



US Department of Transportation



How to Use the New RAISE Mapping Tool

February 1, 2023



Webinar Information

Audio

- To listen via computer:
 - Select "Computer Audio"
- To listen via phone:
 - Call: 669-254-5252
 - Webinar ID: 160 851 6453
 - Passcode: 990772
- All participants automatically join on mute, with cameras off

Closed Captioning

- Available during the webinar

Technical Support

- Email
 - corey.martin.ctr@dot.gov
 - webconference@dot.gov

Questions for Presenters

- Please type your questions in the Q&A box

More Information

- This webinar is being recorded and will be posted on the RAISE Grants website at <https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants>

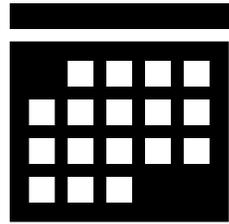


Agenda

- RAISE Reminders
- RAISE Location Designations
- Using the Mapping Tool
- Tips for Determining Location Designations
- Preparing a Map File to Submit with Application
- Q&A



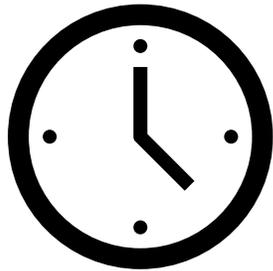
RAISE Reminders



Notice of Funding Opportunity is **OPEN**

Grants.gov Opportunity Number: [DTOS59-23-RA-RAISE](#)

Assistance Listing: 20.933



APPLY by February 28, 2023, at 11:59 pm Eastern

[Submit on grants.gov](#)

No late applications accepted



Additional resources
at www.transportation.gov/raisegrants, including past
[webinar recordings](#) and [frequently asked questions](#).



RAISE Reminders (continued)

Funding

- \$2.3 billion available
 - \$1.5 billion Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)
 - \$800 million FY 2023 Appropriation Act

Minimum Award Size

- Capital Projects - **\$1 million Rural / \$5 million Urban**
- Planning Projects – No Minimum Award Size

Maximum Award Size

- \$25 million BIL
- \$45 million FY 2023 Appropriation Act



RAISE Location Designations



RAISE Location-based Requirements

Urban & Rural Funding Requirements

- Urban projects have a Federal share limit of 80 percent, with some exceptions (see note below)
- Rural projects are eligible for greater than 80 percent Federal share
- The Department must award exactly 50 percent of funds to projects located in rural areas and 50 percent to projects located in urban areas

APP & HDC Funding Requirements

- Areas of Persistent Poverty = APP, Historically Disadvantaged Communities = HDC
- Note: Urban projects located in an APP or HDC are eligible for greater than 80 percent Federal share
- The Department must award at least \$35 million to projects located in APP/HDC

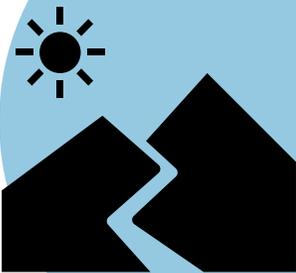


Urban and Rural Definitions



URBAN

Urbanized Area with Population Greater than 200,000



RURAL

Urbanized Area with Population Less than 200,000

Outside an Urbanized Area

- Based on **2010** Census Information
 - 2020 Census Urban Area information was not published in time for RAISE 2023 NOFO.
 - Population based on Census Urbanized Area, **not any other geographic boundary** (town, county, etc.)
- List of Urbanized Areas provided: <https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/urbanized-areas>
- Map tool provided! [Grant Project Location Verification \(dot.gov\)](#)



APP and HDC Definitions

Areas of Persistent Poverty (APP)

- Areas of Persistent Poverty is based on **Census Tract or County** level poverty data and includes all **US territories**. See NOFO for full definition.

Historically Disadvantaged Communities (HDC)

- Historically Disadvantaged Community is based on **Census Tract** indicators, includes all **US territories**, and **Tribal land**.

- DOT lists all Counties and Census Tracts that meet these definitions:
<https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/raise-app-hdc>
- The list of APP Counties was updated in January 2023 based on most recent data from the Census Bureau.

See RAISE [NOFO](#) pages 17-18



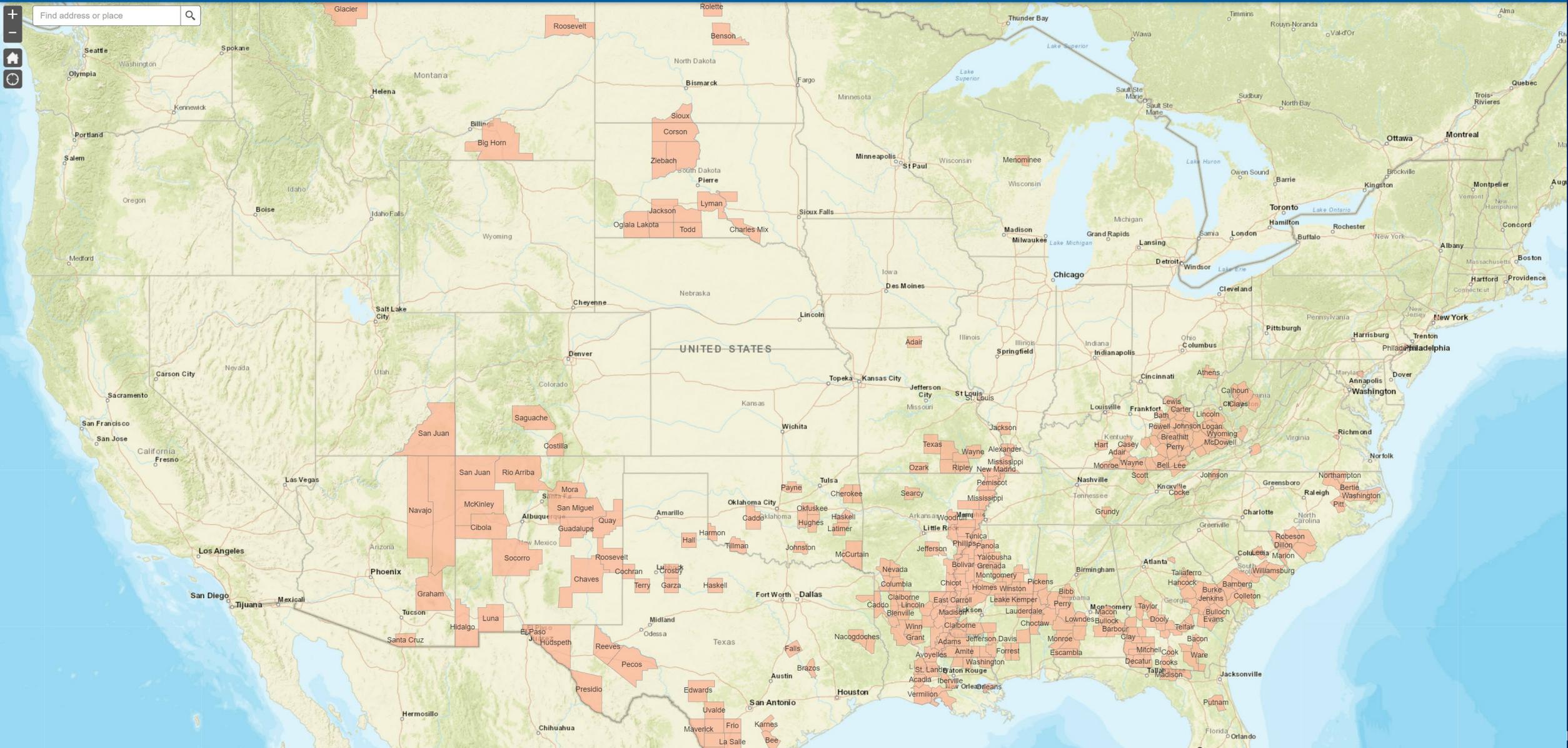
Using the Grant Project Location Verification Tool



Grant Project Location Verification Tool

<https://maps.dot.gov/BTS/GrantProjectLocationVerification/>

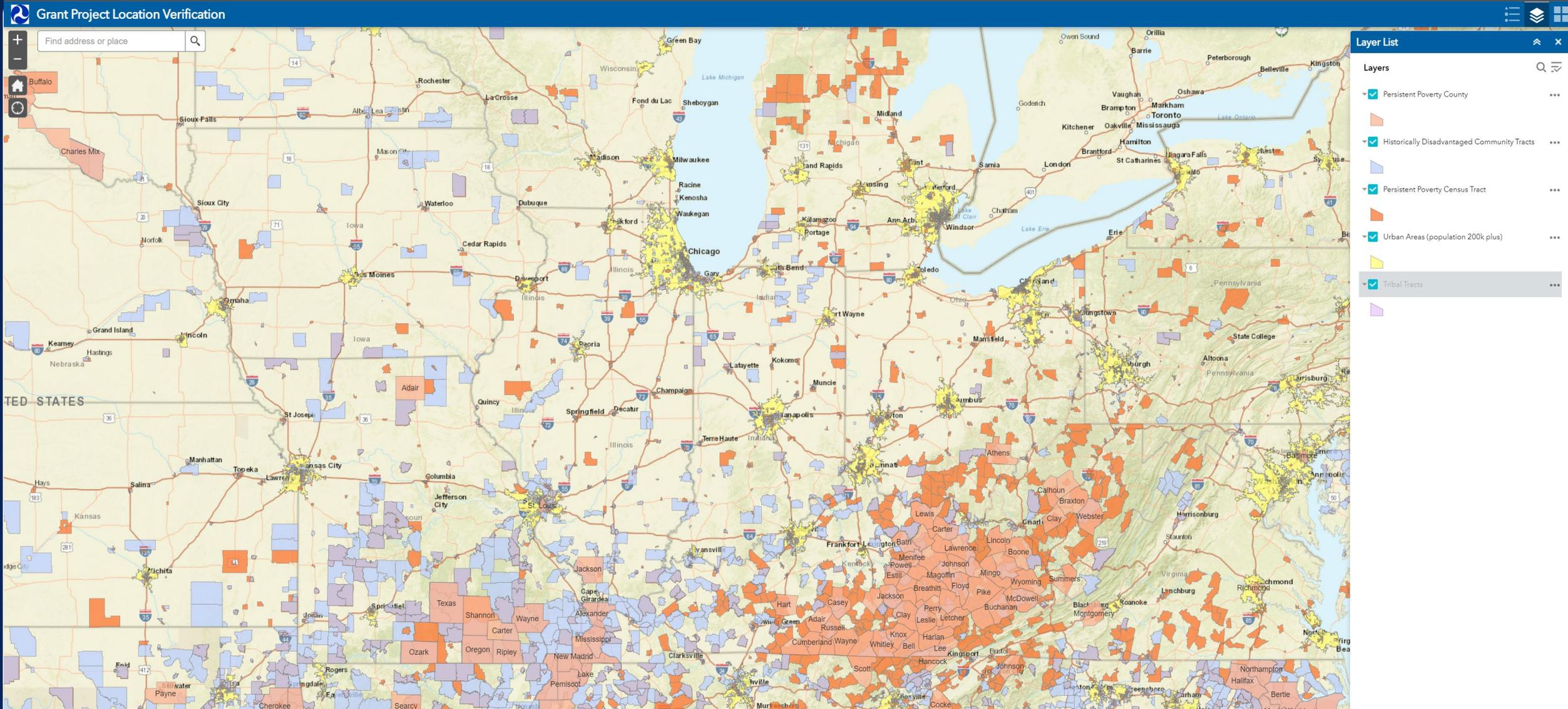
Grant Project Location Verification





Grant Project Location Verification Tool

<https://maps.dot.gov/BTS/GrantProjectLocationVerification/>

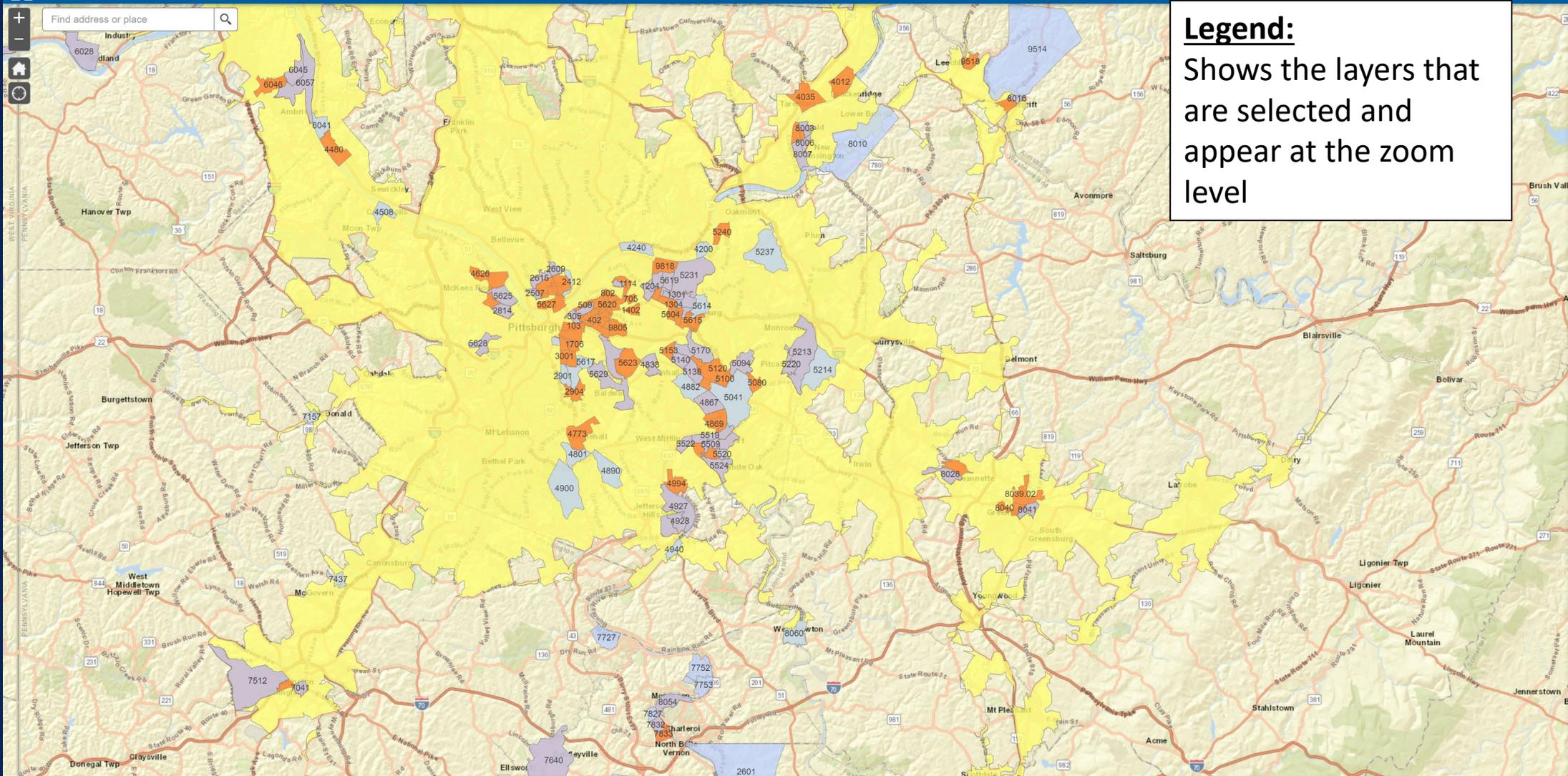




Legend and Layers (1)



Grant Project Location Verification



Legend:
Shows the layers that are selected and appear at the zoom level

- Persistent Poverty County
- Historically Disadvantaged Community Tracts
- Persistent Poverty Census Tract
- Urban Areas (population 200k plus)
- Tribal Tracts



Legend and Layers (2)



Grant Project Location Verification

Find address or place

Layer List:
Select (or unselect) layers as needed

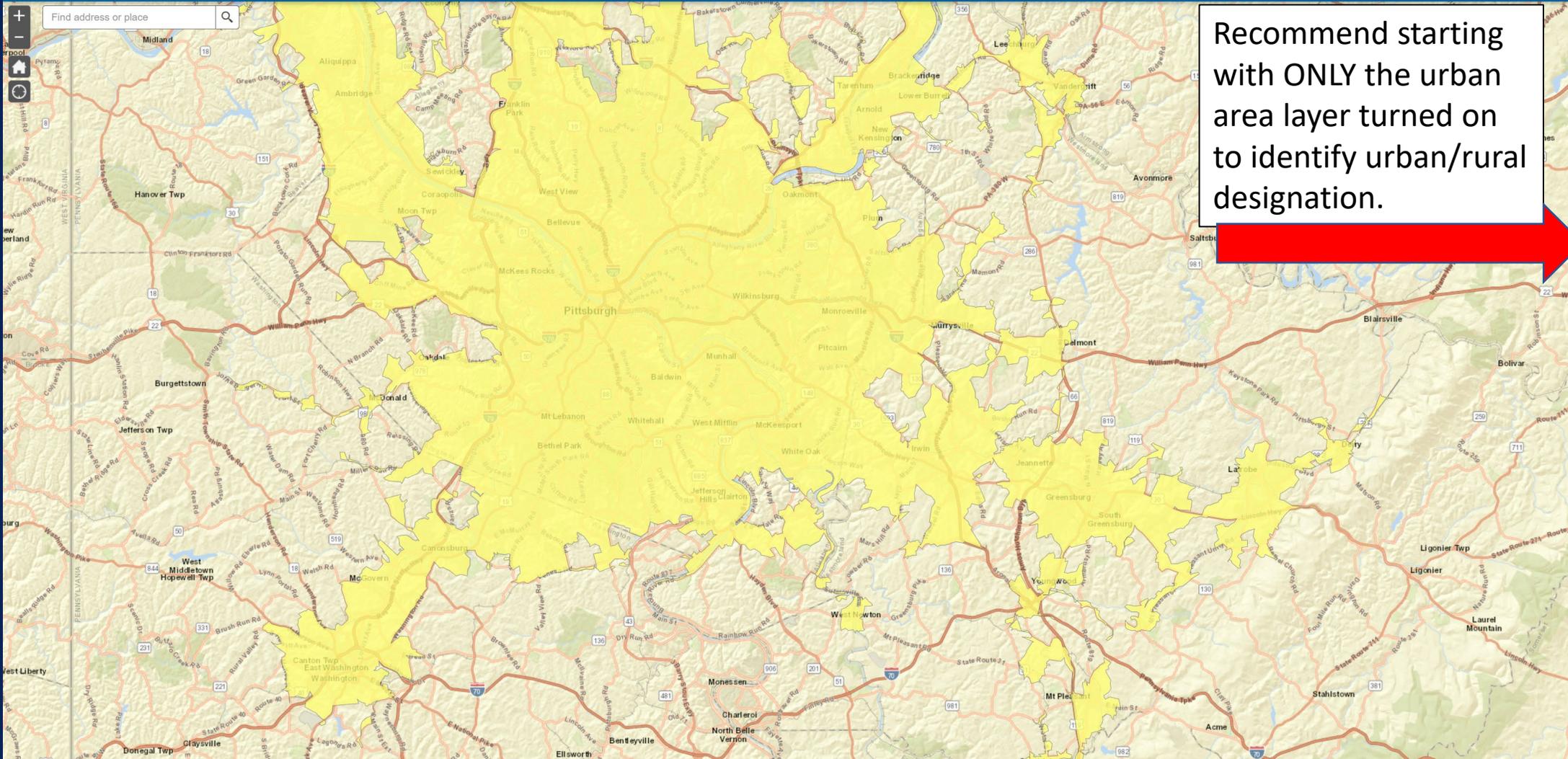
Layer List

- Persistent Poverty County
- Historically Disadvantaged Community Tracts
- Persistent Poverty Census Tract
- Urban Areas (population 200k plus)
- Tribal Tracts



Legend and Layers (3)

Grant Project Location Verification



Recommend starting with ONLY the urban area layer turned on to identify urban/rural designation.

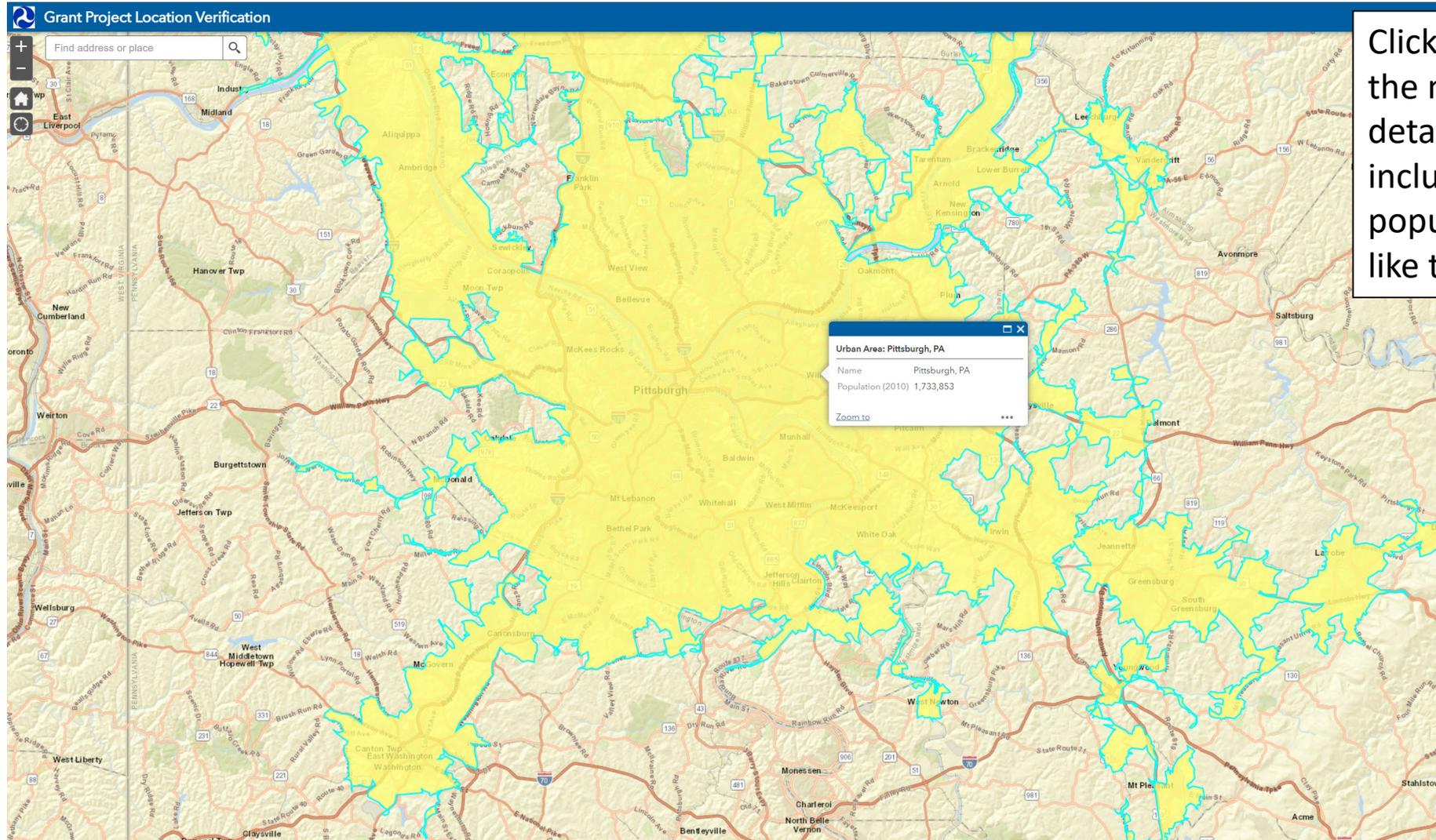


Layer List

- Persistent Poverty County
- Historically Disadvantaged Community Tracts
- Persistent Poverty Census Tract
- Urban Areas (population 200k plus)
- Tribal Tracts



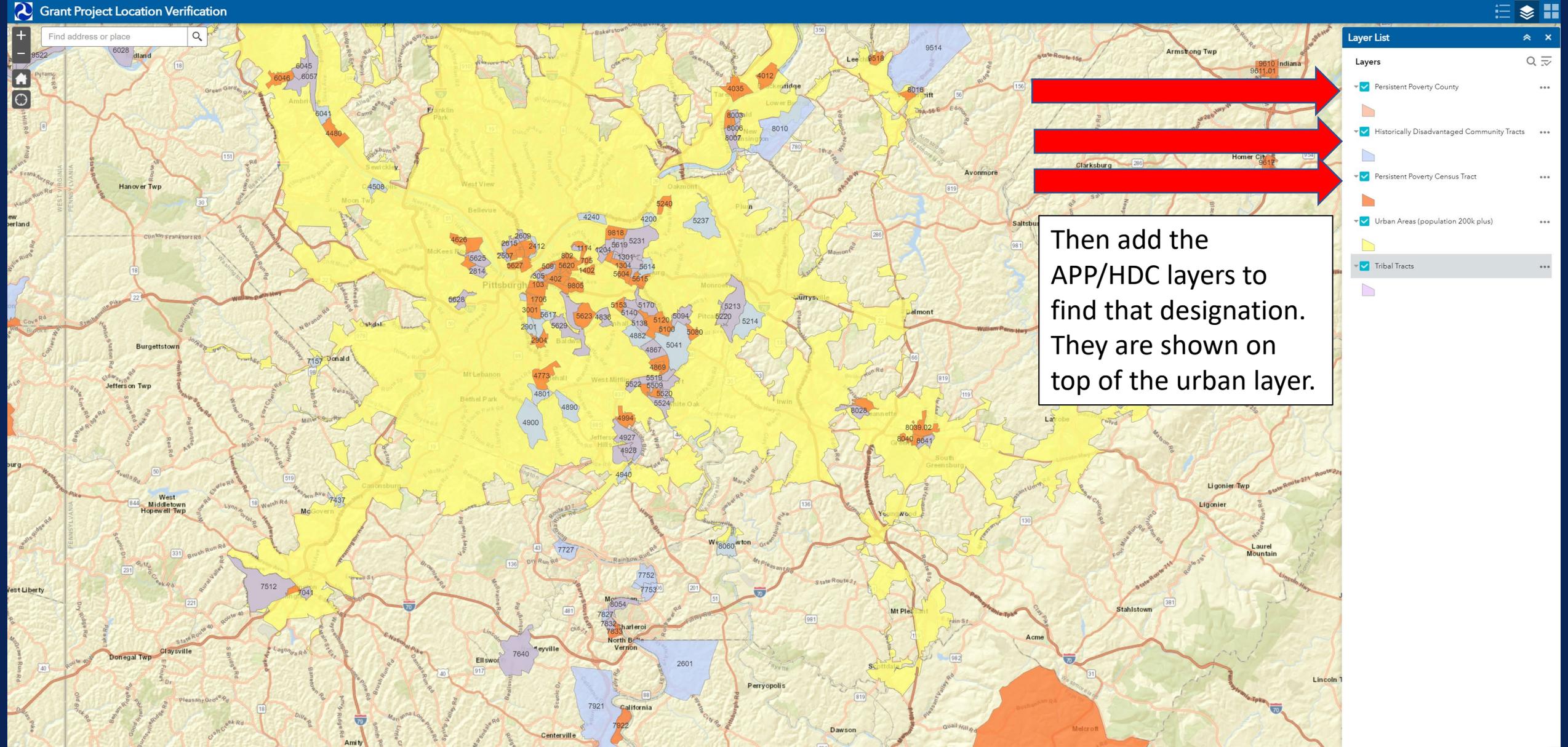
Legend and Layers (4)



Click on the layer on the map to see more detailed information, including the population, if you'd like to double check!



Legend and Layer (5)



Then add the APP/HDC layers to find that designation. They are shown on top of the urban layer.



Search Tool

A search tool is provided, but because the RAISE designation is based on specific project location (not the overall city/town, and not an applicant office location) we recommend using the zoom tool instead of the search tool in most cases.

The screenshot displays a web-based map interface titled "Grant Project Location Verification". On the left side, there is a search bar with the text "Pittsburgh, PA, USA" entered. Below the search bar, a dropdown menu lists several search results, including "Pittsburgh PRO Car Care, 22 Buttermilk Hollow Rd S, Irwin, PA, 15642, USA" and "Pittsburgh Entertainment Collaborative Services, 105 Cameron Dr, Irwin, PA, 15642, USA". The map itself shows a large area shaded in yellow, representing the RAISE designation. The map includes various geographical features, roads, and place names such as Pittsburgh, Allegheny, and West Lebanon. The interface also features standard map navigation controls like zoom in (+) and zoom out (-) buttons.



Step 1: Zoom to project location



Example project:
Rehabilitating bridge
and adding pedestrian
facilities that connect
to a riverfront trail
and recreational
facilities

Layer List

Layers

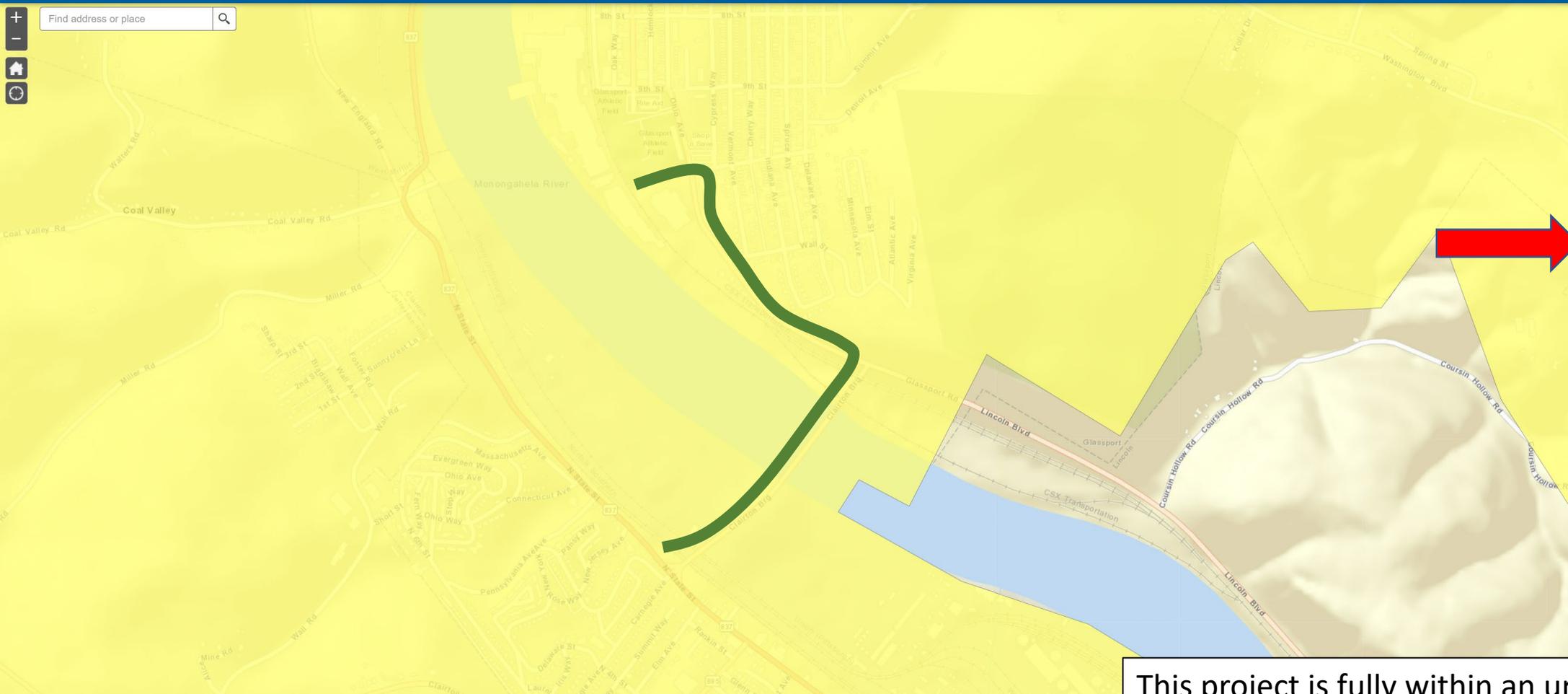
- Persistent Poverty County
- Historically Disadvantaged Community Tracts
- Persistent Poverty Census Tract
- Urban Areas (population 200k plus)
- Tribal Tracts



Step 2: Check Urban/Rural

If your project location is in the yellow shaded area, it is Urban. If it is outside of the yellow area, it is Rural.

Grant Project Location Verification



This project is fully within an urban area.



Step 3: Check APP/HDC

Grant Project Location Verification

Find address or place

Layer List

- Persistent Poverty County
- Historically Disadvantaged Community Tracts
- Persistent Poverty Census Tract
- Urban Areas (population 200k plus)
- Tribal Tracts

This project is fully within an APP/HDC area.
(It is fully within APP (orange) and partially within HDC (purple))
Please record the census tract numbers to include with your application materials.



What if?

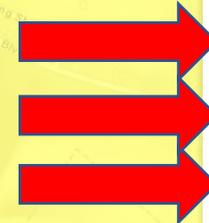
Grant Project Location Verification



Layer List

Layers

- Persistent Poverty County
- Historically Disadvantaged Community Tracts
- Persistent Poverty Census Tract
- Urban Areas (population 200k plus)
- Tribal Tracts



In this case, the project is only *partially* located in an urban area (yellow), only *partially* in APP (orange), and only *partially* in HDC (purple). In this instance, record which qualifying CTs the project touches, but consult the project budget to determine where the majority of costs will be incurred.



Tips for Determining Location Designations

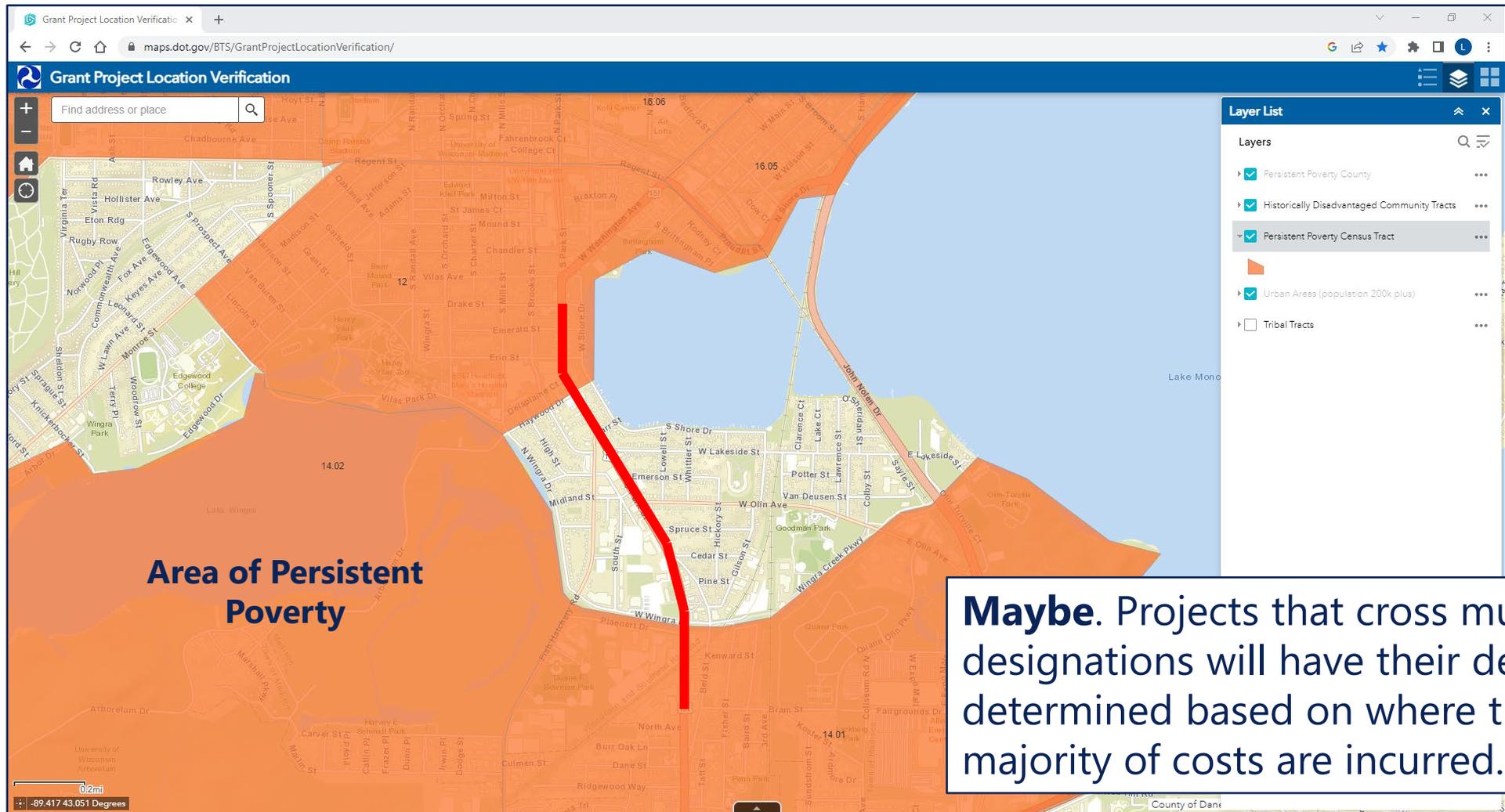


Importance of Location Designations

- It is **ESSENTIAL** to identify the correct project location designations:
 - **Urban/Rural:** affects set-aside, minimum award, and cost share
 - **Area of Persistent Poverty (APP):** affects set-aside and cost share
 - **Historically Disadvantaged Community (HDC):** affects set-aside and cost share
- Applications that request 100% grant funds or request below the relevant minimum grant amount, but are not eligible to do so based on location will be considered **ineligible**. There will not be follow up.
- **Important notes:**
 - **Multiple Areas** - Projects that cross multiple areas with differing designations (urban and rural, or APP and non-APP, or HDC and non-HDC) will have the designation based on where the majority of costs are incurred. See Table 2 in Section D.2 of the NOFO.
 - **Border** - Projects located exactly on the border of any of these areas (urbanized, APP, or HDC) are considered as "within" that area.

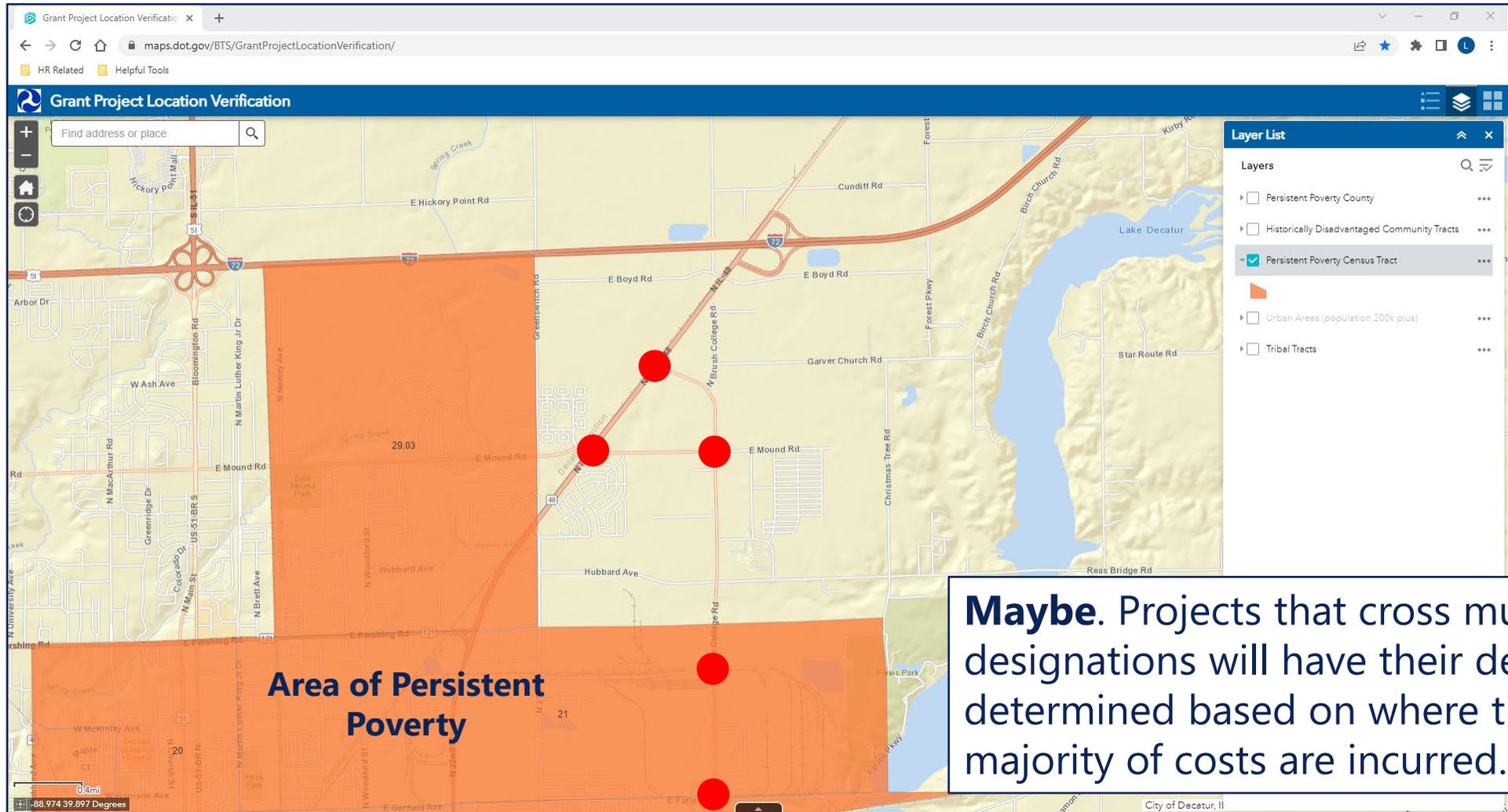
Tips for Determining Location Designations

Example #1: Is the project (red line) located in an Area of Persistent Poverty?



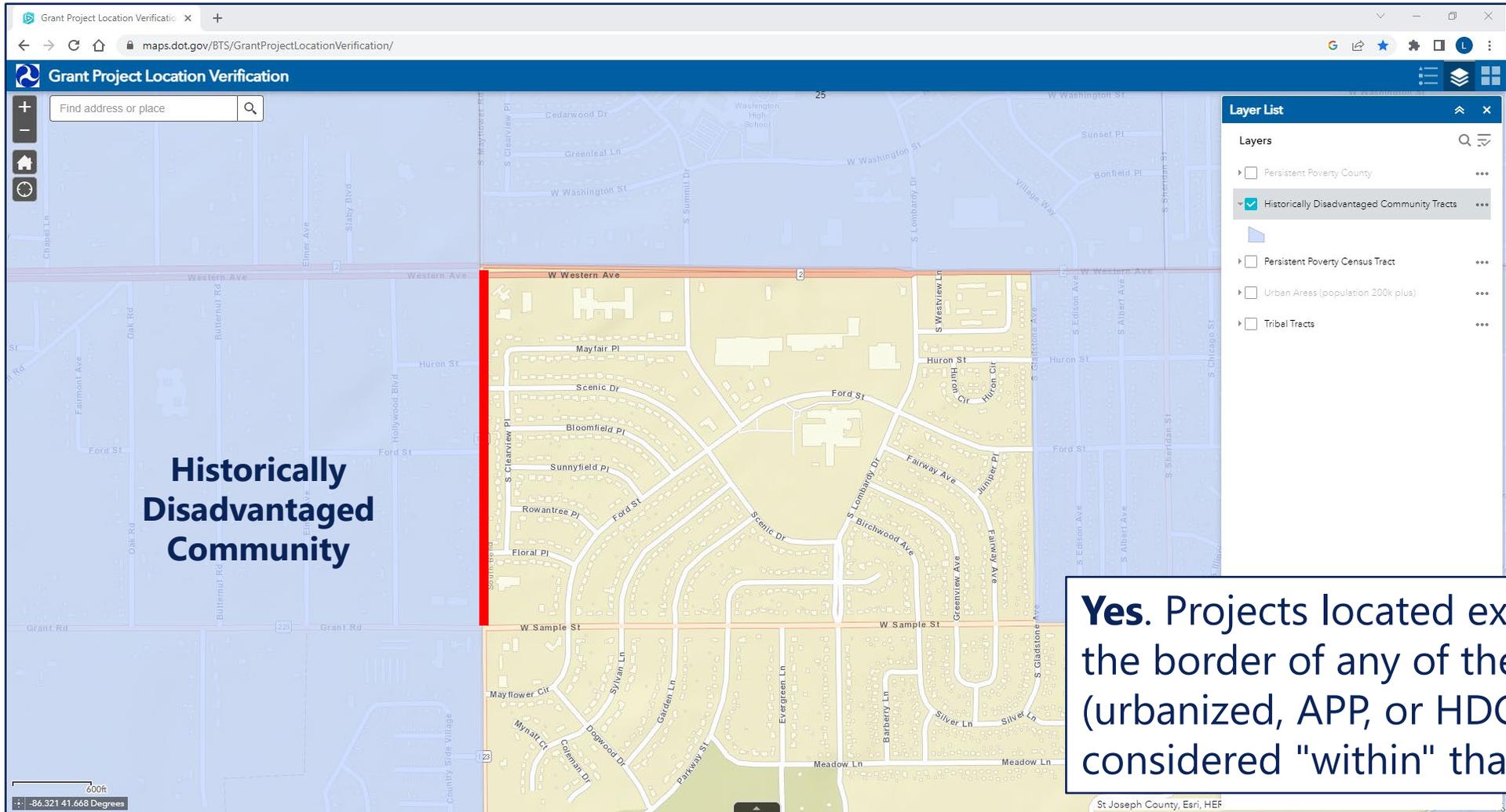
Tips for Determining Location Designations

Example #2: Is the project (red dots) located in an Area of Persistent Poverty?



Tips for Determining Location Designations

Example #3: Is the project (red line) located in a Historically Disadvantaged Community?

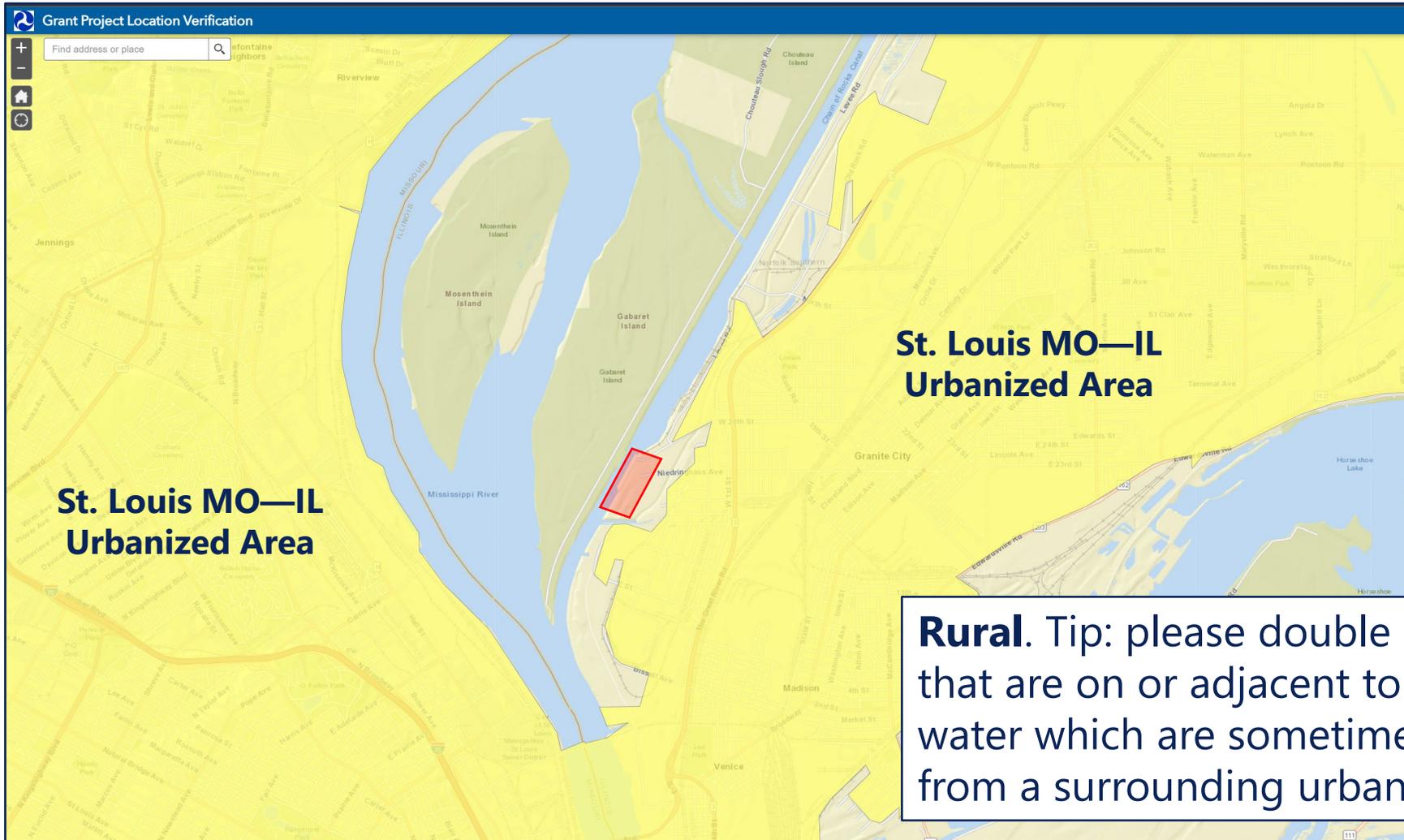


The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `maps.dot.gov/BTS/GrantProjectLocationVerification/`. The page title is "Grant Project Location Verification". A search bar contains the text "Find address or place". The map displays a street grid with a red vertical line representing a project location. A large blue text overlay on the map reads "Historically Disadvantaged Community". On the right side, a "Layer List" panel is visible, showing several layers with checkboxes. The "Historically Disadvantaged Community Tracts" layer is checked. Other layers include "Persistent Poverty County", "Persistent Poverty Census Tract", "Urban Areas (population 200k plus)", and "Tribal Tracts". A text box in the bottom right corner of the map area contains the following text:

Yes. Projects located exactly on the border of any of these areas (urbanized, APP, or HDC) are considered "within" that area.

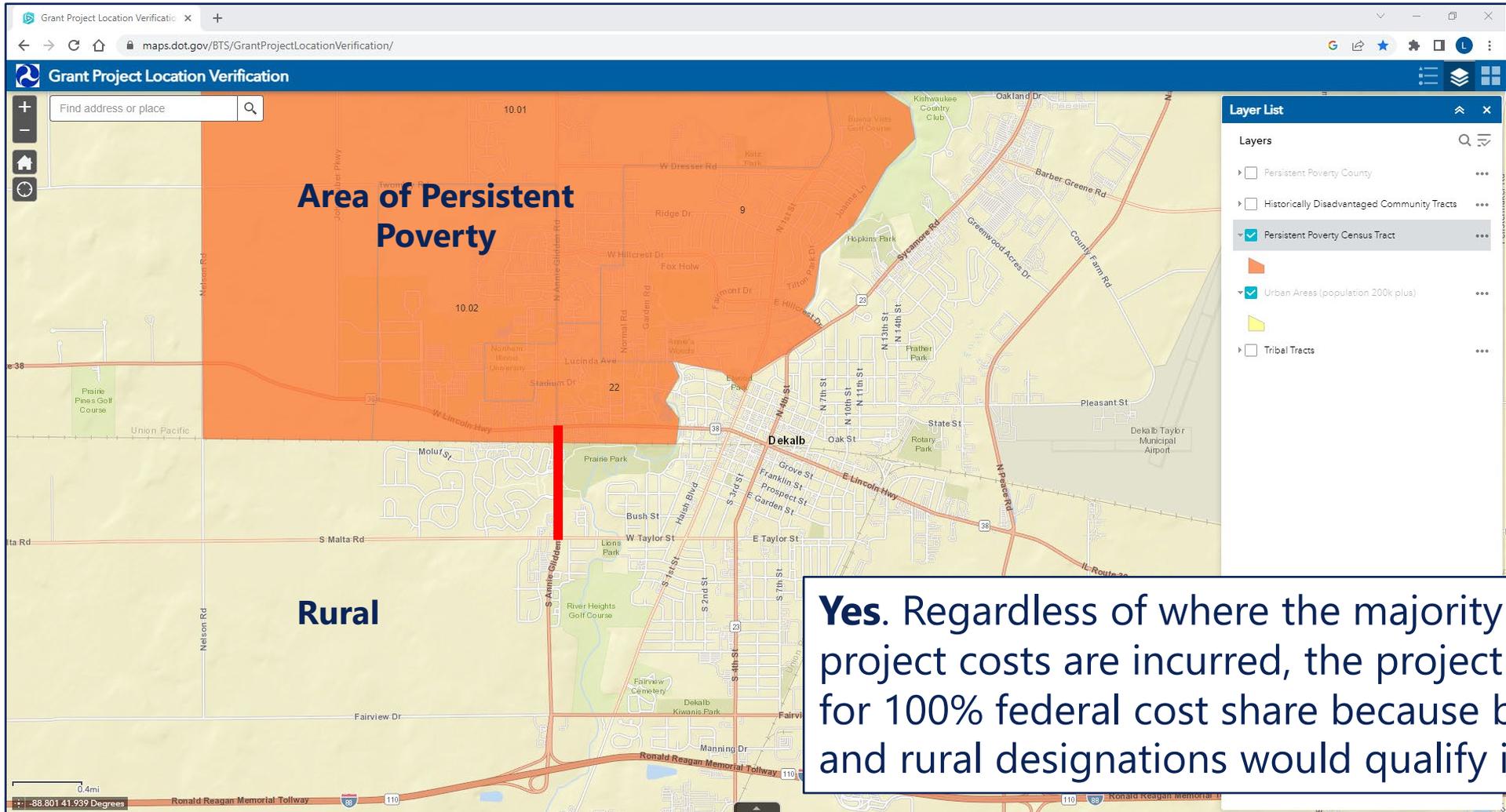
Tips for Determining Location Designations

Example #4: Is this port/rail intermodal project urban or rural?



Tips for Determining Location Designations

Example #5: Would this project (red line) be eligible for 100% federal cost share?



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `maps.dot.gov/BTS/GrantProjectLocationVerification/`. The map displays a project location marked with a red vertical line at the intersection of S Annie Glenn Rd and W Lincoln Hwy. The map is overlaid with designations: 'Area of Persistent Poverty' (orange) and 'Rural' (yellow). A 'Layer List' panel on the right shows the following layers:

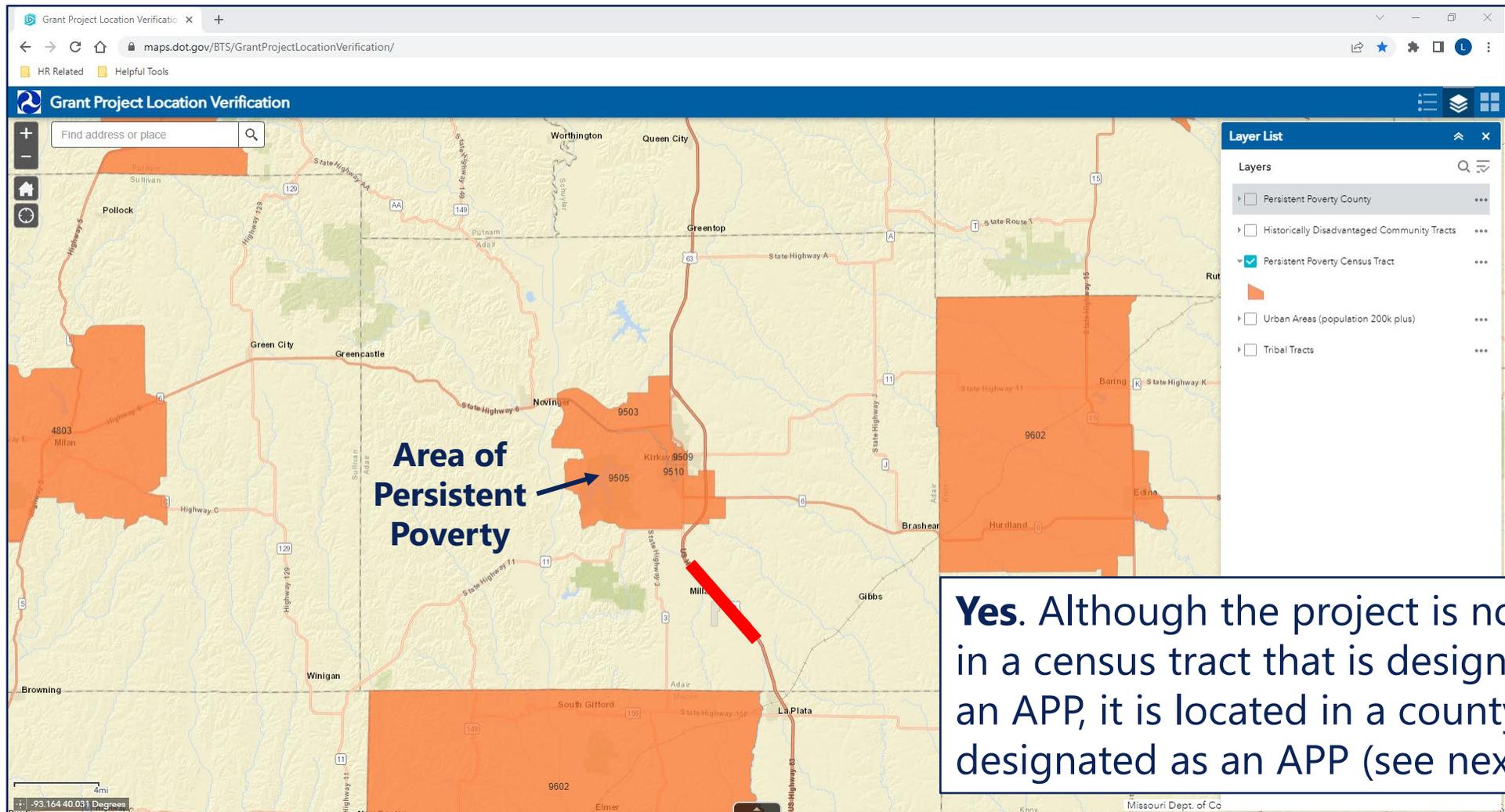
- Persistent Poverty County
- Historically Disadvantaged Community Tracts
- Persistent Poverty Census Tract
- Urban Areas (population 200k plus)
- Tribal Tracts

The map also shows various streets, parks, and landmarks, including the Ronald Reagan Memorial Tollway and the Dekalb County Municipal Airport.

Yes. Regardless of where the majority of project costs are incurred, the project is eligible for 100% federal cost share because both APP and rural designations would qualify it.

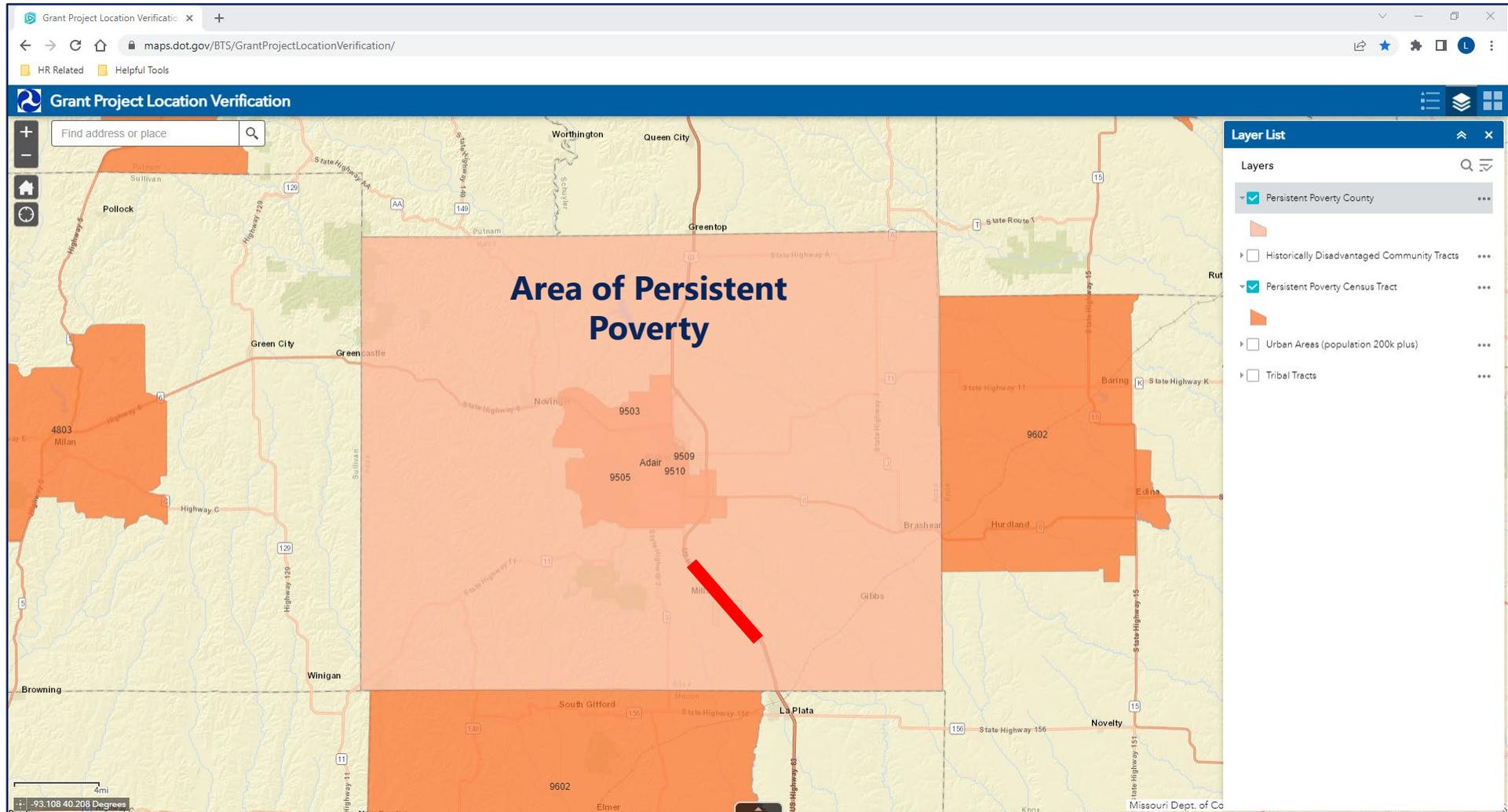
Tips for Determining Location Designations

Example #6: Is the project (red line) located in an Area of Persistent Poverty?



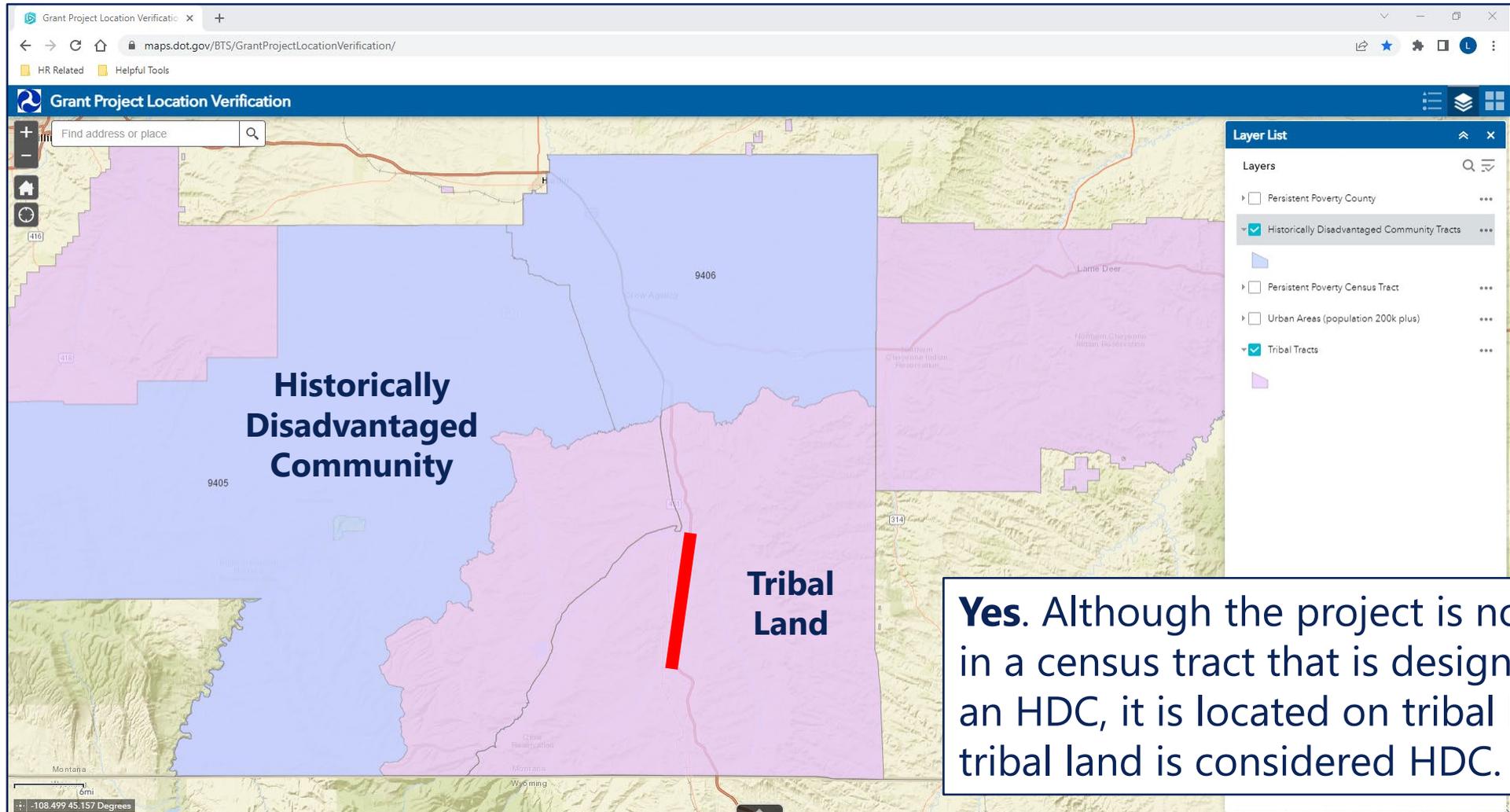
Tips for Determining Location Designations

Example #6



Tips for Determining Location Designations

Example #7: Is the project (red line) located in a Historically Disadvantaged Community?





Preparing a Map File to Submit with Application



Preparing a Map File to Submit with Application

- **New in 2023** – applicants will be requested to provide a map file to assist in verifying their project's location designations. Acceptable formats include a shapefile, GEOJSON, KML/KMZ, or CSV.
- **Suggested instructions for preparing a map file:**
 - 1) Open a publicly available online mapping tool for example, (Google Earth or GEOJSON).
 - 2) Identify your project location. Use the tools to draw a line or make a point to represent the project area. The project area should include only the direct physical location of the infrastructure project; it should NOT include a broad service area or area of project impact.
 - 3) Export, save, and attach to your application one of the acceptable formats.

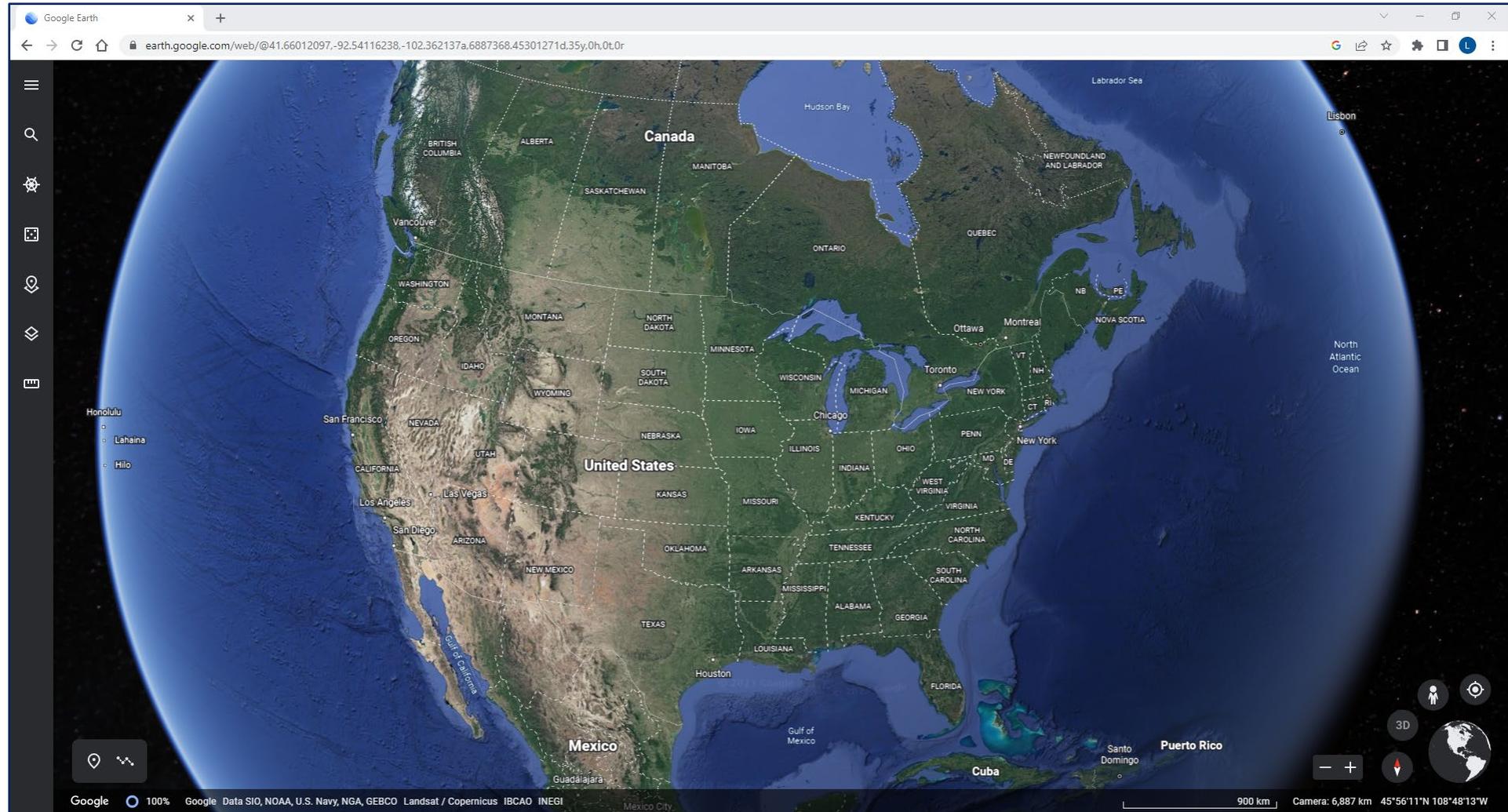




Preparing a Map File to Submit with Application

Example: Google Earth (<https://earth.google.com/web/>)

- 1) Open Google Earth and navigate to the project area.



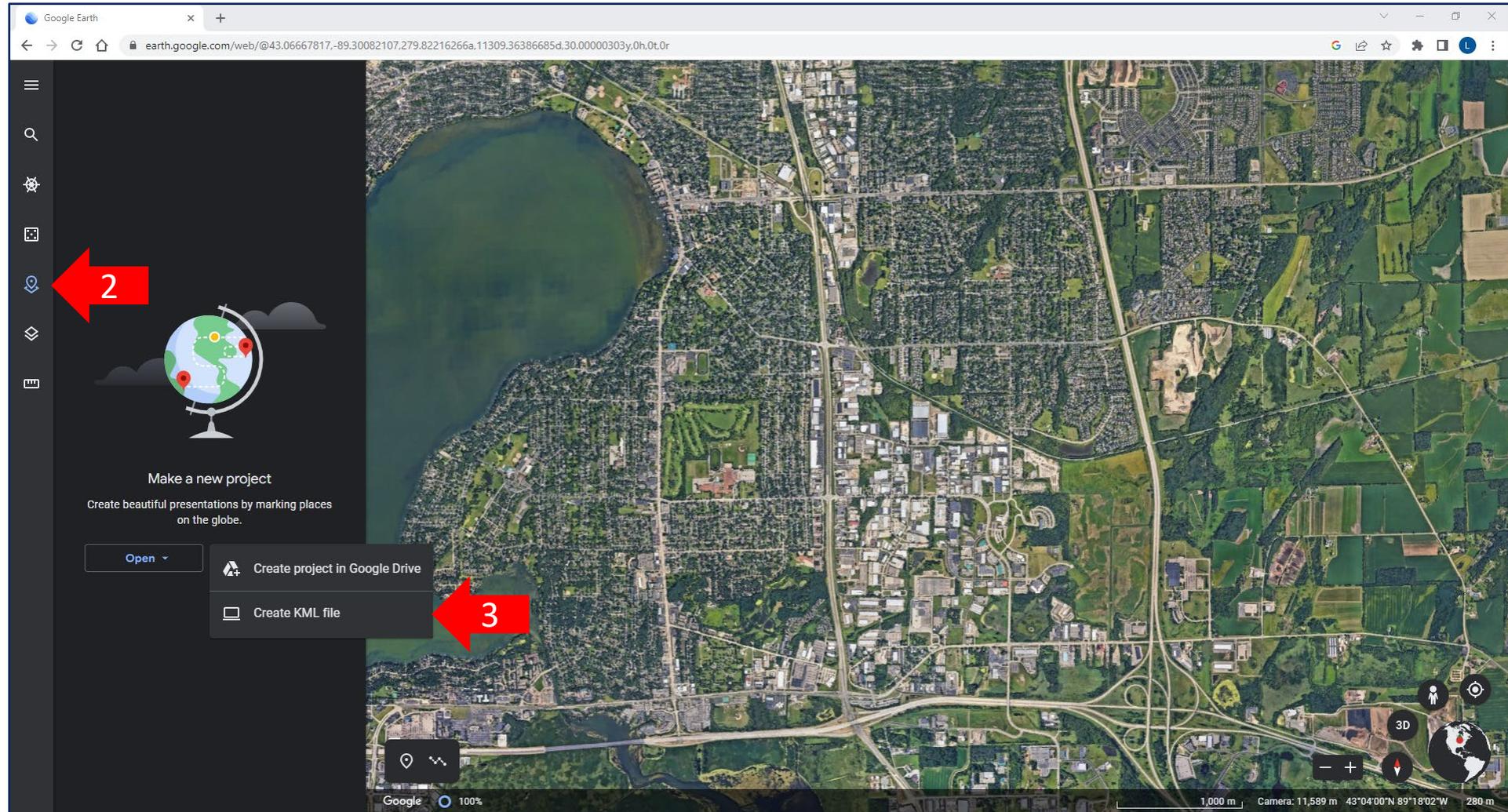


Preparing a Map File to Submit with Application

Example: Google Earth (<https://earth.google.com/web/>)

2) Click on the projects icon.

3) Click "Create KML file" after clicking on the "Create" button.



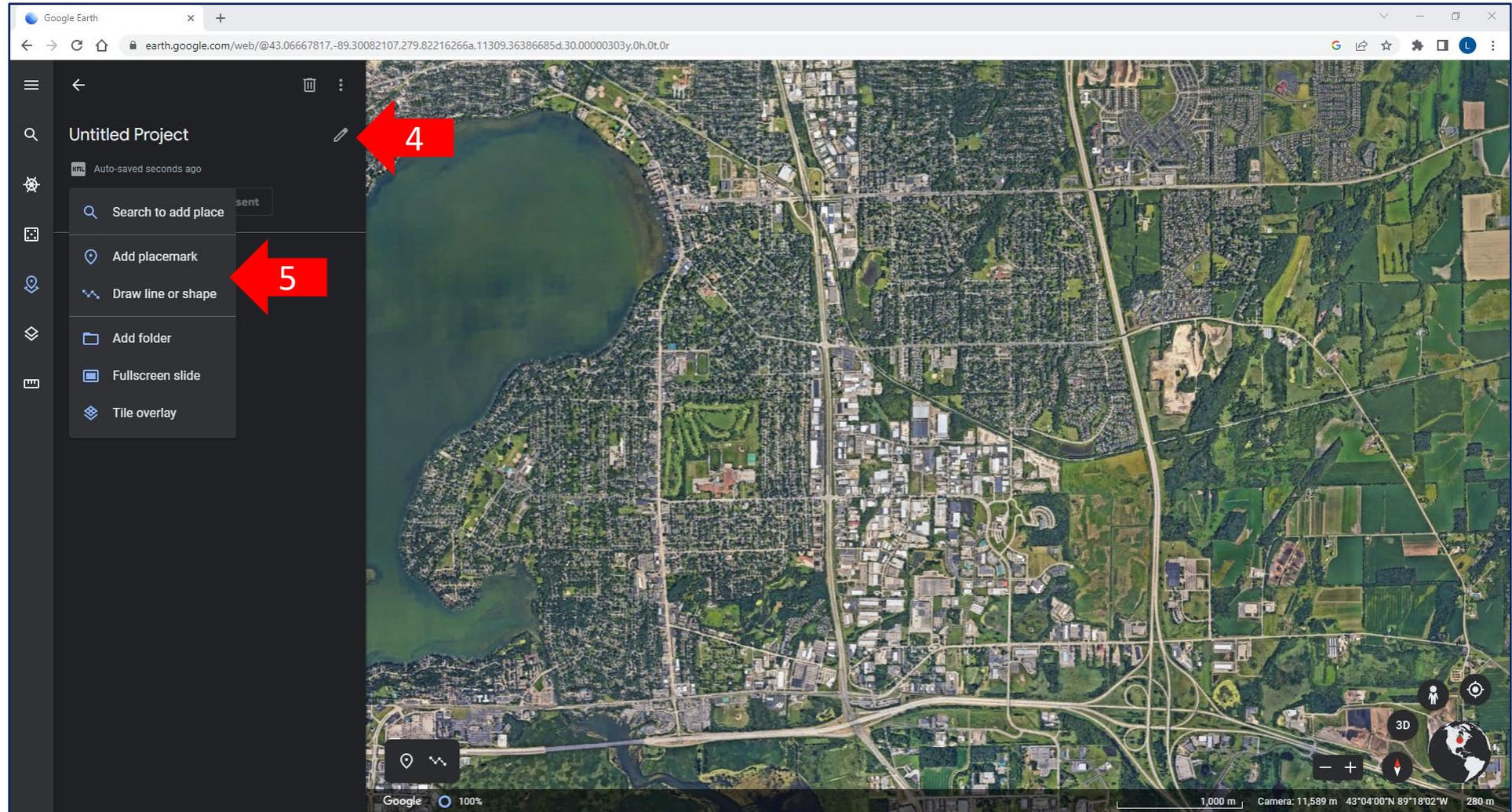


Preparing a Map File to Submit with Application

Example: Google Earth (<https://earth.google.com/web/>)

4) Enter a project title.

5) Select "Add placemark" or "Draw line or shape" after clicking on the "New feature" button.

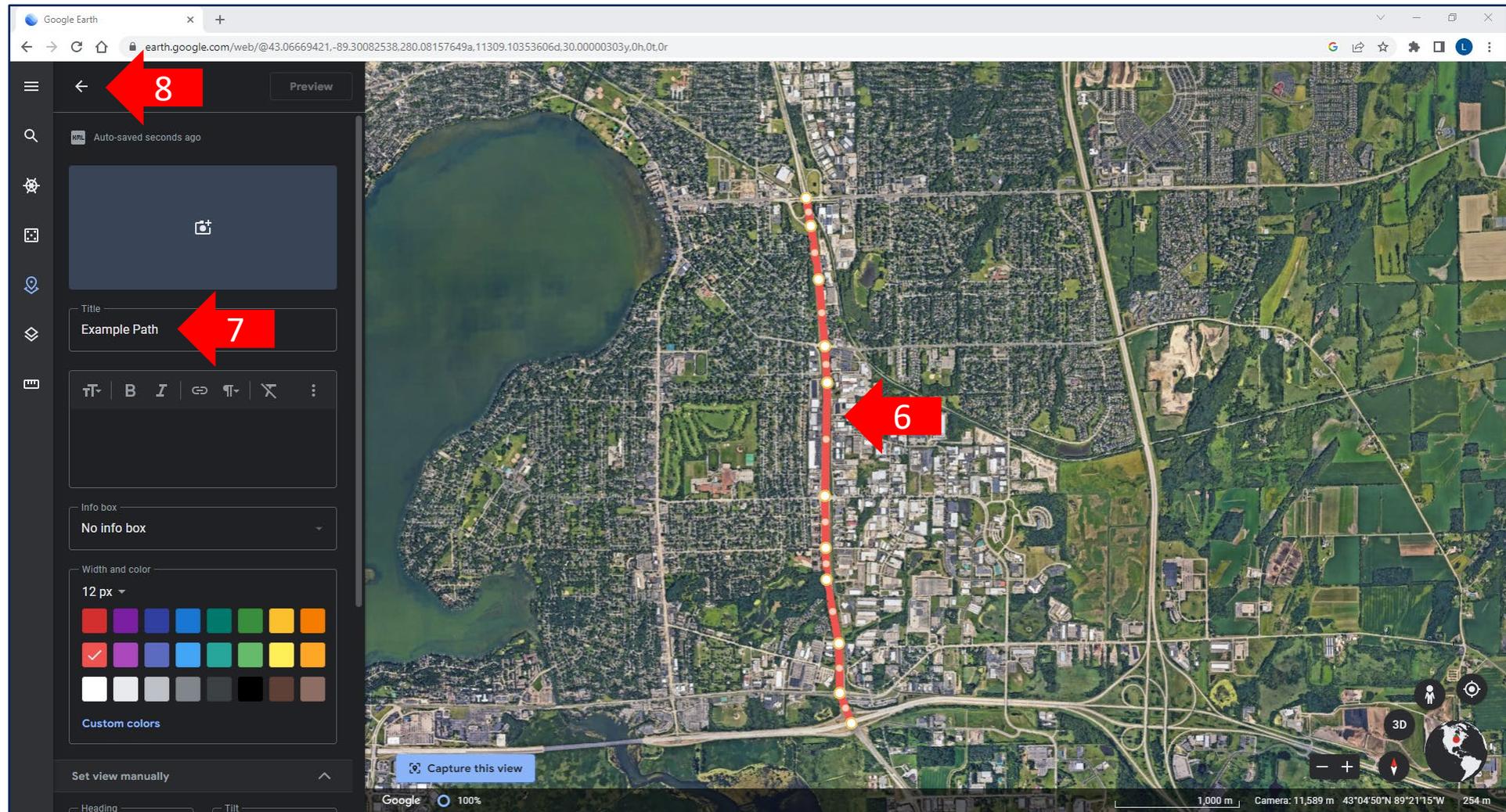




Preparing a Map File to Submit with Application

Example: Google Earth (<https://earth.google.com/web/>)

- 6) Draw the project by clicking with your cursor. Click enter on your keyboard once finished drawing.
- 7) Give the project linework a name.
- 8) Click the back arrow once you are finished.

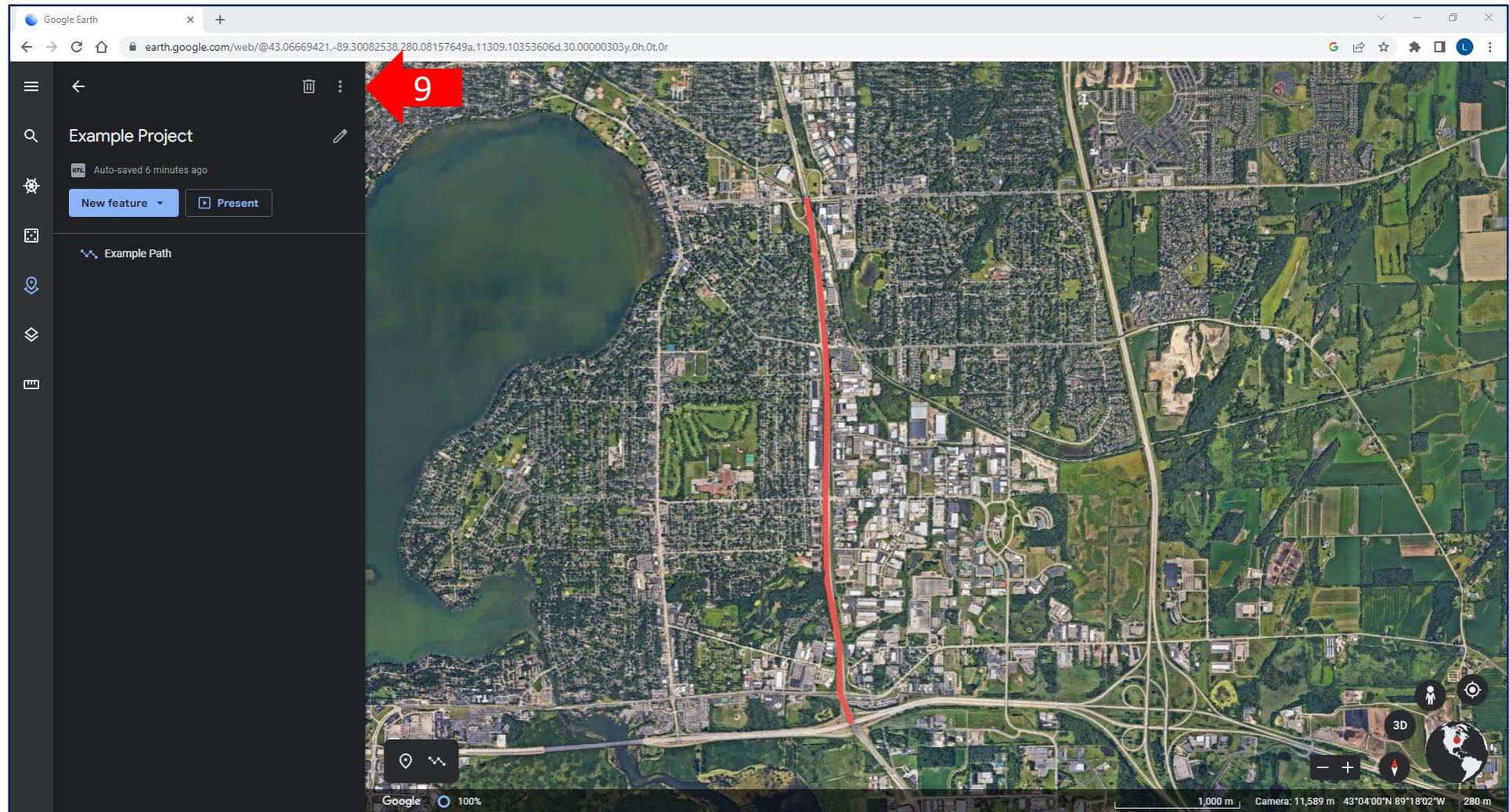




Preparing a Map File to Submit with Application

Example: Google Earth (<https://earth.google.com/web/>)

- 9) Click on the three dots and select "Export as KML file".
- 10) A KML file will be downloaded that can be uploaded as part of the application submission in Grants.gov.





Question and Answer



Question and Answer

Please type your questions in the **Q&A box**



- Email future questions to us at raisegrants@dot.gov
- See the frequently asked questions on our [website](#) for more answers