

Suggestions and Comments from NH Roundtable of 11-03-07

General comments

1. City, county, state, United Way data needs to be articulated especially for POS/human service providers
2. Modeling world statistically can be wrong approach – direct observation may be more useful/efficient
3. Does not substitute for talking to residents
4. How does data really get used? Is it a waste of time
5. Statistics are useful to give legitimacy to observations – can be a good starting point to drive exploration of issues
6. City envisions a web-based model
7. Broad averages to rank neighborhoods will be avoided
8. Purpose of data gathering must be clear to public
9. Analysis of data must be honest & transparent
10. Critical to remember real people stand behind numbers
11. Be careful to compare apples to apples. Time changes. Study cohorts
12. Look at future data needs – example CO₂ footprint
13. City wishes to keep data value-neutral (example: both high & low housing values can be good)
14. Corp. America does not make data-driven decisions – or at least data is not the final decider
15. Easy citizen access is critical – web-based/open access
16. Connectivity as category... include transportation issues
17. School districts divide n'hoods, e.g. Allied
18. Value neutral indicators
19. What has Charlotte NC done with indicators?
20. City, United Way, other agencies can use
21. Constituents, NA's, etc should help assess meaning of data, youth/students too
22. Annual data publication/report – micro-level/macro-level of n'hoods
23. Discussion of pilot area... SW side? TBD
24. Concern about redlining, other discriminatory practices
25. System can help identifying issues in “quiet” n'hoods or “declining” n'hoods
26. Prediction of decline not helpful!
27. ASSETS – identify
28. Stakeholders – nonresident property & biz owners should be included & notified

Statistical profile

1. Race/ethnicity trends
2. Language needs

Public Safety

1. Add of probation & parole enrollees
2. Correlation between crime & n'hood indicators

Health and Family Well-Being

1. Childcare data -- 4C's has with early trouble indicators from WI Shares – BadgerCare + birth data as well
2. Add # or % of visit-able units
3. Resident mobility – like MPS student mobility data
4. Add % of people with health insurance
5. Community-cultural centers = missing
6. Gross national happiness, levels of “poverty”... lack of time, lack of connections between people, residential turnover
7. MMSD indicators...
8. Walk-ability/bike-ability/ADA accessibility
9. Highways that divide n'hoods – e.g. Verona Rd, E Wash, Park St

Community Action & Involvement

1. Voter turn-out better measure than voter registration
2. Quality & sufficiency of programs (example, libraries) are both issues
3. If you track voting data look at aldermanic elections 00 both contested & unopposed candidates
4. community/n'hood relationships... hard to measure... how long does it take for info to travel
5. survey: how do we perceive n'hood
6. Info about residents' occupations – to tap for volunteering, etc

7. Map democratic participation in city decision-making – membership of city committees – where they live?
8. N'hood plan?

Economic Vitality

1. Economic indicators should include home-based business
2. Add some sense of availability of a local service core (grocery, library, etc)
3. How can this system help neighborhoods facing major commercial & infrastructure changes plan ahead (example, Spring Harbor)
4. FTE employment #s as economic indicator
5. Locally owned business retention
6. Locally located, local business survival
7. Presence of small businesses – also tenure
8. Real un- and under-employment stats
9. Both qualitative & quantitative data have uses
10. Need to balance the work of keeping data current & accurate with other efforts
11. Need an on-going data monitoring process
12. # liquor stores/payday loans... parasite forms
13. Proximity to n'hood business districts that provide basic goods & services: banks, grocery stores, daycare, pharmacy, etc
14. GIS data can be applied to other info – grocery stores, check cashing stores
15. Locally owned biz vs chains
16. Access to living wage jobs, educ opportunities
17. Biz retail longevity – turnover, retention, biz assoc?

Housing Quality and Availability

1. Tracking type & age of building stock might be useful
2. Building condition could be useful