## Mapping Poverty Levels in Support of Economic Development Projects

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### **PURPOSE**

The following analysis serves as an example of conveying the geographic need as it relates to poverty concentration in support of applying for funding economic development grant funding.

The process/method used serves as a framework for community and economic professionals seeking to communicate need.

#### **METHOD OF ANALYSIS**

To support funding applications for economic development projects, we analyzed Census Bureau population and income data (from the most current American Communities Survey).

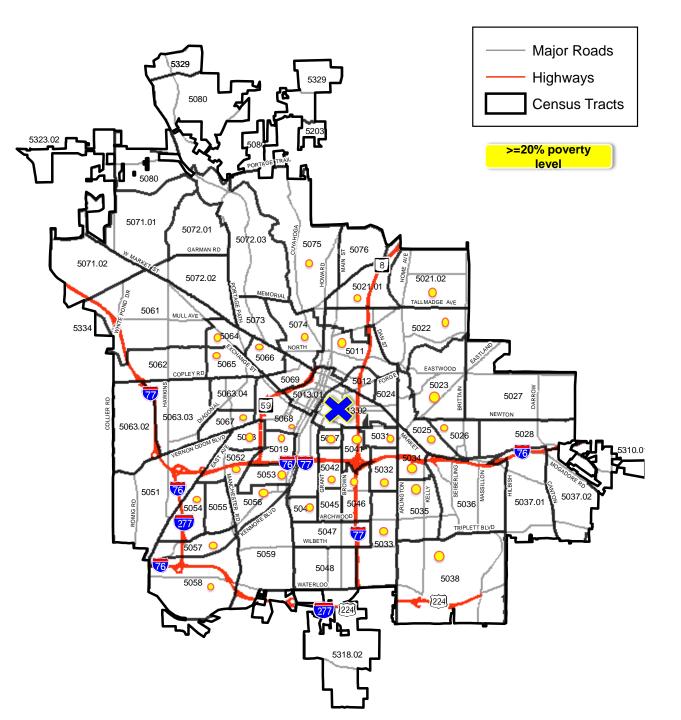
These data were converted into percentages of people in poverty by Census Tract to find areas of at least a 20% overall poverty level.

The poverty percentages were converted to absolute numbers of people whose incomes were below the poverty rate for the prior 12 months.

The geographical areas of the Census Tracts were measured from central city location in 1 mile increments (1, 2, 3, 4, +4).

The Census Tracts were then geographically split into distance, with the population assumed to be distributed equally across each geography.

For the areas with at least a 20% overall poverty rate, we calculated the number of persons in poverty over the past 12 months by distance from central city.



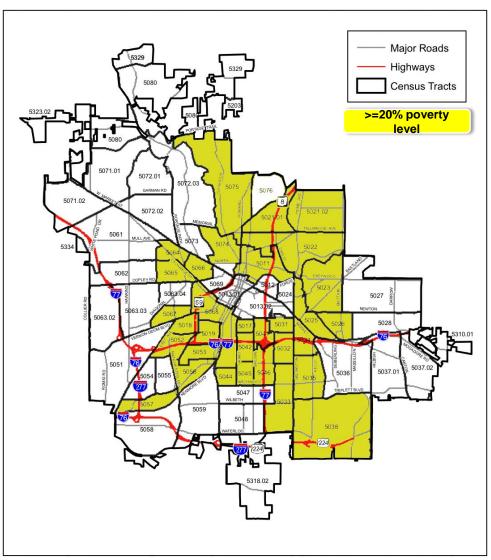
A focus on development plans that takes place in a number of locations near the center of (shown with a blue x in the diagram) can create job opportunities that reach into the surrounding areas of the city.

Yellow dots indicate areas that have a 20% or greater percentage of people whose incomes are less than the poverty level over the past 12 months.

#### Map 1 2000 Census Tracts

City of Akron, OH

#### 2009 Consolidated Plan



# The highlights show the areas with high pockets of poverty

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5057 5058 27.8% 66.8% 5322.02 67.8 67.2 66.8% 5323.02 0.0% 100.0% 5329.01 67.2 67.2 67.2 67.2 67.2 67.2 67.2 67.2				5318.02	2.0%	98.0%
5058 27.8% 72.2% 5323.02 0.0% 100.0% 5329.01 n/a n/a 5329.02 1.9% 98.1% 5330 n/a n/a 5334 30.5% 69.5%				5322.02	n/a	
5329.01 n/a n/a 5329.02 1.9% 98.1% 5330 n/a n/a 5334 30.5% 69.5%				5323.02	0.0%	100.0%
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5330 n/a n/a 5334 30.5% 69.5%				5329.02	1.9%	98.1%
5334 30.5% 69.5%						
Akron City 73 9% 76 1%				Akron City	23.9%	76.1%

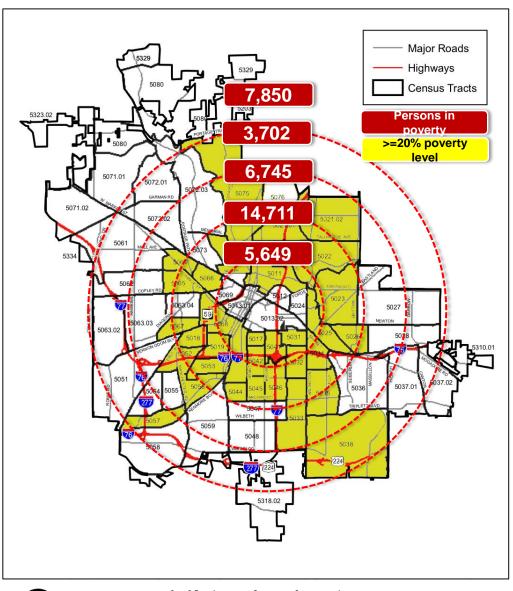




#### Map 1 2000 Census Tracts

City of Akron, OH

#### 2009 Consolidated Plan



Our analysis shows that the number of persons in poverty in mile increments is

0-1 miles: 5,649

1-2 miles: 14,711

2-3 miles: 6,745

3-4 miles: 3,702

+4 miles: 7,850

\*Total = 38,657

(\*excluding the persons in poverty in areas that do not have at least a 20% overall poverty rate)







## **QUESTIONS?**