1. Briefly summarize the project:

The project I reviewed was proposed by Roma Patel and Katie Henning and it involves the visualization of Food Deserts. The project intends to summarize the various factors that contribute to the food desert status of a census tract by using an interactive visualization.

2. Identify key strengths of the proposal and evaluate the group's progress:

I was very intrigued by the project because the concept of a food desert was very new to me. I think the dashboard the project proposes will help the viewer interpret the factors that cause food deserts. The proposal also had the links to the appropriate sample data sources and tools that will be used for the project. Till now, the group's progress is on the right track. I would suggest the team to do an early implementation of the visualization with the data they have and then collect and manipulate more data to make the visualization much more informative.

3. Identify possible weakness, vulnerabilities, or hurdles to be overcome:

The main challenge here would be the data(missing data/noisy variables).When you explore or visualize the factors that causes food deserts one thing you need to be careful of is the extent to which your visualizations might imply causal relationships. Viewers may tend to read plots showing correlations as the main explanation, when in fact there may be many factors. Allowing the viewers to explore the data via interactive plots might help overcome this problem.

4. Suggest questions that the team may want to consider:

- The visualization will help the user understand the factors that cause food deserts, but will it help the user summarize the effects of food desert on a particular community?
- To what level will the user be able to drill down the information?(i.e., Will the user be able to interact and interpret the statewide, countywide, or citywide information.).
- What percentage of people in a state/city/county live in a food desert?
- Is there a correlation between number of obese people in the region and food deserts?

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5.Additional specific feedback that was requested by the group during their presentation:

- Since food deserts is an interesting and a new topic which a lot of viewers would not have come across earlier, I think it would be better if the visualizations were compiled as a descriptive interactive story telling article rather than a dashboard.

- You could add information like what a food desert is and how it could impact the lives of people before moving on with the visualizations.

- I would love to see information about what measures the policy makers are taking to prevent food deserts in the visualization.

5. Contribute any additional resources you are aware of that may be useful:

- For designing the dashboard/article the perusal reading on the topic "Narrative Visualization: Telling Stories with Data,"

- Idyll examples

- Visualizations on the same topic that can be used as inspiration:
    - In search of food desert
    - Finding oases in a food desert

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