Cleveland Inventory of Food and Tobacco Retail (CIFTR)

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Background

- Built environment plays a crucial factor in nutritional access and tobacco product availability and advertisement
- CIFTR (Formerly known as NEAP) aims to create a longitudinal dataset of the food and tobacco retail environment in the city of Cleveland
- Eventually, the dataset will be used by researchers to help eliminate nutritional disparities and increase equitable food access for all Cleveland residents

Population

- All Cleveland residents compromising of 34 defined neighborhoods by the Cleveland City Planning Commission
- Special focus on low socio-economic status neighborhoods due to increased volatility of nutritional landscape

Learning Objectives

1. Perform field-level quantitative evaluation of the nutritional and tobacco landscape of Cleveland
2. Collect and maintain a comprehensive dataset using RedCap software
3. Understand the historical factors which contribute the residential and racial segregation of nutrition within Cleveland

Activities

- Perform 'audits' at all large supermarkets, grocery stores, and corner stores while simultaneously 'groundtruthing' fast food retailers
- Utilizing RedCap to add information to the longitudinal dataset while performing quality checks and revisits

Deliverables

Classification Sheet: Tobacco, Nicotine, and other Drugs

How to 'Audit' Stores, Tip Sheet

Methods & Results
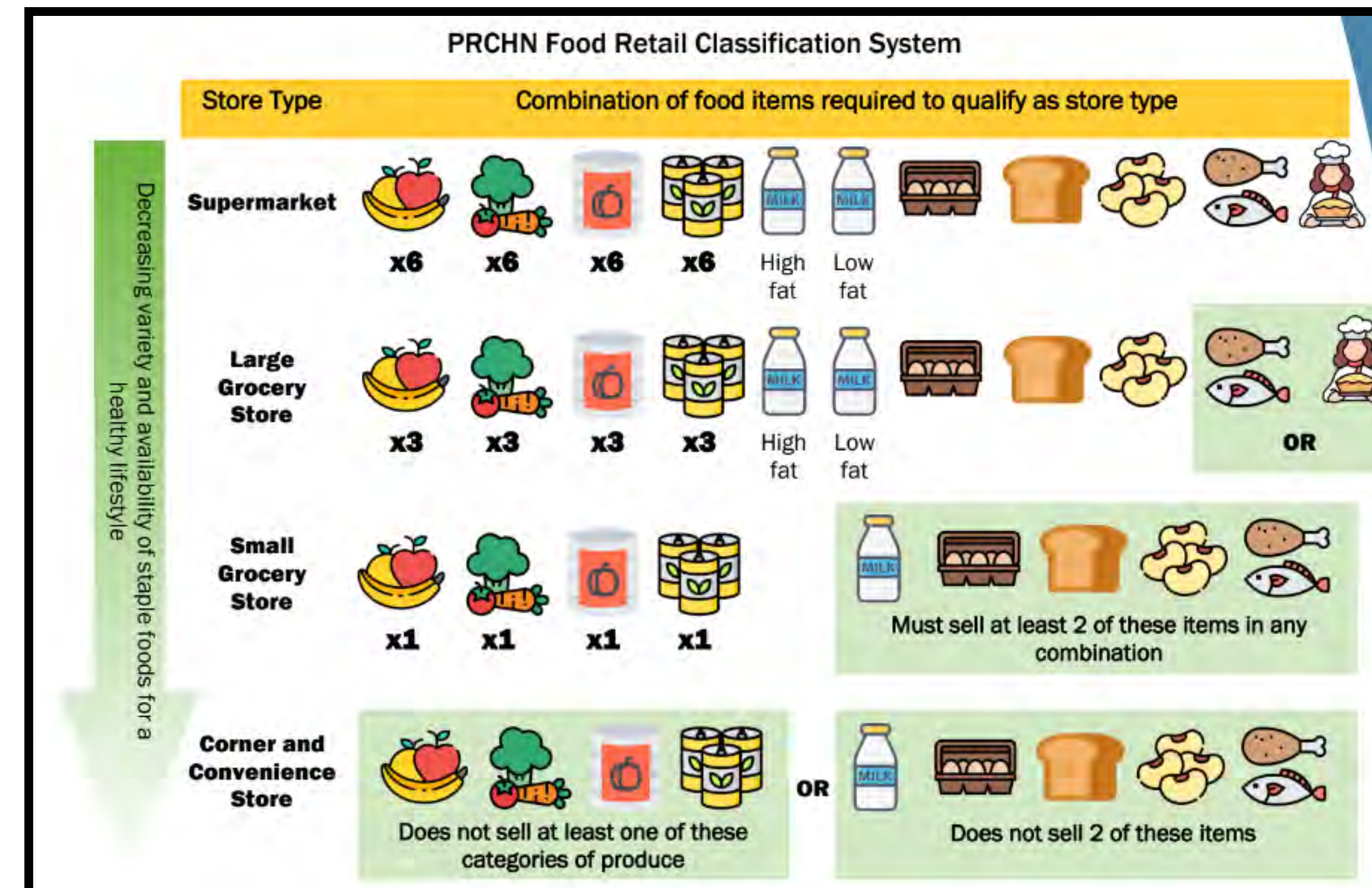
Map of Cleveland's Neighborhoods

Figure 1: Food retail classification system used in field to determine retailer type.
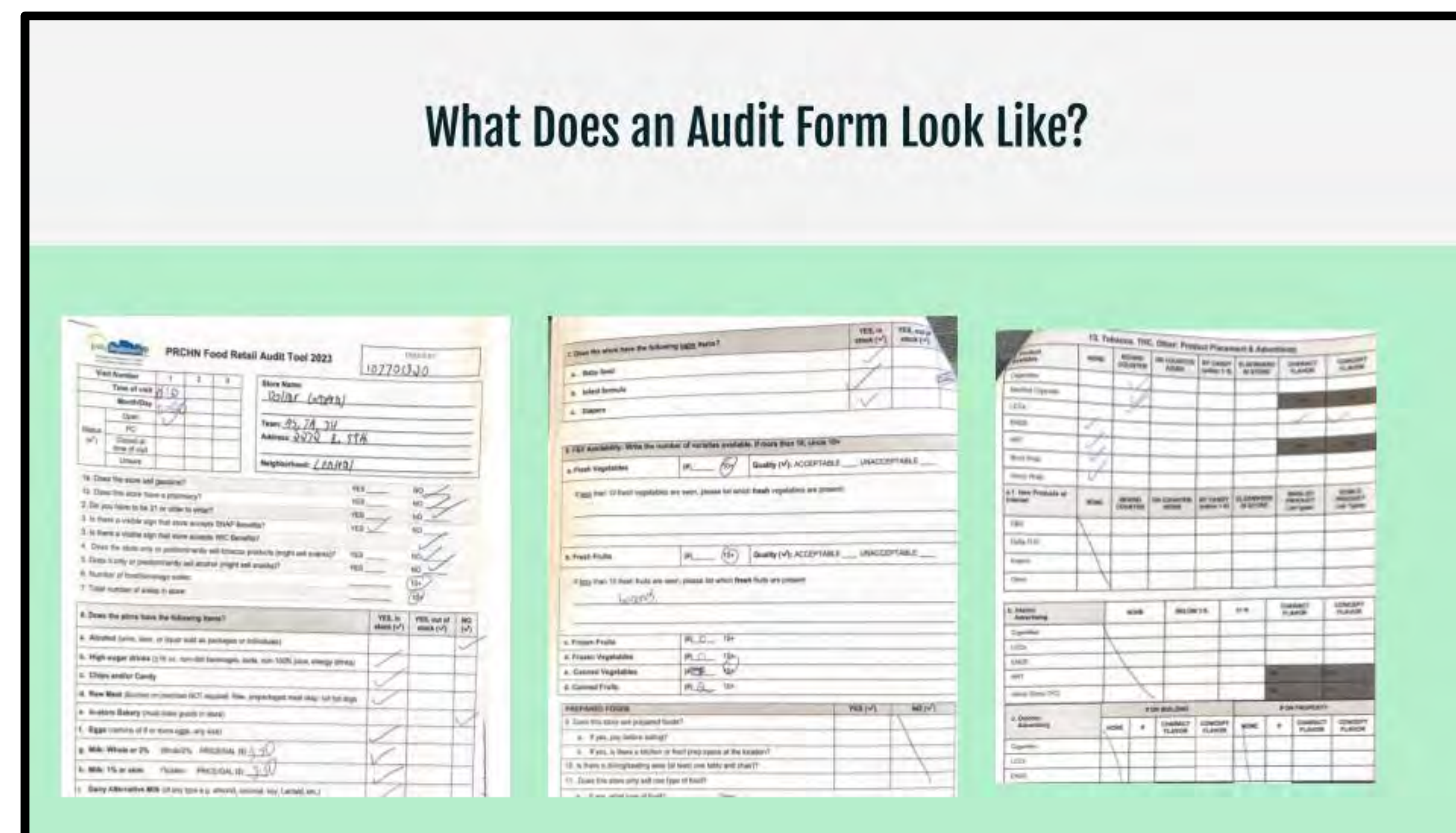
Figure 2: Example of 2023 CIFTR audit form used in the field to evaluate food retailers.

Figure 3: Example of 2023 Longitudinal Dataset.
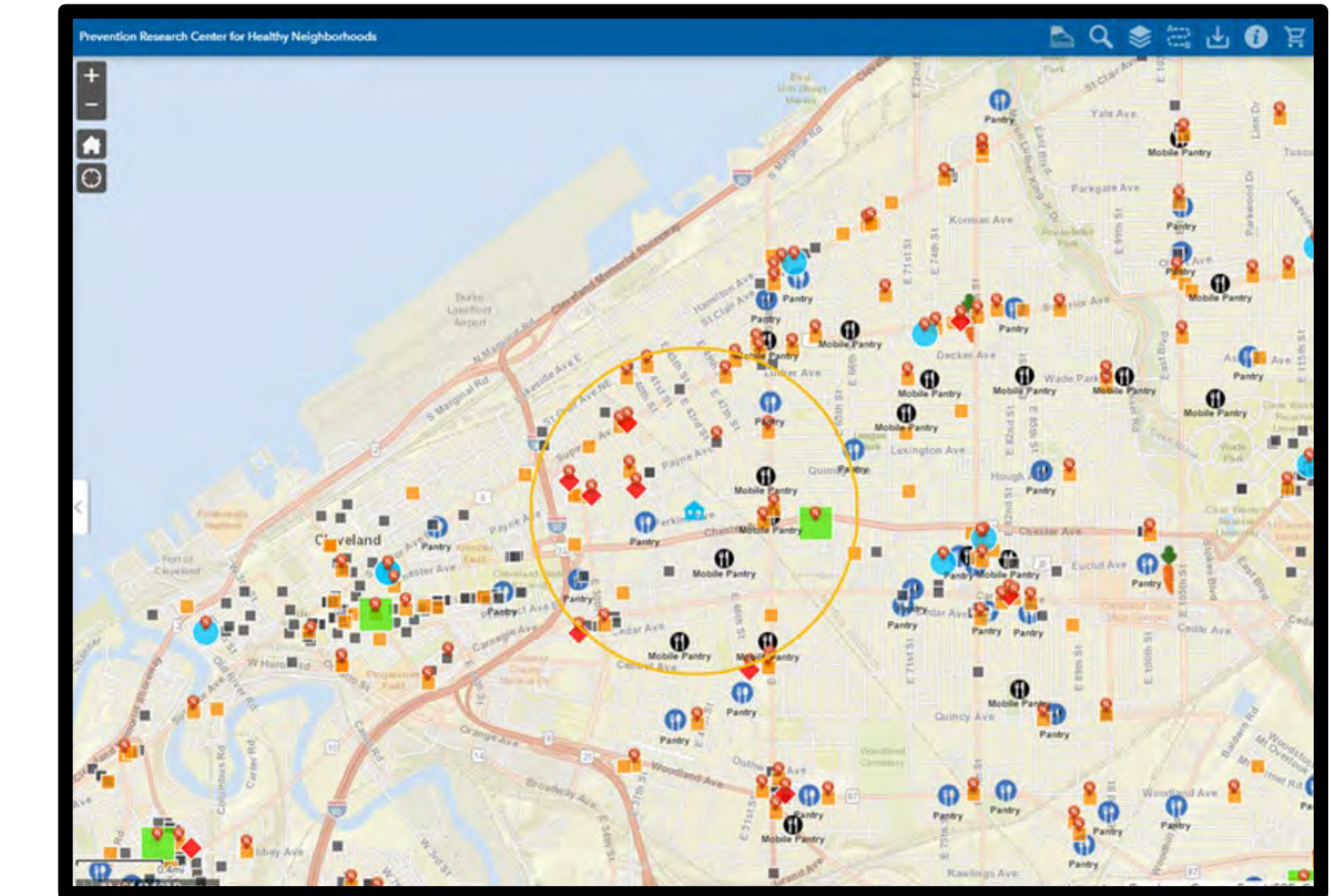
Freshfinder

Figure 4: Image of Freshfinder, an interactive GIS food access map with an accessible QR code.

Lessons Learned

- The nutritional landscape of Cleveland is segregated highlighted by the differential access to large supermarkets
- Tobacco and e-cigarette companies have found creative ways to market their product while leaving public health policy makers to play catch up
- The past-in-present effects of redlining and racial discrimination on Cleveland's neighborhoods

Public Health Implications

- The overarching public health goal is to eventually reduce the widespread disparity in nutritional access and the prevalence of tobacco usage in the Cleveland area
- Creating a longitudinal dataset will enable researchers to have access
- The incorporation of Freshfinder presents an opportunity to improve both health workers and nutritionists' awareness of their client's local environment

Acknowledgments