CS506 - Bay State Banner Project Deliverable 2

Questions:

- 1. What is the list of developers and individuals working in communities where the majority of the population are people of color? We were able to use the ABP dataset to find the number of projects that each applicant was approved for over the last three years. We combined this data with the census tract data we were given using the latitude and longitude of the permit to then find the individuals that were approved the most in majority non-white neighborhoods. (see figures 8 and 9 in graphsWithAnnotations.pdf)
- 2. How does Roxbury's ability to get project appeals denied compare to West Roxbury's? We found that overall projects in Roxbury had a much larger number of appeals ~170 while West Roxbury had ~60, but West Roxbury was able to get over 3 times the amount of denials of Roxbury. Of all of their appeals Roxbury appeals were denied only 5% of the time while West Roxbury appeals were denied 18% of the time. (see figure 4)
- 3. Do majority non-white communities have a harder time getting project appeals denied than majority white communities? Using the ZBA decisions we were able to find demographic data for each decision using its lat long coordinates. We could then filter the decisions and then compare each neighborhood's approval and denial rates. Doing this we found that majority white neighborhoods had appeals get denied 10.5% of the time, while majority non-white nieghborhoods had appeals get denied 12.7% of the time. (see figures 1 and 2)
- 4. Which developers have the greatest success receiving approvals for positive zoning board decisions? By doing some pre-processing on the applicant names of the ZBA decisions and meetings, we were able to find a list of applicants, the number of ZBA meetings they attended, and how often those meetings ended in an approval. There are only a few individuals with more than 30 meetings attended in the last 3 years, most of which are architects or lawyers. (see figure 5)
- 5. Do these developers have a higher success rate receiving approvals in majority non-white neighborhoods? Of the top 20 developers, each one had significantly less projects in majority non-white neighborhoods, but most of these developers had their appeals approved at higher rates. A majority of them even had no denials whatsoever. (see figure 6)
- 6. What is the distribution of approvals/denials by neighborhood? We once again combined ZBA decision data along with demographic data to find the number of decisions as well as the percentage of denials for each neighborhood. See figure 3 for more detail on the distribution. From this data, there is no

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obvious correlation between any of the data points that we were working with and denial rate.