



# Updates on Accident at Crawford

Jan. 16, 2020



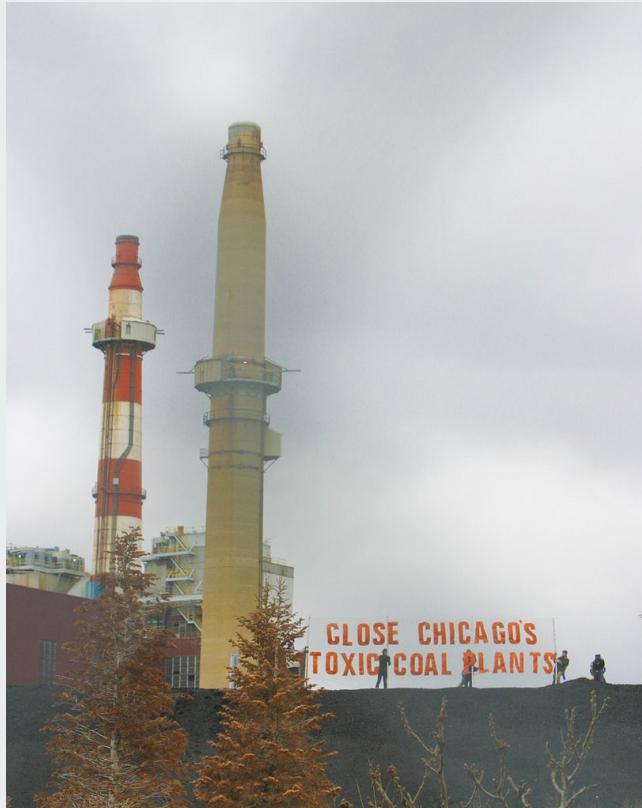
LVEJO 

# Little Village Environmental Justice Organization (LVEJO)



The mission of LVEJO is to organize with our community to accomplish environmental justice in Little Village and achieve the self-determination of immigrant, low-income, and working-class families.

# Crawford + Fisk Stations linked to:



**40** premature deaths,  
**550** emergency room visits,  
and **2,800** asthma attacks  
every year\*

\*Based on a 2002 Harvard School of Public Health Study

# Our Fight Against Crawford



- **12 year** community struggle
- Crawford and Fisk officially stopped burning coal in 2012!

# Who is Who?



# Who is Hilco Global?



# Our Experience with Hilco

HELLO  
my name is

SELL OUT



# Exchange 55



<https://www.hilcoredev.com/projects/exchange-55>

# Column: Former Little Village coal plant to be demolished, replaced with distribution center

[Ryan Ori](#) - Reporter - Chicago Tribune - Feb. 2018

Hilco is working on a community benefits agreement with 22nd Ward Ald. [Ricardo Munoz](#) on the Crawford redevelopment. **"No. 1, I want to see it cleaned up properly, and No. 2, I want to see jobs go to local residents," Munoz said. "It's great that they're going to repurpose the site, put it back on the tax rolls and bring jobs back to the site."**

Site cleanup and demolition is expected to take 14 to 24 months. Hilco will talk with prospective tenants during that time.

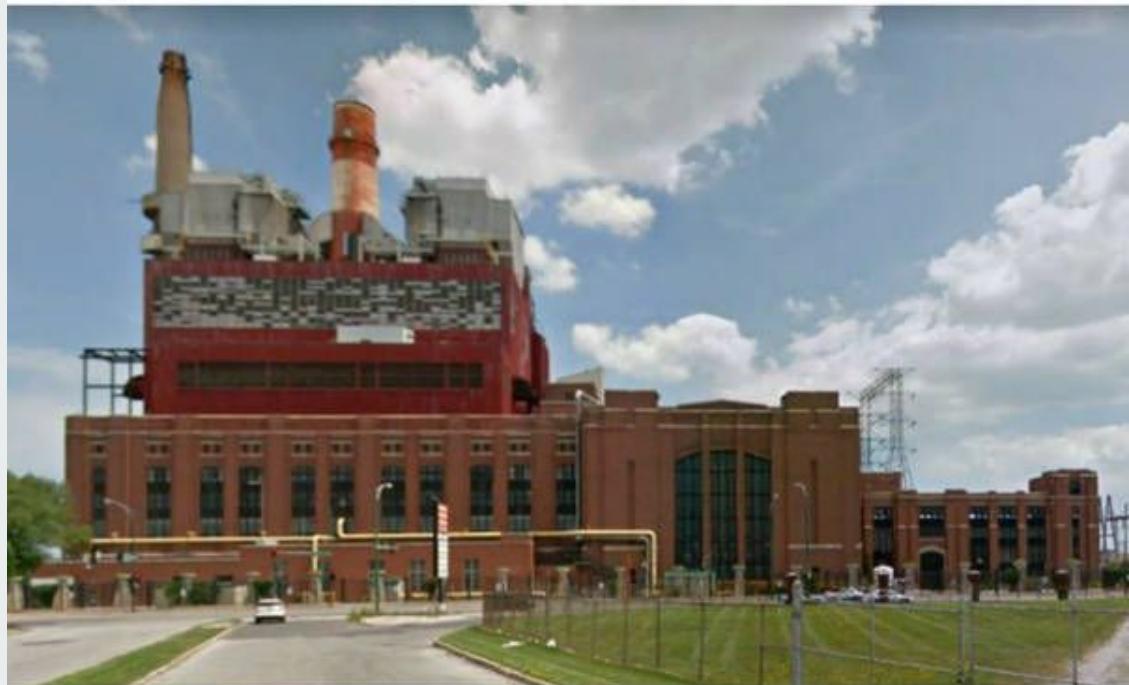
Hilco has been buying and redeveloping similar sites in other parts of the country, including Boston and Baltimore, as online retailers and other companies seek "last mile" distribution centers close to residential areas. The company signed leases with Amazon, FedEx Ground and Under Armour on a former Bethlehem Steel plant it is redeveloping into distribution space in Baltimore.

"We're willing to take the heavy lift" of site remediation because of a dearth of well-located warehouse sites throughout the country, Perez said.

"Being a national player in this space, we have a feel for what customers want," he said. "We feel there are going to be several customers that will want to move here."

# Demolition & Remediation of Plant

Ensure that the state site remediation process must include Active Public Participation, a full and complete characterization of site contamination and a remediation that is protective of human health and the environment, now and in the future.



# Fire at Crawford Station - February 27, 2019



[La Villita, Chicago](#) 

**Crawford fire**

A fire broke out at the Crawford (Hilco) plant around 11am this morning.



The fire happened when crews were dismantling an electrical transformer on site, said Jen Scully, a spokeswoman for Hilco Partners, the firm that owns the site. A fire was sparked and workers evacuated and notified authorities, she said. **The cause of the fire was not immediately known**, Merrit said.

## Fire Breaks Out At Old Crawford Coal Plant Wednesday In Little Village, Officials Say

One firefighter was injured at the site which is expected to be converted into a massive distribution center.

FEB 27, 2019 1:57PM CST | PILSEN, LITTLE VILLAGE, WEST LOOP

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 **Mauricio Peña**     

Pilsen, Little Village and West Loop reporter [mauricio@blockclubchi.org](mailto:mauricio@blockclubchi.org)  
[See more](#)

LITTLE VILLAGE — A fire broke out at the former Crawford Coal Plant Wednesday morning in Little Village, leaving one person injured, fire officials said.

# City Tells Worried Little Village Residents To 'Limit Outdoor Activities' As Crews Demolish Old Coal Plant

Neighbors want the air quality monitored as a developer works to remediate and demolish the site to make way for a controversial one-million-square-foot warehouse. But the city says monitoring isn't required.

AUG 7, 2019 9:49AM CDT

PILSEN, LITTLE VILLAGE, WEST LOOP



 Mauricio Peña [@MauricioPena](#)

Pilsen, Little Village and West Loop reporter  
[mauricio@blockclubchi.org](mailto:mauricio@blockclubchi.org)  
[See more](#)

## After Little Village Residents Told To Stay Inside During Coal Plant Demolition, City Says It Will Inspect The Crawford Site Every Week

The agency has asked the developer whether they plan to monitor air quality and it is "under evaluation," a city spokesman said.

AUG 12, 2019 9:15AM CDT

PILSEN, LITTLE VILLAGE, WEST LOOP

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[See more](#)



# Little Village Crawford Demolition Meeting 8/6/2019

LITTLE VILLAGE — As neighbors ask for more testing while the dismantling of the old Crawford Coal Plant in Little Village is underway, a city official warned them to limit their outdoor activity as work is happening on the site.

Neighbors asked the developer, city and Illinois Environmental Protection Agency officials to monitor air quality at the site to protect residents. Officials explained **the developer won't be required to test the air quality**, but David Graham, an assistant commissioner with the city's Department of Public Health, told nearly 100 neighbors "**kids and people with breathing problems**" and **people who "are sensitive to dust" should "limit outdoor activity" as work is completed on the site.**

Residents criticized the city's response, saying the burden should not be placed on Little Village residents but instead on the developer, Hilco Development Partners, which is razing the property to make way for a million-square-foot distribution warehouse.

**"I asked you, 'How do I protect myself?' ... And you tell me, 'Close my windows and shut my doors,'" said a resident who lives near the Hilco property. "What are you doing to protect us? "I have the right to be in my yard. I have a right to walk to work. I have a right to breathe — so you need to do something. [Don't tell] me, 'Shut my door and shut my windows.'"**

In response, Graham said the city's Department of Public Health would do its best to protect the residents' health but didn't provide a specific plan of action. He then moved on to the next question.

# Chicago Department of Public Health Responses 9/26/2019

## 1. A detailed daily timeline for work being completed on the site

CDPH response: Due to the nature and complexity of construction work at the site, **CDPH has requested that Hilco publicly post its construction schedule, including all associated activities, on its website (CrawfordStation.com) with weekly updates.** Daily updates are not in line with best practices for a project this large, as they would likely require numerous revisions, which would cause confusion.

## 2. Names and permits of the contractors and subcontractors hired for the remediation of the Crawford Coal Power Plant site, including those handling asbestos

CDPH response: The following contractors are working onsite. Please note this list does not include trades such as electrical, masons, plumbers, drywall installers, etc.

- **Marine Technology Solutions – construction management and environmental safety**
- **Jenkins Engineering Inc. – civil engineer**
- **Morgan/Harbor Construction – general contractor**
- **MCM Management Corp. – asbestos contractor**

The attached environmental permits submitted to CDPH give three different hours of operation.

**4. CDPH to flyer and host local informational events to educate the community at large of the process, in Spanish & English**

CDPH response: The City of Chicago's Department of Planning & Development (DPD) and Hilco have participated in numerous public meetings related to the planning, redevelopment, demolition and future construction activities. **CDPH has requested that Hilco continue its bilingual outreach to inform the neighborhood of progress and anticipated activities during remediation and construction activities. CDPH has requested that Hilco provide its construction schedule, including all associated activities, on its website (CrawfordStation.com) with weekly updates.**

**10. Is there an existing fugitive dust control plan to control dust during the remediation and redevelopment of the site? If so, can this plan be shared with the public?**

CDPH response: **CDPH has requested a copy of the fugitive dust control plan for public release.**

**11. What provisions are there to notify nearby residents during more intense phases of demolition and remedial activities that have the potential to affect air quality?**

CDPH response: **CDPH has requested that Hilco provide its construction schedule, including all associated activities, on its website (CrawfordStation.com) with weekly updates. CDPH has recommended that Hilco distribute multi-lingual flyers for nearby residents in advance of major activity.**

# Hilco's Propaganda

**EXCHANGE X 55**  
CHICAGO

Dear Neighbor,

Two years ago, Hilco Redevelopment Partners acquired and started the demolition of the former Crawford power plant. We know how important it was to close the old power plant seven years ago which is why we are working hard to deliver a responsible new development to replace what still stands today. The new development will bring new jobs and opportunity to the Little Village neighborhood.

Today, we are excited to report that we are nearly finished removing all of the asbestos from the buildings. Over the next several months, demolition activities will continue to make progress on the remaining power plant buildings.

Protecting the health and safety of the Little Village community and local workers is very important and our top priority. That's why we have watering trucks, water cannons, misting systems, fence liners, and other efforts on site to help control dust generated by demolition or construction activities on site.

Our goal is to finish demolition this year making way for an environmentally friendly development that will feature improved community access along Pulaski Road, the planting of 680 new trees, naturalized landscaping improvements, a roof that accommodates solar panels, and infrastructure to support electric vehicles. We hope to secure a tenant for the building soon and will work with them and partners in the Little Village community to host job fairs.

We look forward to continuing to work with the community to bring opportunity back to this dormant section of Pulaski Road. For regular project updates, information about job fairs, construction progress, community events, or to ask any questions, please visit our project website at [www.crawfordstation.com](http://www.crawfordstation.com).

Thank you.



Hilco  
Redevelopment Partners

For more information, visit [www.crawfordstation.com](http://www.crawfordstation.com)

**EXCHANGE X 55**  
CHICAGO

Querido Vecino/a,

Hace dos años, Hilco Redevelopment Partners compró y comenzó la demolición de la antigua planta eléctrica llamada Crawford. Sabemos lo importante que fue cerrar la antigua planta de energía hace siete años, por eso estamos trabajando duro para ofrecer un nuevo desarrollo responsable para reemplazar lo que está hoy. El nuevo desarrollo traerá nuevos empleos y oportunidades al vecindario de La Villita.

Hoy, nos complace informar que casi hemos terminado de eliminar todo el asbestos de los edificios. Durante los próximos meses, las actividades de demolición continuarán progresando en los edificios restantes de la planta eléctrica.

Proteger la salud y la seguridad de la comunidad de La Villita y de los trabajadores locales es muy importante y nuestra prioridad principal. Es por eso que tenemos camiones de riego, cañones de agua, sistemas de nebulización, revestimientos de cercas y otros esfuerzos en el sitio para ayudar a controlar el polvo generado por las actividades de demolición o construcción en el sitio.

Nuestro objetivo es terminar la demolición este año, dando paso a un desarrollo respetuoso con el medio ambiente que contará con un mejor acceso comunitario a lo largo de la Calle Pulaski, la plantación de 680 árboles nuevos, mejorar el paisaje de naturaleza, un techo adecuado para paneles solares e infraestructura para cargar vehículos eléctricos. Esperamos asegurar un inquilino para el edificio pronto y trabajaremos con ellos y socios en la comunidad de La Villita para organizar ferias de empleo.

Esperamos continuar trabajando con la comunidad para traer oportunidades de regreso a esta sección inactiva de la Calle Pulaski. Para recibir información del proyecto, fechas de ferias de empleo, progreso de la construcción, eventos de la comunidad o para hacer preguntas, visite nuestro sitio web del proyecto en [www.crawfordstation.com](http://www.crawfordstation.com).

Gracias.



Hilco  
Redevelopment Partners

Para más información, visita [www.crawfordstation.com](http://www.crawfordstation.com)

# We're not buying it...

## As Coal Plant Demolished, Little Village Neighbors Told New Warehouse Will Be 'Environmentally Friendly' — But They Aren't Buying It

It is "laughable to think that 680 new trees" would make an impact on air quality while they're also bringing "200 plus diesel trucks," activists say.

OCT 8, 2019 10:00AM CDT

PILSEN, LITTLE VILLAGE, WEST LOOP



Mauricio Peña [@MauricioPena](#)

Pilsen, Little Village and West Loop reporter  
[mauricio@blockclubchi.org](mailto:mauricio@blockclubchi.org)

[See more](#)



# Site Tour with State Official & Alderman Rodriguez

CRAWFORD STATION		CRAWFORD STATION	Home	History	Community Updates	Fact Sheets	Newsroom	Team	Contact Us
91.	Thursday, October 24, 2019	Hilco Redevelopment Partners participates at the Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (IHCC) October Fiesta							
92.	Friday, October 25, 2019	Update to "Current Site Activity" and "Community/ Public Meetings" on <a href="http://www.crawfordstation.com">www.crawfordstation.com</a>							
93.	Friday, November 1, 2019	Update to "Current Site Activity" and "Community/ Public Meetings" on <a href="http://www.crawfordstation.com">www.crawfordstation.com</a>							
94.	Friday, November 8, 2019	Update to "Current Site Activity" and "Community/ Public Meetings" on <a href="http://www.crawfordstation.com">www.crawfordstation.com</a>							
95.	Friday, November 15, 2019	Update to "Current Site Activity" and "Community/ Public Meetings" on <a href="http://www.crawfordstation.com">www.crawfordstation.com</a>							
96.	Tuesday, November 20, 2019	Site tour with state officials to provide an update on the status and goals of the project							
97.	Friday, November 29, 2019	Update to "Current Site Activity" and "Community/ Public Meetings" on <a href="http://www.crawfordstation.com">www.crawfordstation.com</a>							
98.	Thursday, December 5, 2019	Hilco Redevelopment Partners participates at the Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (IHCC) Monthly Breakfast							
99.	Friday, December 6, 2019	Update to "Current Site Activity" and "Community/ Public Meetings" on <a href="http://www.crawfordstation.com">www.crawfordstation.com</a>							
100.	Monday, December 9, 2019	Hispanic American Construction Industry Association (HACIA) and Hilco Redevelopment Partners hosts Subcontractor Open House							
101.	Friday, December 13, 2019	Update to "Current Site Activity" and "Community/ Public Meetings" on <a href="http://www.crawfordstation.com">www.crawfordstation.com</a>							
102.	Monday, December 16, 2019	Site tour with state official and Alderman Rodriguez to provide an update on the status and goals of the project							
103.	Friday, December 20, 2019	Update to "Current Site Activity" and "Community/ Public Meetings" on <a href="http://www.crawfordstation.com">www.crawfordstation.com</a>							
104.	Friday, December 27, 2019	Update to "Current Site Activity" and "Community/ Public Meetings" on <a href="http://www.crawfordstation.com">www.crawfordstation.com</a>							
TOTAL		104 Outreach Events							



# Mr. Reynaldo “Rey” Grimaldo’s Passing:

## Worker Falls To His Death In ‘Tragic Accident’ At Crawford Coal Plant In Little Village

Hilco Development Partners are redeveloping the site into a controversial one-million-square-foot distribution center.

DEC 31, 2019 3:35PM CST

PILSEN, LITTLE VILLAGE, WEST LOOP



Mauricio Peña [@MauricioPena](#)

Pilsen, Little Village and West Loop reporter

[mauricio@blockclubchi.org](mailto:mauricio@blockclubchi.org)

[See more](#)



# Demolition Stops



The old Crawford Coal Plant site in Little Village.  
ERIC ALLIX ROGERS

## Demolition Of Crawford Coal Plant Suspended After Worker Falls To His Death

"Work has stopped until they can absolutely assure the work site is in a place where people can work safely," Ald. Michael Rodriguez said.

JAN 6, 2020 7:32AM CST

PILSEN, LITTLE VILLAGE, WEST LOOP



Mauricio Peña

@MauricioPena

Pilsen, Little Village and West Loop reporter [mauricio@blockclubchi.org](mailto:mauricio@blockclubchi.org)

[See more](#)



Ald. Michael Rodriguez (22nd) said. Rodriguez said work was stopped at the Hilco Development Partners-owned site, 3501 S. Pulaski Road, until the company can ensure worker safety.

**"Work has stopped until they can absolutely assure the work site is in a place where people can work safely,"** Rodriguez said. "As far as I'm concerned, until that can happen, they should not restart demolition."

# Hilco's Response:

HILCO GLOBAL SPONSORS  
INAUGURAL NIGHT OF SHINING  
STARS EVENT

Hilco Global Announces  
Scholarship Program: Hilco  
Scholars

Hilco Global is proud to announce that it has launched a scholarship program called Hilco Scholars. Under the program, Hilco will award a full scholarship for two years to two students in Chicago's Little Village neighborhood who agree to pursue a degree in a skilled trade program at one of the City Colleges of Chicago..



# Chicago Department of Public Health Responses

Jan 13, 2020, 5:22 PM (3 days ago)

Dear Ms. Wasserman,

Thank you for the invitation to Thursday's meeting. As you are likely aware, work has stopped while the fatality is under OSHA investigation; **CDPH does not—and, in fact, cannot—play a direct role in the investigation of this sad situation.**

Miguel Lopez (copied) from CDPH's community engagement team will be pleased to attend the meeting on Thursday evening to hear concerns directly from community members.

Thank you,

Allison

**Allison Arwady, MD, MPH**  
Acting Commissioner  
Chicago Department of Public Health  
312-747-9870

# IL Environmental Protection Agency Response

Ms. Wasserman,

Thank you for your e-mail and letter dated January 10, 2020, in which you inform us of the recent tragic event at the former Crawford Power Plant site and invite our agency to participate in a community meeting on January 16, 2020. The unfortunate accident involving Mr. Grimaldo is indeed very upsetting.

In response to the event, which occurred on the worksite and presumably in the course of work activities, it appears there will be an investigation involving at least the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration and other relevant authorities. As you may be aware, the Illinois EPA does not have jurisdiction over worker safety-related issues.

Our role is to review and oversee corrective action conducted at the site pursuant to the site's enrollment in the voluntary Site Remediation Program administered by our office. In that capacity, we have engaged with the remediation applicant (Hilco Redevelopment Partners) on technical issues. We have also responded to questions from the public related to our technical review of remediation plans.

While the upcoming community meeting is important, the subject matter is outside of the Illinois EPA's role and authority. **Thus, we do not plan to participate but will continue to closely oversee the technical aspects of the ongoing site remediation.**

Again, thank you for bringing this information to our attention and for the invitation. I look forward to the opportunity of meeting you in person at our earliest convenience.

John J. Kim  
Director  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
P.O. Box 19276  
Springfield, IL 62794-9276  
(217) 782-9540  
E-mail: [john.j.kim@illinois.gov](mailto:john.j.kim@illinois.gov)

# Next steps: Continue to Stay involved

- Ideas on Next Steps
- Write a postcard(s)!
- Sign and share **Change.org** petition
  - <http://chng.it/byyZzpvtSB>
- Send a message of love and support to the family of Mr. Grimaldo
- Save the Date: Jan. 30, 2020 – Vigil for Mr. Grimaldo
- Pick up your “Hell No to Hilco” poster!
- Volunteer to host an air monitor (Feb 2020 - Community Meeting)
- Report air pollution to CHI 311

# Submit postcard(s)

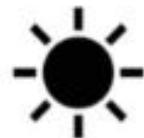


Little Village Environmental Justice Organization

2445 S Spaulding Ave, Chicago, IL 60623

lvejo.org | lavillitarespira.com

Little Village and neighboring communities deserve to breathe clean air! We call on Hilco, our elected and appointed representatives to ensure our health, environment, and well-being is protected.



*¡La Villita y las comunidades vecinas merecen respirar aire limpio! Llamamos a Hilco, y a representantes que han sido elegidos y asignados para garantizar que nuestra salud, el medio ambiente y el bienestar estén protegidos.*

# Sign and Share our Petition

- We've started a [Change.org](#) petition
  - <http://chng.it/byyZzpvtSB>
- Updated as we receive news/updates

Petitioning Alison Arwady

## La Villita Community Deserves Clean Air!

We are asking Little Village residents and allies to support our ongoing efforts to bring a just transition to our community by signing and sharing our petition. After twelve years to organizing which resulted... [Learn more](#)



Little Village Environmental Justice Organiza... 1,317 supporters

# Community Vigil

**When:** Thurs. Jan. 30. 2020

**Time:** 6pm

**Where:** 3333 S. Pulaski Rd,  
across from the Crawford  
Coal Plant

# Vigilia Comunitaria

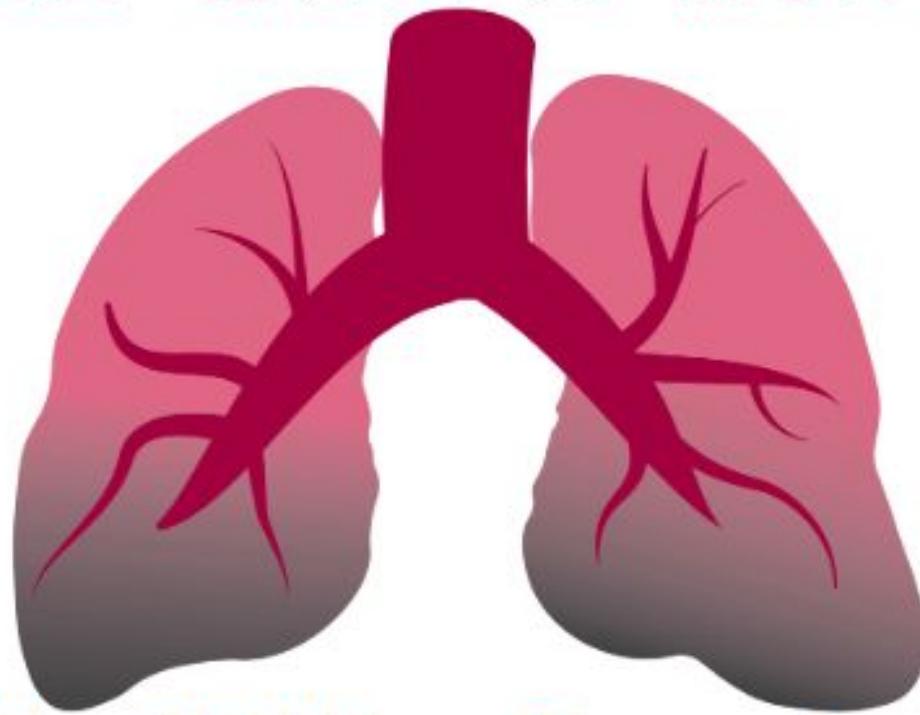
**Cuándo:** jueves 30 de  
enero. 2020

**Hora:** 6pm

**Dónde:** 3333 S. Pulaski Rd,  
frente a la planta de  
carbón Crawford



# HELL NO TO HILCO

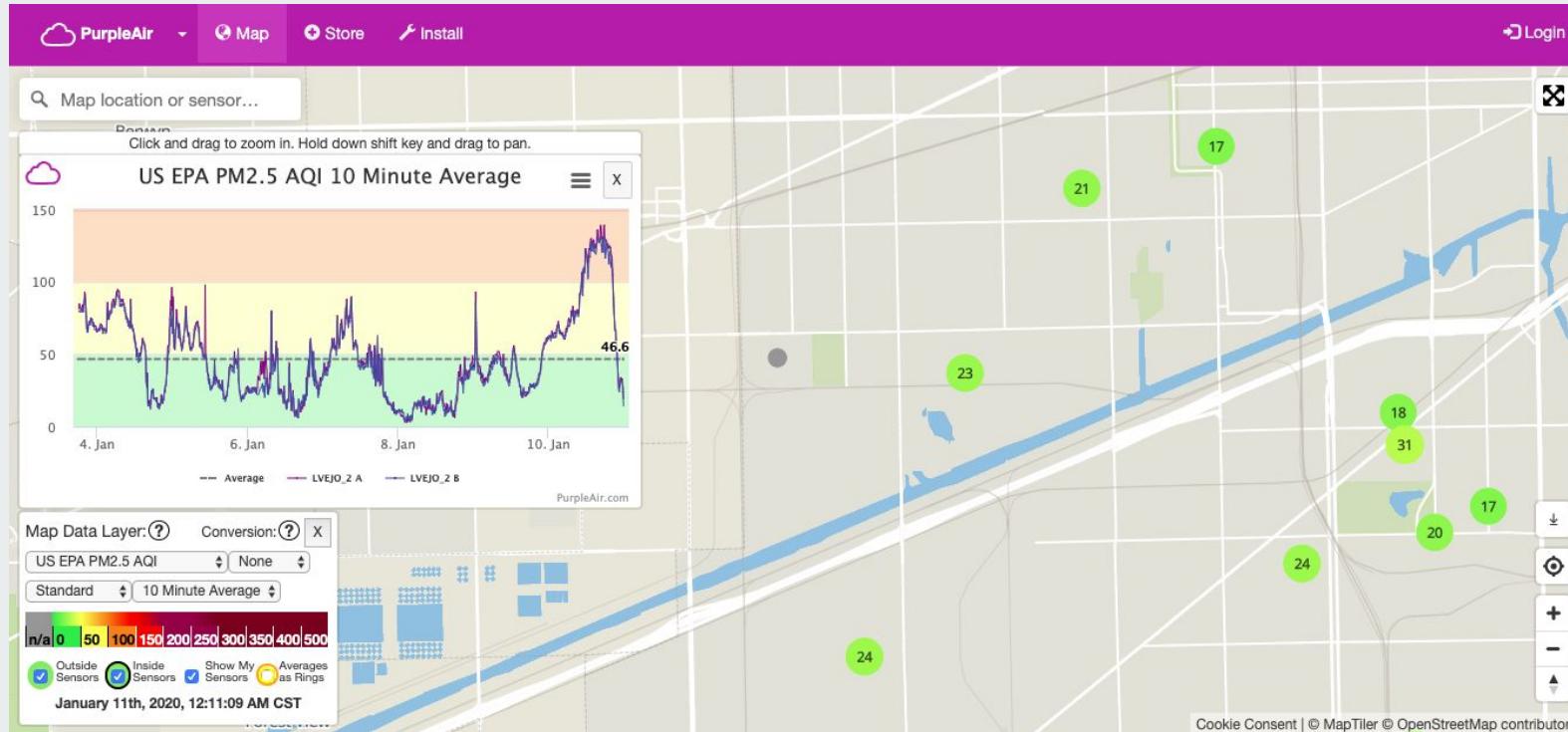


*Pick up your  
poster in the back!*

#LaVillitaRespira  
LVEJO 

VEJO 

# Host an air monitor



# IL Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)

Online:

<http://bit.ly/pollutioncomplaint>

# City of Chicago

Call **311** or use  
the **CHI 311** app.

- Share as much detailed information: date and time of odor/nuisance/observed air or diesel emissions, location (intersection of streets);
- Take photos and videos and share any evidence, documentation, logs, etc. of pollution that you could provide;
- \*Complaints can be anonymous but if you provide the IEPA with information on how to reach you, they can keep you updated on the investigation. In addition, they may need more information from you in order to conduct an adequate investigation.



#LaVillitaRespira



For more information contact  
[etovar@lvejo.org](mailto:etovar@lvejo.org) or **773.762.6991**

Infographic inspired by Neighbors for Environmental Justice (N4EJ). Follow them on Facebook / Twitter [@N4EJchicago](#)

# Questions / Comments





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LITTLE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ORGANIZATION

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**Kimberly Wasserman & Edith Tovar**

T: 773.762.6991

**Web:** [www.lvejo.org](http://www.lvejo.org)

2445 South Spaulding Ave, Chicago, IL 60623