

GRASSROOTS ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT

The Small Business Advocacy Council's (SBAC) Neighborhood Revitalization Coalition (NRC) is laser focused on revitalizing commercial corridors across the Chicagoland area. The NRC has formulated policies and initiatives focused on reducing vacancies in commercial corridors with the purpose of encouraging local investment. Working with policymakers, the NRC targets many aspects including clear guidance for zoning and business usages and advocating for wage subsidies to businesses that hire formerly incarcerated individuals.

The NRC is comprised of stakeholders from **23 chambers of commerce** collaborating on initiatives and policies that revitalize, empower, and connect business districts. This robust coalition galvanizes community support to push important initiatives.

We take a **boots on the ground** approach to drive attention to the "change" these communities seek. Our goal is to mobilize Chicago's communities and share their stories with legislators and residents. We provide education on proposed legislation to connect Chicago's commercial corridors, We will be in your neighborhood this summer to talk to you. Together, we can make this legislation a success.

The NRC connects with chambers through **town halls, newsletters, social media, media outlets** and more. Town halls highlights NRC initiatives and advocacy efforts while gathering information on issues directly impacting specific communities. Presently, The NRC has engaged in several town halls within the targeted communities and have plans to conduct several more by year end.

We use real-world data to understand the vacancy crisis and needs of constituents across the city - gathering data from surveys, Q&As, phone calls, etc. Our educational initiatives provide critical information to small business owners and community members as they address excessive commercial vacancies. Helping businesses sell or lease vacant spaces, understand their zoning process, and encourage local community collaboration is a priority of the NRC.



We want your input!

Thriving local business districts support communities across Chicago and Cook County. As local communities emerge from the pandemic and confront a new economic landscape, our strong coalition will work together to revitalize, empower, and connect neighborhood business districts.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE COALITION AND HOW TO GET INVOLVED

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