Hello!

We’re proud to present the 2012 ANNUAL REPORT for the WICKER PARK BUCKTOWN SPECIAL SERVICE AREA #33. It was a busy year—in addition to our regular projects, we received a grant to study parking in the neighborhood, planted trees and helped sponsor some fabulous events in the community.

We realize that not everyone knows what a Special Service Area is (they’re called “Business Improvement Districts” in other cities). The Wicker Park Bucktown Special Service Area #33 is an additional tax levy on the properties located in the SSA district. The WPB SSA #33 has a mission to support and develop the local economy and bolster the quality of life by maintaining a clean, vibrant and accessible SSA district. Guided by this mission and a Master Plan, a volunteer Commission of SSA taxpayers oversees the funding of services to enhance and promote the district. These services include sidewalk cleaning, snow removal, garbage pick-up, arts programming, transportation projects and community grants.

Please check out the achievements of our committees as detailed in this report. The SSA is a model of community engagement, with SSA tax payers deciding how their tax dollars are spent. The SSA Commission has engaged the Wicker Park Bucktown Chamber of Commerce to manage and deliver all SSA-funded programming.

And PLEASE CLICK HERE to take our two question survey about curbside recycling.

Thank you,
WPB SSA #33 COMMISSION &
WICKER PARK BUCKTOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

THE WPB MOVERS & SHAKERS

2013 WPB SSA COMMISSION
David Ginople, WPB SSA Chair (store B vintage)
Brent Norsman, WPB SSA Co-Chair
(Norsman Architects)
Joseph Hall, WPB SSA Treasurer
(Quick Release Bike Shop)
Wayne Janik, WPB SSA Secretary (Janik’s Café)
Sam Marts, WPB SSA Recording Secretary
(Sam Marts Architects & Planners)
Nicole DelSasso, SSA Commissioner
(Center for Neighborhood Technology) (2012)
Rebecca Dohe, SSA Commissioner
(Radiance Fine Jewelry)
Kenneth Lubinski, SSA Commissioner
(Lubinski Furniture)
John Paige, SSA Commissioner, (Resident)
Lawrence Powers, SSA Commissioner,
(Centrum Partners)

2013 WPB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Stephanie Sack, President (Vive la Femme)
Jeremiah Taylor, Vice President
Walter “Tre” Peckat, Treasurer (Terminix)
Ginna Ryan, Secretary (Mauge, Inc)
Alex Averbach, Director
Joseph Betancourt, Director (Betancourt Realty)
Michael Cho, Director (Wicker Park Tavern)
Melissa Daza Mondero, Director
(Bucktown Wicker Park Dental)
David DeSanto, Director (Transnational)
Michelle Gomez, Director (M.GO Fashion Salon)
Robert Gomez, Director (Subterranean)
Wayne Janik, Director (Janik’s Café)
Chad Johnson, Director (Elevenzees)
Phillip Laurin, Director
(Urban Attorney/Eye Want)
Pamela McNeal, Director
(Chicago Athletic Clubs)
Ann Nolan, Director (State Farm Insurance)
Demetrius Simpson, Director
(Sergio & Banks Real Estate)
David Stearns, Director (Bar Bar Black Sheep)
Steven Vargas, Director (Pro Mobile Websites)

2013 WPB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE STAFF
Adam Burck, Executive Director
Clover Morell, Special Events Coordinator
Deidre Papp, Bookkeeper
Beth Sholtis, WPB SSA Assistant Program Manager
Jack Wangelin, Membership & Marketing Coordinator
Brian Wendle, Membership & Marketing Coordinator
Jessica Wobbekind, WPB SSA Program Manager
Arts Abound

The creative vibe in the neighborhood is one of the qualities that makes WPB unique. The ARTS COMMITTEE is devoted to promoting WPB as a hub for imagination and helping artists thrive in the community.

CHICAGO SCULPTURE EXHIBIT

WPB SSA #33 proudly sponsored artwork from the Chicago Sculpture Exhibit (formerly the Lakefront Sculpture Exhibit) as it expanded westward in 2012. Five sculptures were installed in Wicker Park Bucktown.

ACHIEVEMENTS

OUT OF SITE
In collaboration with local arts organizations, WPB SSA #33 funded 12 performances throughout the Wicker Park Bucktown neighborhood.

ANNUAL WPB ARTS GUIDE 2012/2013
The 2012/2013 Guide to the Arts in WPB includes a history of the neighborhood as a cultural landmark and a comprehensive map of art destinations within our district.

DAMEN BLUE LINE STATION ART INSTALLATION

WICKER PARK FEST ARTS SECTION

2012 was the first year for an Arts component in Wicker Park Fest, with Defibrillator Performance Art Gallery and Redmoon providing amazing installation and performance pieces.
Quality of Life

The **CLEAN, GREEN & SAFE COMMITTEE** is tasked with three responsibilities from the Master Plan: “to spruce up the place, greenify and keep an eye on things.” This is achieved through a wide variety of initiatives throughout the WPB community.

- **GRAFFITI ABATEMENT PROGRAM**
- **GRAFFITI ACTION DAYS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH 1ST WARD**
- **GRAFFITI REMOVAL PARTNERSHIP WITH THE 32ND WARD**
- **TREE CARE IN THE DISTRICT, INCLUDING PRUNING, FERTILIZING & IRRIGATION**
- **26 NEW TREES PLANTED IN THE DISTRICT**
- **BI-MONTHLY COMMUNITY SHREDDING & E-WASTE RECYCLING**
- **SIDEWALK SNOW CLEARANCE**
- **HOLIDAY DECORATIONS — LIGHTING, BANNERS & SNOWFLAKES**
- **SIDEWALK CLEANING**
- **SUPPLEMENTAL GARBAGE SERVICE & GRAFFITI REMOVAL**
- **POWER WASHING THE DISTRICT SIDEWALKS**
- **REPAIR OF THE PLANTING BED FENCES ON NORTH AVENUE**
- **RECYCLING STATIONS AT GREEN MUSIC FEST & WICKER PARK FEST**
- **BENEFICIAL INSECT RELEASE IN WICKER PARK COURTESY OF BARTLETT TREE EXPERTS**
- **GREEN BUSINESS RESOURCES FAIR**
- **NEW RECYCLING RECEPTACLES**
- **LED EXIT SIGN REBATE PROGRAM**

**ONGOING ACHIEVEMENTS**

Improving the **CLEANLINESS & APPEARANCE OF WPB’S STREETSCAPES** through public way maintenance (sidewalk sweeping, trash removal, sidewalk snow removal and occasional sidewalk pressure washing), landscaping, tree care and holiday decorations.

Promoting an attractive community, the **GRAFFITI ABATEMENT** rebate program encourages business owners to keep their storefronts free of graffiti and helps with the cost of graffiti removal. For more information, visit wickerparkbucktown.org.

Becoming a more environmentally sound and ecologically sensitive community by providing on-street recycling receptacles, a pilot commercial recycling program, recycling events and **BI-MONTHLY COMMUNITY SHREDDING**.

**BY THE NUMBERS, 2012**

*WASTE COLLECTION*

- 118 TONS OF TRASH PICKED UP
- 38 TONS OF PAPER & RECYCLING COLLECTED

*BI MONTHLY COMMUNITY SHREDDING/ E-WASTE RECYCLING EVENTS*

- 7 TONS OF PAPER COLLECTED
- 2 TONS OF ELECTRONICS COLLECTED
A Focus on Our Future

The GUIDE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE manages change by taking a hands-on role in shaping our neighborhood’s future. Its charge is to steer the development of new construction in ways that preserve WPB’s character and identity, while ensuring that new commercial tenants maintain a diverse and locally-owned business mix.

YOUR FACADE, OUR FUNDS

The WPB SSA #33 FACADE REBATE PROGRAM continues to be very popular. In 2012 six community members utilized the program to update their facades, adding to the attractiveness of WPB and helping to preserve the unique character of the district.

Visit wickerparkbucktown.org to find out more about the WPB FACADE REBATE PROGRAM. Eligible building owners can receive up to $5,000 in matching funds.

ONGOING ACHIEVEMENT

WPB SSA #33 maintains a database of AVAILABLE COMMERCIAL RENTAL PROPERTIES to serve as a tool for both property owners and those seeking to rent commercial space in the neighborhood. See “HOT PROPERTIES” under the Business Resources tab at wickerparkbucktown.com.

WPB SSA #33 applied for (and received) a grant from Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning to study parking, recommend innovations and suggest alternative ways to manage the demand for parking in the community.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE strives to foster multiple means of mobility and circulation along Wicker Park Bucktown’s corridors, including abundant transportation options and a combination of strategies to increase transit use, car-pooling, car-sharing and bicycling.

ONGOING ACHIEVEMENTS

WPB BIKE RACKS 2012 & ON-STREET BIKE PARKING

NEON CITY AT THE POLISH TRIANGLE Neon City, a special evening of music, public art and neon, transformed the Polish Triangle into lively dance floor and exhibit space.

FIRST ANNUAL OPEN STREETS "OPEN STREETS" closes Milwaukee Avenue to vehicle traffic and opens it up for healthy recreation, including biking, running, yoga classes, skate parks, interactive playgrounds and climbing walls.
Best Foot Forward

Our **PROMOTE WPB COMMITTEE** works to generate a buzz about WPB and invites the world to come and experience our fabulous community first hand. It also supports local initiatives and the people, businesses and organizations that make the area unique.

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**LOCAL PROMOS**

**PROMOTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS WITH WPB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**ANNUAL TIME OUT CHICAGO NEIGHBORHOOD GUIDE**
A terrific resource for residents looking for a new dining spot and a compact WPB reference for tourists with a convenient map of the community.

**NEW! FALL DINNER CRAWL**
Sponsored the first Fall Dinner Crawl in WPB; a ticketed promotional event that sent attendees on a walking & dining tour of dining establishments in the community.

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**COMMUNITY GRANTS**

**WPB SSA #33 COMMUNITY GRANTS** exist to nurture and build public awareness of the neighborhood’s unique history and culture through the sponsorship of public programs and initiatives that enhance the quality of life within the Wicker Park and Bucktown neighborhoods.

The goal of the grant program is to sponsor public programs, events, initiatives, or services that demonstrate a measurable benefit to the community and foster community growth and development within the WPB SSA #33 district.

Any business, organization, or individual that will be providing services, events, or activities within the SSA district is eligible to apply for a grant. Preference will be given to businesses, organizations, and individuals that reside within the district.

20 grants were awarded in 2012 to fund events in SSA #33 including:

- ACM’S “SOUND OF SILENT FILM FESTIVAL” AT CHOPIN THEATRE
- BOO-PALOOZA HALLOWEEN EVENT
- COLLABORACTION IN THE 2012-2013 SEASON
- LEARNAPALOOZA
- SILVER ROOM’S 10TH ANNUAL SOUND SYSTEM BLOCK PARTY THINGS THAT MATTER & HEBRU BRANTLEY’S “FLYBOY”
- STREET LEVEL YOUTH MEDIA’S SUMMER ARTS APPRENTICE
- WICKER PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL’S MUSIC PERFORMANCES AND MAGIC BOAT PUPPET SHOW PERFORMANCES

See all grant recipients at wickerparkbucktown.org.

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**UNWRAP WPB 2012 HOLIDAY GUIDE**
Who We Serve

We’re guided by a MASTER PLAN adopted in 2009 after extensive public input, and we accomplish our work through active committees.

The streets and avenues highlighted to the right with labels and thicker white lines comprise the WPB SSA #33.

OUR BUDGET

The budget is driven by community priorities revealed during development of the WPB MASTER PLAN. This is a breakdown of how the budget is actually spent.

Over time, some budget areas have shifted while remaining true to the WPB MISSION. Some budget items have been folded into larger topics to facilitate comparison.

The noted numbers indicate Actual dollars spent (and audited) for WPB SSA #33.

ADVERTISING & PROMOTIONS
PUBLIC WAY MAINTENANCE
PUBLIC WAY AESTHETICS
DISTRICT PLANNING
SSA ADMINISTRATION

TOTAL

2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012

$497,934 $709,903 $925,853 $ 730,953 $ 877,205 $1,326,078
Make An Investment In Your Community

Want to get more involved? We encourage you to join one of our committees or apply to become a WPB SSA #33 Commissioner.

Join us at a Commission Meeting on the THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH (except August) at the Wicker Park Field House.

Thank you,
WPB SSA #33 COMMISSION &
WICKER PARK BUCKTOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ON THE HORIZON

WPB SSA #33 was set up for ten years and will stop providing supplemental services in 2015. The reconstitution (or renewal) process for WPB SSA #33 will begin in 2014. Please contact the Wicker Park Bucktown Chamber of Commerce if you have feedback or would like to get involved in the reconstitution process.

LEARN MORE ABOUT WPB SSA #33
WICKERPARKBUCKTOWN.ORG
WICKERPARKBUCKTOWN.COM