we do? For starters, here is a short list, however I leave the actual details to the community, environmental scientist, social workers and elected officials.

1. Close or restrict facilities that are causing this situation – they are no safe levels of coal dust for residents to breath. If you must have coal, then make sure the whole time it is covered to prevent any part of it from excepting into the neighborhood. This includes transportation to the site also.
2. Implement clean truck rules – this means electrify everything
3. Implement new zoning to stop the additional of new facilities into sacrifice zones, for example the crematorium in Govans
4. Work with the state government to pass legislation to allow Baltimore to implement its clean air act
5. Monitor air and ground water, not only for particulates, but for heavy metals, carcinogens, and PFAS
6. Ensure that there are heavy and frequent fines for violations, otherwise the fines are just a cost of doing business and are built into the business plan.
7. Prepare for the worst, 1 in 1,000-year rain event, hurricanes, heat events. We need notification plans, evacuation plans, containment plans
8. Reparations, how much is 10 years of life worth, how much is a life with asthma worth, a study of the Bresco incinerator in 2017 found that it is causing \$54million of heath care expenses for the baltimore area

I could go on and on but at this time I would like to close with. This was all done by design, so we need to design our way out of this crisis. It will require hard work and require that we stop pointing fingers at which level of government to blame and solve this with the community. Right now, we need action, plans, outrage, passion from our City Government.

Thank you,

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