

Shawangunk Ridge, NY

In partnership with Open Space Institute, we have protected more than 21,300 acres on and around the Shawangunk Ridge.

Photo by: Chris Bennett



Park Qualities Incubator

Session III - Workshop, Visualizing Metrics

January 18, 2022



Connecting everyone to the outdoors™

Park Qualities Incubator, Session III

- *Nov 16: Framework – Linking park experience types and health outcomes*
- *Dec 14: Framework – Translating concepts to metrics and action*
- **Today:** Workshop – Review new mapping approaches developed from the first two sessions
- **Feb 15:** Workshop – Review revised approaches and open review period for participants
- **Mar 15:** Beyond experiences – Exploring additional approaches to park quality metrics

Today's Agenda:

- Recap December's session
- TPL Presentation - Draft examples in Cleveland, OH & Raleigh, NC
 - Technical Q&A (5min)
- Breakout Groups (50min)
- Session Closing & Exit Poll



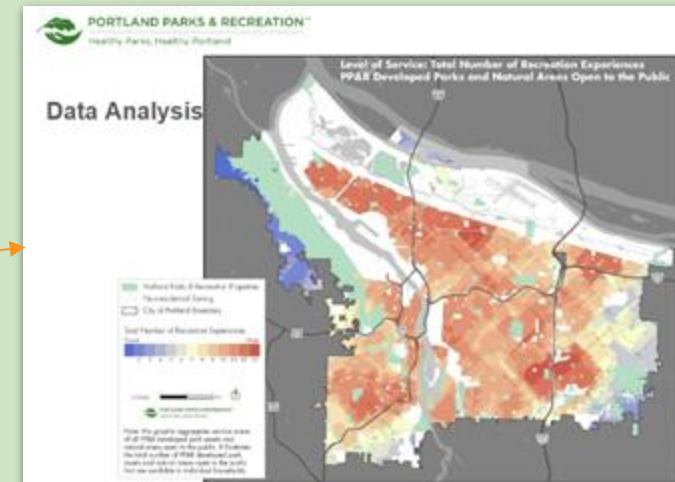
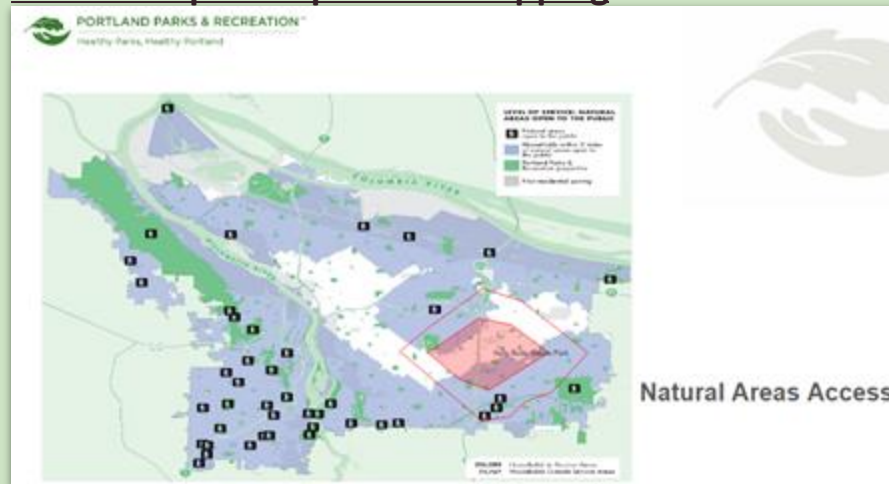
Recap: Session 2 Plenary - Translating Concepts to Metrics and Action

Experience mapping examples from the field

San Diego's recreational value-based system



Portland's park experience mapping




Recap: Session 2 Breakouts - Translating amenity data to experience metrics

Measuring Access to Natural Areas

How would you characterize public access to natural areas in these two neighborhoods*?


Neighborhood A
25 natural acres
7,000 residents

- 100% within 10mins of natural area
- 25 acres per 1,000 pop
- 2 natural areas



Neighborhood B
20 natural acres
10,000 residents

- 100% within 10mins of natural area
- 2 acres per 1,000 pop
- 1 natural area



A. XX% of neighborhood has access to a natural area within a 10 minute walk

B. Residents in this neighborhood have access to **XX acres per capita**

C. Residents in this neighborhood have access to **XX natural areas**

D. Other – please describe

*assume all residents have 10-minute walk access to all parks shown

Measuring Access to Recreational Activities

In your opinion, what is the most effective way to summarize how many **recreational activities/amenities** Resident A has access to*?


A. By total active amenities = 9 total amenities

B. By unique amenity types = 2 different activity types (*Sport & Playground*)

C. By parks with active amenities = 3 parks with at least one active amenity

D. Other, please describe

*assume all residents have 10-minute walk access to all parks shown



Goals:

- For each experience type, share with the group **how** you would summarize the amount available to a neighborhood.
- Share feedback not only on **how** we're counting, but also **what** we're counting.
- Zooming out, what city-wide policy goal would be most successful in your city?

Social Interaction - what gets counted?

Active & Social Amenities

- Fields, diamonds, courts, informal fields
- Playgrounds
- Water play areas
- Fitness zones & walking loops/tracks
- Specialized facilities (e.g. golf, skate park, disc golf, boat landings)
- Trailheads

Passive Social Amenities

- Picnic/BBQ Areas
- Dog off-leash areas
- Community garden
- Restaurant/food areas
- Plazas / informal open space
- Game areas (bocce, horseshoe)

Question

For counting opportunities for social interaction, would you include:

- Both active & passive amenities
- Only passive
- Other - please describe

To the left is a first draft of park features that facilitate social interaction. What would you add, remove, or change?

Recap: What we heard

Suggested approaches/feedback for calculating city and neighborhood access to...

natural areas:

- % of population living within ~2 miles of a 'large' natural area
- Mileage of trails within natural areas or a version of 10MW to a natural area trailhead
- Acres of natural area per capita
- Hybrid approach, depending on density, of either a distance (e.g. 10MW) or acreage approach

recreational experiences:

Significant discussion on whether to count the **total number** of all active amenities or count available **unique amenity types** (net count vs. diversity). Key question when counting by type - how do you set the 'types' so you are not overly prescriptive.

- **Open question:** what's value of counting amenities without additional attributes related to quality/condition (age, usage, hours open, permitted, etc).

social interaction:

- Include cultural and arts amenities
 - Align active and passive categories with planning or funder classifications
 - Reframe active/passive as formal/informal
- **Open question:** would it be more useful to use visitation patterns (anonymized cell data) rather than an asset-based approach. All park amenities are inherently social, so at what point do you lose the utility of counting everything

Recap: What we heard

When asked which approach would be most successful as a city-wide policy goal, participant responses were evenly distributed among the following choices:

- 10 Minute Walk to specific park types
- Identify neighborhoods with relatively less of a park type than other neighborhoods
- All neighborhoods should have a certain number of different types of park experiences
- Identify neighborhoods with lower diversity of park experiences relative to others

Applying the framework

With lessons learned from previous sessions, the TPL team tested approaches to mapping access to active and social amenitized experiences in Cleveland, OH & Raleigh, NC



Step 1: Classify amenities

Create a standard model to characterize park amenities based on experiences offered *as they relate to health outcomes*

“Active” amenities (physical activity)

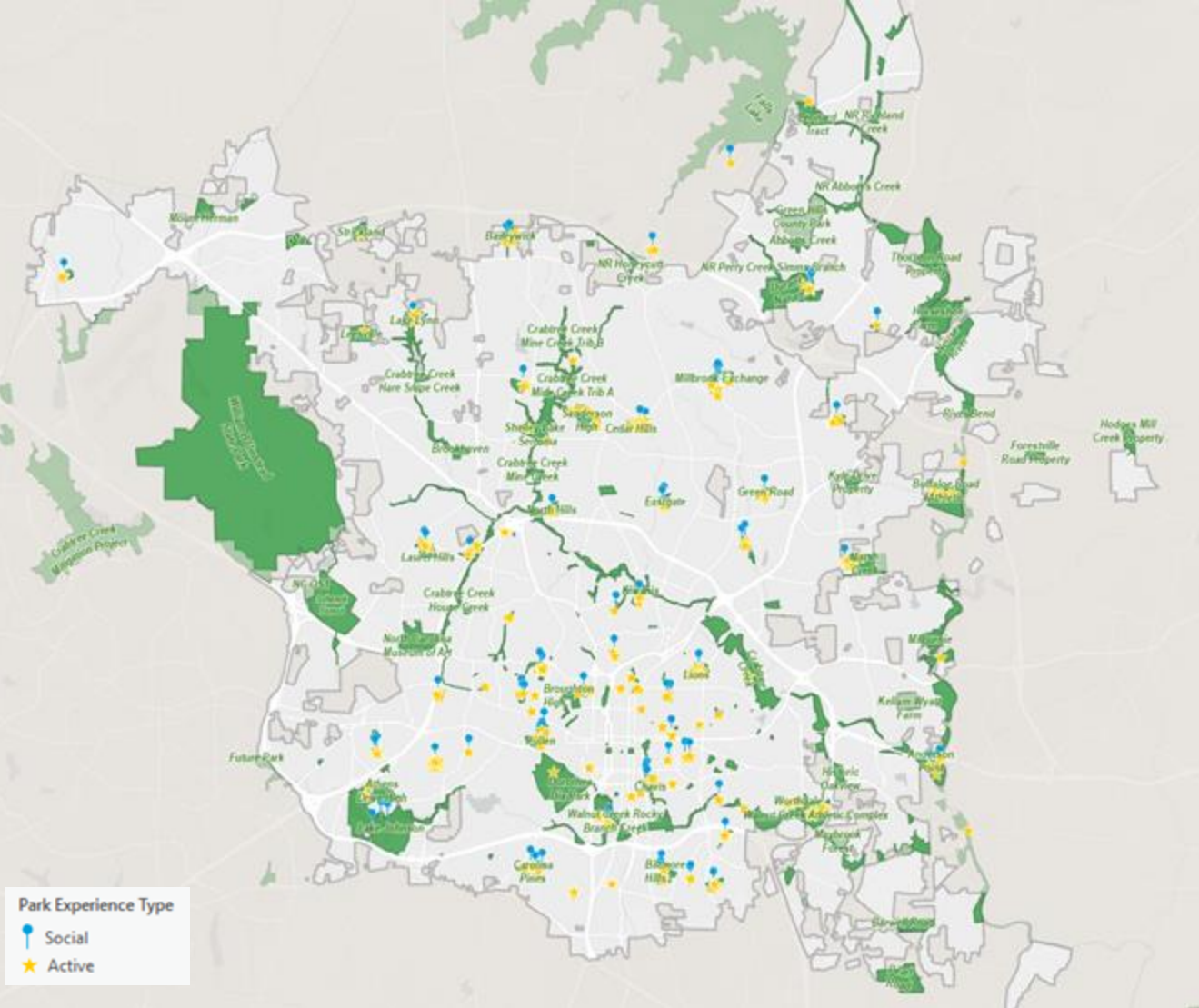
<u>Amenity Type</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Fields & Diamonds	<i>Includes both fields and diamonds</i>
Hard Courts	<i>all courts (basketball, tennis etc)</i>
Playground	
Water play areas	<i>Splash pads</i>
Walking loops & fitness zones	
Specialized facility	<i>BMX, disc golf, skate park, and others</i>
Trailhead	<i>Includes both land and water trails</i>

“Social” amenities (social interaction)

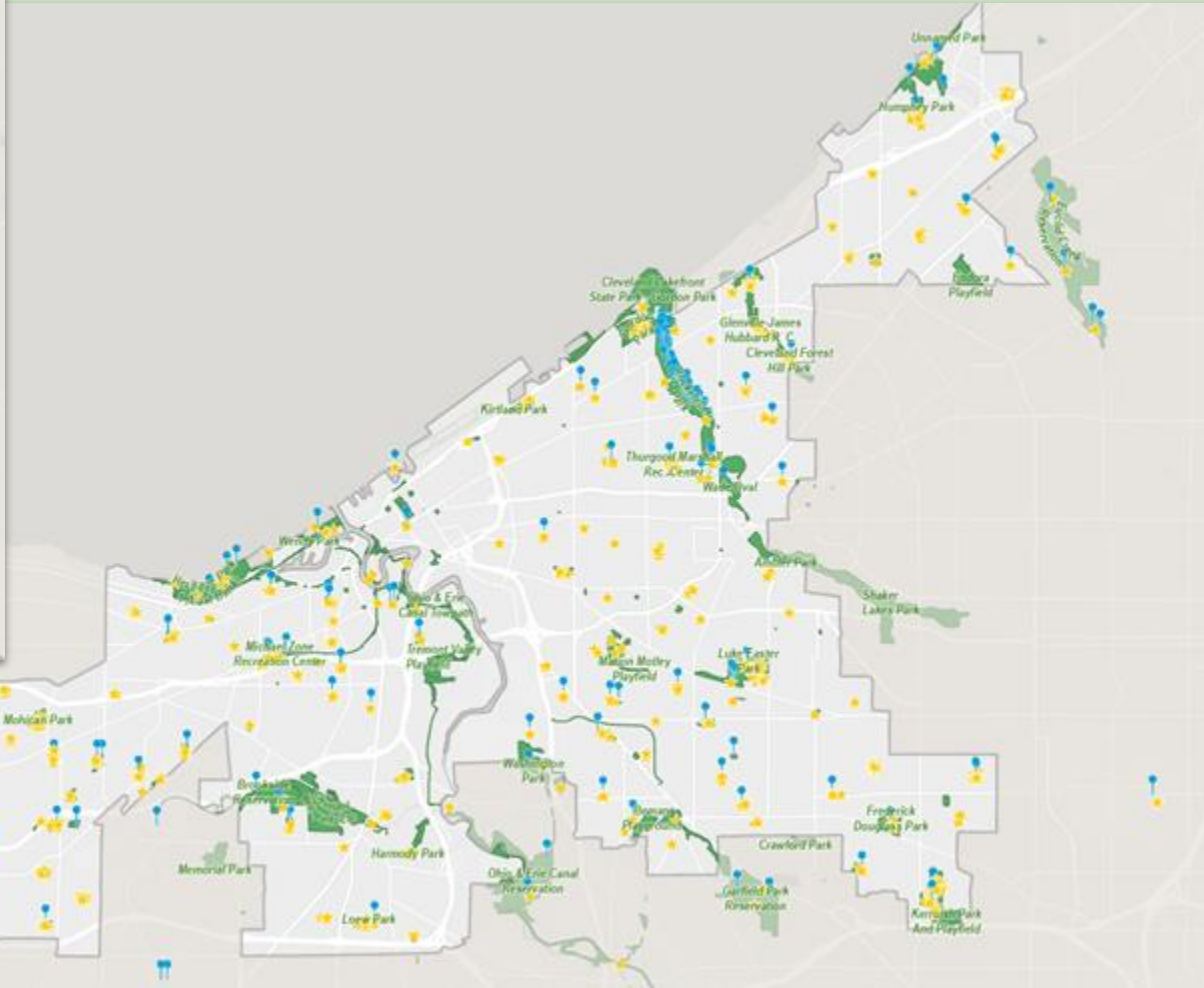
Could combine both active & social for all social interaction

<u>Amenity Type</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Picnic Area	<i>Counts by physical shelter, food stand</i>
Dog park	
Garden	<i>Includes community and specialty garden</i>
Informal gathering	<i>Plazas, lawns, etc</i>
Game Court	<i>Bocce, Horseshoes (limited physical activity)</i>
Performance spaces	<i>amphitheatres, pavilions, etc</i>

Beyond the existence of park space, we can now see the distribution of *amenitized* experiences



Park Experience Type
● Social
★ Active

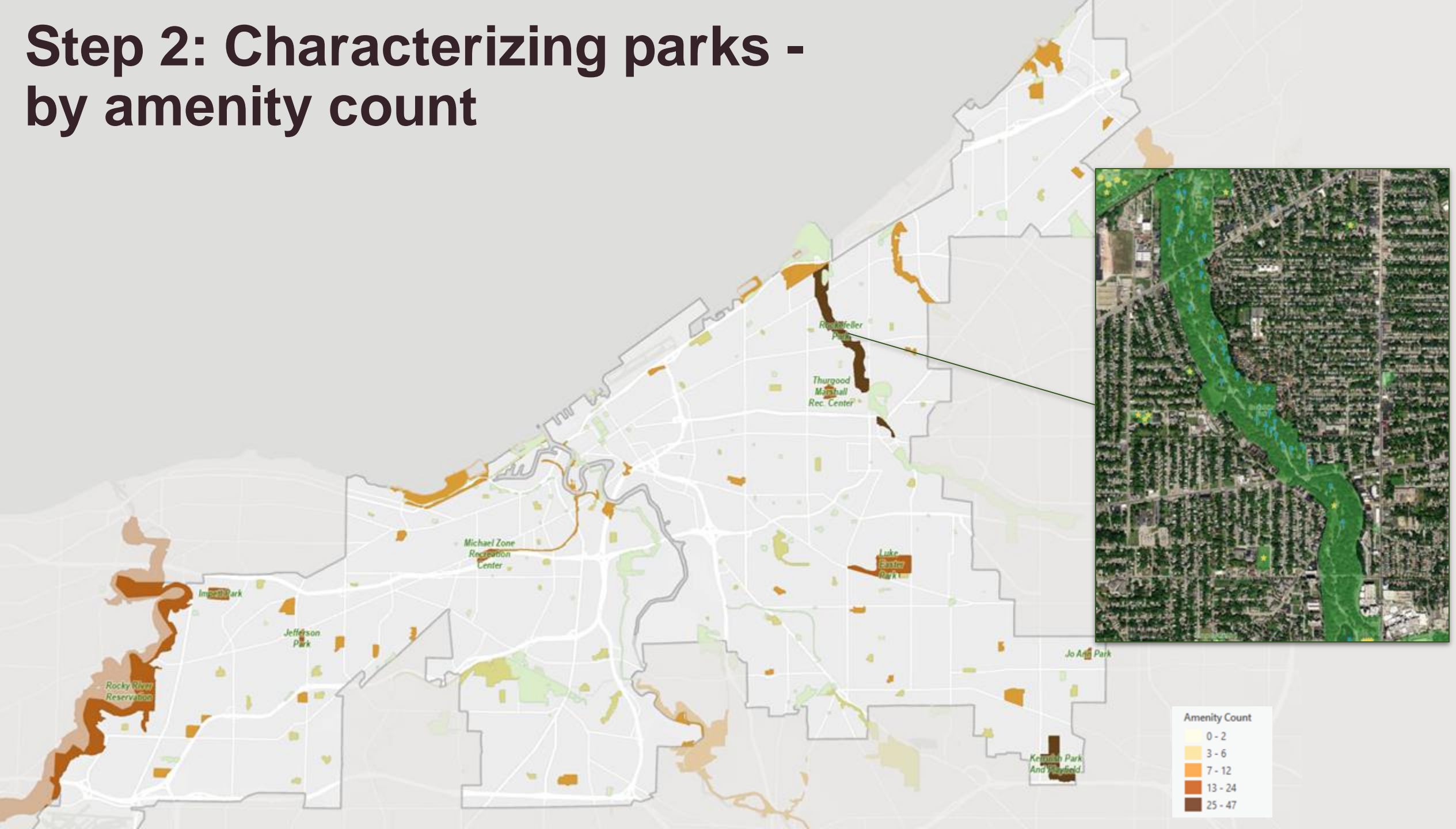


First, a disclaimer...

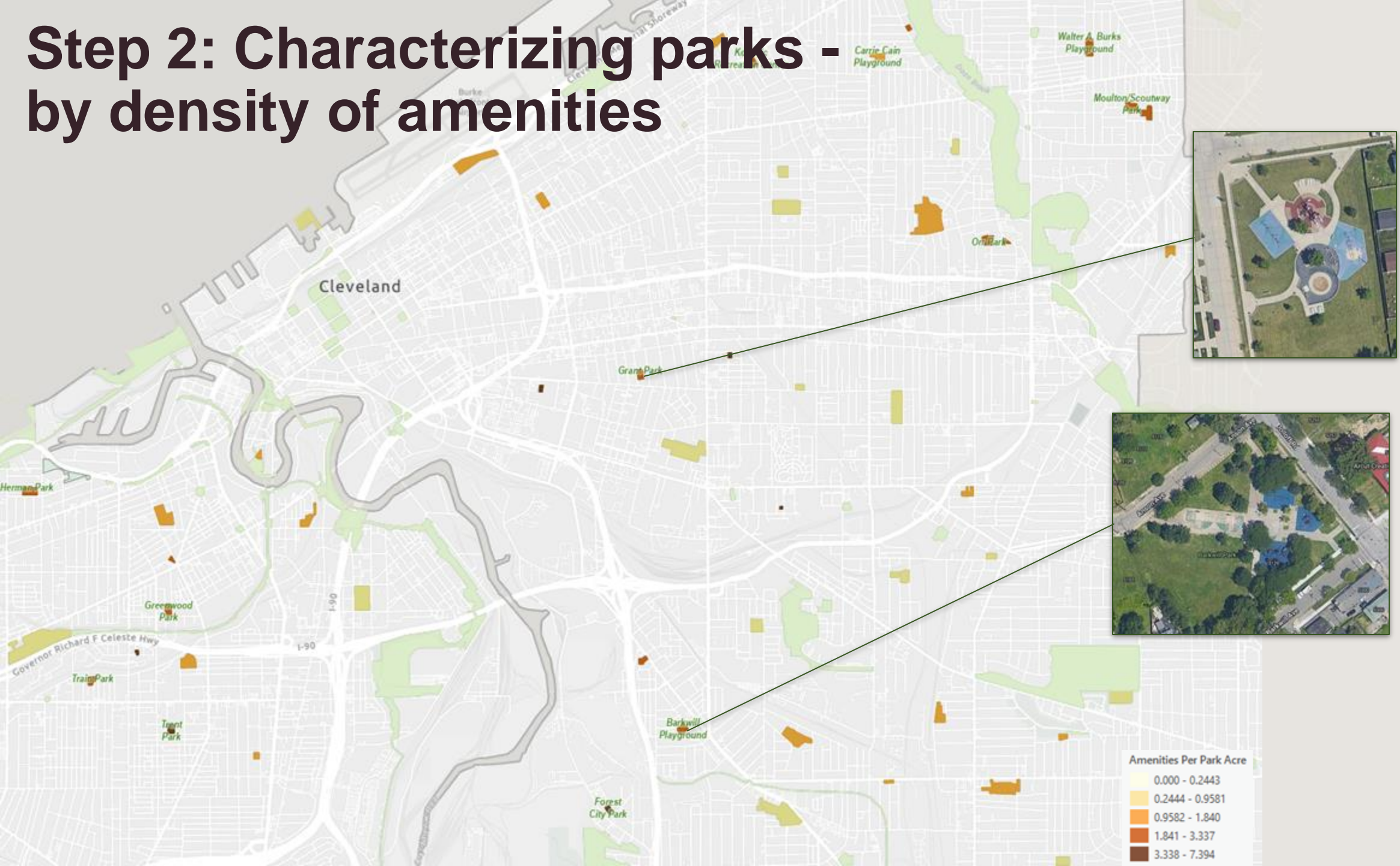
Known limitations:

- Currently mapping only ***amenitized experiences***, this excludes programming, park landscaping/natural features, community arts & culture, etc.
- Only mapping assets tracked by the city - this excludes school amenities, private or other agency-owned assets
- Data gaps (amenities are hard to keep track of!)
- Important aspects exclude from this analysis:
 - asset condition or age
 - permitted vs. unpermitted amenities
 - amenities like swimming pools or indoor features
 - general park comforts and safety features like bathrooms, trash, staff, and lighting

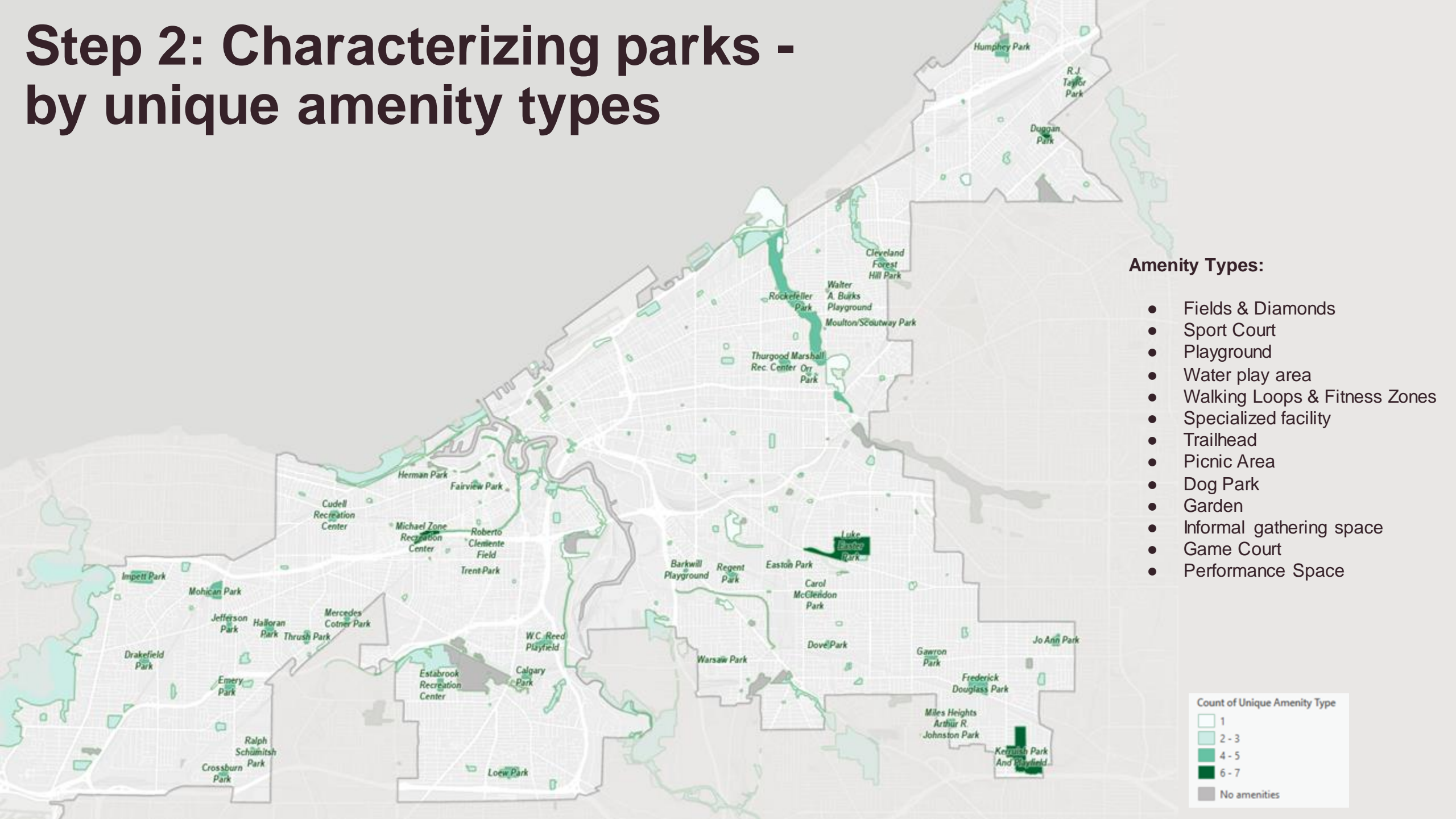
Step 2: Characterizing parks - by amenity count



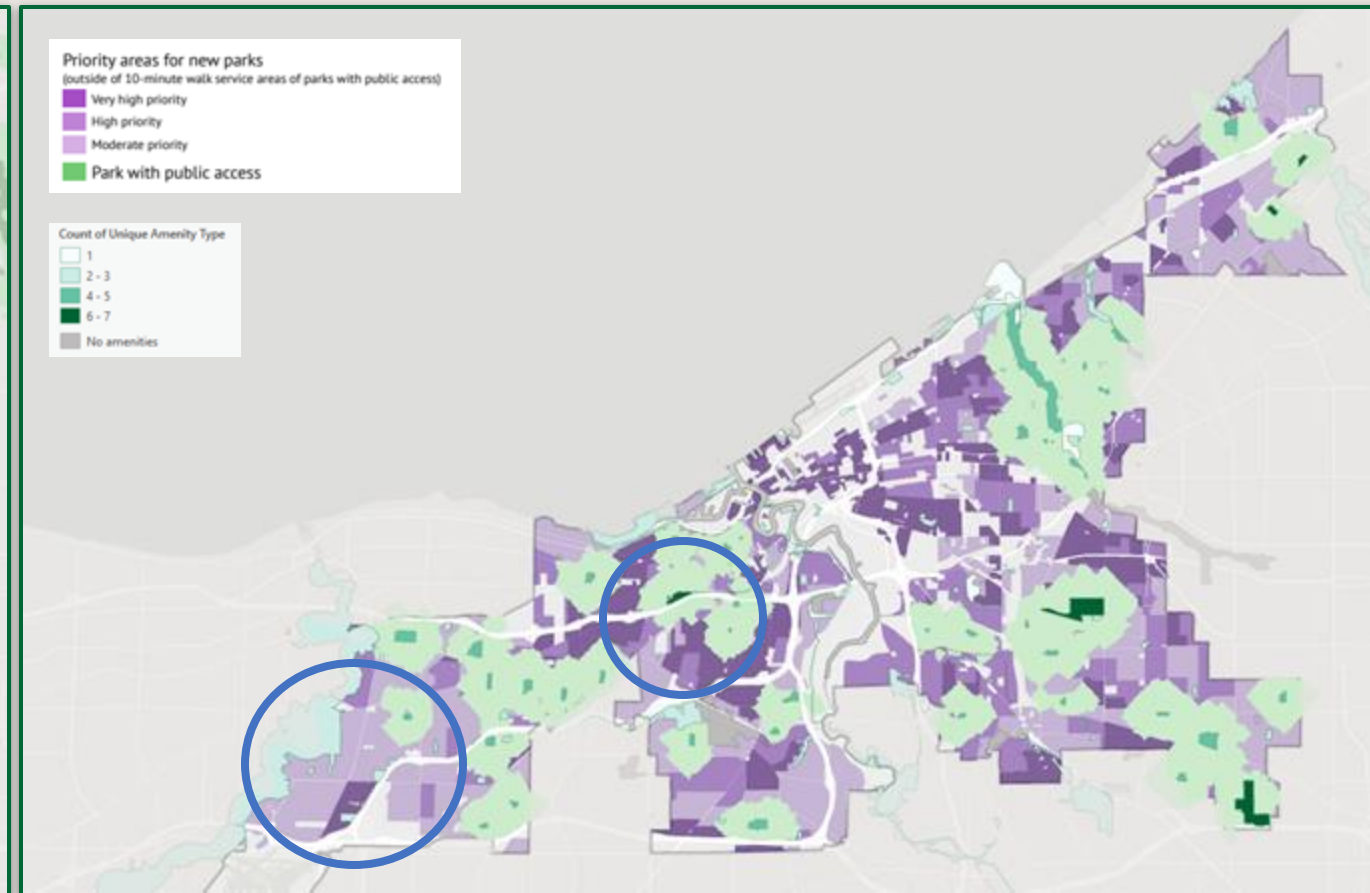
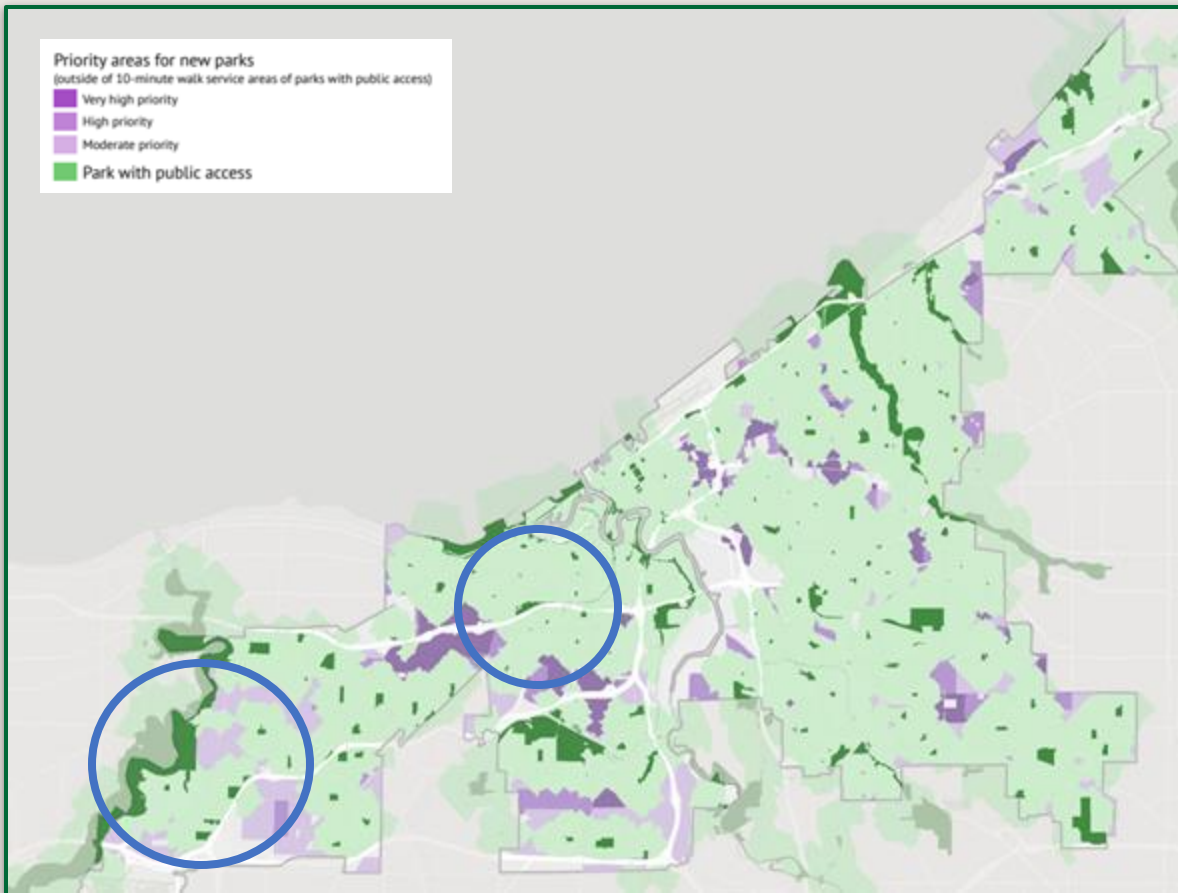
Step 2: Characterizing parks - by density of amenities



Step 2: Characterizing parks - by unique amenity types

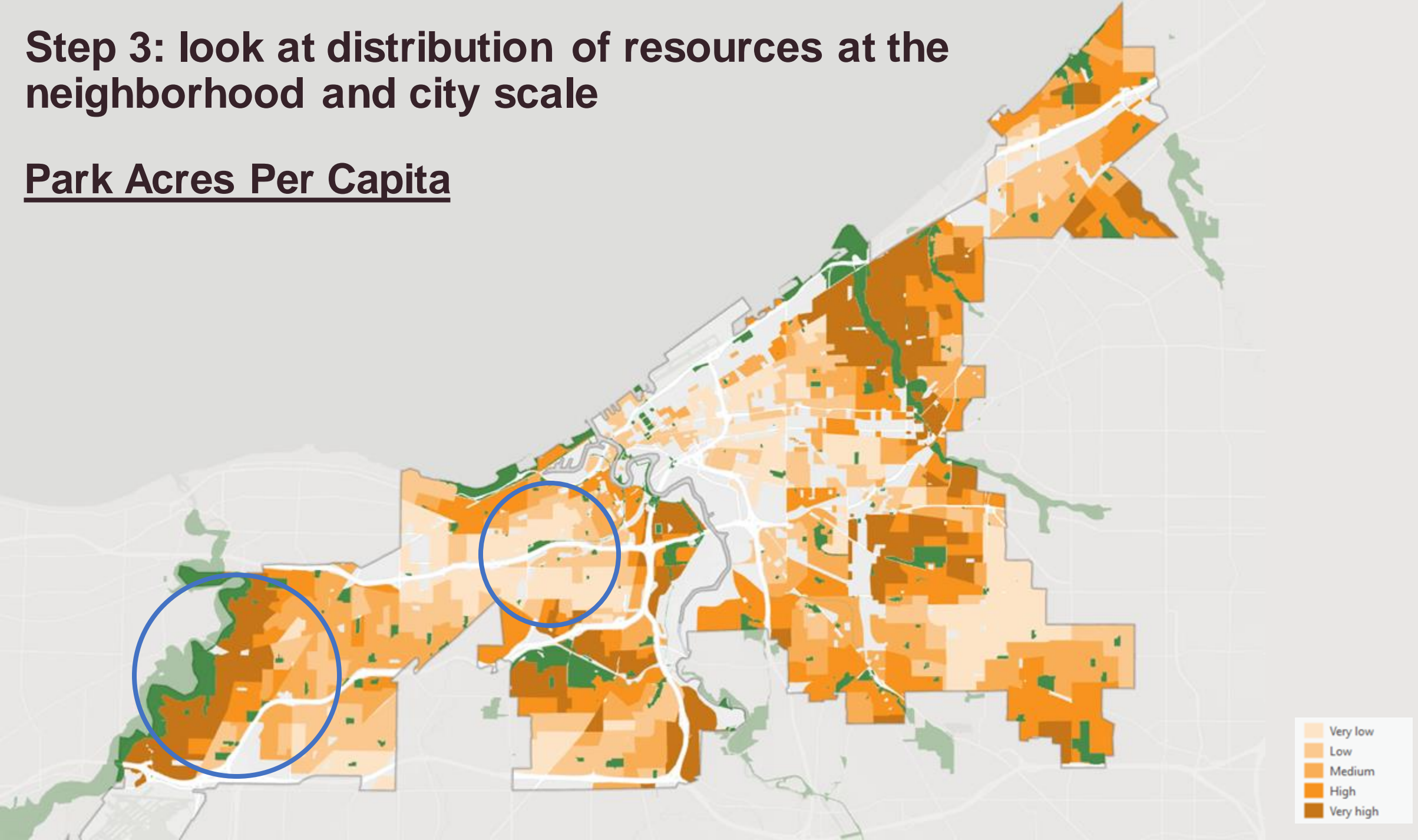


Revisiting access - 10-minute walk to parks with diverse amenities

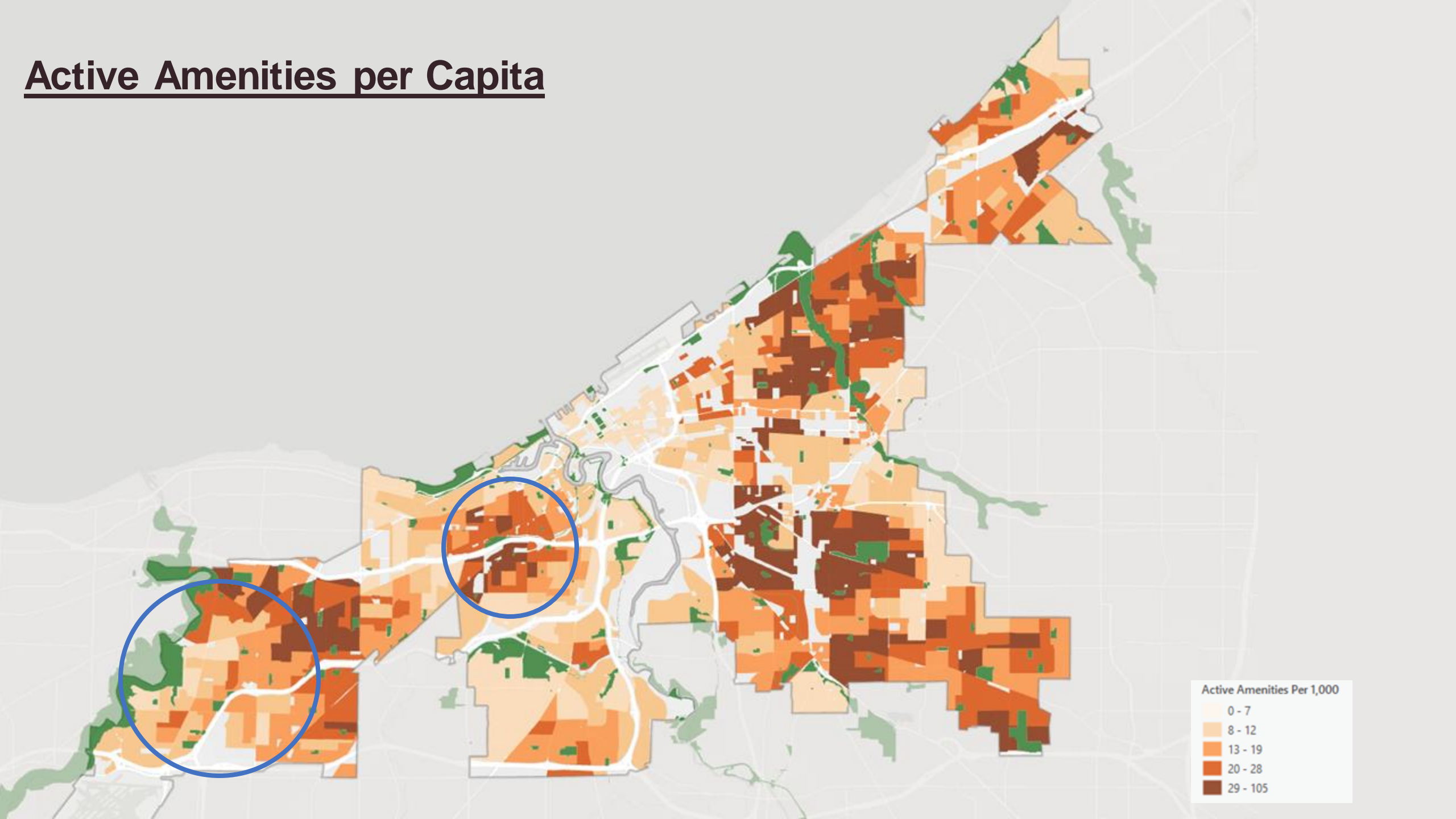


Step 3: look at distribution of resources at the neighborhood and city scale

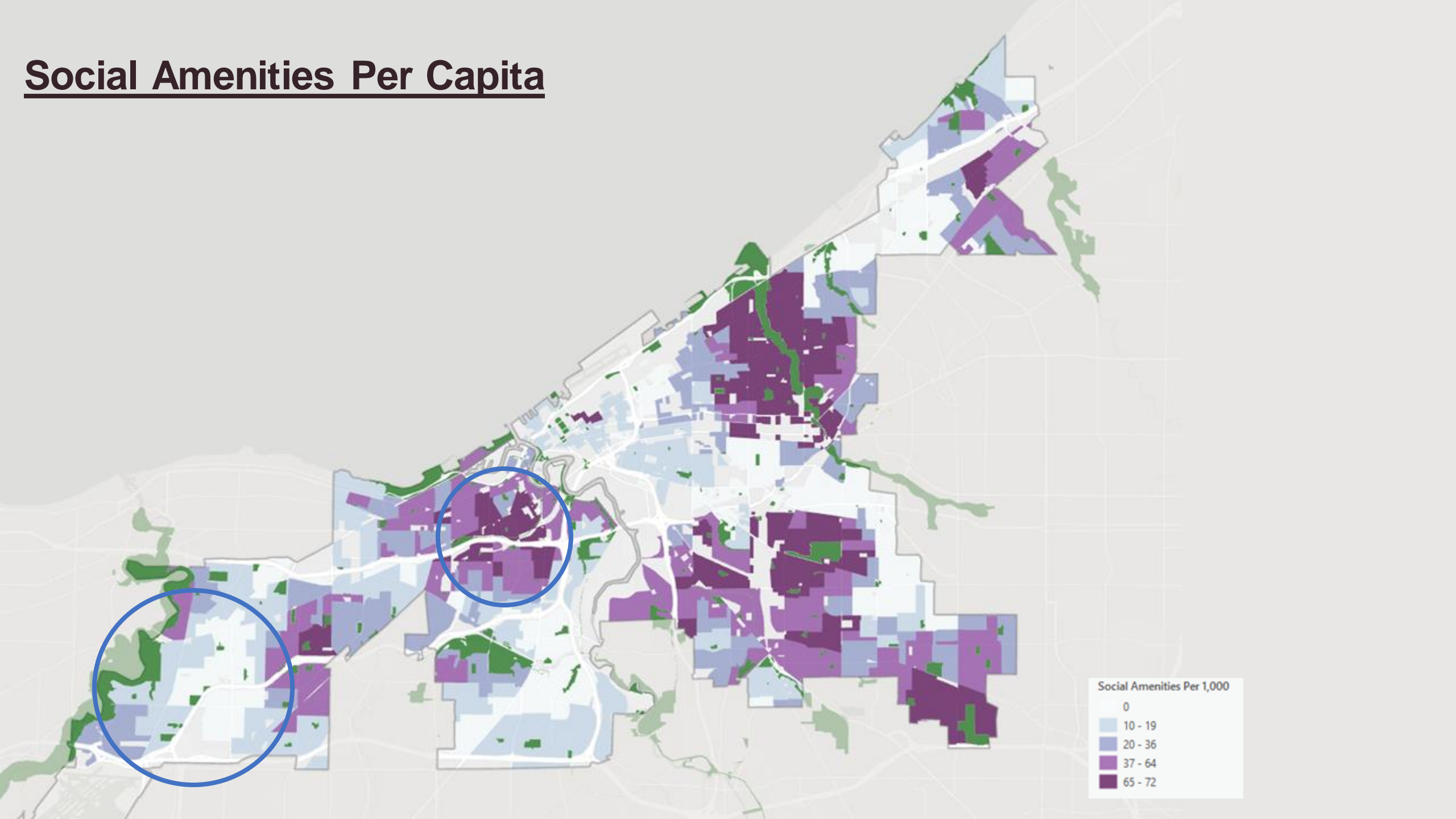
Park Acres Per Capita



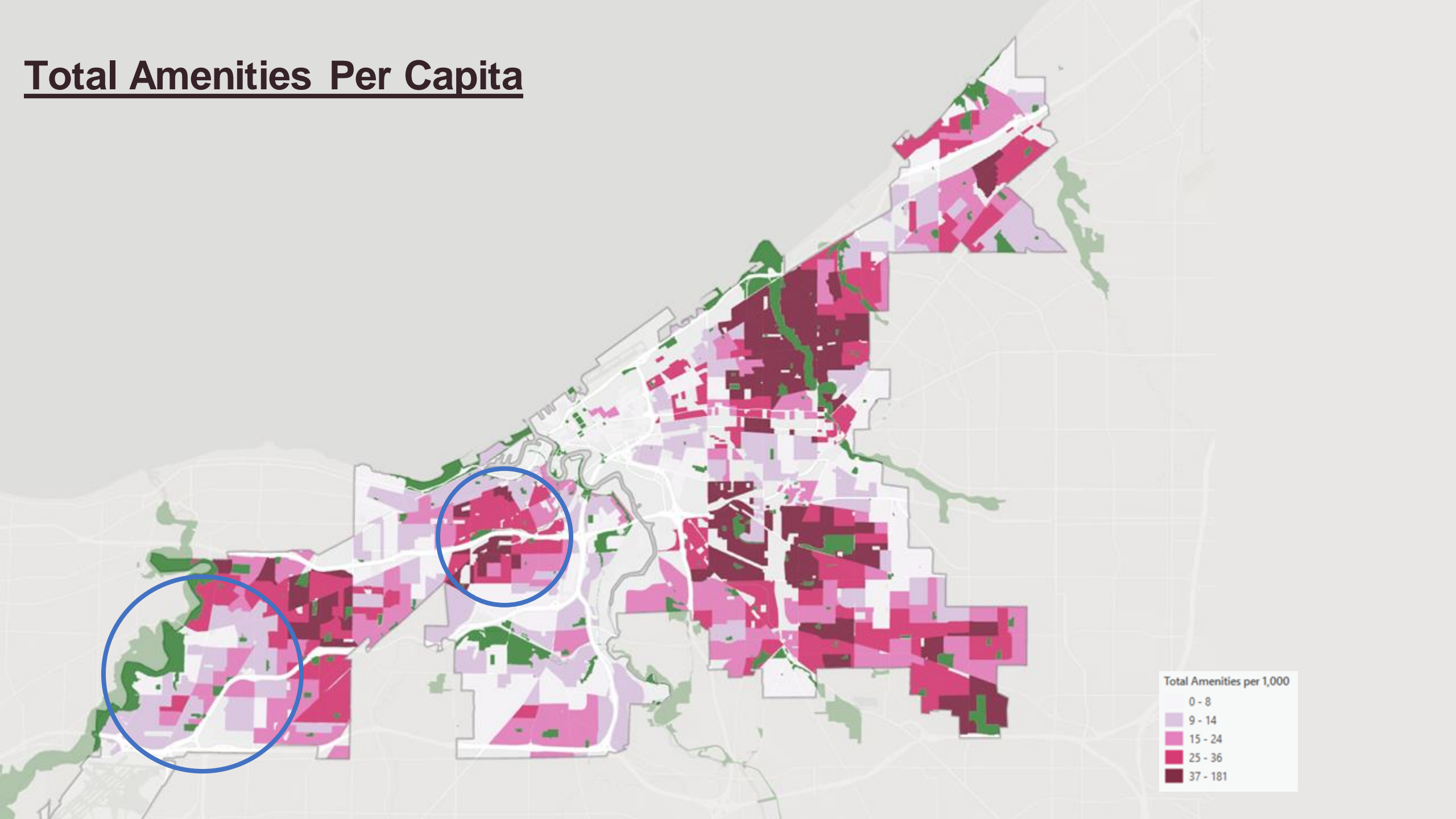
Active Amenities per Capita



Social Amenities Per Capita



Total Amenities Per Capita

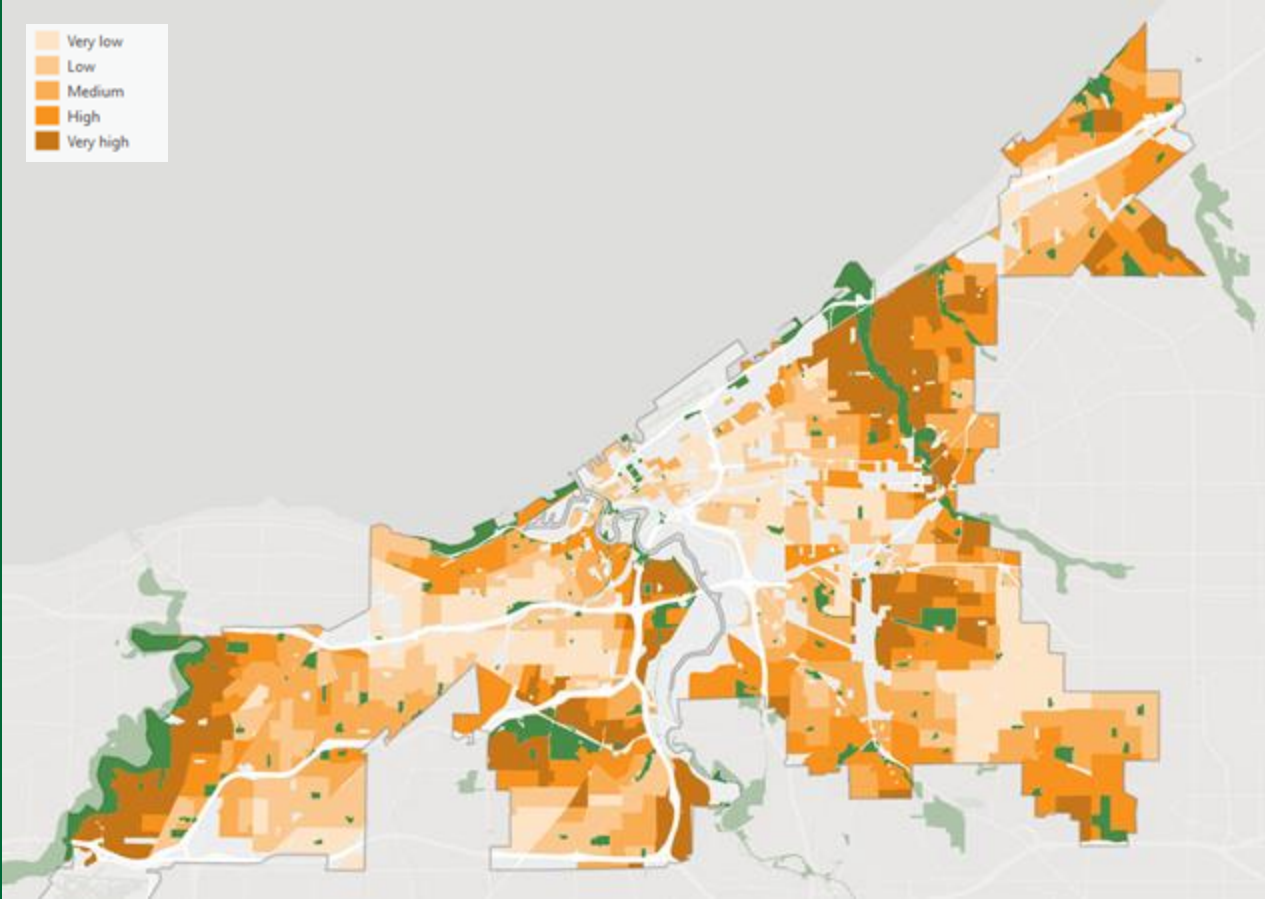


How does this approach fit into existing park planning and advocacy tools?

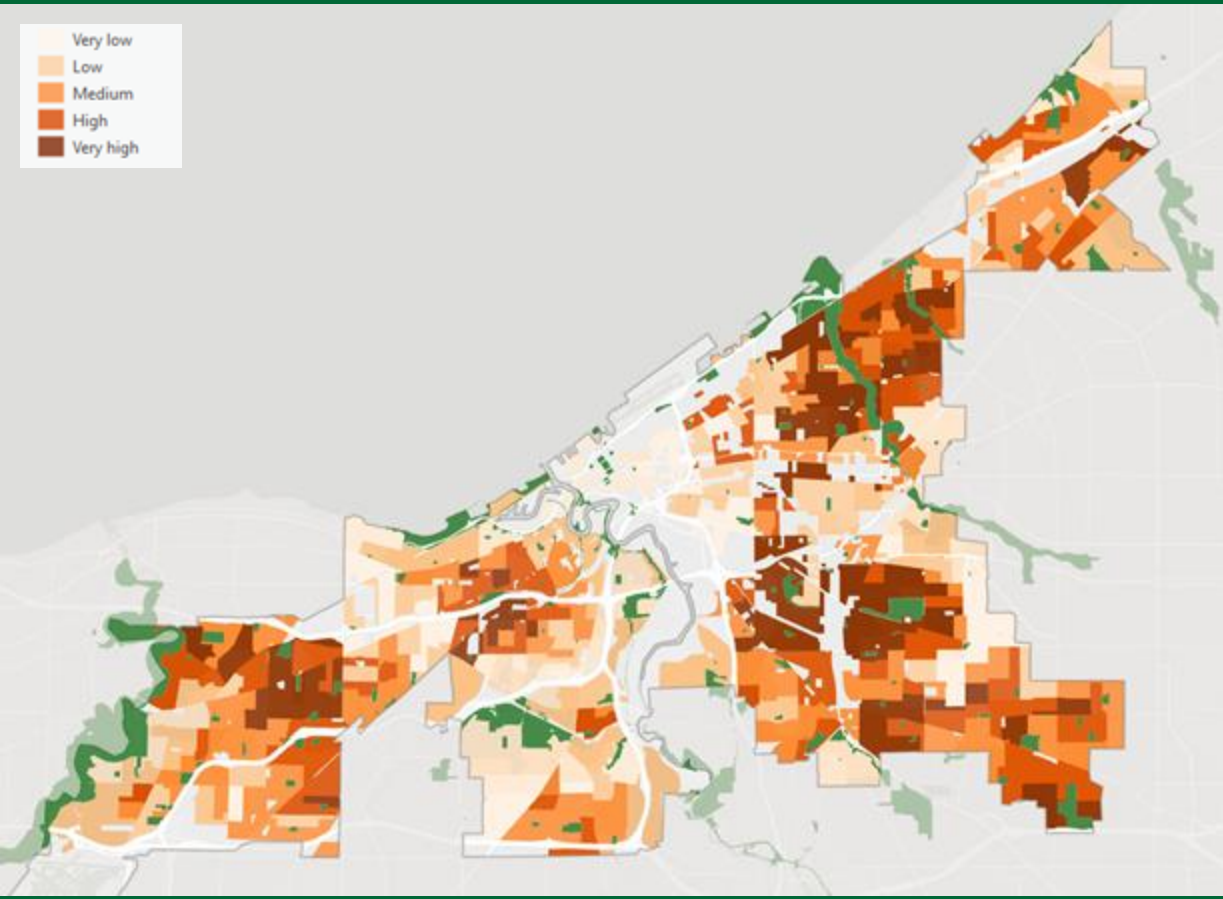


Cleveland, OH

Map A: Park acres per capita

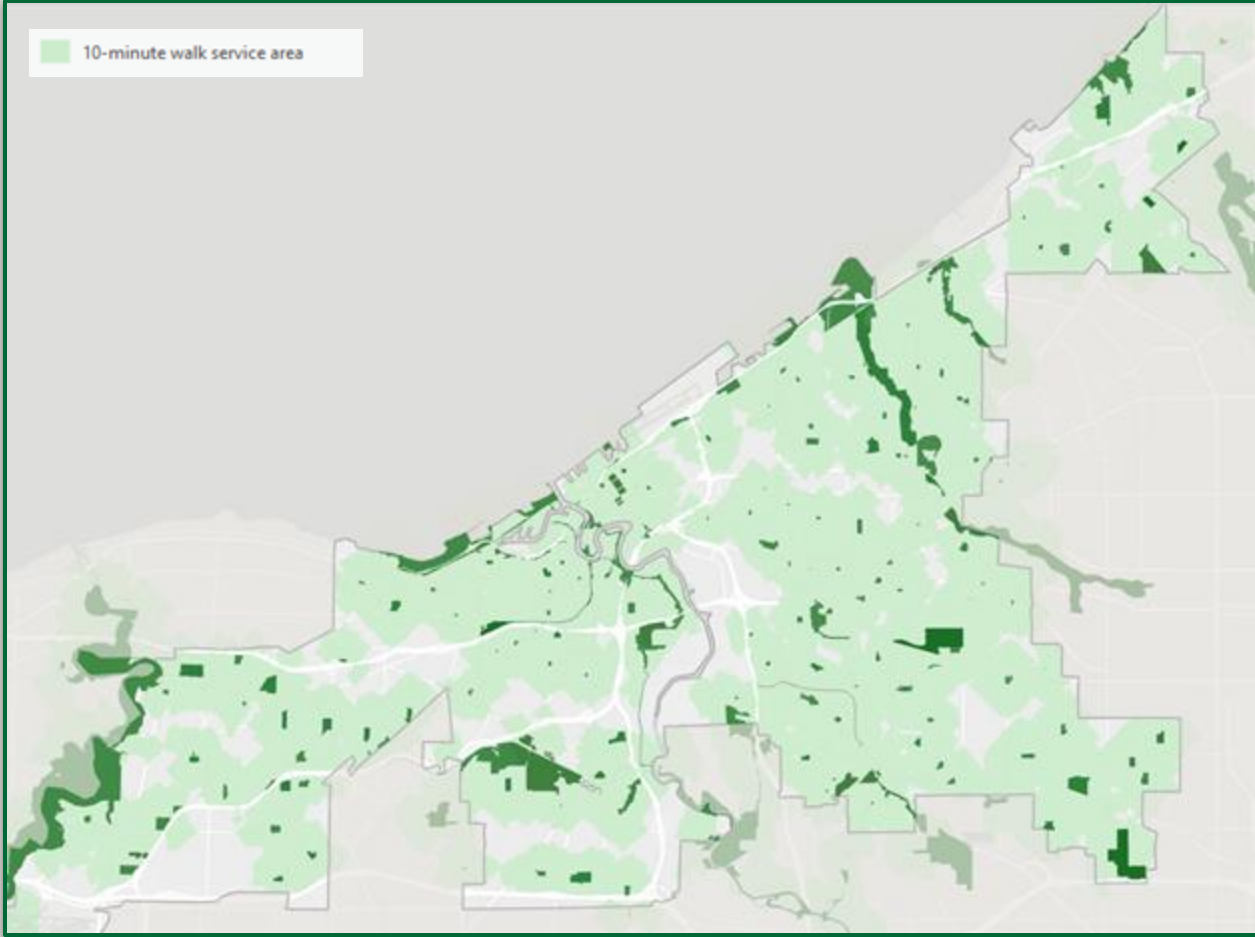


Map B: Active amenities per capita

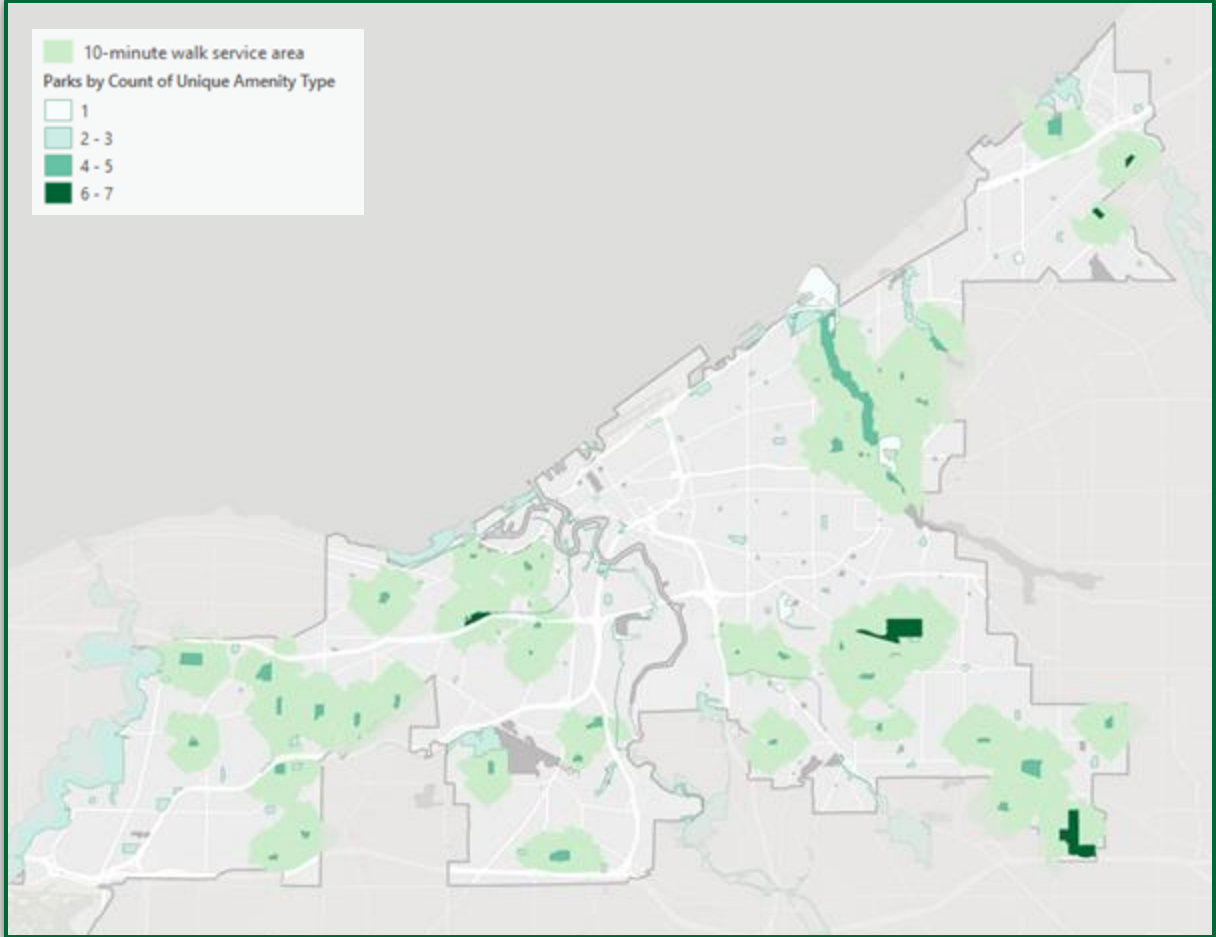


Cleveland, OH

Map C: 10-minute walk park access to all parks



Map D: 10-minute walk access to parks w/4 or more unique activities

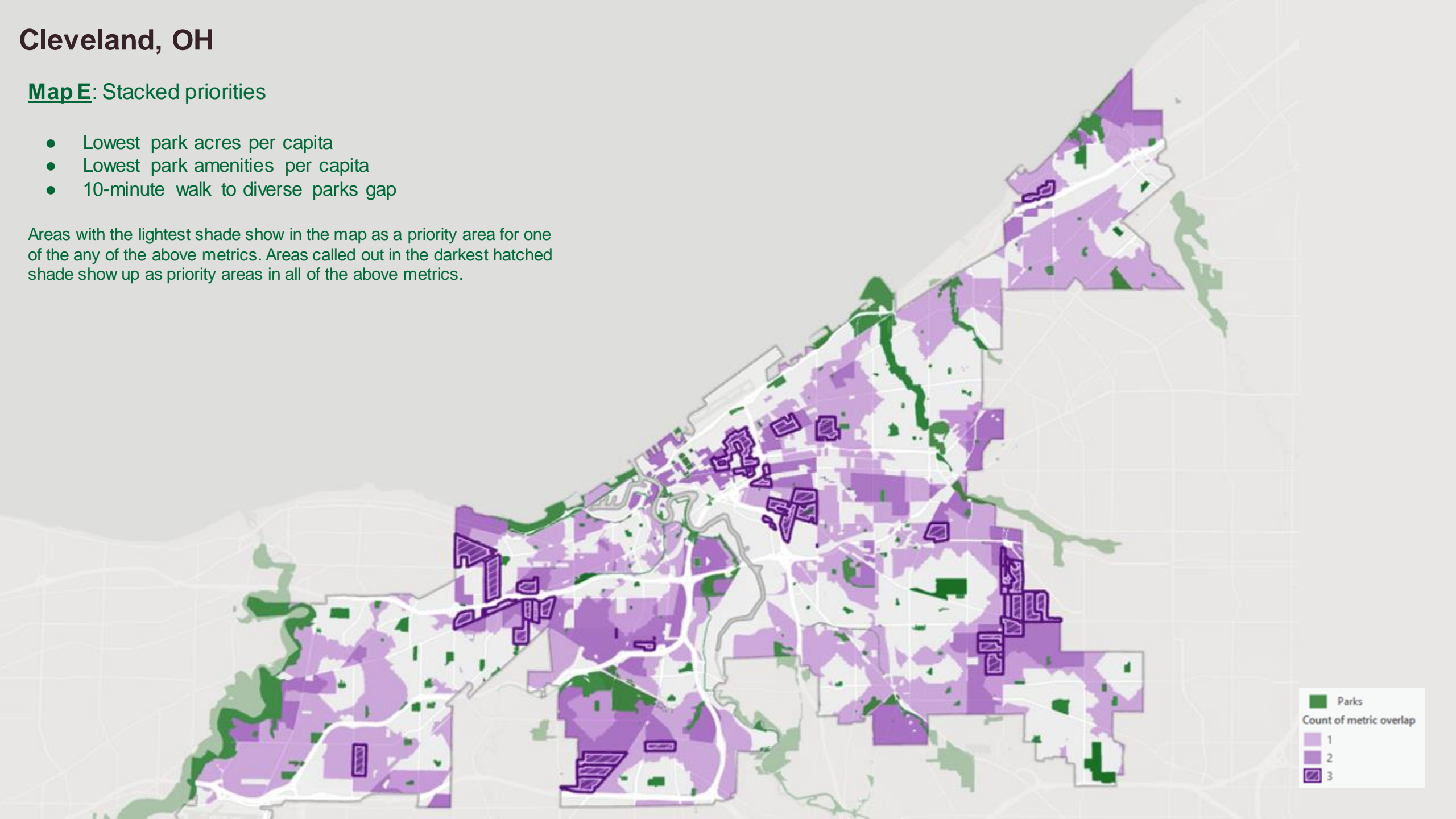


Cleveland, OH

Map E: Stacked priorities

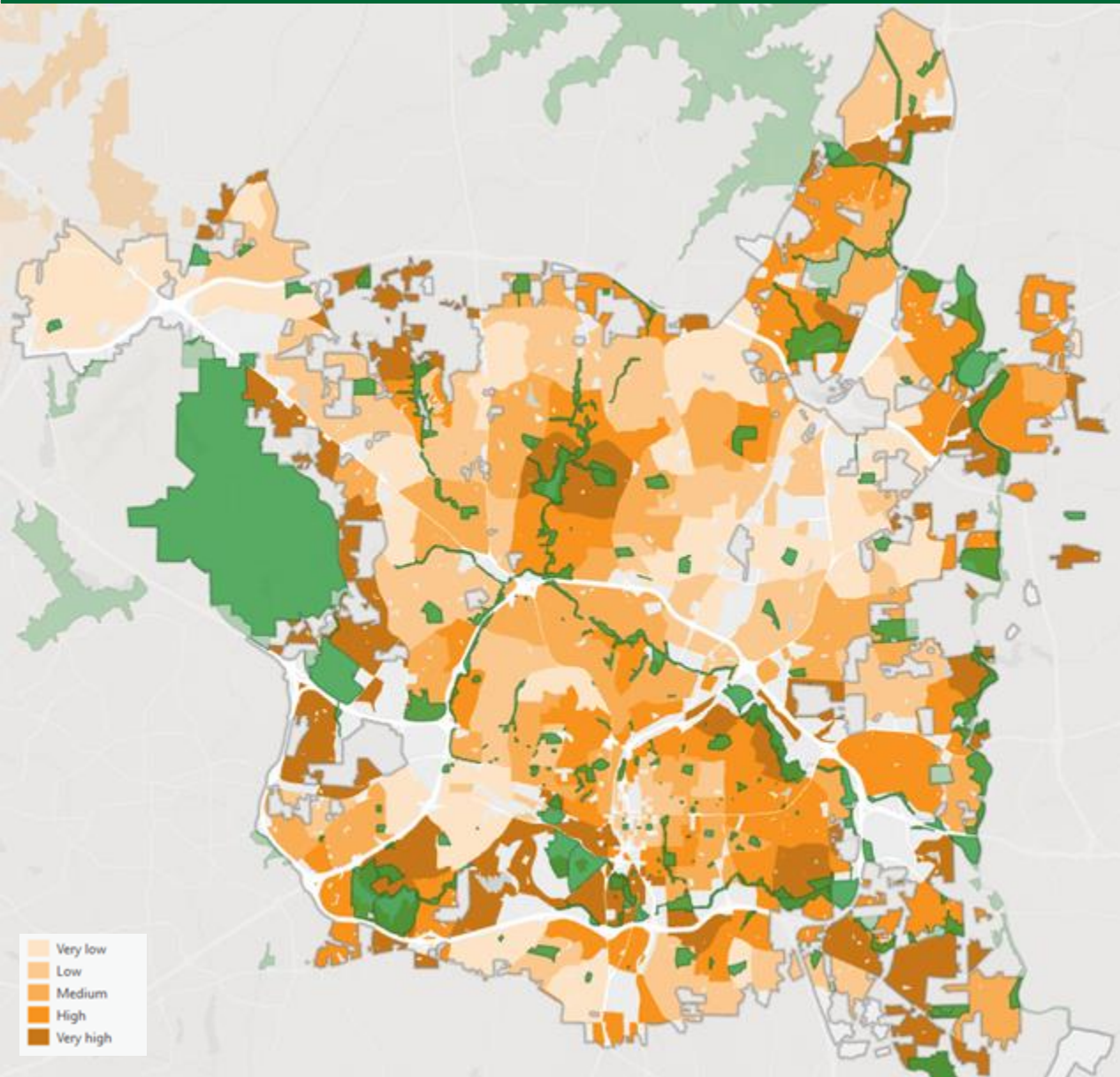
- Lowest park acres per capita
- Lowest park amenities per capita
- 10-minute walk to diverse parks gap

Areas with the lightest shade show in the map as a priority area for one of the any of the above metrics. Areas called out in the darkest hatched shade show up as priority areas in all of the above metrics.

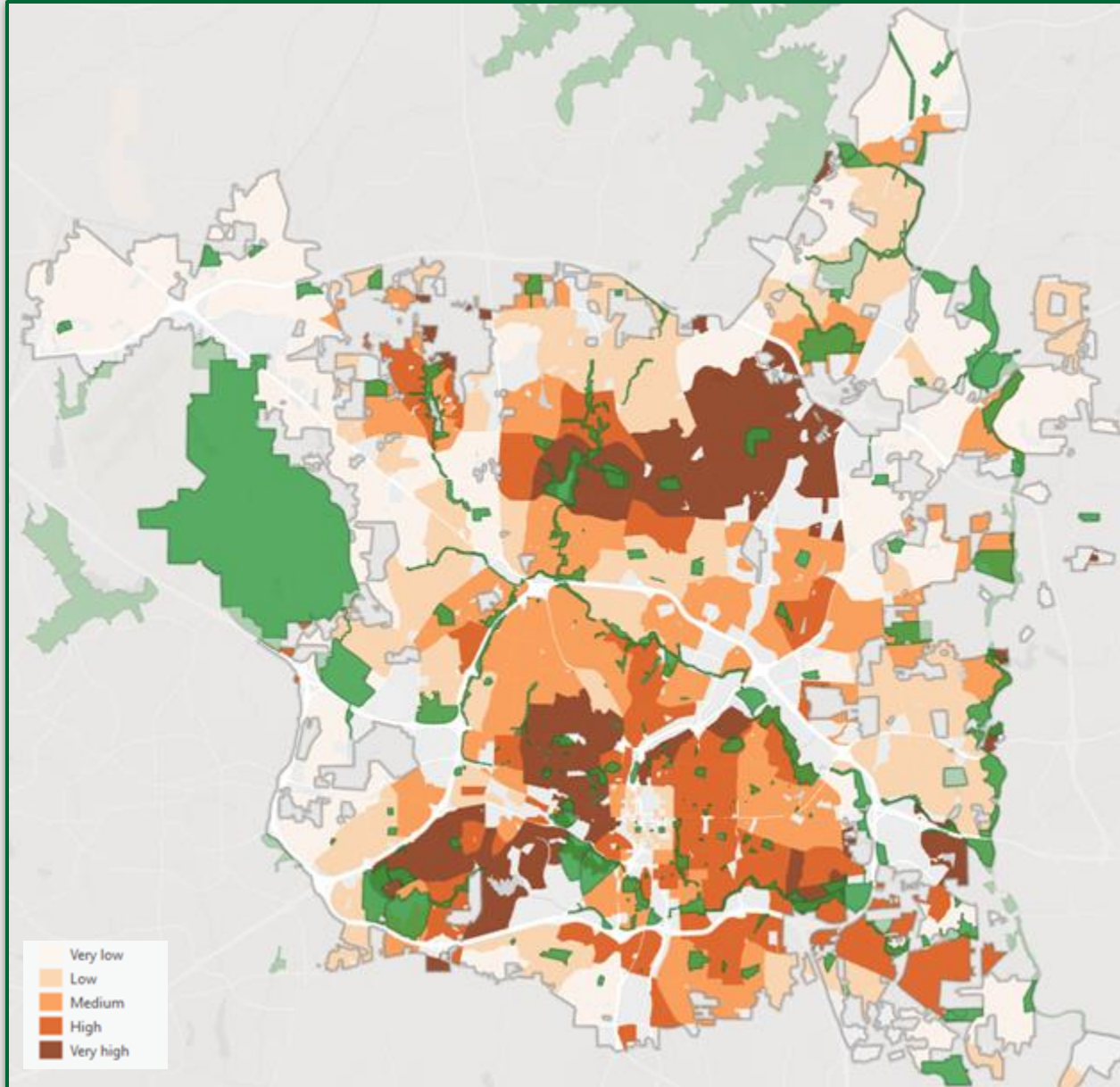


Raleigh, NC

Map A: Park acres per capita

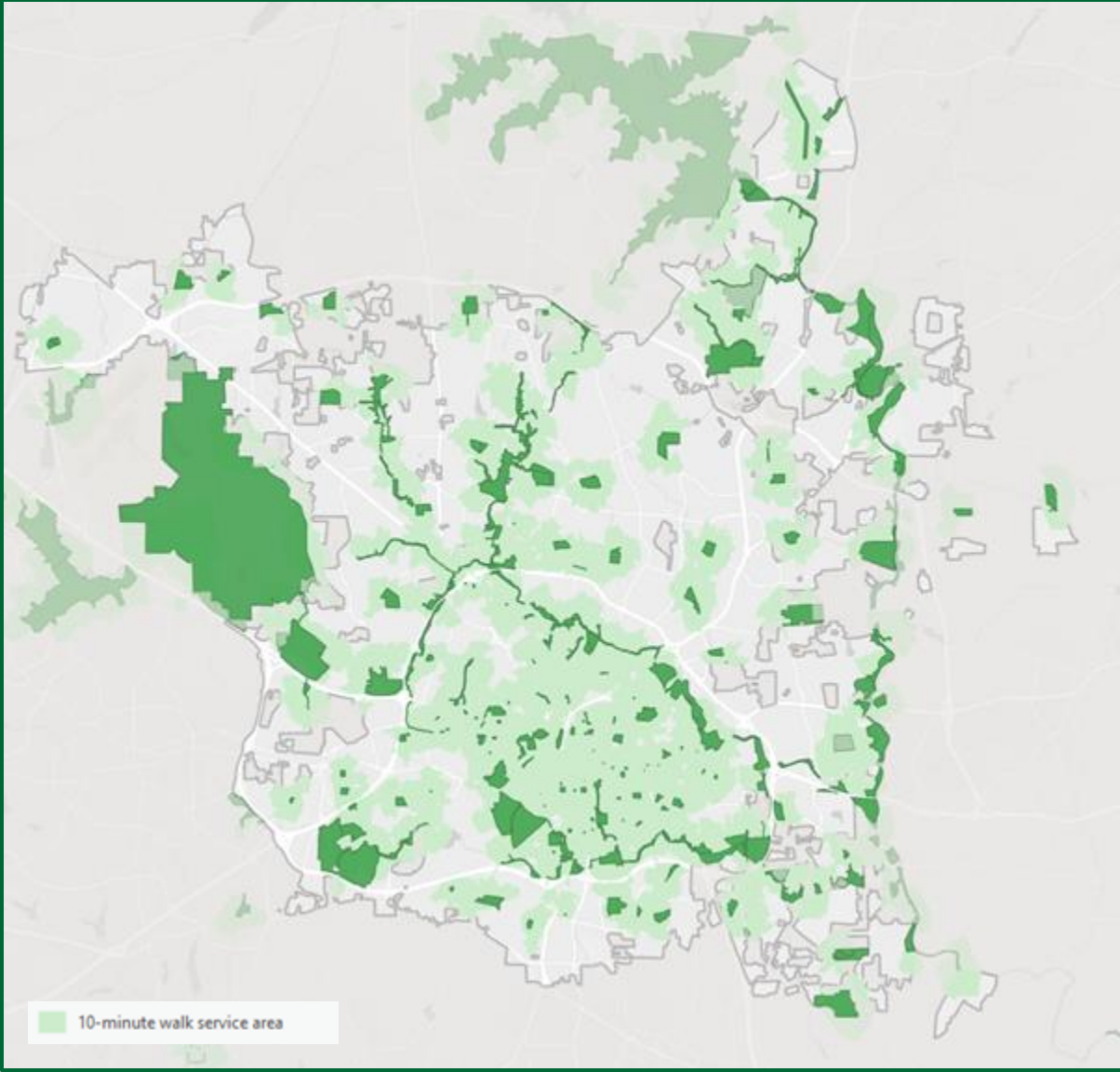


Map B: Active amenities per capita

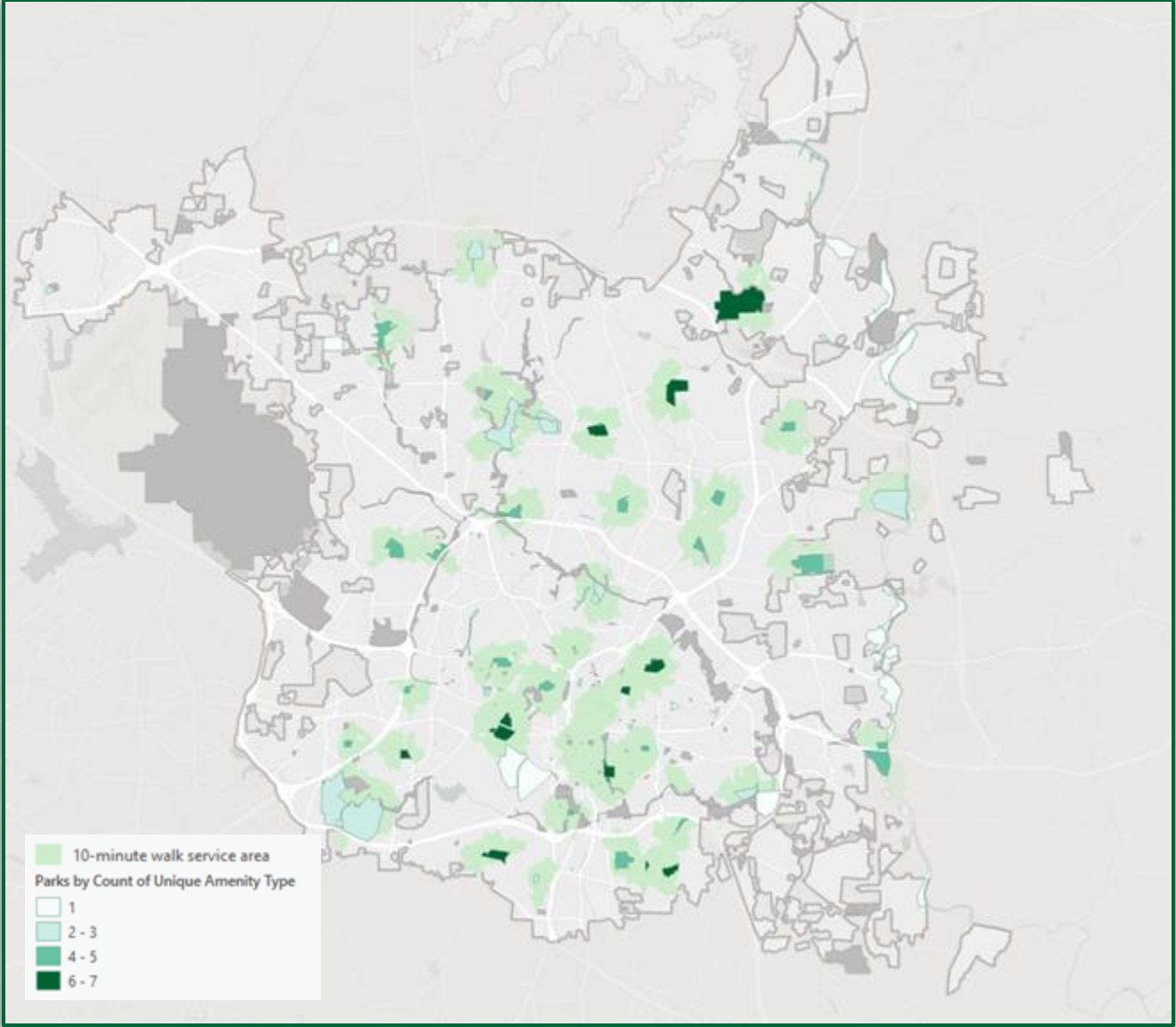


Raleigh, NC

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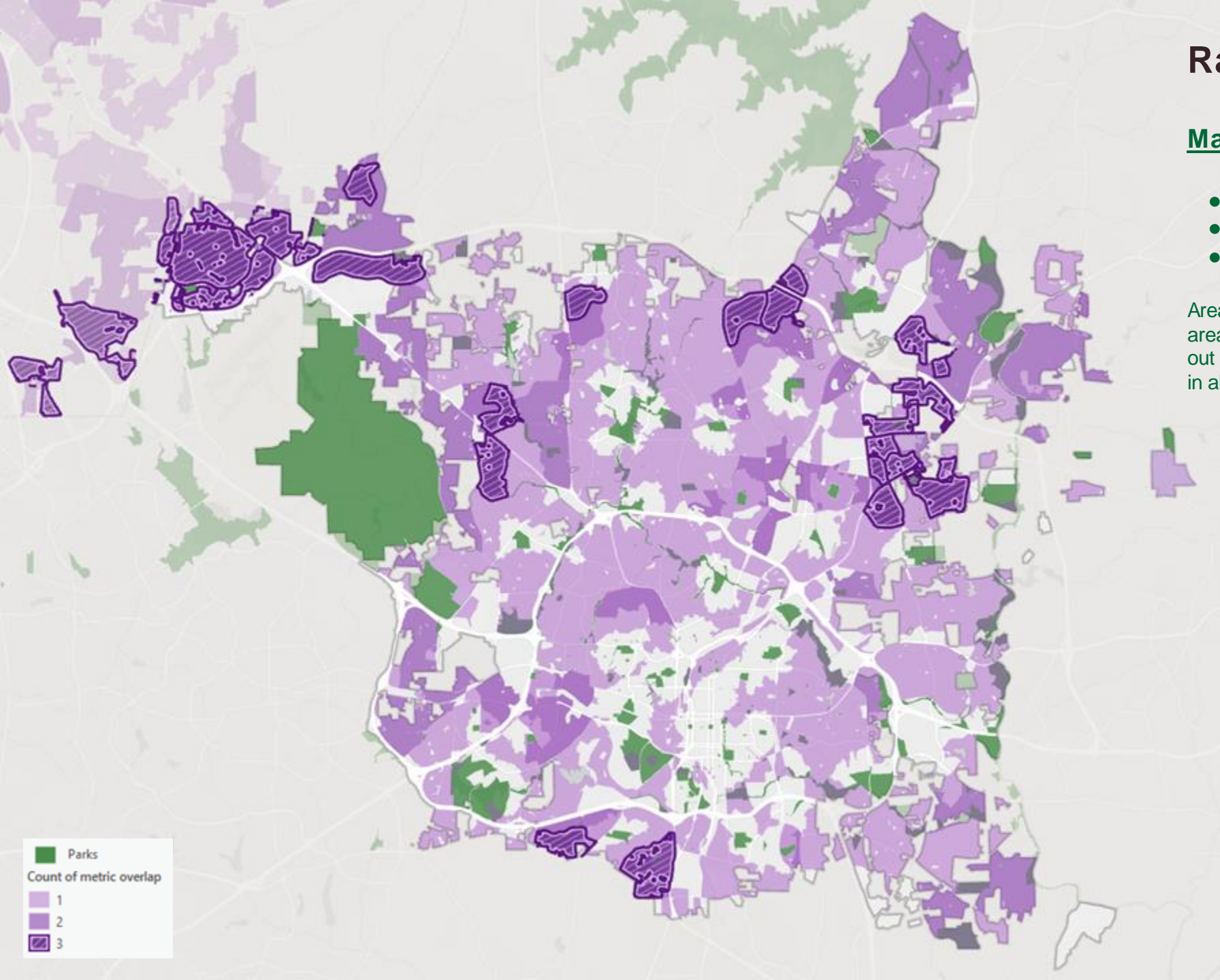


Raleigh, NC

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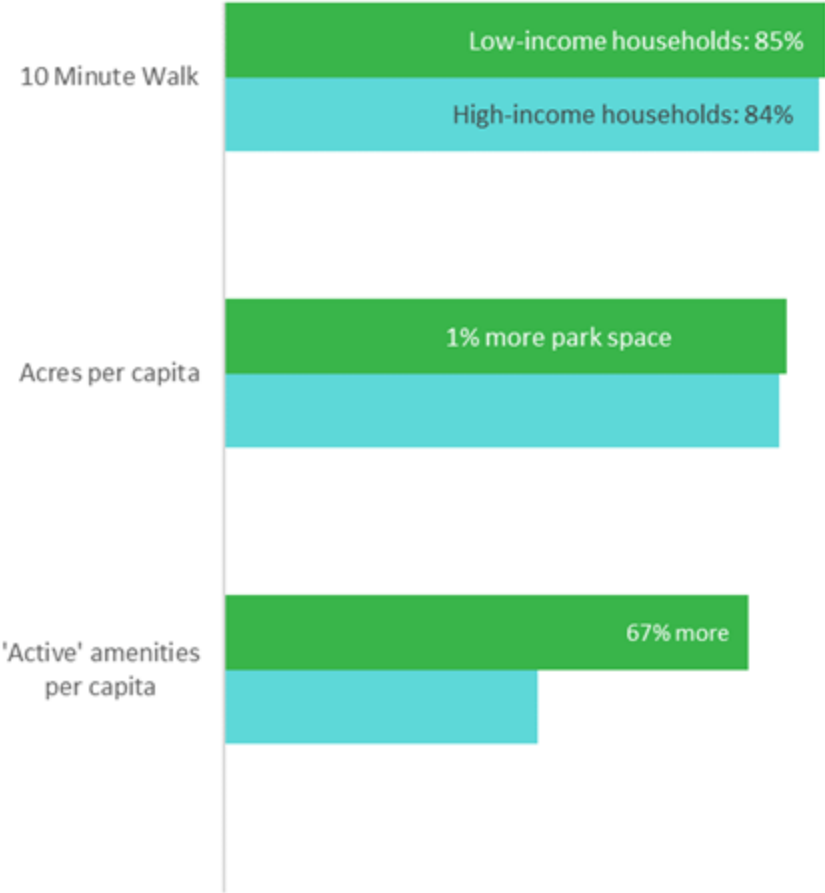
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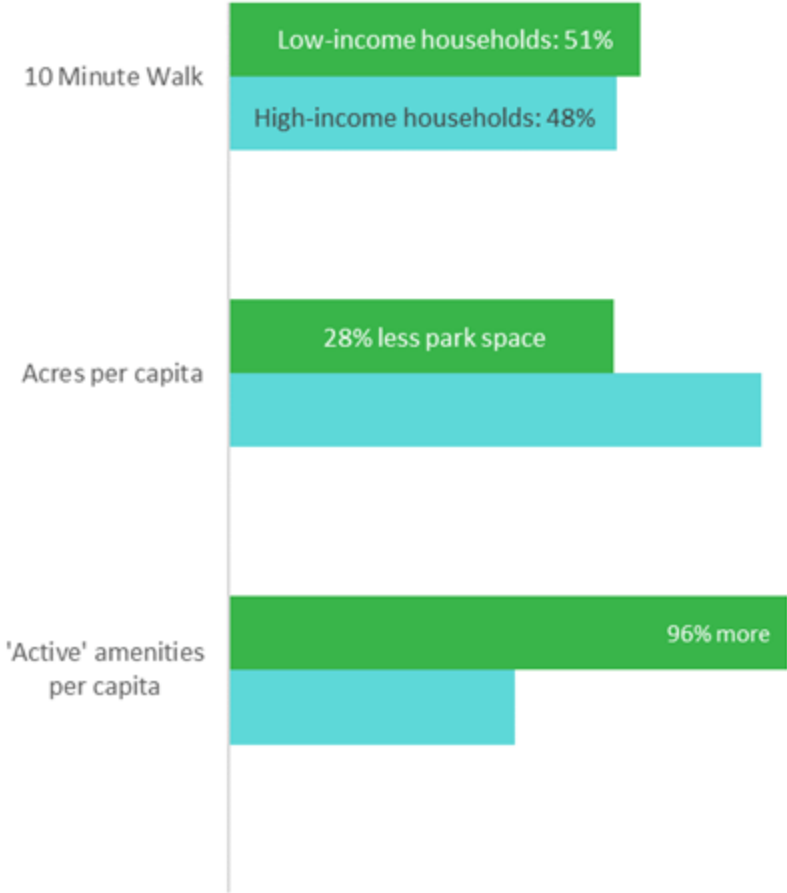
Different metrics, different stories, cont'd.

Cleveland



■ Low-income ■ High-income

Raleigh



■ Low income ■ High income

Questions?

Please add any technical questions in the chat or Q&A



Breakout Groups

For the past few sessions, we've asked deep-dive questions about what and how to count, this discussion will be focused on zooming out to look at how these approaches could fit into your planning toolkit.

Review the maps on your own, adding notes and comments as you see fit. As a group, you will respond to the following overarching questions:

- **Immediate reactions & critique.** What's 'working'? What isn't? What would you change?
- **Audience & use cases.** How would this work in your city? A primary goal of this effort is to improve park planning and advocacy. In looking at these additional metrics, what are the ways, if any, that you envision any of these approaches (or combination of approaches) could be used by you or your colleagues?

Breakout Poll & Wrap-Up

- **Share your answers from the breakouts with the larger group:**
<https://pollev.com/christinajan159>

Next session >> Feb 15: Workshop – Review revised approaches and open review period for participants

>>Please share feedback on sessions & materials in the exit ticket:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScESVZsZbXvROQd1yph-U3qomkt4G-i_qJFHYfWt6Zirj3Unw/viewform