



Impacting Community Health via Zoning Policy: Links to Health, Safety, and Economic Conditions in Urban Neighborhoods

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Where people live, learn, work, play, and worship impacts health outcomes throughout life



Photo sources: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:GoodwoodGardens.jpg>, <http://www.baltimorebrew.com/2013/04/24/hopkins-conference-tackles-link-between-wealth-and-health/>, <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:BCCRolandPark.jpg>, <http://www.trulia.com/homes/Maryland/Baltimore/sold/41707-1327-Hollins-St-Baltimore-MD-21223>
Life expectancy data: Baltimore City Neighborhood Health Profiles: <http://health.baltimorecity.gov/sites/default/files/Life-expectancy-2013.pdf>.

Life Expectancy at Birth in Years, Baltimore City, 2011-2015

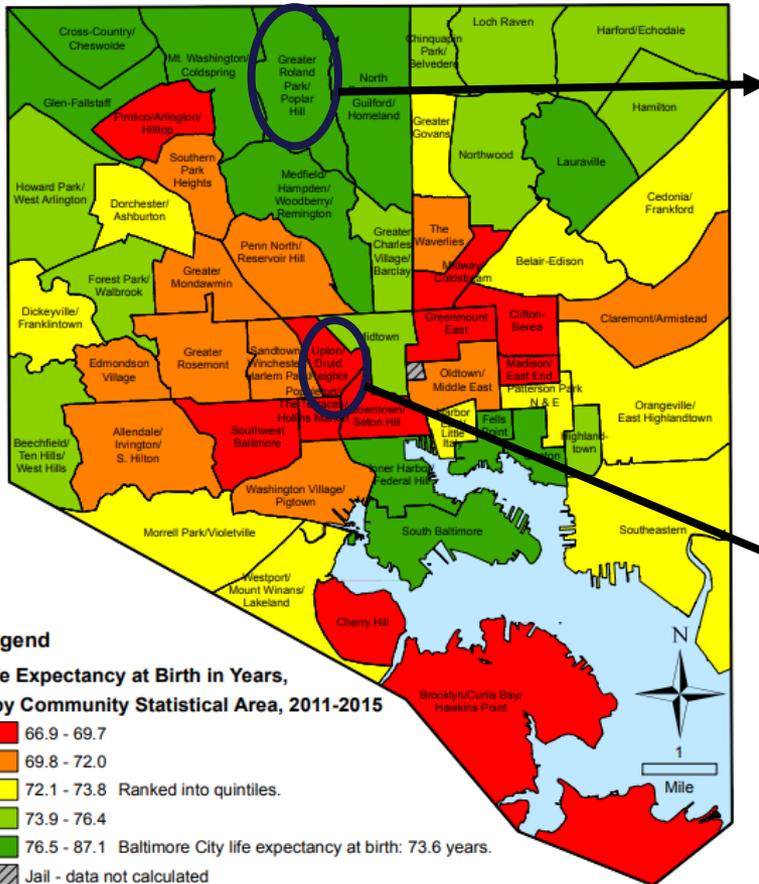
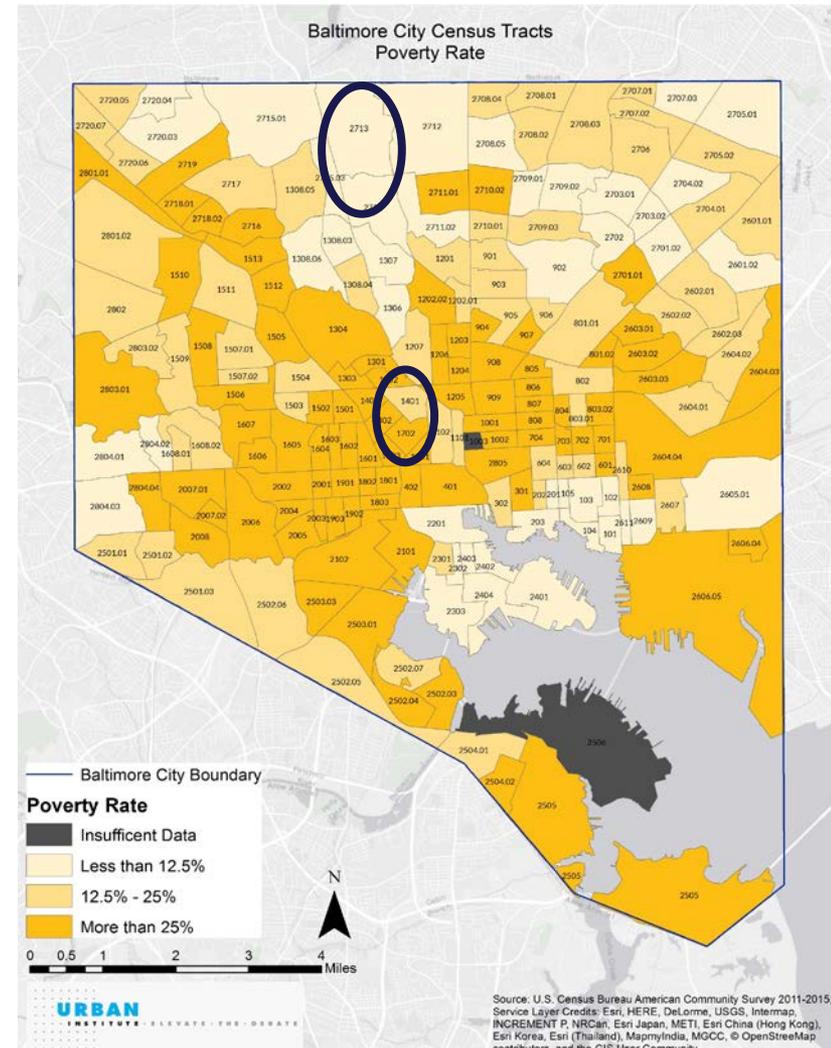
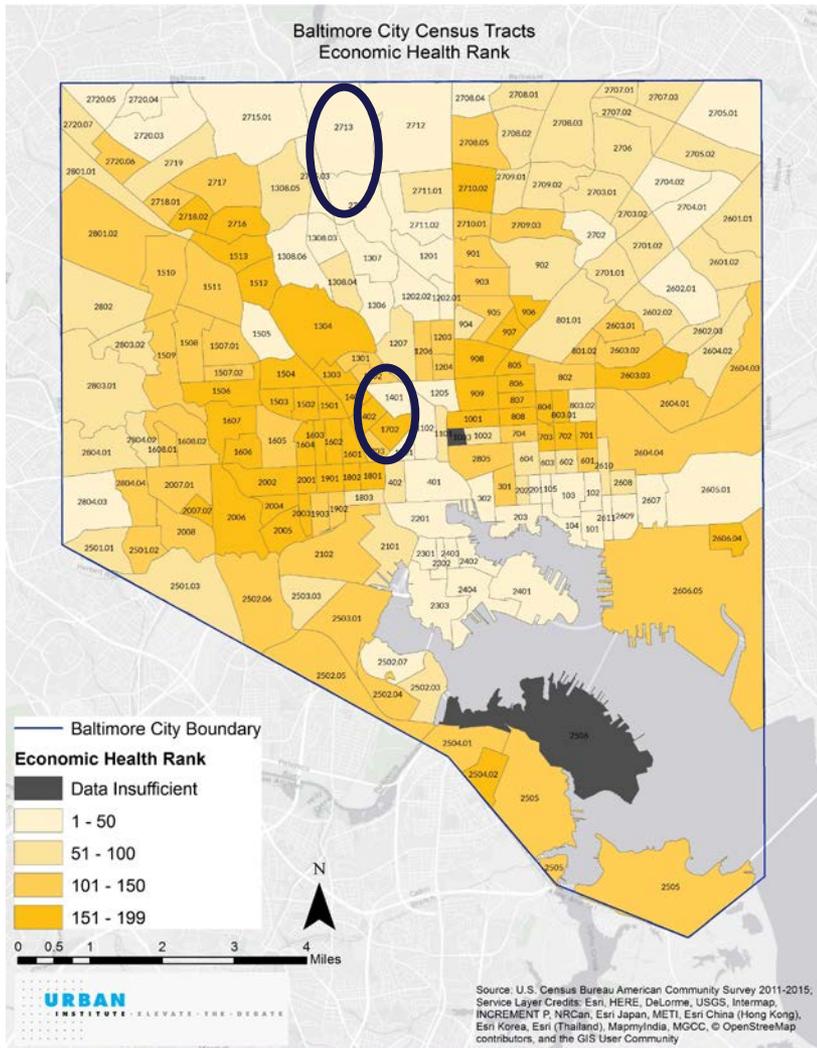


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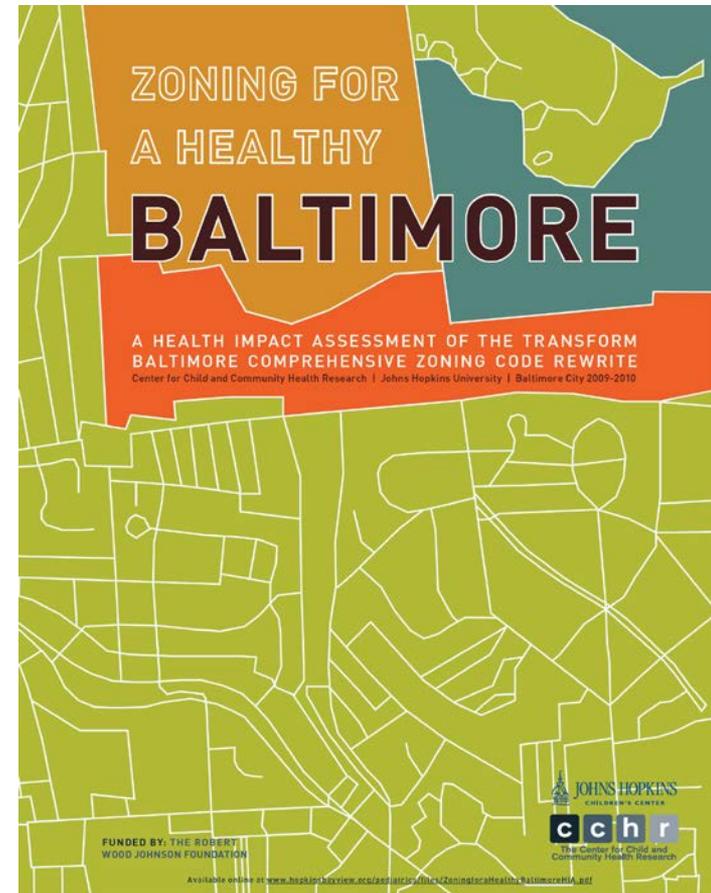
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Population Health and Economic Conditions are Closely Linked



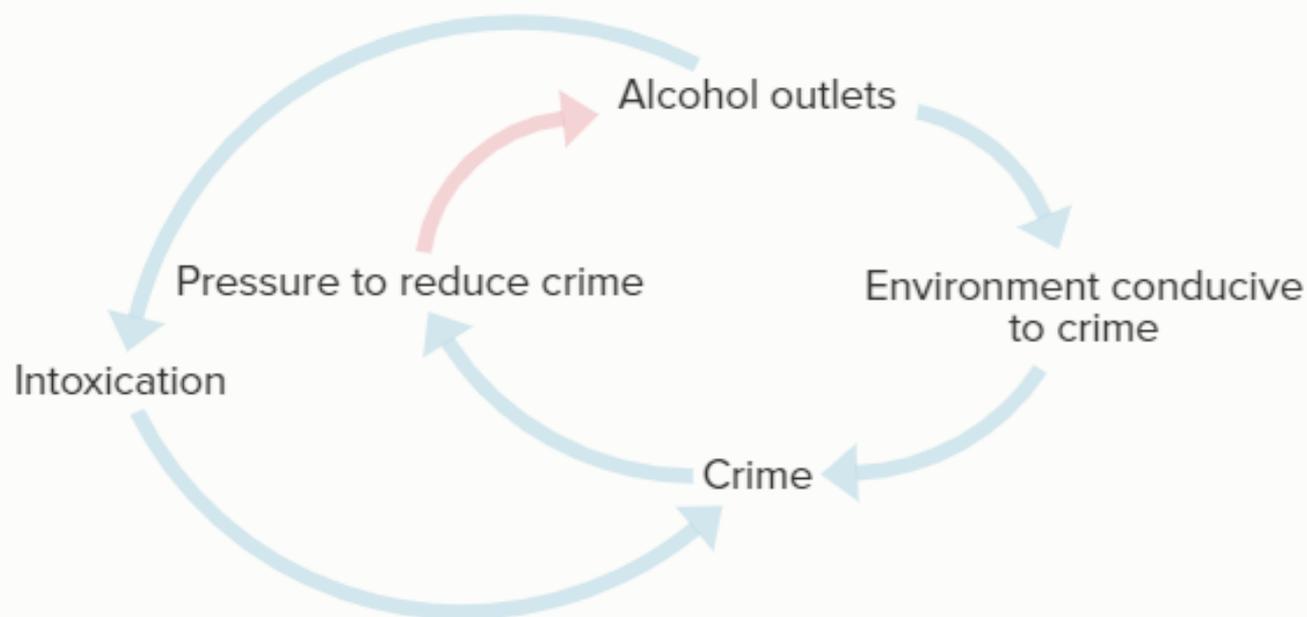
Context

- *TransForm Baltimore* – first zoning code rewrite since 1971
- Health Impact Assessment of zoning code changes found:
 - Consistent relationship linking alcohol outlet distribution with violent crime
 - Inequities in risk of crime and alcohol outlet distribution city-wide
- *TransForm Baltimore* ratified December 2016



Sources: 1) Thornton et al. Achieving Healthy Zoning Policy in Baltimore: The Results of a Health Impact Assessment of the *TransForm* Baltimore Comprehensive Zoning Code Rewrite. *Public Health Reports*. 2013. 2) Jennings JM et al. Neighborhood Alcohol Outlets and the Association with Violent Crime in One Mid-Atlantic City: The Implications for Zoning Policy. *Journal of Urban Health*. 2013.

Theory for Violence Reduction



Legend

— Adds to / same direction

— Subtracts from / opposite direction

Impact of HIA Findings

Alcohol Outlet Density Reduction – Zoning Strategy

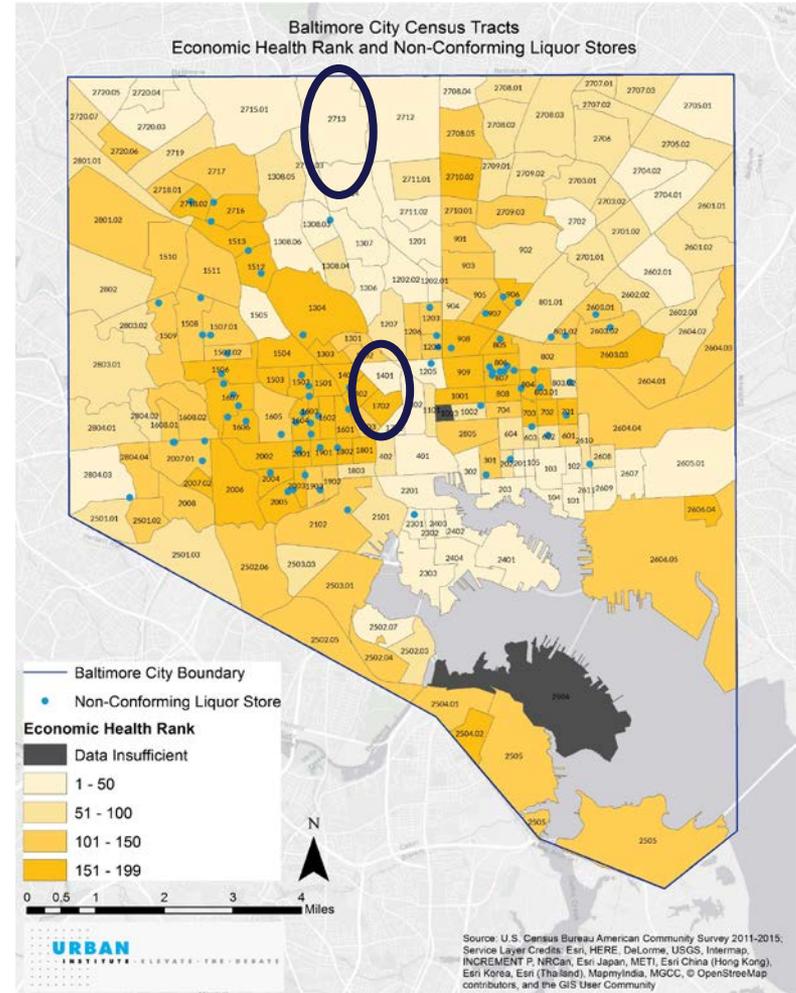
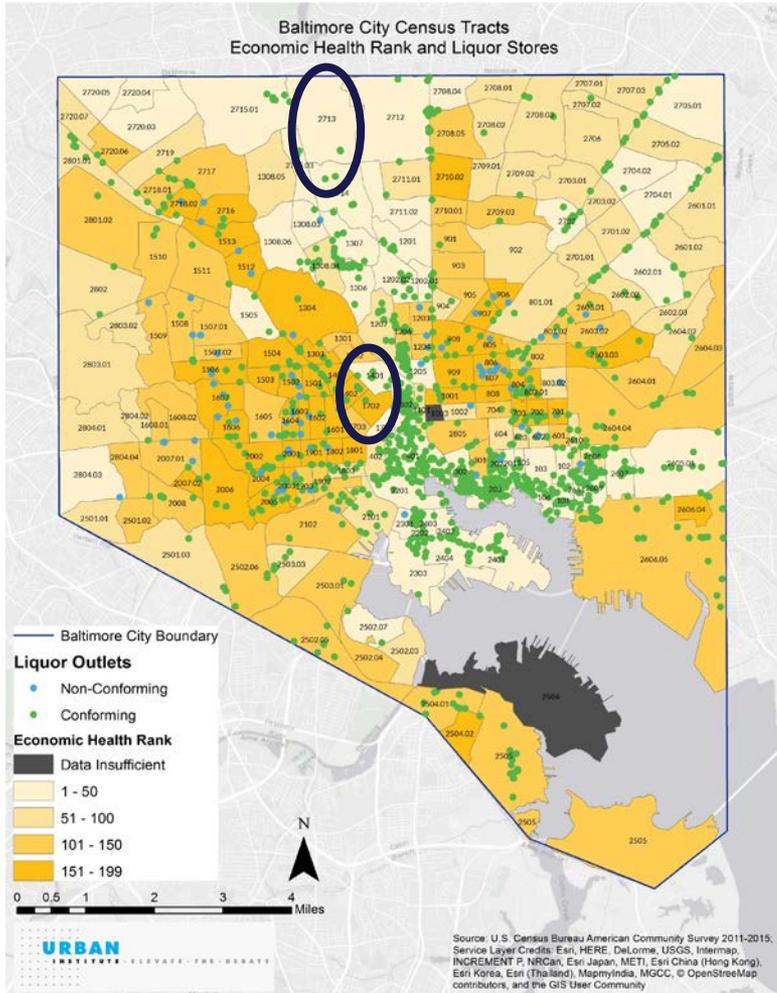
- Liquor Stores in Residential Zones required to stop selling alcoholic beverages within two years after effective date of Ordinance. (18-701)
- Taverns will be required to meet the zoning definition of Tavern (1-314 and 14-336) within two years after effective date of Ordinance (18-702)
- New Liquor Stores may not be closer than 300 feet to an existing store, except in downtown(14-335)



Photo Source: maps.google.com

Source: City Council Bill 12-0152
TransForm Baltimore | Alcohol Outlet
Density Reduction

Alcohol Outlet Density and Economic Health: Liquor Stores in Residential Neighborhoods



Neighborhood Health Depends on More than Liquor Stores: Complex Consequences

“Even though she does not drink alcohol, she walks to [neighborhood liquor store] every day because it also serves as a convenience store for the community... She said, ‘We understand what the City is trying to do, but these people have a right to run their store and make an honest living.’”

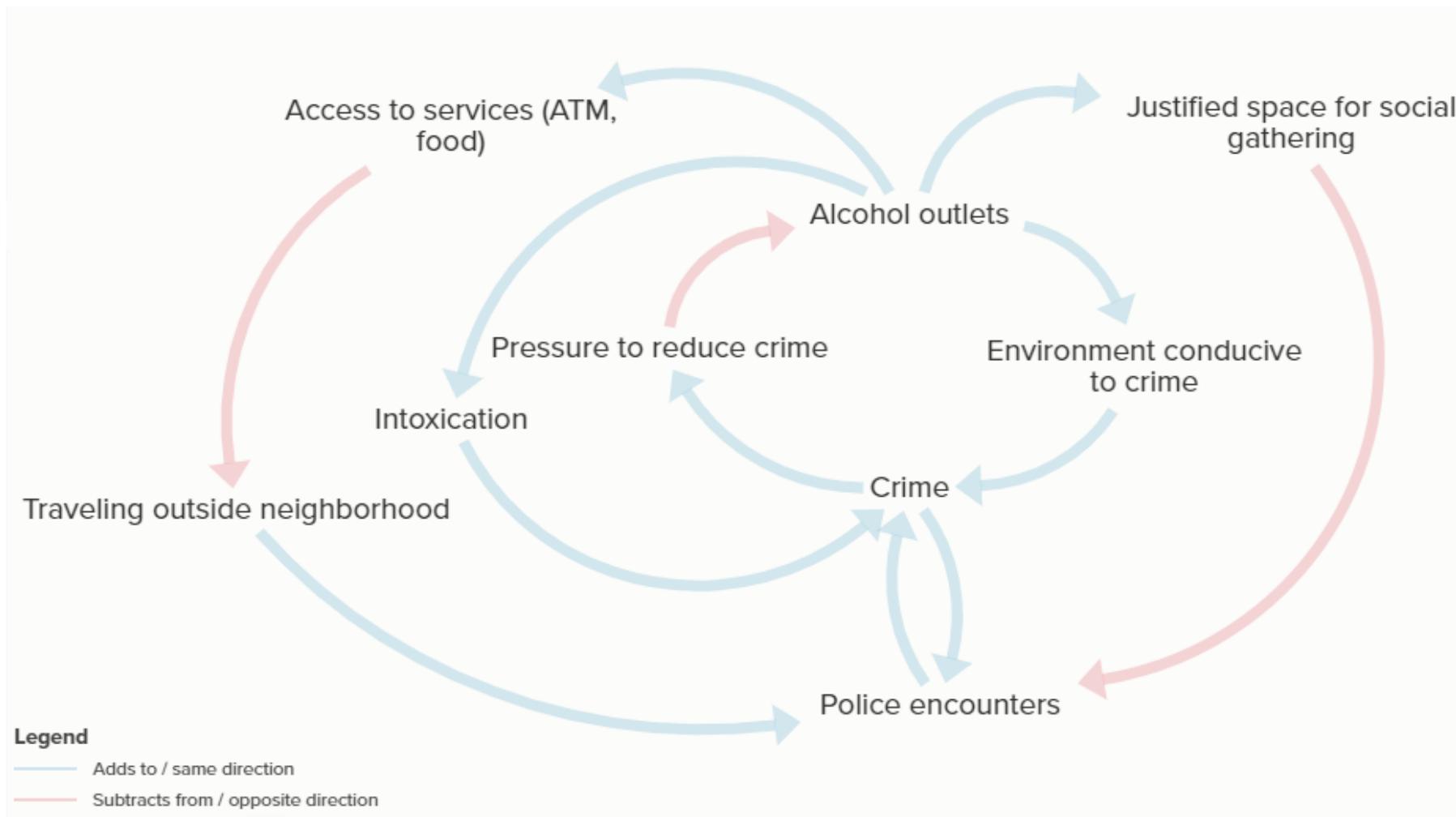
– Housing & Code Enforcement Official

“I think that the bigger issue with neighborhoods that have an alcohol density issue is that there is so much disinvestment in there in general that you know, it is just, we need to figure out ways to have investment in those areas to compliment this [policy]”

– Community Economic Development Professional



Potential for Unintended Consequences



Acknowledgments



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COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS