Expanding Who Is Involved in Public Safety in St. Louis

Could Risk Terrain Modeling be a Useful Tool to Make Our Communities Safer?
# Introductions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Courtney Shaw</td>
<td>MPH Candidate, Brown School</td>
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<td>Ben Cooper</td>
<td>Manager, Data Center, Institute for Public Health</td>
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<td>Kimberly Pryor</td>
<td>Research Coordinator, Institute for Public Health</td>
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Recommendation: Public Safety Collaborative

Create a St. Louis Public Safety collaborative powered by Risk Terrain Modeling software (RTMDX)
What is Risk Terrain Modeling (RTM)?

- Software tool developed by criminologists to examine where crime occurs
- Provides a diagnosis of the places that might attract or generate crime
- Put the focus on places, not people
RTM Examples from Other Cities
Where this has been used: Atlantic City

- RTM identified convenience stores, laundromats and vacant properties
- Patrol routes revised
- Police conducted over 1,000 checks at businesses in high risk areas
- Reduced homicides and shooting injuries by over 25% from 2016 - 2017
Where this has has been used: Kansas City

- Risk factors: convenience stores, gas stations, bus stops, restaurants, laundromats and vacant buildings
- **Removed bus stop** as it was identified as a spot for drug deals and connected with nearby liquor stores and vacant properties
- Reduced loitering and mitigated open air drug market
Where this has been used: Colorado Springs

- Identified motor vehicle theft as primary crime
- Highest risk settings covered only 4% of the city but accounted for 43% of thefts
- Interventions included inspections and license plate recognition technology
Using RTM in St Louis

What types of places were either protective against or increased the risk for aggravated assault during the summer of 2021?
## Aggravated Assaults: Neighborhoods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AA Neighborhoods</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Downtown</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dutchtown</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wells Goodfellow</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baden</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus Square</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downtown West</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Vanderlou</td>
<td>63</td>
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Protective Factors

- Parks
RTM Results: Aggravated Assault in the Summer of 2021 (May - September)

- St Louis City - Areas within close proximity to ATMs are 5.8 times more likely to experience aggravated assaults.
- North of Delmar - Areas within close proximity to gas stations are 15.3 times more likely to experience aggravated assaults than those that are not within close proximity to gas stations.
- South of Delmar - Areas within close proximity to hotels are 5.6 times more likely to experience aggravated assaults.
Kingshighway, Page, Dr. Martin Luther King Dr.
Q&A & Discussion

- How confident are you that RTM could be used to help make our communities safer?
- Do you see ways that you or your organization could use RTM?
- What questions do you have that you would want RTM to answer?