

WHAT NOW, CHICAGO?
Please use this space to give us your own ideas for making Chicago a prosperous and world class city for all who live here.
Response Text
We need more support for credible city and county candidates who are not connected to the machine. 49-0 to fund the Olympics was a very disappointing result.
crime control, parks development, culture
focus on job creation by non-selective incentives such as lowering taxes and improving transportation
Need people to support the city - not work against them. You SUCK.
too late. crumbling infrastructure and cheap people that don't want to build a real city. people are too greedy.
Step 1. Get rid of Daley. Repeat if necessary.
Financial oversight of city, state budgets.
YOUR GROUP didn't think of a plan B?
Improve the CTA, improve (public) healthcare infrastructure, improve schools. Prevent gentrification and pushing people out of their neighborhoods.
Use the taxpayers money for education and transportation.
get rid of all the tree hugging commies like you all.
I think all of you should move to Rio, and enjoy the games. Stay out of our beloved city!!! You ruined it for EVERYBODY!!! All of america hates you!!!
Chicago 2020
Having the games could have had a lot more positive contributions than not...have you ever considered what the public transportation, housing and other infrastructure, including school upgrades. No it was more about getting the head of No Games Chicago, and presenting him as a viable mayoral candidate against Daley. Well, you have succeeded at screwing us out of a economic gold rush. Why don't you find Bush, Cheney, et all, and go hunting
It is imperative that we elect new leadership in Chicago from the Mayor down. I'm also very supportive of term limits for city politicians in an effort to stifle the corruption that runs rampant in Chicago.
You guys are the first step in making Chicago better. We need to help create term limits for our elected officials, to help thwart the current system.
Secondly, we need to free up those funds the city has been hoarding, and place them toward real capital improvements (schools, teachers, police, infrastructure, public trans)
Lastly, with all the property the city owned, we need to create more public, green spaces.
Once again, Thank you for your efforts.
Get rid of corrupt politicians - as best we can
Developing living wage jobs, stopping ren 2010 and investing in our public schools EQUALLY, obtaining quality healthcare/clinics, focus on underserved and underprivileged neighborhoods, recycling, programs for our diverse population to ease the gap economically and educationally which will help reduce the violence our youth face. Work with ATA to provide better transportation options (including public transit, but also bike lots/lanes, etc).

I have been following your work from a far for some time now, and am thrilled with today's news about Chicago being passed by to host the 2016 games. YES!!!!

That said, I did not want to jeopardize what very little money I do make working part time with kids via the Chicago Park District and After School Matters. So, I was perfectly fine with staying on the sideline for this movement. It could have been REALLY BAD for me if a park district employee got caught up in the "no games" movement.

That said, I have a very detailed vision for the city that makes so much sense. If I had to sum up my vision it would be that housing development practically halts in neighborhoods like Logan Square, Lincoln Square, Bronzeville, Albany Park, etc. And their become major development in Gage Park, Englewood, Brighton Park, Austin, etc.

Let's face it, there are parts of this city that look nothing like other parts. That is just wrong!

The most important thing is that NO current resident (public aid, renter, or owner) is

Clean up CITY HALL and remove the Daley Machine. Get rid of the yes men and take care of the communities. Get more conventions here - make this city what it once was.

It is imperative to build new social space for the production of original and investigative reporting. Building community essentially requires communication and the corporate controlled system serves for the elite and empowered and will never provide the kind of participation that we need to build new political power grounded in the health and survival of working people's communities. HELP TO BUILD THIS NEW SPACE AND GUIDE INVESTIGATORY PRACTICES.

It is obvious NGC used the Olympics issue purely for the sake of Chicago alone. This is short-sighted, and ultimately self-serving.

It shows a disregard for our international brothers and sisters. I find it applauding that now the Olympics have gone somewhere else, NGC simply will drop the issue and allow others to suffer the costs. Since I am sure NGC played a role in the IOC's decision, NGC should be held accountable (in part) for the negative problems in the oncoming 2016 games--and you know there will be some.

Why do you not have anything about the "Olympics" for your future activities? Organizing around reforming/revolutionizing the Olympics should continue to be the *main* tasks for NGC future development. This way, NGC will help gain more international support and solidarity, and local problems of Chicago will be contextualized in the larger picture--because these problems are *universal*.

I'd suggest NGC broaden their vision beyond Chicago since this is the scope you began with.

I would love to see a leadership Institute for young people. This would cultivate a new leadership class for Chicago. Imagine our beautiful city with leaders who actually, really care and are people of good character. Wow, what a city we would be!

(This should all be for the rest of IL too, not just the city of Chicago)
-- Make it a seat/national hub of zero-carbon, zero-nuclear, inter-city high speed rail -- see the Midwest High Speed Rail Association, including manufacturing trains/ parts?
Phase-out/ shut down O'Hare and all airports -- extremely harmful jet noise (that actually causes deaths and heart attacks and stress), and huge amounts of the 200 plus toxic chemicals, including many known human carcinogens, in the jet emissions that are totally unfiltered and drop down on everything and everyone, esp. in the 50-mile radius surrounding all major airports, and create artificial clouds that on 9/11/01 and day after were measured, by their absence, to alone raise and lower the temp. by two degrees, which is enough to change one ecosystem into the next -- who the hell gave the private airline corps. the right to change nature's ecosystems?, and the 200 plus artificial, human-made toxic chemicals being released into the upper atmosphere doing god-knows-what to the
Daley needs to go. Other than that, we have to look at the south side, and fix the well being of our residents. Schools need a better system and standards to hold students to. No giving money to A's on report cards! Also, this new thing about handguns being allowed...that can NOT happen. Crime will only rise!
IMPEACH Daley and Obama.
Keep Pat Ryan out of the city limits.
Make Chicago the new mecca for the securities and investment community. New York's loss.
Work to oust the current corrupt government and end the reign of Daley. Create a comprehensive plan to address violence on the south side.
Bring the Olympics. It will create a ton of jobs and generally put Chicago on the map as an international destination. Oh wait...you fucked that up.
Better transit More entrepreneurial activity Less corruption Lower the sales tax
what's your problem? Seriously. We could've gotten so many jobs out of the olympics. Naysayers such as this group are the least useful members of society. You won't do anything productive, and you won't let us get anything done.
If corruption is such a big problem, it has to be fixed. It doesn't mean the families and people of Chicago should be held back from amazing opportunities because of it.
lower taxes, encourage businesses to invest by offering incentives
Get rid of the criminals that run Chicago, Abolish the federal reserve, bring back the gold standard stop letting business export all the jobs , restore the Republic.
You claim to not be anti Olympics or anti Chicago, just anti Chicago 2016. Your goal was to protect Chicago. Since you helped in the undermining Chicago's chances, you should stick around and make Chicago a better city with higher chances of winning in future bids. Chicago wasn't ready now, but it is defiantly your responsibility to make sure that Chicago wins when it can handle such a large undertaking. Otherwise you just like to crush dreams for no reason.
personal responsibility
Build more parks, host more international events to bring us back to the world stage, use the revenue to increase police fire and ems services and give tax incentives to world buisnessess so they can work in our fair city.
Shrink the size of City Council. Paying for the salaries of 50 alderman is unsustainable. Halve the size of City Council and redraw ward lines.
On the state level: reform tax increment financing legislation.
Raise CPS teachers salaries and put cops on the beat in high crime neighborhoods.

Help poor people in the neighborhoods of Chicago.
Support a better Mayor.
Daley's own past actions (or inactions) were responsible for Chicago losing the bid; corruption such as Silver Shovel, projects with cost overruns such as Millenium Park, etc. His chickens came home to roost - nobody had any faith in him and the city. He now needs to roll up his sleeves and do the hard work of eliminating the out-of-control violence, decay, and excessive spending that this city has been in need of addressing for many years now.
Stop the corruption. Lower the tax on businesses Get rid of the Oligarchy Remember most Americans do not think strategically. Social change is slow
I believe we need to empower the city's residents to be responsible for the wellbeing of their individual neighborhoods. I also believe we need to hold and reinforce Burnham's plan of green space.
Our environment and public transit are horrible. We need to get those corrupt politicians out from office! Better education! More open and green space.
Reduce number of Wards from 50 to mid-20s to address corruption and gerrymandering, focus on transportation improvements suggested by the Urbanophile (http://theurbanophile.blogspot.com/2009/03/urbanophile-wins-chicagoland-chamber-of.html), comprehensive city planning with transparent zoning, and eliminate "aldermanic privilege."
Expose and eradicate the corrupt people controlling city contracts.
There are so many serious issues facing our city, it's difficult focus on just one, but I think first and foremost we must hold our elected official accountable. We must force them to work for the people and not just the rich and the powerful. Secondly, we must prepare, and support those, with the best interest of all the people at heart, for local office.
Urbs in Horto and its green city image has to be much more a reality. The public school system needs major reform, and not the sort that has taken place under Daley's control - an independent school board and rejuvenated LSCs are needed; "renaissance 2010" should be opposed. Public transportation obviously needs improvement and expansion (increased parking meter fees could have gone to that; perhaps increased taxes on parking garages, or someway of taxing motor vehicles downtown, could be done with "earmarks" for public transport. Housing development should benefit all, not just the affluent - the developers can be made to contribute more to affordable housing. The ongoing efforts to dismantle clinical services within the city's public health department is disgraceful and should be reversed. The police department has too much brutality and corruption, and while Weiss brings in more SUVs and automatic weapons, morale is poor and crime is up. In general, more resources should go to the neighborhoods relative to downtown, and political power
Create your own state. Remove the chicagoland area from the sate of Illinois
Why don't we take the money allocated to the games and use that to start civic improvements and get some more teachers and cops.
throw Daley out
I think we all know what it is we need to do. The powers to be just don't want to do it. Focus on education, affordable housing, public services.... You know, the people.
For the good of our city, and the WORLD, we should be working on climate change. AND Mayor Daley seems to flake this. Let's try and get him re-focused.
video-tape all these ass-holes that are corrupt do under-cover stings like the one that got a'corn in all the departments cops,fire,politicians,all these crooked dumb -asses

This group is a start towards the clear and rational upheaval our country needs to expose what does not work. Instead of looney opposition to the corrupt status quo that does not solve any of our ills, your rational and dogged pursuit of the truth is radical and successful.

I am a Public Policy major at DePaul University, and I would first like to congratulate your outstanding civic efforts. The volume of the people's voice has finally been turned up loud enough for Daley to hear.

When high school kids in this city have trouble with basic reading, no city will be able to grow. When people have trouble getting to work because the trains aren't running on time, no city will be able to grow.

I have not done enough research to accurately offer up suggestions in funding for better trains and schools, but I would be willing to help out any way I can.

Your efforts were commendable. And the double meaning in "No games" is appropriate to how the city handles its dealings with residents and city administrative policies

Expanding all sectors of the green economy, especially mfg and installation of solar panels, wind turbines etc for use in urban settings. There are companies in the city that already do these things, if they can expand to the shut down industrial buildings on the west & south side, they can employ the people who live in the area. Employed people commit less crimes, spend the money they make, etc.

Also jobs dealing with increasing/enhancing recycling would add to the city's cleanliness.

Get King Daley out of office, repeal the city & county taxes and smoking bans that are driving city residents into Northwest Indiana who allows smoking and gambling.

Maybe there's too much "green-washing" going on, but I still believe that ecological vision (one that is human-sensitive) and plans have great potential here. Ecologically-driven planning may also suggest new ways of living that may alleviate the economic strain people are under.

2 focuses (foci?), both designed to intervene in very embarrassing and, more to the point, debilitating, situations, keeping us from being that "world class city, ready and able to host the games." Both issues can help Chicago secure stimulus funds, create jobs and secure da Mare's legacy, as well as intervene in Chicago's worst problems!

First, public education-create plans for using Daley's fund-raising skills among the private sector and ability to target an issue to develop true model schools to test and develop innovative and successful grade and secondary education approaches. Not just throwing money into old systems and continuing to blame teachers and families and measure success with test scores. Real change, like the Sputnik projects of the 50s, via focus and commitment at the highest levels!! Chicago's kids are dyin' here!! Our families are in despair!! Meaningful intervention, the focussed Daley way could mean so much!

Second, a similar approach for a real recycling plan for this city. The half-baked systems

Breaking up the nation's last surviving big city political machine. Uncovering the corruption in the Daley administration and bringing Daley to justice by exposing his role in the infamous Birge torture ring when he was State's Attorney for Cook County. Fairly, equitably distributing TIF money to low income areas (neighborhoods) of the city.

1) Really concentrate on infrastructure and restoration of the treasures we already have here
2) With # 1 accomplished, really focus on increasing tourism to our town (the recent article I read indicates many potential tourists aren't being "welcomed" properly to Chicago-- this city needs to work hard to shine the gem that is Chicago)
3) Place a moratorium on any further kakamame mayoral development schemes (Millenium Park, privatising the skyways, the airport, the parking meters; trying to sell us on this Olympic debacle, et al)-- curb this old man's late-blooming hubris, even if it means working to get him out of office (Yay)!
4) Instead of just releasing felons because there's no room, stop the glut of illegal immigrants and put these prisoners into work programs (on the jobs that supposedly most Americans don't want to do and all the illegals supposedly do do)
5) Totally remanage and remake our transportation system-- from repairing of all our old stations and el lines, to creating a 21st-century style hi-speed rail connecting Chicago to all
Run a decent candidate AGAINST Daley and weed out as much of the corruption as is possible before trying to bring ANY sense of decency back to this city.
Stop Gentrification and provide more grants to low income people to buy abandoned houses with the grant money to fix them up.
Infrastructure, infrastructure, infrastructure.
Get rid of Mayor Daley in the next election!!
Having the Olympics would have been a great way to show what a world class city we are. GET REAL JOBS!!!!!!!
replace the mayor and the aldermen
Make it an international city that inspires the world...too bad you destroyed that opportunity with short-sightedness and a lack of inspiration.
Let the Olympics come to Chicago and the USA! We deserve to host them.
End the economic crisis in chicago by easing real estate taxes.
Instead of trying to prevent the Olympic Games from coming to Chicago, your efforts might have been better served preventing an honor student from getting beat to death.
Eat shit.
The city can't be cleaned up unless Alderman Burke loses an election.
Lower taxes, less bureaucracy (you should see the paperwork small businesses have to deal with).
1 Celebrate your victory and carry the movement of the people forwards. 2 Carry on critiquing and exposing the projects of the greed coalition. 3 Build your networks to encourage and support local activists for a sustainable city in developing their own plans for their neighborhood and their city. 4 Shift from a critical campaigning bias to constructive and proactive workshopping networks based on the common ground discovered collectively in the view of the city from below.
REPLACE THE outdated, loud, slow, underfunded, ugly, dirty, ELEVATED TRAIN SYSTEM WITH A PROPER RUBBER TIRE SYSTEM or SUBWAY
We need a two party government, new representatives, new ideas! Wish I could be more help.
People need to understand that all these politicians do what they do because we let them. We need to learn that a two party political structure is not working and is not truly democratic. Other countries Like England and Germany to name a few have a broader party structure and better representation of all the segments of the population. A two party system is a revolving door for the same no matter who wins.
That would take about two hours. I will write some ideas down and share them later.
Please help Chicagoan's get down to work doing what they do best, complaining and whining. You guys really have set the bar for others to emulate. I mean flying around the globe to bad mouth our city. Most of my neighbors never leave the city to complain.

Learn the mechanisms and people connections of fundraising behind the 100M spent on the Olympic Bid and ask that revenue source for ideas to identify the REASONS FOR THE LOSS to spotlight the SOLUTIONS for the future.
Get Don Daley out of Office!!
you trashed the plans of many people, because of your selfishness, I would like you to improve our infrastructure and schools since you seem to have all the money and answers, I hope we try to bid again in 2020 and your organization has taken a swim in the lake.
Help encourage all of Chicago stand up and demand Daley do something with all this money he promises we have. Fix the CTA just as he would have for the games. Put money into building decent housing and other facilities on the near south side. Tell Chicago that Daley isn't king-for-life and we DO have the power to change the leadership in this city.
We need a massive rebuild of the "L" and school system. There is no money or political will to get this done. It will probably take an "L" track falling of the track to get anything done about mass transit and the best we can do for the schools is to pick one or two and year and try to improve. But the long range outlook in not good for the school system either.
Term limitations for elected officials, e.g. mayor and councilman and woman.
Holding the Olympic games might be even disastrous. Consider Montreal for instance. The city was in debt until 2006 after a disastrous Olympic games in 1976.
The city is already prosperous and a world class city. No city on earth does not have to work harder to spread wealth and make opportunity equal for everyone. The olympics would have been even better for the image of Chicago but a group of nay-sayers such as yours works to bring down our city rather to support our upward movement....shame on you.
Have you folks move out of town - maybe Rio would be the ideal place
WE need to get rid of DALEY and get honest leadership. Clean up crime, invest in schools
Now is the time for Mr. Ryan to roll up his ethical and moral sleeves and put the same effort into demonstrating to the 'human capital' of the many Chicago neighborhoods, his generosity and caring for America, by giving those who too are committed to a good quality of life, some of his money and tips...like a mentor to the Black and Brown communities who by the way are the 'majority' voters...
Equitable funding for schools. Elected school board. Less mayoral power.
Build a self sustaining infrastructure that provides all of Chicago the resources to educate, entertain, move about the city, find preventative health sources and grow- with minimal cost to both the taxpayers and participants of city wide programs.
Advocate for re-building the city's infrastructure - public transportation, truly affordable and livable housing, treating the attack on Chicago's children as a health crisis.
Let's work to make neighborhoods viable - especially in areas "earmarked" for the Olympics.
I would like to work to encourage more independent city council members and non-lock-step-with-the-Mayor votes.
Embrace the power of the working class...support all city strikes, such as SK and Republic, and take back our city's mechanisms for the people.
Chicago would benefit from more money being spent on: Education (CPS) Transportation (CTA trains especially) the quality needs improvement
WE are back to priorities of more honest government, better schools and better transit.
Need to create jobs, improve transportation, better and affordable housing, are all needs as well as much, much better education.

<p>I'm not sure it can be done. The sun is setting on the American Empire just like it did on Britain. However, if we market the real strengths of Chicago (great citizens, Great Lake, a park system created 100 years ago that needs protected) and get Chicagoans excited about them, we can get the corrupt politicians out of the system.</p>
<p>Vote out every single elected official and start from scratch. May I help?</p>
<p>Get rid of the liberal and crooked political leaders.</p>
<p>Lower property taxes and other fees to encourage the middle class to stay. Make the process of starting and maintaining a business in the city hassle free, which will foster jobs. Work with the Police Department to reduce crime, which will improve our standard of living.</p>
<p>A return to American capitalism, constitutional government and sound money will save Chicago and America from its current downward trajectory. Your skills and professionalism would be much appreciated if you would join forces with your local chapter of the Campaign For Liberty.</p>
<p>Grass roots: awareness that people have a voice, options, and influence!</p>
<p>Great skykine and termendous benefits for very wealthy. Even the middle class struggle with poor infrastructure, high taxes, and a less-than-Eurpoe quality of life.</p>
<p>Priorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Infrastructure 2. Schools 3. Crime
<p>Community based meetings with real people face to face are a sure way to really build unity. As you see, after the crisis at Fienger, the desperate and confused city "leaders" are now meeting/hiding behind closed doors and as Huberman said on ch 11, we had a real heart to heart meeting etc. Well, now the challenge is to Chicago and No Games. Internet based advocacy is good and necessary, yet the working class people, esp. in Chicago, parents, children, the elderly, are not pleading for change through the internet. Is No Games up to having real heart to heart meetings with the people? The future is wide open now. Who (what organizations) will be able to fill in the growing social, political and economic gap and void growing in America? The same old same institutional corporate controllers? They have failed for the past 25 years. It's time to stop playing silly egotistical games based on dominance and self-centeredness. We hope that No Games can sustain its great first step toward improving the quality of life for the people in Chicago. And, people will only sustain an organization if it isn't another top</p>
<p>I'd love to see the city start hiring people based upon qualification instead of clout, and I'd love to see the next mayor do something about police brutality and shootings for a change. They're a disgrace.</p>
<p>EDUCATION</p>
<p>Get rid of Daley and promote a vote of no confidence for all aldermen!</p>
<p>I don't believe Chicago can truly prosper & thrive until the corruption that's so rampant within its government is brought under control & the power returned to the people. In addition, we need to give immediate attention to our problem schools, public transit system, & crumbling infrastructure. Only after the above issues are addressed should attention be diverted to less important issues.</p>

<p>1. Make any work over a certain amount (\$20,000?) subject to competitive bidding with all purchasing audited by outside, independent auditors</p> <p>2. Remove zoning control from alderman/alderwomen</p> <p>3. Put zoning control in hands of "non-connected" parties</p> <p>4. Break the teacher's unions control over hiring and firing teachers. They should rep them for collective bargaining, but not in terms of tenure or evaluation. The schools consume 60% of the real estate tax dollar and most are a disaster. Bad, entrenched teachers are one of the big problems</p> <p>5. Encourage (rather than discourage) charter schools</p> <p>6. Hire retired accountants, attorneys, business people to work for the city, at a reduced salary (and without benes) to help in schools, to help audit purchasing departments, etc.</p> <p>7. Reduce or eliminate bi-lingual education in schools. Make English the primary language and force everyone to learn (or try to learn) it</p> <p>8. Clean up Stroger Hospital and Medicaid system so it is not the sham and financial drain and deplorably inefficient medical deliverer it is.</p> <p>9. Make transparent all city contracts, on the net, including legal, investment banking relation</p>
<p>New Mayor.</p> <p>Demand an end to Iraq occupation and Afghan war -- convert military spending into funding to rebuild our schools, social services, health care, transportation system, etc...</p>
<p>Select those items from the Olympic bid which should be implemented in any event. For example, improved transit, affordable housing, park improvements, school improvements.</p>
<p>end charter schools.....improve public schools..</p>
<p>work with police to add the 500 police officers we are short...(end kids shooting kids)</p>
<p>What constitutes "world class"? A ridiculously overwrought phrase. Let's just think about more jobs, higher incomes, and less reliance on fossil fuels.</p>
<p>Chicago's assets are a diverse economy and geography (transportation hub/mid-America). Liabilities are the political system - stunningly corrupt and entrenched. The "cure" is honest politics and a free-market (low tax, low regulation) economy. Without a magic wand, we have to do it a day at a time. Probably starting as a "watchdog" along with recruiting/supporting candidates for local office.</p>
<p>reduce crime</p> <p>reduce corruption</p> <p>reduce taxes</p> <p>balance the budget</p> <p>improve the school system</p>
<p>The government needs to be more transparent at the local level. Having worked on 2 alderman campaigns when I lived in the 46th ward in the past 2 elections it is unbelievable the rubber stamp that gets put on so many votes in regards to TIF money, zoning changes etc.</p>
<p>Sign a contract with cops and firefighters giving them a raise. Hire more cops.</p>
<p>Empty out the TIFs - put it into schools, police, fire, CTA...</p>
<p>Make it easier for small business to thrive: fewer regulations and fees that have no other purpose than to line the pockets of politicians and patronage workers. Work to build community policing efforts to keep neighborhoods and our children safer. Fight for funding to improve transportation infrastructure. Help to shed light on a political system that doesn't allow aldermen to represent what is best for the citizens they represent.</p>
<p>We need a candidate who can defeat Daley.</p>
<p>need to invest in kids</p>
<p>We need to stop the corruption, stop the no bid contracts, stop the over taxation so individuals and businesses will move to our city. We need to provide a good business climate and the free market will work in our favor.</p>

Better schools, more jobs, more free programs for our youths
We should focus on having the best public school system in the world. Design a modern public transit system and push community activism and safety for young people. I could name more, but this is just the start.
We need to make sure all residents are informed of the corruption and back door dealings
Your article asks how to now help Chicago. The Plan B. Well in a realistic point of view, in order to get out of a budget crisis & fix the city we need to:
Raise taxes. Yup, taxes. Cut down on services such as less snow plowers or street sweepers. I'm sad to say but the possibility of a bigger Chicago Police Force which would've occurred with a international event just went out the window, if anything essential services might be cut. Spending on building new neighborhood projects needs to be slowed. A new push for federal funding on Chicago infrastructure needs to be made.
Until we fix the city budget, i think planning on things to fix neighborhoods which cost money will have the same end result as Daley & the Chicago 2016 push.
We are now officially back to square one. Hopefully Mr. Monopoly can lend us some money to magically fix the city like everyone wants but realistically...some neighborhoods are going to remain ghettos.
As residents we can push for a bigger city turnout when there are elections, which polls have shown in the past, have a low turnout. Push local officials, not only da mayor to adhere
improve the education system. Quit spending so much money on tourism downtown. Pay attention to people in neighborhoods like Englewood and Woodlawn.
NO MORE DALEYS! NO MORE MT GREENWOOD NO-NECK OCCUPATION ARMY!
Dig into corruption, as you did with the Games--look under the rock of things like TIFs and, with the Daley dynasty clearly coming to an end, let's look at the next phase of leadership.
Let's find ways to bring green jobs to this city. Let's make this a truly world class city, where people all over the world will come, Olympics or no. (That means improving infrastructure, public transit, schools, the arts, etc).
1. CHICAGO 2016 Committee cashed plenty of dough and they have failed to produce. Claim the refund and return the money to the taxpayers.
2. All money available (Stimulus package, etc.) should be given to small businesses that apply for grants and loans to no avail. With their enthusiasm and plans to generate jobs, they are notoriously being ignored by all City of Chicago Departments that are able to provide seed money and/or assistance. Instead, the money is secretly being distributed to "better friends", like Chicago 2016, who produce exactly nothing!
Have naysayers who fail to run for office and fail to volunteer and ACT to better Chicago move to other cities
People like you move to Rio.
We need to be concerned with not only the education of our children but the conditions of the public schools themselves...not to mention the rise of violence in the City itself.
You are best ignored.
Representing the underserved communities in Chicago is definitely something that's needed, but I really love the idea of a watchdog group--a group that provides an alternative opinion to whatever is being produced by local/city government about what is best for the city as a whole...something that would take all neighborhoods into account and look at the full picture (as with the Olympics).
Start to become politically active, have never done so and I'm tired of having fools and knaves ruin this great city.

Stop planting trees in the medians. And get rid of those bloody Red Light Cameras. Make it so suburbanite people are not afraid of entry into the city.

1. I would hold CPS accountable and have equal funds for all schools. You don't need to be a genius to see north side schools have better resources than south and west side schools.

2. Provide low income and homeless children with more opportunities to become more involved in the arts.

3. Hold the the mayor, alderpeople, and public officials even more accountable and demand more transparency in their finances. If they go over budget, they would be required to pay a penalty.

4.

Chicago needs media platforms - social networking tools - that will put citizens, community groups and City Hall in touch other both to meet current needs and to shape the city's future.

Chicago is already a "world-class city," with plenty of opportunity for anyone who prepares for it. I have lived here for nearly forty years, and anyone who has lived here knows this. My work as a journalist and columnist will be to continue to document the fact that outsiders predominantly made up the staff of No Games Chicago, and that they came here chasing TV cameras, and made a ridiculous, ill-conceived ruckus and (helped) cost the city the prestige, and our children the experience of a lifetime.

Every single plan anyone suggests to your site will most likely be destined for failure before it even beings, thanks to short-sighted individuals like yourself who appear blinded by lowest common-denominator empty rhetoric. How many Olympic city's have you visited? Do you truly believe that your research is completely balanced, examing the potential benefits of the Games? It would be wonderful if you would just go back to watching Glenn Beck. You've helped inflict enough damage to this city.

simple RUN GREEN OR INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES WITH ZERO DOLLARS FROM any corporations, and corrupt, cancerous unions that NEVER GROW MEMBERSHIP JUST FRONT OFFICE WAGES

but THE REAL TRADE UNION(s) you know unions like the UE that are truly democratic can contribute

We need to get Mayor Daley out of office. Sadly I heard today on the news that the experts believe he'll be re-elected, not on his merits but because there is no viable opponent. I say there is but he or she needs grassroots support to counter act the machine. I think however that the main role of no games should be in keeping preassure on current politicians and their shenanigans.

Get rid of Daley and his cronies.

more well paying jobs more industry like what made chicago what it is none of this green climate change crap either

You don't get it. This was our opportunity to get investment dollars from business and the feds. The city now has no vision, no direction for future investment. Without that we will not see investment by the business community, individuals or the federal government. The city instead will do nothing more than it has done for many years. Thanks a lot. This makes me very sad. Perhaps we can all move to a different city.

No games was definitely a David vs. Goliath undertaking. I am amazed, considering how tirelessly the group worked, that you have energy to go forward to create a Plan B.

I am stumped about how to go forward to build our deteriorating neighborhoods, fix the shameful transit system (which only the Olympics would have changed) and get responsible people to run our city with the Daley machine in power.

His office is so corrupt and so indifferent to the people of Metropolitan Chicago that I do not see how any significant changes can be made with this in place.

I can globally work with "neighborhoods to help them secure political power" but would applaud all efforts to do so.

The money that was set aside for the Olympics should now go to the school system and other public services.

We need to do something about all the school age kids getting killed in this city. When you go back just to the start of this year its amazing what has happened and not well reported on.

Give support to the city of Chicago's endeavors. Show the world we are united in supporting the city, and not children who believe if they complain enough they will get what they want.

We need better representation in government - there is no reason why we have the highest taxes in the country with a failing school system and public transportation. I've only lived here 15 years and haven't determined if the electorate is stupid or complacent to put up with so much crap.

The city should buy the Bulls, Da Bears, the Cubs, the Sox and the Hawks. There's profit to be had in those teams.

Focus on education and violence - fix those and you fix a lot of other things, too

1. "No taxpayer money will be used for the Olympics"
2. What about the 20M the Park District committed for building a kayak course? That's taxpayer money.
3. Now that the 20M is not needed to build a kayak course (not that the Park District actually has the 20M), publicly make all the above known and suggest/demand that the 20M still be used - but for building/improving our parks, field houses and most importantly creating afterschool programs and activities which hopefully might give kids something to do with their free time other than beat each other up and kill one another. It's time this city got its priorities in order.

As above. Chicago is already world class in the arts. Lets let the world in on the secret and boost national and international tourism and upgrade all infrastructure related to public transportation too.

Unelect Daley. Get more honest politicians. Improve the schools. Improve the transit system. Lower taxes on the working class (specifically the sales tax.) Increase taxes on those who can best afford them (income taxes).

Please look into what is being done to spur growth and new businesses in decent paying green jobs. Adapting factory workers into green manufacturers and training young people into insulation retro fitters is a simple way to utilize people for jobs that need to be done in our communities.

Real bike lanes, not the fake ones we have now. Like those in Sweden, Finland, Denmark. Even Montreal! This would improve quality of life in many ways--lessen car traffic, improve health through exercise, clean up air, and more.

Have government be more transparent. Right now no one believes much of what the politicians say, including the state leaders

Investigate the privatization of the 31st Beach.
Deal with gang violence, gun control and crime.
Commit to revitalizing those communities and neighborhoods that the Olympics in Chicago supporters claimed would have benefited.
If the Mayor wants sports so bad, and he "loves" bicycles, then why cannot we build a velodrome? If we want to be "international" then build a velodrome, host international races, and, in the process, create jobs. Ask the Mayor why he has not managed to build ANYTHING that would be "olympic" in his tenure. the money, he says, is in place. I would support it.
Chicago is already prosperous for some...perhaps using terms that don't sound like coming from another bid committee, 2020?, would be more fitting.
Stay on The City to keep some of that 2016 volunteer energy focused on the always more important local priorities--schools , public transit, affordable housing, developing new econ development more visionary than hotels and construction.
more educational and employment opportunities, focusing on working with children early on
I've been working with public housing tenants for two decades, and i wish we had your success. I was THRILLED to see your work bear fruit. Please please hold the mayor accountable.
More art and music.
get rid of the corruption, we need people to be educated, to get out and vote Daley and his buddies like Alderman Tunney out.
Rebuild the existing area for the people that currently live there instead of relocating them to build housing that the existing residents can't afford
Start putting some of the millions that is always spent on the lake front into neighborhoods like mine on the West side, where the sidewalks are broken in the local park and park garbage is inadequately picked up and the local schools are still not meeting the needs of the young people. and where their parents stand on the street corners or hide in their homes because they have no jobs and no hope.
Green jobs, affordable housing (incl making vacant condos and CHA units available for emergency, transitional housing), kill the Circle Line boondoggle, and instead build the MidCity Transit Way and expand bus rapid transit; give power back to public school parents to redirect energies from REN2010 toward stable high-performing neighborhood public schools for ALL kids; dissolve the LaSalle St TIF and pursue other TIF reforms; ratchet up and streamline job training programs; start a movement to fight foreclosures - as US Congr March Kaptor says, tell people to "Stay in your homes," among other direct, nonviolent actions campaigns. Crime Scene tape abusive lenders and financial institutions once a month til we get real mortgage foreclosure relief, restructuring.
long term get rid of most of the alderman or at very least decrease the number of alderman and immediately take a hard look at their \$110,000 + salaries and \$73,000 expense accounts. Tribune recently published a list of which alderman spend the most on personal luxuries and I think someone like the very arrogant Bernard L. Stone really has to be pressured and held accountable
Also, work closer and more regularly with Andy Shaw and his team at BGA
Revive grass roots community Org.
Easier said than done, I realize, but elementary and secondary schools must better prepare youth adult career development choices.
More community organizing must be fostered and incorporated into municipal policy development.
Chicago can still foster increased global recognition by beginning a international tourism effort.
break up TIFs, open meetings, honest and open analysis of budgets and contracts. Good government by civil servants not politicians

The Chicago Public School system needs to change. Charter schools need to end. Magnet schools need to end. Testing children to death needs to end. Teachers need to have more of control over the content covered in their individual classroom in their neighborhood. Arts need to return to the schools to foster creativity in students that are going to lead the future groups like this one.

Public education is key, I believe.

Increased police staffing, school reform, accountability in government - destroy the machine!

The politics in this city has to be cleaned up. We are getting there with the help of Pat Fitzgerald and the Better Government Association (Andy Shaw, director). I think No Games Chicago would be part of a great team for both of them.

"Pay to play" politics should be addressed and eliminated at the aldermanic level. Most if not all city alderpersons only pretend to be concerned with resident's issues. They only concern themselves with the needs of local businesses and developers who pay them off in various ways, ignoring cases where these parties abuse the system and the residents. Vote in some alderman(persons) who consider residents first and businesses and developers second.

financial woes.

*Have youth develop a face saving phrase or gesture ,so they can walk away from confrontations without dishonor.

I would like to see better schools. We could use some model schools like the one in the western suburbs that has been featured lately and begin a paradigm shift in the way we educate. These children are from a generation of computers & ipods and they cannot sit still at a desk while looking straight ahead in rapt attention for hour after hour. This is not the way to teach in many cases.

A NEW MAYOR

And insisting on a new Moral Chicago... a new honest for our city and state. NO more mafia management!

Thank you for killing our city's opportunity to shelter itself from the economic woes the rest of the country faces indefinitely. Please go back to Cleveland, Detroit's suburbs or whatever other tired, rustbelt town you come from. WE, THE CITIZENS OF CHICAGO, WOULD LIKE FOR YOU TO LEAVE NOW.

Work to raise state income taxes to supplement local property and sales taxes.

Lower the Sales Tax & Property Taxes for Business - lower tax rates for business that create jobs.

*Reduce the crime rate. This alone will increase property values[and tax revenue],attract new jobs,residents and tourists.Oh,did I mention it will also save people's lives.

#Use video games to tutor unmotivated students.Many video games can improve memory,reading ,mathematical ,analytical and varios other skills.

*Request free catalogs and brochures from mail order companies.This will pump up the volume of mail

so high paying union postal jobs can be retained.If done during the Christmas season,thousands of temporary jobs could be created.

*Plant thousands of trees,bushes and climbing plants.The city can sell carbon offsets for them.

*Reduce crime.This alone will increase property values[and tax revenue],attract residents,jobs and tourists.

*Plant trees,bushes and climbing plants.The city can sell carbon offsets for these.

*Request free mail order catalogs and brochures.By increasing the volume of mail,you will save high paying union postal jobs.If done during the Christmas season,thousands of temporary jobs could be created.

Don't be wasteful of public funds and not shove stupid policies (ie. parking meter deal) down our throats.

I think Black athletes should open up restaurants and sport stores etc: in Black communities to help bring jobs to the kids in those neighborhoods and to upgrade the areas instead of always going to the White suburbs. Its like as though the Black athletes don't want to help the black neighborhood grow and prosper. They donate time and probably donte money but a neighborhood needs some recognition.

Put a nice airport on Northerly Island.

Make it affordable for all classes of people. Show appreciation for those who chose not to flee the city by giving long-term residents a bigger break on property taxes and credits for any improvements made to their property.

I agree that we need to minimize the "I told you so" message. But the plan for the Games itself was actually an attack on the poor neighborhoods that would have been the main venues. We need to fight for better conditions in low-income neighborhoods, possibly starting with the neighborhoods around the poor sections around Washington, Jackson, and Douglas Parks.

<p>First, we should go for the 2020 Olympice, and create groups to drown out ones like the group No Game Chicago.</p>
<p>Then we should go all out again for an event that would bring the whole worlds eyes on Chicago. Unfortunately we have lost the chance to show how we could raise ourselves up this time, but time and effort we can fight groups like yours to show how good we can really be.</p>
<p>If the 2020 Olympics don't come to Chicago, which is unfortunately all too likely, we should create our own games. Of course that will take decades to bring to an international level, and groups like No Games Chicago will fight it.</p>
<p>Parts of our population are left out of the loop in America. We will continue to fall behind in the world until we realize that Africans in America are African-Americans and we really take an interest in helping them with their situation in this country.</p>
<p>Develope projects which promote stabilization of families.</p>
<p>Fix the CTA and make all forms of public transportation work together in a seamless web. Make it easy to live in Chicago without a car. That is the best way to make us environmentally progressive. Invest in the public schools.</p>
<p>(1) Reduce and revise city taxation. Way too expensive to maintain or attract/start businesses. (2) Kill the TIFs, which syphon off tax levies from the parks, schools, libraries, etc. (3) More resources -- buildings, equipment, security [for starters] at our schools. Athletic programs AT NO COST for teens to participate in.</p>
<p>Those who oppose projects that will provide short term benefits to the economy through large construction projects should leave town.</p>
<p>Raising public awareness about the state of the south side of Chicago which may now be neglected since the games will not be coming to Chicago. We need to ensure that housing, retail, education, and social services continues to grow in this area.</p>
<p>Cut taxes, put burden of responsibility on citizens, not government.</p>
<p>Get rid of Daley and throw the bum aldermen out of office.</p>
<p>we need the Daley's and the Strogers out of office and going to jail!!!</p>
<p>Improve the educational system, infrastructure, and address the crime.</p>
<p>We have a city in need of a real cleanout in politics. Dogmatic mayor like ours must be voted out of office in next election.</p>
<p>the Mayor, Mr. Ryan, and all their philathroper friends should use their expertise at garnering private sector funds to help all the organizations that are in danger of closing because the economy has caused a drastic frop in funds to non profits.</p>
<p>progressive policies to aid those in foreclosure. Stabilize low income neighborhoods: stop gentrification. Oppose privatization of schools.</p>
<p>Get Daley out of office. Dismantle the political machine of Chicago. Empower communities to participate in the decisions that affect their lives.</p>
<p>Deployment of small yield nuclear weapons on the south and west sides of the city.</p>
<p>Less events. Period. No Taste, no fests, no nights, no marathons. Fund public education and safety, not parties.</p>
<p>MAKE SCHOOLS SAFER</p>
<p>lobbying for companies to come and sink roots for a variety of employment opportunities</p>
<p>the best thing for chicago would be a tactical nuke that would return it to the swanp it used to be. that would be real improvement.</p>

Chicago is a beta world class city, and has passed to be the 3rd largest city of the US, so it's no longer the "second city". I had high hopes that Chicago would regain the status it once had after the olympics, but a lot of factors, including your organization, became roadblocks for that to happen. The only main complaint I have is that your organization went to great length to be very selfish. But I support the American right of freedom of expression, and I support the view of Chicago and IL politicians to be extremely corrupt. I believe your organization should have been more proactive, serving as watchdog to ensure no taxpayer money was wrongly spent, while supporting the Chicago 2016 movement. I still think Olympic Games are overall good for the host city, IF the host city knows how to play it right, and hope your group comes around understanding that onympic games, while terribly expensive, can potentially bring great economic push and make the city hosts real world cities.

Great job, Martin, Tom, Rhoda and everyone else! I would like to see activists with No Games focus their energy by getting involved as candidates or as researchers, spokespeople for the Cook County Green Party. We should be pushing for giving work back to public workers, ending corrupt contracts that has stolen upwards of 80% of public work, taxing the rich, etc. The way to do that is to focus on getting rid of Daley, the machine and the pernicious influence of groups like the "Civic" Federation. Please help the CCGP search for and run candidates for city council and mayor.

replace old school "political machine" politicians
invest in infrastructure, especially mass trans
raise standard of living for lower & lower middle-class

make sure that Michael Reese property is managed/disposed in the public interest; save gropius bldgs; make use intergovernmental agreement between the city and parks is reversed ASAP; monitor the disposition of the Michael Scott/Valerie Jarett et al land holdings around the proposed olympic sites so they don't get public money for their property; make sure the World Sport youth legacy is run and is legitimate and not a boondoggle; monitor where the Chicago 2016 execs Healy, randall et al wind up; make sure 2016 gives a full disclosure of its income and expenses;

Chicagoans need to recruit and support a new generation of leadership with minimal ties to the past. The graft and corruption in this city must be replaced by honest leadership.

GET RID OF THE TIF Funds. This is a source of corruption.

use the free market, cut the power of government, throw the bums out, consider voting republican

CPS must be made safe. Work programs must be instilled for the homeless, and those who live gang ridden neighborhoods.

I know this probably some kind of pipe dream, but I think Chicago needs to begin to take a deameanor of "we take care of our own." Meaning that we simply won't allow the decisions of a few overly powerful people effect the outcomes of our entire city. It will simply not be tolerated. I think that comes first by working to reign in local government corruption as much as possible. I think residents of this city have just gotten too complacent and accustomed to their political officials being corrupt and for Chicago to move forward as a city we can't tolerate the behavior of these people any longer (which is why I was elated that Chicago didn't get the games). We need to work toward empowering communities so they can fight for themselves and elect officials that are willing to take a stand for their constituents (as opposed to just voting for the Olympic games because they didn't want to face any political consequences). We need elected officials like Leon Despres to represent the community and not the current bunch of lap dogs that exist within the Chicago City

Chicago is already prosperous and a world class city with nothing to prove to anyone. It happens to be situated in the Midwest and have a somewhat uncommon name. Selection as one of the four finalists has already reaped significant press coverage and notoriety. Turning around neighborhoods in need, and creatively progressing in education and jobs would be a greater accomplishment than the Olympics.

Concentrate on education. Fund and keep tabs on the CTA. More bike lanes.
Daley says he has all this private money lined up for the Olympics. Find another use for it-- schools, parks, transit still all need funding.
Support independent media...the Trib Corp. and Sun-Times have too many hidden agendas on everything to really get the 'truth' out. You did a wonderful job getting the word out through your e-mails, web site and broadcast appearances...it raised consciousness significantly!
Improve public transportation and reduce crime.
WHATEVER CHICAGO IS, IN A POSITIVE SENSE, IT IS INSPITE OF, NOT BECAUSE OF, IT'S POLITICAL CULTURE. THE 'CHICAGO WAY' HAS GOT TO GO. THE CULTURE OF CORRUPTION, CRONYISM AND ARROGANCE WHICH HAS CHARACTERIZED THE ENDLESS DALEY ADMINISTRATION IS AN ALBATROSS AROUND THE CITY'S NECK
Less taxes, less regulation, less government, less police, more freedom. Leave the people alone to create their own recovery.
Convince Boeing to build the 787 here.
Oust Daley with a truly viable candidate
Start at the begining.. Impeach Obama..
We start by turning Daley out.
Keep posting info and video to social media, blog sites. Post reports on youTube. Record as many meetings as you can where Politicians & insiders can be seen lying, or doing other unfair things. Public land should NEVER be used for private profits. Opportunities must also be afforded to people of color, not just front organizations for Daley's friends.
The Mayor needs to allocate funds to all areas of the City, not just the Lakefront. Yes, the tourists are there - but they do not 'live' in the City. We've had to raise our own funds to renovate our main Park. The playgrounds are from the 40's. Perhaps this is minor, but it's one of many issues not addressed.
We need to continue to push our city government to be more open and honest. This city does have many great attributes but also has a shadowy and corrupt past and present.
Start with grass root leaders in each ward. Let get local leaders elected Alderman like neighborhood store owners, long time residents. At the same time educate residents on how is benefits residents to elect locals. Not downtown lawyers who move in the neighborhood to do little or just enough for it. It's time to bring it back to "For the people by the people" not "For the Mayor by the Mayor".
From here on out the group must discontinue being anti Daley. You will not gain any more support. Instead the group must be pro the people. Giving hope to residents who have felt left out of a city job because they knew they never had a chance. Giving hope to contractor who didn't put a bid in because they knew they never had a chance. Giving hope to parents that their children will get a great education from any school, not just a magnet school. Giving hope to homeowner that their political leaders will spend their taxes as responsible as they spent their house hold income.
Corruption and political deal-making are siphoning money and resources from where it is needed. Ethical leadership is a joke in this city. We need leaders (that includes all adult citizens) to step and we need the youth to be trained up to be morally and ethically courageous. I am not sure what that would "look like." But the minute you organize a group like that, I suspect political parties will try to claim you as their own or proclaim loudly how it's the "other guy" that needs to be ethical. Such posturing is not leadership. Ethical and moral leadership is needed in office and at the grassroots. That's what i do now.
We need to work on improving public transportation, better schools and improving the city's streets (we still have potholes from last winter).
Provide job training in for upcoming green industry.

Somehow stop developers from tearing down old houses to put up yuppie mansions thereby continuing to force lower income people out of neighborhoods.
we can start by getting politicians that serve the public, not their own business interests and pocketbooks. that would be a good start.
Giant sunlamps.
Less corruption in the govt, more emphasis on education and basic rights, better CTA/RTA, breaking the TIFs to utilize tax funds,
Get rid of the TIFs! -- that's why the city is broke, half of our property taxes are given away to private developers and corporations!
honest administration
No more TIF funds, an overhaul of the public school system, making mass transit cheaper and more efficient, and pursuing a sustainable future.
Smaller government. Lower taxes. More freedoms.
An informed populace that votes is the only way to really make democracy work.
Emphasis needs to be placed on improving neighborhoods, transportation, programs for youth, health, housing
Massive cuts to city budget with commensurate tax cuts so it's not so expensive to live, work and play here. Transparency on city contracts and an end to no-bid contracts.
Get rid of Daley & his cronies. Educate the elected minority officials that the rest of the state actually matters, not just minorities who live in city limits. Stop trying to stick suburbanites with Chicago's bills!
IF we start identifying all the things that need to be address than we would probably have a list a mile long. So lets start with poverty, the bad quality of education our children are receiving, children getting killed, we can go on and on. I think that if your group could help with keeping watch on public officials and help put pressure on them so that they know that someone is watching them is a big help.
We need new people at city hall 50 alderman have to go.The chicago department of revenue is a criminal enterprise.vote off the bench corrupt judges.Take a goog look at traffic court take back chicago ward by ward neighborhoods by neighborhoods.If you don't live in chicago but you work in chicago tax that income.
We have to get City Hall off the necks of working people and small businesses.
Please go away. You've already caused enough problems trying to bankrupt our future.
First, we need to reinforce the message that political corruption is OUT. Daley out, Stroger out, etc. Then let's demand our elected officials tackle crime and work to resolve our budget deficit.
clean up the corrupt daley machine and business as usual mentality.
we need a complete audit of all monies in the pension fund and all that the city has
Join in with the grassroots movement of people who want better economic development for ALL the neighborhoods of the city, not just those in the crosshairs of gentrification or on the blueprints of huge megaplans like the Olympics. This means lending your expertise for locally determined, but city-wide organized, plans that prioritize the people and not the properties.
No Games Chicago shouldn't change its name! You have a brand now that the media and the public recognize. You already have a website and domain. And just because we're not getting the Olympic games in Chicago doesn't mean there are no "games" in Chicago! We have political "Games" going on all the time. No Games Chicago means No Games, No nonsense. Keep the name, it's still relevant and it still works!
You people seem to have all the answers so let's hear it. Or, have Ed Bachrach run your organization - he's well-versed in tanking a cheesy menswear business and should be perfect for your group.
Help other Chicago organizations like stopthelandfill.org in the fight against city "pork" deals.

If you need ideas, you have no basis for carrying on. I will take my ideas to a group that can drive positive outcomes.
Problem: Pervceived corruption of local officials, closed policital process. How many olympic contract bids selected in secrecy.
Ideas at: ChicagoNLA2011 http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ChicagoNLA2011
We need to lower taxes, make Chicago a more business-friendly city that doesn't scare new businesses from investing in the city, do NOT lease any more assets the city operates(i.e. parking garages, meters, airports, Skyway, etc.), including defeating the current proposal to lease over snow plowing to a private contractor for decades to come. Also, not passing laws that restrict personal liberties, including repealing the city smoking ban for private businesses that don't allow or employ minors.
In addition, many neighborhoods of Chicago very badly need revitalization, in order to improve them for the better. Finally, many 'L and Metra stations within the city are aging, and badly need to be modernized and rebuilt! The city also needs to better work with neighborhood leaders, business groups, and activists, in order to make decisions that will actively improve neighborhoods, and(for once) reboot civic pride that has disappeared from too many neighborhoods. Finally, term limits should be IMMEDIATELY established for all
AUDIT THE BOOKS! We need public scrutiny of city finances. What happened to the money from the parking deal? Where did we get the money for Michael Reese? PUBLIC AUDITS NOW!
I would say we need open an honest government. We need the people to be put first.
The south east side of Chicago is in development now as we speak
Living in the suburbs...wehat Chicago does also has an impact in our quality of life too.....just look at the Ohara expansion....that you do not need now. They should have built another airport in Peatone
It already is a world class city. Just make it run more efficiently with less corruption.
Help to create term limits for ALL local government offices! Limit the power of the mayor to sell, rent, lease or contract the public domain. We need more educated people to run for office on the state and local government. Stop the privatization, corporatization of the public domain. Stop the economic oppression in Chicago by the over taxation through taxes, fines and fees, disguised as being in the best interest of the people.
Encourage Mayor Daley to retire!
The olympic infrastructure plan as well as plans like converting Michael Reese into mixed income housing are still necessary. Can't we stick to the plan without the Olympics?
Term limits for all elected City officials. Greater accountability for mismanagement of taxpayer dollars.
I work for a non-profit organization, and the work we do has been beneficial to our youth in training them for jobs and preparing them for a post-secondary education. We need to continue to enhance our communities to support these types of programs that will lead our youth into the future. They truly are what are going to make Chicago a world-class city. Keep kids off the streets, get them into the work-force, and help them get and education. That's the best bet!
Clue Chicago in to independent media.
Education vouchers for all families, rich or poor.
A true two-party ideologically opposed political system so one can watch the other.
Tax cuts for businesses & individuals.
Improved infrastructure.
Privatize the CTA, Metra since the city/Springfield have proven themselves incompetent.
LABOR RIGHTS + CIVIL RIGHTS = ALL WE NEED

<p>You know .you said...we did it...well we really did not.</p> <p>The IOC I believe saw arrogance, and power plays between our delegates who went to Copenhagen....and thought...they wanted to be generous to a city that has humility and the desire to build up their city, not a city who thinks they have it all together...or a country that thinks we can contribute more than any other nation!..No, we did not do anything....we were just our arrogant self...as much as I admire our President,first Lady, Oprah, and,our mayor...</p>
<p>I'd like to see this organization go in the direction of Green party work. Which i think is the best defense to the single party system of Chicago.</p>
<p>Dismantling the patronage system and crony-politics is a good start. My personal concerns for bettering Chicago's future are improving/expanding public transit, expanding green spaces, reduction of auto traffic (perhaps barring cars in the Loop), and reduction of youth violence/incarceration.</p>
<p>It is a world class city. Let's fix and improve upon what we have here outside of downtown. Help make the parks and schools all over the city safe for everyone. Improve the schools. Keep all of the buses and trains running. Improve the streets and siewalks all over the city. Build that planned bike path to hook up with the forest preserve.</p>
<p>The politicians and business leaders that were so quick to tout the benefits of the Olympic games, ought to manifest the same passion and energy to achieving a school system second to none. To assure that our children have sufficient current books and other materials so that our teachers can teach. For some reason, these people can forsee the benefits for the preparation and execution of something like the Olympics, but cannot see how the product of excellent schools, the well educated young people, can financially benefit the city and the business community as well.</p>
<p>per above, we need public accounting of the bid spending to make sure we have not spent any public tax dollars on this.</p>
<p>We are a world-class city - we've got the most reknown orchestra, marathon, museums, libraries and architecture - we have to get out from under our own inferiority complex. Let's put our energy into making our city safe and efficient.</p>
<p>We need to stop the corruption.</p> <p>We need a mayor who is focused on the needs of the city and people and not for his own personal gain.</p> <p>I believe the place to start is to limit the terms and have an age limit of our alderman and senators.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Affordable housing -Environmental Protection -Reducing Crime -Protecting underprivaleged people -Protecting youth
<p>I love Chicago because we're not a prosperous and world class city. We don't need gentrification.</p>
<p>Chicago must change its politics and city structure. In addition to voting all present aldermen & ward committeemen out, they must reduce the number of wards and do away with ward committemen as political persons. Reduce the number of wards to 25 and ensure term limits for aldermen and mayors.</p>
<p>We are already a world class city.</p>
<p>Holding public officials accountable, starting with "King" Richard. Whether it is scandals in the 1) Hired Truck Program, 2) Streets & San, 3) Building Inspectors, 4) Water Dep't, 5) "Zoning for Sale" ad nauseum, it seems people just accept this as "the way it is". If nothing is done, the next candidate will be more of the same.</p>
<p>Let Daley retire and take the evil Marchese and Ryan mobster influence machines out of Chicago politics.</p>

Fight for community sustainability especially in areas where the banks and buisnesses strategically have not invested in with no grocry store or local buisnesses like austin.
I like the idea about working on a "Plan B" for jobs and economic development. There's a lot of talk going on now about job creation--especially after that gang-related beating. People are seeing that gangs and violence prosper where economic depression exists (there are no job options, so how else do you assert power?).
Strictly speaking your work is done. However there is a huge role for someone or something to play in "keeping 'em honest". Chicago has a shocking reputation for corruption and clout... and way well have contributed to the Olympics loss. Sunshine is the best policy and some high profile public interest body is required to bring the under the table deals into the open.
level the political playing feild. Chicago machine is so powerful and lopsided that it is become a detriment to the people.Our standard of living is decling rapidly and costing more. Big brother is intruding and the peoples voice is being muted. Dailey machine is focused on self serving projects.
Stop the Corruption! Stop raising taxes to fill in their budget problems! Quit layiing off teachers. Give the police force a contract.
First & foremost, I think we need to find a viable candidate to replace Sir Richard.
Revamp the water system to eliminate freshwater waste. Beef up the mass transit system until cars are no longer needed. Replace the Daley machine with a consensus-oriented government.
watch dog- MAYOR DALEY... also- need to advocate for a full services audit- for a minimum of the past year of all city departments including CTA, Streets and san, etc. inspecting workorders, timesheets, etc. to find where olympic work was done. This needs to be independant. Once completed- the bill for these services and the audit should go to 2016
Scale back government regulation and taxes. Improve school choice cut back on all government programs. Through this you will encourage businesses and individuals to invest their capital and time in the city, thus bringing about actual prosperity.
Focus on the youth. Encourage pure sports like running, not Football, or Basketball or Baseball. Running is excellent for your health. So is Soccer. The others involve too many facilites, injuries and insurance. Be sure to give medals and ribbons and publicity to our winners. We have enough parks and paths so facilities should not be a problem.
Second, technology. Encourage 'meets' like for robot wars and science fairs. Robot wars are a hoot and involve both teethered and wireless control of robots. If the kids build it themselves versus buying from a shop, they get double credit.
It's all about improving our crappy public schools.
Rent control and housing coop initiatives need to happen in Chicago before the city becomes a city for the middle and upper class only.
What the city needs is a mayor who is in touch with with the people. Mayor Daley runs the city as if it belongs to him, but the fact of the matter is that it doesn't. It seems as though he forgets about the people and does what he sees fit for himself. If we can find a leader (a mayor) or leaders (alderman) who are selfless and honest, who's interests serve the people, then and only then would that make this city world class.
Chicago really needs to do somethng to curb or eliminate youth violence. Gangs have gotten completely out of control. I know I don't feel safe in some neighborhoods, particularly the southside.
Clean up the crime; lower taxes; lower all the commotion about corruption;STOP spending on unecessary decisions. Get the cops off their asses and get them patrolling and try to create jobs

Remove Daley. Remove Stroger. Reduce the number of aldermen by at least half. Defund programs like Ceasefire. Remove Chicago's unconstitutional gun ban. Dismantle the welfare state that drains money from the hardworking residents of Chicago. Cut spending. Enforce the separation of Church and State when it comes to city programs. Stop rewarding the ministers/poverty pimps for turning out the vote. Go back to the basics: Fill the potholes. Salt the snow-covered streets. Remove garbage. Provide enough emergency responders to keep the city safe. In short, returning to basic libertarian ideas.

EXPOSE the FRAUD of people like Valarie Jarrett... and the mayor. Until they can no longer find a job screwing us all in government.

Aldermanic accountability.

Encourage recycling. I find it outrageous that there are not better pro-environment policies.

Fix the schools

Fix the CTA

make the city safer

fix health and human services

Funding for mental health clinics that closed and transition housing and healthcare for homeless.

Don't wait for handouts. Get up off your butts and start making changes. Clean up areas, meet your neighbors. Be nice. and most of all, take an interest in what happens in your neighborhood. TAKE RESPONSIBILITY!

I only wish I had even one concrete idea.

Watchdog issue #1 - Michael Reese and next steps. I don't think preservation is the right choice. I think Daley still owes that neighborhood improvement in some form.

Daley must GO, until that happens, things will always remain the same.

I think the main issue that brought all of these disparate people together was our lack of trust in the City and State government. We don't believe anything they say and are skeptical of any of their plans as it always seems they only want to enrich themselves or their cronies. I don't think getting into specific issues will keep people tied together as you will have factions break off. To keep people interested you need to strive towards an honest government, this appears to be the common thread. I am not willing to volunteer for any activity right now but will keep an eye on your next move. There are some good works being done in other areas regarding transparency in government perhaps you could team up with them or pursue some other alternatives to help monitor governmental activities.

Elect a new Mayor, new Alderman, a new Cook County Board President, a new Cook County Board, a new Senator to replace Roland Burris, a new Governor.

Address the youth violence epidemic as a CITY and not just as a Black thing or a south or west side thing. If the city could pull together to put its best face forward for the Olympic bid, then we can put our best \$ and foot forward to SAVE OUR CHILDREN!

you can also help organize students, stage walkouts, petitions, protests, etc (like in LA back in the day) to demand an equitable education, safety, opportunities, etc. and maybe you can reverse or stop the effects of Renaissance 2010. thank you.

this is a great city, except we have too many people stealing from the taxpayers from Ald Burke, to daley, to stroger..on and on,,don't forget patrick ryan,,he din't become chairman for free

investment in public transit! (The only thing I hoped to get if we did suffer the games was better rail within city limits. (e.g. between Metra and I.C., between north and south))
Affordable housing
Simpler recreation development scattered through out the city--gyms and rinks
Better pressure on city government when it tries to sell things like the parking before it's too late
Green development
SLOOK
provide information to Patrick Fitzgerald about our criminal city government.
Our city has cut back what little social services it had once granted to its citizens. The public transit is a mess, and crime and poverty are rampant thanks to little to no social services being provided for our poor and minorities.
Go green, be inclusive, build social housing, invest in the creative capital of the city.
More light rail throughout the city, especially underserved neighborhoods. Stop the Renaissance plan for Chicago Public Schools.
Oust the machine and good old boy politics, get candidates that truly speak for their constituents.
Fix the schools, roads, transit system, parks, etc.
And above all, stop the violence!
Use 40% of TIF money for housing affordable to households below the CITY median income, and fight for a national jobs program.
Top issues: major government reform. Begin with redistricting (no more gerrymandering), term limits. There are already too many watchdog organizations. what's lacking in political action that gives citizens a simple process to get rid of the tom-foolery we call Illinois government.
Defeat Daley
Get the south side to vote solid Republican.
stay on top of daley and his rascals and "out" them everytime they plan to rape the city again.....
Prepare a candidate to oppose Daley in the next election.
Using the high level skills demonstrated in your efforts, I think that single issue efforts by your group will be most effective. There are many to choose from. I would also suggest that you focus on inclusive issues, and print some of your literature in Spanish. This will open a whole new constituency to your work.
perhaps you should now get rid of the name, try to use the network that you set up and become a group to get Daley and his cronies out of office. I mean seems he was more interested in the olympics lately then actually improving the city.
up keep of roads and infrastructure be nice. i'd rather not have to replace my \$800 wheels (tire not included) annually than have millennium park!
get a mayoral candidate who will represent the people against Daley
I would like you to consider the idea that your citizens are being victimized by our local governments. They have installed hundreds of Cameras at traffic lights under the guise of safety, When in reality they are only revenue generating machines. These devices are only effective in closing the budget shortfalls of local Municipalities. Also I've noticed that the yellow lights seem to be shorter at many of these camera locations than they should be. As a citizen who drives for a living doing appl. repair service, I have observed many problems connected to the operation of cameras such as speeding up to avoid the light or people jamming on the brakes to avoid a 100.00 plus fine. Intersections with cameras seem to be more of a hazard than those without them. Also I would like to question the constitutionality of these tickets as in the right to face your accuser and the lack of positive proof of identity. In the past with Officers making the call on whether a red light was violated, There was common sense applied in the process. I am sure

How about some positive change and economic development on the South Side please? The transportation infrastructure needs to improve ASAP and crime is hideously bad.
Improved mass transit through light rail is key to any Chicago future prosperity. We have neglected it for over 60 years.
Focus on education and eliminate graft - good luck on that.
Start a newspaper paper/on-line being a watchdog of our money the elected officials are spending and who is getting it. Start with the Alderman's ward allowance of \$1 million a year. Also, be a watchdog on the news media who is giving our officials a pass by not reporting their votes on issues affecting our lives. I hate when the newspapers report a law that got passed and we had no idea who voted for it or why. Whatever you do, let's clean up the corruption. If you can get average citizens to run for office that would be great for us. Let's get ruin of the deadwood that have been around for too long.
Level the playing field for all legitimate businesses, instead of tossing tens of millions in subsidies at a favored few while making life hellish for most smaller and mid-sized businesses. Remove obstructions and reform business taxes to make this city attractive to business.
Stop the graft at both the city and county levels.
The Chicago experience should prove to everyone that the watchdog, environmental, civic federation and other "public interest NGO'S" are actually being controlled by the political elite. Bridge at the Edge of the World by James Speth is a good starting poing.
Condense the # of Alderman from 50 to something like 21 or 11.
No (Political) Games Chicago. The Olympics should serve as the start of your platform against all political games (lack of transparency, etc.)
Being innovative with the city's beauty, playing a big role with spending the city's tax payer money wisely and according to "hard economic times"
Get Daley out of office
Use Michael Reese land to build an amusement park similar to Great America. Encourage businesses to relocate to Chicago.
I don't have any original ideas but just want to see public transportation, schools and health care improved and it would also be great if mandatory green space was zoned into all housing built in the city.
get rid of mayor daley and his cronies who get all the construction jobs; use TIF's appropriately; force city workers to actually work; no more patronage jobs;
Get rid of all the criminals running our city - sarcastic, yes, but very true.....
As long as the mayor has the power to appoint alderman there will be no balance of power, no checks and balances, in Chicago. Consequently, there will be no democracy here. This is the single issue that No Games should focus on, in my opinion.
I want to build a collective action to address the cultural infrastructure in the neighborhoods; collective action could be to attract public support for the small arts with matching grants from corporate and foundation.
New leadership first.
There should be a more democratic election process and term limits on all offices.
Need better media. Right now only stories that the mainstream editors think matter get attention. You guys lucked out in getting coverage. Many other groups aren't so fortunate.
Reduce street crime, government corruption and waste, and taxes as much as possible.
We have to get serious about our educational system in this city. We have to get rid of racism and that means to go back to the beginning of this country slavery, etc. It's too much for here.
We are only as strong as our weakest neighborhoods. We need to insure that all citizes of this city have equal services, protection and opportunities as much as possible. There is much potential to be developed in raising the living standards for all Chicagoans.

<p>Firstly I would not like to see gambling occupy the space where a hospital was and is desperately needed. I also believe that we should be vigilant in restoring truant officers to our schools. The least that would do is police the year round traffic. We see our children and we don't even know whether they belong in school or not.</p>
<p>get rid of emperor daley jr</p>
<p>As you know, we first and foremost need to fix the issues we have - education, political ethics/corruption, development etc. Once we have some of those issues in a more stable footing can we begin to look at bigger ideas.</p>
<p>Providing a much better education for all of Chicago's children. This helps the children, their families, future employers and society as a whole.</p>
<p>Mayor Daley has lots of money to play with eg., TIF dollars, sale of parking meters, sale of tollway, sale of bus stop shelters, etc. The money should be used to create jobs for example, affordable housing, small business development and so on. Just don't allow the money to go to the greedy politician's relatives, friends and inside supporters.</p>
<p>vote Libertarian.</p>
<p>The corruption must stop in this city, much longer jail time for people stealing our money.</p>
<p>Why not retool automobile manufacturing facilities into factories that manufacture trains and develop high speed rail for better transportation now and into the future while helping the environment at the same time. The United States has more oil than we know what to do with. We should be paying .25 cents a gallon like they do in Dubai. Can you imagine if people had the money that they didn't spend on gas to put into the economy in other areas? We need J.O.B.S. The US needs refineries. Do you know that the US has not built a new refinery for over 30 YEARS. We need 5 of them, North, South, East & West, and one right here in the heartland...jobs, jobs, jobs. We need to work on alternative enegy as well, imagine where we could be in 15 years. This is Illinois we need to support our farmers. How about \$70 a bushel for corn & beans? Let's work on the trade imbalance and wean ourselves from dependency on foreign oil once and for all.</p>
<p>I am not a local resident -- see my comments in box above.</p>
<p>Just like president or governer the mayor should have max amount of terms. As you can see unlimited terms means way too much power and having to answer to NO ONE....</p>
<p>Get rid of the TIFs!!! Our property taxes have become a slush fund given away to politically connected corporations, instead of being used for basic services. They are why the city, schools, and CTA are broke. This is the #1 issue and the #1 best fix for all our problems!</p>
<p>Chicago's policy makers must invest in the chicago public schools to encourage and stimulate positive educational experience. Develop an open and transparent political body that honestly serves the taxpayers and not themselves. The deals that have been made by the Major and City Council have cost the taxpayers too much money without benefit to the taxpayers. I believe that a strong city requires first serving the needs of the taxpaying citizens then creating vehicles to attract visitors to the city where taxpaying citizens are proud of the city where they live.</p>
<p>defeat the street gangs and clean up the garbage.</p>
<p>I believe it is time for the mayor to step down and allow some new blood into the system. Chicago needs a strong new candidate that can effectively challenge the Mayor in an election.</p>
<p>We have a very changed demographic in many parts of the city. Gentrification has brought new, more affluent people to the city who want families and demand good schools for their kids, and yet the public schools are inadequate. If we don't find a way to fix the public schools, these people will leave the city. It is happening already. To me, that is the single biggest issue we face.</p>

Do something constructive to encourage jobs. As a production professional who has been suffering from the AIG effect that has decimated the corporate production & trade show industry, I was a supporter of a Chicago Olympics because it meant jobs for my fellow stagehands.

Congrats on helping those of us who care about this city undercut Napoleon's dim-witted plan to get the Olympics...I do truly appreciate all the hard work...With that said-Is this what the plan was all along?...Tresser wanted some publicity and a podium to promote himself so he could run for office?...I believe he can help the city in other ways...This just makes me more cynical.

My main goal--one I would be happy to volunteer for--is to make sure we remove the town clown Toddie Boy Stroger from any government position. A blind retarded monkey on crack would be an improvement.

Mr. Tresser---my name is Patrick Sullivan and I have been an ardent supported of NOGAMES almost from the beginning. (Yes, I did contribute monetarily---my friend Mike Butler and I each contributed \$40 through his AMEX card.) I want you to know that I am willing to contribute more money toward whatever office you have chosen to seek. I HOPE that it is President of Cook County or, even better, Mayor of Chicago. Either way, one idea I had for NOGAMES is to list a series of pledges that NOGAMES asks EACH candidate to sign. It would be cross-platform so that members of either party could sign it. Things like...1.Will not raise taxes in a year where I increase the budget. 2. Will not hire friends or relatives, etc...look, I've worded this poorly but you get the drift. It is similiar to the Contract With America but it would be a Chicago/Cook County thing. Let me know if I can help in any way.
Thanks....pgsully@hotmail.com

I believe that politicians are a reflection of the population that they represent. Hence, it is no accident that Chicago has allowed the Daley Dynasty to endure for so long -not to mention the corruption in Springfield with one former Governor in jail and another one awaiting trial. I believe that education is key to a better Chicago. Education would prevent people to stay in power for so long and allow the politics that cripple such a great city. I mean by "education": Have open and honest debates about public policy; limit office terms; understand that not only "democrats" can hold public office, in a nutshell, more diversity that would allow more ideas -some of them flawed, others innovative- to flow freely: The key to a successful society. I do think that these values take time to reach the general voting public but once they take hold, I think they would make Chicago better.

How about DumpDaley2011.org?

Small business and entrepreneurship is the best way to go. Training youth to be leaders.

More crossing guards should be hired.These would not be ordinary crossing guards,though.They would be cross trained as auxiliary police.Auxiliary police would help patrol during special events,disasters,civil unrest,crime waves and gang wars.Homeland security would pay for their training.

Auxiliary police would belong to the police union.They would carry guns.They would get all the tests and training full time police do.They would get preferential treatment in hiring,when full time police jobs became available.They would be trained in martial arts and sharpshooting.

As crossing guards the cross trained crossing guards would be issued camera phones to report and document crimes.As fully trained and accredited off duty police officers they could,in an emergency ,make arrests.

If the city can't afford to hire cross trained crossing guards,then I'm certain Rainbow Push and other community and civic groups would only be too happy to start a fund raising effort to pay for this.

I think that as the city revitalizes itself, it should also renew its commitment to its basic principles, that being, "A City that Works...(for all)." The city's efforts to welcome the world to its shores should be balanced with investments in infrastructure, business development, crime and gang mitigation, and other quality of life issues in the city's diverse neighborhoods that aren't directly adjacent to the city's lakefront. In short, the city should develop in a way that works for all of its denizens, not just the clouted-up, pot-bellied, beer-swilling, high school graduates shoe-horned by the barrel-full into high paying jobs based upon who they know and their connections. For far too long, the city has operated on this business model and its done nothing but bred contempt and cynicism in the hearts of the city's residents for the city's political process and the manner in which it conducts its business affairs. Opportunity for advancement should be open to all, and any and all projects that are funded with taxpayer dollars should be handled in a transparent process

We must break the Daley Dynasty for good! We could be a much better city!

Jobs, better and more equitable housing and services for all neighborhoods. Include collar suburbs when talking about Chicago.

Coordinate efforts and information, strategies and goals with similar grassroot initiatives in the world.

Well, what might make Chicago a fantastic world city is I don't know, HOSTING THE OLYMPICS! You idiots, that was a moving legacy that HELPED our city not HURTING our city. By the words of Senator Kennedy, "Look at something and not say why, but say why not."

We must at all cost break the power of the Daley machine and find honest people to run for office. The taxes must be lowered to encourage a business climate or this city is doomed !!! Probably half the city budget pays for corruption, if not for this huge burden great things could be accomplished. The citizens should be protected by the government, not burdened by it.