# One Diamond does Not a Tiara Make -

With the uncertainty of how politicians were viewing the Apollo Theater, many residents also expressed their uncertainty with how the Apollo Theater would actually revitalize Jefferson Avenue. A business-owning resident in the area expressed his concern by stating “one diamond does not a tiara make”. There has been so much financial assistance funneled into this project solely that many of the businesses question the oversight by those in power. They wonder where the financial assistance is for themselves and their neighbors as they themselves are also businesses. They most likely felt that the city was placing all their eggs in one basket, and they must have been expectedly disappointed when the Apollo Theater was underutilized because of the advent of YouTube and other online production platforms.

# Where Financial Funding is Going -

While the following information may be true, finances were funneled into other areas in the East Side as well. In 2006, the Merriweather Library was opened and was successful in generating traffic and attracting meetings within the town.

Some politicians are also trying to allocate money from the Federal Government to investing in more greenery in the East Side as part of the Inflation Reduction Act. A report stated that in July of 2022, the city is cutting down as many as 4 trees for every 1 planted in some East Buffalo neighborhoods, which negatively impacts the neighborhood’s overall health and environment. With the allocated money, funding could be used to replant trees in the neighborhood. However,

The City of Buffalo mostly allocated its $568 million dollar budget to the security of the East Side with the hopes of minimizing crimes. With these hopes, much of the funding went into the Fire and Police Departments.

The City of Buffalo spent $568 Million dollars in 2022, mostly on the police and fire department. However, the Inflation Reduction Act by the federal government is a grant that would pay for planting and maintenance that Buffalo would need to apply for. Meaning that the green areas. Some officials fight for it while Councilman Byron Brown says that Buffalo does not have a tree equity problem. That’s despite the findings of an Investigative Post report in July that found the city is cutting down as many as four trees for each tree it plants in some Black neighborhoods.

In 2023, Governor Kathy Hochul and Councilman Byron Brown announce essential upgrades to the Apollo Telecommunication Center. Nearly $1,000,000 of new equipment will be used as an investment in the youth and the community.