

Great Cities Commitment Programs at UIC

Neighborhood Revitalization

A Great City Online: A Study of the Internet's Impact on Chicago's Neighborhoods

Description: Steve Jones, currently head of the Communications Department in LAS, spent 2002-2003 as a fellow in the Great Cities Institute. The GCI project was based on previous work for the Pew Internet and American Life Project. The goal of the research was to better understand the conditions "on the ground" that have an impact on both the ability of Internet technology to connect citizens to their local communities, and on the ability of CTCs to enhance community development.

Dates active: 2002 -- 2003

Category: Neighborhood revitalization
Urban infrastructure improvement

UIC Partners: Liberal Arts and Sciences

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Partners: Pew Internet & American Life Project

Burnham Comprehensive Retail Plan

Description: The City Design Center's Urban Business Districts Program combines the Center's multi-disciplinary expertise in urban design and community economic development to provide innovative strategies for communities to enhance their disinvested retail districts. The Burnham project was the third project in this program. The Center worked in conjunction with a graduate-level urban planning studio course on plans for three commercial areas in the Village of Burnham, Illinois. The Comprehensive Retail Plan described innovative strategies to enhance the form and function of Burnham's commercial districts to create a sense of "place" in the community.

Dates active: 2005 -- 2006

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts

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Partners: Village of Burnham, Illinois

Business Development Assistance Database

Description: Creation of a database containing business, real estate, and demographic information for use in identifying new market opportunities in the Englewood neighborhood.

Dates active:

Category: Business and entrepreneurial development
Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: New Englewood Village Collaborative (NEVCorp)

United States Department of Commerce

Chicago Department of Housing Targeted Blocks Façade Program

Description: The Chicago Department of Housing's targeted Blocks Façade Program provides funding for rehabilitation of the exteriors of single family and duplex residential properties located in selected Chicago areas. The DOH requested the City Design Center to provide assistance in implementing a pilot project to improve the program's effectiveness. Former Co-Director George Hemmens, together with Associate Professor Bruno Ast, Adjunct Associate Professor Tom Forman and CDC Associate Director Tasneem Chowdhury developed a coordinated participatory process to include residents' input into the design and implementation of building and block improvement measures.

Dates active: 1999

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts

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Partners: Chicago Department of Housing

Edbrooke Block Club

Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago, Inc.

Chicago Historic Greystone Pilot Initiative Planning Phase

Description: City Design Center Co-Director and Assistant Professor Brent D. Ryan along with Professor Robert Bruegmann carried out research necessary for the planning phase of the Chicago Historic Greystone Initiative. The program, funded by the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, included significant research into the history and typology of North Lawndale's remaining century-old greystone homes. The research helped the Initiative's advisory board to determine the scope and parameters of this historic preservation effort that would also promote greystones as a means to further cultivate Lawndale's unique historic and cultural legacy.

Dates active: 2004 -- 2005

Category: Neighborhood revitalization
Arts and culture

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts

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Partners: Civic Committee of the Commercial Club of Chicago

Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago, Inc.

North Lawndale Branch

Richard H. Driehaus Foundation

Chicago Project for Violence Prevention/CeaseFire

Description: Partners with community-based organizations that take the lead in developing and implementing comprehensive strategic plans to reduce violence. This includes youth violence, gang violence, family and partner violence, elder abuse, sexual assault and rape, and child abuse.

The project concentrates on rooting out crime's underlying causes and on methods of intervention, helping communities to strengthen themselves by providing outreach workers, guiding materials, and training materials. The project collaborates with law enforcement, clergy outreach, youth outreach, public education, and community mobilization to create CeaseFire Zones.

The Project is under increasing demand from communities throughout Chicago, the State, and the U.S.

Dates active: 1995 -- present

Category: Violence prevention
Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Public Health
Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: Alliance of Logan Square Organizations
AT&T Inc.
Baxter International, Inc.
Bethel New Life, Inc.
BP Foundation
Chicago Community Trust
Chicago Police Department
Chicago Public Schools
Chicago Transit Authority
Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce
Community Renewal Society
Deloitte Consulting LLP
DLA Piper Rudnick Gray Cary
Dominick's Finer Foods, LLC
Draft, Inc.
Edelman
Equis Corporation
Executives Club of Chicago Inc.
Field Trip Factory
Greater North Michigan Avenue Association
Humboldt Park Ministerial Association
Illinois Arts Council (IAC)
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
Illinois Violence Prevention Authority
John Buck Company
K. Andre Consulting
Kraft Foods Inc.
Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital
MidSouth Planning and Development Commission
Nia Enterprises, LLC
Northeastern Illinois University
Center for Inner City Studies
Northern Trust Corporation
Office of the Governor (Illinois)
Bureau of Technology and Industrial Competitiveness
Commerce and Community Affairs Office

Peoples Energy Corporation
Prairie Consulting Group, LLC
Prologue, Inc.
Southwest Organizing Project
TARGET Area Development Corporation
West Humboldt Park Development Council
WGCI
WGN-TV
Wilhelm and Conlin, Public Strategies
WLS-TV
Working in the Schools

Chicago Rehab Network Partnership to Study Rental Housing Market

Description: Voorhees Center partnered with Chicago Rehab Network to assess Chicago rental housing market using 2000 data

Dates active:

Category: Neighborhood revitalization
Urban infrastructure improvement

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: Chicago Rehabilitation Network, Inc.

City Design Center

Description: The City Design Center's work is founded on the idea that the quality of the built urban environment – from the fixtures, furnishings, and buildings that house them, to the streets, plazas and parks that surround them, to the resulting spatial form of the overall community – is intrinsic to the vitality and diversity of the city's cultural, economic, and political life. To meet this challenge, the Center develops and advocates for innovative and effective design research and practices by providing information to improve the quality of design decisions. The CDC's work is accomplished through cross-disciplinary collaborations among faculty and students in architecture and urban design, urban planning, history and culture of cities, public and community art, environmental graphic design, industrial design, historic preservation, and other relevant design disciplines and professions. The CDC emphasizes applying research and educational programs to design ideas and practices, as well as prototypic and demonstration projects, to explore design innovation in support of its social agenda.

Dates active: 1995 -- present

Category: Neighborhood revitalization
Urban infrastructure improvement

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts
Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Feldman, Roberta

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Partners: Agency Metropolitan Program Services (AMPS)
Argonne National Laboratory
Association House of Chicago
Bethel New Life, Inc.
Beverly Area Planning Association (BAPA)
Cabrini Green Homes Local Advisory Council
Casa Central
Center for Neighborhood Technology
Chicago Community Development Corporation
Chicago Department of Housing
Chicago Department of Planning and Development
Chicago Housing Authority
Chicago Public Schools
Telpochcalli, Simpson Academy
Chicago Rehabilitation Network, Inc.
Chinese American Development Corporation
Chinese American Service League (CASL)
City of Chicago
City of Shenyang (China)
Bureau of Urban Planning and Land Management
City of Whiting, Indiana
DevCorp North
Edbrooke Block Club
Eighteenth Street Development Corporation (ESDC)
Erie Neighborhood House
Fannie Mae Foundation
Field Museum of Natural History
Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts
Greater North-Pulaski Development Corporation
HICA Corporation of North Lawndale
Humboldt Park Economic Development Corporation
Humboldt Park Empowerment Partnership
Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
Lake/Kinzie Industrial Leadership Council
Landon Bone Baker Architects
Lawndale Business and Local Development Corporation (LBLDC)
Lawndale Christian Development Corporation (LCDC)
Lawndale Heritage
Lincoln Institute of Land Policy
M. Arthur Gensler Jr. & Associates, Inc.
Malcolm X College
Marcy-Newberry Association
Metropolitan Planning Council

National Endowment for the Arts
 Near Northwest Neighborhoods Network
 Near Westside Community Development Corporation (NWSCDC)
 Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago, Inc.
 Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission
 Northeastern Illinois University
 Chicago Teachers' Center
 Openlands Project
 Pulaski Eisenhower Arthington Commercial Enterprise (PEACE)
 Resurrection Project
 Richard H. Driehaus Foundation
 Shenyang Urban Construction Committee
 Skidmore Owings and Merrill, LLP
 Steans Family Foundation
 Telpochcalli Community Education Project
 United States Department of Agriculture
 Forest Services, North Central Research Station
 Urban Planning Society of China
 Urban Resources Partnership
 Village of Burnham, Illinois
 Village of Wilmette, Illinois
 Village of Worth, Illinois
 Washington University in St. Louis
 West Side 2000 Development Corporation
 West Side Consortium
 West Town Leadership United
 Wilmette Historic Preservation Commission
 Windows of Opportunity
 Woods Fund of Chicago
 Youth Services Project, Inc.

Community Futures Networking System

Description: Facilitate community involvement in planning through the implementation of digital technologies, including mobile collaborative planning tools, interactive multimedia kiosks and information repository.

Dates active:

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: N/A

Community Technology Centers

Description: Focusing on the ABLA Homes neighborhood, tech centers focus on four program areas: increasing Internet access for community residents; new equipment to improve education, employment and community development at the partner organizations; professional development for organization staff; and new organization Web sites

Dates active:

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: Gads Hill Center

Westside Employment Education Center

Design Matters: Best Practices in Affordable Housing

Description: The "Design Matters: Best Practices in Affordable Housing" Internet Catalog presents seventy-five exemplary affordable housing projects built in the United States after 1980: housing that is affordable for people with limited incomes and embodies quality design. The catalog is a readily accessible, free resource to guide design excellence in newly constructed and rehabilitated housing for a range of building types, site planning, and technology practices that also meet a wide range of economic, social and formal criteria. The catalog was launched in conjunction with the Design Matters Symposium, held in October 2001.

Dates active: 1999 -- 2001

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts

Contacts: **Feldman, Roberta**

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Partners: Fannie Mae Foundation

Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts

Richard H. Driehaus Foundation

Evaluation of intensive technical assistance in support of Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) outreach

Description: Formative evaluation of technical assistance provided to community organizations and coalitions in four cities in Florida, Missouri, and Delaware

Dates active:

Category: Neighborhood revitalization
Urban infrastructure improvement

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: Center for Economic Progress

Gateway EITC Community Coalition

Human Services Coalition of Dade County, Inc.

National Community Tax Coalition

Nehemiah (DE) Gateway Community Development Corporation

First-Year Writing Program

Description: Writing classes at UIC ask students to participate in ongoing conversations about vitally important academic and public issues. A student's ability to conceptualize, articulate, and craft a response or an argument is key to a successful undergraduate education at UIC. Conducted as seminars, each of the two required first-year classes focuses its reading, writing and discussion on a specific topic such as immigration, literacy, urban planning, public art, public housing, personal identity, or globalization. Writing about critical social issues helps us see that writing has consequences; it is a way of getting things done in the world. Writing classes at UIC emphasize both the importance of writing in making a contribution to the larger society and the need to be able to write clearly and correctly.

Dates active:

Category: Undergraduate support
Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Liberal Arts and Sciences

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Partners: N/A

Full Circle Project

Description: In this three year project, community-based organizations and local residents will participate in creating detailed maps of their neighborhoods, and in planning future development. Web technologies enable both the data-gathering and visioning phases. This neighborhood planning effort will feed directly into future neighborhood development processes. The Full Circle project has three key objectives: to represent local concerns within the planning process, to use technology tools for asset mapping and community visioning, and building ongoing relationships between communities and regional planners. The Voorhees center will manage the evaluation of the project.

Dates active:

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission

Great Cities Urban Data Visualization Lab

Description: The goal of the Great Cities Urban Data Visualization Program is to establish a high-tech urban/regional data retrieval and computer visualization capacity that will serve UIC faculty, students, and external public and community agencies.

The program will 1) assemble, maintain, and arrange for access to a large number of databases relating to community and economic development and housing; 2) provide a range of pro-active and demand-responsive information services, focusing on disaggregated community and regional data; and 3) support and conduct research and teaching advancing the state of the art in the field of urban and regional data visualization and data access. The project will benefit public and not-for-profit agencies in the Chicago region and the state by enhancing their ability to access and use data related to economic and community development.

Dates active: 1998 -- present

Category: Neighborhood revitalization
Urban infrastructure improvement

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: N/A

Greater Lawndale/Little Village High School for Social Justice

Description: Serves Latino and African American students in a new small school; UIC faculty members were on the design team and currently teach courses there.

Dates active: 2003 -- present

Category: Education innovation
Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Education

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Partners: Chicago Public Schools

Crib Collective

Lawndale Christian Development Corporation (LCDC)

Little Village Community Development Corporation

YMCA

Greystone Initiative Research Project

Description: The Chicago Greystone Initiative is part of a comprehensive planning effort in North Lawndale to preserve valuable greystone housing stock and to use the preservation as a means to promote North Lawndale as a community with a unique historic and cultural legacy. Building on this initiative, the City Design Center is conducting initial research on producing a guidebook on preservation and renovation of greystone residential buildings. The CDC will also conduct research on baseline data for a program evaluation of the Greystone Initiative's impact on local housing markets.

Dates active: 2005

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts

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Partners: Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago, Inc.

Housing and Land Inventory in Humboldt Park

Description: Demographic and housing survey of Humboldt Park

Dates active:

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Zelalem, Yittayih**
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Partners: Chicago Community Trust
Latin United Community Housing Association

Humboldt Park Youth Services Initiative

Description: The City Design Center conducted a series of participatory design workshops to involve youth in the design of a youth center in Humboldt Park. Through their involvement in this project, Humboldt Park youth developed skills in research, architectural design and planning, and developed connections with other participants and the community.

Dates active: 2002

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts

Contacts: **Feldman, Roberta**
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Partners: Association House of Chicago
Casa Central
Erie Neighborhood House
Near Northwest Neighborhoods Network
Youth Services Project, Inc.

Illinois Assisted Housing Action Research Project (IHARP)

Description: IHARP is the first comprehensive database of assisted and public housing units in the city of Chicago and the entire state of Illinois, including housing owned and managed by private and non-profit developers. The database contains information about number of units, income levels of residents, location, rent levels, sponsoring agency, developer, management companies, and funding sources. Originally a development partner, UIC now provides database maintenance.

Dates active:

Category: Neighborhood revitalization
Urban infrastructure improvement

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Zelalem, Yittayih**
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Partners: Latinos United
Polk Bros Foundation
Statewide Housing Action Coalition

Improving Economic Opportunities for Latino Workers on Chicago's South Side

Description: Neighborhood strategic planning process to identify economic development and workforce development priorities for the Latino Organization of the Southwest.

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development
Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Hambleton, Robin**

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Partners: Chicago Community Trust

Latino Organization of the Southwest

United States Department of Commerce

Liberty City Business District Survey

Description: Survey of existing business in Miami's oldest African American neighborhood with the goal of assisting in development of anti-gentrification strategies.

Dates active:

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Hambleton, Robin**

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Partners: Florida International University

Miami Workers Center

Nathalie P. Voorhees Center for Neighborhood and Community Improvement

Description: The mission of the Voorhees Center is to improve the quality of life for all residents of the metropolitan area. The Center assists community, civic, and government agencies to revitalize the many and varied neighborhoods in the Chicago area. The Center specializes in affordable housing and community development. Projects include public housing policy, housing development financing, commercial development, needs assessments, market feasibility, and impact analysis.

Dates active: 1978 -- present

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Hambleton, Robin**

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Partners: N/A

Near North Redevelopment Plan

Description: Major redevelopment activities have begun in the Cabrini-Green public housing development as part of the HOPE VI Revitalization Plan for the Cabrini-Green Extension. The Cabrini-Green Local Advisory Council selected the Nathalie P. Voorhees Center and the City Design Center to work as their development advisor/consultant in the implementation of the Near North Redevelopment Initiative. The UIC team's role is to ensure that the Cabrini-LAC plays a meaningful role as both co-developer and as a member of the Working Group overseeing redevelopment in the entire Near North Redevelopment Area.

Dates active: 2002 -- 2006

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts
Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Feldman, Roberta**
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Partners: Cabrini Green Homes Local Advisory Council
Chicago Housing Authority
United States Department of Housing and Urban Development

New Directions

Description: The New Directions grant addresses two urgent needs currently facing residents from the North Lawndale community, which is part of the West Empowerment Zone/Enterprising Communities Cluster: the need for leaner, stronger, more savvy community organizations to serve the many low-income residents; and 2) need for affordable and accessible housing in North Lawndale.

Dates active: Fall 2004 -- Fall 2006

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences
Great Cities Institute
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago
Chicago Rehabilitation Network, Inc.
North Lawndale Community News
North Lawndale Employment Network
Steans Family Foundation
United States Department of Housing and Urban Development

North Avenue Street Beautification Plan

Description: The City Design Center provided technical and design assistance to the Humboldt Park Economic Development Corporation in developing a strategic plan and design recommendations to revitalize the North Avenue commercial corridor. Through participatory community workshops, the CDC worked with area residents to develop design strategies that included enhancing pedestrian safety, developing green spaces and attractive streetscape features, and creating a neighborhood identity to support revitalization and future growth.

Dates active: 2002

Category: Neighborhood revitalization
Business and entrepreneurial development

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts

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Partners: Humboldt Park Economic Development Corporation
West Town Leadership United

North Lawndale Historic Heritage

Description: In Spring 2004, the City Design Center sponsored a joint Art History/Urban Planning course that studied the use of historic heritage in the redevelopment of urban neighborhoods. This course surveyed international examples of this trend and then applied this research to the North Lawndale neighborhood of Chicago.

Dates active: 2004 -- 2005

Category: Neighborhood revitalization
Arts and culture

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts
Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: Polk Bros Foundation
Richard H. Driehaus Foundation
Woods Fund of Chicago

Pilsen Evaluation Project

Description: Evaluation of the Plaza design project in Pilsen

Dates active:

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Improvement

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Partners: Resurrection Project

Placeworx

Description: In the Placeworx program, students get hands-on experience in the audio and visual arts, while investigating and finding solutions to community issues that are important to them. They design a vision for an ideal community using several different methods, including: spoken word, audio arts, visual arts, and digital technology. These visions will be presented to a variety of audiences, both inside and outside the Pilsen community. The underlying goal is to develop an innovative multi-layered community space that uses advanced technology to train young adults and empower social change agents through the inclusion of the arts, culture, and social justice issues impacting the Mexican American Community.

Dates active: 2004 -- 2005

Category: Arts and culture
Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Hambleton, Robin**
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Partners: Ford Foundation
Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum
RadioArte
Yollocalli Youth Museum

Privately Financed Housing in Distressed Urban Neighborhoods

Description: This pilot study examined the extent, causes and benefits of privately-financed housing in distressed neighborhoods in Detroit, Michigan. The study included the delineation of distressed neighborhoods; analysis of recent housing trends; profiles of selected housing; determination of future housing demand; and an analysis of future housing supply. The study is intended to provide knowledge that can guide decision-makers involved in neighborhood revitalization, and provide a methodology for similar future studies of development in other cities.

Dates active: 2004 -- 2005

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts

Contacts: **Ryan, Brent**
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Partners: Fannie Mae Foundation

Puerto Rican Chicago

Description: Multi-disciplinary, ethnographic study of the Puerto Rican neighborhoods in Chicago. The study frames Puerto Ricans within a backdrop of other Latinos and groups in the city.

Dates active: 2004 -- present

Category: Arts and culture
Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Liberal Arts and Sciences

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Partners: DePaul University
Illinois State University
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Pulaski Streetscape Research and Design Assistance

Description: The HICA Corporation of North Lawndale requested the assistance of the City Design Center to develop urban design strategies for revitalizing a four-block section of Pulaski Avenue between Fifth Avenue and Taylor Street. After consulting with local community leaders and business owners, the CDC team proposed an alternative approach: instead of developing strategies for the entire four-block corridor, a node along the north end of the corridor should be developed to create a magnet for future development.

Dates active: 2002

Category: Neighborhood revitalization
Business and entrepreneurial development

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts

Contacts: **Feldman, Roberta**
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Ryan, Brent
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Partners: Chicago Department of Planning and Development
Neighborhood Division
HICA Corporation of North Lawndale
Pulaski Eisenhower Arthington Commercial Enterprise (PEACE)

Rogers Park Comprehensive Retail Plan--Urban Business Districts Program

Description: This participatory planning project identified feasible strategies to revitalize two commercial corridors in the Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago. Over the course of a year the City Design Center held community meetings, conducted surveys and gathered data about the retail districts. The City Design Center's final plan outlined priority areas for intervention and a practical approach to improving the appearance of the district and attracting new stores.

Dates active: 2004 -- 2005

Category: Neighborhood revitalization
Business and entrepreneurial development

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts

Contacts: **Ryan, Brent**
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Partners: DevCorp North

South Side Market Study

Description: Project assessing retail and commercial opportunities on Chicago's south side (Empowerment Zone Funding)

Dates active:

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Zelalem, Yittayih**
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Partners: N/A

State of Affordable Housing in the Chicago Region in the Next Decade

Description: Research project assessing the state of affordable housing in the Chicago region in the next decade

Dates active:

Category: Neighborhood revitalization
Workforce development

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Zelalem, Yittayih**
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Partners: Chicago Rehabilitation Network, Inc.
Latinos United
Statewide Housing Action Coalition
Woods Fund of Chicago

Sustained Involvement/Technical Support for Previously Established Community Technology Centers

Description: Through UIC graduate students, UICNI sustains involvement and technical support for community technology centers in partnership with the Gads Hill Center, Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum, Renacer Westside Community Network, Westside Education and Employment Center, North Lawndale Community News, and the North Lawndale Employment Network.

Dates active: 2001 -- present

Category: Neighborhood revitalization
Arts and culture

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: Gads Hill Center
Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum
North Lawndale Community News
North Lawndale Employment Network
Renacer Westside Community Network, Inc.
West Side Education and Employment Center

Telpochcalli Community Culture and Education Center

Description: The Telpochcalli School, a small public school in the Little Village neighborhood, needed additional space and facilities to provide adequate art and cultural programs for its students and neighborhood residents. The City Design Center coordinated a community visioning process to create design alternatives and a feasibility study for a new art and community center next to the school.

Dates active: 2002 --2003

Category: Neighborhood revitalization
Arts and culture

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts

Contacts: **Ryan, Brent**
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Feldman, Roberta

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Partners: Chicago Public Schools
Telpochcalli
Telpochcalli Community Education Project

UIC and CHA Washington Park Planning Project

Description: In the Washington Park neighborhood of Chicago, the City Design Center organized design education workshops to familiarize former and current residents with important principles of housing unit and neighborhood design. The workshops were also designed to increase public housing residents' design awareness in anticipation of any potential redevelopment in the Washington Park community. The Washington Park project also included an Urban Design Studio Course in the spring of 2005 for UIC graduate students.

Dates active: 2003 -- 2005

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts

Contacts: **Ryan, Brent**

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Partners: Chicago Housing Authority
Windows of Opportunity

UIC Neighborhoods Initiative (UICNI)

Description: The UIC Neighborhoods Initiative exists to create, nurture and sustain long-term community/university relationships. For the University, the UICNI maintains a consistent presence in the community. For the community, the NI facilitates direct community access to information and resources. UICNI encourages and sustains a supportive environment for productive dialogue and through active intervention addresses communication barriers inherent in diverse community, racioethnic and institutional cultures.

Dates active:

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Perry, David**

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Partners: Chicago Public Schools
City of Chicago
Eighteenth Street Development Corporation (ESDC)
Marcy-Newberry Association
Near Westside Community Development Corporation (NWSCDC)
Resurrection Project
United States Department of Housing and Urban Development

Urban Developers Program

Description: Professional education program offered in partnership with the Chicago Rehab Network, a 20 year-old trade association for non-profit housing development corporations. UDP trains community development organization staff to undertake housing development.

Dates active:

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: Chicago Rehabilitation Network, Inc.

Urban Gang Research

Description: GCI fellow and criminal justice associate professor John Hagedorn researches urban violence, gangs, and the redivision of space in Chicago. Hagedorn also looks at institutionalized gangs in Chicago and how they are similar to gangs in Third World cities, like Rio de Janeiro and Cape Town. A major focus of his work is how gentrification influences violence and why rates of violence vary so widely between cities.

Dates active:

Category: Violence prevention
Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Liberal Arts and Sciences
Urban Planning and Public Affairs

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Partners: N/A

US-China Housing Exchange

Description: The City Design Center, together with partner organizations in China organized the "Design Matters: US-China Affordable Housing Exchange" conference in Shenyang, China in September 2004. The conference addressed cross-cultural comparisons of housing design, planning and policy in China and the United States. An exhibit and catalog of exemplary housing development from cities throughout China accompanied the conference. Following the conference, the U. S. speakers were invited by the Mayor of Shenyang to review and comment on the city's five-year master plan.

As a follow up to the conference, an eight-member delegation of architects and planners, led by Wang Jian, Commissioner of the Shenyang Planning and Land Resource Bureau visited Chicago in December 2004. The delegation participated in a seminar hosted by the City Design Center.

Dates active: 2003 -- 2004

Category: Neighborhood revitalization
Urban infrastructure improvement
International collaborations

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts

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Partners: City of Shenyang (China)
Bureau of Urban Planning and Land Management
Shenyang Urban Construction Committee
Urban Planning Society of China

Valuing Private Development in Distressed Urban Neighborhoods: Does Design Matter?

Description: The goal of this study is to determine whether there is a significant relationship between the design of new privately-financed housing and property assessments and sales prices in distressed urban neighborhoods in the City of Chicago. Research findings will have important implications for policy makers who establish planning and development policies in distressed neighborhoods and who rely on subsequent property value increases to subsidize new development.

Dates active: 2004 -- 2006

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts

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Partners: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Village of Worth Comprehensive Retail Plan--Urban Business Districts Program

Description: In 2003 the Village of Worth was selected as the first municipal partner in the City Design Center's Urban Business Districts Program. This project was conducted in conjunction with a graduate studio class in urban planning and produced practical recommendations to assist the village in redeveloping a "main street" district in the community.

Dates active: 2003 -- 2004

Category: Neighborhood revitalization
Business and entrepreneurial development

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts

Contacts: **Ryan, Brent**

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Partners: Village of Worth, Illinois

West Town Gentrification Study

Description: Spanning four decades, the study traces how patterns in real estate investment, population change and public policy converged to change West Town's profile

Dates active:

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

UIC Partners: Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Contacts: **Hambleton, Robin**

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Partners:

Whiting, Indiana Commercial Development Plan--Urban Business Districts Program

Description: In 2005, the City of Whiting partnered with the City Design Center to develop a plan for the best use of 60 acres of former industrial property. The objectives of the effort included providing greater public access to the lakefront, diversifying the city's property tax-base, and creating design standards to allow for peaceful coexistence between new commercial developments and neighboring homes. The result of this plan was a set of new uses that were harmonious with the city's character, supported its main street, and provided new job opportunities for this revitalizing region.

Dates active: Jan 2005 -- Aug 2005

Category: Neighborhood revitalization

Urban infrastructure improvement

UIC Partners: Architecture and the Arts

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Partners: City of Whiting, Indiana