



# Albany Park



**Albany Park Neighborhood Council** is a community based organization that serves and empowers residents in the community. Albany Park is one of Chicago's most diverse neighborhoods. This community area is bordered by Cicero to the west, the Chicago River to the east, Foster to the north and Montrose to the south.

**Albany Park is a community of interest.** While many ethnicities and languages are represented in the neighborhood, our diversity is a cohesive dynamic that strengthens our community. Our residents are connected by shared needs including culturally and linguistically appropriate services, immigration and citizenship services, and affordable housing.

**Albany Park is currently split into many districts at all levels of government.** In 2000, our community was drawn into two congressional districts (4 and 5), two state senate districts (20 and 8), three state house districts (15, 40 and 11) and two city wards (33 and 39). This has made it more difficult for Albany Park residents to have their voices heard, and needs met. **Albany Park should be recognized as a community of interest, and should be kept together and drawn into as few districts as possible in the current redistricting process.**

**Albany Park Neighborhood Council is a member of the United Congress of Community and Religious Organizations,** which is part of the Illinois Coalition for Accountable Redistricting and Draw the Line. We are committed to working with African-American, Latino, Asian, Arab and other communities to ensure the current redistricting process is transparent, equitable and engages communities.

**As a coalition, we call on the Senate Redistricting Committee and the General Assembly to do the following:**

- Present potential redistricting maps to the public at least a week before a vote so that communities can provide input.
- Ensure fair representation by protecting voting rights under the Federal Voting Rights Act and the new Illinois Voting Rights Act including influence, coalition and crossover districts.
- Recognize and respect communities of interest by keeping them together and not splitting them.

Thank You,

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