

Frontend Data Visualization

Soofa Programming Challenge

Overview

Soofa is focused on making data consumable. Frontend developers work with a variety of data sources from flat data exports to RESTful APIs in order to create interfaces that users can understand. In this challenge, you'll be showcasing your ability to create an interactive visualization that enables a user to consume data. You'll build a small frontend application that utilizes two separate data sets to tell the story of how Food and Drink has changed in Boston. This challenge should be a representation of your ability to deliver working code and to think critically about applications.

Datasets

The application should at a minimum use the "Active Food Establishment Licenses" and "Liquor Licenses" datasets available from Boston. Additional datasets or integrations (i.e. Twitter or MBTA) data are welcome but unnecessary.

Visualization App

The application should allow the user view the locations and information about active food establishments and display any licensing data available if the establishment has a liquor license. Users should also be able to see how the data has changed over time. This could be through a timeline or set of filters or any other appropriate mechanism. The application can be built in any web frontend technology that you wish so long as it can be deployed as a standalone set of assets (i.e. feel free to use Coffeescript, Less, Sass, etc... so long as it can be deployed as a standard HTML / JS / CSS application).

Rules

1. The entire application must be able to standalone without any backend. (i.e. it should be able to be deployed and function purely off of Amazon S3)
2. Publish the application to Heroku or Amazon S3, it should be usable from anywhere (not just on your computer).
3. The application must be public project on GitHub with a reasonable README (at the minimum, describe what you're building and how to get it setup on a local machine)
4. We value working features over broken advanced code; Start off small and improve it as you go, don't tackle something complex unless you know you can finish it. (i.e. we'd rather see a solid visualization using only the prescribed datasets versus an incomplete or buggy implementation with additional data).
5. Be ready to describe what you've built and what you've learned.
6. You may use any libraries for processing or visualization (i.e. D3 or Cubism) that you wish.
7. You may use the internet, books and any docs that you find but avoid discussing the specifics, this should be an individual effort.

Deliverables

When you're ready, please send:

1. A link to the public repo for the project on GitHub
2. A link to the live instance on Heroku or Amazon S3
3. Time preferences to present your work (in-office or via video chat).

Extra Credit

- A novel visualization
- Incorporate additional datasets or live APIs
- Sweet design / UX.
- Testing