

From your perspective, what happened to Russell City, why do you think it happened, and how did it affect your family?

It appears that the government intimidated the land owners and those that were resistant.... Imminent domain was implemented and owners were forced off their land. For most a minuscule payment was forced and considered willing consent to sale. This miscarriage of justice occurred because the group's impacted were under valued, people of color, had no voice and no support from their local, state and federal government. This left them wide open and vulnerable to this extreme abuse of power and disregard of their lives. My grandmother worked hard her entire life. She grieved this loss until her death. This theft sent her to a very early grave. She spent her life mourning this loss. This negativity impacted her mentally, physically and spiritually. This agony was placed on the hearts and souls of her descendants. Our grandmother died in her 50's much too soon. Her descendants have been deprived of her love, wisdom, financial support and guidance. Our children will never know her, nor her greatness.

What is your connection to the Russell City Community?

My grandmother, Jessie Mae Henry/Johnson and owned 10 parcels of shore front property. Property that was stolen from her and subsequently, developed.

What is your background? What meaningful value or expertise can you bring to the committee?

I have a BA in psychology, MSW in public policy from UCLA and 1 year at USC law school

I have spent 39 years as an executive in County government .

My executive functions included:

Government departments, private and public..private non- for profit corporations

Creating, facilitating teams.. ie..

Capital projects

Program development

Feasibility studies

Succession planning

Strategic planning

Action planning

Creation of Senate bills/ Assembly Bills Translation laws into federal/state/local regulations

Translating regulations into departmental policies and procedures

