

OwnerName Analysis

The OwnerName field contains the name of the lot owner, which may be a private, city, state, or federal entity. Although a number of lots are owned by government agencies, the owner name frequently comes in spelled incorrectly. It may be possible to standardize the owner name for government entities. The goals of this task were: (1) to identify OwnerName values on PLUTO that can be corrected according to previously set standards, and (2) to expand the list of standardized names to include agencies not presently on the list.

Process

1. There was a previous effort to correct owner names, and a record of those corrections was available in the manual correction file. I uploaded this file into a POSTGRES table, called OWNERNAMES, on my personal drive. The NEW_VALUE field contains the standardized name.
2. Many lots are privately owned. To determine which subset of lots might be government-owned, it is useful to look at the ownertype field. Two values of the ownertype field should not be used for private ownership: 'C' (city-owned), and 'O' (owned by a public authority, or the city/state/federal/government).
3. I joined PLUTO (20.1) to the OWNERNAMES table on owner name, and produced a list of records that were either privately owned, or did not match the standardized name.
4. I manually reviewed the list for potential additions to the list of owner names. I also found a number of owner names that were clearly government agencies, and even had a corresponding agency in the manual corrections file, but appeared on my list due to misspellings.
5. From my research I produced two outputs: a report of corrections to be added to the existing correction file, and a domain table of standardized names, including proposed additions.
6. Additionally, I included two lists of BBLs having OwnerTypes of 'C' or 'O'—implying government ownership—but ownernames suggesting private ownership.
7. The final report contains columns for assessed and exempt amounts.

Impact

Implementation of domain table to assist with future owner name standardization

Corrections to owner names on 150 PLUTO records.

Supporting Documents

[Jupyter Notebook of questions I asked](#)

[Excel spreadsheet containing suggested corrections, and domain table of standardized owner names](#) (See the pink cells for proposed corrections, and additions to the list of standard names.)

Wednesday, March 11, 2020