



# Deepening our roots: Using community assets and data to prioritize campus engagement for social justice

## **Presented by:**

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## **With our partners:**

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Meridith Dillon, Sherwood Foundation  
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## **Session goals:**

- Contextualize our asset-based approach
- Define redlining
- Explore one campus's approach to developing interdisciplinary SL/CE collaborations
- Lessons learned
- Examine how participants can use data/asset-based engagement to meet strategic goals

## **Introductions:**

- Name
- Institution
- Role
- #whyyoucametothissession (in 140 characters)

## **Asset-based approach:**

- ABCD
- Asset-based service learning
- Our community; stereotypes/bias
- D&I Work with our partners

*An ideal partnership  
matches up the  
academic strengths and  
goals of the university  
with the assets and  
interests of the  
community*  
*-Dr. Judith Ramaley*

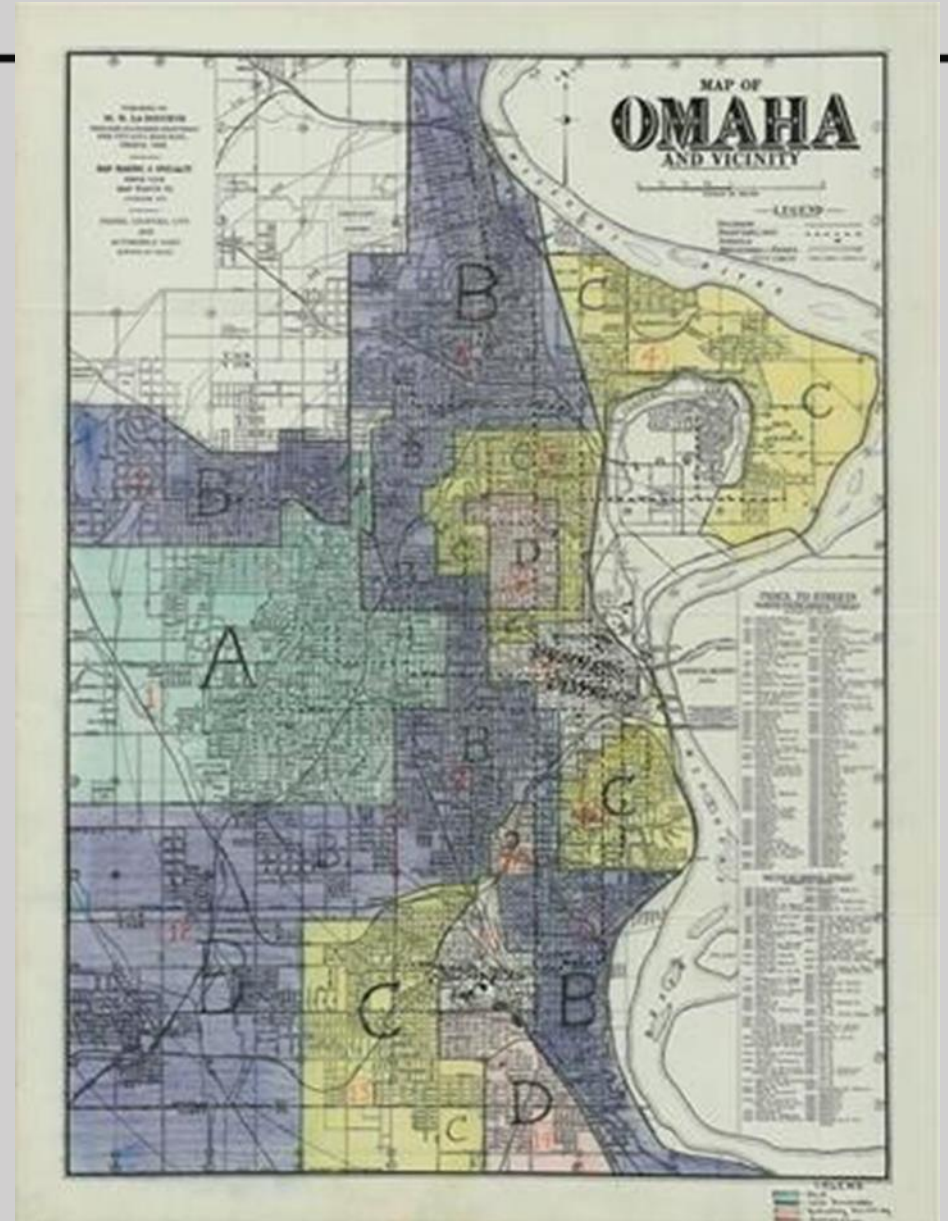
## Redlining:

Legal definition:

*the illegal practice of refusing to offer credit or insurance in a particular community on a discriminatory basis (as because of the race or ethnicity of its residents)*

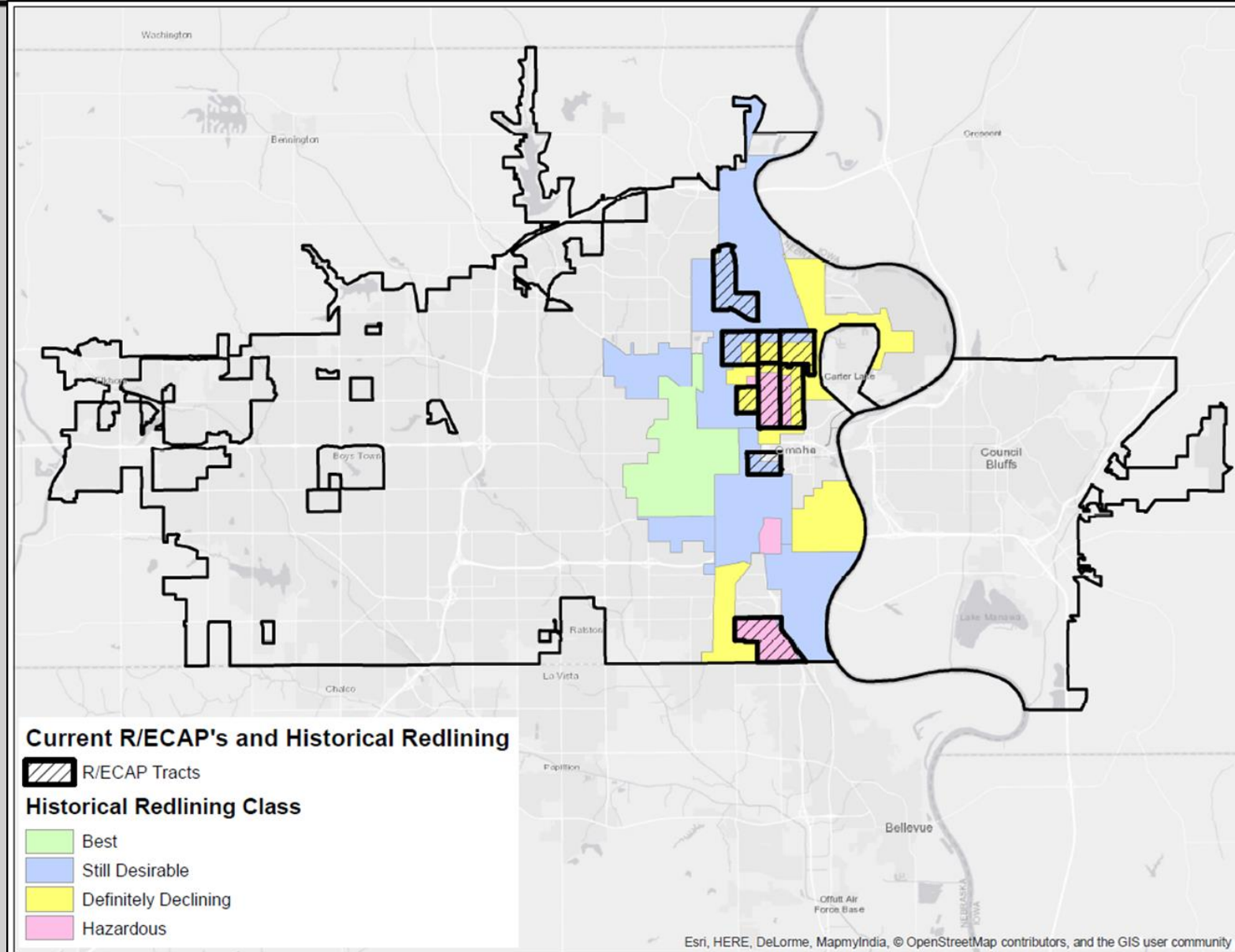
# Homeowner's Loan Corporation

- Residential “security” map of 1935
- Designated areas as green (best), blue (still desirable), yellow (definitely declining), and red (hazardous).
- Areas that were predominantly Black or Hispanic were labeled red (hazardous) and areas that were mostly White were either Green (best) or blue (still desirable).

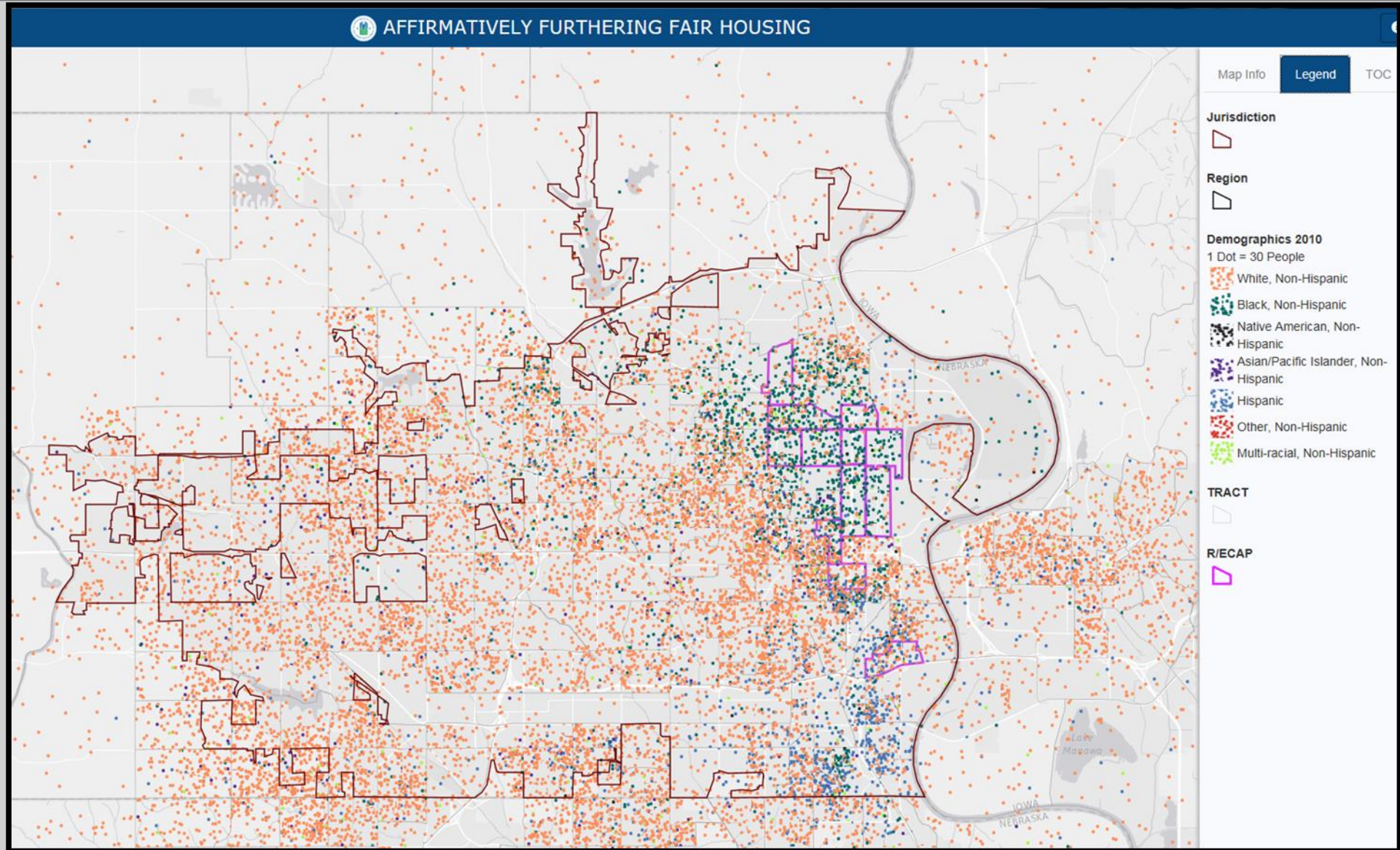


# R/ECAP

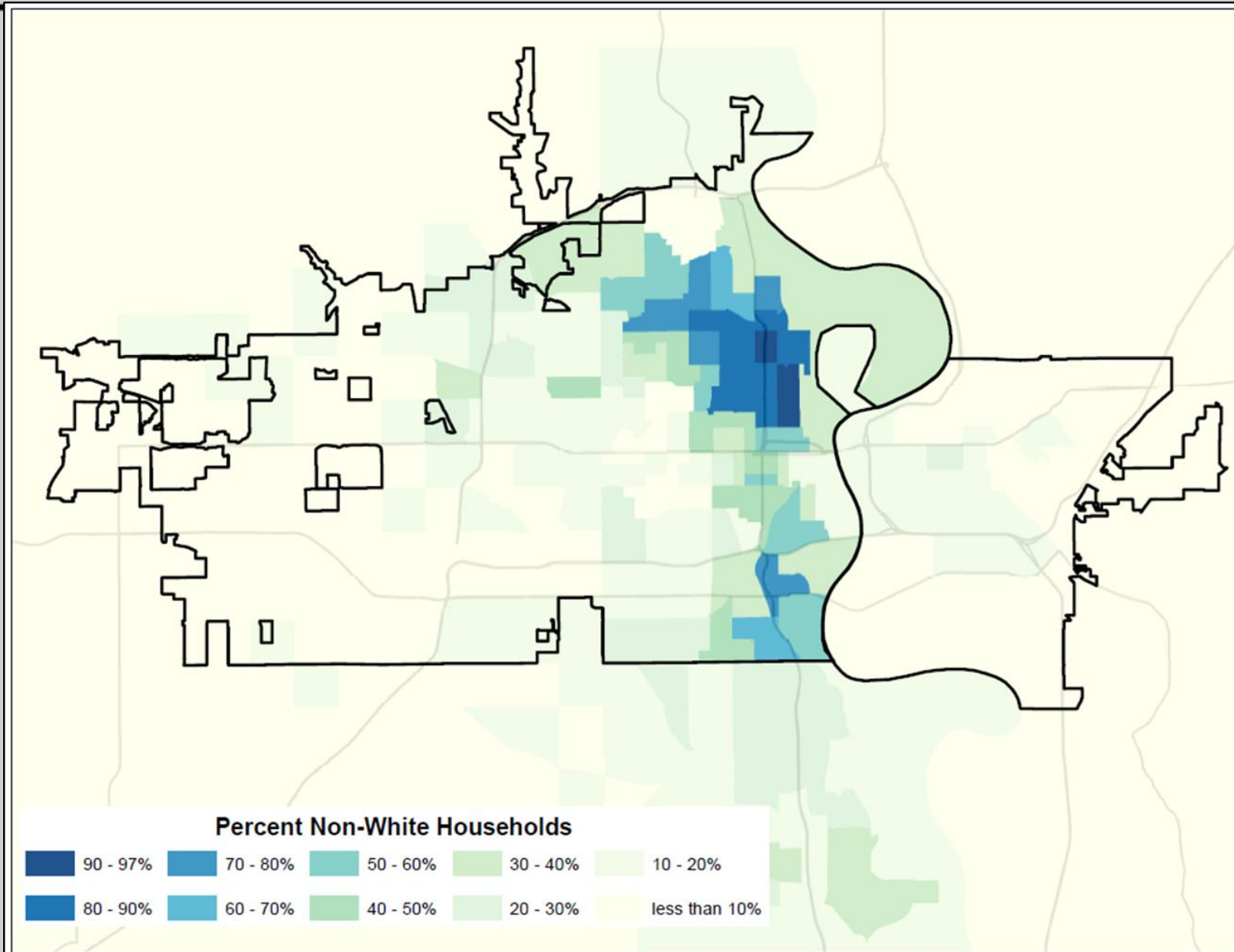
Racially and/or Ethnically  
Concentrated Areas of Poverty







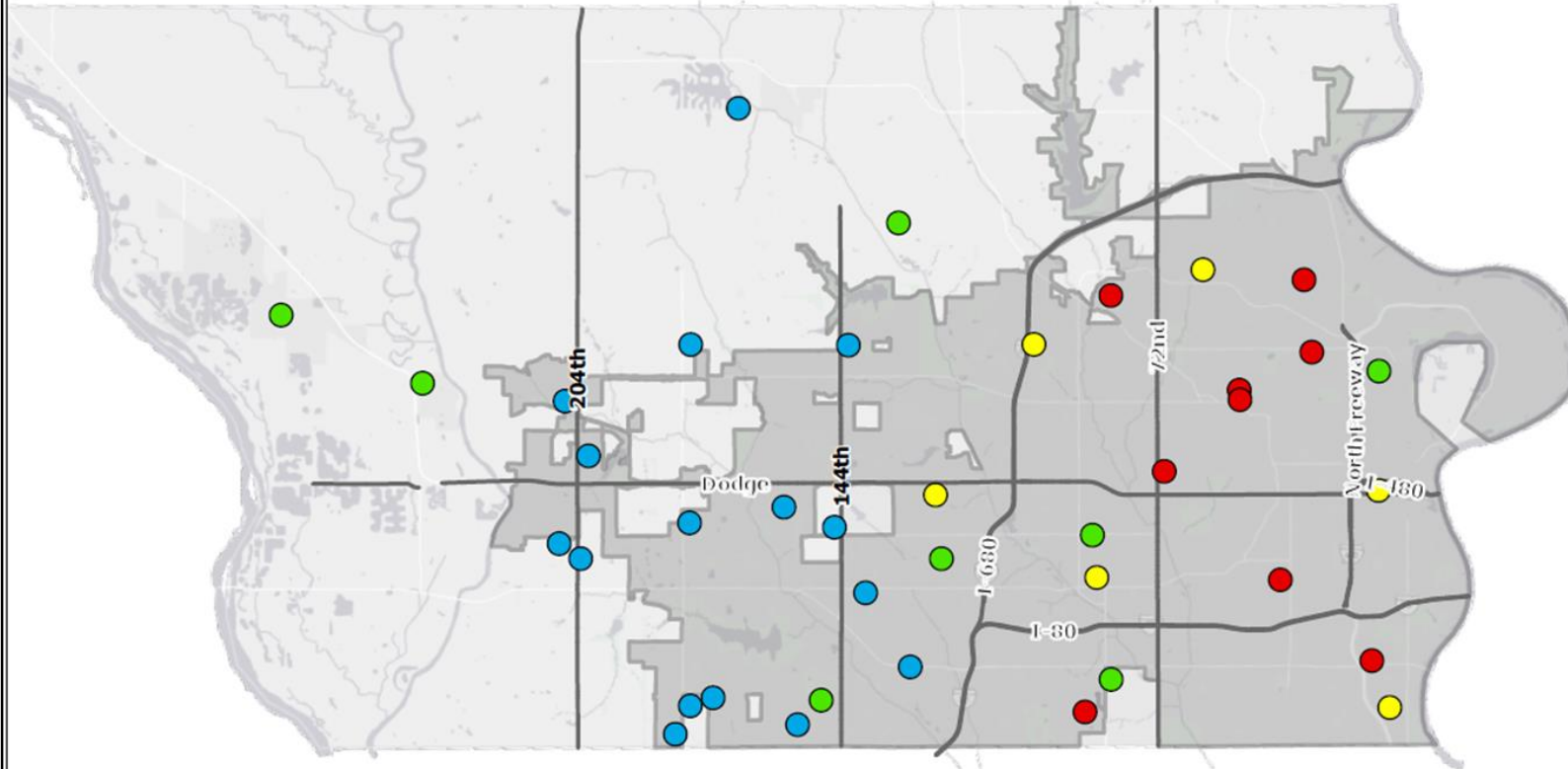


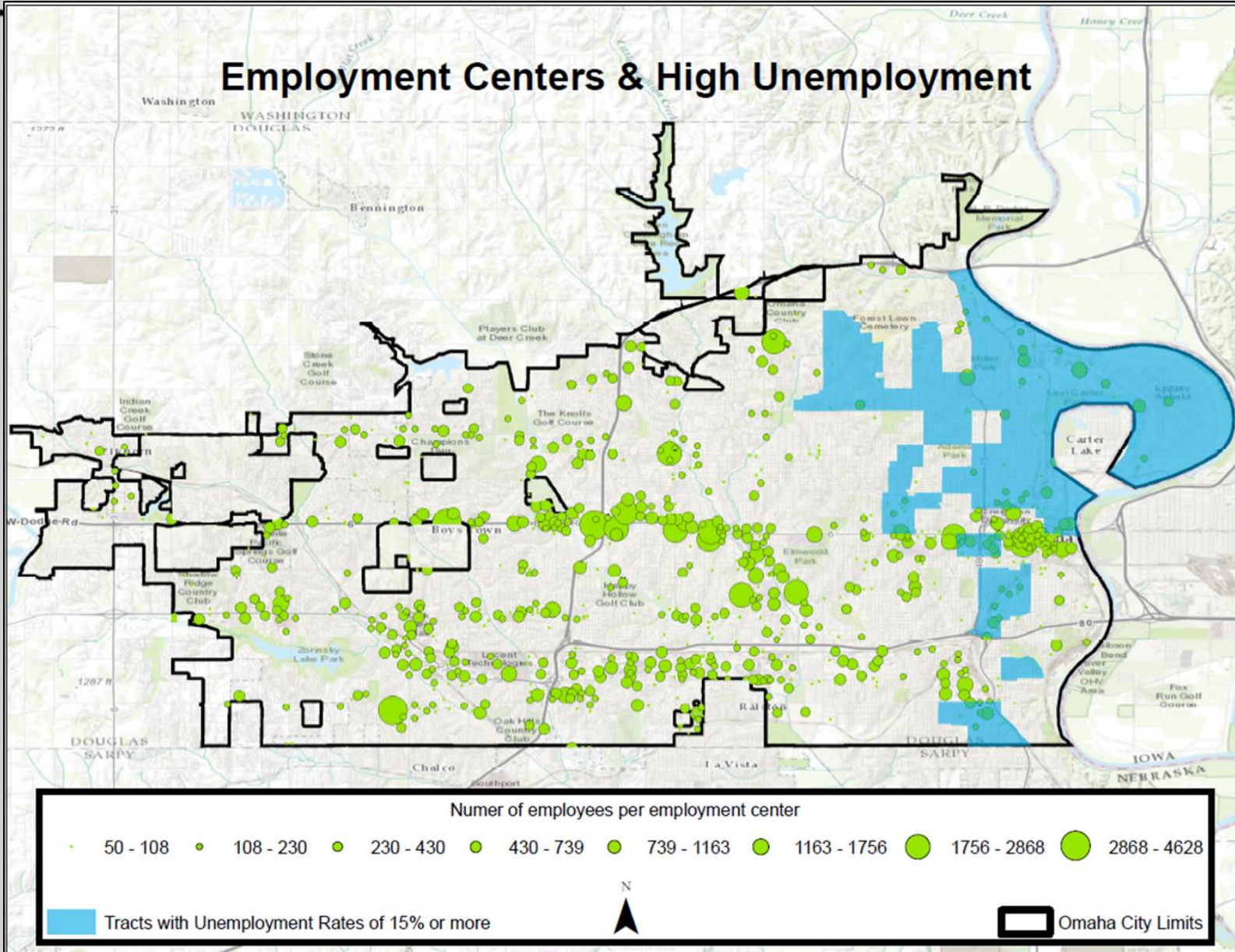


**Diversity by  
Census Tract**

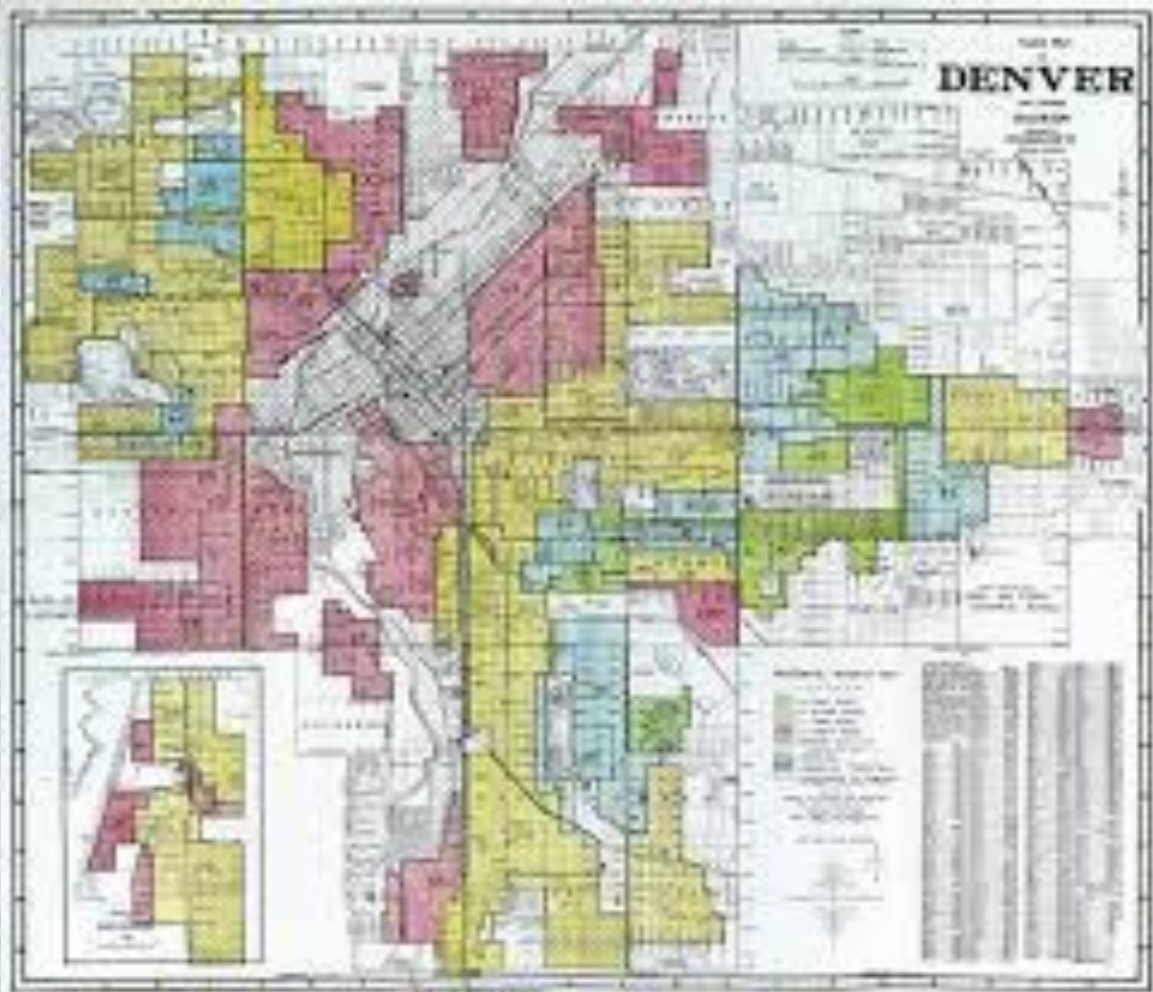
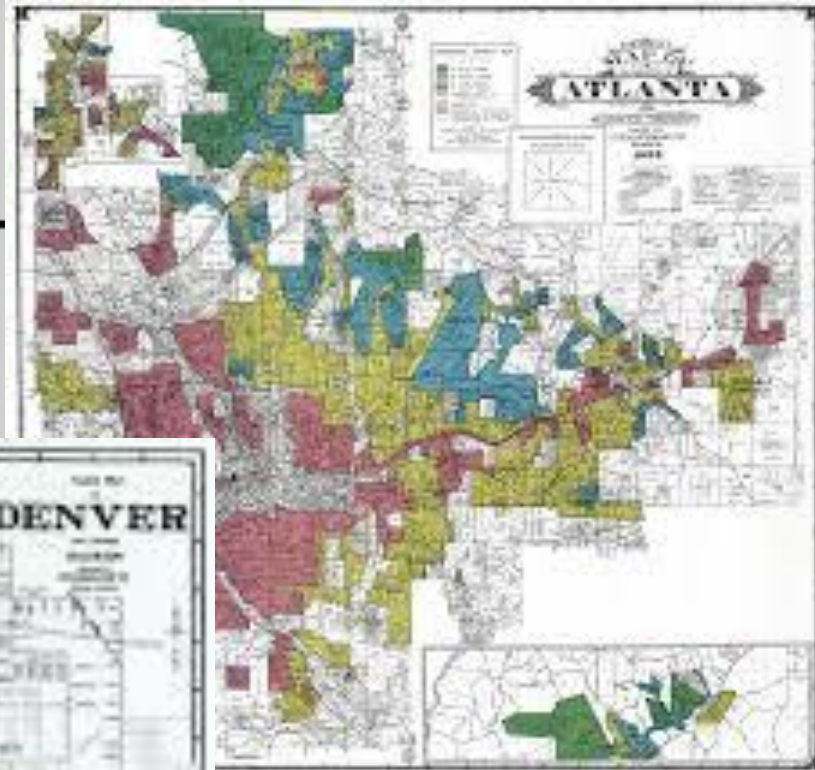
# AQuESTT Public School Performance Ratings

## High Schools & Middle Schools in Douglas County











## Timeline:

- Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) in Omaha
  - Feedback sessions, community forums, report generated
- Jan 2018: Discussions began with the Service Learning Academy and City of Omaha
  - EPIC-N program connection
- 2018: Planning meetings; adding partners
  - Linked to Service Learning Academy strategic goals
- Feb 2019: Bus tour



## EXPLORING OMAHA:

UNPACKING REDLINING AND THE HISTORICAL IMPLICATIONS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

MILO BAIL STUDENT  
CENTER, DODGE ROOMS



UNO Service Learning Academy invites UNO faculty, P-12 teachers and community partners to learn about the history of Omaha related to redlining as well as its historic and current day implications. During the event, participants will explore how to educate students and the community about the history and develop ways in which to collaborate on solutions to address a historical injustice that has impacts today.

Lunch is provided,  
but seating is limited!

#### REGISTER HERE:

<https://unoslaunpackingredlininginoma.eventbrite.com>

For more information: [unosla@unomaha.edu](mailto:unosla@unomaha.edu)

#### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**9:00 AM: Introduction to Event**

**9:45 AM: Bus Tour Begins**

**11:45 AM: Return to Milo Bail**

**12:00 PM: Lunch & Project Development**



# Timeline:

- July 2019: Service Learning Seminar
  - Continue conversations
  - Partner development
- July 2019: Undesign the Redline
  - SLA representatives on the committee
  - Exhibit (becoming) permanent
  - Service learning connections

As we begin this bus tour, here is some information to keep in mind...

**13,373**  **4,087**  
Total households

Population of the four highlighted R/ECAP Areas (of which, you will have passed through or stopped at during this tour).

Poverty Index / Labor Market Index \*

Tract 52:	2	\	12
Tract 11:	3	\	17
Tract 12:	3	\	13
Tract 29:	5	\	21

(Compared to West Omaha tracts)

Tract 67.03:	80	\	92
Tract 67.01:	79	\	84
Tract 68.05:	77	\	93
Tract 74.45:	49	\	85

\*For more information on what the Low Poverty Index and Labor Market Index encompass, please look at the descriptions on the outermost panel.



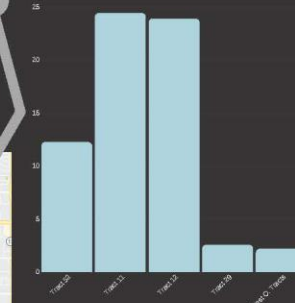
## Average Median Household Income

\$ **27,241**

Average for the selected R/ECAP Areas

\$ **70,878**

Average for the West Omaha tracts

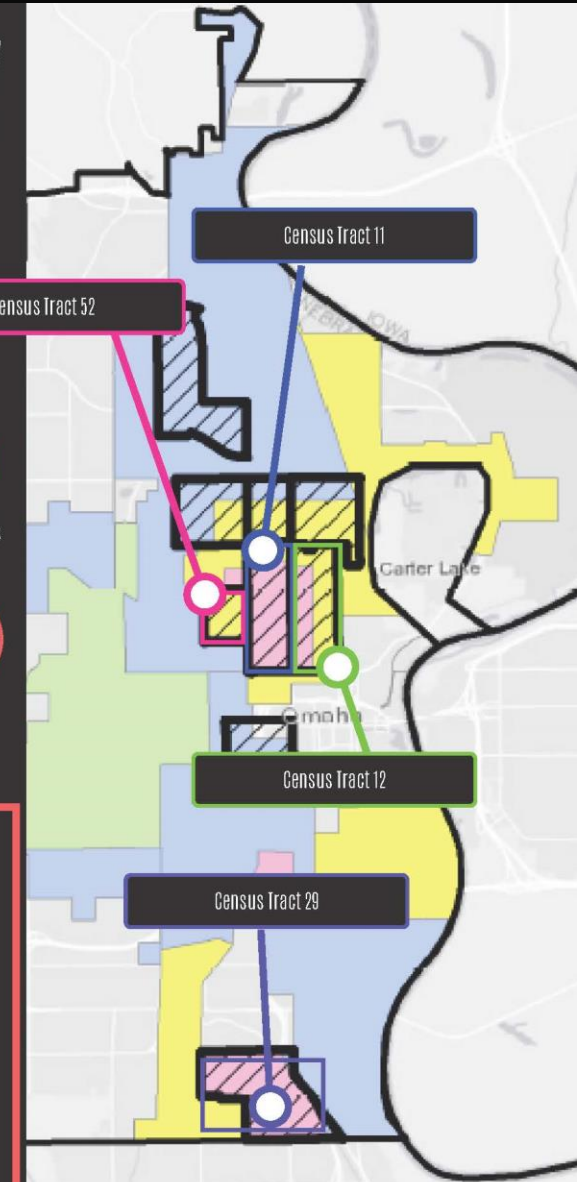


Percentage of Housing Vouchers Used



Percentage of Tract Population below Poverty line

Tract 52:	<b>39%</b>
Tract 11:	<b>51.4%</b>
Tract 12:	<b>30.6%</b>
Tract 29:	<b>37.4%</b>
Average of West Omaha Tracts:	<b>9.35%</b>



## Lessons learned:

- Relationships are the key to innovation
- Connecting to priorities early
- The deeper the work is in the community the more buy-in exists
- Community wants to know they are being taken care of
- SL was a part of the community-wide solution
- UNO started to be seen as experts, which we are not
- We cannot assume what faculty/students/partners do and do not know
- Must be ready to dedicate significant priorities/resources when starting this type of work
- We must have a focus for our work!

## **To your neighbor:**

- How might you approach similar SL/CE goals?
- What best practices might you employ in this space? What did we leave out?
- Where/who might you activate to meet your strategic goals? Where can you listen to set the agenda?

## **Questions/Discussion**

UNIVERSITY OF  
**Nebraska**  
Omaha



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