

# 40<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT 2018 FOOD ENVIRONMENT BRIEF



Chris Ryer  
Director of Planning



Bernard C. Young  
Mayor

## OVERVIEW

The Department of Planning and the Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future collaborate to examine the Baltimore food environment through research, analysis and mapping in order to inform the work of the City’s Baltimore Food Policy Initiative (BFPI). Please refer to *Baltimore City’s Food Environment: 2018 Report* for more in-depth information.

## HEALTHY FOOD PRIORITY AREA

Healthy Food Priority Areas show where four factors related to food access overlap. The four criteria listed below determine if an area is a Healthy Food Priority Area. These areas were previously referred to as “food deserts.”

### KEY FINDINGS

- The 40th District has the second highest proportion of residents living in a Priority Area of all legislative districts with 39%, compared to 23.5% citywide.
- Racial disparities persist, with over 36,000 (46%) Black residents living in Priority Areas, compared to 6,500 (23%) White residents.
- Children are the most likely age group to live in Priority Areas.

### RESIDENT PERSPECTIVE

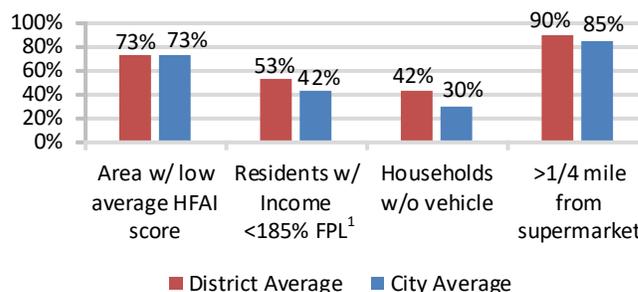
*“I understand the human need for access to proper sustenance. I have been the difference between a disabled/unable person having their grocery list fulfilled or being hungry just one more day because they live too far from healthy food.”*

Sheena Ham  
2017 Resident Food Equity Advisor, District 40

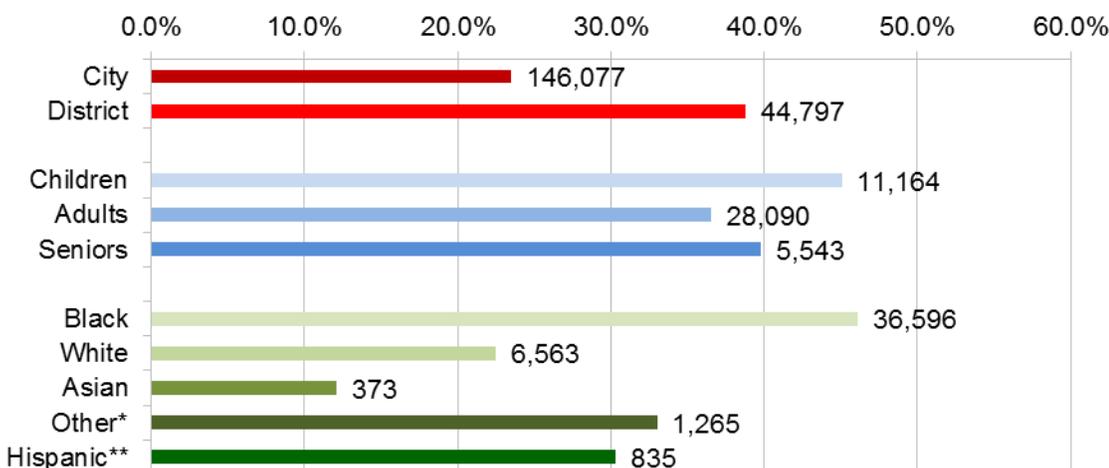
### PRIORITY AREA FACTORS

1. The average Healthy Food Availability Index (HFAI) score is in the lowest tier
2. The median household income is at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level
3. Over 30% of households do not have a vehicle available
4. The distance to a supermarket is more than ¼ mile

### HEALTHY FOOD PRIORITY AREA FACTORS BY PERCENT OF 40<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT RESIDENTS



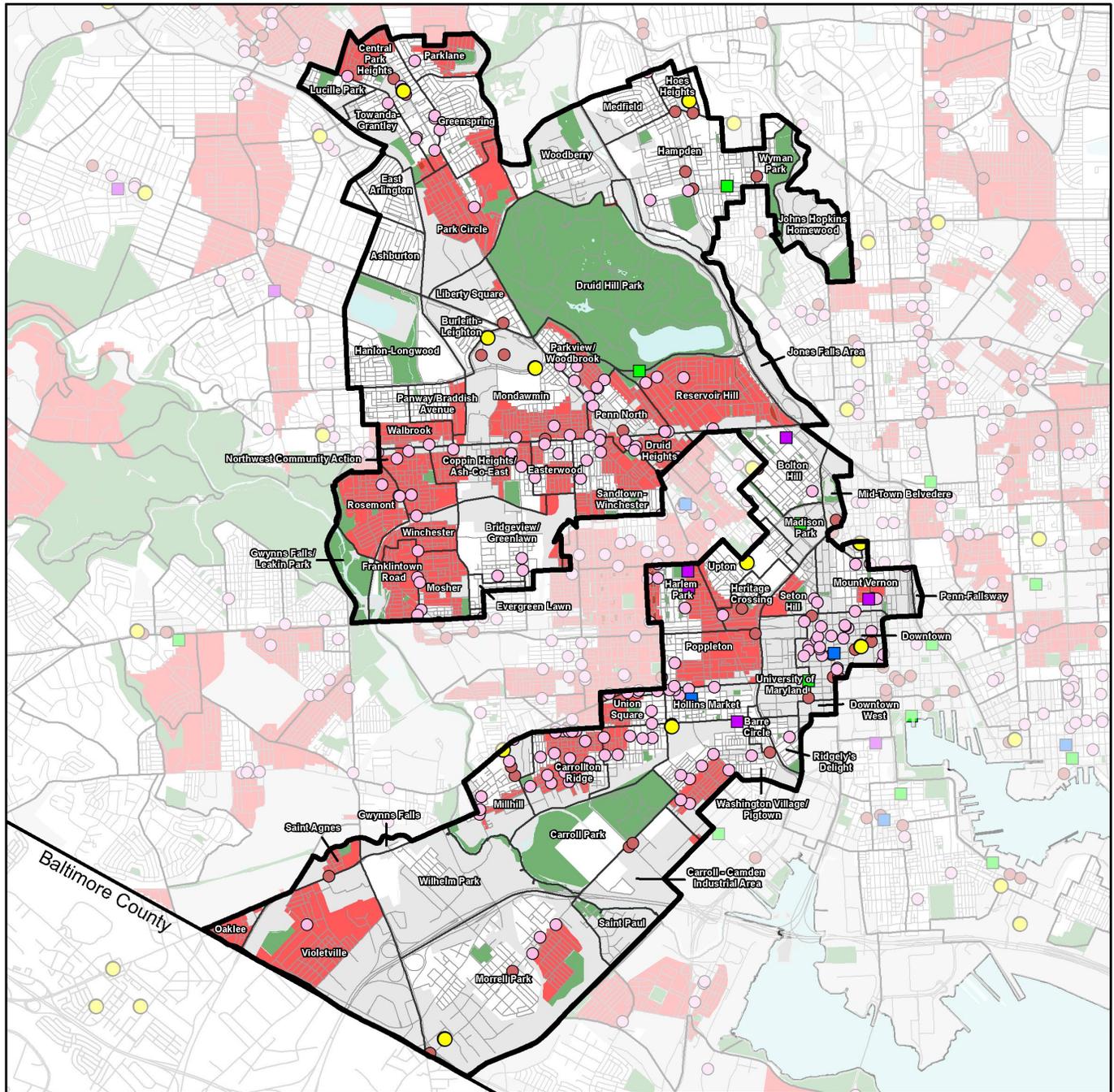
## PERCENT OF EACH POPULATION GROUP LIVING IN A HEALTHY FOOD PRIORITY AREA<sup>2</sup>



**How to read this graph (example):**  
Of all the children living in the 40th District, 11,164 (45%) live in a Healthy Food Priority Area.

# 2018 FOOD ENVIRONMENT MAP - DISTRICT 40

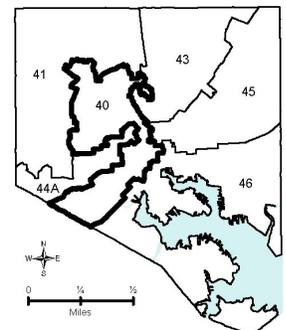
## FOOD RETAIL



2018 Food Environment Map - District 40

### Food Retail

- |                                     |                          |         |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| Healthy Food Priority Areas         | Harbor, Lakes, & Streams | Streets |
| Legislative Boundaries              | Parks                    |         |
| Neighborhood Boundaries             | Non-Residential          |         |
| Supermarkets (10)                   | Farmers Markets (4)      |         |
| Small Grocery & Corner Stores (151) | Public Markets (2)       |         |
| Convenience Stores (33)             | Virtual Supermarkets (5) |         |





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## FOOD RETAIL

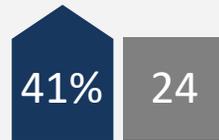
Healthy Food Availability Index (HFAI) scores show the quantity and variety of staple food groups and healthy options. Scores range from 0-28.5. HFAI awards stores points based on the presence of a market basket of staple foods and whether healthy options of common foods are available (i.e. whole grain bread).

### HFAI SCORE RANGE:

	(19.1 - 28.5)	HIGH
	(9.6 - 19)	MEDIUM
	(0 - 9.5)	LOW

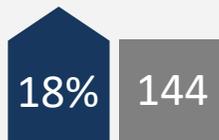
## HIGHER HFAI SCORES IN SNAP AND WIC STORES<sup>3</sup>

### WIC: Women, Infants and Children



Only 24 small grocery and corner stores (out of 151 small stores in the district) accept WIC and SNAP benefits, yet analysis shows a 41% increase in HFAI score compared to stores of the same size that only have SNAP.

### SNAP: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly food stamps)



Stores that accept SNAP have an HFAI score 18% higher than stores of the same size that do not accept nutrition benefits. 144 (out of 184) small grocery, corner, and convenience stores accept SNAP, yet most only carry the minimum stocking requirements.

## STORE CATEGORIES

Number	Avg HFAI Score	The retail food environment includes various store types, and stores within each format can serve as sources of healthy affordable food.
<b>SMALL GROCERY AND CORNER STORES</b>		
151	8.3	District 40 has 151 stores in this category, almost 30% of all small grocery and corner stores in the city. The median HFAI score for these stores is 8.3, which is below the Priority Area threshold.
<b>CONVENIENCE STORES</b>		
9	8.5	<b>Pharmacy:</b> Overall, pharmacies have a median score of 8.5, which is low, but many have the potential to carry more staple foods, perhaps by connecting specific healthy foods to medical needs.
17	9.8	<b>Chain Convenience:</b> The 17 stores have a median HFAI score of 9.8, indicating some may carry healthy food, but not significant amounts. Chain convenience may have a higher baseline of healthy food than independently-owned stores.
7	9.7	<b>Discount:</b> 7 discount stores sell a variety of non-perishable and some perishable foods, yet the overall HFAI score is low. 6 store accept SNAP but not WIC, which may mean they are not accessible to all shoppers, especially those with young children.
<b>PUBLIC MARKETS</b>		
2	17.5	Lexington Market has an HFAI of 20 and Hollins Market has an HFAI of 15. The redevelopment of both markets seeks to increase the amount of staple healthy food and decrease the amount of processed foods.
<b>SUPERMARKETS</b>		
10	27.3	Overall, supermarkets provide the widest variety of healthy staple foods. The 10 supermarkets are run by 9 different operators, and while similar in basic stocking, may vary significantly in features not scored by this analysis, such as quality or affordability.



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## FOOD AND NUTRITION ASSISTANCE

### Sites



### SUMMER MEALS

Nearly 13,000 kids live in the 40th District, 45% of who live in Priority Areas. The district served over 255,000 summer meals across 128 sites in 2016.



### AFTER SCHOOL MEALS

66 after school meals sites serve the 40th District.



### FOOD PANTRIES AND MEAL SITES

There are 110 sites across the 40th District that are served by the Maryland Food Bank.



### SENIOR MEALS

Nearly 14,000 seniors live in the 40th District, 40% of whom live in Priority Areas. There are 12 Eating Together sites in the district serving 343 seniors.



### VIRTUAL SUPERMARKET

The Virtual Supermarket primarily serves senior and disabled housing sites. There are 5 sites in the 40th District.

## URBAN AGRICULTURE



### FARMERS MARKETS

There are 4 farmers markets in the 40th District. 3 markets accept SNAP, all have vendors that accept WIC.



### URBAN FARMS

There are 6 urban farms in the 40th District.



### COMMUNITY GARDENS

The 28 community gardens in the district may provide opportunities for household-level food access.

## HEALTHY FOOD ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY

Food environment mapping and analysis inform and guide BFPI's work. The 2018 food environment analysis led BFPI to refine its guiding Healthy Food Environment Strategy. The following citywide goals have applications at the state, city, and neighborhood levels. These maps and analyses are used to inform, create, and evaluate food policies. Together, BFPI agencies implement the following strategies:

- Support resident-driven processes to guide equitable food policy, programs and resources
- Improve small grocery, corner and convenience stores
- Retain and attract supermarkets
- Increase the ability of the public markets to anchor the healthy food environment
- Implement supply chain solutions that support healthy food distribution and small businesses
- Maximize the impact of federal nutrition assistance and meal programs
- Support urban agriculture, emphasizing historically disenfranchised populations and geographies
- Address transportation gaps that impact food access

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### HOLLY FREISHTAT, MS

Baltimore City Food Policy Director  
Baltimore Food Policy Initiative  
[holly.freishtat@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:holly.freishtat@baltimorecity.gov)

### FOOD ENVIRONMENT REPORT

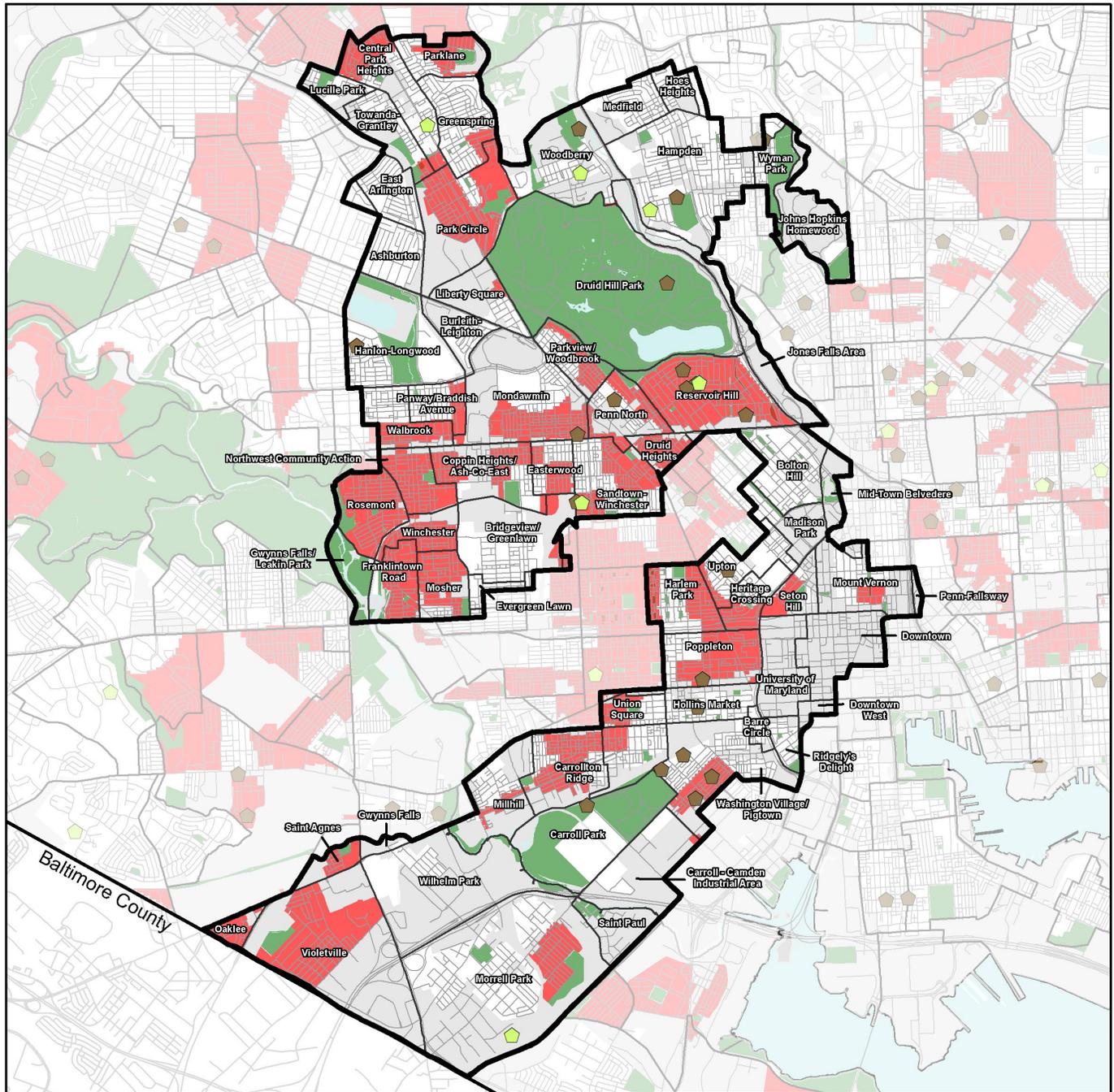
<https://planning.baltimorecity.gov/baltimore-food-policy-initiative/food-environment>

### FOOTNOTES:

1. Chart displays 185% of Federal Poverty Level by count of residents adjusted for household size. Priority Area poverty calculations are based on household Median Income.
2. \*Per US Census categories, "Other" is a combination of American Indian, other, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and "Two or More".  
\*\*Hispanic is an ethnic classification that includes all races. There may be overlap between Hispanic and other racial categories.
3. Percent increases are based on citywide averages as data by district is limited.

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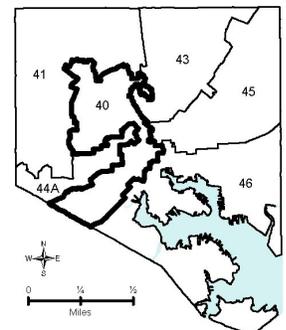
## NUTRITION ASSISTANCE



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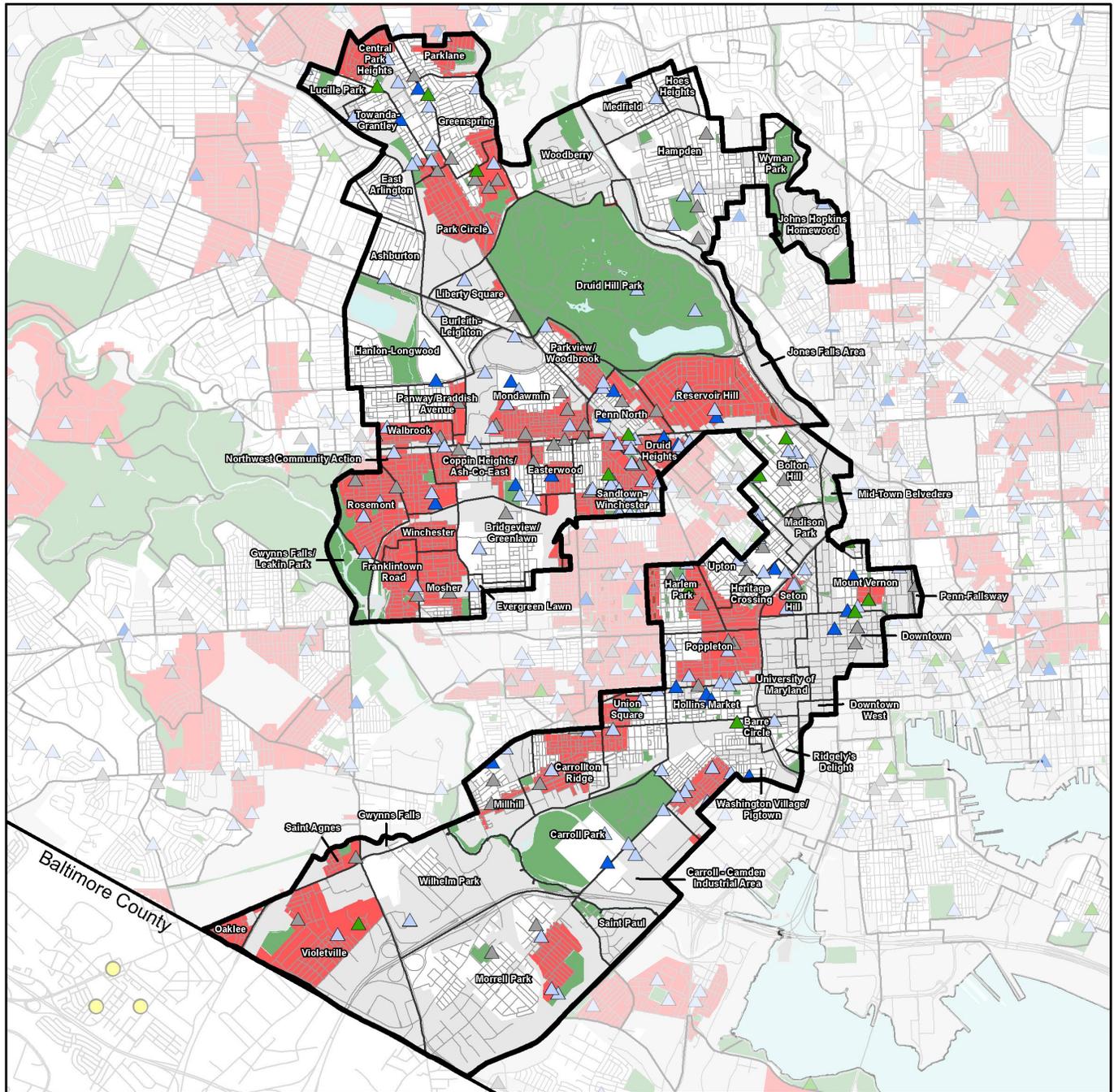
### Urban Agriculture

- Healthy Food Priority Areas
- Legislative Boundaries
- Neighborhood Boundaries
- Urban Farms (6)
- Community Gardens (20)
- Harbor, Lakes, & Streams
- Parks
- Non-Residential
- Streets



# 2018 FOOD ENVIRONMENT MAP - DISTRICT 40

## URBAN AGRICULTURE



2018 Food Environment Map - District 40

### Nutrition Assistance

- Healthy Food Priority Areas
- Legislative Boundaries
- Neighborhood Boundaries
- ▲ After School Meal Sites (66)
- ▲ Kids' Summer Meal Sites (128)
- ▲ Senior Meal Sites (12)
- ▲ Food Pantries and Meal Sites (110)
- Harbor, Lakes, & Streams
- Parks
- Non-Residential
- Streets

