

The Battle of Neighborhoods Toronto

Picking up a location for opening a new restaurant

The Goal

- The entrepreneur is planning to open a new restaurant in Toronto, but he is not sure which location would be most appropriate for his new venue. We noticed that the Toronto already has a lot of restaurants in town, but we need to give an advise on best possible location.

The Data

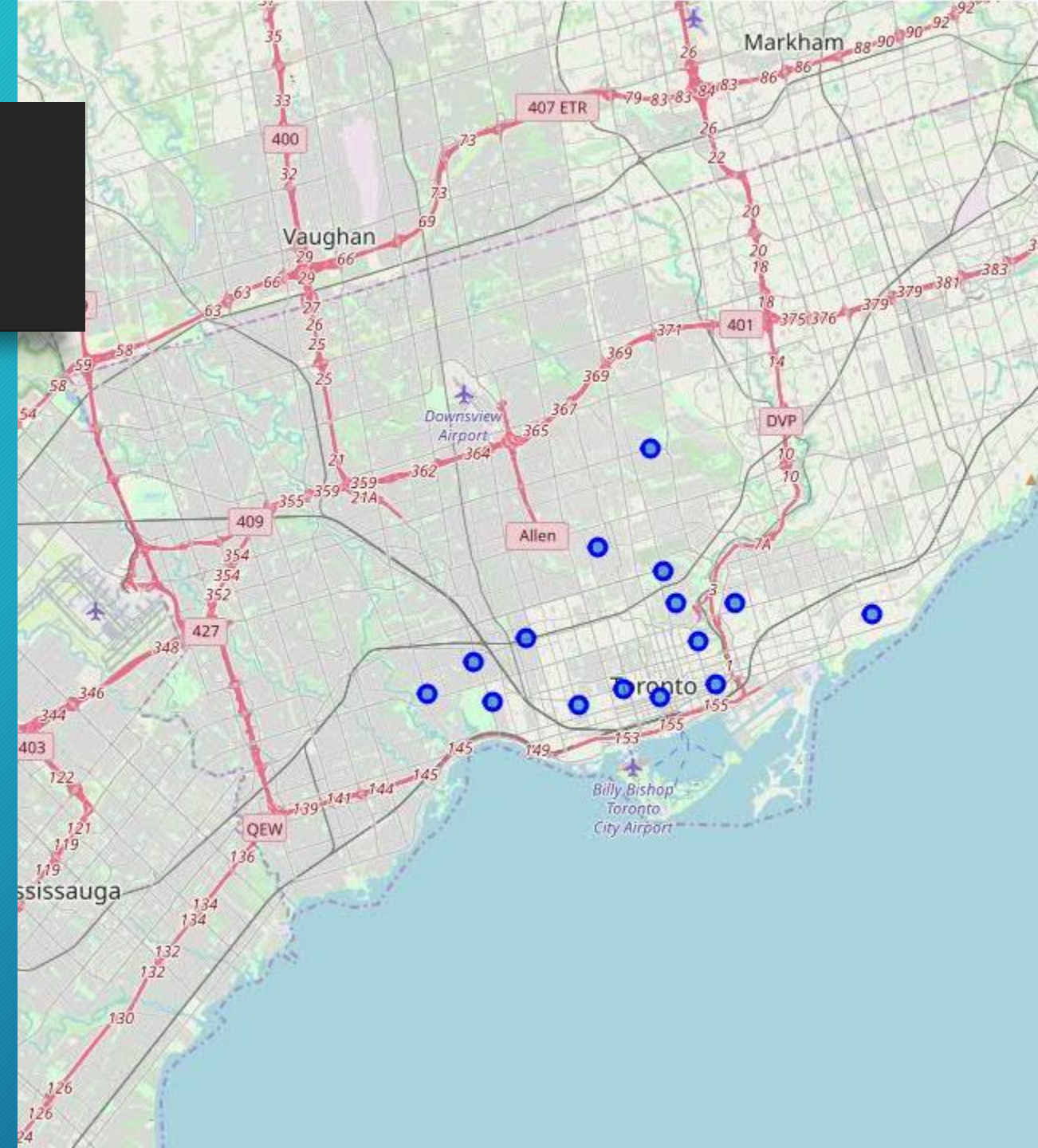
- We can identify the most important factors that contribute to the restaurant's success to be among the following list: neighborhood wealth, accessibility, crime rates, visibility, competition, etc.
- We should use the datasets from Toronto Opendata website to address some of these considerations.
- Due to the scope of this project we would limit our data to the city's average housing prices list, which we could get from "Get Wellbeing Toronto - Economics data set".
- Also we will use the Foursquare location data to retrieve the food venues. This location data in conjunction with the average house price by Neighborhood should help us to determine the best possible location for a new restaurant.

The Methodology

- We should combine the average house price from “Get Wellbeing Toronto - Economics” data set with the Neighborhood postal code dataset to get house prices per postal codes.
- We should get the venues from food category using the “Foursquare” location data. We would cluster the combined data and would try to determine the best possible location for the new restaurant.

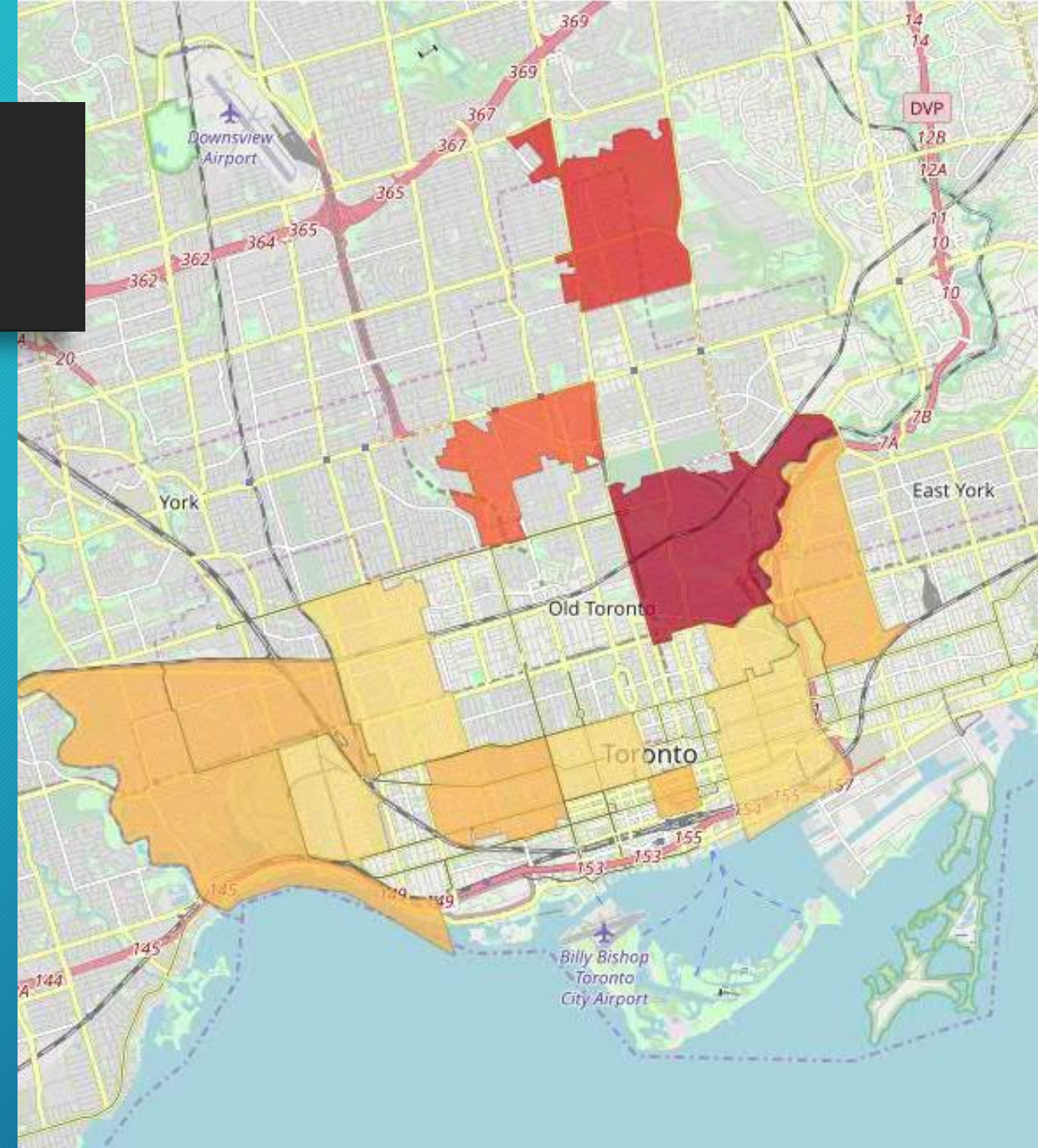
Neighborhoods

- When we grouped the average house price data with the Neighborhood postal code dataset we were able to get a new dataset for house prices per postal codes.
- This provided us with 14 Toronto postal codes areas.



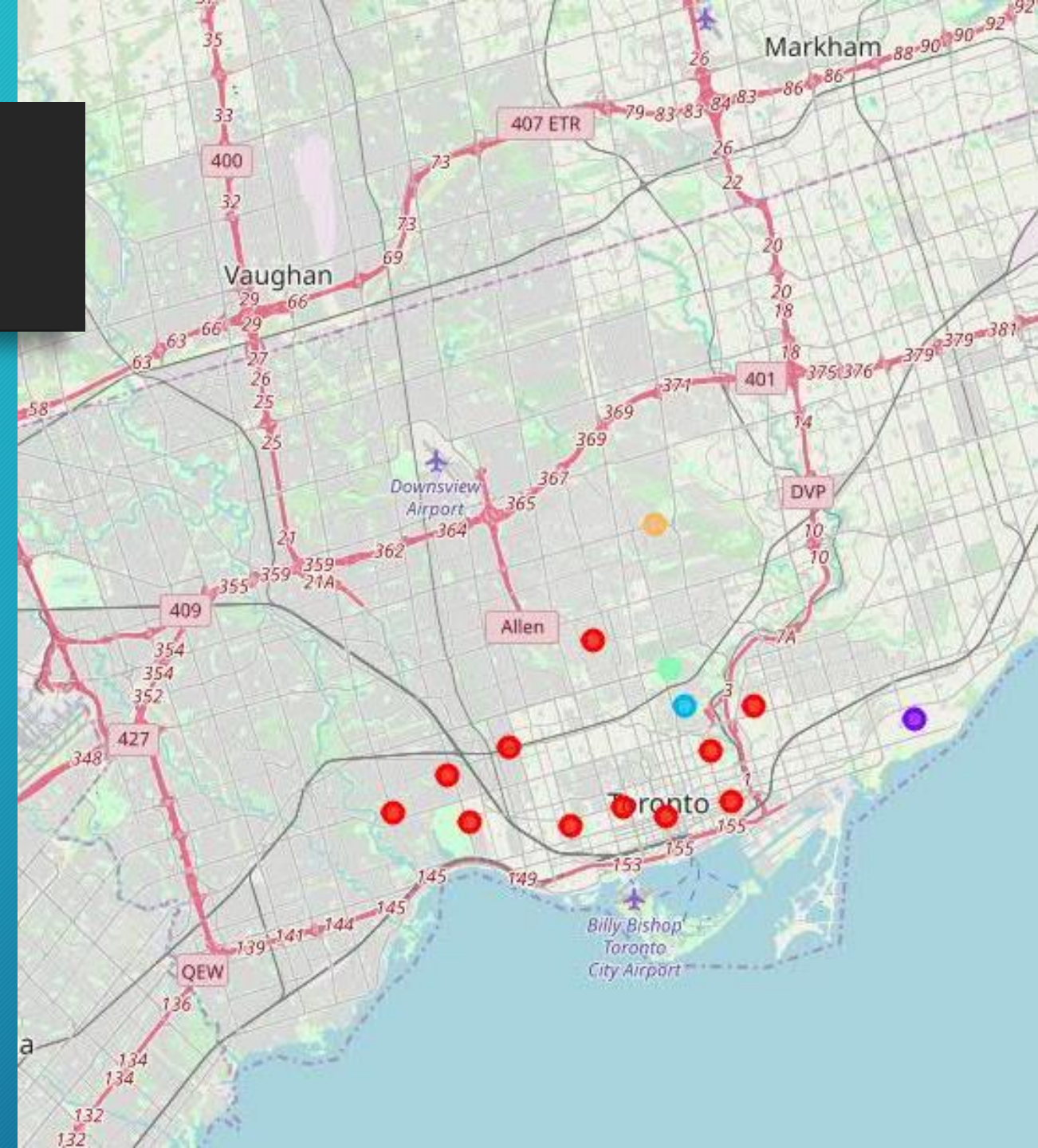
House Prices

- Unfortunately we were unable to get the average price data for all Toronto neighborhoods, but we still can identify areas that could interest our client.
- We see three areas where the average house price is above 1 million - around Rosedale, Summerhill East and Lawrence Park.



The Clusters

- Got nearby venues from Food category for all Toronto neighborhoods, giving us all restaurants in the selected area.
- Get 10 most common venues.
- Run *k*-means to cluster the neighborhood into 5 clusters.



The Results

- Most of the neighborhoods are located in the 1st cluster.
- In the 1st cluster, the most common venues in the neighborhoods are cafes and pizza places.
- Three clusters are around the most expensive neighborhoods.

Cluster 0

toronto_merged.loc[toronto_merged['Cluster_Labels'] == 0, toronto_merged.columns[[2] + list(range(5, toronto_merged.shape[1]))]]

	Neighborhood	Cluster_Labels	AvgHomePrice	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue	7th Most Common Venue	8th Most Common Venue	9th Most Common Venue	10th Most Common Venue
1	The Danforth West, Riverdale	0	0.677840	Greek Restaurant	Sushi Restaurant	Italian Restaurant	Pizza Place	Café	Restaurant	American Restaurant	Breakfast Spot	Caribbean Restaurant	Japanese Restaurant
5	Cabbagetown, St. James Town	0	0.537025	Pizza Place	Restaurant	Café	Chinese Restaurant	Italian Restaurant	Sandwich Place	Gastropub	Indian Restaurant	Japanese Restaurant	Diner
6	Harbourfront, Regent Park	0	0.484444	Café	Bakery	Restaurant	Mexican Restaurant	Breakfast Spot	Seafood Restaurant	Greek Restaurant	Italian Restaurant	Sandwich Place	Japanese Restaurant
7	Adelaide, King, Richmond	0	0.617042	Restaurant	Sandwich Place	Café	American Restaurant	Asian Restaurant	Salad Place	Deli / Bodega	Steakhouse	Thai Restaurant	Burger Joint
8	Forest Hill North, Forest Hill West	0	0.957688	French Restaurant	Sushi Restaurant	Restaurant	Mexican Restaurant	Sandwich Place	Vietnamese Restaurant	Donut Shop	Deli / Bodega	Dim Sum Restaurant	Diner
9	Chinatown, Grange Park, Kensington Market	0	0.477989	Café	Vietnamese Restaurant	Vegetarian / Vegan Restaurant	Bakery	Chinese Restaurant	Mexican Restaurant	Dim Sum Restaurant	Comfort Food Restaurant	Burger Joint	Caribbean Restaurant
10	Dovercourt Village, Dufferin	0	0.502736	Bakery	Pizza Place	Café	Portuguese Restaurant	Middle Eastern Restaurant	Fast Food Restaurant	Brazilian Restaurant	Vietnamese Restaurant	Dim Sum Restaurant	Diner
11	Little Portugal, Trinity	0	0.619435	Asian Restaurant	Vietnamese Restaurant	New American Restaurant	Bakery	Pizza Place	Café	Cuban Restaurant	Vegetarian / Vegan Restaurant	French Restaurant	Restaurant
12	High Park, The Junction South	0	0.615948	Mexican Restaurant	Café	Thai Restaurant	Fried Chicken Joint	Gastropub	Diner	Steakhouse	Bakery	Fast Food Restaurant	Italian Restaurant
13	Parade, Roncesvalles	0	0.540739	Breakfast Spot	Cuban Restaurant	Restaurant	Eastern European Restaurant	Burger Joint	Deli / Bodega	Italian Restaurant	Fish & Chips Shop	Filipino Restaurant	Fast Food Restaurant
14	Runnymede, Swansea	0	0.644205	Pizza Place	Café	Sushi Restaurant	Italian Restaurant	Diner	Restaurant	Fish & Chips Shop	Burrito Place	Food	Sandwich Place

Cluster 1

toronto_merged.loc[toronto_merged['Cluster_Labels'] == 1, toronto_merged.columns[[2] + list(range(5, toronto_merged.shape[1]))]]

	Neighborhood	Cluster_Labels	AvgHomePrice	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue	7th Most Common Venue	8th Most Common Venue	9th Most Common Venue	10th Most Common Venue
0	The Beaches	1	0.751945	Pizza Place	Burger Joint	Asian Restaurant	BBQ Joint	Dim Sum Restaurant	Diner	Doner Restaurant	Donut Shop	Dim pling Restaurant	Eastern European Restaurant

Cluster 2

toronto_merged.loc[toronto_merged['Cluster_Labels'] == 2, toronto_merged.columns[[2] + list(range(5, toronto_merged.shape[1]))]]

	Neighborhood	Cluster_Labels	AvgHomePrice	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue	7th Most Common Venue	8th Most Common Venue	9th Most Common Venue	10th Most Common Venue
4	Rosedale	2	1.265389	Japanese Restaurant	Vietnamese Restaurant	Falafel Restaurant	Dim Sum Restaurant	Diner	Doner Restaurant	Donut Shop	Dim pling Restaurant	Eastern European Restaurant	Fast Food Restaurant

Cluster 3

toronto_merged.loc[toronto_merged['Cluster_Labels'] == 3, toronto_merged.columns[[2] + list(range(5, toronto_merged.shape[1]))]]

	Neighborhood	Cluster_Labels	AvgHomePrice	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue	7th Most Common Venue	8th Most Common Venue	9th Most Common Venue	10th Most Common Venue
3	Moore Park, Summerhill East	3	1.265389	Restaurant	Vietnamese Restaurant	Eastern European Restaurant	Deli / Bodega	Dim Sum Restaurant	Diner	Doner Restaurant	Donut Shop	Dim pling Restaurant	Falafel Restaurant

Cluster 4

toronto_merged.loc[toronto_merged['Cluster_Labels'] == 4, toronto_merged.columns[[2] + list(range(5, toronto_merged.shape[1]))]]

	Neighborhood	Cluster_Labels	AvgHomePrice	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue	7th Most Common Venue	8th Most Common Venue	9th Most Common Venue	10th Most Common Venue
2	Lawrence Park	4	1.09811	Dim Sum Restaurant	Vietnamese Restaurant	Gastropub	Deli / Bodega	Diner	Doner Restaurant	Donut Shop	Dim pling Restaurant	Eastern European Restaurant	Falafel Restaurant

The Discussion

- Where should we open a new restaurant? Housing price maps show that the Lawrence Park cluster (4) neighborhood might be a good candidate. This area looks like a quite densely populated area, so we expect the region to have a lot of foot and car traffic, so good visibility. This neighborhood has also reasonable average house prices.

The Conclusion

- This is only a first-order solution to the question 'Where to open a new restaurant in Toronto?' Using public datasets, we were able to partially address one of the factors that we have mentioned at the beginning - average house prices. There certainly is lot of room for improvement. For example, we have to factor in crime rates, competition etc. Toronto Opendata website should have other datasets that we might use to further improve the results.