

Presents...

The Chicago Neighborhood Initiative:

# Revitalizing Our Marketplace



### Methodology

Because a neighborhood encompasses so much more than what its demographics and statistics reveal, a canvassing report is crucial for creating a more complete picture that also includes non-statistical information, such as the physical condition of buildings, true accessibility, public transportation options, ratio of visitors to residents and the graffiti and littering that a canvasser can witness. Through visits and photos of communities taken during peak hours, an outsider can gain a comprehensive understanding of a neighborhood that falls beyond its demographics.

After identifying Chicago community areas defined by the Multiple Listing Service and City of Chicago, C.A.R.'s Economic Development Team visited and walked one commercial corridor in each. We made note of each street-level storefront property address, its use and its condition. We also observed each community area as a whole, pertaining to its cleanliness, walkability, housing stock, traffic patterns and connectedness to other city areas. We visited some local establishments too, to assess their level of business and availability of certain services.

Following is our finding.

Rogers Park is an active, diverse neighborhood with a great deal of Latino and Indian influence. There are few empty storefronts along Clark Street and several occupied by ethnically diverse businesses.

Rogers Park has a diverse stock of restaurants, retailers and service-oriented businesses. On North Clark Street, from Devon to Touhy avenues, restaurants ranging from Mexican and Peruvian to Pan-Asian and Italian are among the many dining options. There is also an array of auto-mechanics, hair salons and grocery/convenience stores, and houses of worship.

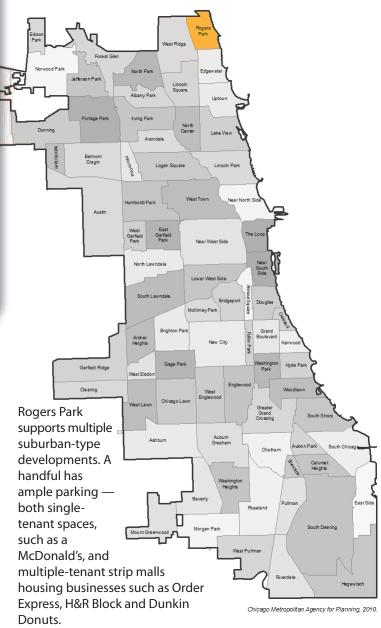
While the neighborhood has several small groceries, it could benefit from more places for residents to get fresh produce. Given its proximity to Loyola University, Rogers Park has a surprising scarcity of the types of coffee shops, movie theaters, music venues and other entertainment options frequently seen near college populations.

Rogers Park has walk-able sidewalks and tree-lined streets. The area has a strong neighborhood feel brought about by people conversing and walking outside. The majority of buildings are in good condition and many are mixed-use, with retail on first floor and residential atop. The



neighborhood offers public facilities, such as a post office, police department and library, and clean, wellmaintained streets and sidewalks.

#### City of Chicago Community Areas

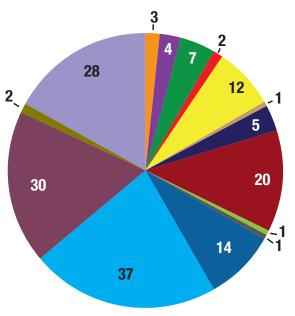


Cars are common along North Clark Street and there are several CTA rail and bus stops within blocks of the corridor. Both the CTA Red Line's Loyola and Morse stops are accessible to Rogers Park residents. The neighborhood is also close to Lake Michigan and the Lakeshore Bike Path. While several bike racks are found throughout the neighborhood, there are no bike lanes.

Overall, the corridor is efficiently utilized although it has a few vacant lots and empty storefronts. Well supplied with restaurants, cafes and other food-oriented businesses, the corridor seems to offer solid opportunities for small business development.

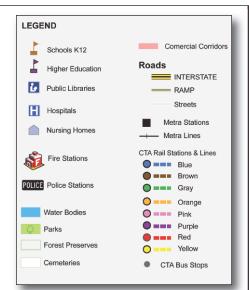
Residential profile: Rogers Park has an open feel due to its stock of larger single-family homes. A benefit of being removed from downtown, many of its condominiums and small homes have yards.

## Clark Street Snapshot



202 Businesses in Surveyed Area of Rogers Park





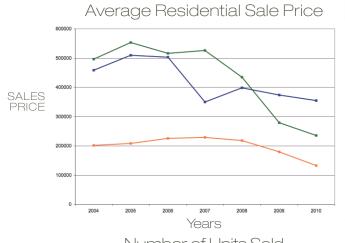


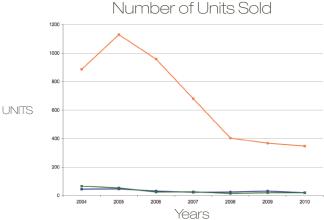


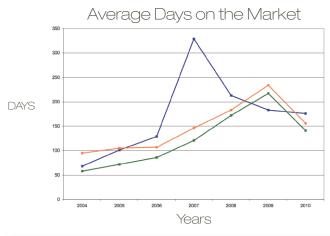


# Rogers Park by the Numbers

**Housing Statistics** 









—— Type 1 —— Type 2 —— Type

MLS Information (2004-2010) Property Type Classifications:

Type 1 - Single Family Detached; Type 2 - Multi Unit Attached; Type 3 - 2, 3, 4 Flats STATISTIC SOURCE: Midwest Real Estate Data LLC (MRED)

Street/Corridor N. Clark St. Sheridan Blvd. Devon Ave.	Bus Routes CTA 22 CTA 151 CTA 155	Ridership 2009* 3,837,657 7,267,986 2,544,381	<b>Ridership 2008</b> 7,822,892 7,482,084 2,487,720	Ridership 2007 7,004,220 6,644,266 2,210,151
Street/Corridor N. Paulina/Howard N. Ashland/Javis Glenwood/Morse	CTA "L" Train/Metra Red, Yellow and Purple Line Red Line Red Line	Ridership 2009* es 929,169 244,057 675,459	Ridership 2008 1,929,125 434,617 1,251,869	Ridership 2007 1,903,038 499,827 1,311,017

<sup>\*2009</sup> Chicago Transit Authority ridership numbers are through second quarter only. Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) ridership numbers were sourced through the CTA website www.transitchicago.com.