



Implementing The 8 Principles of Green-Village-Building™

BIG'S PLATFORM	
Vision	Self-sustaining black communities everywhere, and world peace through home economics.
Mission	Walk-to-work, walk-to-shop, walk-to-learn, walk-to-play villages.
Goals	Increase village income one household at a time; advance The Age of Climate Crisis with a grassroots movement for "surthrival in a city of villages."
Strategy	Reduce greenhouse gas levels via local living economies by increasing the rate at which neighbor-owned businesses are created and sustained.
Tactics	The 8 Principles of Green-Village-Building.
Priorities	Healing-bonding-organizing, asset-mapping, time-banking, skill-building, and creation of a "green hub in the 'hood" for sustainable business start-ups.
Values	What's good for the African diaspora is good for everyone; and what's bad for the African diaspora is bad for everyone.
Beliefs	Conserve or collapse; help is not on the way; nothing trumps self-help; only a whole-system solution can transform a whole-system problem.

BIG'S 8 PRINCIPLES OF GREEN-VILLAGE-BUILDING™		
1	Micro-Saving/Lending Local Currency/Wealth	Each village has its own measures, exchanges, and repositories of wealth.
2	Local Energy Production & Transportation	Each village produces its own energy for heat, light and transportation.
3	Shopping & Waste	Each village supplies all basic goods and services to neighbors, converting waste to wealth in the process.
4	Affordable Green Homes & Gardens	Each village is sustained through jobs-driven development without displacement, providing low-income housing and producing high-quality food through land trust CDC's.
5	News & Networks Stories & Structures	Each village celebrates its past, present, and future culture through stories in print, digital, and theatrical forms.
6	Village Centers & Borders	Each village is a walkable, self-sustaining whole with perceptible borders, inter-dependent local ties, global context, organized and in action for self-interest.
7	Health, Education & Welfare	Each village fosters life-long learning through hubs, which are epicenters for green training, development and lifestyle transformation.
8	Green Jobs & Enterprise	Each village circulates its wealth through neighbor-owned businesses which invent, invest, manufacture, and merchandise locally.

BIG: Blacks in Green™ *The Intersection of Deep Culture*
& Green Neighborhood Revival

Grannynomics™ refers to the values which ruled our households and guided our transactions when small was plenty. In my life, they are derived from the economic soul of my own grandmother’s home and business management. She was Adelia Thompson Siggers of Minter City, Mississippi, a sharecropper's wife. By understanding her operating system – the one in which my mother was raised and the one in which I was raised – I’ve been able to begin distinguishing whole-system solutions which once operated sustainably in our villages, but which have disappeared in the generations since my walkable village in St. Albans, Queens flourished by circulating its dollars vigorously. BIG™ is committed to reinventing that village here in the age of climate change.

BIG’S 12 PROPOSITIONS OF GRANNYNOMICS™		
1	Everyone must work...	even the lilies of the field must draw water and harvest sun
2	All youngsters learn a trade...	by age 10 you’re an apprentice
3	Cash is often optional...	grow your own food, make your own clothes
4	Pay as you go...	use the catalog to dream big, spend small, and appreciate your possessions
5	Compete to improve...	in raising hogs or in a spelling bee, be your best
6	Earn respect...	trade the Golden Rule
7	Define and regulate yourself...	your spouse’s boss’ wife cannot tell you what to do
8	Be courteous, honest, proud...	you can be certain your Creator -- and others -- are watching.
9	Clothe, feed, educate, and restrain your children and yourself...	adopt others’ children if they can’t
10	Keep yourself and your things beautiful and neat...	even your laundry on the line should shine
11	Eat well and rest...	take care of the goose that lays the golden eggs... enjoy featherbeds and whole grains
12	Surround yourself with flowers...	chicken poop makes great fertilizer

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Naomi is one of Chicago’s most celebrated environmentalists. She is an urban theorist, attorney, activist, and proud granddaughter of Mississippi sharecroppers. She is President & Founder of BIG: Blacks in Green.™ BIG™ is a national network, one of America’s most diverse eco-orgs, and a thought leader in green economic development for communities of color...across 13 economic sectors. Naomi serves as a bridge and catalyst among communities and their stakeholders in the design and development of green, self-sustaining, mixed-income, walkable-villages within black neighborhoods. She is author of “The 8 Principles of Green-Village-Building” -- a whole-system solution for the whole-system problems common to black communities everywhere – which she presents in lectures and workshops around the country and has taught at the University of Chicago Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture. Together with its precursor Grannynomics,™ green-village-building addresses the terrible triplets of pollution, poverty, and plutocracy and is a “culture-specific prescription with universal value.” Around the world, local living economies are recognized as greenhouse gas reduction strategies. To fill the void of blacks in green neighborhood revival, Naomi trains activists to lead where they live to create walk-to-work, walk-to-shop, walk-to-play, walk-to-learn villages. Naomi is a Green For All Fellow, and for her work in green community economic development has received Lt. Governor Pat Quinn’s 2007 Environmental Hero Award, the 2008 Chicago Magazine Green Award, the 2009 Jewel-Osco Environmental Stewardship Prize, the 2010 Ebony Magazine Power100, and in 2011 was selected to serve on Mayor-elect Rahm Emanuel’s Transition Team for Energy, Environment, and Public Space, and as 1 of 100 international thought leaders to present at Groupon Founder’s First Annual Chicago Ideas Week. Naomi is presently writing a book on Green-Village-Building.™