

UC MINI GRANTS 2019-2020

Addressing Jobs-Housing Mismatches Using the MSM Tool: Applied Community Workshops and Case Studies.

Noah Durst, Holly Madill and Harmony Gmazel

Spatial mismatches between housing and employment opportunities in Michigan contribute to longer commutes, higher transportation costs, increased traffic congestion, and greater spatial inequality for racial minorities and low-income residents. The newly released Michigan Spatial Mismatch (MSM) Tool (<http://MSMTool.spdc.msu.edu>) is an online mapping and data visualization tool developed with funding from the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPS). Funding from a prior Urban Collaborators mini grant was used to design, promote, and conduct a half-day workshop to introduce local officials in Oakland County, Michigan, to the MSM Tool.

Development of urban Extension outcome metrics

Yue Cui, Mark Rankin and Marie Ruemenapp

Develop and test evaluation metrics to assess the progress toward adoption and integration of the Five Foundational Elements into MSU Extension's overall programming models and organizational operations. The five foundational elements are: positioning of Extension in urban settings for success, offering programming to meet the needs and interests of urban residents, appropriate staffing/personnel models, building collective impact partnerships, and having necessary internal support and resources.

Developing CPTED Visual Handbook for Mid-Sized Cities

Linda Nubani, Harmony Gmazel and Holly Madill

Since CPTED is becoming an ordinance in the City of Lansing, there has been some resistance from business owners to embrace the changes that may impact their business operations/ revenues. Similar resistance was shown in other cities like Philadelphia. When CPTED was born in the 70s, there was a need to co-develop these strategies with the involvement of residents. As per my meeting with City Hall and as per the feedback we received in our design charrette with the residents of Lansing last Feb 2019, there has been an expressed (urgent) need to provide resources to residents and owners that are easy to use and follow. Currently, we are working with Albion, Howell and Adrian, and they have also expressed the same needs – lack of CPTED guidelines. The purpose of this study is to tailor and create visual CPTED handbook that will available to serve small and mid-sized cities.

Access to Culturally Appropriate Foods in Ethnic/Minority Neighborhoods

Zeenat Kotval-K, and Naim Edwards

Continuing a research line relating to access to food systems, I would now like to target neighborhoods in cities with a majority of non-white residents with higher than average food-related health risks (as provided by the CDC's 500 Cities database) and look at what access to fresh and healthy produce means to them. I'd like to see the availability and the demand for culturally appropriate foods and see how that relates to health outcomes of residents in those neighborhoods. As an example, I'd like to target the northside neighborhood in Detroit for a start, but if other Cities would like to partner as well, I'd be grateful. Interaction with residents could take the form of mail-in surveys or focus group sessions.