

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE TOUR -- SIGNIFICANT POINTS OF INTEREST

CITY OF NEWARK

Demographics

- Population of 282,000 people, NJ's largest city
- Poverty rate of 30% and median household income of \$31,000
- The city is 49% African American, 36% Latino, 10% White

History

- The Lenni-Lenape, part of the Algonquin nation, were the original peoples of Newark. They were pushed out of the area, northward by Puritan Dutch colonists and their population was decimated by diseases such as small pox.
- Dutch Puritans built their first settlement on Lenape land near the banks of the Passaic in 1666
- In 1778, the New Jersey Legislature established a permanent home for the Lenni-Lenape on a reservation in Burlington County. The tribe by this time had dwindled from 2,000 from their first encounter with the Dutch, down to about 200. In 1801, the reservation was sold, the proceeds going to the remaining 85 native people, some of whom went to New York, Wisconsin, Canada
- The city was an early industrial center beginning in the 19th century as a hub for leather, ironworks, brewing, manufacturing.
- In 1880, Newark's population stood at 136,500 in 1890 at 181,830; in 1900 at 246,070; and in 1910 at 347,000, a jump of 200,000 in three decades. The population peaked at 450,000 in 1948, then ebbed as whites, who could get mortgages, moved to the suburbs.
- Historian [Kenneth T. Jackson](#) and others theorized that Newark, with a poor center surrounded by middle-class outlying areas, only did well when it was able to annex middle-class suburbs. When municipal annexation broke down, urban problems were exacerbated as the middle-class ring became divorced from the poor center.
- The [Federal Housing Administration redlined](#) virtually all of Newark, preferring to back up mortgages in the white suburbs. This made it impossible for people to get mortgages for purchase or loans for improvements. Manufacturers set up in lower wage environments outside the city and received larger tax deductions for building new factories in outlying areas than for rehabilitating old factories in the city. The federal tax structure essentially subsidized such inequities.
- Billed as transportation improvements, construction of new highways: [Interstate 280](#), the [New Jersey Turnpike](#), and [Interstate 78](#) harmed Newark. They directly hurt the city by dividing the fabric of neighborhoods and displacing many residents. The highways indirectly hurt the city because the new infrastructure made it easier for middle-class workers to live in the suburbs and commute into the city.
- The Second Great Migration of African Americans from the South and Puerto Ricans arrived in Newark post WWII seeking industrial jobs just as the sector was in decline.
- 20,000 manufacturing jobs disappeared between 1950 and 1967. By then, many waves of black migrants had come from the segregated South. Despite the shrinking industrial base, there were other opportunities in the emerging service economy.
- The Great Migration and white flight to the suburbs had flipped Newark's demographics, turning it majority-black by the early 1960s. The power structure, however, was still controlled by the old machine. The police force was almost all white. Brutality was the norm
- The Newark Rebellions occurred in July 1967 sparked when black cab driver was beaten by white police. Twenty six people were killed and national guards occupied the city for 5 days.

The Newark Meadows

- Before European settlement the Newark and Hackensack meadows made up a large complex of tidal, brackish, and freshwater wetlands located in northeastern New Jersey.
- These former wetlands are now covered by Port Newark/Elizabeth, Newark Liberty International Airport, the New Jersey Turnpike, and other urban infrastructure.

- The Newark Meadows were developed first by the city of Newark who initiated the construction of Port Newark in 1914 and Newark Airport in 1927. Two decades later, these projects were taken over and expanded by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey
- Throughout the 300 years following the first European colonizers, attitudes toward wetlands. Wetlands were unanimously regarded as "wastelands." They were viewed as unpleasant, unhealthy, unproductive places that ought to be "improved" out of existence as rapidly as possible.
- The Native Americans and early European colonizers used the Meadowlands (and other wetlands) as a source of fish, oysters, fowl, and small mammals for food, furs, and sport ([McCay, 1998](#); [MacKenzie, 1992](#)). This activity continued through the 1870s and into the 1880s, when a combination of diminishing water flow and increasing pollution made consumption of such food dangerous ([Iannuzzi, 2002](#); [Olsen, 1999](#); [Crawford, Bonnevie, Gillis & Wennig, 1994](#)).
- The European colonists also began extracting another natural resource: salt hay for feeding and bedding livestock. Colonists engaged in the large-scale harvesting of salt hay for more than two centuries, from the 1660s through the 1920s.
- In the 1830s, construction of the Morris Canal, the eastern half of which drew water from the tributaries of the Passaic River, further decreased the flow along the lower Passaic River ([Kalata, 1983](#)). Newark and Jersey City started pumping water from the Passaic River in the mid-1800s for their municipal water supplies.
- During the late 1800s the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began dredging Newark Bay, and then the Passaic and Hackensack rivers ([Klawonn, 1997](#); [Iannuzzi et al., 2002](#); [Livermore, 1905](#)). Later dredging deepened and extended the Passaic River channel, which is now 30 feet deep
- In the early 1900s, Newark, Paterson, and other cities along the Passaic River collaborated to construct a major trunk sewer line to pump sewage into Newark Bay, and later New York Harbor.
- The Newark Meadows and much of the Hackensack Meadows no longer exist.

PORT NEWARK AND ELIZABETH

Overview

- Port Newark & Elizabeth is the 3rd largest seaport in the US by volume, handles 15% of the US cargo, busiest seaport on the eastern seaboard
- Automation after the 1960s drew most of the port activities to be containerized and Elizabeth port became one of the first container terminals
- The port is run by the PANYNJ - established in 1921,^[9] through an interstate compact between the states of [New Jersey](#) and [New York](#). This was the first such agency in the US, created under a provision in the [Constitution of the United States](#) permitting [interstate compacts](#).
- The PANYNJ is jointly controlled by the governors of New York and [New Jersey](#) under an informal power-sharing agreement, the Governor of NJ chooses the chairman of the board and the deputy executive director, while the Governor of NY selects the vice-chairman and Executive Director.^{[30][31]}
- The Seaport handles 6.3 million TEUs (Twenty foot equivalent units) annually. In 2016, PANYNJ handled 3,602,508 cargo containers, valued at nearly \$200 billion
- Largest consumer market in the world, more than 18 million consumers within one day delivery range
- Port of Newark/Elizabeth contains more than 900 hectares of maritime property and Port Newark serves about 3700 vessels a year carrying some 2.5 million containers
- PANYNJ is important entry point for goods from Asia, Europe and South America, such as grain, wine, clothing, electronics, automobiles, furniture and metals.
- One container vessel can carry up 5,000 containers. New Post Panamax ships carry up to 15,000 containers, more than 50 vessels come through the port/week.
- The Bayonne Bridge, linking NJ with Staten Island, was raised from 151 ft to 215 ft above Kill Van Kull to allow larger Post Panamax ships to call at NJ terminals. This was a 7 year, \$1.6 billion effort
- Post Panamax ships: With an overall length 1,202 feet and a 161-foot beam, the ship stretches four football fields long, and has a capacity of 14,414 TCU's, or 20-foot equivalency units (TEUs)

Drayage Drivers - Low Road Model

- 85 percent of containers move by truck at Port Newark & Elizabeth to warehouses in the region
- Port truckers or drayage drivers are responsible for moving about 75-80% of the goods out of the seaports, driving them short distances to warehouses and rail yards
- Deregulation of the trucking industry in 1980 meant that companies sold all or most of their trucks to the drivers, then contracted with them on a per-load basis. The emerging independent contracting model meant trucking companies had few fixed costs, had no responsibility for workers' compensation, social security, and unemployment insurance taxes, and were able to obtain drivers' services without paying for health care costs or pension plans.
- Drivers are misclassified as independent contractors by companies in order to strip them of state and national labor and employment law protections, and to avoid financial liability for vehicle operations.
- As independent contractors, drivers are paid by the load and are responsible for all costs associated with truck ownership and maintenance.
- Lack of incentives for licensed motor carriers to address the many negative impacts of trucking deregulation has also led to an increasingly inefficient drayage system that has failed to invest in improved communications systems and goods movement operations.
- Drivers are on the job five days a week, from ten to twelve hours a day, earning an average annual income of \$28,000 in 2008.

Deadly Diesel – Coalition for Healthy Ports

- The [Coalition for Healthy](#) is a broad coalition of environmental, labor, faith, community, and environmental justice organizations that seek to create sustainable ports in the NY/NJ region.
- CHPS joined the [Moving Forward Network](#), a coalition of environmental groups across the country, in calling on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to clean our air, protect our planet from global climate change and advance environmental justice by reducing air pollution, & promoting zero emissions technologies at every port, rail yard, distribution center and busy truck corridor in the US
- CHPs members conduct annual truck counts to highlight the impact of diesel trucks in the community near vulnerable residents. One example, in front of the Hawkins Street School (K-8), over 200 trucks/hour are counted on average during the times when children are walking to school.
- Diesel emissions emanating from drayage trucks, cargo handling equipment, locomotives and ocean going vessels are linked to asthma, cancer, and other health disorders, causing 21,000 premature deaths each year.
- In 2013 [Port Authority of New York and New Jersey](#) instituted a [clean-air plan](#) under pressure from CHPS. They originally proposed to ban pre-2007 engine trucks from the marine terminals by January 2017, banning more than 6,000 trucks from container terminals. They later rescinded this ban.
- As of May 2016, 68% of the approximately 304,701 truck visits to the Port were completed by trucks that were older than model year 2007.
- The PANYNJ did prohibit trucks with 1994 or 1995 model engines from entering port terminals after Jan. 1, 2018. Trucks with 1993 or older engines already have been phased out.
- PANYNJ spent over \$10.2 million to help fund replacement of the port's 420 trucks that have 1994- or 1995-model engines. Qualifying truckers obtain up to \$25,000 toward replacement of these older models with a 2007-or-newer. Many of these loans forced drivers further into debt.
- Heavy duty trucks with a model year of 2007 or newer are subject to PM2.5 emissions standards that are far more stringent than those that applied to their older counterparts. 2007 and newer trucks have 90% fewer emissions than their pre-2007 counterparts.
- Greater emissions from pre-2007 truck engines will result in greater concentrations of air pollution, which will lead to greater health risks in the surrounding communities.
- A study conducted on behalf of CHPs found that there will be 11 times more PM2.5 emissions from Port terminals under the rolled back Clean Truck Program in 2017 and 2018 when compared to the original Program.

- PVSC services 1.4 million residents in the 48 municipalities of Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Union and Passaic Counties of the Passaic Valley Service District, processing over 300 Million gallons of wastewater daily. The plant covers 172 acres & is one of the largest facilities in the Northeast
- PVSC plant treats the wastewater, municipal sewage sludge and drinking water sludge from 3.43 million residents of New Jersey and New York. This represents approximately 25 percent of New Jersey and 15 percent of New York City wastewater treatment.
- In addition to sewage treatment the company also processes liquid waste from outside its regulated sewer district. The liquid waste is brought in by truck, barge, or rail to utilize excess treatment capacity. The Liquid Waste Acceptance Program accepts about 175 trucks per day, 1 barge/ week
- More than 200 million gallons of salty bay water (12 feet of water) destroyed the plant's underground electrical system and ruined generators, pumps and other equipment during Sandy.
- During wet weather, the plant treats up to 550 million gallons of sewage per day, estimates suggest that as much as 2.75 billion gallons of untreated waste flowed from the plant into the nearby bay during the five days the plant was out of commission.
- PVSC officials decided to build a flood wall completely surrounding the plant to keep out waters from the bay and the adjacent Passaic River.

CHEMICAL CORRIDOR

Doremus Avenue – Chemical Corridor

- Doremus Avenue has been home to refineries churning out chemicals since the early 1900s, when a Passaic River salt marsh was filled with refuse and construction debris to create the thoroughfare.
- Thousands of pounds of chemicals including Hazardous Air Pollutants like benzene and ammonia, are emitted within 1 mile of schools and public housing on this stretch of road with the highest concentration of Toxic Release Inventory sites in the region.
- In 1999, three people were treated for chemical exposure after 200 gallons of butyl acrylate spilled at G.J. Chemical Co., and 50 people reported getting sick.
- Reichhold Chemical Corp. was one of the country's largest producer of chemicals used for coatings, adhesives, emulsions, and reactive polymers. They produced plastic resins used to make paint pigments in Newark. In 1992 the company experienced an explosion that could be seen for 4 miles. It continued to operate at the Doremus Avenue site until 2013 when it made the decision to close its manufacturing facility in the aftermath of the devastating damage caused to the plant by superstorm Sandy on October, 30, 2012.
- IFF and ELAN are food flavorings manufacturers. These companies were featured in Eric Scholsser's "Fast Food Nation" where the author describes Doremus Ave as a hub for food flavorings manufacturing.
- Sims Metals Management is the world's largest metals and electronics recycler & Scrap metal yards. Sims Metal Management's scrap metal yard at Hawkins Street and along Doremus Ave have facilities that purchase and process ferrous & non-ferrous metal, stainless steel and electronics. Their processes on this site include baling, mobile baling, car crushing, shearing, shredding, tin compacting, torch cutting and wet car processing services.

Newark Energy Center & Newark Bay CoGen

- The Newark Energy Center is a 655-megawatt gas fired power plant in Newark, New Jersey. Approved in 2011, with construction beginning in 2012^[1] it began commercial operations in May 2015.
- It is situated on a 23 acres (9.3 ha) brownfield east of Doremus Avenue next to a Hess oil terminal on the Passaic River.^[2] It was originally built as a joint venture between Hess Corporation and Energy Investors Fund,^[3] and it was taken over the latter in 2014.^[4]

- The plant emits 2.2 million tons of CO₂/year; 200 tons of PM/yr; 5 tons of HAPs; 482 tpy of CO; 138 tpy NO_x; 20 tpy Sox; 35 tpy VOCs
- The Ironbound Community Corporation (ICC) and the New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance (NJEJA), represented by EELC, settled an appeal opposing a Hess NEC, LLC power plant air permit issued by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection in 2013.
- ICC and NJEJA sought to overturn the NJDEP air pollution control permit because NJDEP failed to require Hess to submit an analysis of alternative sites, production processes, and environmental control techniques that demonstrates that the benefits of the proposed project outweigh its environmental and social costs, as required by law.
- Newark Bay Cogen plant (Talen Energy) was built in 1993, it operates as a 143 MW capacity and can be fueled as a NG or kerosene powerplant. The plant emits: 31 tpy VOC; 183 tpy of NO_x; 36 tpy of CO, 44 tpy TSP; 184 tpy Other; 113 tpy PM; 4 tpy of HAPs
- ***Both the Newark Energy and Newark Bay plants have Title V air permits up for renewal in the coming months (5/2018) and will be open for public comment. Please reach out to ICC to participate in the public comment period.***

Delaney Hall & Essex County Correctional Facility

- Delaney Hall is a privately run ICE detention facility, contracted by Essex County The facility has over 1200 beds and can detain whole families with children for deportation. This facility is where immigrants in removal proceedings are detained while awaiting court hearings.
- Under contract with Essex County, which in turn has a contract with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Delaney Hall is run by the misleadingly named Community Education Centers (CEC), a private, for-profit prison company.
- The Essex County Correctional facility was built as a \$416 million county jail sitting on the former site of Hoechst-Celanese, a chemical plant that produced formaldehyde. Before Celanese, Texaco operated a petroleum distribution plant at this site. This 880,000-square-foot facility is powered by an on-site cogeneration plant. The facility holds about 2,500 inmates and federal detainees.
- During Hurricane Sandy Essex County jail in literally became an island with water 6 feet deep coming through the main entrance on Doremus Avenue.
- 800 inmates had to evacuate to the third floor. Corrections officers and other staff were stuck on site for two days straight. For four days, inmates had no hot showers and were served cold food. They were forced to muck out the facility with little protections.

IRONBOUND COMMUNITY

Overview

- The Ironbound is a 4 square mile area in the East Ward of Newark. Ironbound is east of [Pennsylvania Station](#) and is between the [Newark Liberty International Airport](#) and the [Passaic River](#).
- The Ironbound district of Newark, New Jersey, has been known by many names over the years – Down Neck, the East Ward, the Meadows. Newark boomed with industrial growth, and the Ironbound grew right along with it. The Morris Canal was completed in 1832, followed in short order by the first of several railways – the “iron” that eventually gave the neighborhood its name
- The name “The Ironbound” is said to derive from the large metalworking industry in the area or from the network of railroad tracks that surrounded the neighborhood.^[1] [Balbach Smelting & Refining Company](#), now the location of [Riverbank Park](#), was the second largest metal processing enterprise in the United States until its closure in the 1920s.^[3]

- The Ironbound was an industrial neighborhood in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Workers at Benjamin Moore paints, [Ballantine Beer](#), the [Murphy Varnish Company](#) and Conmar Zippers lived next to railroad and port workers.
- The Ironbound was poorer than was the rest of Newark at that time.
- The Ironbound saw successive waves of European immigration from the 1800s until the late 1900s from Germany, Ireland, Italy and later Portuguese and Spanish immigrants. Today most of the immigration into the community is from Latin America, Brasil, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Peru, and many other places. The Ironbound is also home to a great many Puerto Rican and African American families, many of whom settled in the area after the second great migration to Newark seeking work in the industrial sector.

Hawkins Street School

- Built 1887 – The average age of Newark Elementary schools in the Ironbound is 1875.
- The school ranks among the worst in the state for conditions and repairs.
- We serve approximately 633 students from Pre-Kindergarten to Grade Eight. The population breakdown is as follows: 45% Hispanic, 44% African American and 11% other.

John Hyatt Court complex on Hawkins Street.

- John W. Hyatt Court, opened in 1942, was named for Newark inventor John W. Hyatt (1837-1920) and was once a vibrant, 402-unit housing complex. It is located at Hawkins Street and Horatio Court, Roanoke Avenue and Vincent Court.
- Newark Housing Authority, spent \$1 million to upgrade Hyatt Court's boilers in 2006
- In 2010 the city's housing authority determined resolved to tear down five buildings in Hyatt Court.
- In 2017 a 16 year child was murdered and three others shot at the complex. This incident occurred 1 week after security funding was cut for the properties.

Airport Noise

- Newark Liberty International Airport is the 15th busiest airport in terms of passenger traffic, which grew by 8.2 percent in 2016 to 40.6 million.
- 719,005 metric tons of cargo passed through its facilities in 2016, an increase of 5.2 percent & Operations increased 5.3 percent in 2016 to 435,907.
- New Jersey is one of the loudest areas on the East Coast. Its proximity to New York and Philadelphia leads to heavy traffic, while scattered airports are focal points of sound.
- The FAA provided a cursory environmental analysis for both the aircraft noise and emissions for Newark Liberty International Airport with its decision to re-designate the facility a Level 2 airport. The FAA forecasts that both aircraft noise and emissions will increase.
- 65 decibels is the noise level at which sleep and other day-to-day activities are hampered, a standard adopted by the Federal Aviation Administration and other government agencies for mitigation measures. For example, Dotti said, the Department of Housing and Urban Development requires soundproofing for HUD financing of residential projects in 65-DBL areas.
- The entire Ironbound community is in an area above 65 dB
- Some research has [linked aircraft noise to heart disease](#).

AeroFarms

- The world's largest indoor vertical farm and has their global headquarters in Newark, NJ
- The company uses Aeroponic systems of vertical growing for leafy greens, carrots, cucumbers, potatoes, and, its main product high-end baby greens, which it sells to grocers on the East Coast
- AeroFarm uses 95 percent less water than a field farm, 40 percent less fertilizer than traditional farming, and no pesticides. Crops that usually take 30 to 45 days to grow, like the leafy gourmet greens that make up most of the company's output, take as little as 12 days
- They employ about 75 local residents in their warehouse.

Ironbound Pool and Recreation Center

- Hyatt and James Brown, his partner and co-inventor of this 'miracle' product, called celluloid. The invention of this plastic spurred the creation of many firms. Hyatt's company at 295 Ferry St., between Niagara and Magazine streets, was one of the first successful plastics operations nationwide. The company expanded in 1907 with the invention of Bakelite, a phenol-formaldehyde product. Rumors about celluloid's safety somewhat hurt profits, but the company nevertheless remained strong throughout the 1930s, producing more than 1,000 products under the trademarks of celluloid.
- The Ironbound Pool was the site of this former plastics manufacturing plant, Hoechst Celanese Corp.
- When digging began for construction of a new pool in the early 1980s, they discovered toxic levels of PCBs and other phenols. The federal government eventually declared it a Superfund site, and in 1987, the field was closed.
- Hoechst Celanese Corp. is paying for a groundwater treatment system which continuously pumps the contaminated water through a treatment process and back into the ground. The pool built is above ground on concrete stilts because of the pollution. A recreation complex complete with an ice rink, basketball courts and other amenities sprung up around it - eventually named for the city's first black mayors, Kenneth Gibson and Sharpe James.
- Celanese had agreed to pay approximately \$2.3 million to remove the contaminated soil of the Ironbound Stadium and field next to the Pool. Once the company has cleaned and capped the site, the city will place a synthetic play field on the site

Fields A & B

- This site is part of the Hoechst Celanese superfund site that was formerly a recreation field and stadium has been closed for over 25 years. The City of Newark is interested in remediation and redevelopment of this site into recreation fields for the community. Celanese recently settled with the city to begin clean up and capping of the site in 2018.
- The original field at Ironbound, manufactured and installed in 1999 by Southwest Recreational Industries, is being removed due to its age and subsequent concerns over the amount of lead chromate found in the turf fiber. The aging nylon turf field, located within an abandoned industrial complex that the EPA found was contaminated with heavy metals, prompted a limited study within the state on the safety of chemical compounds used in synthetic turf.
- In 2008, the USEPA conducting a study of the adjacent Tidewater Baling site, called for an investigation of the active recreation field next door. The field testing revealed lead levels 300x the allowable levels. The field was one of two in New Jersey that were closed after state health officials detected what they said were unexpectedly high levels of lead in the synthetic turf and raised fears that athletes could swallow or inhale fibers or dust from the playing surface.
- Pigment containing lead chromate is used in some surfaces to make the grass green and hold its color in sunlight. But it is not clear how widely the compound is used. The New Jersey Health Department found lead in both of the nylon fields it tested, but in none of the 10 polyethylene surfaces it examined.
- New Jersey's epidemiologist, Dr. Eddy Bresnitz, said fibers and dust created through wear and weathering might become airborne, where they could be inhaled or swallowed.

Tidewater Baling

- Tidewater moved into the site in 1945 to process and compact steel drums, automobiles, transformers and other industrial scrap for recycling.
- The company dumped oil from the baling process and discharged waste water, laden with toxic metals, into pits on the property and covered them up. These practices continued until the plant closed down in early 2000.
- This former steel baling company underwent a \$5 million emergency clean up action by the US EPA Region II office in 2008. They removed approximately 18,000 tons of soil contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and heavy metals, such as lead.
- This complex of contaminated land is being considered for recreational uses by the City of Newark.

Down Bottom Farms

- This property was purchased by the State's School Development Authority in 2002 from the Ballantine property owners for the development of a planned new area High School. The SDA subsequently was dissolved and the plans for school development were dropped.
- The property remained empty and used as a temporary parking lot. It was included in ICC's Brownfields Planning area in 2010 and was leased to ICC in an arrangement with the City and the State for temporary use as an urban farm and site of a farmer's market in 2014.
- The Farm now serves as a hub for community cultural activities, job training, farmers' markets and a planned future hoop house. <https://eastferryrevitalization.wordpress.com>

Ballantine Brewery

- By 1954, Ballantine's had become Newark's largest employer with more than 4,000 workers producing in excess of 5 million barrels annually.
- Purity, body and flavor-the three- ring symbol of the P. Ballantine & Sons Brewery in Newark - was once emblazoned on every building in the vast manufacturing complex on the bank of the Passaic River in the city's Ironbound section.
- During the heyday of the 40-acre industrial city within a city, 4,500 employees working around the clock could produce 4 million barrels of ale and beer a year.
- Then, in 1972, after nearly a century of brewing, the plant shut down for good and the remaining 2,300 employees left to find other work.
- Those were dark days for Newark, as company after company either went out of business or left town. The loss of Ballantine's stung even more because Newark had enjoyed a long history as a successful brewing center, and Ballantine was the city's last local beer.
- The partnership, called RAR Development Associates, got a \$1 million Urban Development Action Grant through the Newark Economic Development Corporation in September 1978 , purchase price was \$4.5 million.
- Today, the 1.3 million square feet of space is 95 percent occupied by 36 tenants who employ more than 1,000 workers.

Lead in Drinking Water

- In March 2016, the district's superintendent, Christopher Cerf, ordered water fountains turned off in 30 schools with high lead levels and had bottled water distributed to the campuses' students and employees.
- Lead levels exceeding the 15 ppm levels were known about in school annual tests since 2012.
- Since then, annual water testing data from the Newark Public Schools district has been released dating back to 2010, indicating that more than 80 percent of the school facilities assessed had a sample in excess of the federal action level. Almost one-quarter of the tested schools had at least one sample that was more than ten times higher than the action level in that time.
- While news of lead-contaminated water throughout the school district made headlines this spring, the City of Newark and its environmental justice communities have struggled for years with the greatest number of lead-poisoned children in New Jersey.
- ICC is working with lawyers from NRDC to advocate for the repair and replacement of lead contaminated plumbing in the Schools.
- Residential areas are also receiving notices that their drinking water may be contaminated by pipes coming into homes. Testing and replacement of residential pipes is not completed.

Wilson Ave School

- This school was built in 1898 and houses over 800 children in K-8th grades
- In 2010 the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) completed investigation and cleanup activities at the Wilson Avenue School to address odors and vapor issues coming from water flooding into the school. Investigations revealed the ground water beneath an area of the school was contaminated with gasoline from an unknown source. Tests of indoor air samples earlier this year found elevated levels of benzene, dichlorobenzene and perchloroethylene.

- NJDEP installed a new sump pump system to prevent such flooding from occurring in the future. The sump pumps have vapor extraction systems included to prevent vapors from the contaminated ground water from entering the building.
- At this time, students at the school were bused for 6 months to area schools in Newark and Harrison and displaced from their building. Teachers and parents expressed concern about the long term exposure experienced prior to the clean-up

ICC – Family Success Center, Cortland Street

- Established in 2007 to service area residents on a lot owned by the Newark School District.
- ICC provides a full range of services to residents in the area, from housing assistance, financial empowerment, job training and placement, youth and senior activities and urban farming and community organizing services.
- In 2012, ICC purchased an adjacent lot to expand urban gardening programs targeted principally to youth.

Manufacturer's Place

- Ronson's slogan was 'Press, it's lit; release, it's out.' The original building at Mulberry Street was replaced by the Ronson Metals Corp. at 51-79 Manufacturers Place in the Ironbound.
- Ronson Metals Corporation manufactured cigarette lighters and other related products.
- In 1989 RCLC, Inc., formerly known as Ronson Corporation, closed its subsidiary Ronson Metals Corporation, which had been operating at the Newark facility on Manufacturers Place since the 1950s. Subsequently, approximately a dozen areas of soil contamination were identified, as well as ground water contaminated with various volatile organic compounds including trichloroethene (TCE), which is the main contaminant of concern.
- The records indicated that from 1995 to 1997 elevated concentrations of TCE were detected in several ground water samples collected from monitoring wells installed at the site. After conducting a site visit and discovering that portions of the site had been redeveloped into residences, NJDEP initiated a vapor intrusion investigation.
- In 1999, developers built 19 homes and 5 commercial facilities on the property which was supposed to be restricted to industrial uses.
- Vapor intrusion occurs when vapors from chemical compounds in the subsurface soil or ground water seep through cracks and holes in building slabs, affecting the quality of the air inside a home or business. NJDEP believes that the soils and shallow ground water beneath the warehouse properties on Manufacturers PI may be acting as the primary source of the TCE vapors impacting the homes.
- NJDEP has installed sub-slab depressurization systems in 28 locations.

Hayes Park East (Formerly Hayes Park Pool)

- In 1984 Industrial vacuums were used to clean up the pools and park area for Dioxin contamination
- The pool has been closed for 15 years and is set to be redeveloped as an indoor soccer field, an all-purpose football field, a playground and a skateboard park with funds from a settlement grant from the Hess Corporation

The Island – Impacts from Hurricane Sandy

- Eight homes out of 25 are empty because of foreclosure, condemnation and owners walking away. When you cross over Raymond Boulevard and turn onto Waydell Street, another 75 homes were damaged but those residents are trying to rebuild. Most of these homes have since been purchased by nearby industries.
- Area known as the “The Island” small residential enclave surrounded by industry was swallowed by more than 8 feet of storm surge from the Passaic River
- Washed toxics from surrounding brownfield sites, active industrial sites and the contaminated Passaic River into people's homes

- One man drowned (Bobby McDuffie of Newark) in the area on the night of the storm. A warehouse worker who was on an overnight shift and went to move his car to higher ground was trapped by rising waters.

Diamond Alkali/Shamrock – Passaic River Superfund Site

- This is a designated Superfund site containing the world's largest concentration of dioxin, an extremely toxic chemical. From 1951 to 1969 the Diamond Alkali Company owned and operated a pesticides manufacturing plant which included the production of DDT and phenoxy herbicides (Agent Orange used in the Vietnam War).
- In 1983 A fire broke out at Diamond Shamrock, a former pesticide plant. While clearing up the rubble, we learned that this was one of the most heavily dioxin-contaminated sites in the world. Both DDT and Agent Orange were produced at this site.
- When the dioxin was discovered, Governor Kean declared an emergency, and then the EPA declared the shore and 17 miles of the river to be a Superfund site.
- Dioxin contamination from this site has polluted large stretches of the Passaic River. After years of study and debate Tierra Solutions (representing Diamond Alkali), began the first phase of a lengthy process to clean up the dioxin in the river.
- This first phase will remove 40,000 cubic yards of the most toxic sediment from the River immediately in front of the Superfund site.
- The second phase will include bank to bank dredging of the lower 8 miles of the River with a sediment cap placed over the bottom of the river. This is scheduled to begin in 2020 and be the most costly Superfund cleanup in the history of the program \$1.4 Billion with over 100 companies named as responsible parties to the clean up.
- Advisories on fishing and crabbing have been in place since 1984, when the river was declared a Superfund site, and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection still warns people against taking crabs from the area
- Occidental would pay \$165 million for preliminary work to begin the cleanup, which is estimated to cost a total of \$1.4 billion remediation of the most heavily polluted stretch of river sediments, an 8.3-mile stretch of the lower river downstream of the park site. This project includes removing 3.5-million cubic yards of contaminated sediments to out-of-state facilities as well as bank-to-bank capping.
- The Ironbound Community Corp and the NYNJ Baykeeper co-chair the Community Advisory Group that is officially tasked with representing community
- www.OurPassaic.org

Covanta Incinerator & Waste Infrastructure

- Built in 1990 to process Essex County MSW, today processes waste from 22 municipalities, over 50% of the total MSW burned at the plant comes in from residential waste in Manhattan
- The plant burns close to a million tons of waste a year (985,000 tons) and 2800 tons daily with 300 truck trips per day, operates 24/7.
- As of January 1, 2013 the PANYNJ gave Covanta control of the facility through 2032, with optional extension to 2052. As part of the agreement the [New York City Department of Sanitation](http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/about/nycdoh_sanitation_department.html) will continue to use about 50% of the plant's disposal capacity.
- In 2013 they began installation of a \$50 million baghouse partially funded by PANYNJ (50% owner of the plant) and as a result of CAA lawsuit by ICC & Greenfaith.
- The Ironbound Community Corp has worked with local residents to stop more than five other proposed incineration proposals sited for the community throughout the 1990s and 2000s. Some of these proposals included a medical waste incinerator, a sewage sludge incinerator, a hazardous waste incinerator, a car shredding (ASR) incinerator, and an animal crematorium.
- The Ironbound is home to more than 25 waste related facilities including five waste transfer facilities, one of the state's largest fat rendering plants (Darling International), and several recycling plants.
- ICC is a member of GAIA and works with residents to advocate for Zero Waste policies.
- The Covanta Incinerator is undergoing a their 5 year renewal of their operating permit. The facility is the largest single source of Lead in the state from a stationary source emitting close to 200 tons of lead

annually. The plant produces thousands tons air pollutants every year. To support or submit comments on the renewal permit, contact ICC.

Terrell Homes

- This community opened on November 1, 1946 and is located on Riverview Court in the Ironbound Section of Newark. In 1945, Mayor William Murphy broke ground for 275 new units on Chapel Street, creating the Franklin D. Roosevelt Homes. They are now the Millard D. Terrell Home.
- It later took the name of one of its tenants, Millard E. Terrell, an exceptional man who committed his life toward community efforts until the time of his death (February 27, 1986).
- In 2012 the complex was flooded by Sandy and without power for 3 weeks
- In 2013, in a USA TODAY investigative national piece on Ghost Factories – the area of the children's playground was found to be contaminated with lead levels 15x the acceptable levels.
- The area of the playground where surface contamination was found was part of the Barth Smelting plant, which records indicate operated from about 1946 to about 1982, and maps show the site was a lead battery factory before then.
- In 2015 USEPA completed the removal of lead from the site.
- Terrell Homes is under threat of demolition by Newark Housing Authority
- In 2017, the agreed to ask HUD for permission to close and demolish Millard E. Terrell Homes citing environmental and structural concerns.
- Riverfront Park was constructed next to the complex on 12.3 acres of waterfront property with athletic fields and two playgrounds along the Passaic River. Residents thought they had access, but an entrance to the park from Terrell Homes was closed.
- In 2018, a new NHA director hired a design firm to review plans for rehabilitation for the property.

Riverfront Park

- The first 12 acres of Riverfront Park was opened in 2012 after decades of community advocacy to preserve and develop parkland along the Passaic River.
- In 2006 ICC developed a communitywide Open Space and Recreation plan identifying the lack of greenspace in the neighborhood and the opportunity to expand recreational opportunities along the undeveloped waterfront.
- The community hosted candlelight vigils, marches and petitions to county, state and local officials to preserve, remediate and purchase waterfront property for public greenspace.
- ICC raised more than \$3 million in GreenAcres funds from the state which they contributed to Essex County's \$9 million to acquire and develop the first phase of riverfront park on the souther-most portion of the waterfront.
- Today the Riverfront Park extends for a total of over 20 acres along the Passaic River in Newark and boasts, recreational fields, a boat dock and a diverse set of programming on the river.
- This area of the river was home to the Murphy Varnish Company, Balbach and Sons Refining and Smelting Company and Gasworks plants, and the site of the old Morris Canal in use there from 1830s to the 1920s.
- The park's first phase opened in 2012, followed by a second phase in 2013. The park is widely praised as an oasis of active and passive recreation between the river and Raymond Boulevard.
- The park's third phase, completed in Fall 2017, extends the park farther west, closer to downtown.
- A fourth and final phase, to begin next year and due for completion sometime in 2018, will extend the park a mile farther west, roughly to the Route 280 overpass.
- In 2012, the city led the creation of a riverfront public access and redevelopment plan updating 50-year-old development regulations for 300 acres along five miles of the Passaic River. It created the first municipal laws to guarantee public access to the river for all Newarkers. The Riverfront Rezoning was finalized in 2013. Today the riverfront park is home to year round programming and events.
<http://newarkriverfront.org>

WHAT IS BEING DONE TO ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL INJUSTICE IN THE IRONBOUND?

- Newark passed the first Inclusionary Zoning Ordinance in 2017
- In 2016, the City of Newark passed the state's first Environmental Justice and Cumulative Impacts Ordinance that requires development applicants to submit an environmental review statement.
- East Ferry Neighborhood Revitalization Project: This part of a multi-year community development project funded by the Wells Fargo Regional Foundation to revitalize the eastern end of the Ironbound community where we also have a full service community center and community gardens program on Cortland Street.
- US EPA Brownfields Area Wide Planning grant: This project seeks to identify potential reuse and redevelopment projects for the brownfields surrounding the former Ballantine Brewery, an area we are working to revitalize. This project will explore the potential for sustainable solutions for redevelopment within the context of existing planning and revitalization planned for the whole area.
<http://iccbrownfieldredevelopment.wordpress.com>
- Coalition for Healthy Ports: ICC is partnering with the Healthy Ports Coalition to address port-related environmental burdens in our community. www.healthyports.org
- Clean Air Campaigns: ICC and Greenfaith settled a lawsuit against Covanta the garbage incinerator to clean up their operations. ICC continues to fight for cleaning up the garbage industry by seeking a ZeroWaste solution that reduces garbage and increases alternatives like recycling, composting through union based job creating businesses. Community organizing is also responsible for fighting back continued proposals that concentrate waste related industries in Newark like medical waste and animal crematories. ICC works with residents to inform and raise up issues related to diesel pollution and asthma through informational workshops, ozone alerts, truck counts, etc.
- Community Based monitoring: ICC partnered with scientists from EOHSI at Rutgers University in a 5 year USEPA STAR funded project to monitor the exposure of asthmatic children to diesel emissions over an extended period of time. This panel study tracked the exposure levels of children 24hrs/7days a week for over a month along with an activity log and saliva swabs to track stress levels and respiratory function. This study will help better understand the interactions between chronic stress and diesel exposure on asthmatic children. ICC also partnered with the NJDEP and the USEPA on several pilot air monitoring projects focused on VOCs and Hazardous Air Pollutants.
- Research and Public Policy: ICC participates and leads various research and policy initiatives to bring about long term, sustainable improvements for our community and others like it. ICC together with researchers from Rutgers have embarked on a research study that investigates the links between diesel pollution, chronic stress and asthmatic children in the Ironbound. ICC has participated for decades on NJDEP's EJ Advisory Council and has produced recommendations for how the state can implement more effective EJ laws. ICC completed US EPA's highly competitive CARE grant which identified and prioritize the top environmental issues of concern for action in the community.
<https://sites.google.com/a/ironboundcc.org/ironboundcare/home>
- Community Gardens: ICC works directly with a broad range of residents in planting and growing community gardens at several of our facilities including our Family Success Center on Cortland St. The garden brings a diverse group of residents into contact and is a wonderful way to organize and energize residents around the community. The Urban Gardening programs have flourished with the programming of Down Bottom Farms and the extension of gardening at our locations at Pacific Apartments and Elm Street Community Center.
- Passaic River and Riverfront Parks: For more than 20 years, ICC has advocated and planned for riverfront parks along the Passaic River. ICC has raised over \$2 million to help acquire land and develop parks along with the City and the County. Today this vision is realized with the County opening of a 12 acre park on the eastern end of the Riverfront and another 3 acres of City Riverfront park across from Riverbank Park set to the open Spring of 2013. <http://www.ourpassaic.org>, <http://newarkriver.wordpress.com>
- Community based planning and zoning: ICC has worked on community based planning projects like the Ironbound Master Plan and more recently has been appointed to the City's Master Plan Steering Committee. We also weigh in on rezoning proposals to comment on the environmental justice impacts of these proposals or to propose alternatives that will benefit the community such as residential and industrial buffer zones and inclusionary zoning. ICC together with partner organizations successfully

lobbied for the passage of landmark municipal ordinances on Environmental Justice and Cumulative Impacts as well as Inclusionary Zoning. ICC was also instrumental in shaping the city's updated Master Plan and new Zoning Code implemented in the last few years.