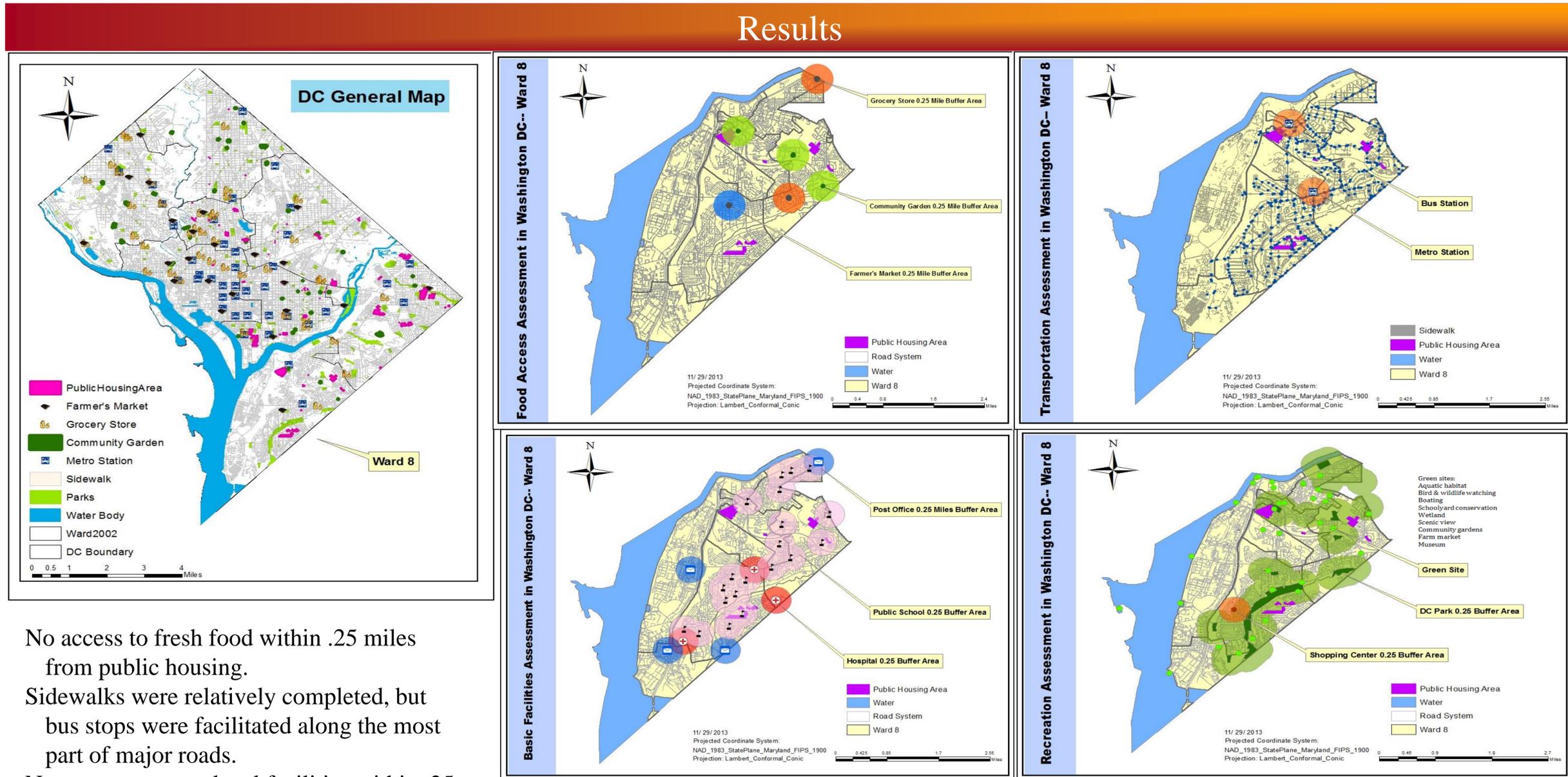


## Purpose

- To examine walkability for seniors living in a low-income neighborhood (Ward 8). The neighborhood walkability in the DC area was assessed via geographic information systems (GIS) using ArcGIS 10.1 data using the North American Datum (NAD) 1983 state plane coordinate system.

## Process

- Ward 8 in the DC area was selected due to its concentration of low-income families in the southern part of the Anacostia River.
- First the location of public housing area in Ward 8 was geocoded. To measure the objective neighborhood walkability for seniors, we calculated the access from public housing to the following destinations within .25 miles buffer:
  - Food : grocery stores, farmers' markets, community gardens
  - Transportation : bus and metro stations
  - Basic facilities: post offices, hospitals, and public schools
  - Green sites and shopping centers.



No access to fresh food within .25 miles from public housing.  
 Sidewalks were relatively completed, but bus stops were facilitated along the most part of major roads.  
 Not even access to local facilities within .25 miles from public housing.  
 Green sites (e.g., aquatic habitat, wildlife watching, boating sites, scenic view sites, etc) are in walkable distance from public housing.

## Conclusion

From the analysis above, we can see that, food access, transportation and basic facilities are still not walkable for people live in public housing area. Based on that, we recommend to improve access to fresh food and to public transportation, and to complete sidewalk installation in the northeast part. Seniors living in government-subsidized housing tend to experience more health problems and disabilities.