Building stronger urban communities

in partnership with North Minneapolis

Capital Investment Committee

Impact of Investment

University of Minnesota Robert J. Jones Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center | 2001 Plymouth Avenue North, Minneapolis, MN 55411 612-626-UROC (8762) | uroc.umn.edu



Genesis of UROC

- What is the University's Urban Agenda?
- How does the University think differently about its role as an urban serving university?
- How could this role transform the University in how we work with communities?



UROC Signature Projects (Direct Engagement)

- Health
 - Trauma Recovery Project (Bush Innovation)
 - Juvenile Sex Trafficking (Women's Foundation)
- Economic Development
 - Northside Job Creation Team (Minneapolis Foundation)
- Education
 - Prepare 2Nspire



UROC Affiliated Projects (Catalyzing Engagement)

- •60+ University-Community partnerships involving 35+ academic programs and 40 community organizations.
- •50+ graduate and undergraduate University students employed in work ranging from data collection to literature review
- •400+ participants each year in UROC's Critical Conversation discussion series.



UROC Outreach/Engagement

- Publically shared space
- Art gallery and hospitality station
- •Community Affairs Committee and UMN Engagement Zone work
- Good neighbor and trust building in the community
- More than 2,050 visitors each month



UROC Principles

- ✓Partnership
- Mutual Benefit
- ✓Transformation
 - Multiple ways of knowing
 - Different ways of doing
- ✓Transparency
- Dissemination (creative and ongoing)
- Action and Follow-through



Research Agenda

- Community Healing and Wholeness
- Systems and Systemic Racism
- Individual, Family and Community Financial Well Being

UROC Research over the next five years

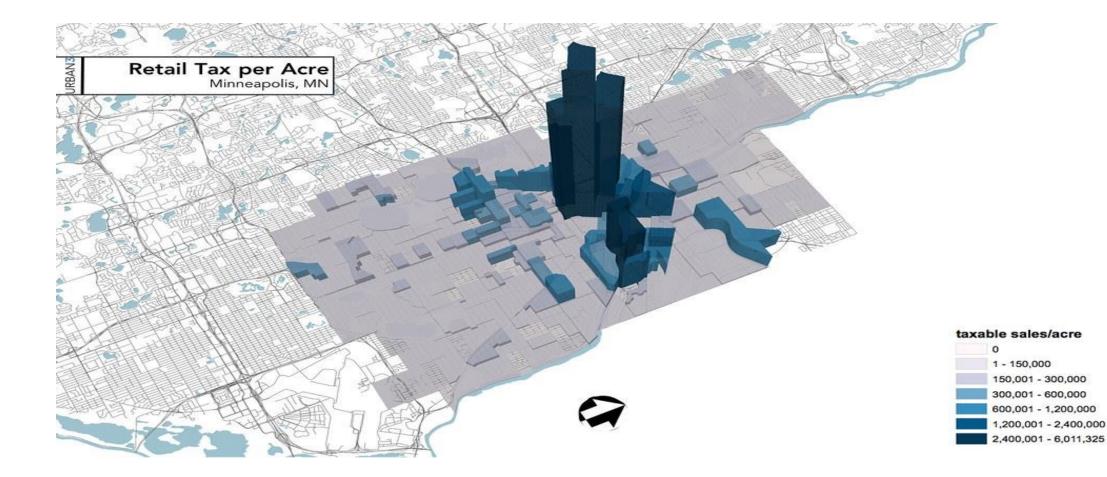


Freeway and other Factors

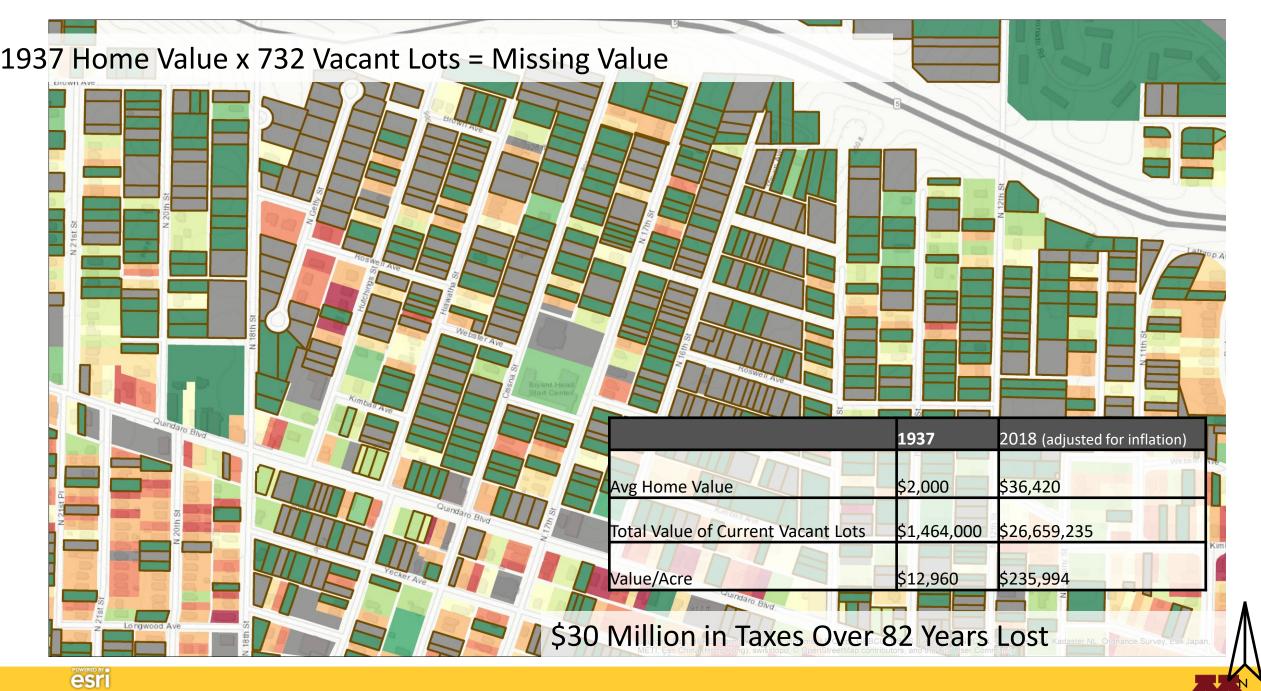
- Frogtown Green Line Development
 - Rhondo and 94
- Sears Closes 1994
 Midtown Global Market 2006
- Upper Harbor Terminal
 A NEW OPPORTUNITY



Investment has impact







Source: Wyandotte Unified Government

- Communities that invest in mixed-use, walkable downtowns, centers, and neighborhoods provide economic advantages for individuals and businesses, and strengthen their tax base.
- Individuals benefit because jobs are created when neighborhoods revitalize and household budgets are improved by rising walkability.



Businesses benefit because placemaking is a primary driver of investment, according to <u>Urban Land Institute scholar Edward McMahon</u>. In today's economy, the quality of place is paramount, he says.
"Decisions such as where to invest, where to work, where to retire, and where to vacation are all made based on what a community looks like," he explains. "In a world where capital is footloose, if you can't differentiate [your town] from any other, you have no competitive advantage."



 Evidence of "place" value can be found in Walk Score, where real estate broker <u>Redfin found</u> that a one point increase translates to an average \$3,000 rise in house value nationwide. Neighborhoods with high Walk Scores correlate with unique character and high quality of life, and feature appealing streets and public spaces.



 Compact central business district properties yield 10 times more tax revenue per acre than conventional suburban development, according to <u>Building Better Budgets</u>: A National Examination of the Fiscal Benefits of Smart Growth Development. "When you do the math, it is easy to see that dense downtown development returns a greater investment to the community than putting tax dollars towards sprawl," says Joe Minicozzi of Urban3, a firm that has analyzed patterns of tax return in metro areas nationwide.



