US Department of Transportation

RAISE Location Designations

January 4, 2024

Webinar Information

All participants automatically join on mute, with cameras off

Audio

- Select "Computer Audio" or
- Call: 669 254 5252
  - Webinar ID: 161 066 4379
  - Passcode: 915161

Closed Captioning

- Available during the webinar

ASL Interpreter

- 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: https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants

Agenda

- What are RAISE location designations?
- How do you determine the location designations for your project?
- What if your project crosses multiple designations?
- How to prepare a spatial file to submit with your application
- Q&A

RAISE Team Introductions

Andrea Jacobson

Linsey Callaghan

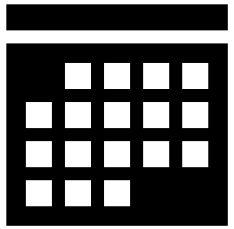
Kim Bathrick

Logan Dredske

Jennifer Berkich

Danny Kozub

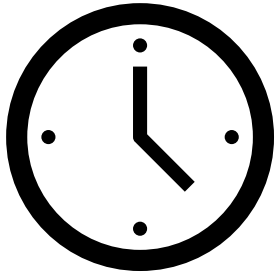
RAISE NOFO Is Now Open!



Notice of Funding Opportunity is **OPEN**

Grants.gov Opportunity Number: DTOS59-24-RA-RAISE

Assistance Listing: 20.933



APPLY by **February 28, 2024**, at 11:59 pm Eastern

Submit on grants.gov

No late applications accepted

Additional resources at www.transportation.gov/raisegrants

Subscribe for email updates!

RAISE 2024 Webinars

Webinars:

1) **How To Compete for RAISE Grants** (December 19, 2023)
2) **RAISE Location Designations** (Today)

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3 **Completing the SF 424 and Project Information Form**
January 8, 2024

4 **How to Draft Merit Criteria Narrative**
January 18, 2024

5 **How to Compete for RAISE Grants: Rural and Tribal Applicants**
January 23, 2024

6 **What Happens After Being Selected for Award?**
February 1, 2024

What are RAISE Location Designations?

RAISE Location Designations

Urban or Rural

- **Urban** projects have a **Federal share limit of 80 percent**.
- **Rural** projects are **eligible for greater than 80 percent Federal share**.

- For capital grants, the minimum RAISE grant award is $5 million in urban areas and $1 million in rural areas. The Department must award 50 percent of funds to projects located in rural areas and 50 percent to projects located in urban areas.

Areas of Persistent Poverty (APP) and Historically Disadvantaged Communities (HDC)

- **Projects located in an APP or HDC are eligible for greater than 80 percent Federal share.**

- The Department must award at least $15 million (1%) to projects located in Areas of Persistent Poverty and/or Historically Disadvantaged Communities.

See RAISE NOFO page 7 and 9

Urban and Rural Definitions

URBAN

Census Urban Areas with Population Greater than 200,000

Rural

Census Urban Areas with Population Less than 200,000

Outside a Census Urban Area

Urban area boundaries and population are based on the 2020 Census

- Not based on other geographic boundary (city, county, etc.)

List of qualifying urban areas:

- https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/urbanized-areas

Display of qualifying urban areas:

- https://maps.dot.gov/BTS/GrantProjectLocationVerification/

See RAISE NOFO page 12

APP and HDC Definitions

Areas of Persistent Poverty (APP)

- Based on **Census Tract or County** level poverty data and includes all **US territories**. See NOFO for full definition.

Historically Disadvantaged Communities (HDC)

- Based on **Census Tract** indicators determined by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ).
- Any Federally Recognized Tribe or Tribal entity, whether or not they have land.

Definition of APP and HDC areas:

- https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/raise-app-hdc

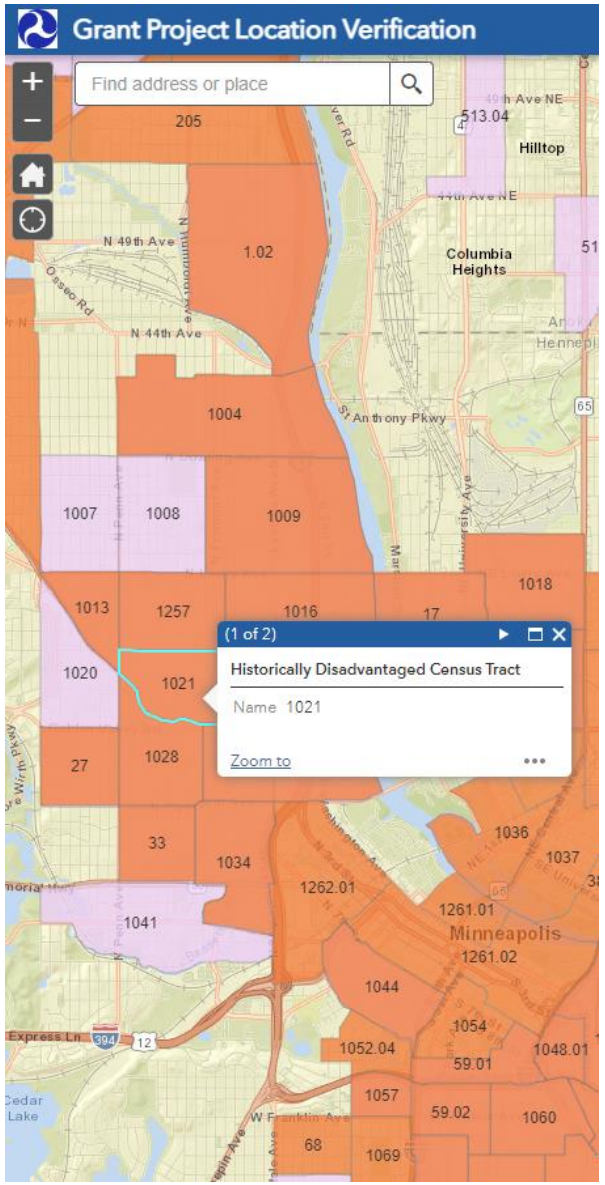
Display of APP and HDC areas:

- https://maps.dot.gov/BTS/GrantProjectLocationVerification/

See RAISE NOFO page 12

How do you determine the location designations for your project?

Grant Project Location Verification Tool

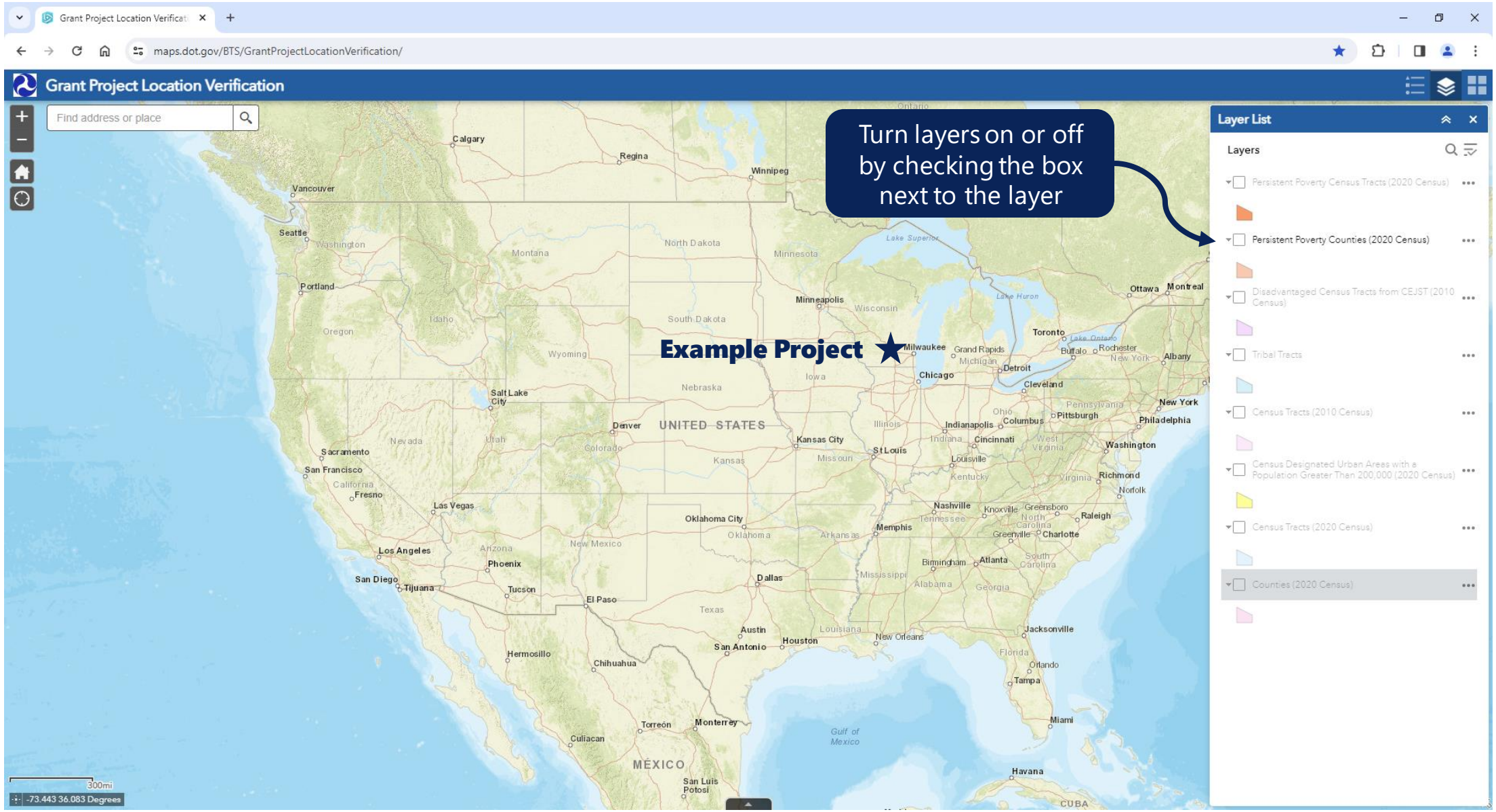


A mapping tool developed by the RAISE program that contains the following layers:

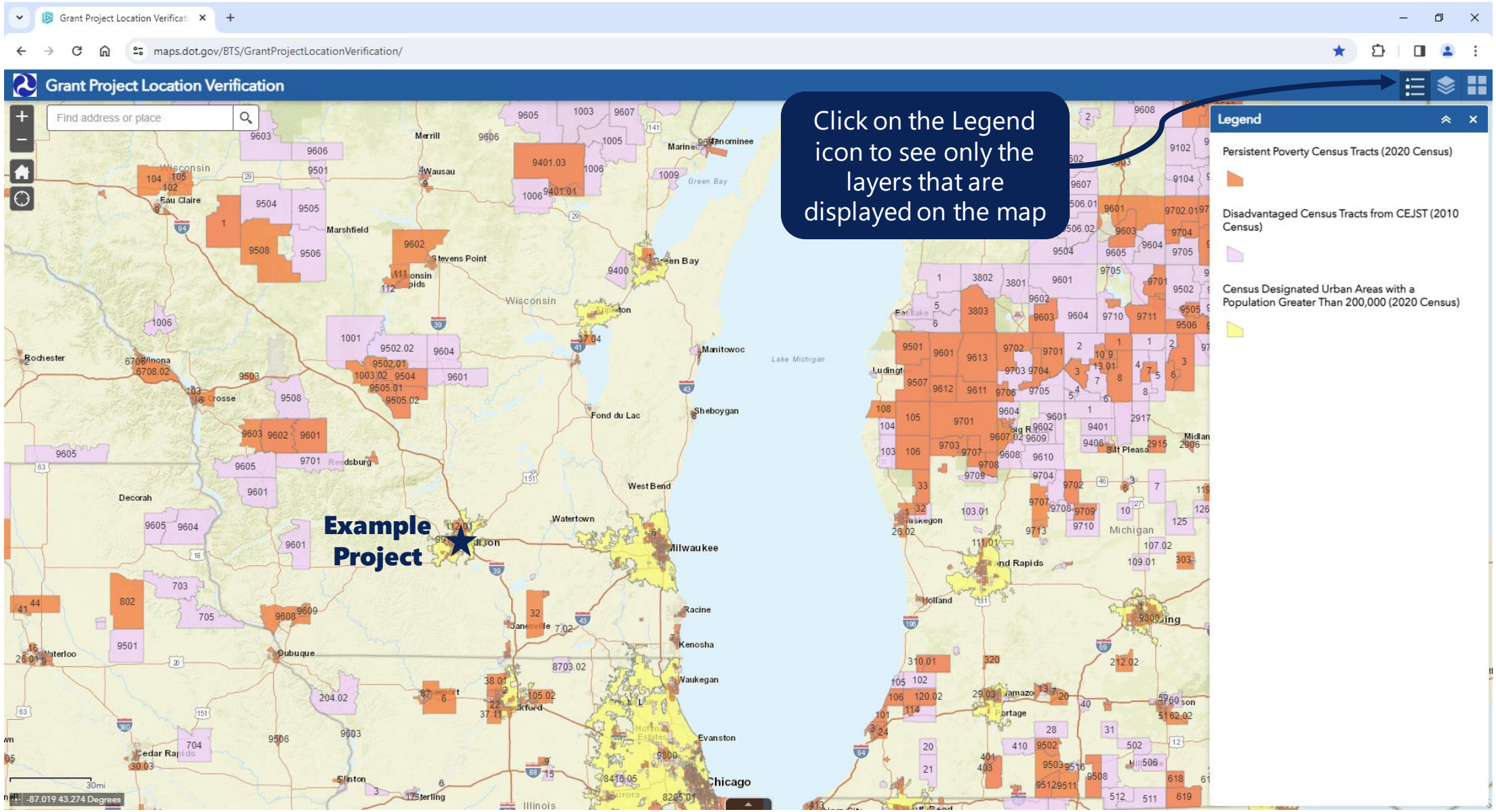
- **Areas of Persistent Poverty**
  - Persistent Poverty Counties (2020 Census)
  - Persistent Poverty Census Tracts (2020 Census)
- **Historically Disadvantaged Communities**
  - Disadvantaged Census Tracts from CEJEST (2010 Census)
  - Tribal Tracts
- **Urban areas**
  - Census Designated Urban Areas with a Population Greater Than 200,000 (2020 Census)
- **Geographies**
  - Counties (2020 Census)
  - Census Tracts (2020 Census)
  - Census Tracts (2010 Census)

Link to tool: https://maps.dot.gov/BTS/GrantProjectLocationVerification/

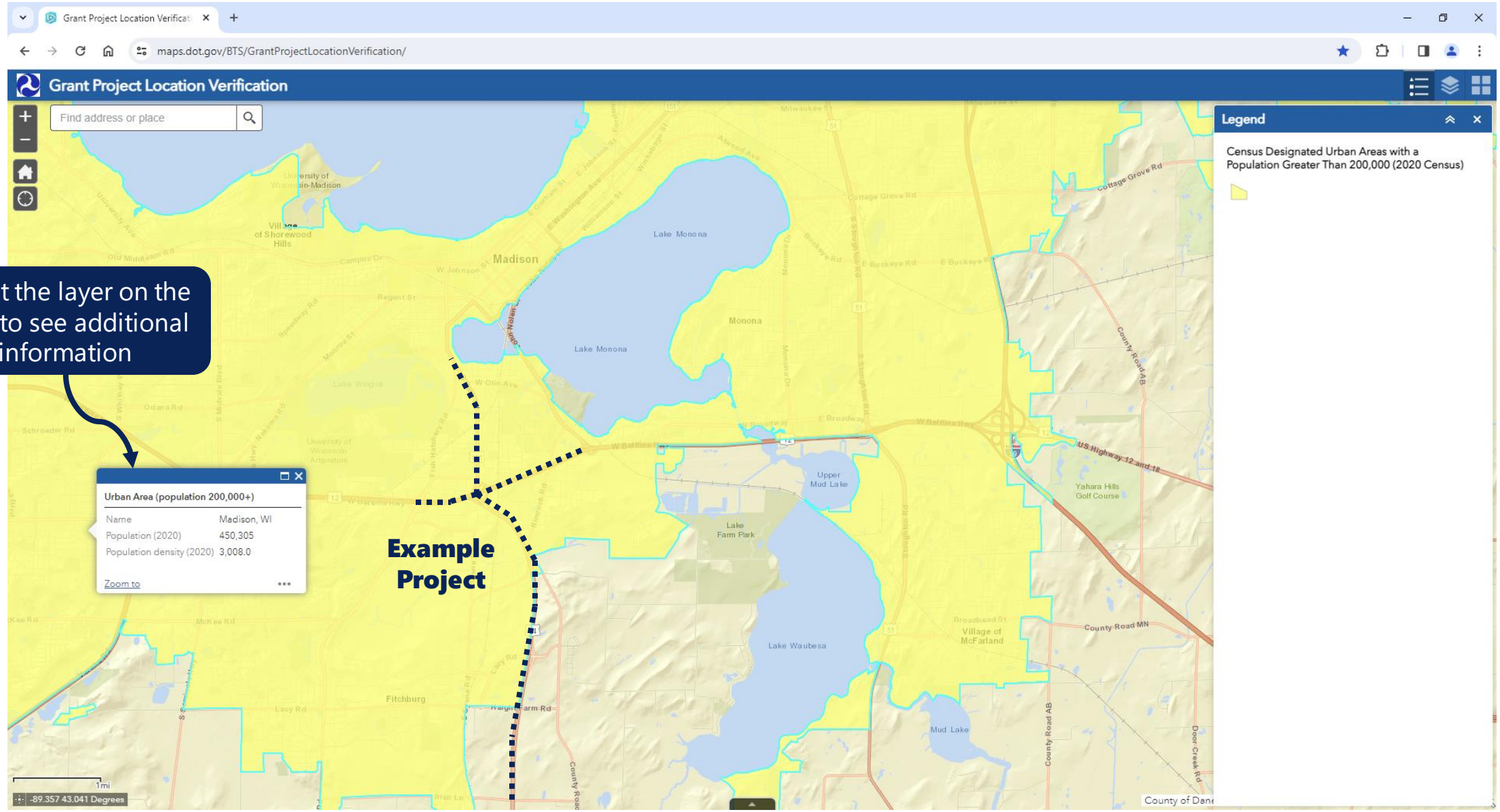
Grant Project Location Verification Tool



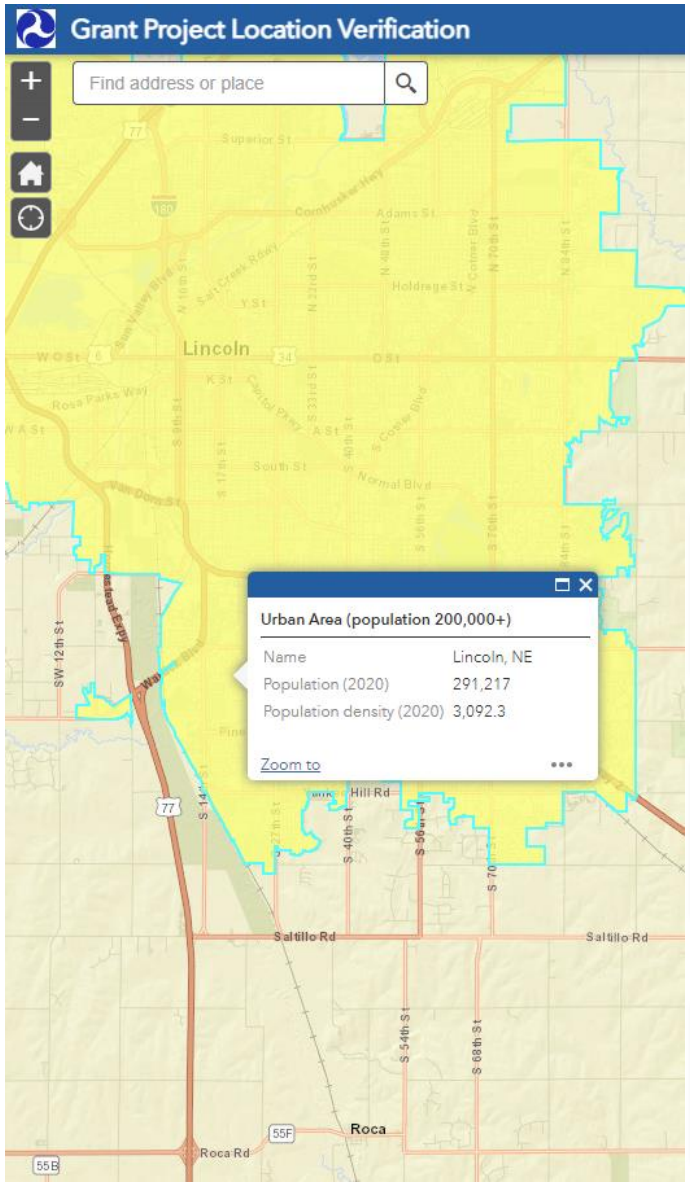
Grant Project Location Verification Tool



Grant Project Location Verification Tool



Recommended Process for Determining Location Designations



Step 1: Verify if your project is **Urban or Rural** using this layer:

- Census Designated Urban Areas with a Population Greater Than 200,000 (2020 Census)

Step 2: Verify if your project qualifies as an **Area of Persistent Poverty** using these layers:

- Persistent Poverty Census Tracts (2020 Census)
- Persistent Poverty Counties (2020 Census)

Step 3: Verify if your project qualifies as a **Historically Disadvantaged Community** using these layers:

- Disadvantaged Census Tracts from CEJEST (2010 Census)
- Tribal Tracts

Step 4: Verify the **county** your project is in using this layer:

- Counties (2020 Census)

Step 5: Verify the **Census Tract(s)** your project is in using both of these layers:

- Census Tracts (2020 Census)
- Census Tracts (2010 Census)

What if your project crosses multiple designations?

What if your project crosses multiple designations?

Tips to Remember:

- Projects located exactly on the border of urban, APP, or HDC areas are considered within that area.

- Projects that cross multiple areas with differing designations (urban and rural, APP and non-APP, or HDC and non-HDC) will have their **designation based on where the majority of costs are incurred**.
  - Page 17-18 in the NOFO shows three tables that all applicants must use to report cost by location.

NOFO Budget Tables to Report Cost By Location

Table 2a

Use ***Census Tracts (2020 Census)*** layer

2020 Census Tract(s)	Project Costs per Census Tract
[XX.XX]	$
[XX.XX]	$
[XX.XX]	$
[XX.XX]	$
[XX.XX]	$
[XX.XX]	$
[XX.XX]	$
[XX.XX]	$
[XX.XX]	$
	Total Project Cost: $

Table 2b

Use ***Census Tracts (2010 Census)*** layer

2010 Census Tract(s)	Project Costs per Census Tract
[XX.XX]	$
[XX.XX]	$
[XX.XX]	$
[XX.XX]	$
[XX.XX]	$
[XX.XX]	$
[XX.XX]	$
[XX.XX]	$
[XX.XX]	$
	Total Project Cost: $

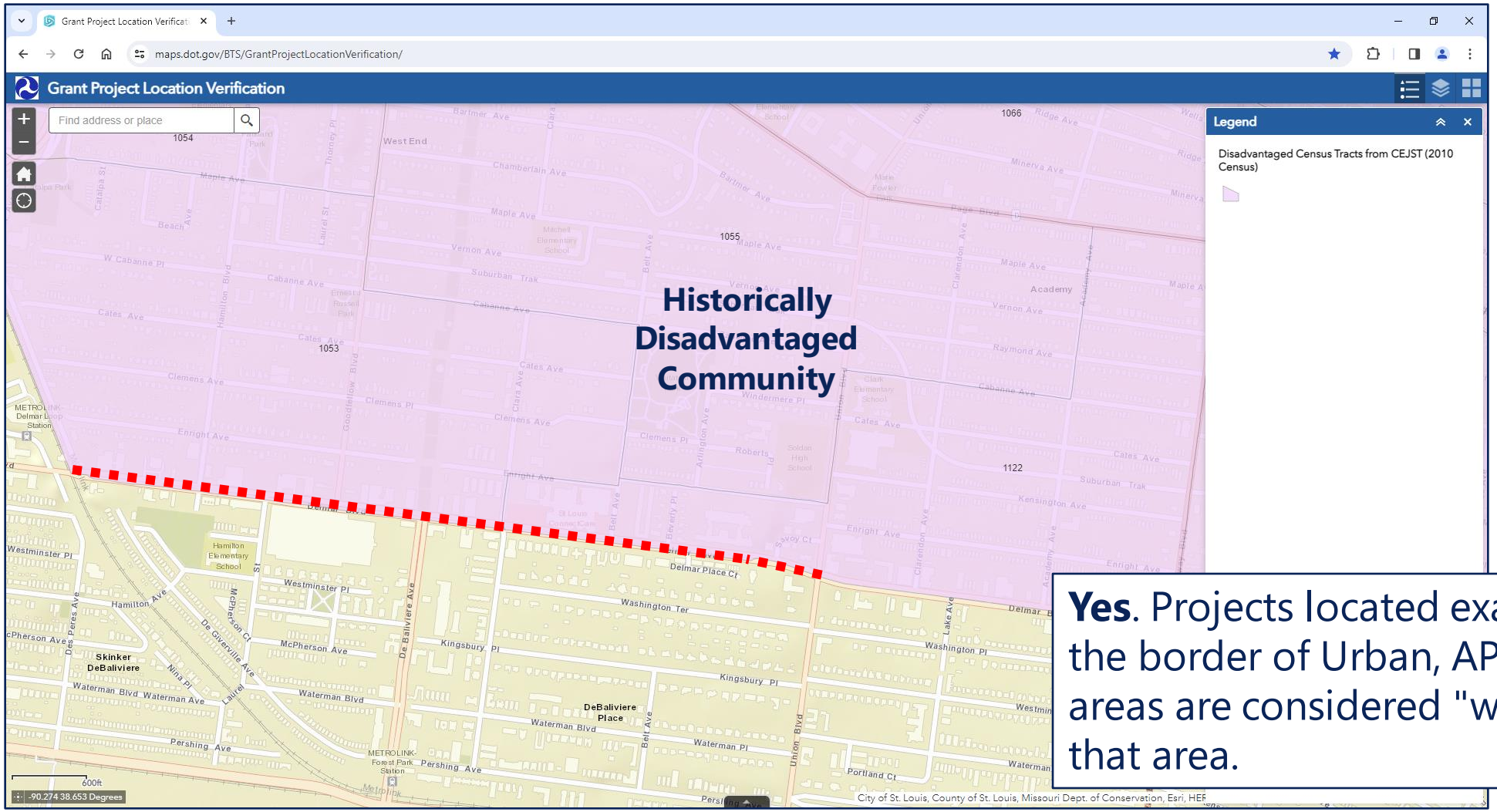
Table 2c

Use ***Census Designated Urban Areas with a Population Greater Than 200,000 (2020 Census)*** layer

Urban/Rural	Project Costs
Urban (2020 Census-designated urban area with a population greater than 200,000)	$
Rural (Located outside of a 2020 Census-designated urban area with a population greater than 200,000)	$
	Total Project Cost: $

Location Designation Examples

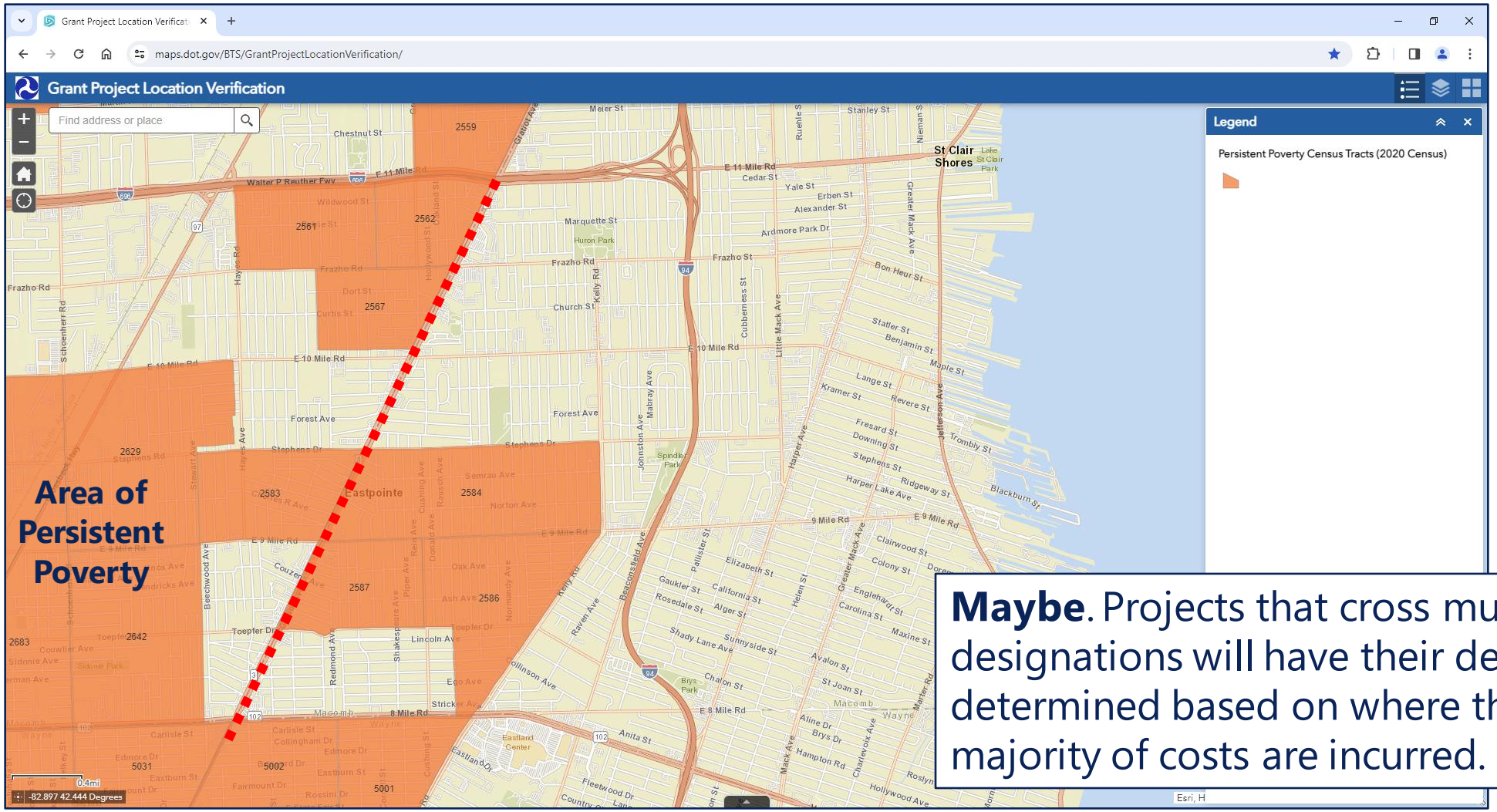
Example #1: Would this project (red dashed line) receive an HDC designation?



Yes. Projects located exactly on the border of Urban, APP, or HDC areas are considered "within" that area.

Location Designation Examples

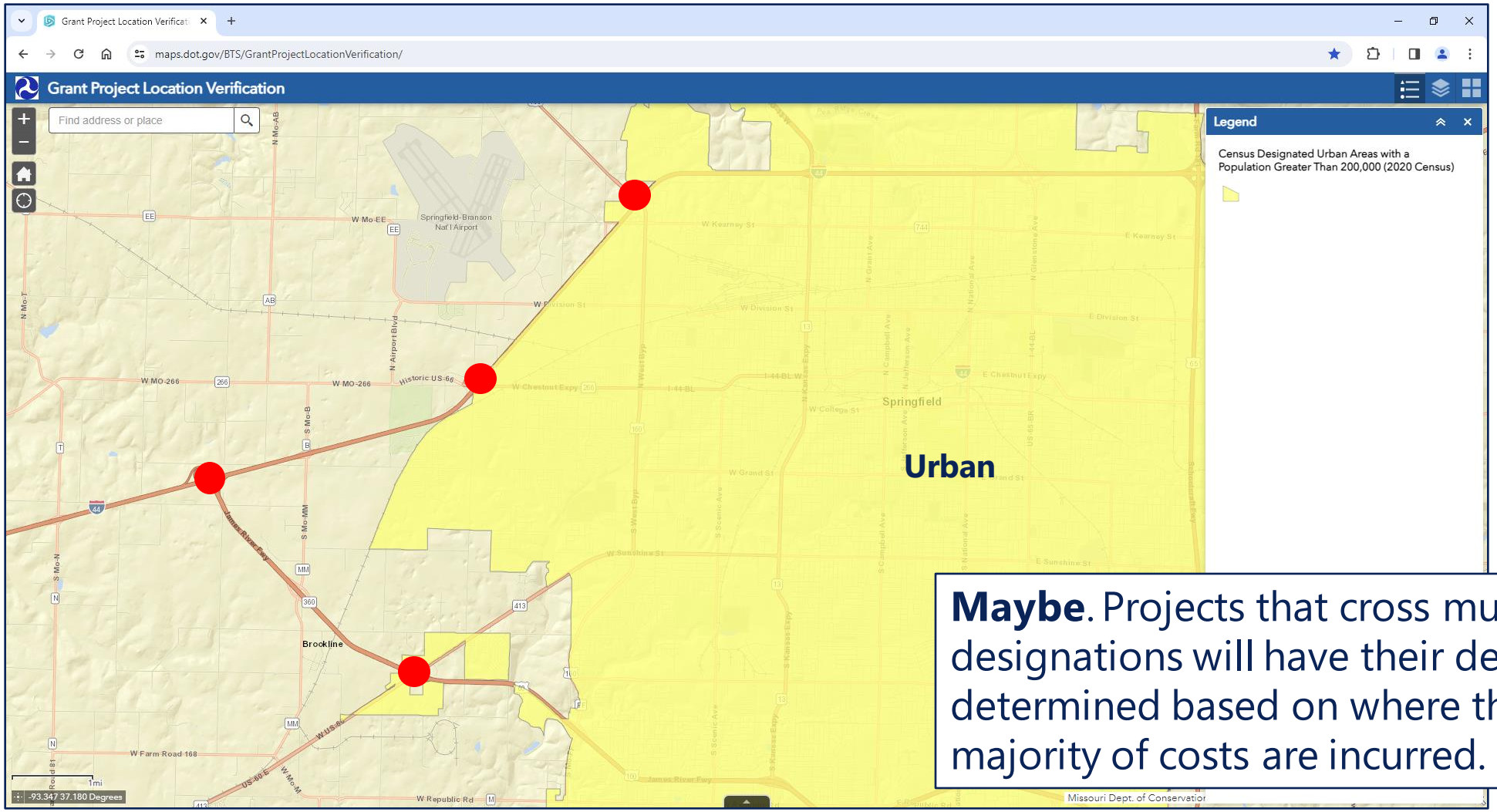
Example #2: Would this project (red dashed line) receive an APP designation?



Maybe. Projects that cross multiple designations will have their designation determined based on where the majority of costs are incurred.

Location Designation Examples

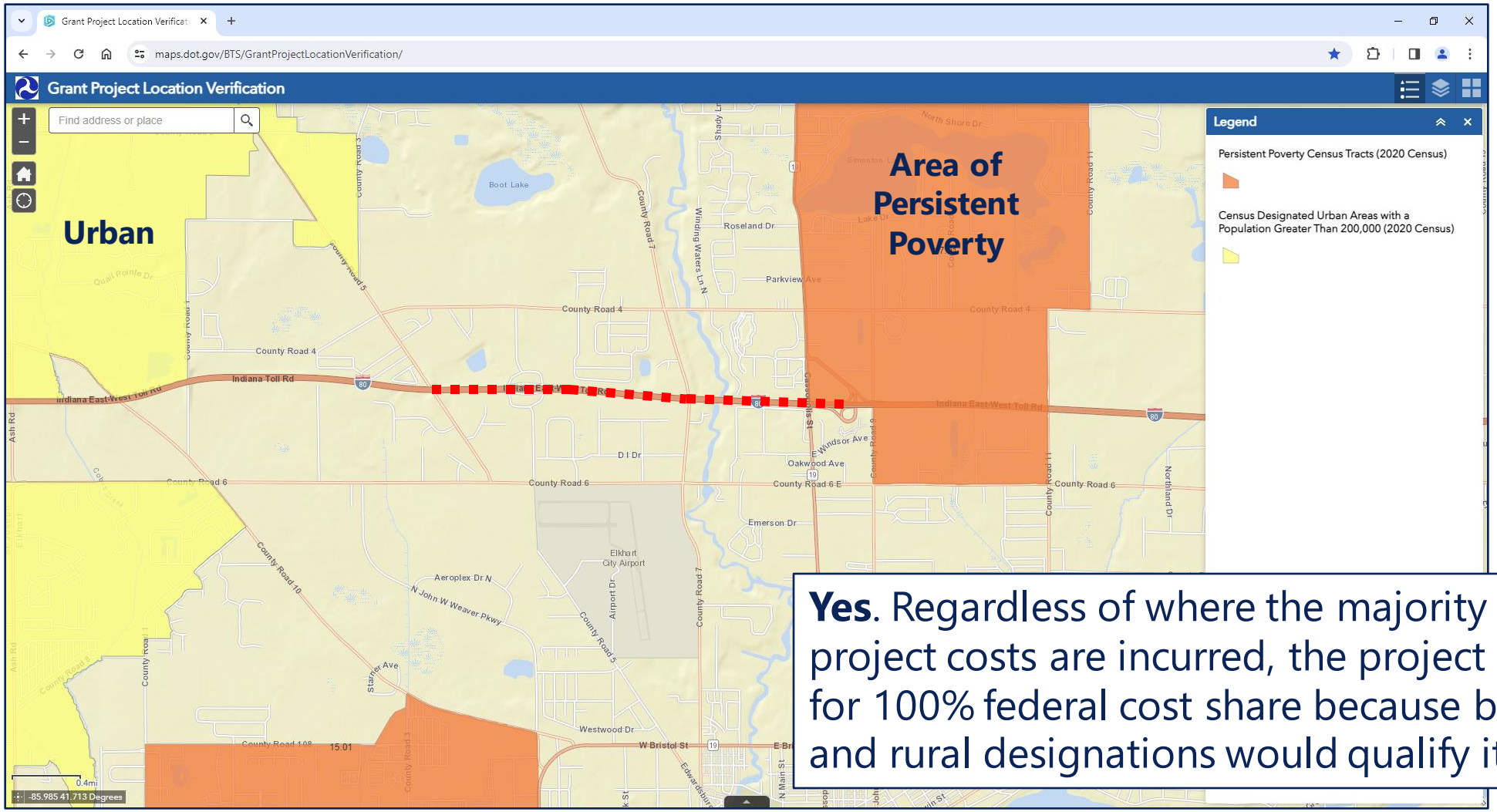
Example #3: Would this project (red dots) receive an Urban designation?



Maybe. Projects that cross multiple designations will have their designation determined based on where the majority of costs are incurred.

Location Designation Examples

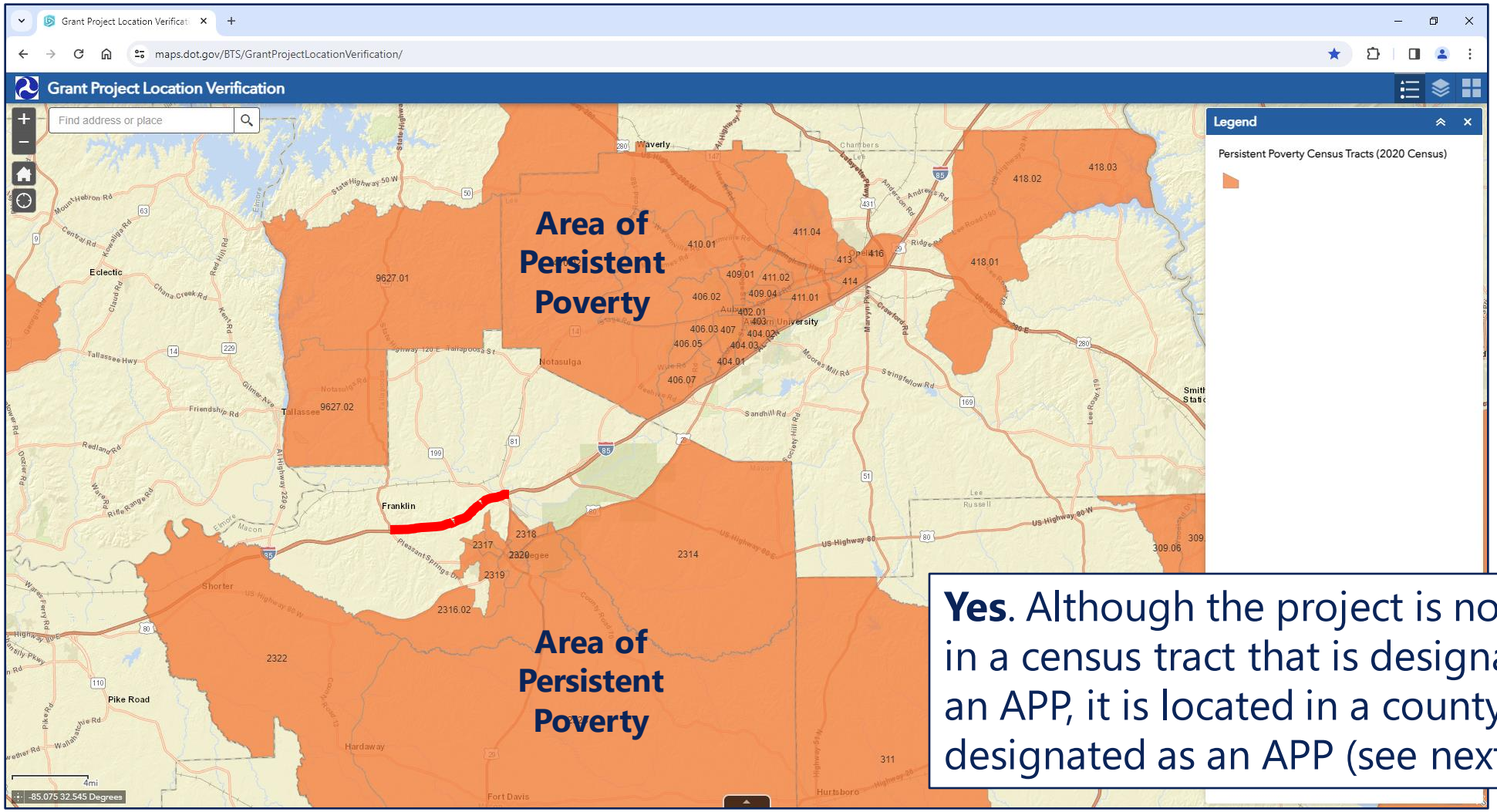
Example #4: Would this project (red dashed line) be eligible for 100% federal cost share?



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.

Location Designation Examples

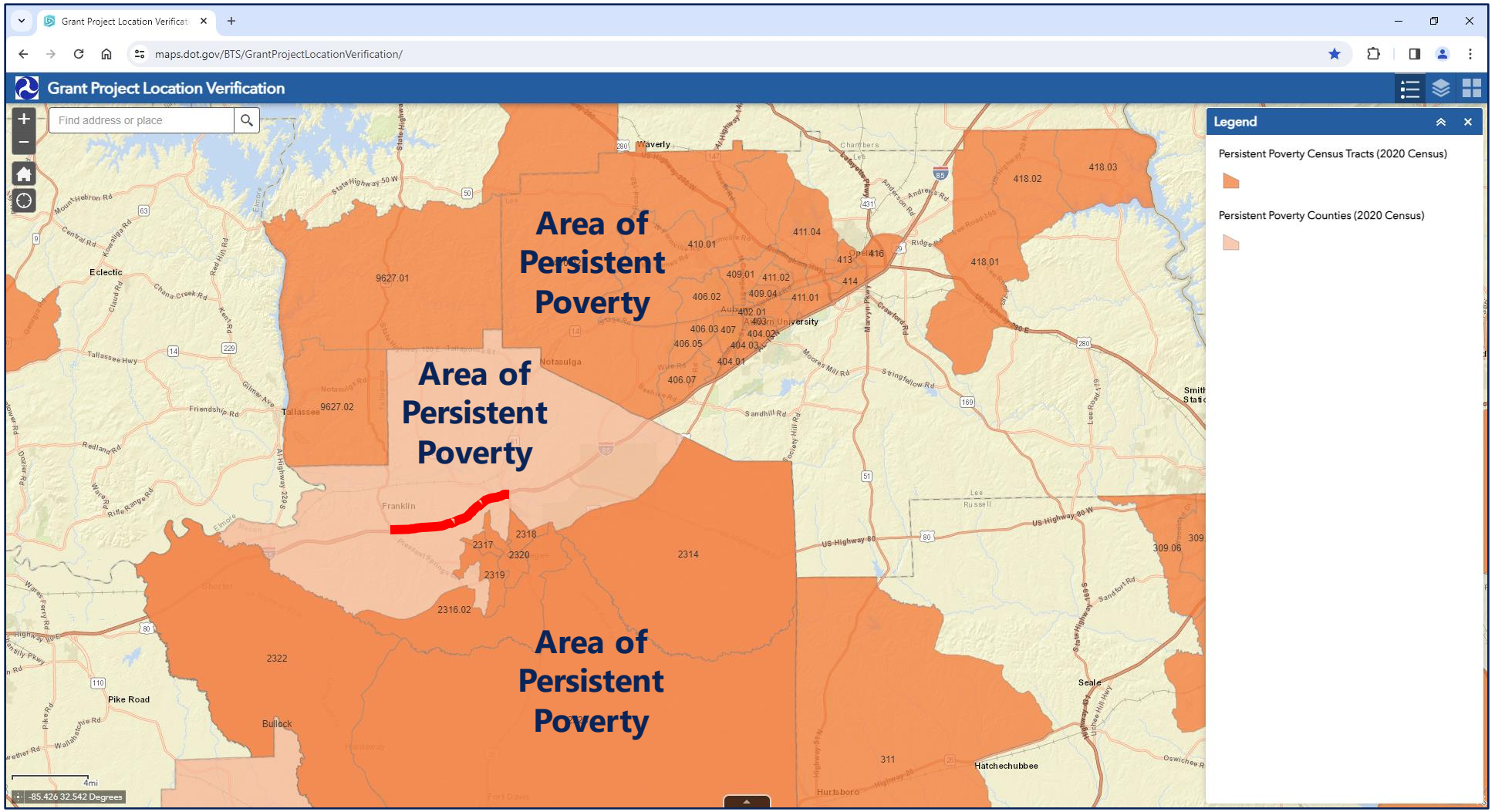
Example #5: Would this project (red line) receive an APP designation?



Yes. Although the project is not located in a census tract that is designated as an APP, it is located in a county that is designated as an APP (see next slide).

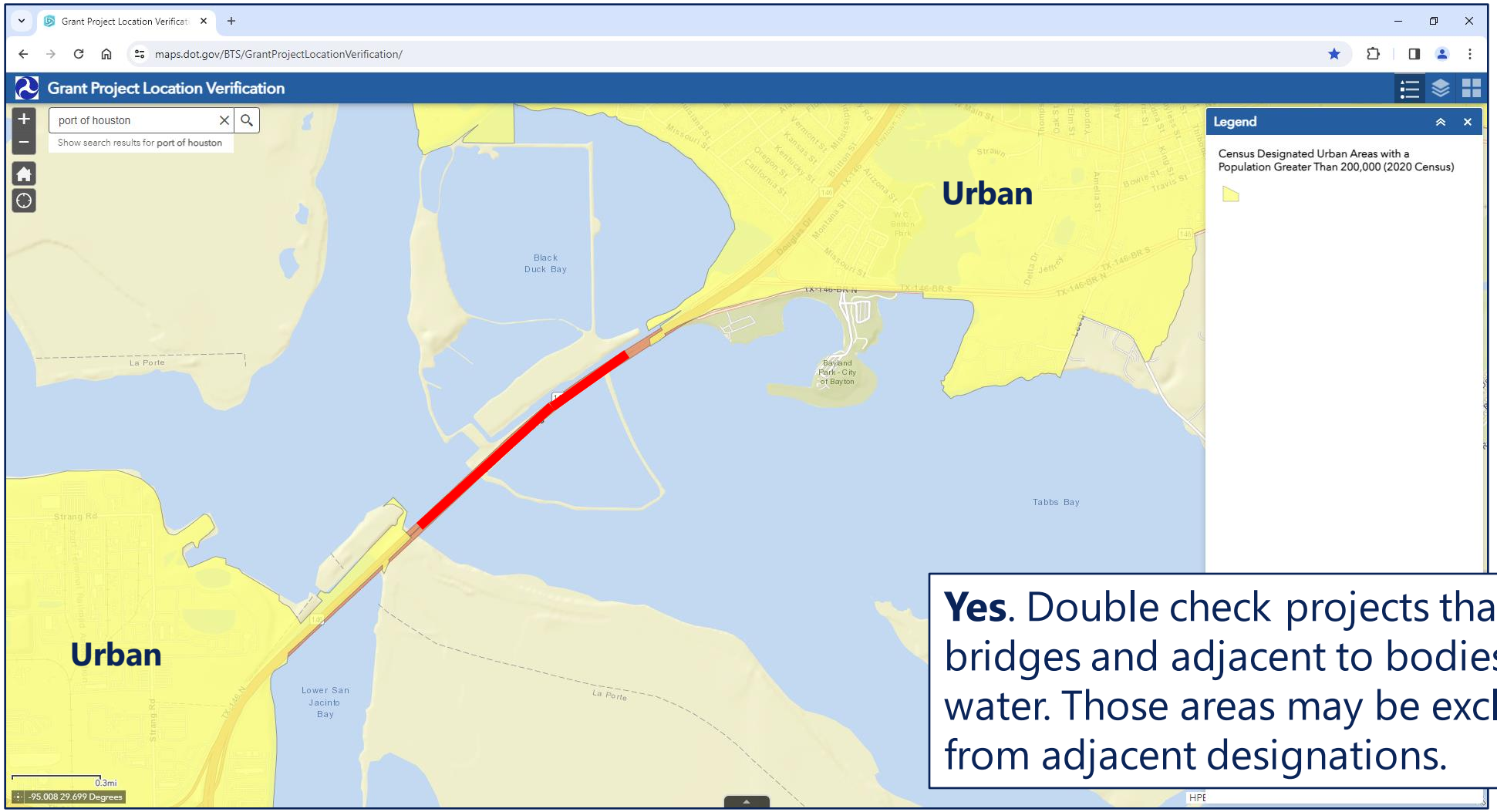
Location Designation Examples

Example #5



Location Designation Examples

Example #6: Would this project (red line) receive an Urban designation?



Yes. Double check projects that are on bridges and adjacent to bodies of water. Those areas may be excluded from adjacent designations.

How to Prepare a Spatial File to Submit with your Application

Preparing a Spatial File to Submit with your Application

- Applicants must submit one of the following spatial files that displays their project's location:
  - Shapefile (compressed to a .zip file containing at least the .shp, .shx, .dbf, and. prj components of the Shapefile)
  - GeoJSON
  - KML or KMZ

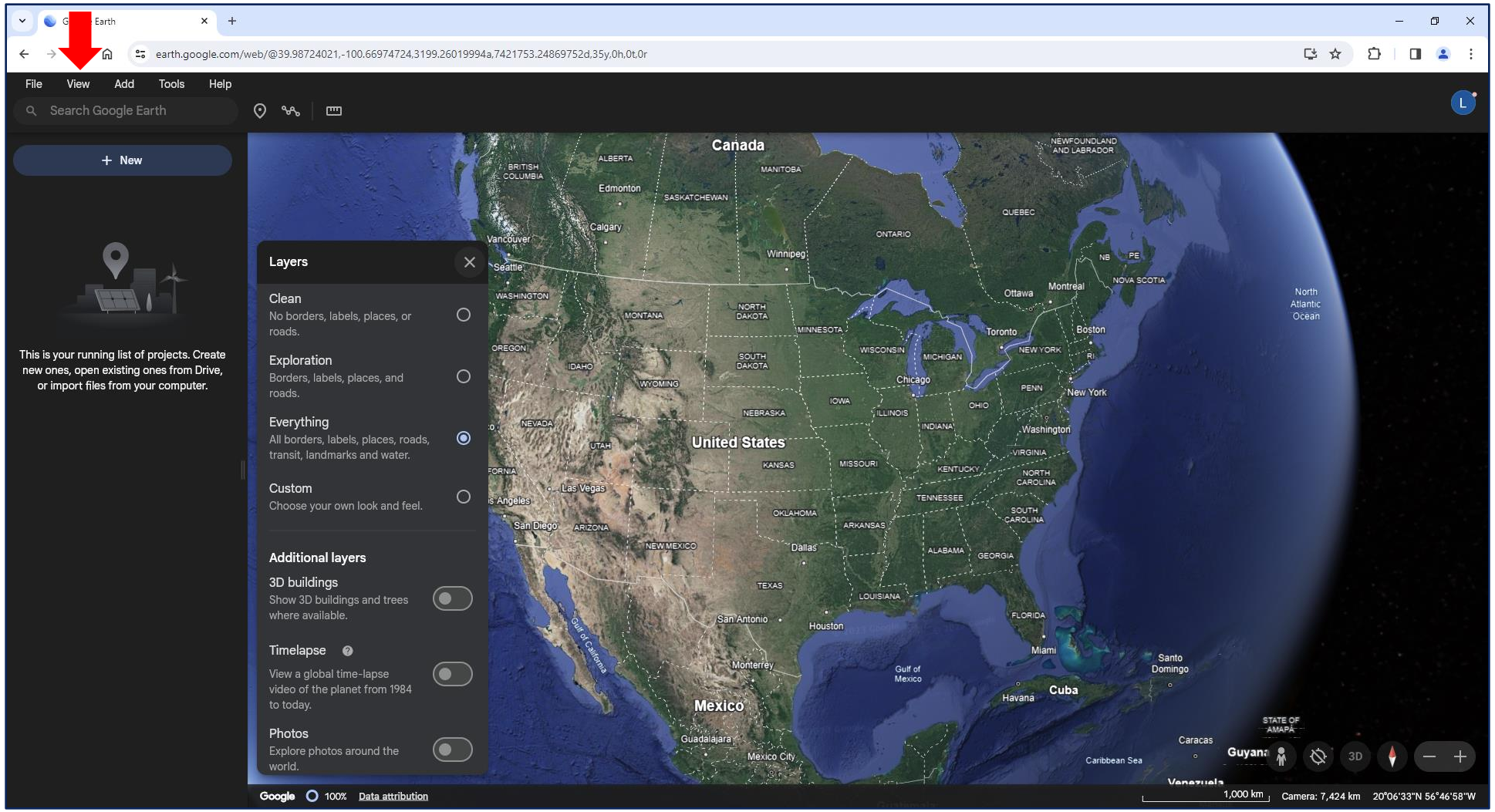
- **Spatial files should include only the direct physical location of the project, and not a broad service area or area of impact.**

Preparing a Spatial File to Submit with your Application

Example: Use Google Earth (https://earth.google.com/web/), an open-source software

Step 1) Open Google Earth.

Step 2) Click **View** then select **Layers**. This will open a menu that allows you to select which layers the map displays.

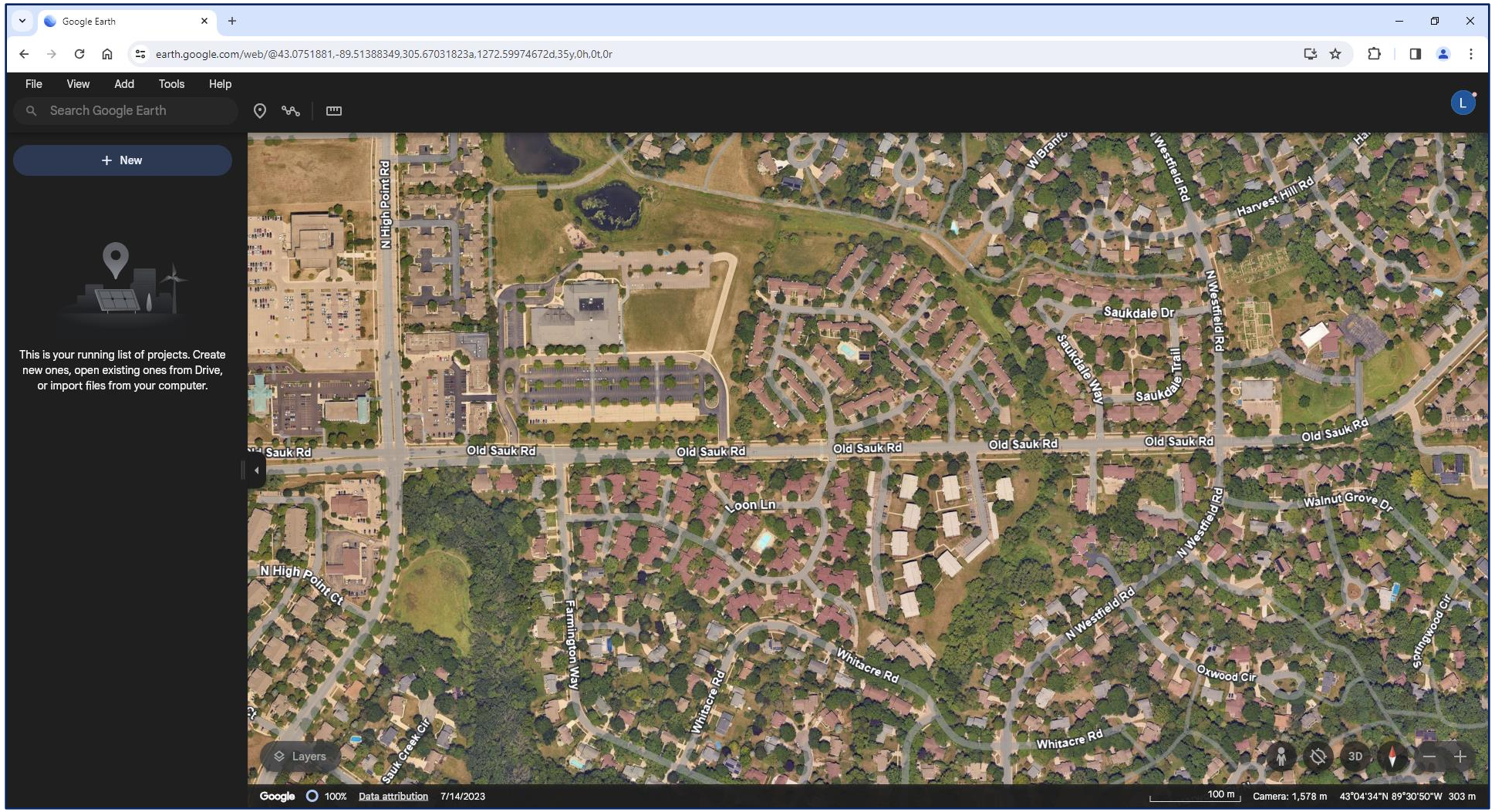


Preparing a Spatial File to Submit with your Application

Example: Use Google Earth (https://earth.google.com/web/), an open-source software

Step 3) Navigate to the project area by:

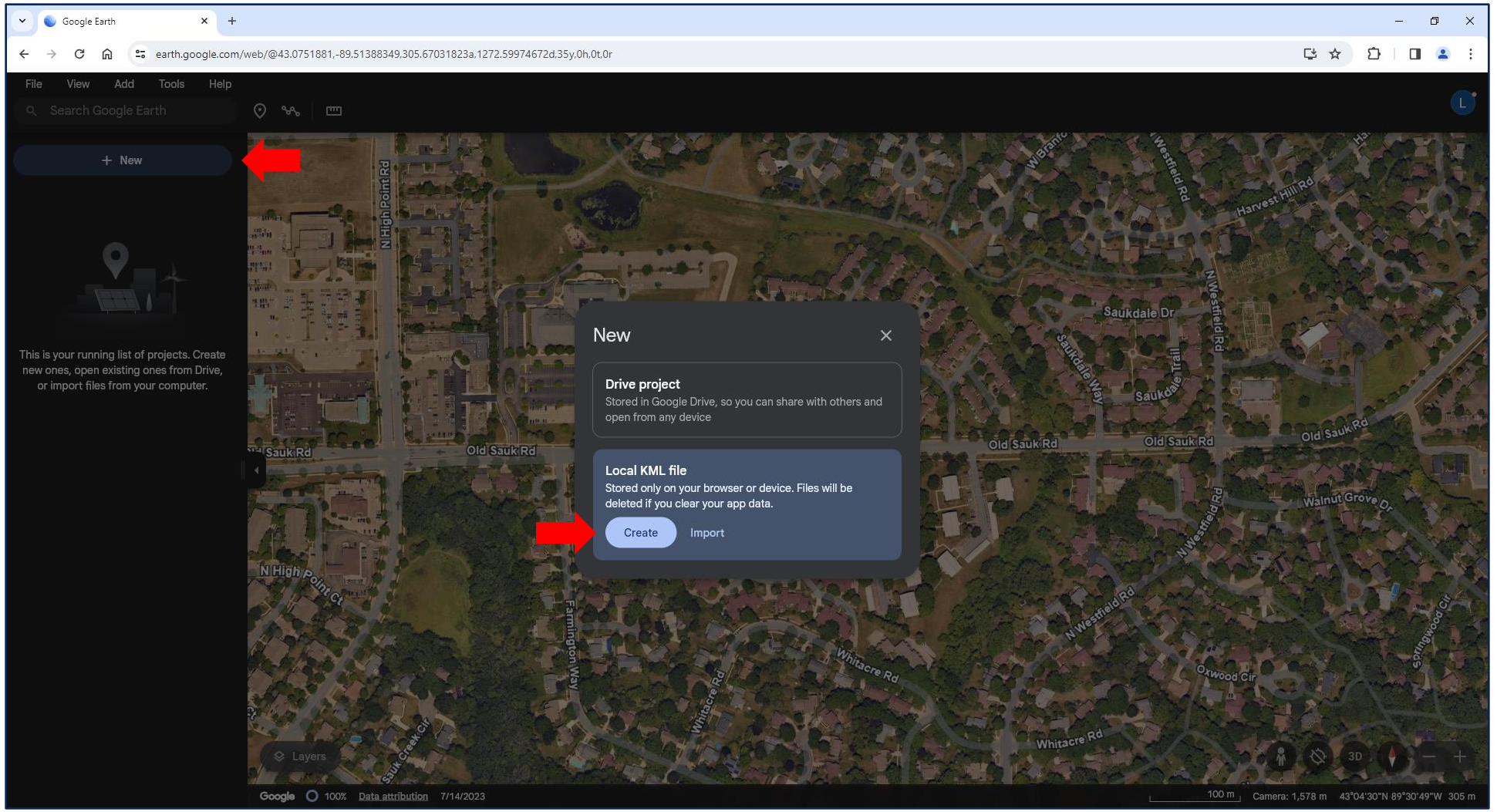
- Zooming in with your mouse, or
- Using the search bar in the top left.



Preparing a Spatial File to Submit with your Application

Example: Use Google Earth (https://earth.google.com/web/), an open-source software

Step 4) Click **New**, then click **Create** under the Local KML file option.

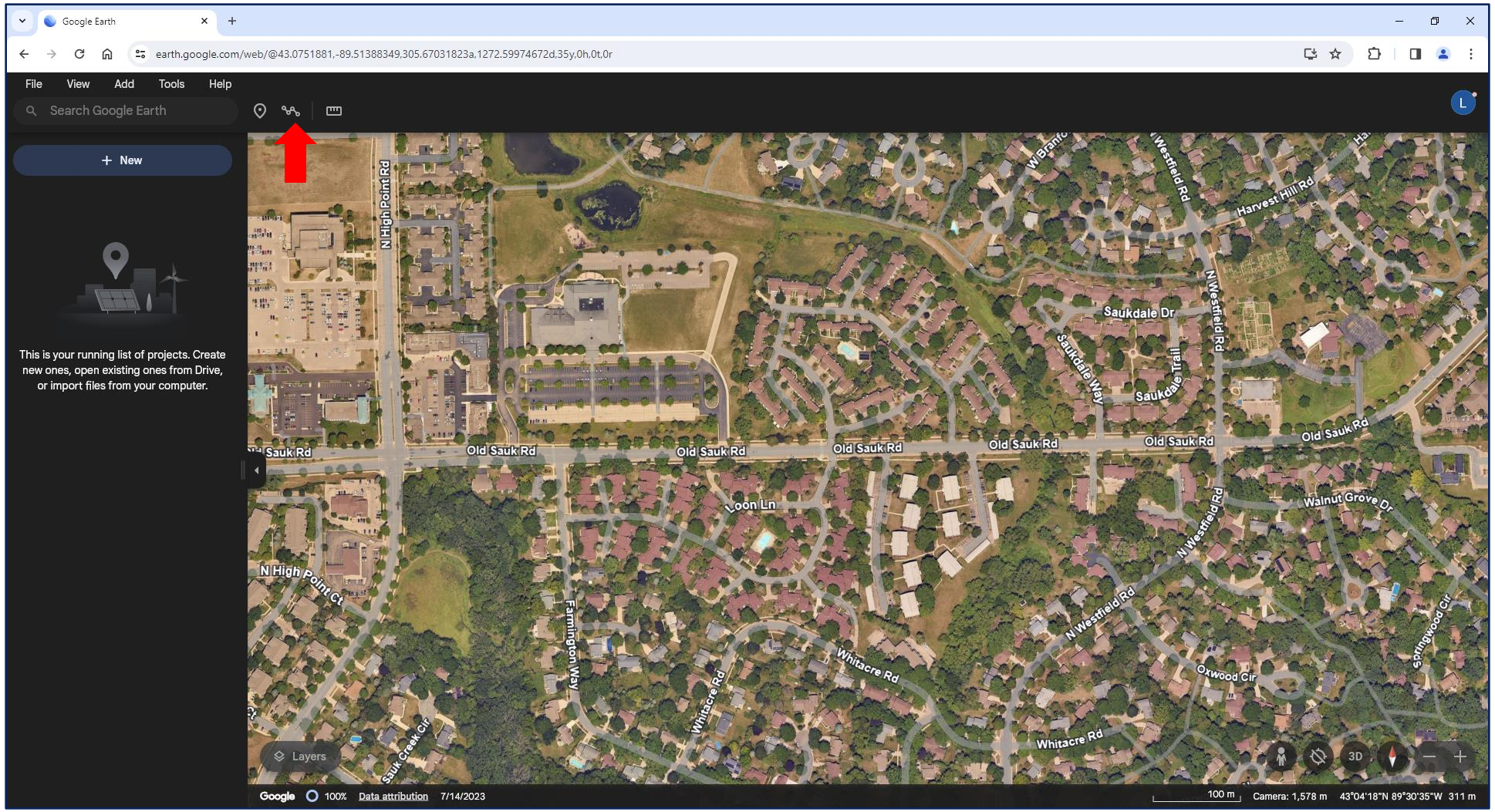


Preparing a Spatial File to Submit with your Application

Example: Use Google Earth (https://earth.google.com/web/), an open-source software

Step 5) Click **Add path or polygon**.

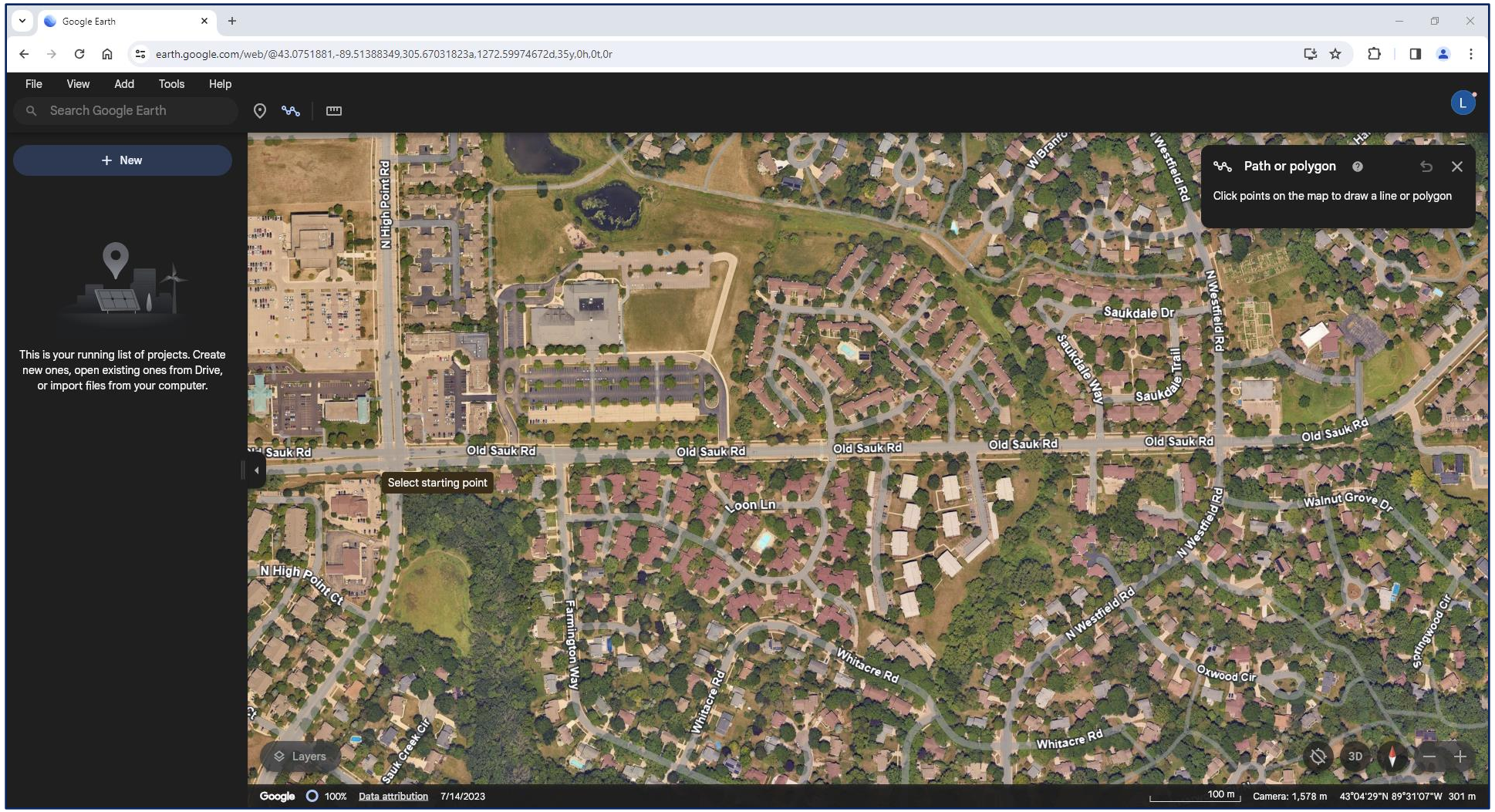
- Alternatively, you may choose to click the logo immediately to the left (**Add placemark**) if your project is best represented using a series of point locations.



Preparing a Spatial File to Submit with your Application

Example: Use Google Earth (https://earth.google.com/web/), an open-source software

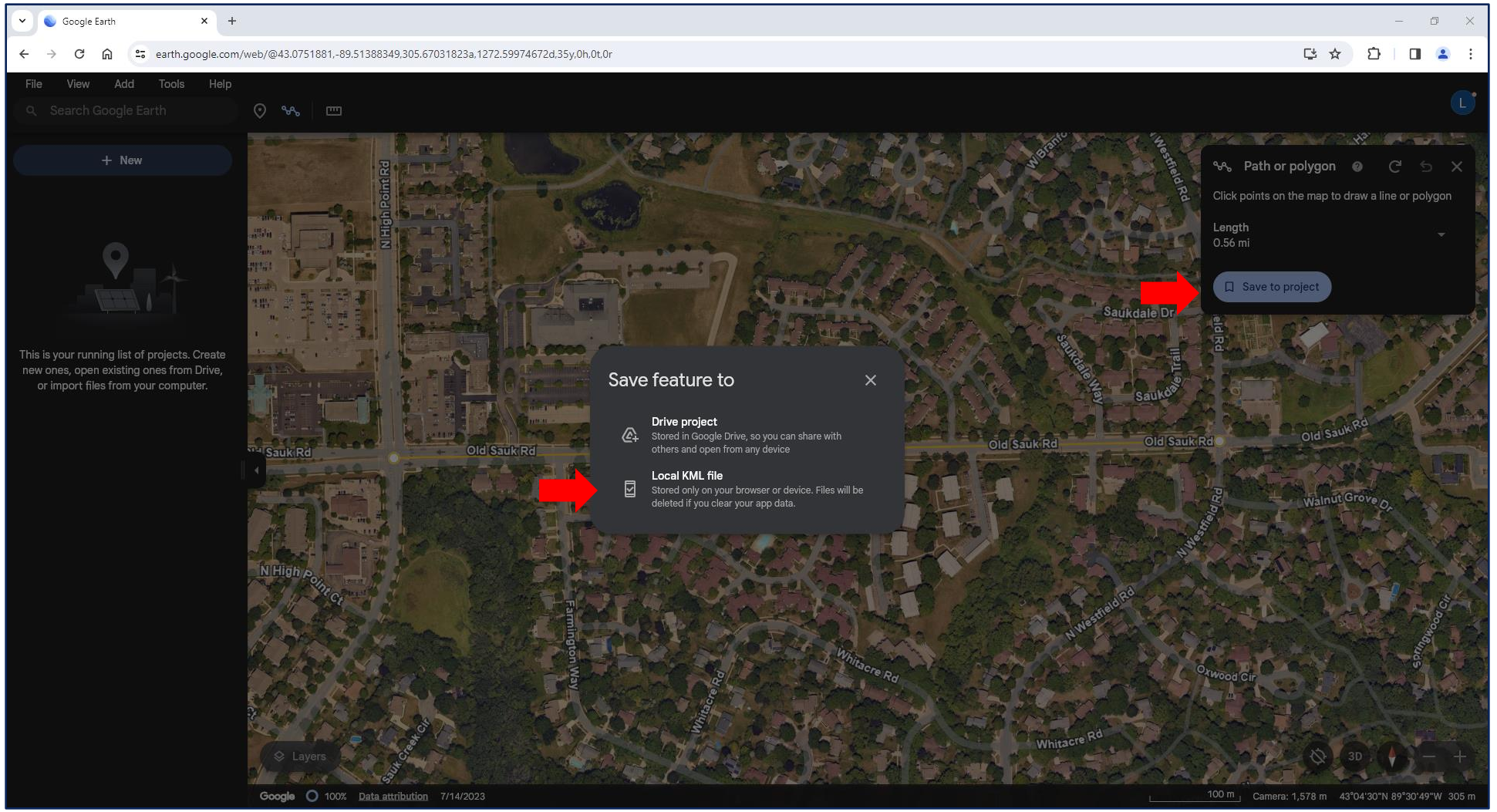
Step 6) Click on the map to draw the start of your project limits. Double click on the map to end your drawing.



Preparing a Spatial File to Submit with your Application

Example: Use Google Earth (https://earth.google.com/web/), an open-source software

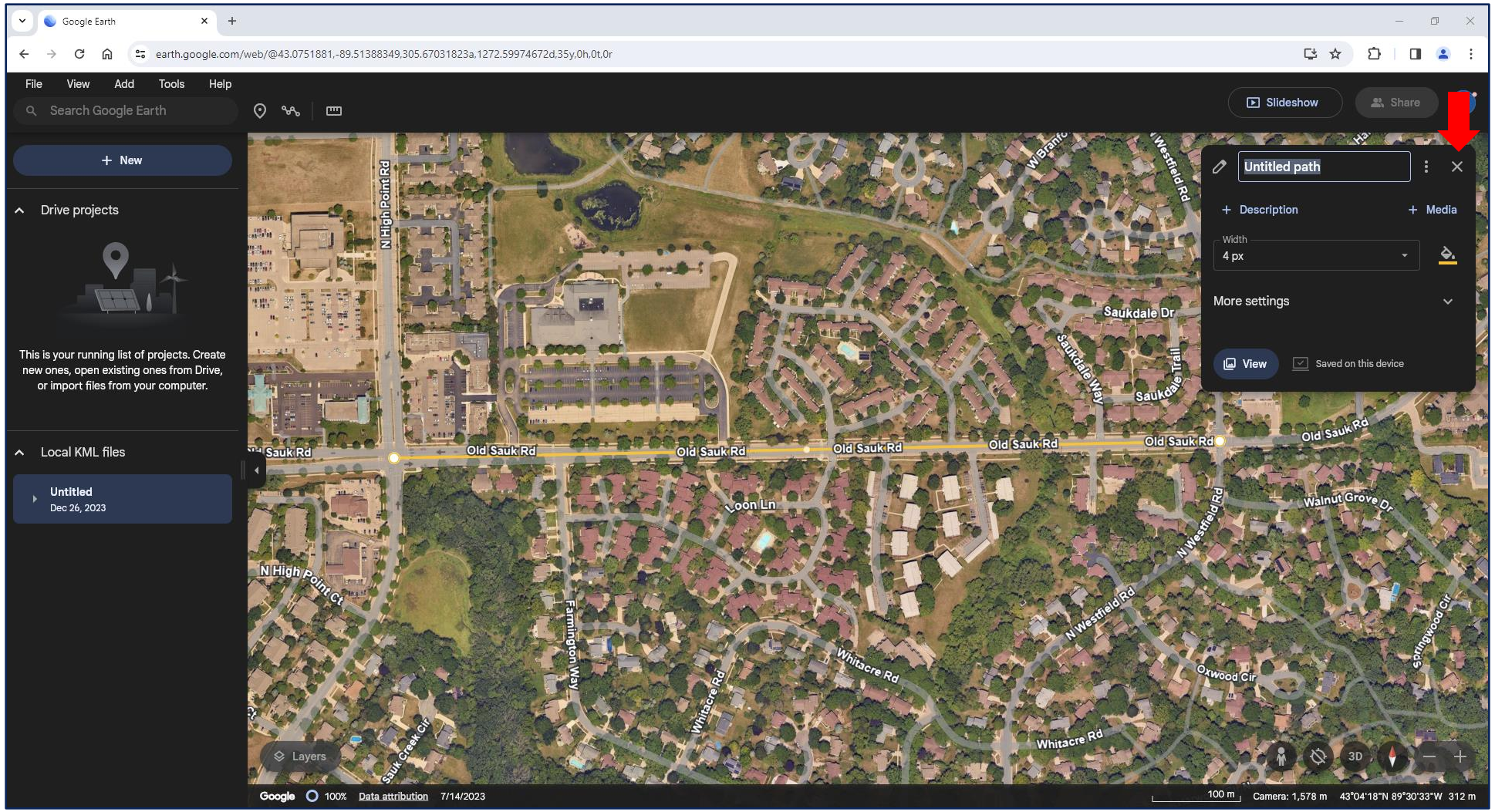
Step 7) Click **Save to project** after your feature is drawn. Then select **Local KML file** in the menu that appears.



Preparing a Spatial File to Submit with your Application

Example: Use Google Earth (https://earth.google.com/web/), an open-source software

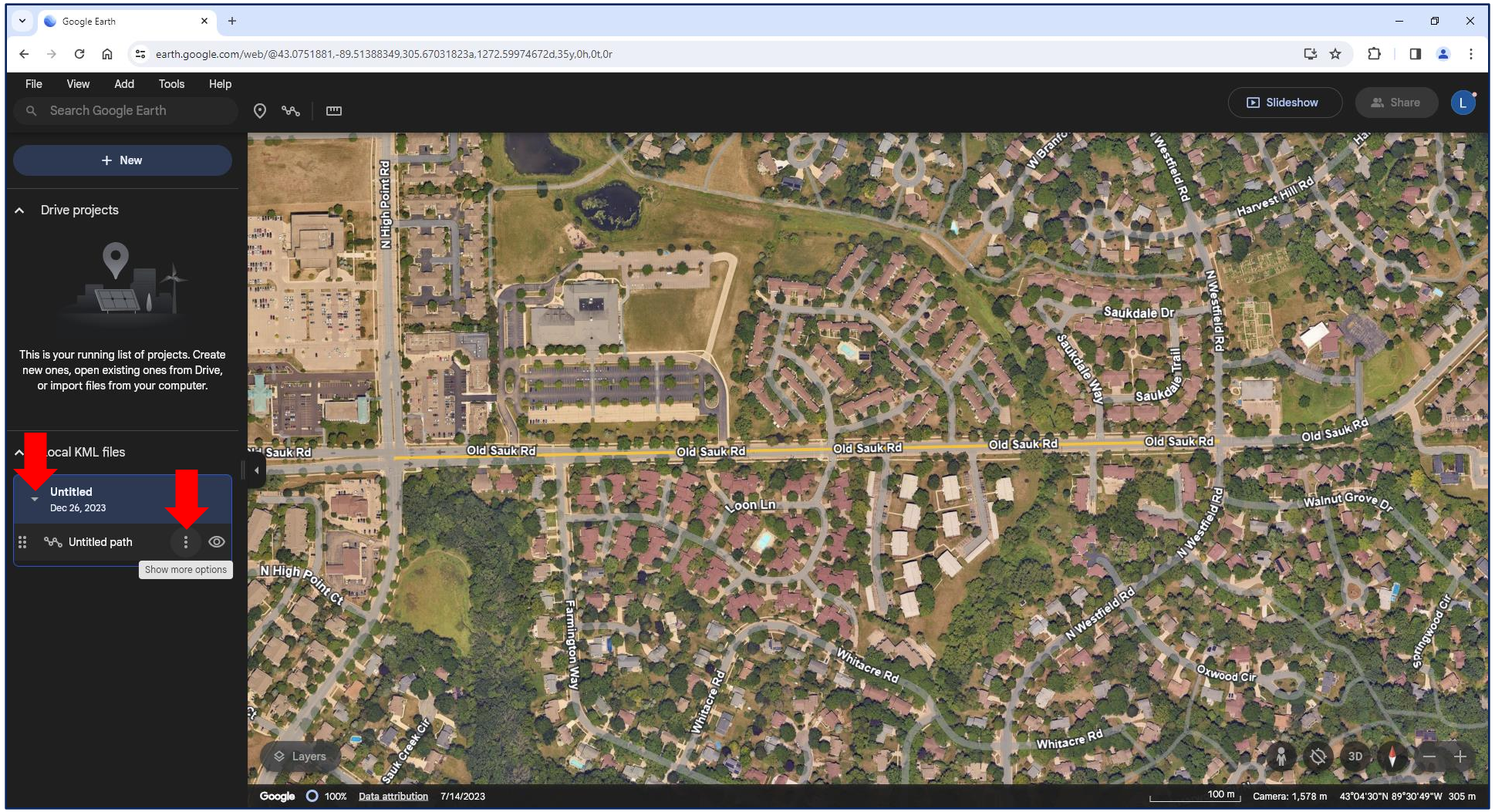
Step 8) A menu will appear that will allow you to give the new feature a name and change its appearance on the map. Click the **X** in the top right of the menu once complete.



Preparing a Spatial File to Submit with your Application

Example: Use Google Earth (https://earth.google.com/web/), an open-source software

Step 9) The new feature will then be added to the layers on the left. You can view it by clicking the drop-down arrow. You may edit the feature again using the 3 dots to the right of the feature's name.

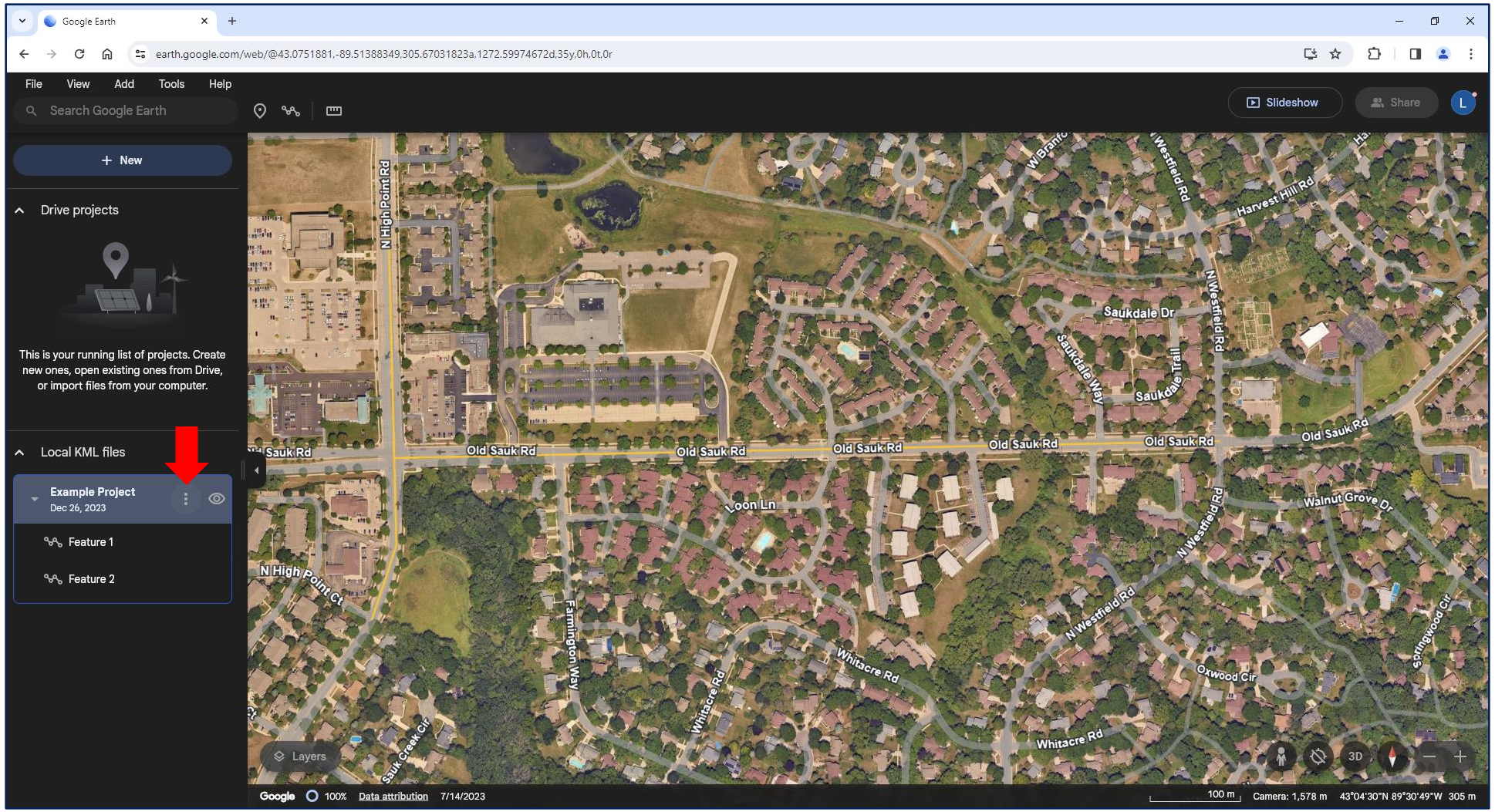


Preparing a Spatial File to Submit with your Application

Example: Use Google Earth (https://earth.google.com/web/), an open-source software

Step 10) Ensure you have drawn all features to accurately display your project limits.

Step 11) Select the 3 dots to the right of the project's name.

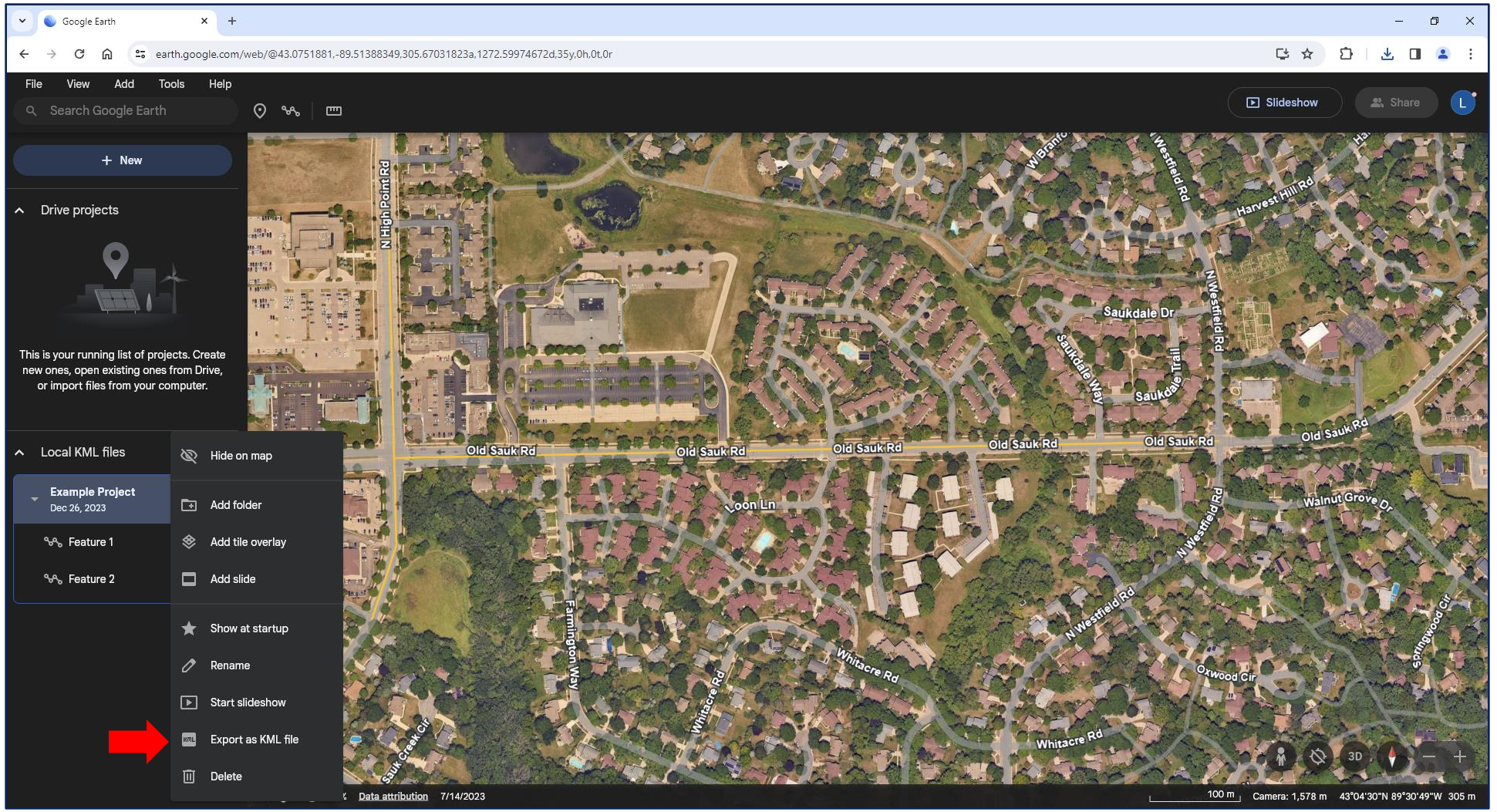


Preparing a Spatial File to Submit with your Application

Example: Use Google Earth (https://earth.google.com/web/), an open-source software

Step 12) Click **Export as KML file** in the menu.

Your entire project will now be saved to your computer's downloads as a KML file.



Q & A

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