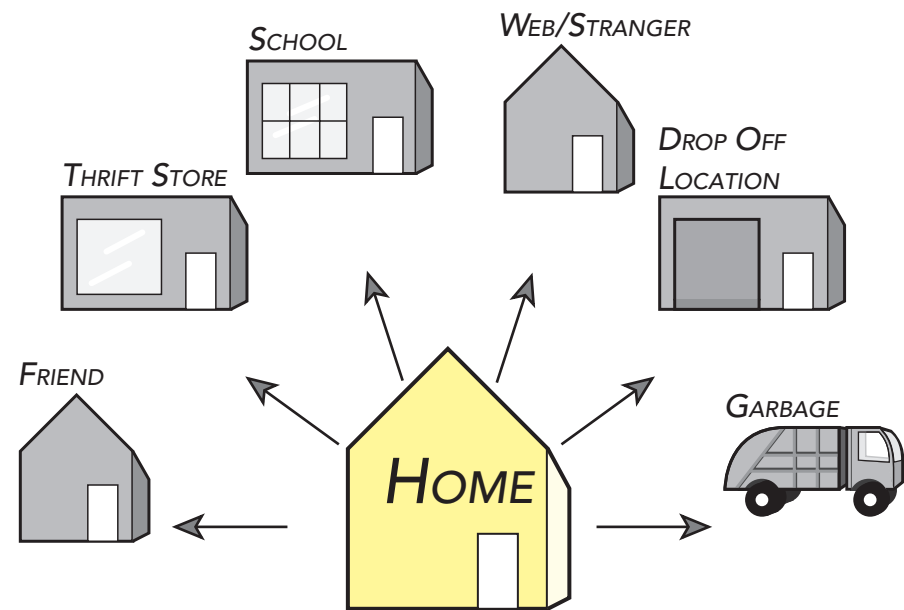


# UPSTREAM MIGRATION

The journey of metal from home to scrap dealer



IN THE HOME   UNWANTED   MOVING THE ITEM   IN THE ALLEY   THE VENDOR ARRIVES   IN THE TRUCK   IN THE YARD   SORTING OUT GARBAGE   GETTING WEIGHED   SORTING THE METAL

## No clear channels

Rachel - Gave coffee maker to church.  
 Marilee - Put TV in basement.  
 Lisa - Put microwave in alley.  
 Sanjay - Gave microwave to janitor.

## No Transparency

Sanjay - Sorted trash gets mixed later.  
 Lisa - Does trash really get recycled.

## No Guarantee

Eugene - First come first serve in alleys.  
 Simeon - Waits for call to pick up metal.

## Destructive Sorting

Miguel - Electric grinder for cutting metal.  
 Sam - Utility knife to cut bags.  
 Simeon - Bread knife to strip cord.  
 Max - Hammer to break sink.



## NO CLEAR CHANNELS

Residents lack clear information about what the proper channels are for their waste. Using any means possible, residents find many ways of getting rid of waste that vendors could sell.



## NO TRANSPARENCY

What channels exist are shrouded in mystery, leaving residents doubtful about their reliability. Thus many residents choose to store broken items for long periods of time.



## NO GUARANTEE

Vendors travel across the Chicago area in search of scrap metal; they never know what they will find. When they get a call for a pick-up, there is no guarantee what they will get.



## DESTRUCTIVE SORTING

Vendors get a better price for sorted metal, but use the most primitive methods to do it. While smashing is fast, it is not always effective, and it can be dangerous.



## Connect Residents with Vendors

Vendors need what residents have, and by connecting them more efficiently, both parties would benefit. Residents would have less clutter, and vendors would spend less time looking for material.

## Formalize Vendor Relationships

Currently vendors canvas the city independently, often covering the same ground. Working together, they could guarantee a more stable income, and provide a more understandable service that would encourage residents to dispense with bulk waste.

## Tool Rental

Renting tools at the scrap yard for a small fee could provide an opportunity to improve the safety of vendor's work, while increasing their profit margins. Vendors could take advantage of these benefits without a large capital investment that buying tools would necessitate.