



Summary +

Outline

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Neighborhood Vitality Index - Pilot Phase

Introduction

Data Driven Detroit (D3) and JFM Consulting Group (JFM) successfully launched its pilot test of the Neighborhood Vitality Index (NVI) in 2020. The NVI was collaboratively designed under the BECDD initiative, and is an analytical framework that is intended to provide actionable information to CDOs, foundations, city government, and other audiences to drive collaboration in neighborhoods and measure progress toward positive neighborhood change. It incorporates both qualitative and quantitative data, and was designed through a specific lens of equity and inclusion across race, ethnicity, geography, and income. When fully implemented, the NVI will provide actionable data that can be consistently measured over time for four main categories of indicators:

- **Community Capacity:** Factors that measure a neighborhood’s connectedness, resources, and overall ability to facilitate positive change, including resident participation in and access to neighborhood groups and support systems, public and private investment facilitated in the neighborhood, and the presence of CDOs and community benefits agreements.
- **Resident Opportunity:** Indicators that measure residents’ ability to access opportunity and economic mobility, such as tax foreclosures, housing cost burden, the number of business owners, and access to reliable transportation.
- **Neighborhood Conditions:** Indicators that measure the physical characteristics of a community, including the presence of blight, condition of vacant lots, and resident turnover.
- **Quality of Life:** Indicators that monitor whether residents can enjoy a high standard of living across multiple factors, including income diversity, safety and crime, school quality, and access to amenities like parks, retail, and recreational programs.

The process that JFM and D3 facilitated to develop and refine the NVI was intensely user driven, and