

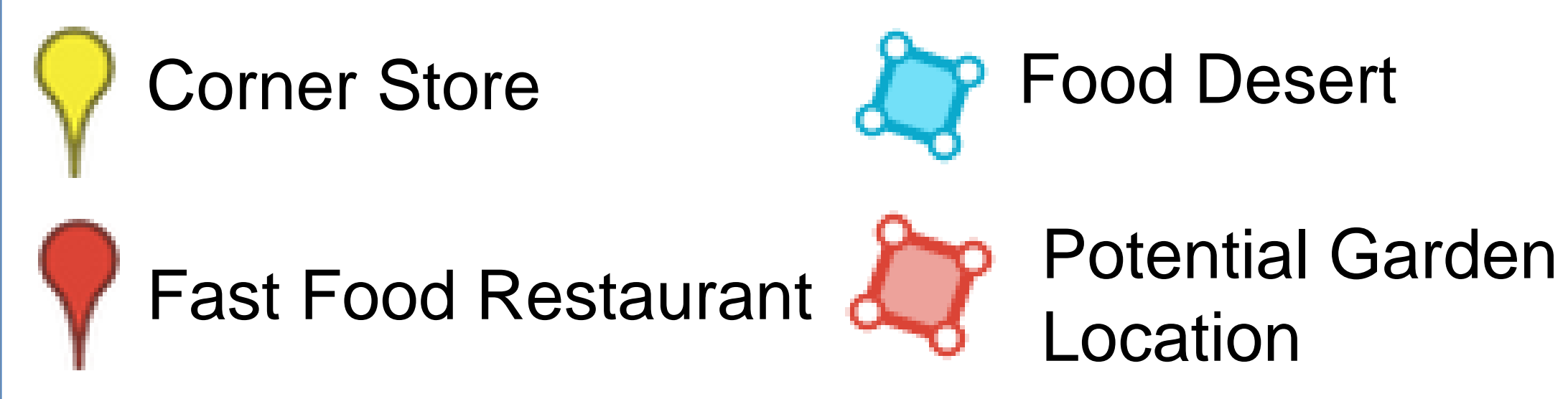
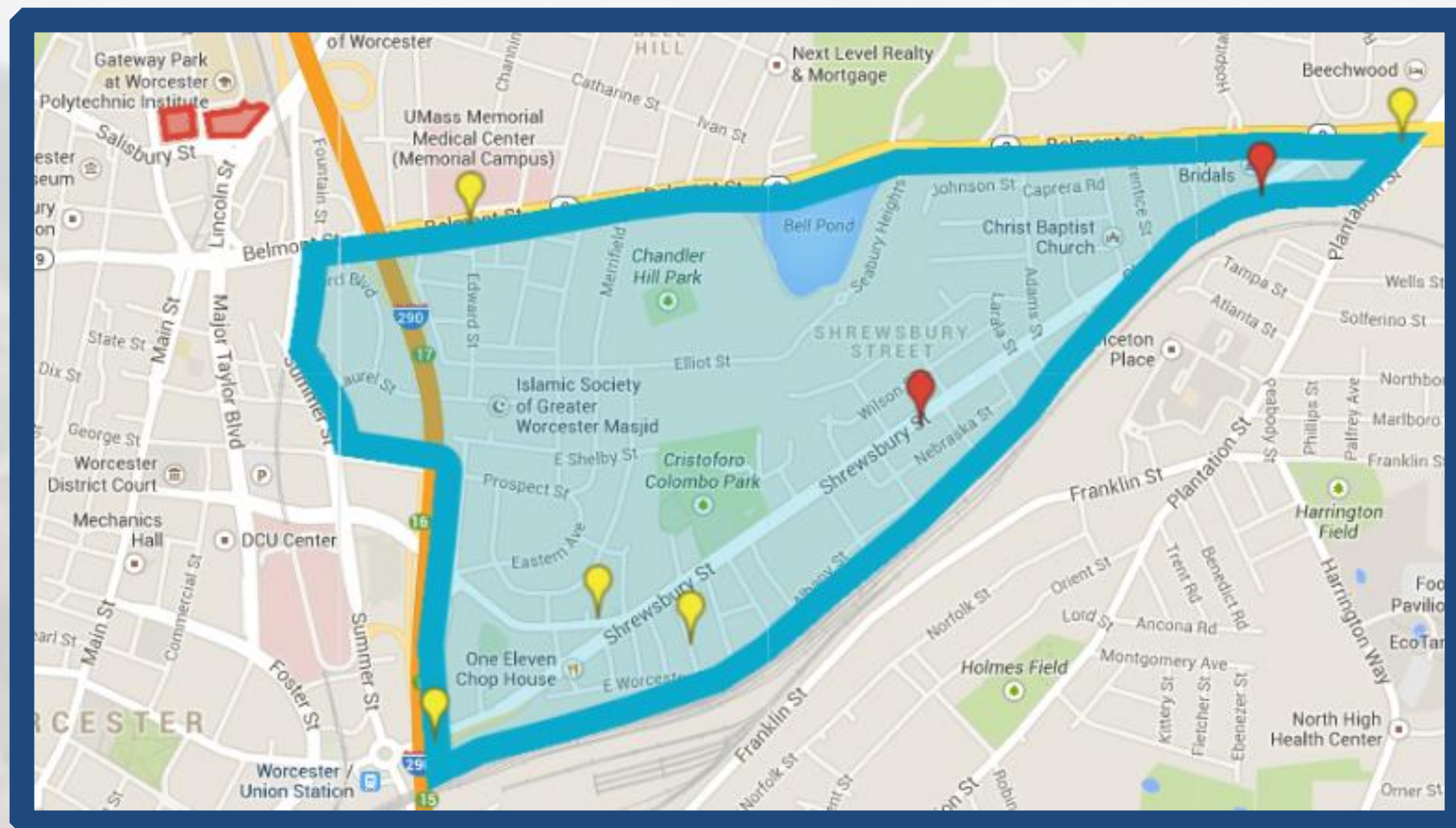
Project Oasis: An Urban Garden in Worcester

Brian Bach, Lubna Hassan, Mervyn Larrier, Aaron McGinnis, Andrew Santos

Problem

Fresh, healthy food options are unavailable for residents living in the Shrewsbury Street Food Desert in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Map of Food Desert



Solution

Implement an urban garden in a vacant lot located at Gateway Park.

Mechanics



Potential Transformation



Cost Estimates / 5000 ft²

Start-up Costs		Operating Costs / yr	
Item	Price (\$)	Item	Price (\$)
Fencing	4,000	Part-time Farmer	8,400
Soil	3,000	Seeds	2,500
Piping/Hydrant	3,000	Soil Tests	30
Garden Beds	4,000		
Tools/Equipment	1,000		
TOTAL	15,000	TOTAL	10,930

Benefits

1. Local Community

- Easy access to healthy food
- Improved diet

2. Store Owners

- More customers
- Increased sales

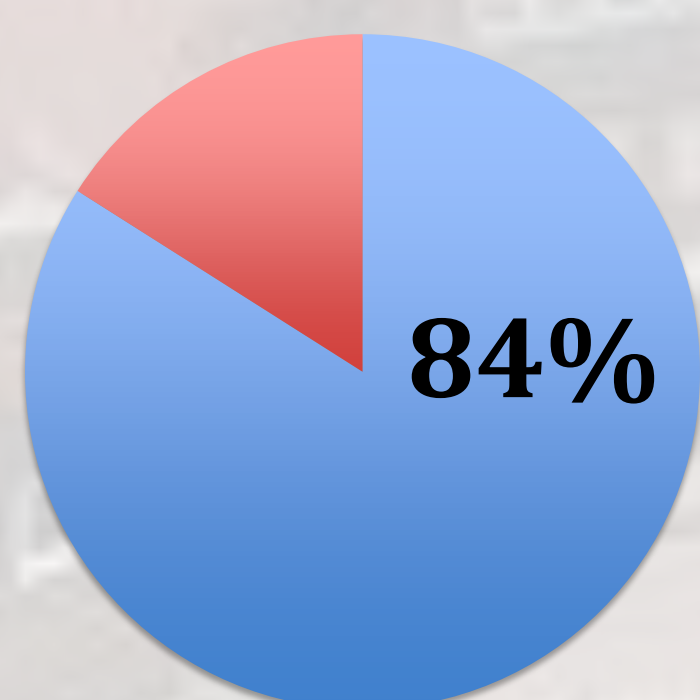
3. WPI

- Pro-sustainability
- Empowers students
- Builds community

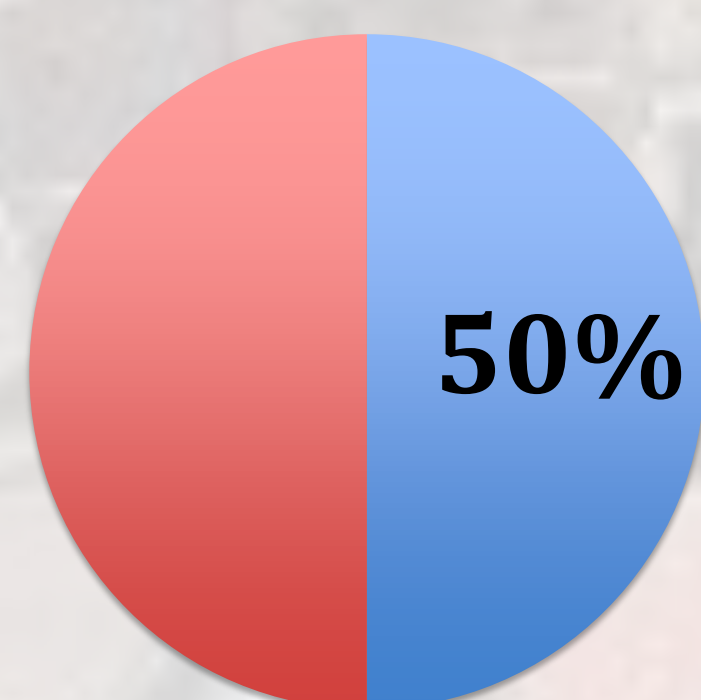
Demographics

Population: 6172 residents

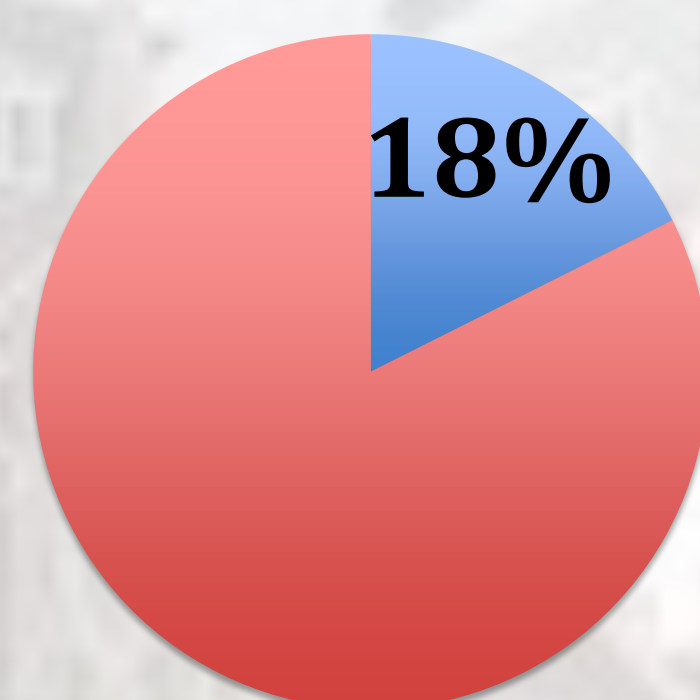
Low-Access to Supermarkets



Low-Income & Low-Access



No Vehicle Access



Assessment

- Survey residents
- Analyze garden production
- Evaluate corner store progress

References

USDA Food Access Research Atlas.

Starting a Community Garden. (n.d.). Douglas County Health Department. Retrieved from http://www.douglascounty-ne.gov/gardens/images/stories/commgarden/Community%20Garden_Market_ToolKit_3_29_11version%208.pdf

Couët, M. L. Z. (2009). *Strengthening Providence with Community Gardens*(Doctoral dissertation, Brown University).

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b3/North_view_of_a_Chicago_urban_garden.jpg