**Hello, and thank you for downloading the Motor City Mapping survey data!**

The dataset you're about to explore is the result of hundreds of people devoting thousands of hours to data collection, cleaning, and analysis.  It's the culmination of a process that has involved federal, state, and local government officials, Fortune 500 companies, nonprofit organizations, and charitable foundations; a process that has, in ways both large and small, touched every corner of the City of Detroit.

This release also represents a major step forward for Data Driven Detroit (D3) as an organization.  Our mission is to provide accessible, high-quality information and analysis to drive informed decision-making.  By making the Motor City Mapping data public, we and our partners have taken the first step toward creating the most open, comprehensive, and accessible property database that Detroit has ever had.  We eagerly look forward to seeing how this data can lead to informed actions and a deeper understanding of our great city.

**Introduction to Motor City Mapping**

The Detroit Blight Removal Task Force commissioned D3, the Michigan Nonprofit Association, and LOVELAND Technologies to complete a citywide parcel survey in the winter of 2013 and 2014. The effort, called Motor City Mapping, leveraged relationships with the Quicken Loans family of companies and the Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation to assemble a dedicated team of over 200 resident surveyors, drivers, and quality control associates.

The initiative resulted in survey information for almost 380,000 parcels of land in the city of Detroit, identifying condition, occupancy, and use. The data provide a holistic look into Detroit's landscape, informing both large-scale planning efforts and on-the-ground action.

The data collected by the survey formed the background of the Blight Removal Task Force's report, "Every Neighborhood has a Future…and It Doesn't Include Blight."  For more information on the Blight Removal Task Force, and to download the report, please visit http://www.timetoendblight.com/.

In the next stages of Motor City Mapping, Data Driven Detroit and LOVELAND will introduce an essential feedback function into data collection. In the coming months, you can expect an online platform and downloadable app that will allow you to contribute, correct, and update information to ensure that this dataset adequately reflects neighborhood conditions. Visit the project's website at http://www.motorcitymapping.org/ for further information.

**Contents of the Zipped Folder**

- This introductory letter;
- Survey parcels and geodata in Personal Geodatabase (.mdb), ESRI Shapefile (.shp), and Comma-Delimited Text (.txt) formats;
- Metadata that explain each field;
- Survey definitions that describe the survey questions, what they mean, and what criteria was used for each response;
- Background notes that explain how D3 created the survey parcel file from the City of Detroit Assessor's parcel file

**Licensing and Attribution**

The survey data are protected under a [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike license](), which requires that the user of the data give appropriate credit to the licensor and to distribute future contributions under the same license.

We ask that if you publish analysis with the survey data enclosed, please use the following in your source:

*Sample Source:* Motor City Mapping (uncertified results), 2014.

We also enjoy hearing about the many creative uses that our data inspire. If you would like to share your own analysis, if you have datasets you'd like to see included, or if you would simply like to provide feedback on Motor City Mapping, email us at [info@datadrivendetroit.org]().

**Thank you again, and we look forward to seeing how you carry this data forward! On behalf of D3 and the Michigan Nonprofit Association, I wish you the best of luck in your future analyses!**

Erica Raleigh
Director, Data Driven Detroit
May 27, 2014