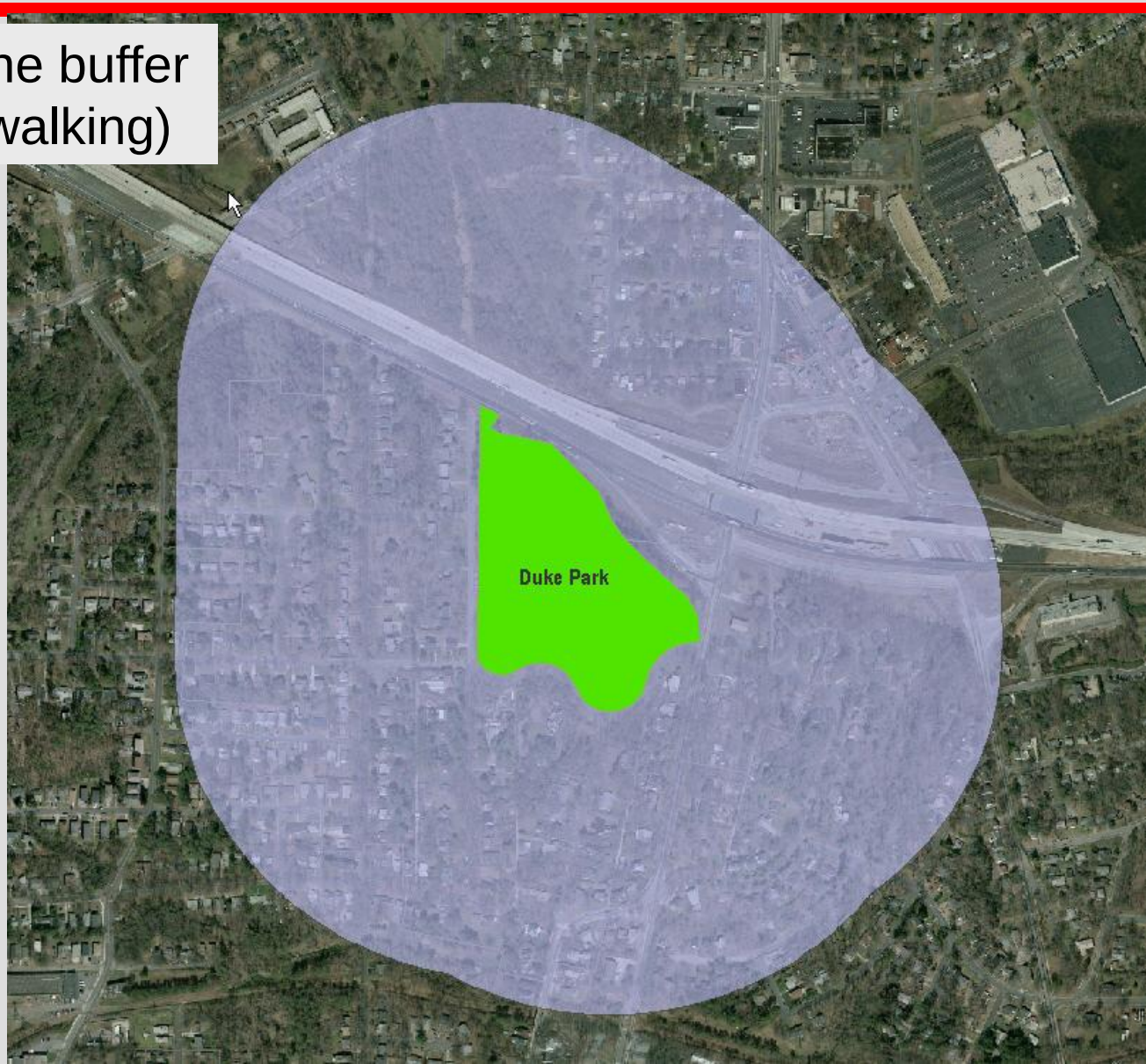
ATTACHMENT B

Parks and Proximity

Measuring what park "proximity" means is not a clear issue for park planners. Does proximity mean literal straight-line distance or accessible distance? Does it mean "close to any park" or "close to a park facility that I want to use"? Does the size of the park that an area is close to make a significant difference? Intuition suggests that there are many distinctions that need to be made. Attached are some pages from a study done by DPR and the NCSU School of Design (group headed by Dr. Perver Baran) that looks at various ways of measuring proximity and accessibility around several City parks. Ultimately, for this proposed Master Plan, staff decided to rely most heavily on the PARCS survey responses in the geographic breakdown—if fewer than 50% of the residents in an area were not satisfied with the number of recreational opportunities in their area, then the area was judged to be underserved either by information about existing facilities or by an absence of actual facilities. With that information, staff then looked at census tract numbers to focus in on specific neighborhoods to get some comparables. For instance Census Tract 20.12 is north of I-40 and has a population of 1069 and 496 dwelling units; it contains Piney Wood Park. Census Track 20.13 is just south of I-40 and has a population of 1281 and 522 dwelling units; it has no park.

Mapping Park Service Areas
Approaches

1. Straigth line or airline buffer ¼ mile (5 minutes walking)

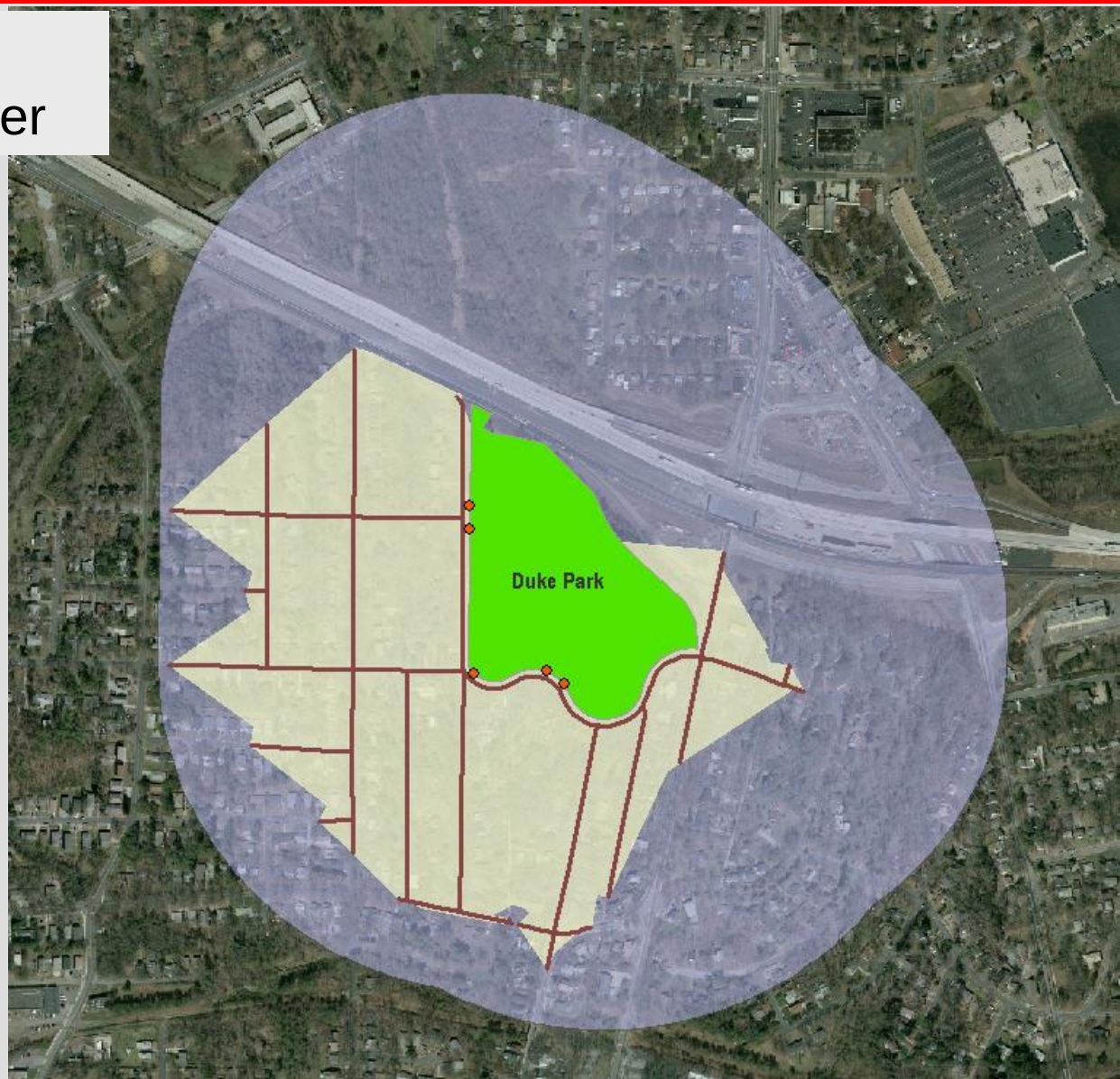


Mapping Park Service Areas
Approaches

2. Network or street distance buffer ¼ mile (5 minutes walking)

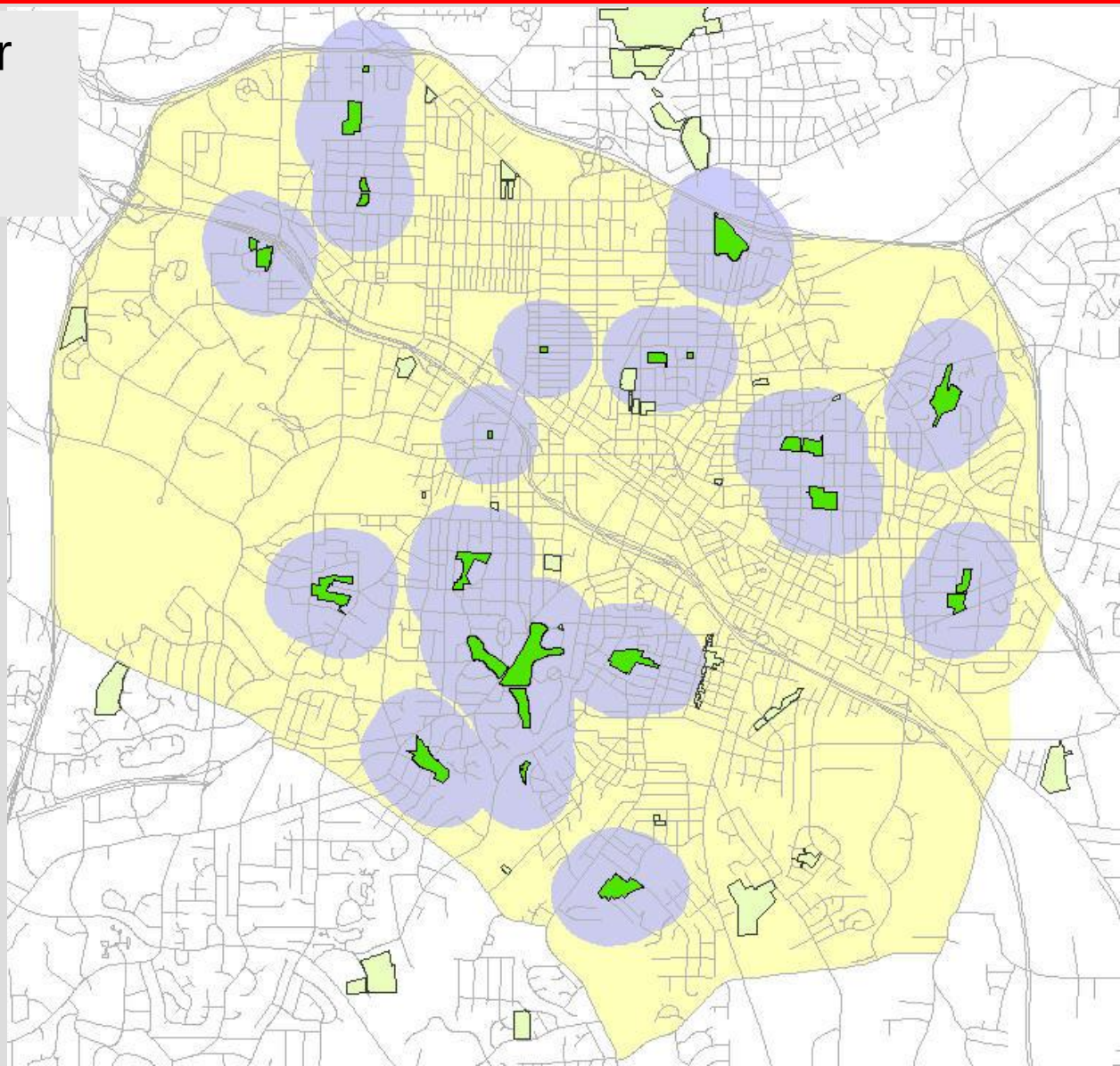
Mapping Park Service Areas
Approaches

1. Straigth line buffer
2. Network distance buffer



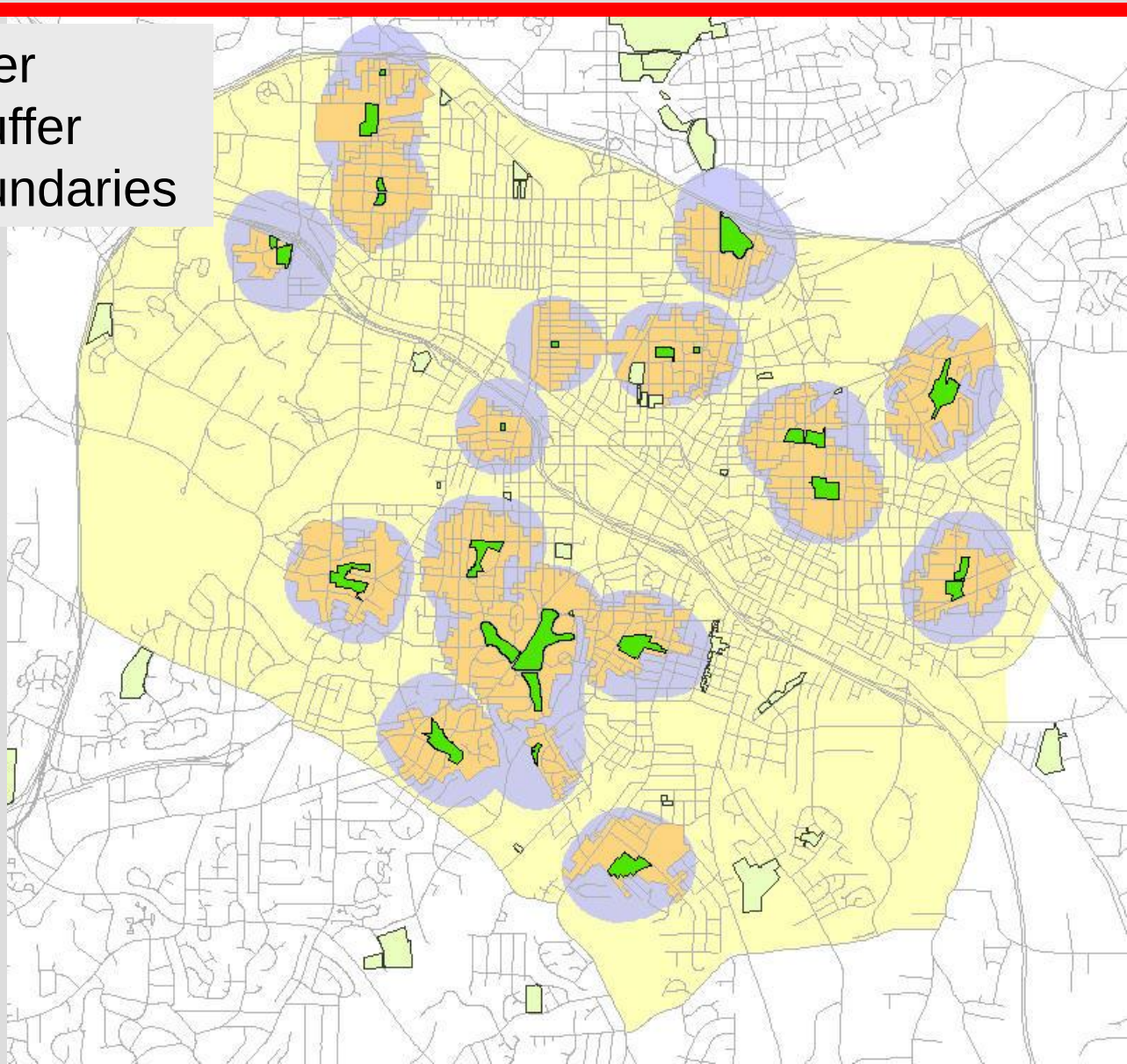
Mapping Park Service Areas
Approaches

1. Airline distance buffer ¼ mile - 5 minute walking distance



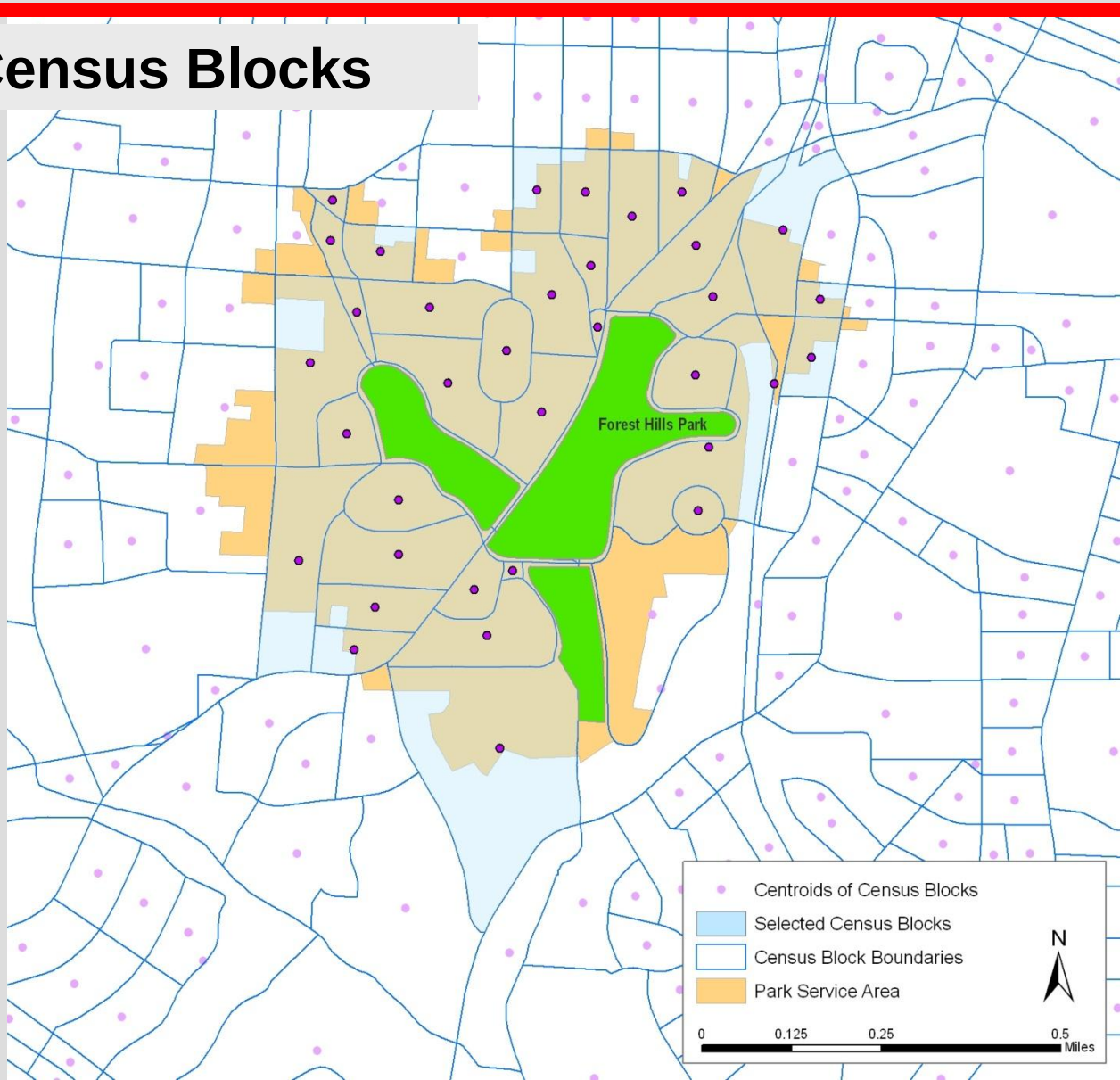
Mapping Park Service Areas
Approaches

1. Airline distance buffer
3. Network distance buffer based on parcel boundaries

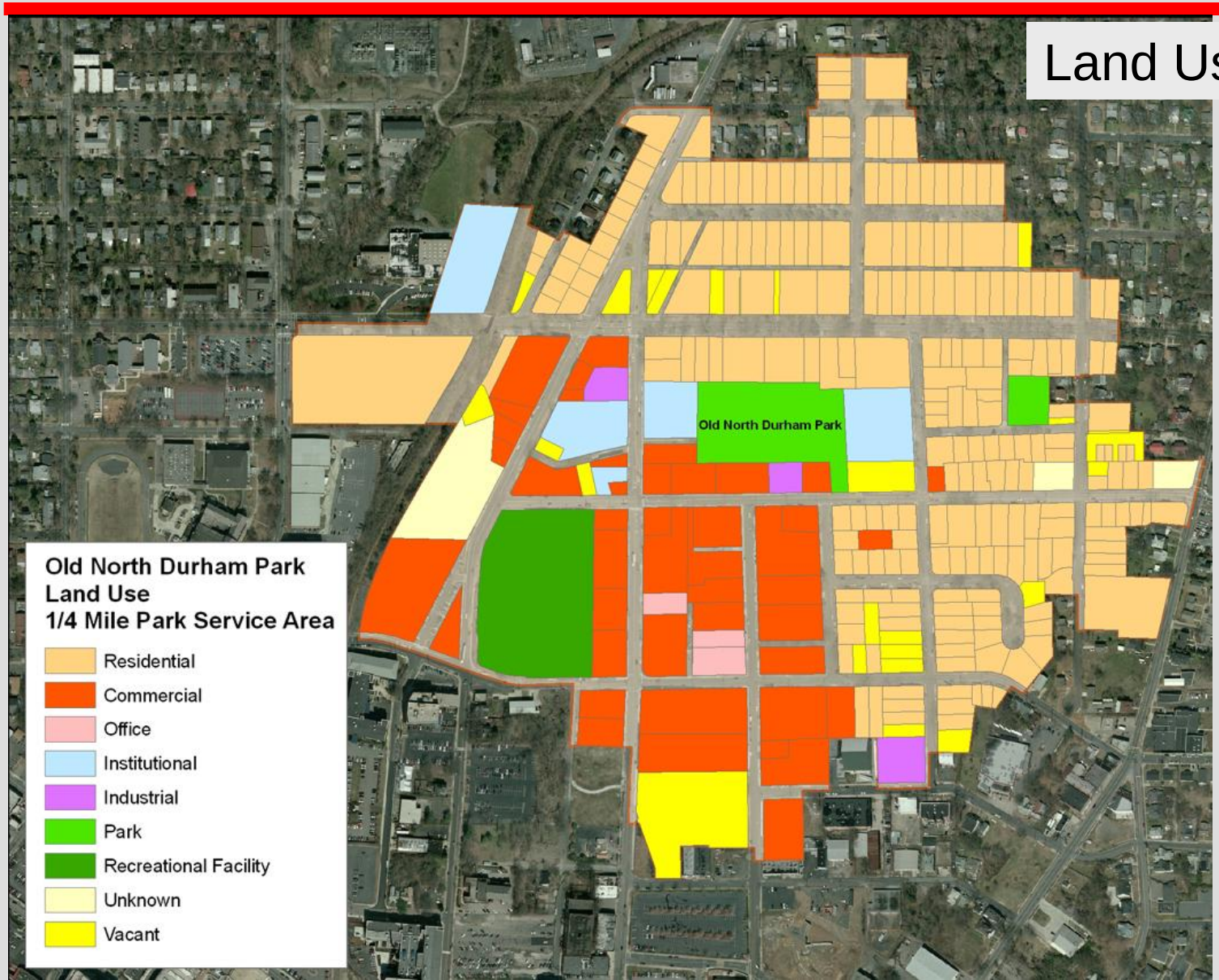


Socio-demographic Characteristics

Selection of Census Blocks



Urban Form Characteristics



Comparisons

ANOVA and chi-square tests of significance were applied to these comparisons of survey questions by geographic subareas. A "p-value" of 0.05 or less indicates that there is less than a 5% probability that differences observed between subareas are due to chance. Cells shaded grey indicate statistically significant differences between subareas.

Table 1: Question 1

Percent of respondents who rated the following as "excellent" or "good"	Recreation Payment-in-lieu Zone							Overall
	Eno North	Eno South	Little Lick Creek	Lick Creek	North East Creek	Third Fork Creek	New Hope Creek	
Durham as a place to live	87%	76%	64%	85%	74%	80%	75%	77%
Your neighborhood as a place to live	97%	80%	72%	84%	87%	91%	83%	84%
Durham as a place to raise children	65%	77%	54%	76%	58%	59%	54%	64%
Durham as a place to live a healthy life	78%	83%	57%	86%	79%	72%	74%	77%
Preservation of historic resources in parks (such as Spruce Pine Lodge, Forest Hills Clubhouse, etc.)	75%	74%	65%	60%	61%	67%	59%	66%
Recreational opportunities in Durham	57%	77%	49%	55%	72%	75%	73%	70%
Proximity of parks and recreation opportunities to your home	50%	78%	53%	55%	73%	74%	54%	66%
Community commitment to the cultural heritage of Durham	68%	74%	50%	34%	65%	75%	57%	63%
Number of paths and walking/biking trails	44%	69%	51%	44%	71%	66%	71%	64%
Opportunities for outdoor rest and relaxation	59%	68%	48%	42%	72%	61%	57%	61%
Opportunities to attend cultural activities	67%	64%	56%	60%	76%	77%	64%	67%
Opportunities for summer camps for children	58%	57%	49%	38%	65%	72%	41%	54%
Recreational opportunities for children	66%	59%	52%	39%	66%	60%	43%	55%
Recreational opportunities for teenagers	36%	46%	31%	37%	57%	50%	33%	42%
Recreational opportunities for adults ages 18-54	55%	62%	39%	41%	70%	55%	51%	56%
Recreational opportunities for ages 55 and older	42%	61%	41%	50%	65%	50%	65%	56%
Amount of preserved natural areas/open space	60%	67%	47%	38%	72%	48%	67%	60%
Number of parks in the community	52%	69%	51%	32%	66%	60%	59%	60%
Number of playgrounds in the community	44%	54%	46%	34%	56%	51%	46%	49%
Distribution of parks around the community	48%	66%	44%	23%	60%	54%	44%	52%

Parks and Recreation Community Survey™
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