St. Louis Street Closure Ordinances

Qualitative Coding

For every street closure in the city, there should be a corresponding city ordinance that ordered the closure. For analysis purposes, we need to qualitatively code these ordinances into a Stata-friendly format. This is a step by step guide for doing so.

Materials needed:

1. ordinanceCoding.xlsx (Primary working file - *Available on GitHub* in BarriersLocating -> Excel)

2. waldronCleaned.xlsx (Reference file - *Available on Github* in BarriersLocating -> Excel)

3. The St. Louis City ordinance search engine (https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/city-laws/ordinances/)

Instructions

The waldronCleaned.xlsx data contains every known street barrier in our database. One by one, we will be entering these barriers into the ordinanceCoding.xlsx spreadsheet.

1. For a given barrier, go to the St. Louis City ordinance search engine and search for that barrier's ordinance number (column G in waldronCleaned.xlsx) **Note: Ordinances prior to 1991 exist only at the Central Branch of the St. Louis Public Library**

2. Click the ordinance and verify that the intersection named in the ordinance actually corresponds with the intersection named in waldronCleaned.xlsx.

   - If the intersections match in our data and in the ordinance, proceed to enter the appropriate information into the "Matched" sheet in ordinanceCoding.xlsx.

   - If the intersections do not match or the ordinance cannot be found, proceed to enter the barrier and its corresponding information into the "Unmatched" sheet in ordinanceCoding.xlsx

3. Each column corresponds with information in the city ordinance. Use the table below to assist in filling them out.

The following table describes each variable and their appropriate data entries for the "Matched" barriers

Variable	Description	Possible Values
billNum	Bill Number	
alderman	Alderman who introduced the bill	Person's Name
temp	Is the closure temporary	0=no, 1=yes
duration	Duration of barrier (months)	# of months
justification	Justification for closure	text (i.e. "neighborhood Stability)
emergClause	Ordianance has an emergency clause	0=no, 1=yes
reading1	Date of first reading	MM/DD/YY
refCommit	Date referred to committee	MM/DD/YY
committee	Committee Type	Three letter abbreviation (i.e. STR for street)
subCommit	Bill referred to sub committee	0=no/blank, 1=yes
ammendCommit	Committee amended the bill	0=no/blank, 1=yes
floorAmend	Floor amendment	0=no/blank, 1=yes

floorSub	Floor subcommittee	0=no/blank, 1=yes
perfectn	TBD	MM/DD/YY
passage	Date passed	MM/DD/YY
approved	Date approved	MM/DD/YY, *=blank
veto	Bill was vetoed	0=no/blank, 1=yes
vetoOverule	Veto overruled	0=no, 1=yes, *=N/A
repealOld	Ordinance repeals old ordinance	0=no, 1=yes
repealedOrd	Ordinance number of repealed ordinance	Ordinance Number, *=N/A
repealed	Ordinance is repealed by future ordinance. **Hint: When searching online, any ordinance that repeals an old ordinance should appear as well**	0=no, 1=yes
repealedBy	Ordinance number that repealed ordinance	Ordinance Number, *=N/A
keptClosure	Repealing ordinance kept closure	0=no, 1=yes, *=N/A
dateRepealed	Date ordinance was repealed	MM/DD/YY, *=N/A