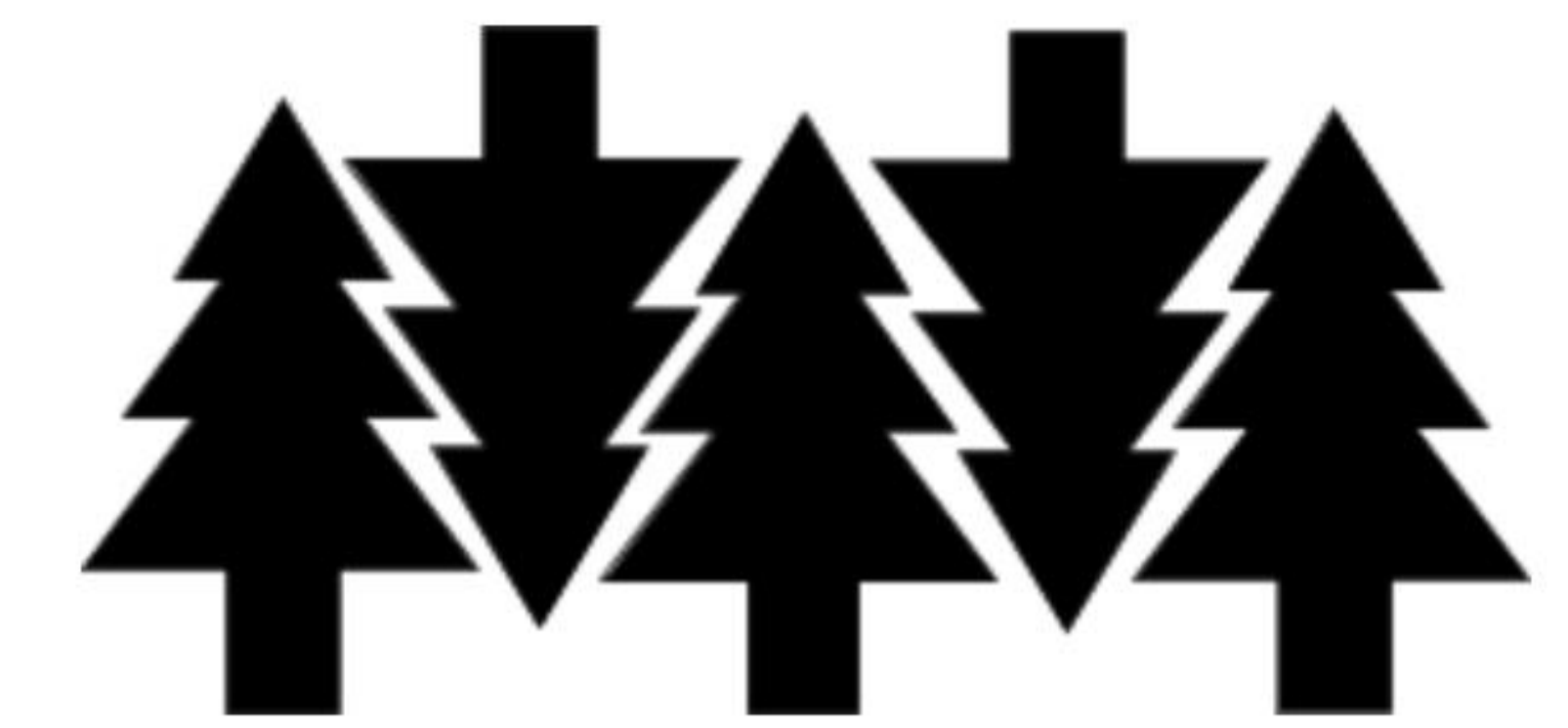


Developing a Sense of Community Through Green Space



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Problem Statement / Goal

Detroit, Michigan lacks involvement within its community, and also does not currently foster a sufficient amount of open parks. With this limited amount of outdoor green space, citizens are upset and express a desire for more green spaces. Our goal is to unite the community as a whole by creating a green space that is self-sustained by the private community to ensure long term success.

Objectives

- Create a more sustainable community environment for the people living in the vicinity of Romanowski Park.
- Increase community involvement, in order to successfully create an “inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable”^[5] community.

Evaluation Plan

- Survey the users of the park and ask them about their experiences. This will provide qualitative data both of the positive aspects of the park, and suggestions on how it can be improved.
- Keep count of how many people use the park by posting a sign-in sheet. This will provide quantitative data regarding the use and effectiveness of the park.

Background

- Detroit, Michigan Statistics
 Unemployment Rate – 12.9%
 Violent Crime Rate – 2,000 per 100,000 people
 Safer than only 8% of U.S. cities^[1]
- 50 parks were recently shut down due to lack of funding by the Department of Recreation.^[2]
 Romanowski Park was chosen to remodel due to its close vicinity to a high school and a middle school.
- Community involvement can help reduce crime and increase safety.^[3]



Vandalism in Romanowski Park^[6]

Recommendations

Going forward, the volunteer group will have to take control of when to meet in order to perform maintenance. Also, they must maintain feedback from the community by collecting surveys and counting the sign-in sheets. This will act as a model after which other areas of the U.S. can follow.

Acknowledgments

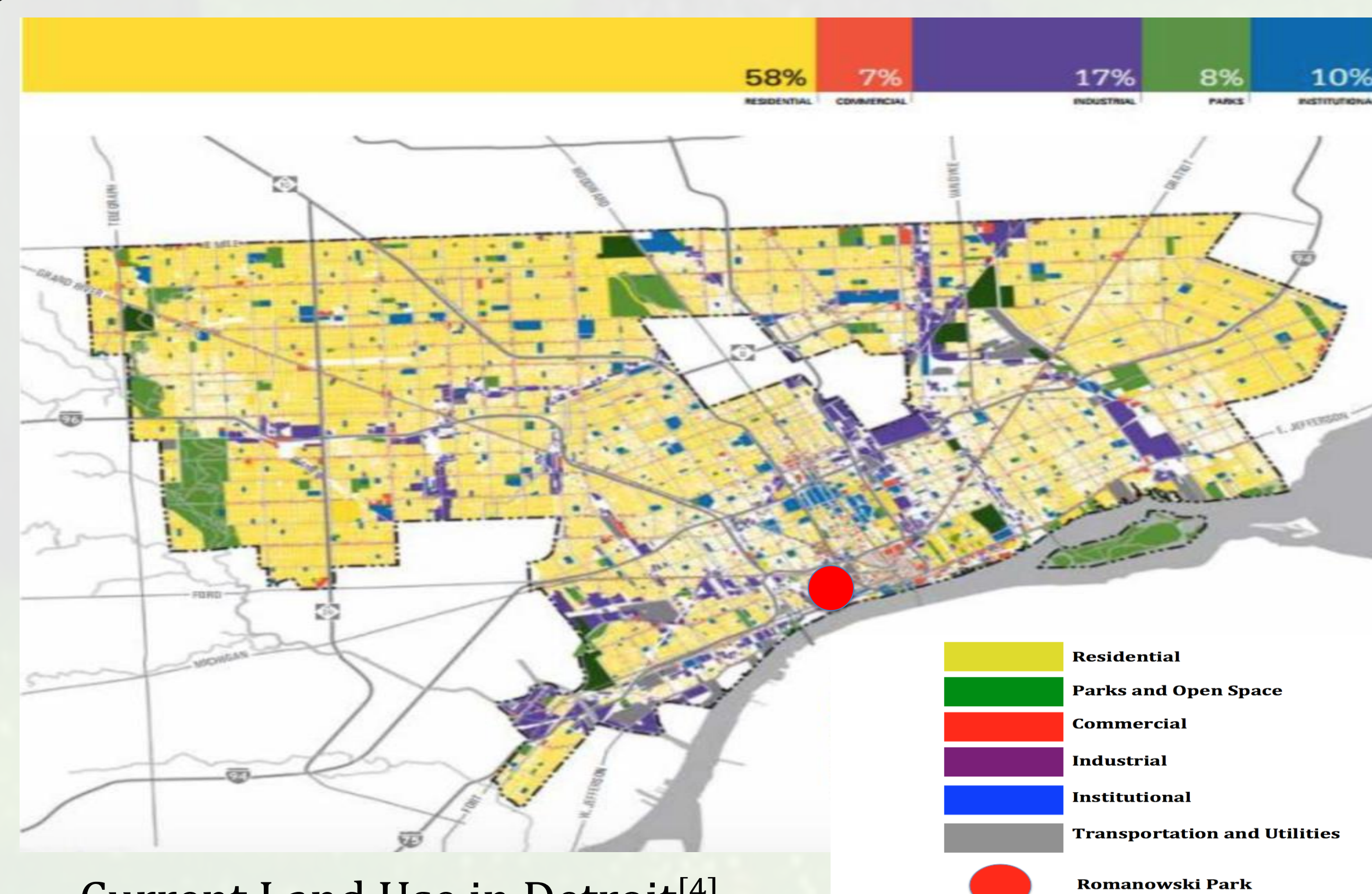
Ms. Rebecca Ziino, The Academic Technology Center, Stephany Ruiz, Clara Merino, Khahnty Daraphet, and Izzie Schiavone

Method

- Apply for funding for the materials to help clean and maintain the park such as lawn mowers, sprinklers, and other necessary supplies.
 - Compile an initial and monthly budget
- Organize a volunteer force made of local citizens to help clean and maintain the park.
- Run SORI check on volunteers.
- Organize a schedule as to when the volunteer group will meet.

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- [5] "Sustainable Cities and Communities." *Sustainable Development Goals*. United Nations. Web. 2 Dec. 2015.
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Current Land Use in Detroit^[4]