Neighborhood Informant Development Plan

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Neighborhood Informant is a desktop application that provides ease to Chicagoland residents by providing a single application of various Chicago-data. This application will gather real and accurate data straight from the City of Chicago database. There will be an easy-to-use user interface that will allow a user to pick any location and neighborhood and receive relevant feedback about it, such as crime, schools, average income per capita, homes for sale, tax increment financing, etc. Neighborhood Informant will be a one stop for a multitude of accurate Chicagoland information.

Semester Plans

Throughout the semester, we hope to make a functional application that can efficiently show Chicagoland information, such as crime, schools, homes, tax increment financing, etc. This data will come directly from the City of Chicago database. We will also make an easy-to-use user interface for the data that will show both a list and map view. There will also be some functionality on updating the data through the application itself. To implement all of the plans successfully, we plan on taking advantage of XP Programming. We really like the idea of pair programming, weekly stand-off meetings, frequent compilations.

Infrastructure

For this application, we will implement extreme programming as our main methodology. This means that there will be multiple code reviews, unit testing, and avoiding programming of features that are not needed in a certain sprint. We will also largely use Java for our code and user interface. The IDE for our Java code will be IntelliJ and/or Eclipse. We will also use Firebase for the database, which will implement a NoSQL cloud database. To build our application, we will use Gradle.

Long-term Plans

There are a few different goals we want to accomplish for each release. For the first release, the main objective is to setup the user interface and database for the application. There will be a map of Chicago incorporated into the UI as well. Further, we will also attain data from the City of Chicago and implement it (at least partially) into the UI. We will try to get minimal data for this release, such as crime rates, tax increment financing, and average income per capita for some neighborhoods.

For the final release, we will use the data we find and fully incorporate it into the application's user interface. We will incorporate even more data into the UI, such as schools, homes for sale, etc. We will also make sure this release will show as many neighborhoods as possible (from the data). This release will also spruce up the UI to be as easy-to-use as possible and incorporate

many tasks. Some of these extra tasks include giving the user the option to update or save the data. In this release we will also implement a functional gradle build so that anyone can use this product.

Repository & Tools

For our repository, we will use GitHub to store all of our code and data. This will allow all team members access to see and modify the application as needed. Our groupware application will be Asana, which is an alternative to IceScrum. Asana has the functionality to plan meetings, brainstorm ideas, chat and send messages, link to our GitHub repository, as well as plan sprints and tasks for each team member.