GEOG 128: Human Geography: Space, Place and Community

Dr. Jonathan Cinnamon | Term 2, 2021/2022 | University of British Columbia Okanagan

ASSIGNMENT 2: DESIGNING LIVEABLE CITIES

Kelowna is the fastest growing metropolitan area in Canada, increasing in population from 194,892 to 222,162 in the five years between 2016 and 2021 (a 14% increase). Substantial and ongoing growth in Kelowna and other parts of the Okanagan brings opportunities to the region, but it also produces new challenges to environmental sustainability, equity, quality of life, and affordability. Part of the job of urban planners and policymakers is to examine current information and seek to identify future trends in order to design cities that work for all residents.

One area of urban planning and design that has grown in importance is transportation. Transportation user data and transportation master plans are vital tools in the overall effort to improve how people will move around the city in the future. For instance, the Sustainable Transportation Partnership of the Central Okanagan (STPCO) has conducted several transportation surveys (https://www.smarttrips.ca/), and the City of Kelowna's 2040 Transportation Master Plan provides guidance for citywide and neighbourhood -specific transportation strategies (https://www.kelowna.ca/our-community/planning-projects/2040-transportation-master-plan).

Geographers are well placed to take on important roles in municipal government, including in transportation planning. In this assignment you will gain practical experience in transportation planning, producing an urban transportation policy report showcasing the variations in transportation modes used in different parts of Kelowna, and proposing a neighbourhood transportation priority plan for one of the city's neighbourhoods.

Complete the 2 tasks below, save your work in the assignment Word document template (on Canvas), and **submit it to the Assignment 2 dropbox on Canvas by Apr 8th at 11:59pm**. Assignment 2 is worth 10% of your final mark.

This assignment requires Excel or another spreadsheet software, and a web browser.

Task 1: Analysis of Kelowna Transportation Survey Data (4 marks)

Go to the SmartTrips website of the Sustainable Transportation Partnership of the Central Okanagan, an active transportation initiative https://www.smarttrips.ca/. Here you will find the results of three transportation mode surveys (conducted in 2007, 2013, and 2018) conducted with residents in communities throughout the central Okanagan. Under Okanagan Household Travel Study link you will find links to the

survey from 2018, which we will use for this assignment. Have a look at the report explanation and details (Report 1/2/3 links), and once you have an understanding of the survey, download the 2018 survey data as a pdf from the Appendix 1: Reference Files link, which includes the survey data by geographic area. You will use this data for Task 1.

a) Using the data in the Appendix 1: Reference Files pdf and the Excel spreadsheet file *Kelowna-transportation* (available on Canvas), compile a transportation profile for 5 Kelowna neighbourhoods (City Centre/Pandosy, Central Kelowna, Glenmore, Rutland, Mission). Complete the spreadsheet table, by copying over the following 9 percentage variables for the 5 neighbourhoods and Kelowna overall (2 marks):

    - Household Income- $0 to less than $30,000 (% of known income in area)
    - Household Income- greater than $125,000 (% of known income in area).
        - Note that the less than (<) symbol is incorrectly used, it should instead use the greater than (>) symbol
    - School Type- Grade school students (% of all students in area)
    - School Type- Full-time and Part-time University/College students (% of all students in area)
    - Journey to Work– Auto Driver/Passenger (% of total 1st work trips in area)
    - Journey to Work– Transit (% of total 1st work trips in area)
    - Journey to Work– Bicycle (% of total 1st work trips in area)
    - Journey to Work– Walked (% of total 1st work trips in area)
    - One further percentage variable you think is relevant

b) Create two column charts of your choice to visually illustrate any of the data from Task 1a, for all 6 geographies. You can use any of the 9 percentage variables that you compiled. Include titles for the charts. (2 marks)

Task 2: Developing a Neighbourhood Transportation Proposal (6 marks)

Municipal governments develop transportation recommendations for a whole city, as well as specific recommendations for different areas of a city. In Task 2 you will focus on the latter, developing recommendations for one of the five neighbourhoods only (either City Centre/Pandosy, Central Kelowna, Glenmore, Rutland, or Mission).

a) Explain your neighbourhood transportation proposal. Write up to 500 words, explaining, for example, which neighbourhood you are focusing on, what the transportation priorities/recommendations should be, and why. You can draw on the data from Task 1, other sources of information, or course concepts to help justify your argument. (4 marks)

b) Create a mock redesign of one key street in the neighbourhood you are focusing on using *Streetmix* (https://streetmix.net/). The redesign should be relevant to your proposal in Task 2a. Add the location address, name the street, and choose an appropriate street width. Once complete, save it as an image (go to Share>Save as Image, and make sure to check Segment Names and Widths and Street Name boxes). Also find and save a copy of a photo of that street in approximately the same location and street profile, to enable a visual comparison between the current configuration and what the street could look like based on a redesign to better suit the neighbourhood's proposed new transportation priority. Google Street View is one source of street images (2 marks)

Formatting and Submission

- Please use the template provided, available at Canvas>Modules>Week 10>Assignment 2 Tutorial
- If you draw on information from any other sources besides the Task 1 survey data, cite it using the APA format - details here: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.html