



OCTOBER 9, 2011

Olympia Snowe: The Senator Who Holds the Key to Health Care Reform | Joe Klein on Obama's Foreign Policy Struggles | Heroes of the Environment: TIME's Green All-Star Team

TIME

SPECIAL REPORT

The Tragedy Of Detroit

How a great city fell—and how it can rise again

BY DANIEL OKRENT

www.time.com





Motor City Mapping: Data-Driven Decision-Making

Diana Flora
Data Driven Detroit
January 2015





Data Driven Detroit provides accessible high-quality information and analysis to drive informed decision-making.



Collection



Visualization



Analysis



Accessibility



Data-Driven Outcomes

MOTOR CITY MAPPING

Surveyors will gather comprehensive condition information for every property in Detroit, with an emphasis on evaluating **condition** and **occupancy**.



Why: The Big Picture

- Better **understand** the scope of the challenge of blight and vacancy in the city
- **Inform** a demolition, deconstruction, rehab plan
- **Engage** residents in the process of collecting conditions data
- Generate a **dialogue** and inform policy decisions
- Provide a forum for **feedback**, allowing the community to be involved in the blight identification process and track the status of future projects

The Story of Neighborhood Change

The Story of Neighborhood Change



The Story of Neighborhood Change



The Story of Neighborhood Change



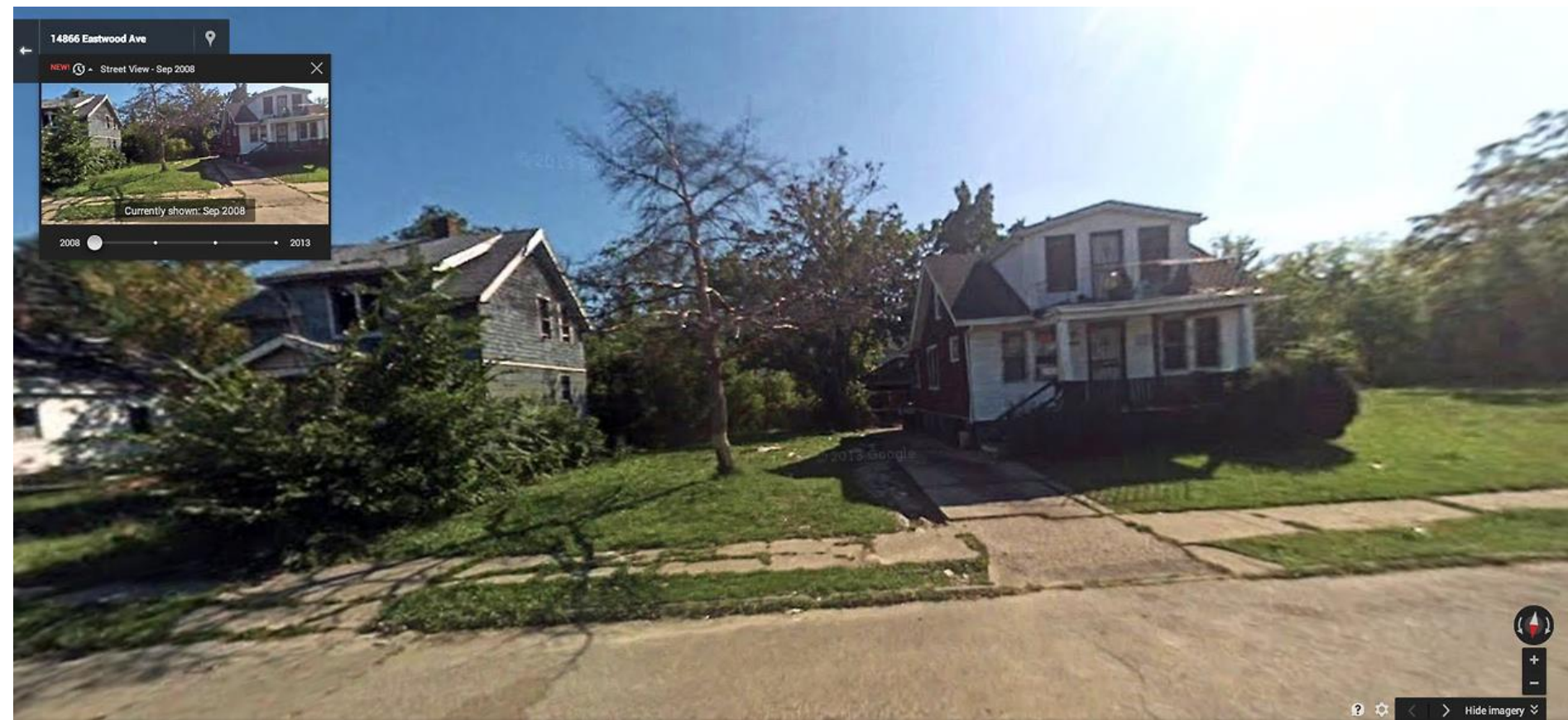
The Story of Neighborhood Change



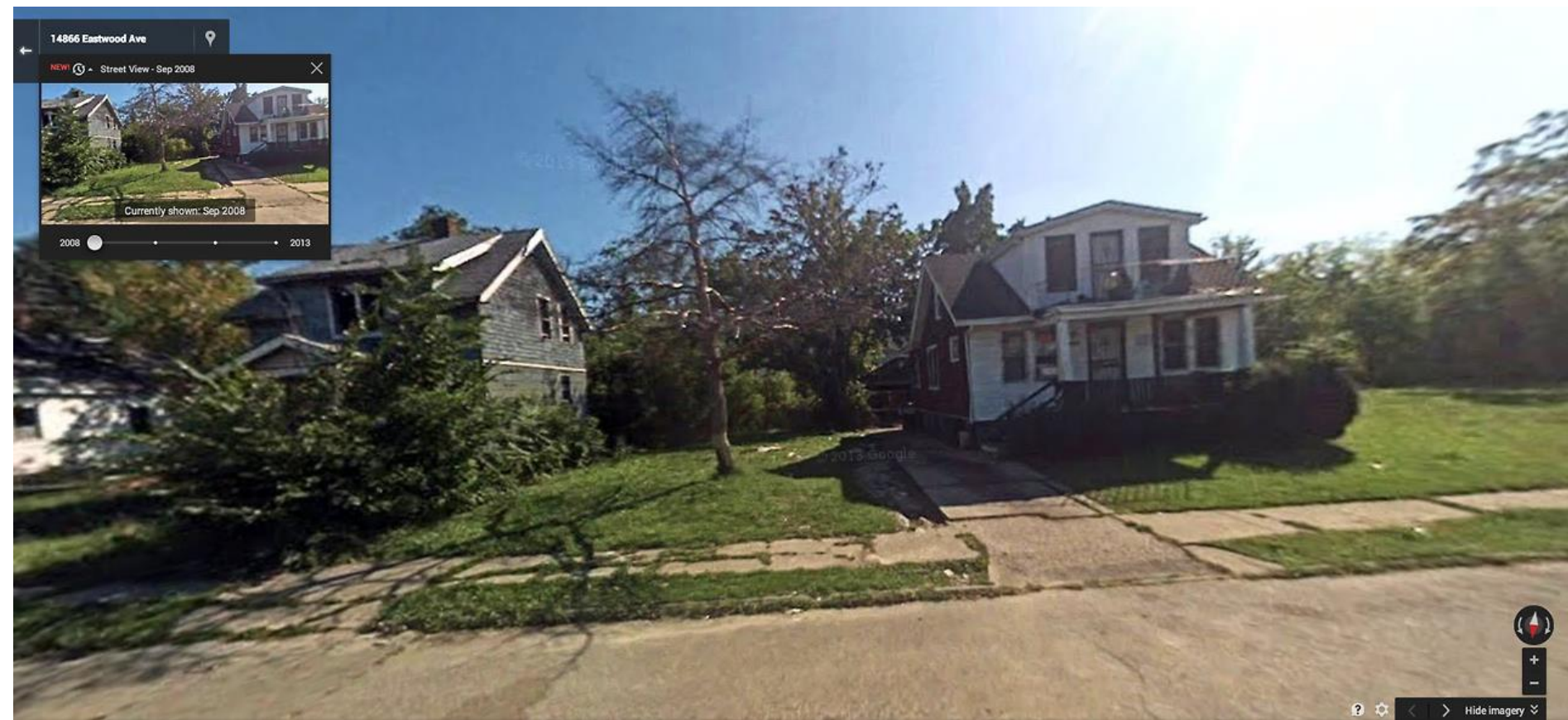
The Story of Neighborhood Change



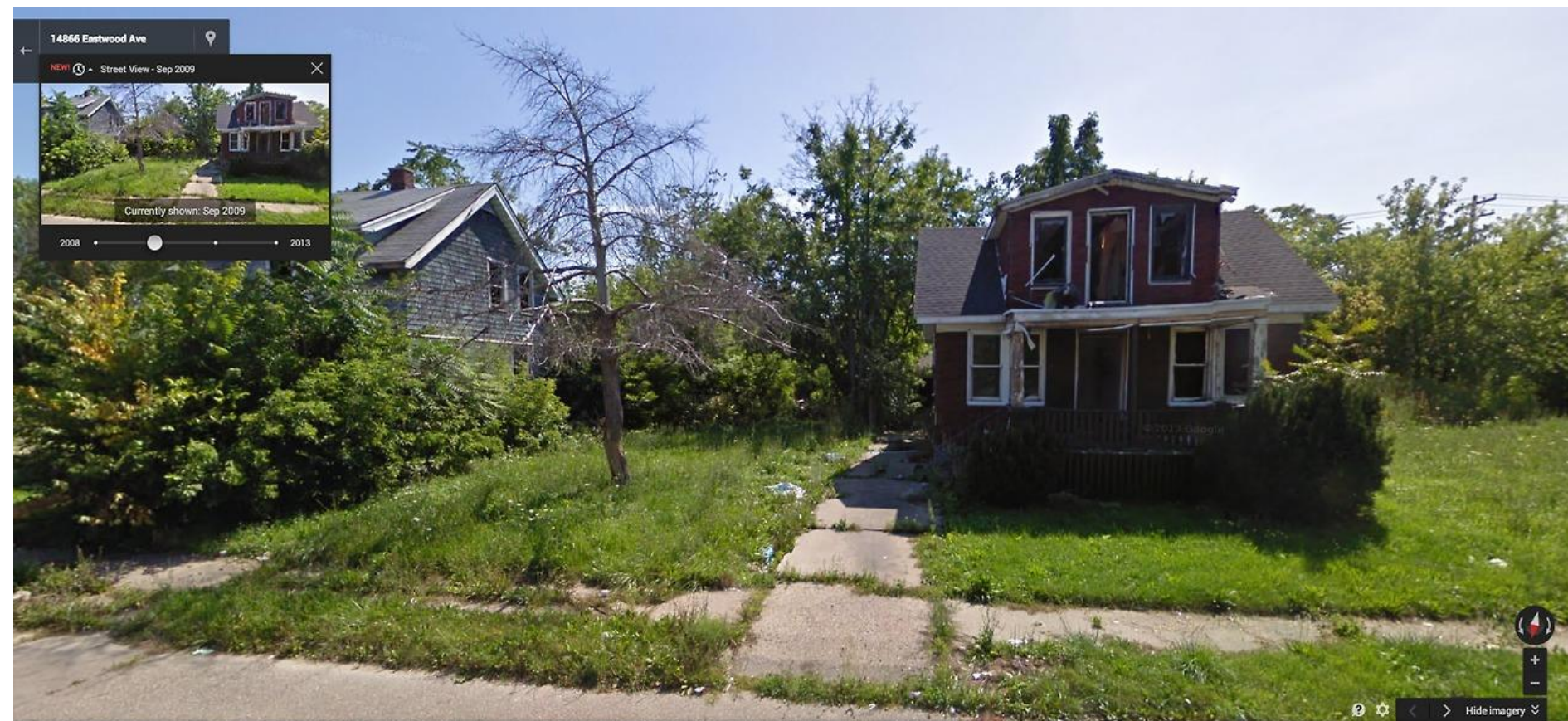
The Story of Neighborhood Change



The Story of Neighborhood Change



The Story of Neighborhood Change



The Story of Neighborhood Change



The Story of Neighborhood Change





Loveland Blexting




1465 Chicago Blvd

Acreage: 1.6
Assessment: 0
Frontage: 0
Last Sale Date:
Last Sale Price: 0
Owner: GENERAL SERVICE ADM
Year Built: 1916

[Blext Property](#)

[Get Directions](#)

View





	structure: yes, use: commercial, condition: good, occupancy: occupied, boarding: no, fire: no, dumping: no Kimberly Williams - Dentist office Kimberly Williams - 12:31 PM, Feb 4
	10974 Wilshire structure: yes, use: residential, condition: good, occupancy: occupied, boarding: no, fire: no, dumping: no, units: 1 unit Kimberly Williams - 12:25 PM, Feb 4
	8111 E Outer Drive structure: yes, use: commercial, condition: good, occupancy: occupied, boarding: no, fire: no, dumping: no Kimberly Williams - 11:04 AM, Feb 4
	11180 Gratiot structure: yes, use: commercial, condition: good, occupancy: unimproved Steven Willis - 10:55 AM, Feb 4
	11288 Gratiot structure: yes, use: commercial, condition: good, occupancy: occupied, boarding: no, fire: no, dumping: no Jonathan Jenkins - 10:43 AM, Feb 4

Property Data

Data Driven Detroit has assembled the **clearest, cleanest, and most comprehensive** dataset for every Detroit property ever created.

Includes:

- ▣ Survey questions
- ▣ 30+ other third-party datasets

Preliminary Overview of the Data

Data From the Field

Structures

Use

Number of Units

External Condition

Occupancy

Boarding Needs

Fire Damage

Dumping

Lots

Use

Improvement

Maintenance

Dumping

Preliminary Overview of the Data

Data From the Field

Structures

Use

Number of Units

External Condition

Occupancy

Boarding Needs

Fire Damage

Dumping

Lots

Use

Improvement

Maintenance

Dumping

Third-Party Datasets

Both Structures & Lots

Ownership

Current & Future Land Use

Tax Foreclosure Status

Taxable Status

Transactions

2009 Condition & Occupancy

Fire

Structures

Historic Designation & Eligibility

Utility Shutoffs

VOD Status

Vacancy



1 IN 2

VACANT LOTS ARE OWNED BY PUBLIC AGENCIES



(114,000) OF THE CITY'S PROPERTIES SURVEYED WERE LOTS

SURVEYED PROPERTIES

377,602 PROPERTIES SURVEYED WITHIN THE CITY

377 K

70% WITH STRUCTURES

(264,000) OF THE CITY'S PROPERTIES SURVEYED INCLUDES A STRUCTURE

1 IN 3

RESIDENTIAL + COMMERCIAL STRUCTURES ARE BLIGHTED

94%

OF PUBLICLY OWNED RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES ARE BLIGHTED



[WHAT WE FOUND]

Of the 84,641 structures and vacant lots in need of intervention:

40,077 structures clearly meet the Task Force definition of "blight" and are recommended for immediate removal. Community engagement will be required to confirm removal or otherwise address significant remedial action for these properties.

38,429 structures have "Blight Indicators" and need further evaluation. The Strategic Assessment Triage Tool, discussed in Chapter 5, can be used to guide the evaluation process. The spectrum of interventions includes rehabilitation, removal, or securing.

At least 6,135 vacant lots showed evidence of dumping and need immediate attention. (Given the record breaking snowfall of 2014, the surveyors had difficulty getting an accurate identification of the vacant lot conditions.)

40,077

STRUCTURES THAT MEET TASK FORCE DEFINITION OF BLIGHT

+ 38,429

STRUCTURES WITH INDICATORS OF FUTURE BLIGHT

78,506

STRUCTURES WITH INDICATORS OF FUTURE BLIGHT

+ 6,135

BLIGHTED VACANT LOTS

84,641

TOTAL PROPERTIES MEETING THE BLIGHT TASK FORCE DEFINITION OF BLIGHT OR HAVE BLIGHT INDICATORS (INTERVENTIONS NEEDED)

An aerial photograph of a city grid, likely New York City, is shown. The image is overlaid with a pattern of orange and white polka dots. The dots are arranged in a grid that follows the city's street layout. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

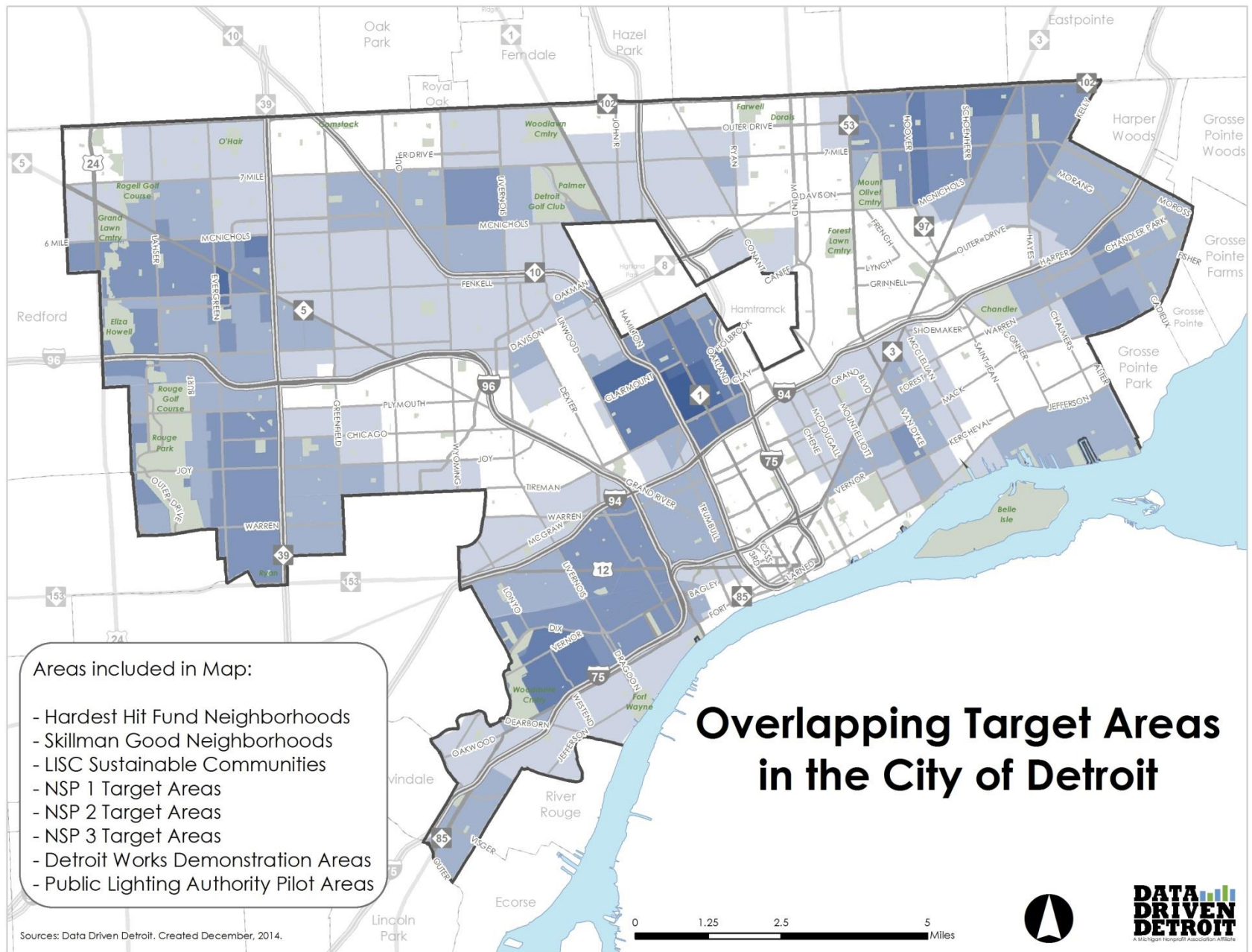
HOW

DOES THE

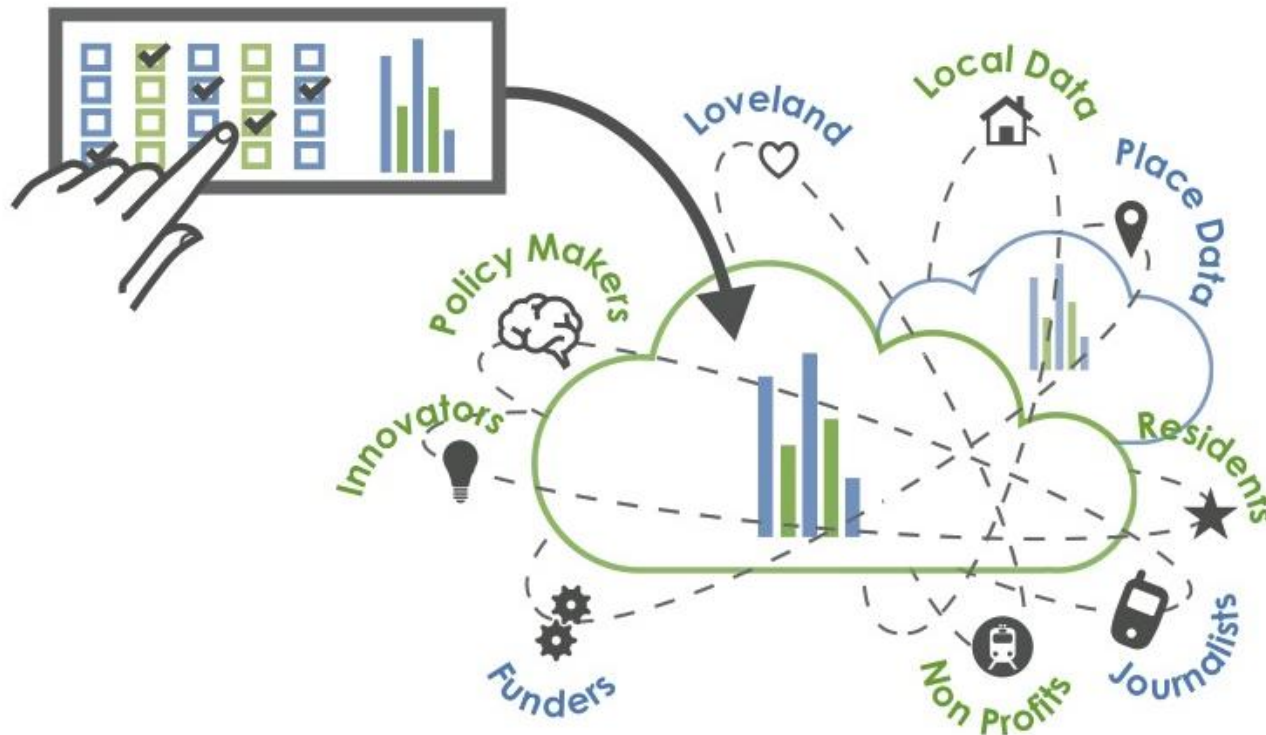
INFORMATION

GUIDE US?

CHAPTER 4

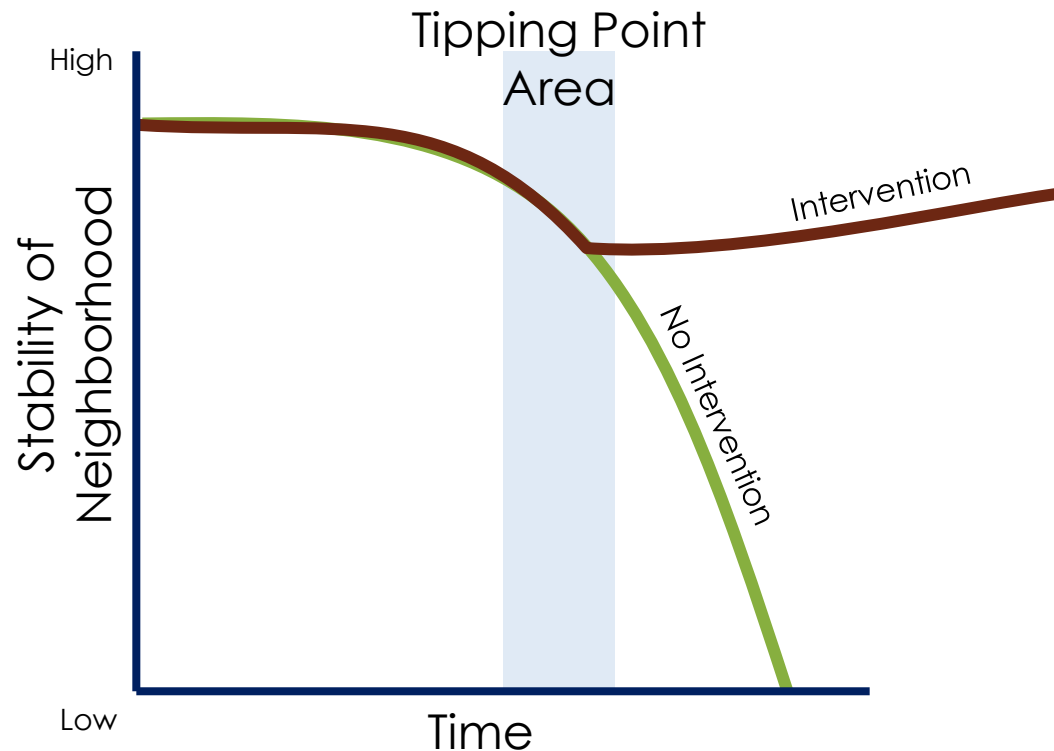


The Data Driven Framework for Maximizing Community Impact (MCI)



Beginning at a Neighborhood Level

Positive impact of intervention is greatest in the “tipping point” neighborhoods



The MCI In Action

Two goals that frame the analysis:

- Improve quality of life for the greatest number of people
- Improve the investment climate to the greatest degree possible

Analytical Choices

Residential



OR

Commercial



Decline



OR

Growth

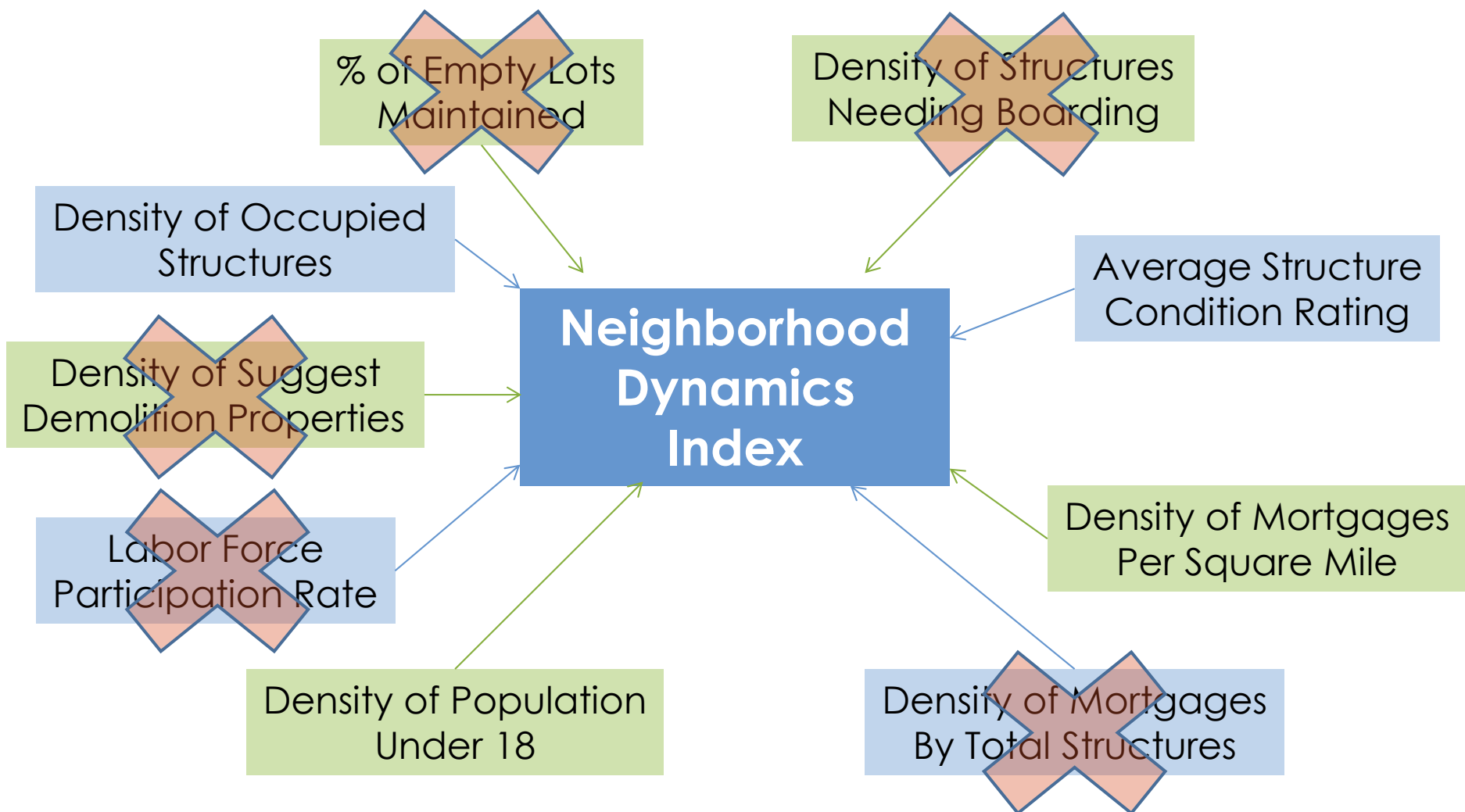


How does it work?

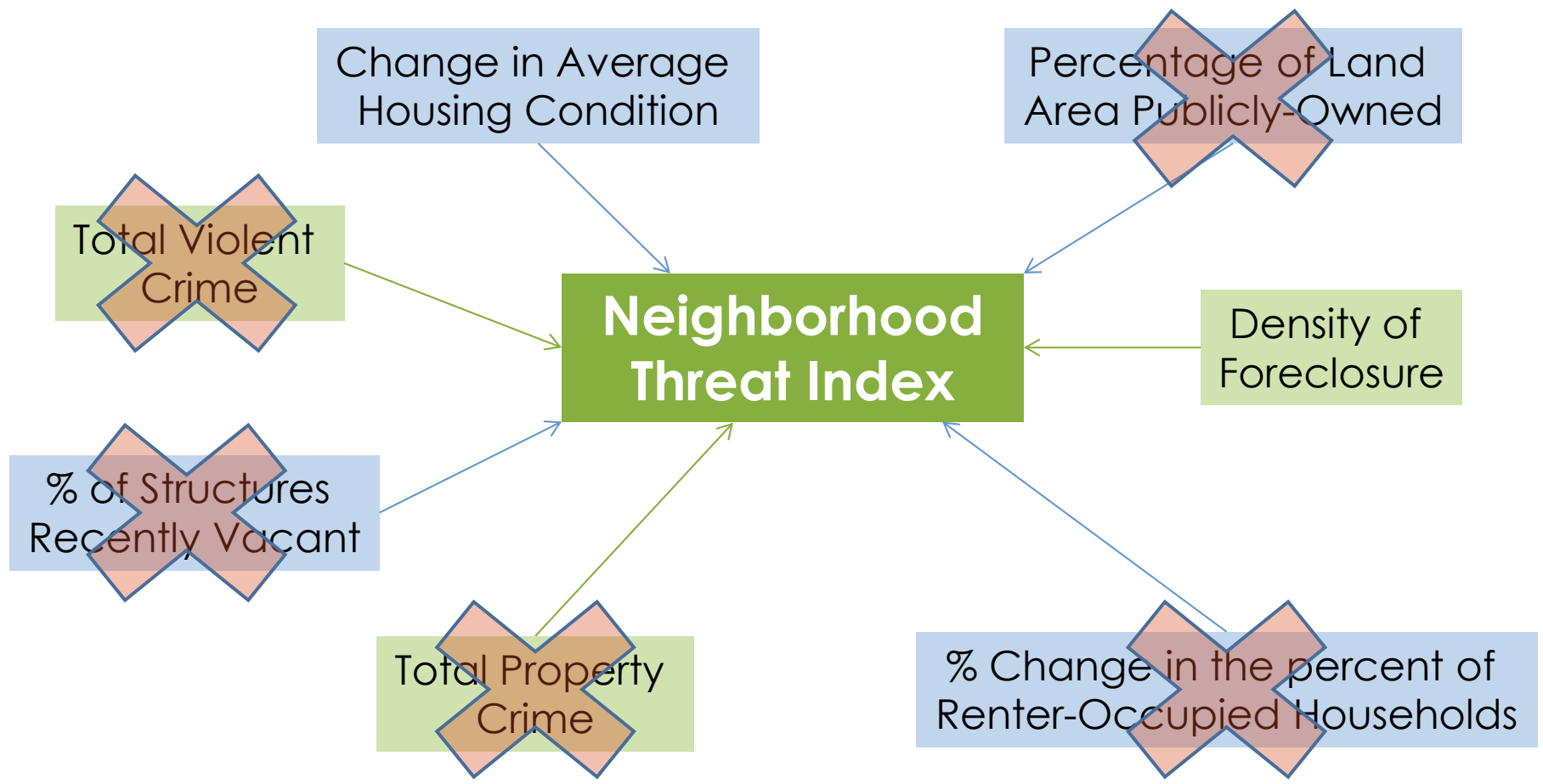
Two-tier process

- ▣ Neighborhood Dynamics Index: Identify areas that best meet objectives for intervention
- ▣ Neighborhood Threat Index: Identify “tipping point” areas within geographies highlighted by Dynamics Index

Checking for Collinearity



Checking for Collinearity



The MCI in Action

Data for the indices were assembled at the Census Block Group level

Neighborhood Dynamics Index

- Occupied Structures per Square Mile
- Average Structure Condition Rating
- Population Under 18 per Square Mile
- Mortgage Transactions per Square Mile

Neighborhood Threat Index

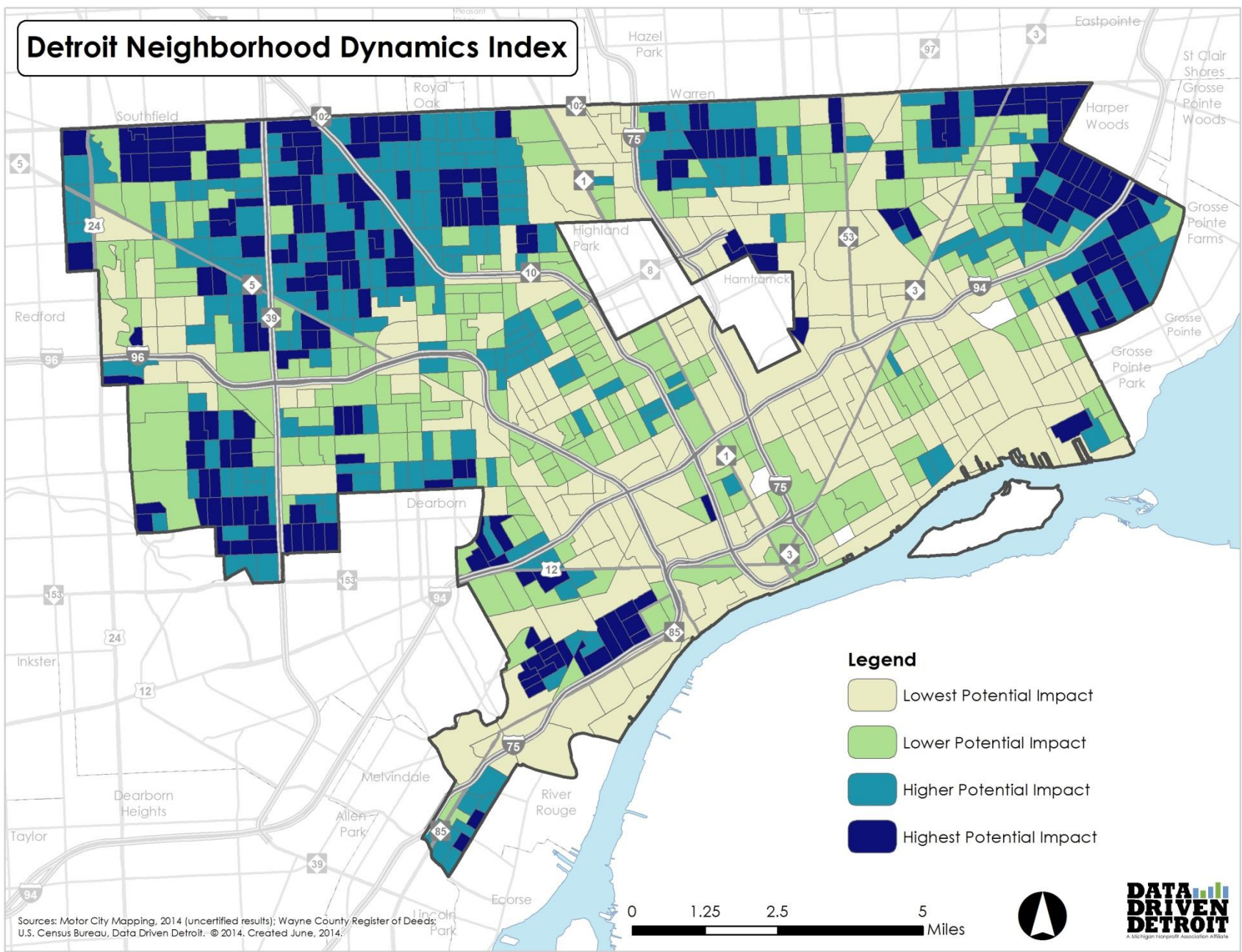
- Foreclosures per Square Mile, 2008-2013 (sum of Sheriff's Sales and Tax Foreclosures)
- Change in residential average condition rating since 2009

How does it work?

Indices are calculated sequentially:

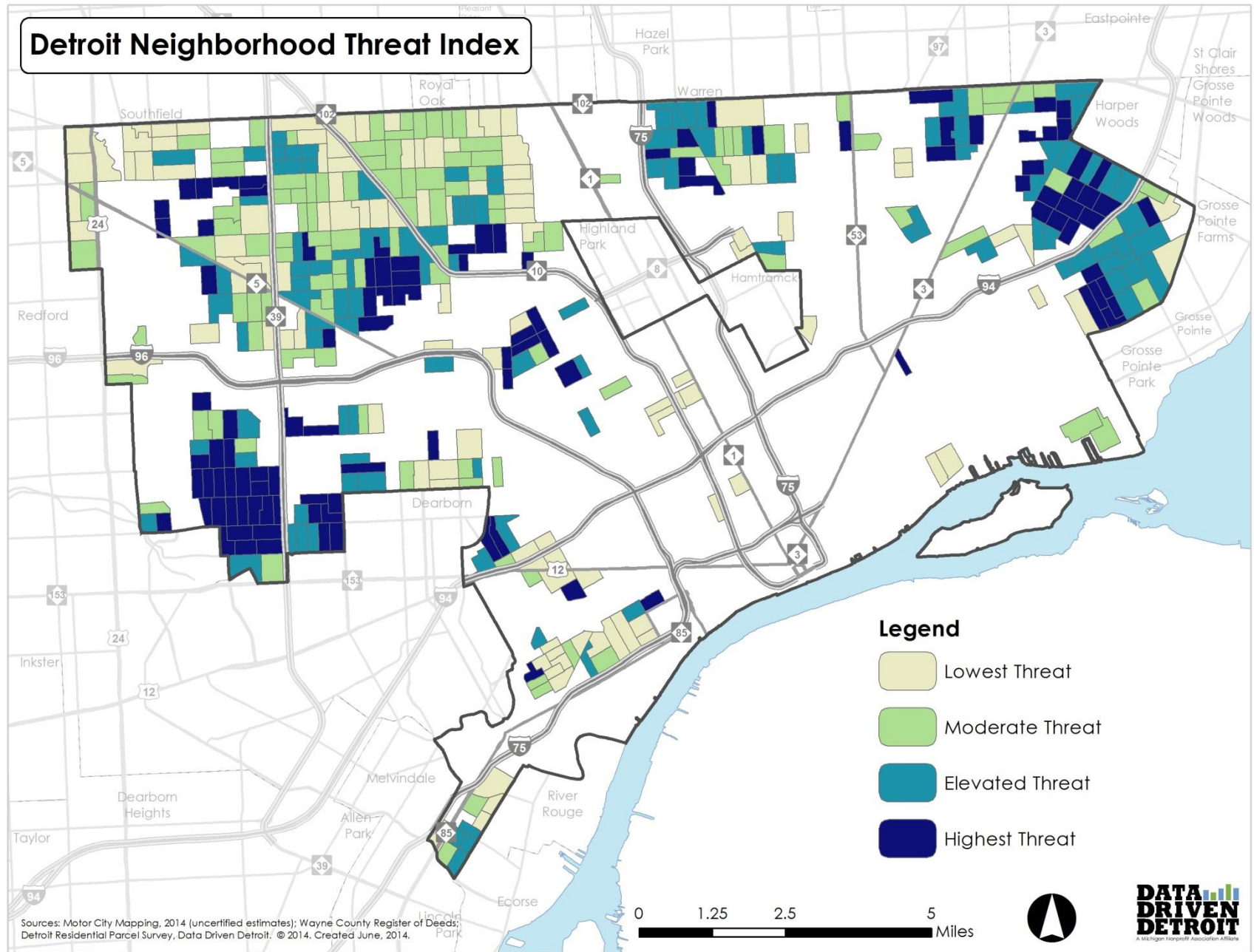


Detroit Neighborhood Dynamics Index



Sources: Motor City Mapping, 2014 (uncertified results); Wayne County Register of Deeds; U.S. Census Bureau, Data Driven Detroit. © 2014. Created June, 2014.

Detroit Neighborhood Threat Index



Summary of High-Threat, High-Impact Neighborhoods

Total Population (2010):
193,384

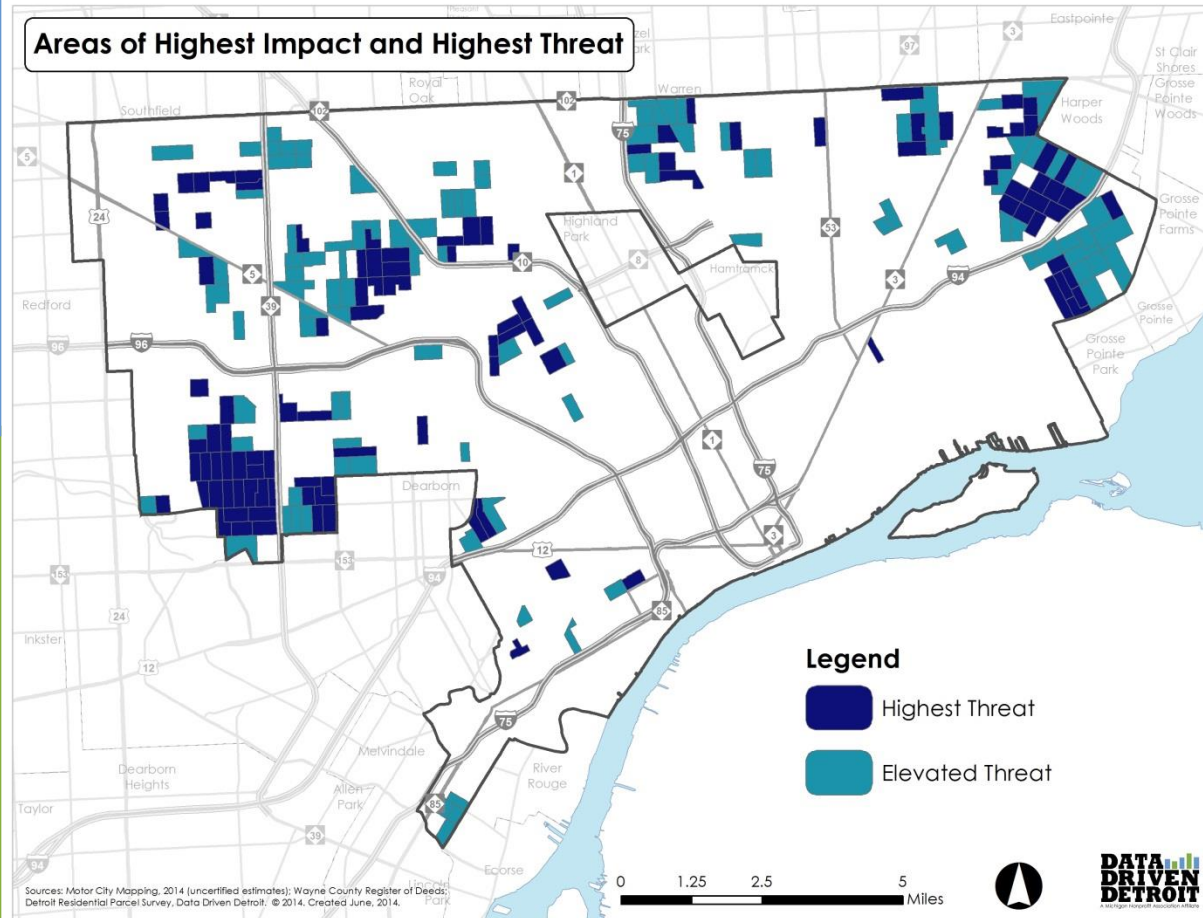
Population <18 (2010):
58,435

Occupied Structures:
61,449

% of Population Under 18:
30.22%

% of Occupied Structures:
30.18%

% of Detroit's Land Area:
15.72%



What Comes After?

Drilling down into the identified High- and Elevated-Threat areas:

- Assess on a parcel and block level which locations are optimal for staging interventions
- Interventions could incorporate a wide range of policy options, including building removal, rehabilitation, and foreclosure prevention

A Foundation for Ongoing Analysis

- The MCI can be periodically re-tooled to account for changing conditions, as long as the data are updated
- Intervention areas will continually evolve as conditions change

MOTOR CITY MAPPING

Continues...



BLEXTING

Survey property, report problems, and track changes in your neighborhood

Survey Detroit



[sign up](#) or [login](#) with a LOVELAND Passport

DATA DRIVEN DETROIT

A Michigan Nonprofit Association Affiliate

DETROIT

Overview

Explore

Blexts

Search

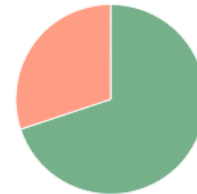
All

Publicly Owned

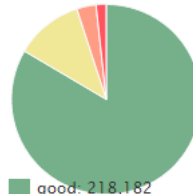
Privately Owned

374,027 properties surveyed

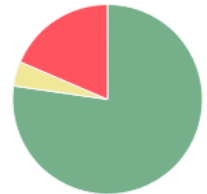
Structures vs Lots



Structure Condition



Structure Occupancy



Lots with Dumping:

5,984



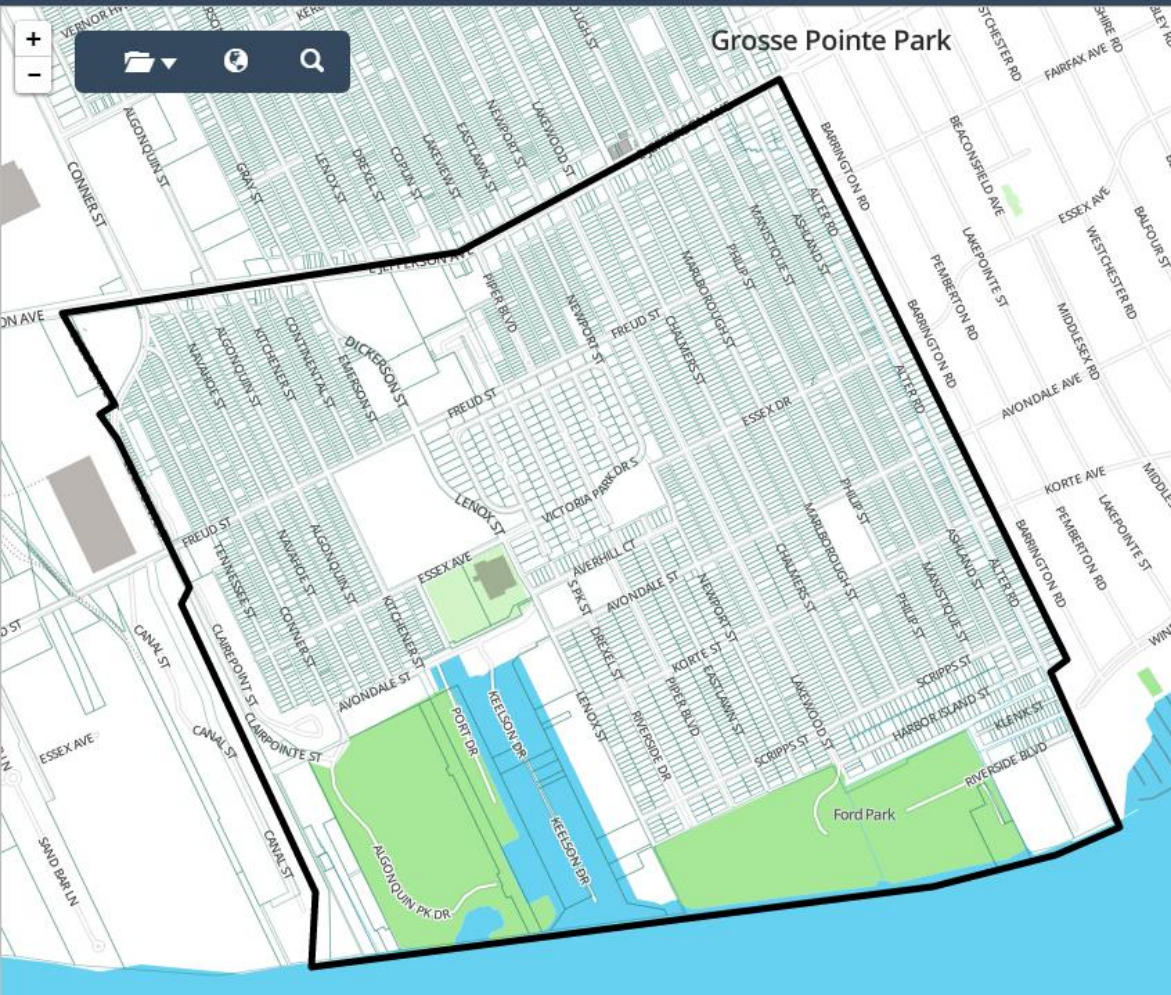
Structures with Fire Damage:

6,919



Structures needing Boarding:

27,708



JEFFERSON CHALMERS

- Overview
- Explore
- Blexts
- Search

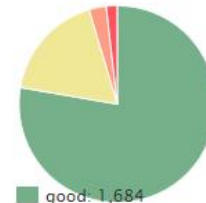
All Publicly Owned Privately Owned

3,586 properties surveyed

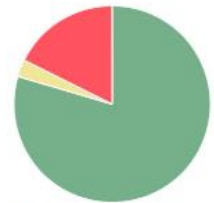
Structures vs Lots



Structure Condition



Structure Occupancy



Lots with Dumping:

65



Structures with Fire Damage:

46

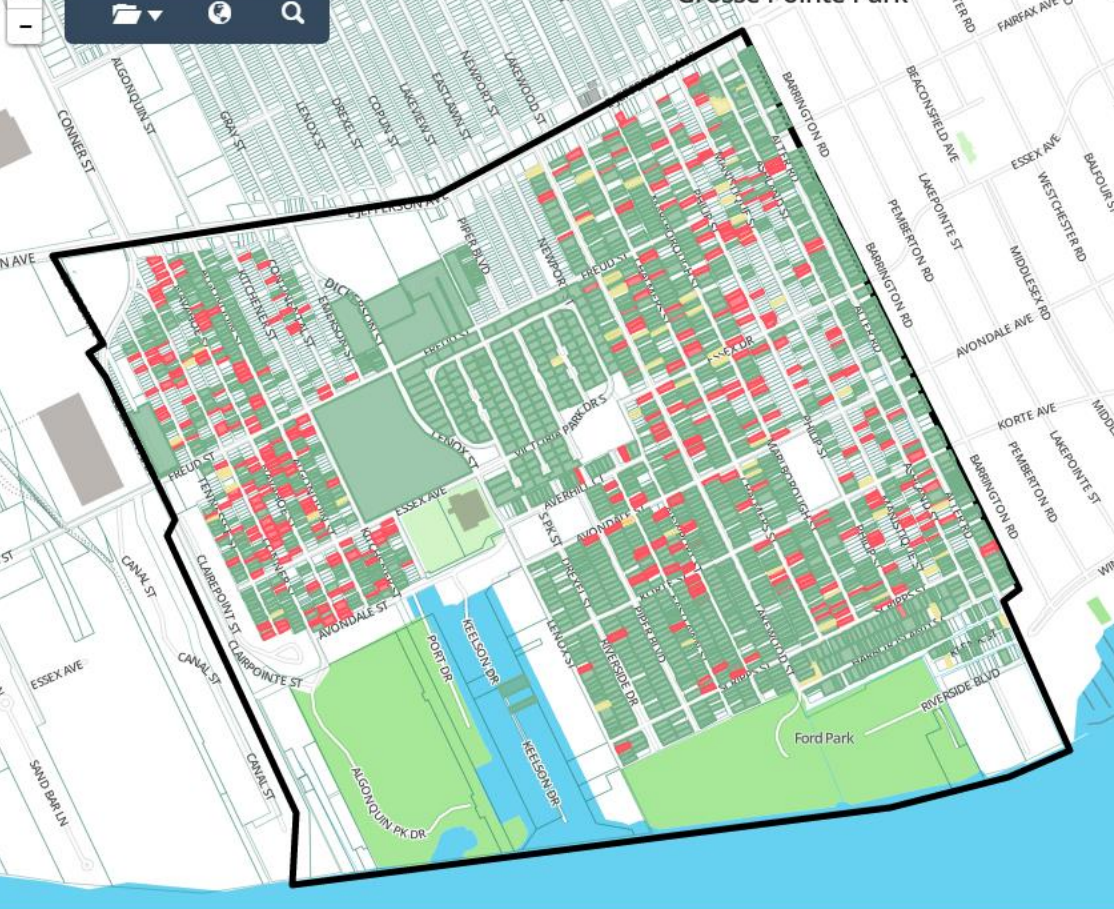


Structures needing Boarding:

232



Grosse Pointe Park



■ occupied ■ possibly occupied ■ unoccupied

JEFFERSON CHALMERS

- Overview
- Explore
- Blexts
- Search

Try these sample searches:

- Residential structures color coded for occupancy
- Structures in need of boarding
- Lots with dumping

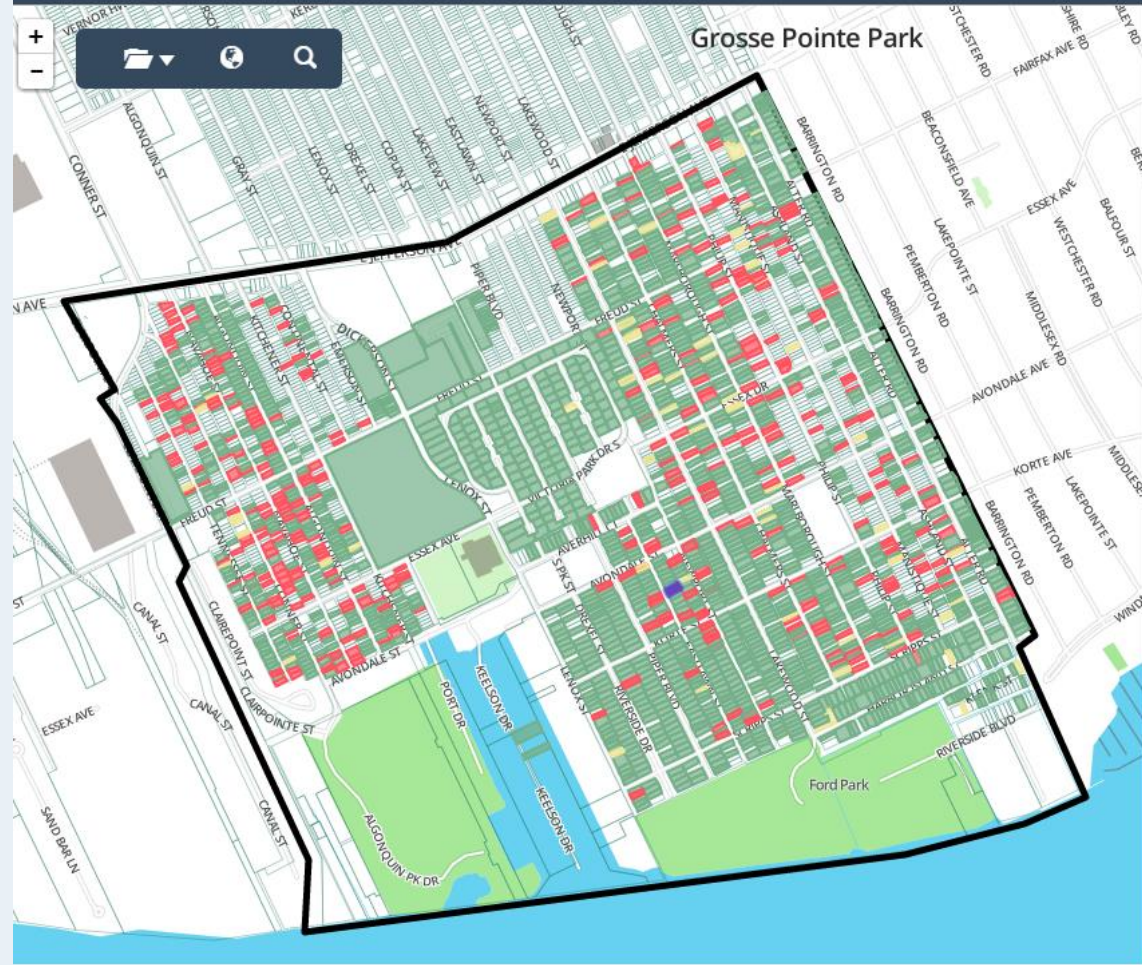
Or design your own:

- Structure: yes no color
- Use: residential unknown private public commercial color
- Occupancy: mixed institutional industrial color
- Occupancy: occupied unoccupied possibly occupied color
- Condition: good fair poor suggest demolition color
- Ownership: public private color

More Filters

- Apply
- Clear

	Properties in This Area	Matches Only
	properties 3879	2099
structure = no	1416	
structure = yes	2463	2099



JEFFERSON CHALMERS

- Overview
- Explore
- Blexts
- Search

350 EASTLAWN

Blexted August 18, 2014



Structure: yes
 Use: residential
 Condition: fair
 Occupancy: unoccupied

« JEFFERSON CHALMERS

Overview Explore Blexts Search

Search for a Place

Go

350 EASTLAWN

Blexted August 18, 2014



Structure: yes
Use: residential
Condition: fair
Occupancy: unoccupied
Needs Boarding: yes
Fire Damage: no
Dumping: no
Units: 1 unit

« JEFFERSON CHALMERS

Overview Explore Blexts Search

Search for a Place

Go

350 EASTLAWN

Blexted December 19, 2013



Structure: yes
Use: residential
Condition: fair
Occupancy: unoccupied
Needs Boarding: yes
Fire Damage: no
Dumping: no
Units: 1 unit
Ownership: private

« JEFFERSON CHALMERS

Overview Explore Blexts Search

Search for a Place

Go

350 EASTLAWN

Street View (August 2013)

Open in Google Maps





Building Detroit

Powered by the Detroit Land Bank Authority



\$12600

📍 4145 Cadieux
SALE DATE: 05/09/2014

1,100 FT² 3 BED 1 BATH



\$1000

📍 4884 Yorkshire
SALE DATE: 05/12/2014

1,600 FT² 3 BED 1.5 BATH



\$1000

📍 5500 Kensington
SALE DATE: 05/14/2014



\$1000

📍 5266 Grayton
SALE DATE: 05/15/2014












\$1000

📍 5261 Grayton
SALE DATE: 05/16/2014

Since July:
Over 400 unique users
submitting over 100,000
records

Remaining Questions

How do we remain as inclusive as possible in every step of the process?

Initiation	Execution	Ownership
 Met with community groups	 Hired residents to do the data collection	 Residents will contribute in an ongoing process
 Involve people in creating the questions	 Find ways to involve those not in the project	 Involve people in the synthesis of the information
 Did we collect the most meaningful data to the most people?	 Will people understand why this work is important?	 How will it impact the actual distribution of resources?

www.DataDrivenDetroit.org

Diana Flora

Diana@DataDrivenDetroit.org

[@dianajflora](#)

TechTown

440 Burroughs #330

Detroit, Michigan 48202



Extra Slides

40K

40,077 structures are recommended for removal as they meet the Task Force definition of blight (Residential and non-residential structures)



RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES
(38,021)



NON-RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES
(2,056)



40,077 STRUCTURES MEET TASK FORCE DEFINITION OF BLIGHT

DATA SET CATEGORIES

Open to the elements
(no doors and/or windows)



Buildings Safety Engineering
Environmental Department
(BSEED) Dangerous Building List



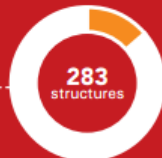
Poor/suggest demo
condition



Fire damage



Dumping



The MCM team identified 40,077 structures that meet the Task Force definition of blight and are candidates for removal. Prior to any building being brought down, it is essential to engage with residents and the community to confirm removal is the appropriate intervention. *(Specific outlines for community engagement can be found in this report in Chapter 2.)*

Structures that are candidates for removal meet any one of the following criteria:

- Reported with Poor or Suggest Demo external condition in the MCM Survey
- Fire Damaged
- Listed in the Buildings, Safety Engineering, and Environmental Department Dangerous Buildings inventory
- Open to the elements or trespass
- Significant dumping

NOTE: Structures fall into one of these categories but may fall into more than one. For example, a structure may be in poor/suggested demo conditions and have fire damage.

38K

38,429 structures with blight indicators and identified for further analysis (Residential and non-residential structures)



RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES
(35,014)



NON-RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES
(3,415)

DATA SET CATEGORIES

Unoccupied Structures



Wayne County Tax Reverter Properties



Sheriff Sales



City Ownership



Detroit Land Bank Authority



2012 Tax Auction Remainder Properties



Fannie Mae / Freddie Mac



Michigan Land Bank



NOTE: Structures fall into one of these categories but may fall into more than one. For example, a structure may be both unoccupied and a Michigan Land Bank property.

[BLIGHT REMOVAL TASK FORCE PLAN]



38,429 STRUCTURES WITH INDICATORS OF FUTURE BLIGHT

Properties in this category meet criteria that are referred to as properties having Blight Indicators and will need further evaluation to identify the appropriate intervention. Structures within this category meet any one of the following criteria:

- Unoccupied and/or abandoned
- Land Bank & city ownership
- Wayne County ownership (including reverter clause)
- Sheriff's Deed
- Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac ownership

While these properties may otherwise be considered non-blight (i.e., arguably in good or fair condition) today, based on these characteristics, there is a high probability that they will devolve into Blight in the near future and need to be removed. The Task Force recommends further inspection and data gathering to confirm this intervention approach.

While MCM has collected a robust database of property information, additional factors need to be considered prior to deciding how to intervene on these specific properties. In addition to getting direct feedback from the community, the Task Force recommends using the Strategic Assessment Triage Tool (SATT) to gather additional information. (The SATT tool is explained in more detail in Chapter 5.)

Properties included in the group of properties with "Blight Indicators" and in need of further analysis does not mean that doing nothing is an option. For all of these structures, one of three interventions will be needed: removal, through demolition (utilizing deconstruction in some cases), restoration back to code, or, secure and maintain until a new use can be found.

During conversations with local deconstruction and demolition contractors, the Task Force learned that structures in this category have a high likelihood of resulting in candidates for removal. Primarily, contractors find that rehabilitation is cost prohibitive from a market perspective. While there are circumstances where individuals, government and developers may pay or invest more than the market value to restore a structure, such instances are rare. One example would be a home inherited from a family member which has sentimental value. Another example is when developers are trying to bolster the real estate market in a particular neighborhood. Based on the information gathered, the Task Force assumed that 80-90 percent of properties with Blight Indicators (or approximately 32,000 of the structures in this category) will need to be removed in the near future.

This would result in an anticipated blight removal candidate pool of approximately 72,000 structures (40,077 parcels that meet the definition of blight + 32,000 parcels that represent 80-90 percent of the parcels with blight indicators).

Calculating the Indices

$(3 + 1.5 - 1 - 0.5)/4 = \text{NEIGHBORHOOD DYNAMICS SCORE} = 0.75$

