

Low income residents of Detroit are having their water shut off causing social, and economic problems.

Background

- 30,000 homes were disconnected from water in 2014 alone.
- Detroit filed for bankruptcy in July of 2013.
- Living without water leads to improper sanitation and hygiene.

Solution/Recommendations

Our solution is comprised of two parts. The first was to create a computer program that calculates the appropriate water rate for each neighborhood based on income, while the other was to install water meters throughout the city's infrastructure to detect leaks.

Benefits

- Stopping leakage can reduce a city's water use by 5-10% with higher savings in expected in Detroit.
- Water will be more affordable for lower income households.

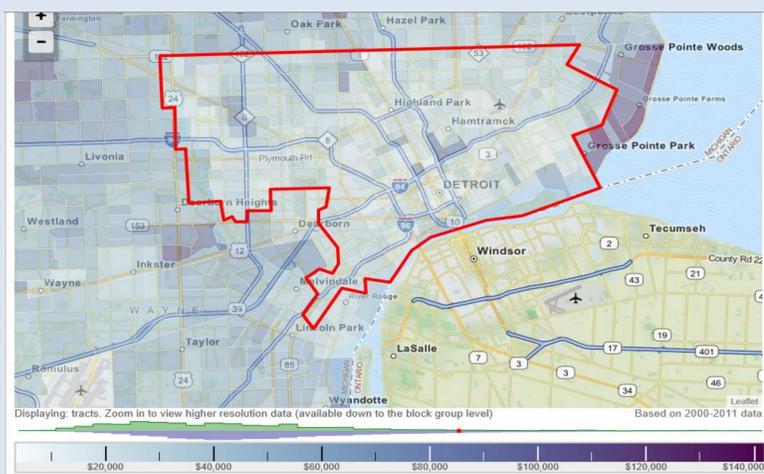
Goals and Objectives

- How much of a problem is Detroit's water infrastructure and how much water is lost due to leakage?
- What is the correct amount a household should have to pay for water?

Costs/Concerns

- The cost to install one water meter ranges from \$393 to \$775 which some cities may not have the money for.
- Wealthier residents may be opposed to raising their water rate.

Demographic Map



Research Approach

- Scholarly readings determined the appropriate amount of income a household should be paying
- The statistics were used as input in the program which indicates water rate by area



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