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Digital Mapping

Final Project

8/25/19

**Suitable Areas to Build Children’s Hospitals in Cook County**

This map was designed to display suitable areas for building more children’s hospitals in the Cook County area. There are only 9 children’s hospitals currently in the county which is remarkably low. The map not only shows the population gradient of areas with households with children (increasing from yellow to brown), but also suitable locations in blue for building that are at least 5 miles away from the current children’s hospitals as well as within 0.5 miles to 2 miles of major roads/highways (red) for easy accessibility in cases of emergencies. I dissolved all MTFCC major roads into one, then created a 0.5 mile and 2 mile buffers from those major roads and then Erased the 0.5mi buffer from the 2mi buffer. I then made a 5 mile buffer from current children’s hospitals. Finally I Erased those 5 mile buffers from the road buffer to find the final suitable locations in blue. I also utilized the Symmetric Difference tool to cut out any suitable areas that went past the Cook County border.

It seems that many hospitals can be built in the northern and southern sections of Cook County as well as the immediate areas surrounding the city of Chicago. Building more children’s hospitals in these locations would greatly benefit Cook County families, giving their children the specialized attention and care that only these hospitals can offer. Many more young lives can be saved due to decreased travel time in cases of dire emergencies. This map was made on August 25, 2019 in Byungyun Yang’s GEO 141: Digital Mapping class at DePaul University.