**Muhammed ERENLER - GIS Lab Assignment 3**

**MAP-1- Selecting Eligible Residential Areas For Registered Sex Offenders In The Buffalo Area**

After I applied all five steps described in the assignment page; I have got the following results. Out of 29 estate points, my geocoding result gives only 28 of them, **one (100 Midshore Dr,14213)** was not matched somehow **and another one (470 Linwood Ave, 14209)** is even closer than 100 m to a school. Then I have only 27 possible eligible areas for sex offenders. Out of **27**, only **10 estate areas** (1088 Delaware Ave (one bedroom), 14209, 2024 Fillmore Ave, 14214, 17 Albert Ave, 14207, 34 Orton Pl, 14201, 1088 Delaware Ave (two bedroom), 14209, 451 Prospect Ave, 14201, 39 Burlington Ave, 14215, 236 W Ferry St, 14213,54 Littlefield Ave, 14211, 111 Whitney Pl, 14201), shown as pink “**stars**” in the map, falls in between 100-500 m range and **15 residential areas** (83 Bryant St, 14209, 440 Hoyt St, 14213, 925 Delaware Ave, 14209, 45 Yale St, 14210, 452 Willett St, 14206, 337 Davey St, 14206, 64 Imson St, 14210, 214 Hagen St, 14215, 135 Shepard St, 14212, 66 Clarendon Pl, 14209, 101 Burch Ave, 14210, 55 Franklin Ave, 14212, 160 Heath Ter, 14223, 116 Grove St, 14207, 192 Villa Ave, 14216) ,shown asred “**hexagons**”, fallsbetween 500-1000 m range and **only 2 areas** (66 Middlesex Rd, 14216 and 11 N Shore Dr, 14219) shown asgreen **“circles”** falls outside the 1000 m range.

Additionally, NY schools are shown as black spots, 100 m buffer zone outside the schools shown as brown, 500 m buffer as blue and 1000 m buffer as dark yellow, interstate roads as navy and NY counties as light green colored features.

And when it comes to the main question of the assignment, if I were creating legislation for Erie County, “what (if any) buffer region would you advocate and why?”; I would tell you that I would definitely advocate for applying **at least 1.000 m buffer zone** limit for the “**Registered Sex Offenders”**. I know that this kind of selection would make the life even much harder for these people. Meanwhile, after googling, I also learned that many cities in the US like **Deltona** sets some strict rules for sex offenders like prohibiting them live within 2.500 feet (some 750m) of a school. And even a mere public urination in Deltona is prohibited and constitutes a sex offender crime.

Then I would more easily justify my 1000m-decision by claiming that in these kind of circumstances, the interests of the majority always come first and more important according to the universal norms. I would also state that most families favor my decision. Why? Because, the people at risk here in our case are school children, many of whom even may not have a capacity or capability to avoid to interact with these kind of sex offenders. Upon our selection of areas outside 1000 m zone, we notice that there are **only two** residential areas eligible for being a possible site for ‘sex offenders”. I would **reconsider** this decision if the number of “sex offenders” in our area exceed the number of these two residential areas, but it is a further decision to make. If so, I would choose the second option that allows sex offenders to reside in between 500-1000 m zone.