




# Joseph Arcus

## Curriculum Vitae

*As a Masters of Urban Planning and Policy candidate at University of Illinois - Chicago, I combine practical work experience with research and analytical skills.*

*My professional roles have given me firsthand insight into urban economic development with a notable focus on sustainability. My research interests focus on urban housing policy and the implementation of sustainability projects.*

### Contact

 Chicago, IL  
 224.805.0044  
 [arcus.joe@gmail.com](mailto:arcus.joe@gmail.com)  
[jarcus3@uic.edu](mailto:jarcus3@uic.edu)

### Skills

- GIS (ESRI products) - Advanced
- MS Access - Advanced
- MS Excel - Advanced
- SQL - Advanced
- Adobe Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, Indesign) - Intermediate
- SPSS - Intermediate

### Honors and Awards

- Burnham Scholarship, University of Illinois - Chicago (2017-2018)
- DePaul University President's Scholarship (2013-2017)
- J.J. Johnson Scholarship Recipient, Service Employees International Union (2013-2017)
- Eagle Scout, Boy Scouts of America (2014)

### Education

**Master of Urban Planning and Policy**      **Aug 2018 - Present**  
**University of Illinois - Chicago**  
Concentration: Economic Development  
Degree in progress

**B.A. Environmental Studies & B.A. Geography**      **May 2017**  
**DePaul University**, Chicago, IL, U.S.A.  
Overall GPA: 3.64/4.00; Major GPA: 3.64/4.00  
Graduated *Cum Laude*

### Current Position

**Research Assistant**      **June 2019 - Present**  
*Natalie P. Voorhees Center for Neighborhood and Community Improvement, University of Illinois - Chicago*

- Graduate-level research assistantship (25% time); tuition waiver.
- Gather, process, and analyze industry-level data in estimating the Chicago-area clean economy.
- Research and analyze industry reports from key clean economy sectors including solar and wind energy.
- Gather, process, and map block group-level data on disability and transit access in select American cities.
- Supervisor: Dr. Janet Smith, Director.  
312.996.6336 / [janets@uic.edu](mailto:janets@uic.edu).

## Work Experience

### **Planning Intern** - City of Highland Park, IL (Nov 2018 - August 2019)

- Graduate level internship, part time.
- Researched and analyzed land use decisions.
- Research, content creation, and editing role in active transportation plan update, *MoveHP*.
- Reviewed applications for historic preservation projects and design reviews.
- Wrote weekly and monthly newsletter articles.
- Projects included: Researched tax impact of multifamily and industrial land uses; map of bicycle crashes in Highland Park; created a Storymap of historic homes.
- Supervisor: Mr. Drew Awsumb, Deputy Director. 847.432.0867 / [dawsumb@cityhpil.com](mailto:dawsumb@cityhpil.com).

### **Project Coordinator** - Office of Sustainability, City of Knoxville, Tennessee (Aug 2017 - June 2018)

- Year of national service with AmeriCorps.
- Managed energy databases for municipal operations.
- Analyzed data for Office of Sustainability projects, and assisted in data analysis for other city operations.
- Projects included: electric bus research, cost forecasting, and grant application; draft city policy on community gardens; management of LED streetlight conversion.
- Supervisor: Mr. Brian Blackmon, Director. 865.215.4430 / [bblackmon@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:bblackmon@knoxvilletn.gov).

### **Intern** - Mapping Department, Commonwealth Edison (Summer 2016)

- Organized 30,000 files across two interdepartmental drives. Implemented file naming and organization system to ensure continued organization.
- Identified and corrected issues in spatial integrity in metropolitan equipment survey.

## Relevant Graduate Coursework

### **Plan-Making Studio**

- Worked as a team to prepare a comprehensive plan for an industrial corridor in Chicago.
- Presented draft plan, created graphics, and assisted in the layout of the plan document.

### **Economic Development Analysis, I & II**

- Theory and practical application of economic development.

### **Environmental Planning and Policy**

- Review of environmental planning, policy, legislation, issues, and programs.

## Publications

Fontane, J, Awsumb, D, Cross, A, Jackson, J, **Arcus, J** (*Publication forthcoming*) "MoveHP: An Update to Bike-Walk 2030." Department of Community Development, City of Highland Park.

Zafer, S, Smith, J, Kursman, J, **Arcus, J**, Gendel, T, Goodspeed, C (*Publication forthcoming*) "Clean Energy Economy in the Chicago Region and Cook County." Voorhees Center for Neighborhood and Community Improvement, Chicago.