

BEYZA CIKMAZ

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EDUCATION

University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

M.S. Urban and Regional Planning, expected May 2024

School of Planning and Public Affairs

Concentration: Transportation Planning and GIS

Middle East Technical University (METU), Ankara, Turkey

Bachelor of City and Regional Planning, July 2022

Department of Architecture

Concentration: Transportation, Infrastructure, Environment

Minor: Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing (Dept. of Engineering)

Awards: Dean's List 2017-2022

SOFTWARE SKILLS

Microsoft Office

AutoCAD

ArcGIS, QGIS

R, STATA

SketchUp, Adobe Photoshop

Zoom, Teams, Slack

COURSE HIGHLIGHTS

Transportation Research Methods and Analysis

Urban Transport Systems: Planning and Design

Introduction to Environmental Remote Sensing

Transportation, Urban Form & Sustainability

Land Use Planning: Law and Practice

GIS Visualization

Analytic Methods I and II

Economics for Policy Analysis

Public Finance and Budgeting

AFFILIATIONS

Sep. 2023 – Present

American Planning Association, Member

Poster presentation, 2023 APA Upper Midwest Annual Conference, Cedar Falls, IA, October 2023

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Aug. 2023 – Present

Team Member

Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities, "Dubuque Transportation Action Plan"

School of Planning and Public Affairs, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

- Collaborating with three graduate students in capstone course in a partnership with the City of Dubuque.
- Utilizing project management skills to set agendas, define roles and responsibilities, and write a memorandum of understanding.
- Identifying ways to create more alternative transportation options to form a sustainable and livable future for the city.
- Mapping alternative transportation modes using ArcGIS Pro to understand the visually represent the population's needs and other factors affecting transportation in the area.
- Met with local stakeholders biweekly to obtain information, input, and feedback.
- Co-authoring the Dubuque Transportation Action Plan and will present the final findings to the Dubuque City Council.

May 2023 – Aug. 2023

Team Member

Graduate Course: Transportation Studio, “Transportation Gap Analysis for Individuals with Brain Health Needs in the East Central Region (ECR) Iowa”

School of Planning and Public Affairs, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

- Researched and prepared a list of current equity and inclusion transportation projects and federal funds in the U.S. that support people with special needs.
- Created a draft website to schedule rides for users.
- Co-authored a report for Mental Health/Disability Services of the ECR to inform decision-making and policy recommendations in providing services for individuals with special needs, specifically those living in rural areas with low accessibility to reliable transportation options.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Aug. 2022 – Present

Research Assistant, UI Hydroinformatics Lab, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

- NSF-funded research, “Novel integration of direct measurement with numerical models for real-time estimation and forecasting of streamflow response to cyclical processes”, University of Iowa and Tulane University
 - Calculated the slope data by looking at the sensors’ stage data and examining whether it can be prevented for future floods by using the data.
 - Presented updates weekly to supervisors in a clear and understandable way using PowerPoint.
 - Made a field trip to view streamflow sensors.
- Independent research resulted in a paper: **Cikmaz, A.B.**, et al. 2023. “A Comprehensive Flood Risk Assessment for Railroad Network: Case Study for Iowa,” Earth ArXiv (Under review).
- Independent research: “Social-Ecological-Technological Systems: Evaluating the flood vulnerability of urban areas in Polk County, Iowa.” (Work in progress).

Aug. 2022 – Jan. 2023

Research Assistant, School of Planning and Public Affairs, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

- Project titled, “Bicycling to School: Examining Route Choice and School Siting Safety Impacts on Bicycling to School Using Naturalistic Methods”
 - Project funded by UI Injury Prevention Research Center focused on cycling behavior of children.
 - Created and analyzed GIS data on routes chosen by children for school trips and routes generated by online services such as Google.
 - Developed weighted safety scores for routes using Excel and analyzed whether children chose safer or less safe routes than those suggested by online services.
 - Culminated in a research paper: Ghanbari A., Spears S., **Cikmaz A.B.**, et al. 2024. “On the Road to School: A Naturalistic Study of Adolescent Bicyclists Route Choices.” Journal of Transport & Health (Under review).

July 2021 – Dec. 2021

Intern, UI Hydroinformatics Lab, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

- Project titled, “Flood Risk Assessment and Quantification for Iowa using Fuzzy Analytical Hierarchy Process (FAHP)”
 - Conducted literature reviews on flood risk assessment based on Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) and FAHP methods.
 - Gathered the City of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, physical and social datasets and created GIS maps to visually show flood risk, to protect the public from future flood disasters.
 - Culminated in a research paper, **Cikmaz A.B.**, et al. 2023. “Flood susceptibility mapping using fuzzy analytical hierarchy process for Cedar Rapids, Iowa.” International Journal of River Basin Management. (just-accepted), 1-24. (Published)