



## The Pulaski Mile

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by Jay Henry

From 115th Street to 123rd Street – or as I like to refer to it: The Pulaski Mile

Was there ever a “back in the day” for this area of our town?

With the exception of some apartment buildings and a few single-family residences, this main thoroughfare through the heart of Alsip is primarily a retail district. And by any measure, this is a business district that has fallen on some tough times.

4 years ago, the upstart Action Party promised a beautification effort aimed at this stretch of road – if and when they got elected. Well, they got elected – commissioned a study – and here we are 4 years later – nothing but empty store fronts – and empty promises. We didn’t need beautification – we needed something more bold – more compelling.

Some might argue that it’s the fault of the economy. Others might suggest that we just don’t have the resources to adequately address all of the problems the Pulaski Mile faces. One thing is for sure – it won’t cure itself.

It’s well past time to step up and meet the challenge that lies before us. Look around at what some other towns are doing with similar areas. Oak Lawn, Tinley Park and Orland Park (to name a few) have all undertaken redevelopment of parts of their central business districts.

Alsip should not be any different. Submission is not an option!

The people and businesses of Alsip deserve better.

It’s time for a change in leadership – leadership that can plan and execute. Do I have a stake in this? You bet!

As a candidate for trustee with the Alsip Coalition for Excellence (ACE), I believe we have what it takes to deliver the needed change. But the bottom line is that the people and businesses of Alsip really do deserve better than what we’ve been getting.

Demand more from village officials – if you’re not a part of the solution – you’re part of the problem.