

Planning for Sustainable Growth in the Detroit MSA

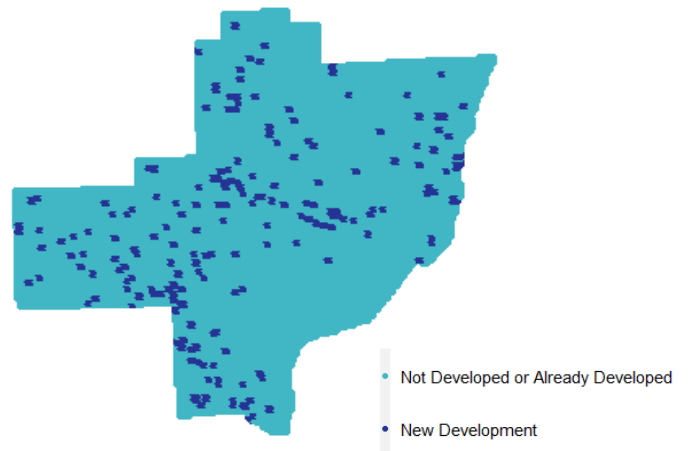
Understanding where future development is most likely to occur can help MPO's better prioritize public infrastructure investments and land conservation efforts. To support this goal, we developed an urban growth model that identifies key drivers of historical development to predict future development under different planning scenarios in the Detroit MSA.

Model Inputs and Key Findings:

The land characteristics associated with **increased** likelihood of future development demand are:

- Wetland at start of time period
- Forest at start of time period
- Farmland at start of time period
- Other undeveloped at start of time period
- Closer to a highway
- Higher median household income
- Higher population at start of time period

Observed Development
2009 - 2019



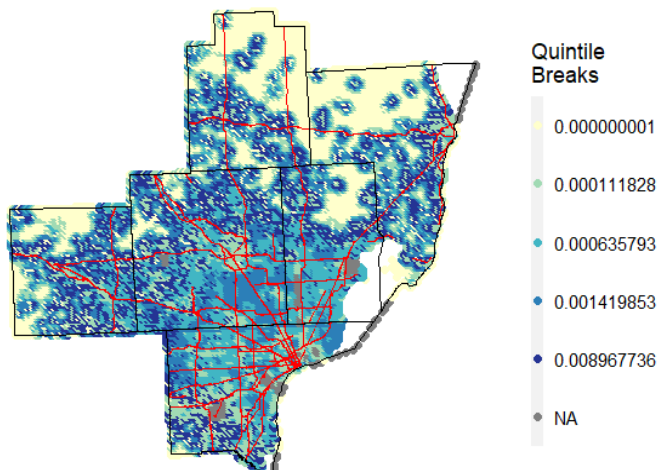
Future Planning Scenarios:

Population Driven Development Demand

The model suggest that we can expect higher development demand in the urban and sub-urban areas of the MSA relative to the rural fringes.

Predicted Development Demand in 2029

Existing Highways



Infrastructure Induced Development Demand

We imagined a new highway running from Port Huron to Auburn Hills. The model predicts a new highway would spur development in the surrounding areas.

Predicted Development Demand in 2029

New Highway

