

ECONOMIC ENGINE

Summary of Potential Impacts of a Pullman National Historical Park



VISITORS BOOST THE ECONOMY

National parks are economic generators. In 2010, visitors to our parks supported more than **\$31 billion in private-sector spending and sustained more than 258,000 jobs**. Visitors to a Pullman National Historical Park will boost the region's economy significantly.

Currently the Pullman sites and events attract about 35,000 – 50,000 visitors each year. Within the first 5-10 years of operation as a national historical park, **visitation is projected to increase by a factor of six to more than 300,000**.

Several factors account for the increase:

- The National Park Service logo—or arrowhead—is an internationally recognized symbol with huge drawing power for tourists.
- The development of the Pullman Factory Complex and other historic buildings over time will create new assets for visitors.
- With two national parks—Pullman and Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore—in close proximity, there is strong incentive for marketing collaboration.

Few sites in America preserve the industrial, labor, urban planning and architectural history as comprehensively as Pullman. It would additionally energize the ongoing economic advancements happening in the area and help create opportunity for generations to come.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel
City of Chicago

KEY FINDINGS

Projected ongoing benefits of a Pullman National Historical Park for Chicago's far south side.*

By its 10th year of full operation, the Pullman National Historical Park could generate:

300,000 visitors each year

356 annual jobs

\$15 million in annual wages

\$40 million in sustained economic output

*Ongoing economic activity is impact related to visitation and does not include short-term construction jobs required to renovate historic structures.

\$40M

By its 10th year, Pullman could support **356** new jobs, **\$15 million** annual wages and **\$40 million** in annual economic output.



A Pullman National Historical Park would draw visitors from around the world to experience our heritage and generate a large economic impact in the Chicago area. Pullman is a tremendous economic engine that needs to be fueled by this National Park Service designation.

Governor Pat Quinn
State of Illinois



Current estimates are that visitors spend about \$5.3 million a year. After the first 10 years of operation, that number could increase to more than **\$32 million a year**.

CREATING LOCAL JOBS

By the 10th year of operation, the national historical park could support **more than 300 new jobs**, which is nearly six times the number of jobs Pullman sites currently support. These jobs will support **\$15 million in wages and \$40 million in economic output** for the community.

In addition, **more than 150 construction jobs representing \$17 million in wages and \$43 million in economic output** are associated with renovating Pullman's historic building.

Construction of a visitor center and other interpretive and leasable space at the Pullman Factory Complex represents an impact of about **\$6.6 million**. During construction, the project is expected to support **about 42 jobs in the area, paying some \$2.6 million in wages**.

A STRONG FEDERAL INVESTMENT

Based on other newly designated national parks, such as Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park in New Jersey, the National Park Service will likely establish an operating budget of \$350,000 and a staff of two-three full time employees for the first few years.

Within 10-15 years, the national park could have an **annual operating budget of \$3.5 million and employ 25-35 full-time** equivalent staff positions.

NEXT STEPS

Our Illinois members of Congress are supportive of establishing a national park at Pullman and can introduce legislation to create the park. Ultimately Congress debates the bill and with strong public support, passes the designation into law. A national park site can also be designated by the President through use of the Antiquities Act.

SUPPORTING THE EFFORT

Public support is key to shaping what the proposed national historical park will look like and how it will operate. And strong support is what creates momentum that results in Congressional action.

Significant support and community involvement will ensure that a Pullman National Historical Park is established and that it creates a strong economic impact on the Pullman neighborhood, the City of Chicago, and the region.



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