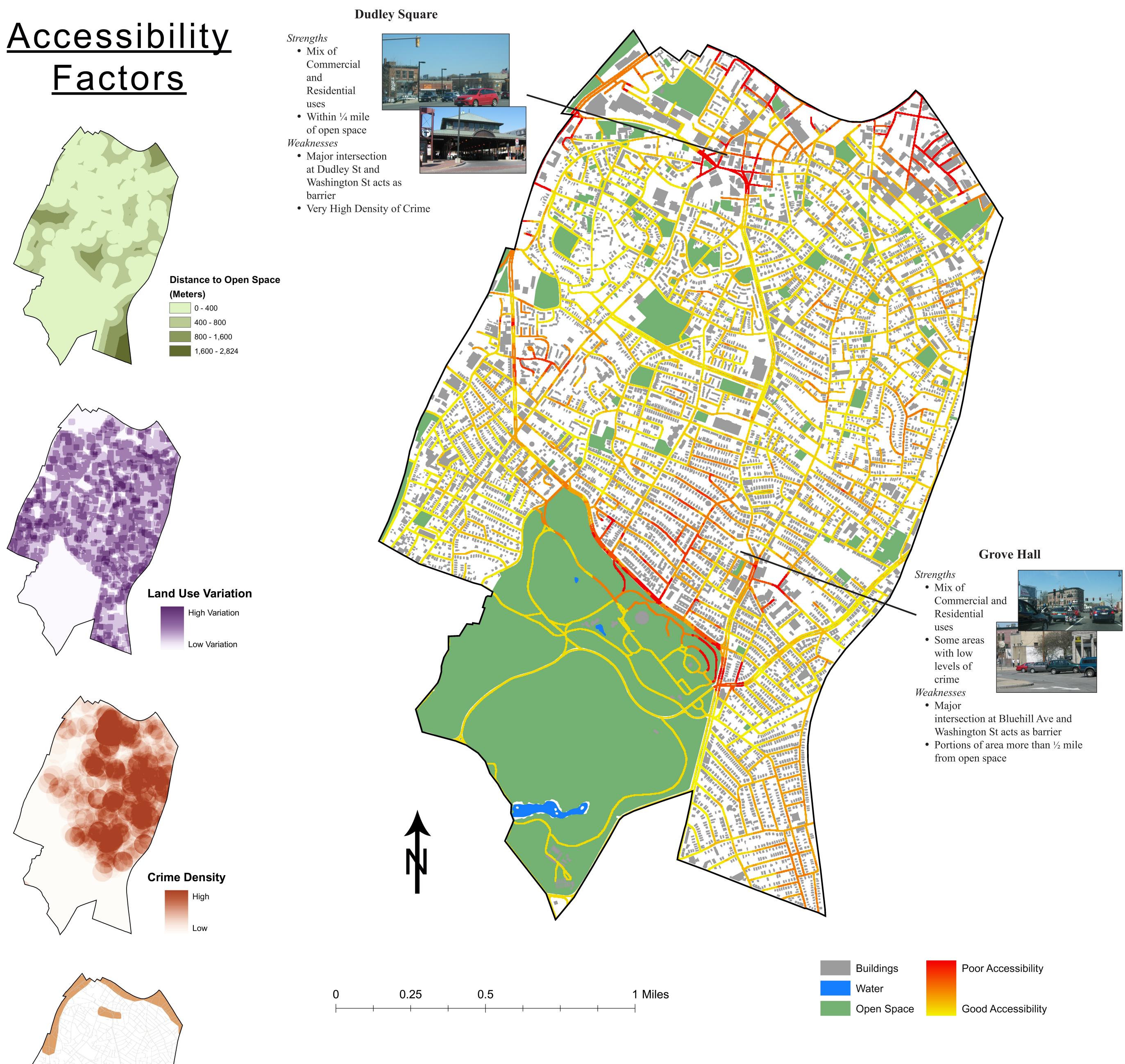


Pedestrian Accessibility

The Roxbury Neighborhood of Boston



Project Summary

Barriers

The goal of this project was to identify areas with poor pedestrian accessibility. Pedestrian accessibility is important because it increases the likelihood that residents will walk, decreasing pollution. It is especially important as an equity issue, since residents in low-income communities often cannot afford cars or to always pay for transit.

Pedestrian accessibility can be influenced by a number of factors. Planners have argued that a mix of commercial and residential uses, open space, perceived safety, and pedestrian barriers all influence whether or not residents choose or feel comfortable walking. By combining these elements into one map (shown above) we can begin to see areas that may need improvements in accessibility. The map shows the results only on the street network, since pedestrians would most

likely walk along here.

This analysis is only the first step in what ultimately must be a community process to define locations in Roxbury that have poor pedestrian accessibility. Community members can define factors they see as affecting accessibility and point

out areas that they believe need improvement. From there solutions can be developed to increase overall accessibility, through the increase or improvement of open space, the elimination of major barriers, etc.



Analysis by Mary Zagar, Spring 2007

Advanced GIS, Department of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning, Tufts University

Professor: Barbara Parmenter

Data From: MassGIS, the Boston Redevelopment Authority, the Boston Police Department, the Boston Assessor's Database, and Site Analysis

Massachusetts State Plane Mainland, Feet