



**shared**  **Harvest**

**A COMMUNITY-OWNED GROCERY STORE COMING TO ELGIN  
WITH AFFORDABLE, HEALTHY, AND LOCALLY-PRODUCED FOOD.**

**Jen**



# Agenda

Call to Order

Board Introductions

What is Shared Harvest?

Approval of 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

Financial Report

Year in Review

A Look Ahead

Goals & Priorities

Board Elections

Q & A





# Call to Order





# Our Board







**Martin Nobs**  
President



**Gail Cohen**  
Treasurer



**Jen Abbey**  
Vice President



**Jennifer Shroder**  
Secretary



**Allison Goodman**



**Jeremy Hayes**



**Rebecca LaGesse**



**Brigitte Nobs**



# What is Shared Harvest?



**Rebecca**



# Not your typical grocery store

- Community-owned, democratically controlled.
- Focused on local, affordable, healthy products.
- Prioritizes supporting local farms and producers.
- Provide options for purchasing less packaging and serve as a recycling hub.
- Keep money in our community, provides jobs.
- Educate the community on healthy eating and environmental stewardship.
- Open to the public!







THIS COULD BE  
**OURS**  
a PHOTO ALBUM to inspire your food co-op dream

View FREE online at [www.grocerystory.coop](http://www.grocerystory.coop)



# Approval of 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes



**Rebecca**



# Shared Harvest – The Elgin Food Cooperative

## Nov. 14, 2022 Annual Shareholder Meeting Minutes

Martin called meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. on Zoom

Board members present: Gail Cohen, Allison Goodman, Jeremy Hayes, Brigitte Nobs, Jen Abbey, Rebecca Lagesse, Martin Nobs, and Jennifer Shroder.

President Martin welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the current board members, along with several past board members.

Carol Rauschenberger talked about “What is a Food Co-op?”

Annual meeting minutes were presented by Jennifer Shroder. Robin Migalla moved that we approve the minutes, and Sandy Skulski seconded. Motion carried.

Jennifer S introduced the Financial report which showed how we did this year. (See attached)

Carol talked about what we did over the year. Hawthorne Hills Earth Day, Farmers Markets with Allison’s Wonderland Farm, Pizza and Soup kits, Farm to Table Dinner.

Martin talked about the Up & Coming — Up & Running Conference and what a change of perspective it brings to board members. He mentioned that next year’s will be in Minneapolis and how the board is encouraging all its members to go, in September. He talked about our store plans and the capital campaign.

Election: Motion to accept board candidates (Jen Abbey & Jeremy Hayes) came from Sandy Skulski and was seconded by Robin Migalla. Motion carried.

Motion to amend the bylaws which limits the directors’ numbers to 11 and make it possible for 15 board members to be on the board made by Jeremy, and Robin seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting was announced for anyone who wished to become a volunteer for 9:30 November 19th.

Motion to adjourn from Robin came at 8:09, and was seconded by Laura Sterba. Motion carried.



# Move to accept minutes of 2022 annual meeting

- Motion
- Shareholders vote by raising hand

 Raise Hand



# Financial Report





# 2023 Financial Report

	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Current Balance Operations</b>	\$60,286.26	\$54,552.06	\$54,158.31	\$61,791.36
<b>Current Balance Escrow</b>	\$121,692.66	\$155,205.91	\$170,126.69	\$172,092.47
<b>Administrative Costs/Dues</b>	\$2,966.72	\$930.02	\$7,904.40	\$7,925.99
<b>Marketing/Events</b>	\$4,097.28	\$2,088.39	\$3,031.02	\$804.16

Reporting year is Nov. 1 through Oct. 31





# Year in Review



**Jen**



# 2023 Year in Review

- Shareholders have grown to **1056 households**
- **1536 total shares sold**
- Committed volunteers donate hundreds of hours
- New website and email marketing platforms (we'd outgrown former service)





# The Future of Grocery Store Cooperatives

Gail Borden Main Library - March 20, 2023  
Elgin Golden K Kiwanis - October 11, 2023





# 2023 Earth Day Events



**8th Annual**



**EARTH DAY CELEBRATION**  
Sat., April 22nd 1:00-4:00pm  
Nurture the Nature  
HAWTHORNE HILL NATURE CENTER  
28 BROOKSIDE DR. , ELGIN, IL  
847-531-7055

**FREE EVENT!**

- FAMILY FRIENDLY
- 15 CONSERVATION/SUSTAINABILITY ORGANIZATIONAL BOOTHS
- EDUCATION SEMINAR- BEE'S ARE BEAUTIFUL
- CRAFT ACTIVITY-MASON BEE HOUSE
- FREE TREE SAPLINGS

**FREE**



SCAN FOR MORE INFO.



Register for **FREE** at the QR code

Enjoy light refreshments



**Elgin Earth Summit**



Meet a wide range of local organizations

Listen to speakers give "Green 15" talks

**WHEN: SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH, 9 AM - 1 PM**  
**WHERE: ELGIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE BUILDING E**



You can also register at <https://forms.gle/8FiDBtVG3TYZkAzo8>



# 2023 Spring Picnic

May 13, 2023





# 2023 Summer Events



ELGBTQ+ PRESENTS:  
**ELGIN'S 1ST  
PRIDE PARADE  
AND FESTIVAL**

**JUNE 3RD  
11AM-4PM**

downtown elgin, il



*Elgin PRIDE*

[www.elginpride.com](http://www.elginpride.com)



Celebrate  
**JUNE!  
TEENTH  
FREEDOM  
DAY**  
1865



CHICAGO  
**DRONE LIGHT  
SHOWS**

PRESENTS  
**ELGIN'S FIRST DRONE SHOW AT**

**END OF  
SUMMER  
BASH**

August 19th, 2023 in Festival Park



shared harvest  
Elgin Jun... Cultural Festival

shared harvest  
The Elgin Food  
Cooperative

KNOW YOUR  
**FARMER**  
KNOW YOUR  
**FOOD**  
shared harvest

shared harvest  
Elgin Jun... Cultural Festival



# Summer 2023 FCI Live Series



Link to recordings: <https://fci.coop/events/>



# FCI Up & Coming Conference - St Paul





# Ongoing Networking

## Monthly FCI Peer Group



Cedar Falls, IA



Battle Creek, MI



Kennett Square, PA



West Chester, PA

## Elected Officials

- State Senator Cristina Castro
- Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi
- Senator Tammy Duckworth
- Senator Dick Durbin
- Testimony at Elgin City Council



# 2023 Downtown Elgin Farmers Market



**Allison**



# 2023 Downtown Elgin Farmers Market





# 2023 Downtown Elgin Farmers Market



**Downtown Elgin Farmers Market**  
July 27 · 🌐

Meet Your Neighbor at the Downtown Elgin Farmers Market!  
🗨️ Exciting News! Join us for "Meet Your Neighbor Day" at the Farmers' Market 🍌🍅🥬

📅 Date: July 28, 2023  
🕒 Time: 3 PM- 7 PM  
📍 Location: S Riverside Drive Elgin IL 60120

👉 Get to know your community leaders at our special event!  
**Shared Harvest-Elgin Food Cooperative**

Shared Harvest will be a cooperatively owned grocery in the heart of Elgin that links consumers to affordable, healthy, locally-produced food, fosters sustainable agriculture, and contributes to the economic and cultural vibrancy of the Elgin community.  
<https://www.downtownelgin.com/farmersmarket/>  
See less

👍 You and 2 others

Write a comment...



# DIY Farm to Table Kits with Allison's Wonderland Farm



Salsa Kit: tomatoes, jalapeño, cilantro, and red onion, organic tortilla chips, an organic lime + recipe card. Sold 21 @ \$20 (+ gifted 2 to Elgin Firefighters Union who were tabling at the market that day).



Pizza Kits: Heirloom tomato, basil and garlic; and potato rosemary options, included dough, mozzarella cheese + recipe card. Sold 27 @ \$25.





# 2023 Farm to Table Dinner

**Autumn HARVEST**  
Elgin's Farm to Table Dinner

**Appetizer**  
GRILLED EGGPLANT  
harissa and honey sauce with chimichurri herbs and asiago cheese (vegetarian)

**Salad**  
MIXED BABY GREENS  
avocado green goddess dressing topped with fresh veggies and crispy beet chips (vegan)

**Entrees**  
SMOKED BEEF BRISKET  
plant-based bbq sauce

PORK LOIN  
stuffed with collard greens, squash, smoked peppers, and bacon served with smoked apple and jalapeno sauce

VEGETABLE RISOTTO-STUFFED ONIONS  
piquillo chili and tomato sauce topped with fresh herbs (vegan)

DELICATA SQUASH PUTTANESCA  
slow roasted tomatoes, olives, and onions with capers (vegan)

SPAGHETTI SQUASH  
roasted mushrooms (vegan)

MEDITERRANEAN STYLE NORTH  
GEORGIA ROASTER SQUASH  
chickpeas and garlic herb sauces with a parsley salad (vegan)



**ELGIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
Chad Goodman, Music Director



# Thank you to our volunteers!

**2023 Spring Picnic:** Board members, Elaine, Sandy, Dotty, Mike, Tom, Heike, Robin, Ross. Community Partners: UUCE & McQueen Station Farm

**2023 Farmers Markets:** Board members & Elaine Shroder  
Community Partner: Downtown Elgin Farmers Market

**2023 Farm to Table Dinner:** Chef Greg Shannon of Elgin Public House, Decor by Krissy Palermo. Dinner Volunteers: Kate, Mary, Jesus, Javier, Rebecca, Carol, Sandy, Greg's Grandkids, Isabel.  
Community Partners: The Centre of Elgin & Elgin Symphony Orchestra

**Tech support/website:** Reid and Mike

**Design/social media:** Kerri, Allison and Jessica

**We are so grateful for your support!**



**Allison**



# A Look Ahead

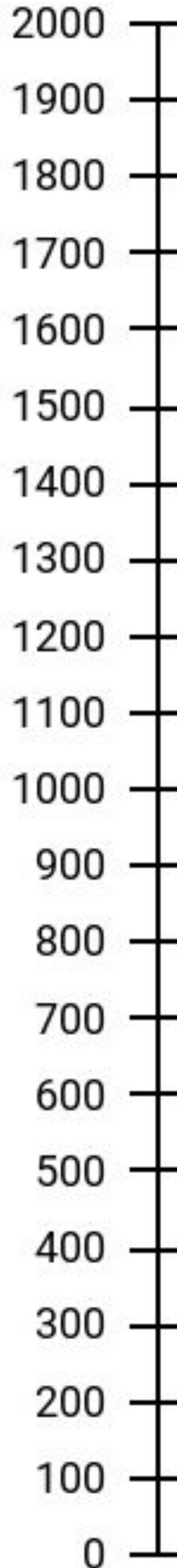


**Martin**



# Steps to Opening our Store

# of owners needed



**When will the co-op finally open?**

Well, that depends on you!  
Every stage requires a minimum number of owners to move forward.  
**Without owners, there will be no co-op.**

Make Shared Harvest a reality:  
**Become an owner today** and tell your friends, too!

Stage 1  
**Organizing**

- Organize and hold community meetings
- Incorporate the organization
- Kick off ownership drive
- Hold first Annual Meeting
- Elect first Board of Directors
- Conduct preliminary market study

Stage 2(a)  
**Feasibility**

- Financial proforma created
- Assess community capacity
- Double ownership from stage 1
- Board votes on store feasibility

Stage 2(b)  
**Planning**

- Evaluate potential sites/update market study
- Secure selected site with contingencies
- Apply for grants and secure any bank lending needed
- Complete plans for Owner Loan drive
- General Manager search

Stage 3(a)  
**Pre-Construction**

- Announce selected site
- Conduct owner loan drive
- Select contractor
- Secure all financing
- Finalize store design
- Setup vendor relationships

Stage 3(b & c)  
**Construction & prep for open**

- Kick off and complete construction
- GM to hire/train staff
- Install equipment
- Order and stock inventory
- Celebrate store opening!

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harvest



TM



## Stage 2(b) Planning

- Evaluate potential sites/update market study
- Secure selected site with contingencies
- Apply for grants and secure any bank lending needed
- Complete plans for Owner Loan drive
- General Manager search

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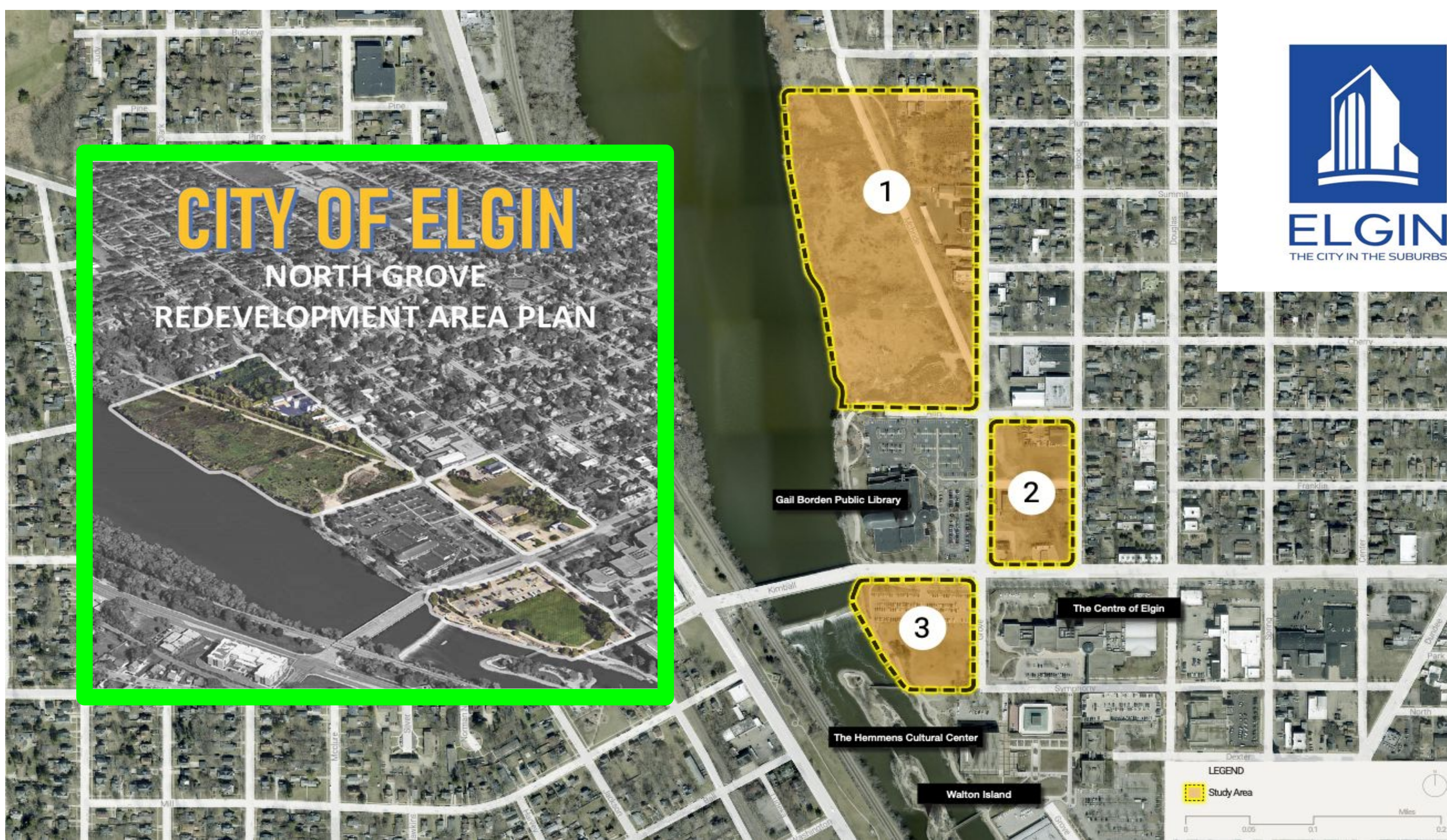
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# Current Priorities for Site Search and Evaluation

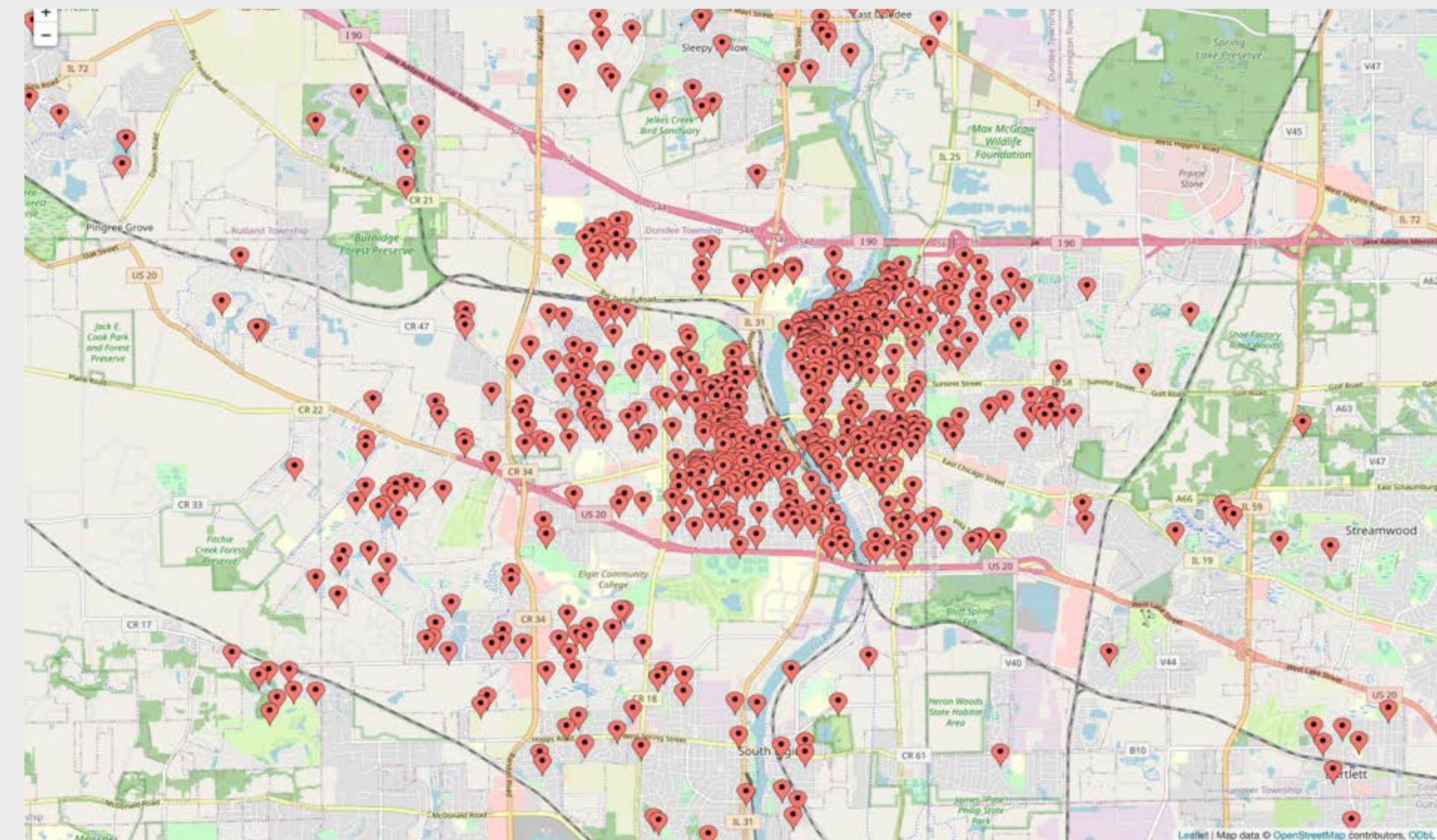
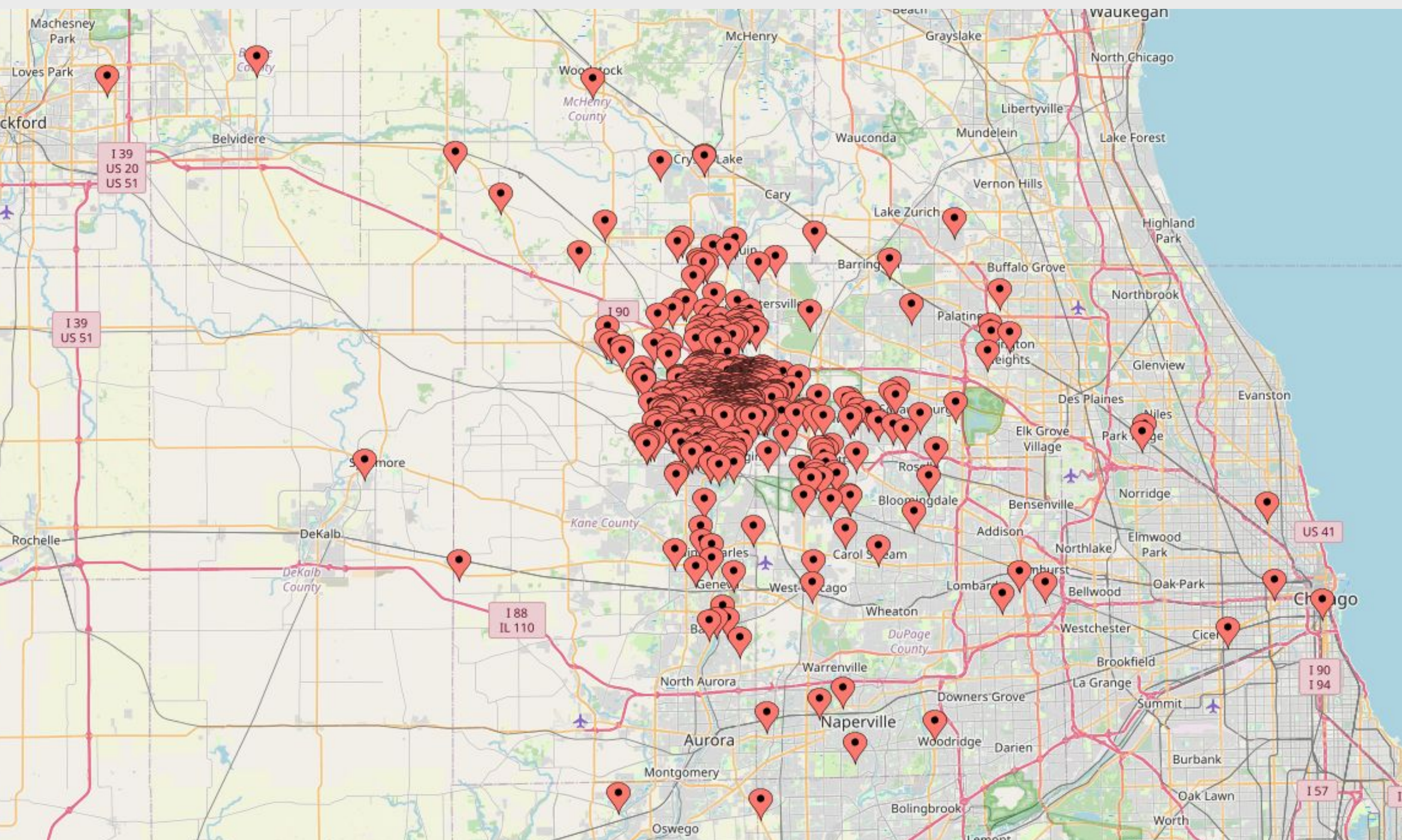
- Downtown (or downtown-adjacent) location to promote economic development.
- Walkable, bikeable, accessibility, access to public transit.
- Sufficient parking and loading dock/zone.
- Price, market, availability.





One location in discussion is within parcel 2, East of the library which is privately owned. The city is in the planning stages for development of the area.





These maps are not representative of 100% of Shared Harvest owners, but gives a general sense of where our owners live, intended to foster discussion around whether the board should continue to focus on a downtown Elgin location.



# Goals and Priorities for the Next Six Months



**Martin**



# Top 3 Goals & Priorities for 2024

- 1. Locking in a site [Reaffirm commitment to downtown]**
- 2. Expanding Shareholder & Community Relationships**
  - Needs now and as we move forward — legal, finance, grants, construction, marketing. *Who in our networks has these skills?*
  - Continue networking with elected officials.
- 3. Growing # of Shareholders**
  - Keep spreading the word.
  - Convince those who are waiting to join until after the store opens.





# How You Can Help

**1. Buy shares and encourage others to join.**

An individual may own up to ten shares. Also consider as gifts.

**2. Lend us your skills & network.**

Needs: finance, legal, grants, construction, marketing, etc.

**3. Consider a financial loan now or in the future.**

**4. Follow and share our social media content.**

**5. Be patient and positive.**

If you want to go fast,  
**GO ALONE.**

If you want to go far,  
**GO TOGETHER.**

AFRICAN PROVERB



# Shared Harvest Board of Directors Elections



**Jeremy**



# Board candidate: Virginia Tilton



I am committed to community outreach and development and deeply believe in eliminating hunger. I bring experience from the last ten years as a board member, coach, and volunteer in the local Midwest Roller Derby community.

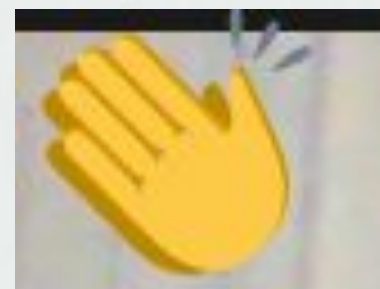
My professional background is in project management and manufacturing production. This work has equipped me with the skills to organize and execute plans efficiently. I have experience uniting diverse teams to achieve common goals. This experience and knowledge will be invaluable in fostering collaboration and innovation within the organization. Moreover, my passion for sustainability and food justice drives me to ensure that Shared Harvest continues to grow and thrive.

If elected to the Board of Directors, I will leverage my experience, dedication, and enthusiasm to support the organization's ongoing efforts to combat food insecurity in our community. Together, we can make a positive impact on the local food supply chain and enhance Elgin's well-being. I humbly ask for your vote and the opportunity to serve our community through Shared Harvest.



# Move to name candidates to the Shared Harvest Board of Directors

- Motion to vote in the candidates
- Shareholders vote by Acclamation





**Congratulations  
and  
THANK YOU!**





**Q + A**

**sharedharvest.coop**

**[info@sharedharvest.coop](mailto:info@sharedharvest.coop)**



**Carol**



# Our Thank You for Being Here



**Carol**



# Thank You

[www.sharedharvest.coop](http://www.sharedharvest.coop)

[info@sharedharvest.coop](mailto:info@sharedharvest.coop)

