

STATE

BUFFALO

City OKs settlement for polluted neighborhood

City officials have approved a \$7.2 million settlement for residents of a city-subsidized housing development built on contaminated soil.

Mayor Byron Brown and the rest of the control board overseeing the city's finances approved the deal Tuesday. How the money will be distributed among the 227 current or former residents of the Hickory Woods neighborhood will be determined in state Supreme Court.

The settlement ends lawsuits filed eight years ago after residents learned of contaminants in the soil left over from steel-making operations on the south Buffalo site.

Hickory Woods had been held up as a model of brown-fields renewal when it was developed in the late 1980s and early 1990s.