

ROBERT M. WEISSBOURD
Professional Profile

Robert Weissbourd is President of RW Ventures, LLC, an economic development firm. RW Ventures specializes in technical economic analysis of urban assets and markets, and in creating the information, products and institutions necessary to successfully grow urban and regional economies. The firm also manages major national projects on drivers of change in neighborhoods and regions, as well as on specific sector opportunities such as digital excellence, green buildings or development finance. Clients include national development and policy institutions, foundations, local governments, businesses and community organizations. Bob was the lead developer of MetroEdge, the Center for Financial Services Innovation and the Urban Markets Initiative. He previously served for ten years in executive positions at Shorebank Corporation. (Please visit <www.rw-ventures.com> for more information on clients, products and publications.)

Bob has been a frequent public speaker and guest lecturer on a broad range of urban markets, poverty, race, education, housing and economic development issues. He has also testified on these issues before federal, state and local legislatures. Bob has been active for over twenty five years in community and civic organizations, including service as a Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution Metropolitan Policy Center, as Chair of the Obama for America Campaign Urban and Metropolitan Policy Committee, on the Obama-Biden Transition HUD Agency Review Team, and as President or Vice-President of the Boards of City Colleges of Chicago, Crossroads Fund, Businesspeople in the Public Interest, the Center for Neighborhood Technology and PROCAN, as well as on the Visiting Committee of the University of Chicago Law School and the Advisory Committees for the (Chicago) Mayor's Technology Advisory Committee, Brookings Metropolitan Economy Project and Brookings Urban Markets Initiative. Before joining Shorebank, Bob was a partner at Hartunian, Futterman & Howard, specializing in federal constitutional litigation, school desegregation and representation of government and non-profit agencies. Bob clerked for federal Judge George Leighton, after receiving a J.D. from University of Chicago Law School and a B.A. from Yale University.