CURA has recently subscribed to an important new database of rental listings in the Twin Cities metro area. HousingLink’s Rental Revue provides quarterly reports and summary statistics on traditional and shadow rental markets in more than 50 cities, all seven Twin Cities metropolitan area counties, and subareas of Minneapolis and St. Paul. The Revue tracks both listings and demand for rental housing, and includes breakdowns by number of bedrooms and median rent. In addition, separate data are provided for listings that represent the growing “shadow rental market” of single-family homes, condos, and townhouses for rent. Reports also include trending to track the data over time. Database subscribers can access additional information such as pet policies, security deposit amounts, application fees, utilities residents are expected to pay, and whether background checks are required. Additional information, including frequently asked questions and a sample report, can be found at www.housinglink.org/tcrentalrevue.

In addition to the standard reports available from the Rental Revue website, CURA’s access offers the ability to create custom reports at neighborhood levels of geography for our nonprofit partners in the Twin Cities. These data will provide valuable information to communities about the number and types of rental units, affordability, and demand for rental housing in their areas, and can be an excellent source of information for grant applications. If you are a neighborhood organization and are interested in these data, please contact CURA community GIS coordinator Jeff Matson at jmatson@umn.edu or 612-625-0081 for details.