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Oakland Forum Mapping Project: A Progress Report

John Landis



The University-Oakland Metropolitan Forum is a partnership of the University of California at Berkeley; California State University, Hayward; Mills College; Holy Names College; the Peralta Community College District; and the Oakland community.

University of California at Berkeley
Institute of Urban and Regional Development

OAKLAND FORUM MAPPING PROJECT: A PROGRESS REPORT

Coordinator: John Landis

The Oakland Forum Mapping Project provides sophisticated computerized mapping support to other Oakland Forum Projects. The Mapping Project is designed to demonstrate the usefulness of "off-the-shelf" mapping software in assisting local planners, policy-makers, and community interests. Thus far, four "applications" have been developed using a commercially available mapping package known as LandTrak. These applications are designed to demonstrate the types of public and private planning activities which may be enhanced through computer mapping and analysis.

A. Assessor Files <Jonathan Levine>

Using computerized tax assessor files obtained from the City of Oakland, we are able to "address-match" and then map and summarize current land uses, tax assessments, and other parcel information by street and location within the San Antonio Community Development District. Such a database could be useful for a variety of activities, including local economic and community development, analysis of existing land use patterns, future tax assessment, and general planning.

B. Current Establishments by Industry <Andrea Morgan>

Using business addresses, we are able to map and summarize the locations and patterns of small businesses in the city of Oakland by type of business (e.g. Banks, Food Stores, etc.). Such a database could be especially useful for retail market analysis, for identifying new opportunities, and for determining which areas are "understored."

C. Auto Break-ins <Jonathan Levine and John Landis>

Using confidential data supplied by the Oakland Police Department, we are able to map, analyze, and summarize, all reported auto break-ins (the most commonly reported crime in Oakland) in the city of Oakland during 1987. This application would be extremely useful for helping plan patrol beats and routes, and for identifying the spatial incidence and pattern of crime. During the next six months, with assistance of the Police Department, we plan to map other crime types.

D. Home Sales <John Landis>

Using data on single-family home sales obtained from the DAMAR Corporation, we are able to map and analyze home sales within Oakland, by location, during 1988. This application would be useful for analyzing housing trends, and for community development planning.

In addition to expanding the applications described above, during the next six months we hope to develop a new application around the provision of child-care services.

A second package, pcARC/INFO, is being used for different types of mapping activities. Using pcARC/INFO, researcher David delaTorre has developed improved procedures for updating zoning maps and districts, and for local area analysis. During the next six months, pcARC/INFO will be used to develop a complete inventory of vacant land parcels in Oakland.

WE WELCOME IDEAS FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE OAKLAND FORUM AS WELL AS THE INTERESTED PUBLIC FOR NEW APPLICATION AREAS AND TASKS.

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