



## High Road Economic Development Campaign

Who wants to drive down the "high road" to local economic development or engage in economic, grassroots strategies that are lifting up our "poor, downtrodden and huddled masses"? And, who wants to drive down the "low road" to local economic development, a road full of unnecessary tolls, obstacles and pot holes - the road to nowhere for many of us? High Road Economic Development is just that, taking the high road to creating the type of community that is truly economically self-sustaining.

In a city like Buffalo NY and in an area like Western New York most of the economic decisions have been made from a top down approach. The economic and politically connected have been making the economic development decisions for everyone for decades. This has resulted in a haphazard approach to the effort, which includes millions of wasted taxpayer money on "incentives" to powerful and connected real estate developers, a heavy inclination by local officials to support big "silver bullet projects" as opposed to small business development in the neighborhoods, no resources for local job training particularly in the building trades, barriers to women and minorities to the jobs that are created as a result of heavy public subsidies given to the developers of many local projects, and the transferring of longtime democratic neighborhood resources like the public schools to private companies.

In a city like Buffalo which consistently ranks in the top 10 of the country's poorest cities, this is simply unacceptable. If you would like to get involved in this work please contact Lead PUSH Buffalo organizer **John Washington** at 716-884-0356 or email him at [john@pushbuffalo.org](mailto:john@pushbuffalo.org)