

Rolland F. Smith, Neighborhood Centers

What John Grabowski's informative paper illustrates is that the history of Cleveland has always been a tale of two cities. Its partitioning has been a product of physical dividers: rivers, ridges, rails and roads; but the roots have always been economic. So we had back then and have now both the best of times and the worst of times in our two cities.

Today, the successor to Euclid Avenue is the outer ring suburbs connected by a Corridor to the developing Downtown and University Circle. The second city is what we now call "the neighborhoods" where the poverty rate ranges from 50 to 90%, the drop out and crime rates soar, and the population rate plunges. It is also where you find our neighborhood centers.

