

Albany Park Neighbors

Business Development & Preservation

We at Albany Park Neighbors support our existing businesses, while working closely with officials and organizations to promote the thoughtful, responsible growth of that community.

Here are some of the functions that Albany Park Neighbors can offer the business community:

- Facilitate neighborhood response to zoning proposals with the cooperation and coordination of ward officers
- Publicize new businesses and offerings to our 1,500 member (and growing!) online community
- Partner with existing and emerging Albany Park businesses to promote commerce
- Coordinate events and programs where businesses can give back to the community, such as clean-ups
- Crowdsource ideas about what businesses our residents need in the neighborhood—read on to learn about the results of our latest survey!



Diversity By All Measures

The strength of the Albany Park community is that it has always been a welcoming neighborhood for those new to the country or simply new to the city.

The neighborhood's seen waves of immigration by Swedes and Germans, Filipinos and Mexicans, Arabs and Persians, and Central Americans.

Each culture has left its mark by raising families, opening businesses, and buying property.

Albany Park is a thriving community with household income and assets near the Chicago median, and a booming 20-40 age demographic.



INDIE COFFEE Albany Park has three Starbucks shops packed morning 'til night. We'd like to add more caffeine options, preferably home-grown shops like First Slice, Bowtruss, Beans & Bagels.



MORE RESTAURANTS Albany Park is already known as a haven for high-quality, affordable ethnic eats—we just need a few more casual options with some ambiance. Diners, Italian, brunch, and burgers ranked high.



BAR OPTIONS Albany Park lacks for quality drinking establishments serving responsibly. A well-run bar with a light menu would do very well in our community.

ALBANY PARK

Population

59,000

Transit Access

N-S Busses

Pulaski, Kimball, California/
Dodge

E-W Busses

Foster, Lawrence, Montrose

Brown Line

Kimball-Kedzie-Francisco

Age

41% between 20-40

Household Buying Power

Median income: \$50k

Avg. net worth: \$434,416

Median home price:
\$263,755

Education

26% BA or above

Social Life

40% married w/kids

26% married w/out kids

14% singles

Crime

42% less property crime and
19% less personal crime than
Chicago average.

Source: realtor.com from 2014
census data; University of Illinois
at Chicago

Survey Says!

In 2014, Albany Park Neighbors conducted an online survey of its readership about what types of eateries and entertainment our community needs.

Nearly 300 participants responded and demonstrated a preference for a wider variety and quality of restaurants, cafes, and bars.

Our community is known for top-notch ethnic take-out and fast-food fare, but we have few options for finer dining (think date night, not Michelin star) or family breakfasts.

For a community of nearly 60,000 with a median age of 31, we also have a dearth of pubs and bars where folks can mix, mingle, and relax. While we have a few great options in the eastern half of the 'hood, there are no bars west of Kedzie.

We're also a community in need of caffeine!

Besides three extremely busy Starbucks and a fantastic not-for-profit cafe in nearby Ravenswood Manor, Albany Park has no coffee shops or bakeries with seating.

ENTERTAINMENT

Almost exclusively, Albany Parkers leave the neighborhood for entertainment, such as movies, art, live music and theatre, and literary events. We do have a few small venues (free range gallery, Albany Park Theatre Project, Halcyon Theatre) but our large community could support and host additional offerings. Albany Park, with

MORE SURVEYS PLANNED

Our group will gather more info on our community's business-related needs in the upcoming year, including on services.

Ultimately, we aim to encourage people to shop, dine, and drink in our own community. However, needs exist that folks go outside our community to meet.

Poll Results What We're Craving

Italian

Pub Fare

Sushi & Thai

Breakfast/Brunch

Finer Dining

Bars

Coffee Shops

Contemporary American

Type to enter text

Jenn Adams,
Halcyon Theatre

commercial spaces of various sizes and ample transportation options, is a great location for independent arts companies or projects. And an added bonus? Many artists, actors, and academics already call our community home.

With great access to transit and major roads, Albany Park is a great location for destination galleries, live arts companies, and more.