Happy end-of-summer, Neighborhood News readers! We hope you enjoyed a summer filled with successes and new learnings. As fall approaches we would like to share a brief update on the National Main Street Center’s (NMSC) UrbanMain initiative and feed your curious community economic development mind with best practices and readings impacting urban corridors!
UrbanMain, which launched in 2017 to support the unique needs of neighborhood commercial districts in urban areas, has been busy building relationships with local governments and neighborhood districts across the country, showcasing Main Street’s approach to community economic development and its impact in urban commercial corridors. UrbanMain is working in collaboration with established Main Street America Coordinating Programs, including Main Street Alabama, Michigan’s Oakland County Main Street, and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, as well as many brand-new locales. NMSC has forged new relationships with several large metropolitans across the country—from Richmond, Virginia, to Ingleside, California—that may have been familiar with the Main Street Approach, but never thought it was an appropriate fit for their neighborhood commercial corridors. We’re also in Salt Lake City, Utah, Charlotte, North Carolina, and most recently, Chicago, Illinois, NMSC’s home base! Read on for an update on the Chicago UrbanMain project located in the historic Bronzeville neighborhood.

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

- Chicago UrbanMain (Round 2) Applications (Due Oct 1)
- CNDA & Driehaus Award (Due Sept 17)
- Inner City Capital Connections (ICCC) 2018 Nomination Form
- Inclusionary Housing Database Map
- Artspace Artist Lofts Available to Lease

DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT
“I was happy to learn through my Study Trip that like me, there are Main Street practitioners, community leaders, business owners, and residents in Chicago just like my folks in Richmond, California, ready to roll up their sleeves and do the work to make our neighborhoods and communities the places we want to live, shop, eat and have a good time.”

Amanda Elliot, Richmond Main Street Executive Director, on her four-day Study Trip to Chicago through the LeaderSpring fellowship program. Read more >

WHAT WE’RE READING

• ‘Map Twins’ Bridge the Gap in a Segregated Chicago Citylab
• Community leaders announce market analysis and commercial district study for Elmwood Village (NY) Preservation Buffalo Niagara
• Using Tactical Preservation to Revive Neighborhoods outside Downtown Detroit Urban
Land Institute

- D.C.'s 16 Main Streets Share Ideas - The Georgetowner
- NLC Cities of Opportunity Pilot Promotes 'Healthy People, Thriving Communities' - NLC
- Chicago proposes experiment with pop-up urbanism - Architects Newspaper