

# **CAPSTONE PROJECT**

## **Battle of Neighbourhoods**

# **Finding a better place in Scarborough, Toronto**

Muskan

11 June 2020

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

The purpose of this Capstone Project is to help people in exploring better facilities around their neighbourhood. It will help people making smart and efficient decision on selecting great neighbourhood out of numbers of other neighbourhoods in Scarborough, Toronto.

This Capstone Project aim to create an analysis of features for a people migrating to Scarborough to search a best neighbourhood as a comparative analysis between neighbourhoods. The features include median housing price and better school according to ratings, crime rates of that particular area, road connectivity, weather conditions, good management for emergency, water resources both fresh and waste water and excrement conveyed in sewers and recreational facilities

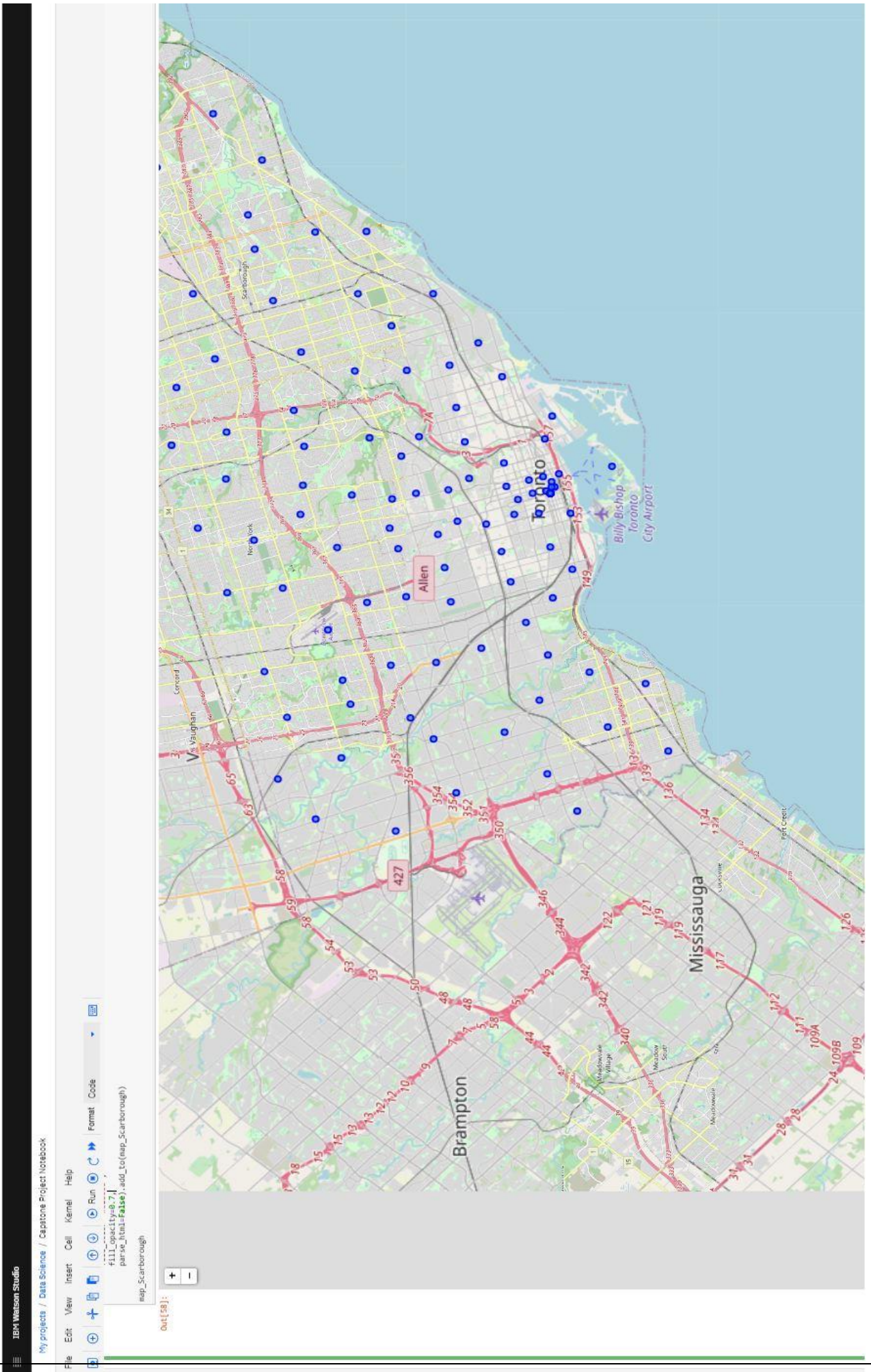
### **1.2 Problem**

Lots of people are migrating to various states of Canada and needed lots of research for good housing prices and reputed schools for their children. This project is for those people who are looking for better neighbourhoods. For ease of accessing to Cafe, School, Super market, medical shops, grocery shops, mall, theatre, hospital, like-minded people, etc.

It will help people to get awareness of the area and neighbourhood before moving to a new city, state, country or place for their work or to start a new fresh life.

### **1.3 Interests:**

New people to the city would get awareness of the area and neighbourhood before moving to a new city, state, country or place for their work or to start a new fresh life.



## 2. Data acquisition and cleaning

### 2.1 Data sources

Data Link: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_postal\\_codes\\_of\\_Canada:\\_M](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_postal_codes_of_Canada:_M)

Used Scarborough dataset which earlier scrapped from Wikipedia.  
Dataset consisting of latitude and longitude, zip codes.

#### Foursquare API Data:

We will need data about different venues in different neighbourhoods of that specific borough. In order to gain that information, we will use “Foursquare” locational information. Foursquare is a location data provider with information about all manner of venues and events within an area of interest. Such information includes venue names, locations, menus and even photos. As such, the foursquare location platform will be used as the sole data source since all the stated required information can be obtained through the API.

After finding the list of neighbourhoods, we then connect to the Foursquare API to gather information about venues inside each and every neighbourhood. For each neighbourhood, we have chosen the radius to be 100 meter.

The data retrieved from Foursquare contained information of venues within a specified distance of the longitude and latitude of the postcodes. The information obtained per venue as follows:

1. Neighbourhood
2. Neighbourhood Latitude
3. Neighbourhood Longitude
4. Venue
5. Name of the venue e.g. the name of a store or restaurant
6. Venue Latitude
7. Venue Longitude
8. Venue Category

### 2.2 Data cleaning

Data downloaded or scrapped from sources was combined into one table. There were a lot of missing values from earlier seasons, because of lack of record keeping. The cleaned tables are as follows:

## 5. Categories of Nearby Venues/Locations ¶

```
In [33]: nearby_venues['venue.categories'] = nearby_venues.apply(get_category_type, axis=1)

# clean columns
nearby_venues.columns = [col.split(".")[1] for col in nearby_venues.columns]

nearby_venues.head(5)
```

```
Out[33]:
```

|   | name                      | categories        | lat       | lng        |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------|------------|
| 0 | Disney Store              | Toy / Game Store  | 43.775537 | -79.256833 |
| 1 | St. Andrews Fish & Chips  | Fish & Chips Shop | 43.771865 | -79.252645 |
| 2 | SEPHORA                   | Cosmetics Shop    | 43.775017 | -79.258109 |
| 3 | DAVIDsTEA                 | Tea Room          | 43.776320 | -79.258688 |
| 4 | American Eagle Outfitters | Clothing Store    | 43.776012 | -79.258334 |

```
In [34]: # Top 10 Categories
a=pd.Series(nearby_venues.categories)
a.value_counts()[:10]
```

```
Out[34]: Clothing Store      8
Restaurant      6
Coffee Shop     4
Pharmacy        2
Tea Room        2
Food Court      2
Sandwich Place  2
Gas Station     2
Furniture / Home Store  2
Italian Restaurant  1
Name: categories, dtype: int64
```

Table 1 [33] shows latitude and longitudinal values of all nearby venues with its category

Table 2 [34] shows top 10 most visited venues and its frequency alongside.

Table 3 [41] shows top most visited venues of each neighbourhoods. (Next page)



## Most Common venues near neighborhood

```
In [41]: import numpy as np
num_top_venues = 10

indicators = ['st', 'nd', 'rd']

columns = ['Neighborhood']
for ind in np.arange(num_top_venues):
    try:
        columns.append('{} {} Most Common Venue'.format(ind+1, indicators[ind]))
    except:
        columns.append('{} {}th Most Common Venue'.format(ind+1))

neighborhoods_venues_sorted = pd.DataFrame(columns=columns)
neighborhoods_venues_sorted['Neighborhood'] = Scarborough_grouped['Neighborhood']

for ind in np.arange(Scarborough_grouped.shape[0]):
    neighborhoods_venues_sorted.iloc[ind, 1:] = return_most_common_venues(Scarborough_grouped.iloc[ind, :], num_top_venues)

neighborhoods_venues_sorted.head()
```

Out[41]:

|   | Neighborhood                                    | 1st Most Common Venue | 2nd Most Common Venue      | 3rd Most Common Venue | 4th Most Common Venue | 5th Most Common Venue | 6th Most Common Venue | 7th Most Common Venue | 8th Most Common Venue       | 9th Most Common Venue     | 10th Most Common Venue |
|---|---|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 0 | Agrimcourt                                      | Shopping Mall         | Chinese Restaurant         | Pool Hall             | Sandwich Place        | Bakery                | Bank                  | Sushi Restaurant      | Supermarket                 | Latin American Restaurant | Motorcycle Shop        |
| 1 | Alderwood, Long Branch                          | Sandwich Place        | Pizza Place                | Gas Station           | Gym                   | Athletics & Sports    | Coffee Shop           | Pharmacy              | Dance Studio                | Convenience Store         | Pub                    |
| 2 | Bathurst Manor, Wilson Heights, Downsview North | Coffee Shop           | Bank                       | Community Center      | Men's Store           | Mobile Phone Shop     | Bridal Shop           | Shopping Mall         | Fried Chicken Joint         | Supermarket               | Sandwich Place         |
| 3 | Bayview Village                                 | Park                  | Construction & Landscaping | Trail                 | Women's Store         | Farm                  | Donut Shop            | Dumpling Restaurant   | Eastern European Restaurant | Electronics Store         | Ethiopian Restaurant   |
| 4 | Bedford Park, Lawrence Manor East               | Sandwich Place        | Restaurant                 | Italian Restaurant    | Coffee Shop           | Hobby Shop            | Intersection          | Butcher               | Pizza Place                 | Café                      | Sports Club            |

### 3. METHODOLOGY SECTION

#### 3.1 Clustering Approach:

To compare the similarities of two cities, we decided to explore neighbourhoods, segment them, and group them into clusters to find similar neighbourhoods in a big city like New York and Toronto. To be able to do that, we need to cluster data which is a form of unsupervised machine learning: k-means clustering algorithm.

#### 3.2 Using K-means Clustering Approach

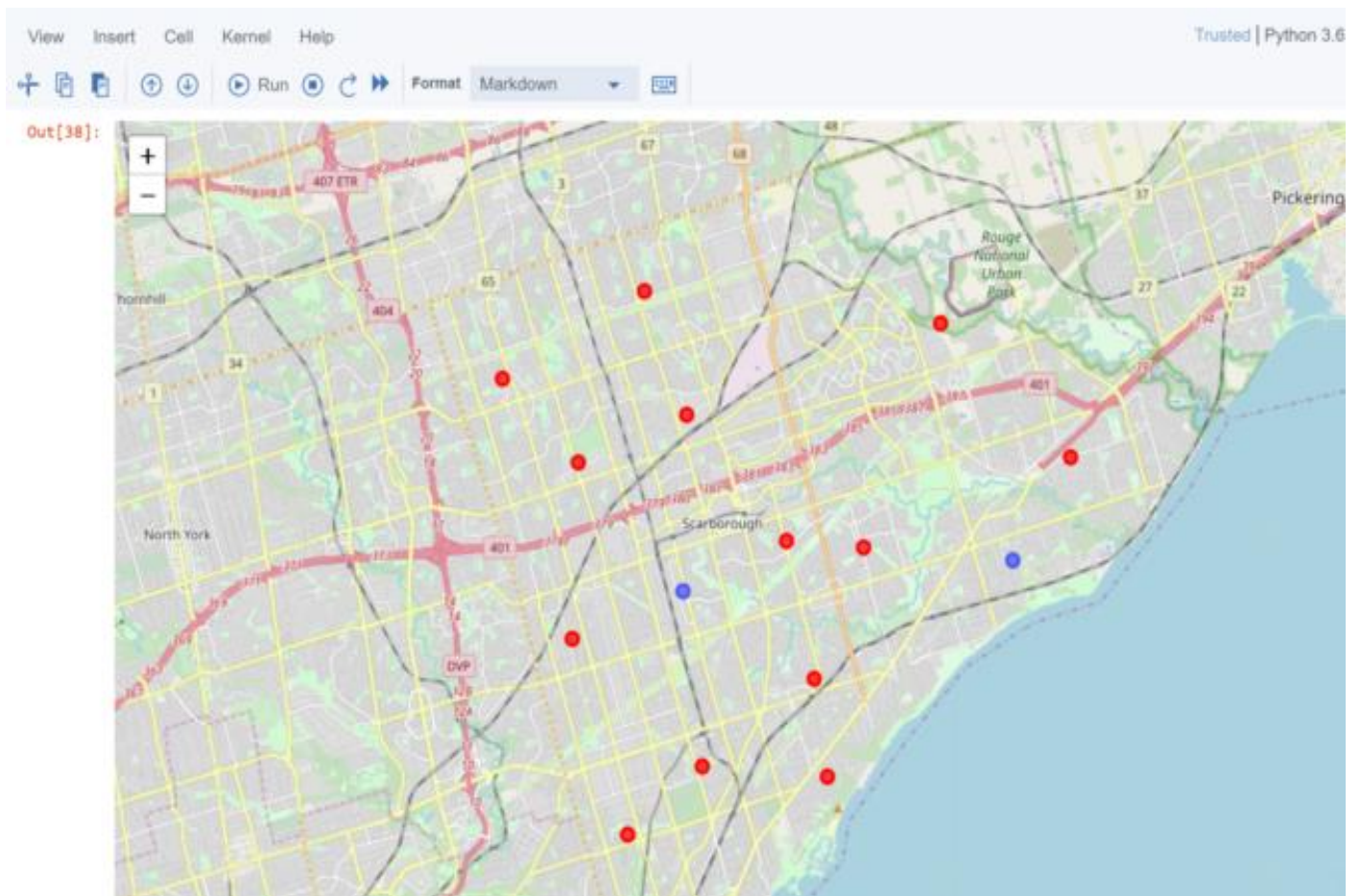
Using credentials of Foursquare API features of near-by places of the neighbourhoods would be mined. Due to http request limitations the number of places per neighbourhood parameter would reasonably be set to 100 and the radius parameter would be set to 500.

```
In [28]: # @hidde1_cell
CLIENT_ID = 'GC1IB4GYZ5OKKUVX5MBQZALULACE2TIWYTRHCVIL5MWMMSBPD' # my Foursquare ID
CLIENT_SECRET = 'OKEZQP4NXR1JSZCW4ITLQKHLPHDT1MQD2N3QWMJV1AY0ZZUB' # my Foursquare Secret
VERSION = '20180604'
LIMIT = 30
print('Your credentials:')
print('CLIENT_ID: '+CLIENT_ID)
print('CLIENT_SECRET: '+CLIENT_SECRET)
```

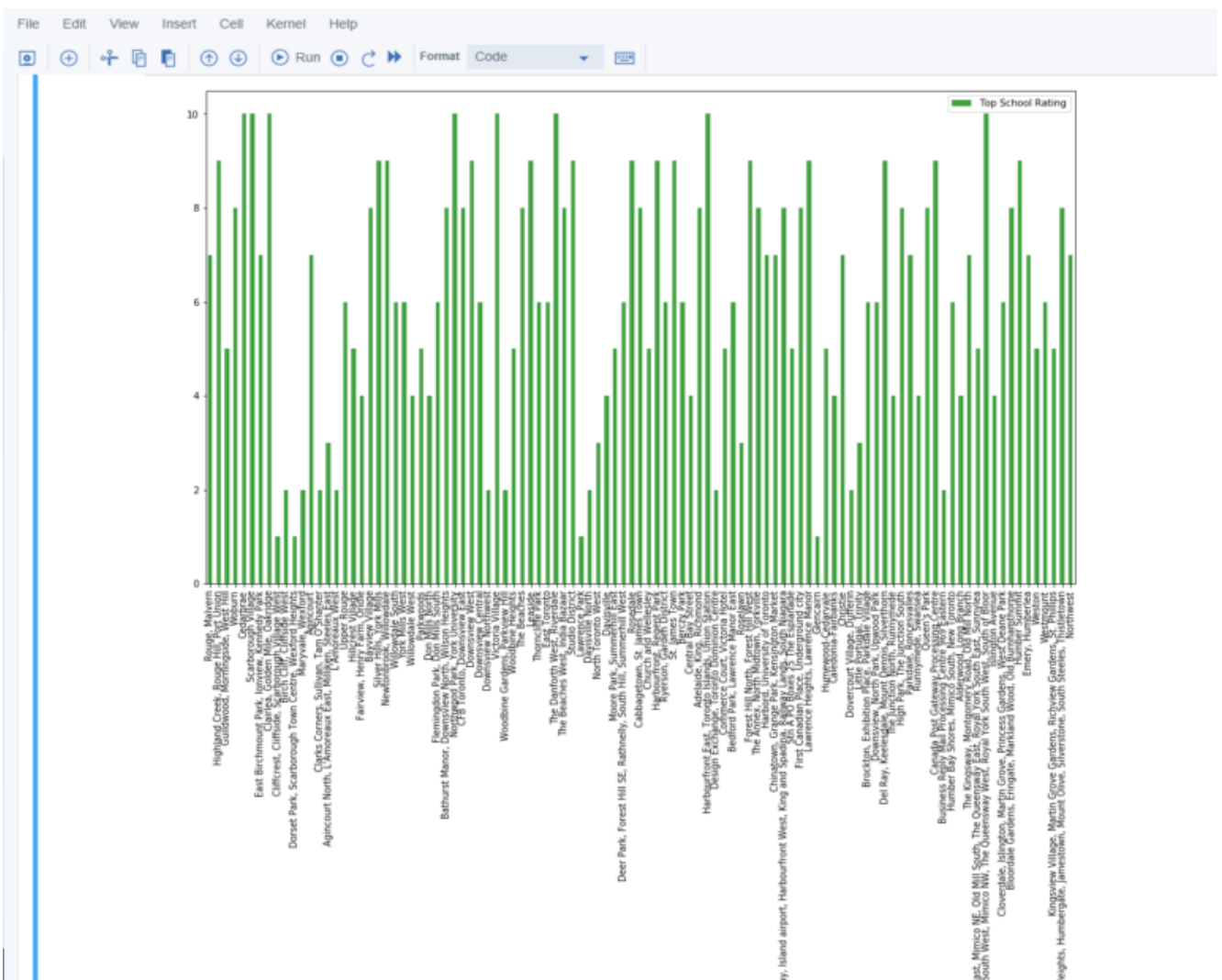
```
Your credentials:
CLIENT_ID: GC1IB4GYZ5OKKUVX5MBQZALULACE2TIWYTRHCVIL5MWMMSBPD
CLIENT_SECRET: OKEZQP4NXR1JSZCW4ITLQKHLPHDT1MQD2N3QWMJV1AY0ZZUB
```

```
In [29]: radius = 700
LIMIT = 100
url = 'https://api.foursquare.com/v2/venues/explore?&client_id={}&client_secret={}&v={}&ll={},{}&radius={}&limit={}'.format(
    CLIENT_ID,
    CLIENT_SECRET,
    VERSION,
    latitude_n1,
    longitude_n1,
    radius,
    LIMIT)
results = requests.get(url).json()
```

## Mapping Clusters:

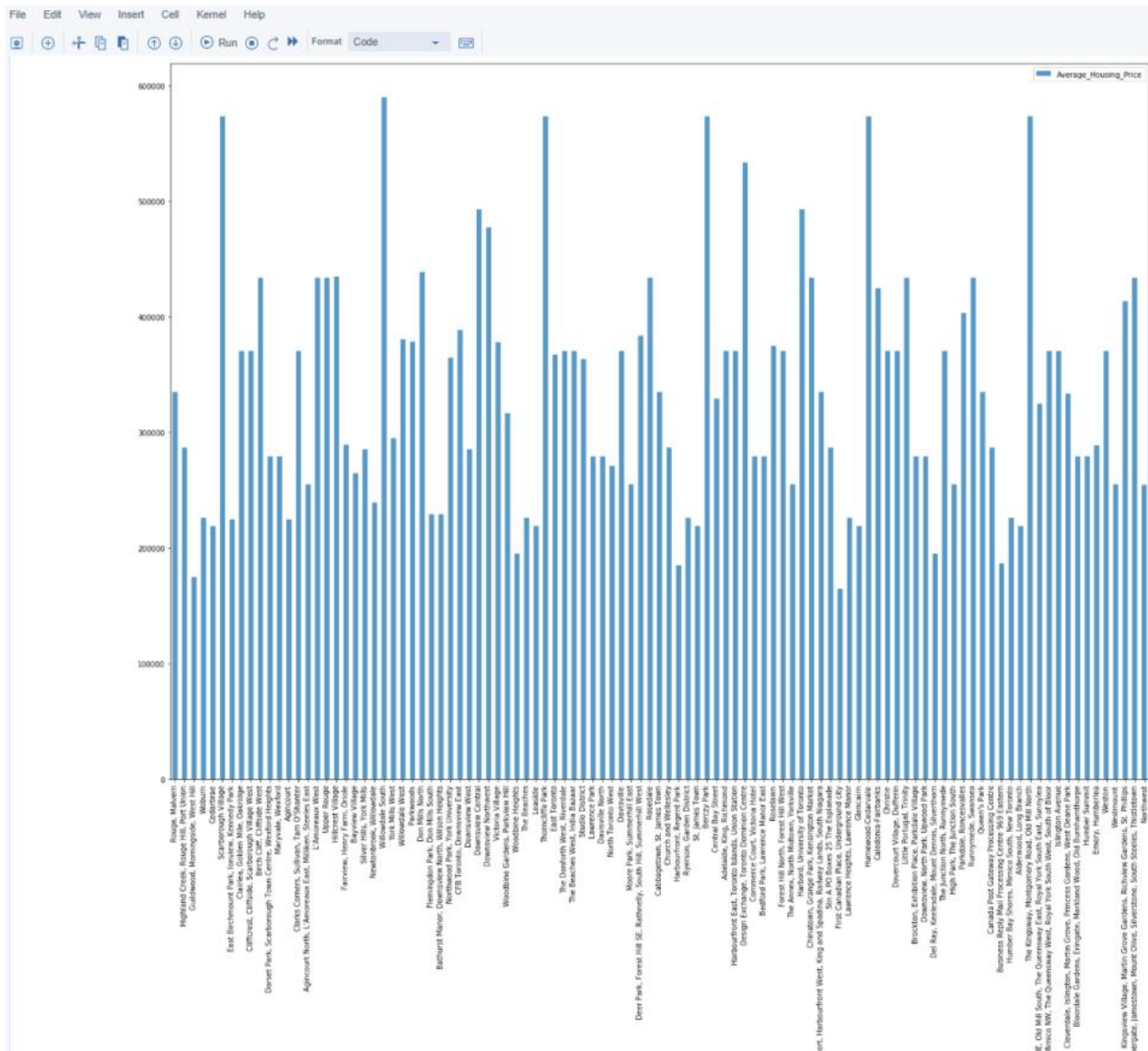






Following is the 'Average Housing price Area-wise' bar graph,

New people would find it helpful in analysing it their comfortabilities:



## 5. DISCUSSION SECTION

**Problem Which Tried to Solve**: The major purpose of this project, is to suggest a better neighbourhood in a new city for the person who are shifting there. Social presence in society in terms of like-minded people. Connectivity to the airport, bus stand, city centre, markets and other daily needs things nearby.

- ✓ Sorted list of houses in terms of housing prices in a ascending or descending order
- ✓ Sorted list of schools in terms of location, fees, rating and reviews

## 6. CONCLUSION SECTION

In this Capstone project, using k-means cluster algorithm I separated the neighbourhood into 10(Ten) different clusters and for 103 different latitude and longitude from dataset, which have very-similar neighbourhoods around them. Using the charts above results presented to a particular neighbourhood based on average house prices and school rating have been made.

I feel rewarded with the efforts and believe this course with all the topics covered is well worthy of appreciation. This project has shown me a practical application to resolve a real situation that has impacting personal and financial impact using Data Science tools. The mapping with Folium is a very powerful technique to consolidate information and make the analysis and decision better with confidence.

**Future Works**: This Capstone project can be continued for making it more precise in terms to find best house in Scarborough. Best means on the basis of all required things (daily needs or things we need to live a better life) around and also in terms of cost effective.

Libraries Which are Used to Developed the Project: Pandas: For creating and manipulating data frames.

- *Folium: Python visualization library would be used to visualize the neighbourhoods cluster distribution of using interactive leaflet map.*
- *Scikit Learn: For importing k-means clustering.*
- *JSON: Library to handle JSON files.*
- *XML: To separate data from presentation and XML stores data in plain text format.*
- *Geocoder: To retrieve Location Data.*
- *Beautiful Soup and Requests: To scrap and library to handle http requests.*
- *Matplotlib: Python Plotting Module.*