

EDA Center @ UIC

Building our Green Economy

Janet Smith, Co-Director

**Nathalie P. Voorhees Center
for Neighborhood and
Community Improvement**



About us

Relevant work – past and present

About EDA University Centers

Our approach

Focus Year 1



Nathalie P. Voorhees
Center for Neighborhood
and Community
Improvement **is an
applied research and
technical assistance unit in
the College of Urban
Planning and Public Affairs.**

College of Urban
Planning and Public
Affairs **is a nationally
recognized innovator in
education, research, and
engagement in support of
the nation's cities and
metropolitan areas.**

Promoting just, resilient, and livable communities



Economic Development
Administration University Center



Since its founding in 1978, the Voorhees Center has been guided by the mission to improve the quality of life for all residents of the City of Chicago and the metropolitan area.



We develop grounded research to support the revitalization of communities working in collaboration with:

- community organizations
- government partners
- UIC faculty and students



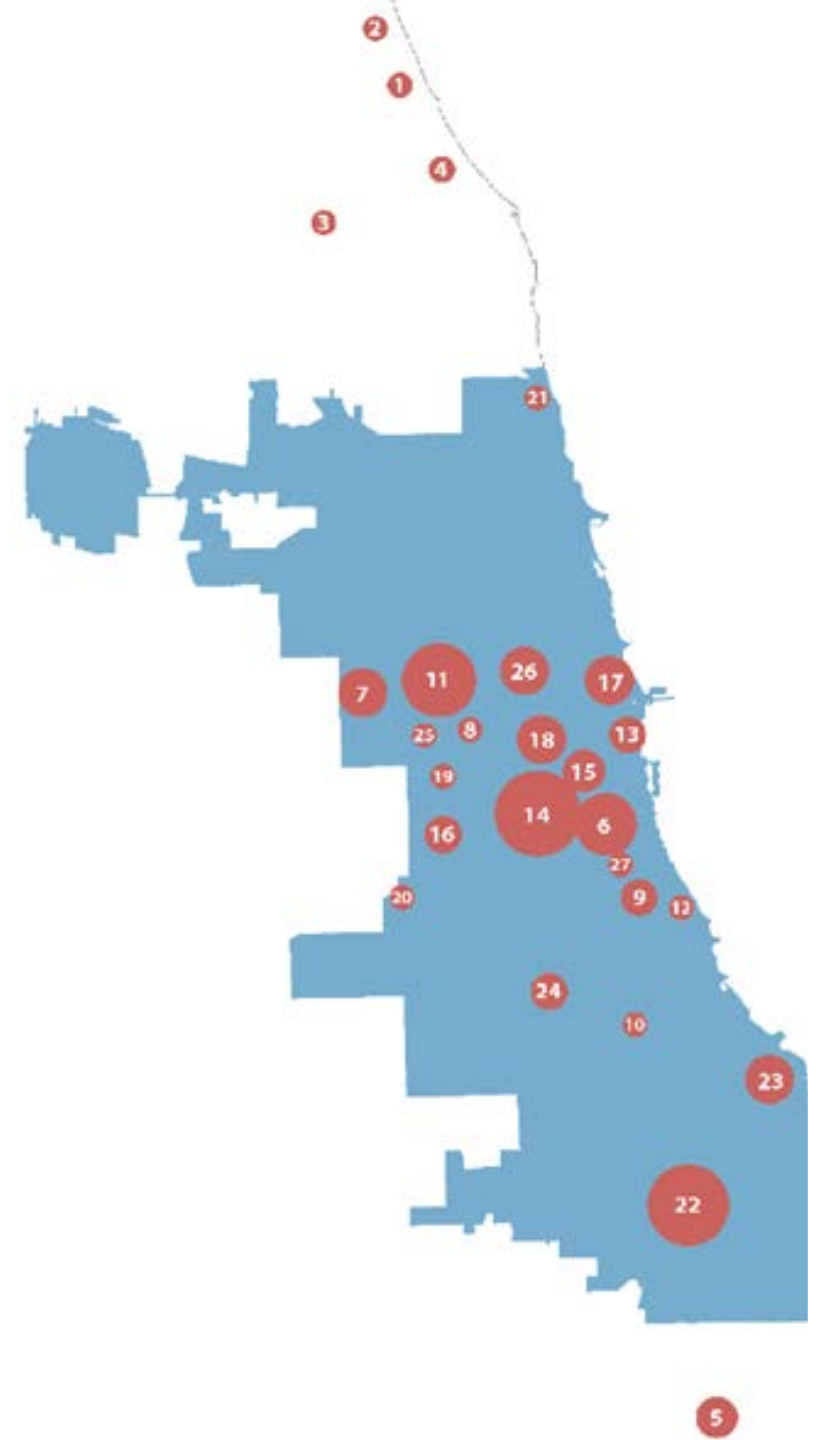
38 years

The Voorhees Center has:

Worked with nearly 200
community and government
partners

- Community
- City wide
- Regional
- State wide
- National
- International

Completed over 300 major
studies/reports



Sound methods to investigate timely problems in our communities

The Impact of a Minimum Wage Increase on Housing Affordability in Illinois

Lauren Nolan, AICP
Alison Dickson, MUJPP
Robert Bruno, PhD
Janet Smith, PhD

Project for Middle Class Renewal
October 2016

ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

UIC
Nathalie P. Voorhees Center
for Neighborhood and
Community Improvement

Affordable Housing Conditions and Outlook in Chicago
An Early Warning for Intervention

M a r c h 2 0 0 6



TRANSIT EQUITY MATTERS:
An Equity Index and Regional Analysis of the Red Line
and Two Other Proposed CTA Transit Extensions

December 2009

Chicago
Du Page
Cook

UIC
Nathalie P. Voorhees Center
for Neighborhood and
Community Improvement

SOUTH SUBURBAN Retail Investment Study
Village of Matteson | Village of Olympia Fields | Village of Park Forest | Village of Richton Park

May 2012

GENTRIFICATION & NEIGHBORHOOD CHANGE
Helpful Tools for Communities

A supplement to *The Socioeconomic Change of Chicago's Community Areas (1970-2010)*

UIC Nathalie P. Voorhees Center for Neighborhood and Community Improvement
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO
COLLEGE OF URBAN PLANNING

Current economic development work:



ILLINOIS DEFENSE INDUSTRY
ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM

<http://www.illinoisdia.org/>

BTM

BLACKTECHMECCA

State of the Black Tech Ecosystem Report

coming 1-26-17 <http://blacktechmecca.org>



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Administration University Center**

**THE
UNIVERSITY OF
ILLINOIS
AT
CHICAGO**



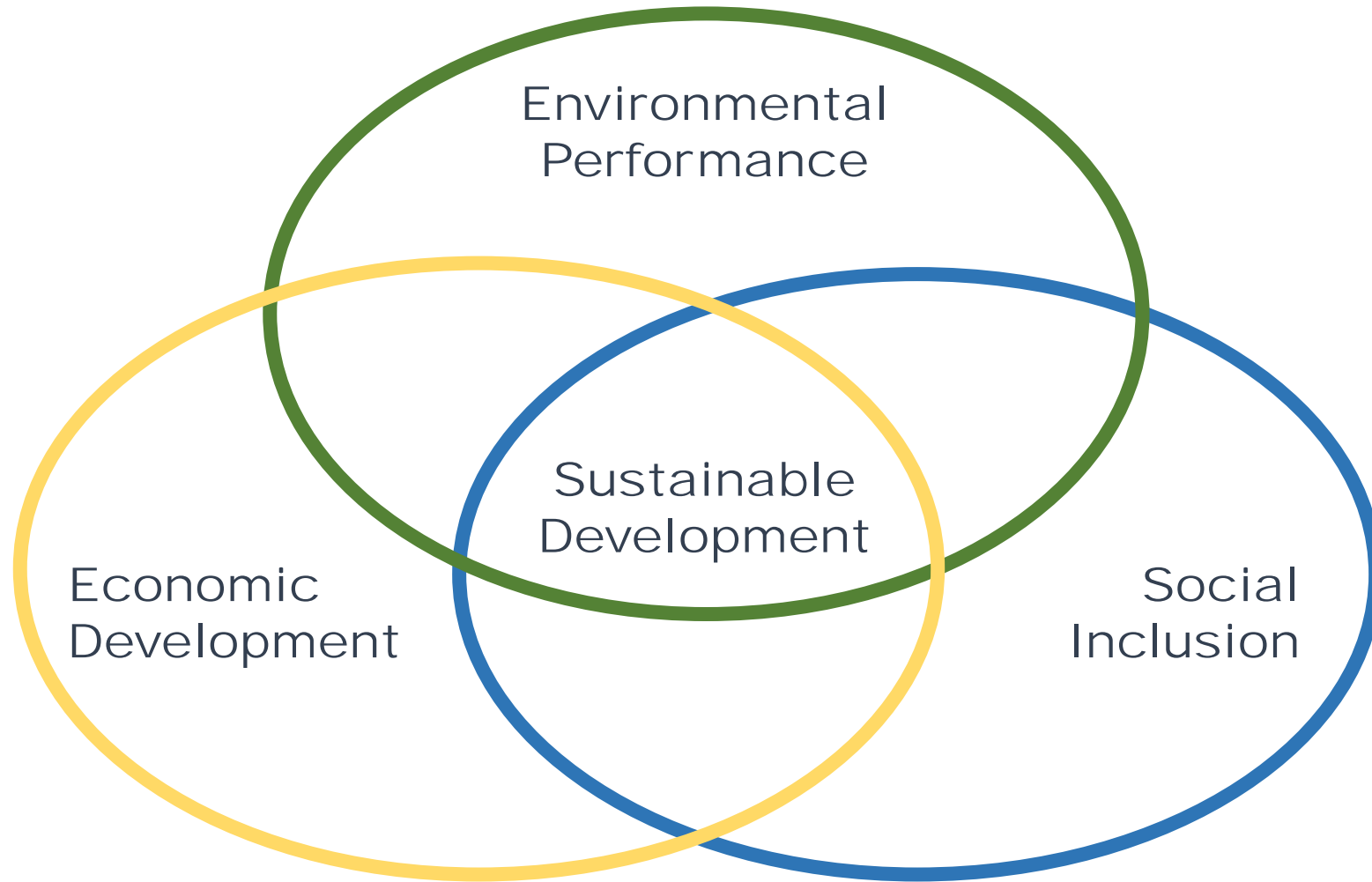


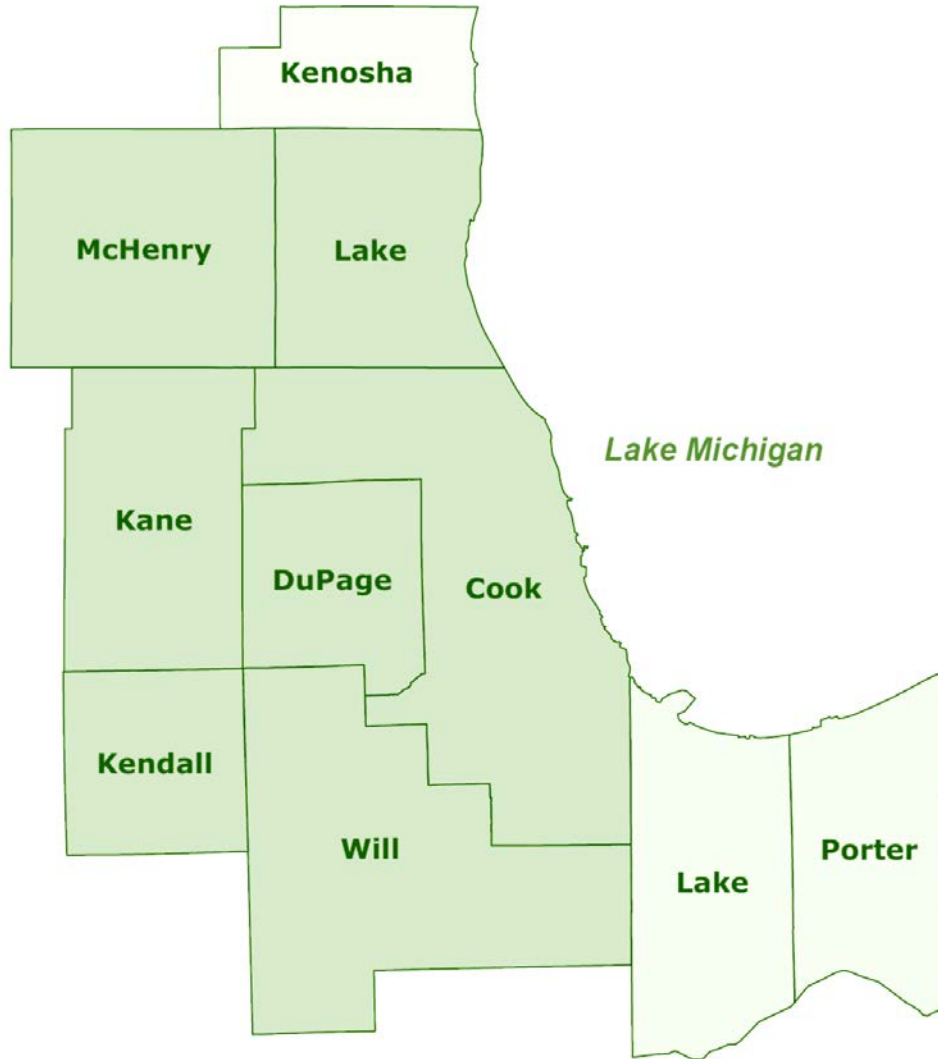
US EDA's University Center Economic Development Program makes the resources of universities available to the economic development community.

- ✓ Research
- ✓ Outreach
- ✓ Technology transfer
- ✓ Commercialization capabilities
- ✓ Faculty expertise
- ✓ Sophisticated laboratories



Our view of Sustainable Economic Development





The purpose of the EDA Center @ UIC is to promote green economic development in the Chicago region.

Green economic development strives to create jobs while protecting the environment, focusing on industry that is resource-efficient and low-carbon.

Complement.

Co-Create.

Catalyze.



GREEN ECONOMIC INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Analyze current ecosystem
- Develop technical assistance plan
- Assess impact of different proposals
- Develop green industry and brownfield marketing plan

CAPACITY BUILDING

- Develop and pursue financing strategies to sustain program
- Secure funding to implement immediate workforce development initiatives

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

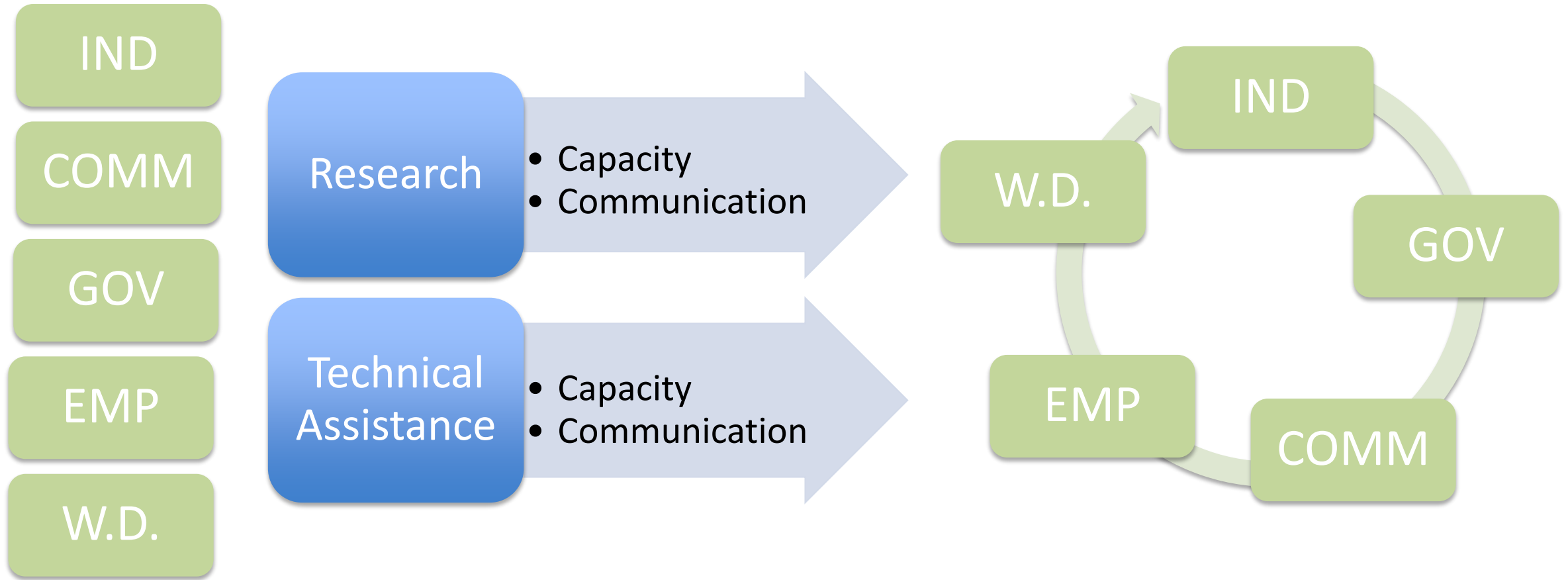
- Assess talent pool to fill existing and potential green industries
- Assess workforce training needs for new, potential green industries
- Assist with development of new, targeted training for existing and potential green industries

COMMUNICATION

- Disseminate information on green industrial development potential and to market the region



Complement. Co-Create. Catalyze.



Where to begin?

Cook County,
particularly Southeast
including Chicago's
South Side, where many
things are in motion...

Complement.
Co-Create.
Catalyze.

- Pullman National Monument
- Millennium Reserve
- 1000 Jobs Campaign
- Calumet National Heritage Area
- Southeast Environmental Task Force
- Chicago Southland Economic Development Corporation
- South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association
- Cook County's work with South Suburbs
- People for Community Recovery
- Many others...



The State of Green Industry Development: Assess Cook County's Potential

- National overview: conditions, practices and case studies April 2017
 - ✓ Reports
- Inventory of green and green potential industries in Cook County
 - ✓ Data
- Profile of and conditions in Southeastern Cook County
 - ✓ Case Studies
- Potential for green industry development
 - ✓ Technical Assistance Plan



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