

Blight & Violent Crime Urban Data Pioneers



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What we Started With



Project Overview: Examine the relationship between Blight and Violent Crime.

Definitions for purposes of this project:

Blight: a property that's fallen into disrepair and decrepitude

Violent Crime: under FBI uniform crime reporting, violent crime includes (1) murder & nonnegligent homicide, (2) forcible rape, (3) robbery, and (4) aggravated assault.

Questions we hoped data would answer

Is there a way to visualize the relationship between blight and/or abandoned properties and violent crime? Possible questions we might answer with the data:

- Is there a way to test the hypothesis that “Blight leads to violent crime” with the data that we can access?
 - If correct, is there additional data that if accessed would allow us to predict blight and in turn prevent violent crime?
- Can we predict blight and inform strategies for reducing the likelihood that a property will become so deteriorated that the only option is demolition?
- Can we predict blight and share information more timely with community partners to come up with innovative solutions to avoid blight?

Datasets we wanted to look at



Dataset	Data Owner	How will data help us?	Attributes that would be informative
Demo Schedule	WIN	We can see what properties are scheduled for demolitions (can we see when they should be demolished?). This should tell us what properties have reached the “no turning back” stage and have to be torn down.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Address 2.How investigation initiated (call complaint? Or WIN agent saw while in the field?) 3.Date that WIN inspected 4.Date scheduled for demo 5.Reason property is scheduled for demo
??	WIN	Is there additional data that WIN keeps on properties that might not necessarily be scheduled for demo, but are likely candidates for demo in the future?	
Fire Runs - Occupied/Abandoned	TFD	If Fire goes on a run and indicates that a house is abandoned that might help us see vacancies and other properties that are “no turning back” but not necessarily on WIN’s list	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Date of Fire run 2.Status of the property according to TFD (occupied/abandoned) 3.Additional information on structure (e.g. 25% burned out)
Assessor parcels - non-taxpayers	County Assessor	<p>Would also help to identify potentially abandoned homes.</p> <p>Does the Assessor “condition” and “quality” field data really mean anything to this project?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Address 2.Date last taxes paid 3.Assessed condition of the property
Water usage	Water & Sewer/Finance-Utilities	This would show where there is no water service. If we could see the date the service ended and look at properties with maybe more than 90 days without service we might better identify abandoned homes that aren’t necessarily “no turning back”	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Address 2.Date of last service
Violent Crime	TPD	This would be able to show us where actual violent crime occurs.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Crime type 2.Date of crime 3.Address/geolocation
Illegal Dumping	Streets & Stormwater	This would show us locations where people frequently dump trash. Might help us to see locations where people have decided “no one cares what happens here”.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Location 2.Date of inspection 3.Date of cleanup

Datasets we actually looked at



Dataset	Data Owner	How will data help us?	On a scale of 1 (not helpful at all) -5 (extremely helpful) how helpful was it?	How did the data inform?
Demo Schedule	WIN	We can see what properties are scheduled for demolitions (can we see when they should be demolished?). This should tell us what properties have reached the “no turning back” stage and have to be torn down.	5	We were able to see all locations that have been considered “blight” by WIN over previous years. We were also able to see the different ways the property was handled (demolished, rehabbed by owner, rehabbed with grant funds, etc.)
Assessor parcels - non-taxpayers	County Assessor	Would also help to identify potentially abandoned homes. Does the Assessor “condition” and “quality” field data really mean anything to this project?	2	We don’t know this data as well so we had a lot of questions like: 1. How often do they update the data? 2. What criteria do they use in considering value?
Violent Crime	TPD	This would be able to show us where actual violent crime occurs.	5	We were able to look more closely at areas and click on condensed crimes & see if they were similar or different (for example, some neighborhoods have a higher probability of robbery while others are more likely to experience murder)
Illegal Dumping	Streets & Stormwater	This would show us locations where people frequently dump trash. Might help us to see locations where people have decided “no one cares what happens here”.	4	This was REALLY fascinating data to look at on the map. From what we could tell it really looks like illegal dumping happens just on the perimeter of a “hot spot” for crime and blight.
Demographic data**	Census	We were able to look at maps with various demographic data turned on and off.		Some things we looked at were: (1) year structure built, (2) median income by Census tract, (3)

How does Blight Work in Tulsa?



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Inspection by
WIN agent

Property
identified as
blight based
upon state &
local laws

Work with
owner to
rehab property
if possible
(identify
funding and
assistance
where able)

If not
rehabilitated in
timely manner

Demolish =
Method of
LAST Resort

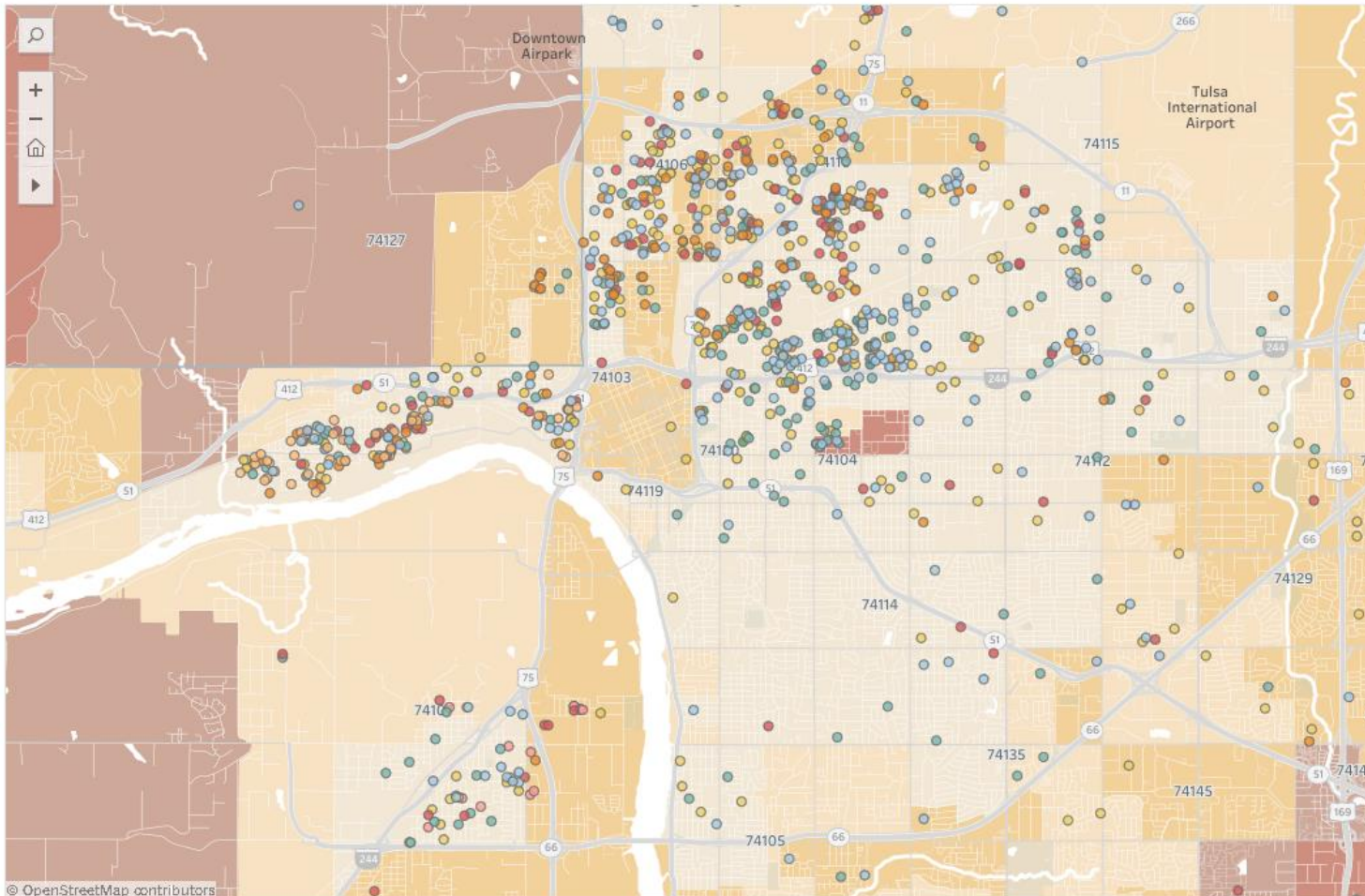
How the data looked

< My Profile

 Edit Details

 Download Workbook

Sheet 1



Case Group Code Desc

- (All)
- Null
- ARRA FUNDED DE...
- CHARLES PAGE CD...
- DEMOLITION
- Escrow Account
- GENFRAI FIINDF

Closure Code Desc

- (All)
- Null
- COMBINATION SE...
- COURTESY NOTIC...
- CUSTOMER SERVI...
- LEGAL NOTICE/VO...
- I FGAI NOTICFAW

Assigned Yr

- (All)
- 2012
- 2013
- 2014
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017

Case Group Code Desc

- Null
- ARRA FUNDED DE...
- CHARLES PAGE CD...
- DEMOLITION
- Escrow Account
- GENERAL FUNDED...

2017 Year Structure Built...

- 0 to 1960
- 1960 to 1970
- 1970 to 1980
- 1980 to 1990
- 1990 to 2020

**But Matt Made some even cooler
maps**



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**SHOW
THEM
WHAT
YOU
DID
MATT!!**

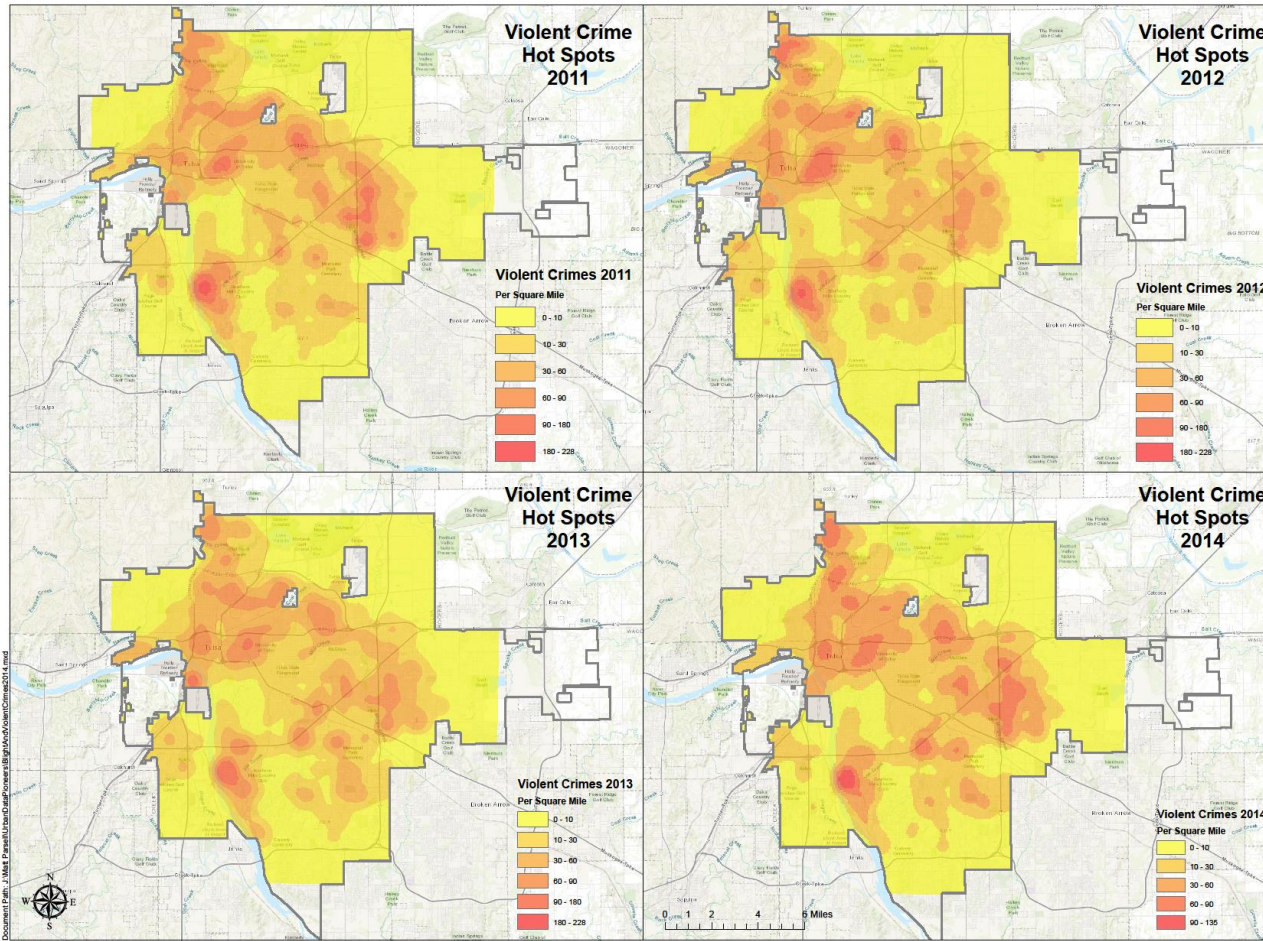


Opportunities for Non-Profit Organizations

- Using Data to inform Innovative Strategies for Neighborhood Improvement
- Using Data to Inform Housing & Partner Interventions
- Using WIN & Neighborhood data
- Future Implications for Data Collection, Research, & Measuring Impact



Kendall-Whitter Case Example



So what next?



- Blight is a **Public Safety** issue. How might we as an organization **shift perception** to improve internal and external partnerships to reduce blight and empower neighborhoods to help their neighbors and feel safe?
- Blight data should be in really **user friendly open data** format AND community partners should be made aware of it's availability and ways they might use it
- We need a more **accurate** and **robust inventory** of all properties that are considered blight.
- How might we **crowd-source** that?
 - KANA
 - ESRI Collector App
 - Editable web application
 - Other suggestions?