



Methodologies for Holding Capacity Analysis Model Development

*Rick Fisher, Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning
December 20 2023*

What is the purpose of the Holding Capacity Analysis Model?

- A residential holding capacity analysis provides an estimate of the number of additional housing units that could be built under the existing zoning code and development regulations.
- Results used to support Long Range Planning and land use.
- DPW - roads, infrastructure, and Rec & Parks.
- Considers: Zoning, development regulations, regulated natural features, and land values.
- While the analysis provides an estimated number of residential units, it is not a parcel specific feasibility study or guarantee that the development would or could occur.
- Many factors contribute to determining if and how a property is developed including market changes, finances, private agreements and leases, and the personal preferences of property owners.

Holding Capacity Analysis:

- Identifying properties that can be developed
 - Vacant Land - Assessed value of improvements less than \$10,000.
 - Redevelopment Potential - Assessed value of improvements less than assessed value of land. Real estate economics would indicate that property has potential for redevelopment to general higher value.
 - Subdivision Potential - Considers potential for parcels that are in residential zoning districts and have a lot size more than double the minimum lot size for that zone. These parcels have the potential to be subdivided for production of more housing units.

Holding Capacity Analysis:

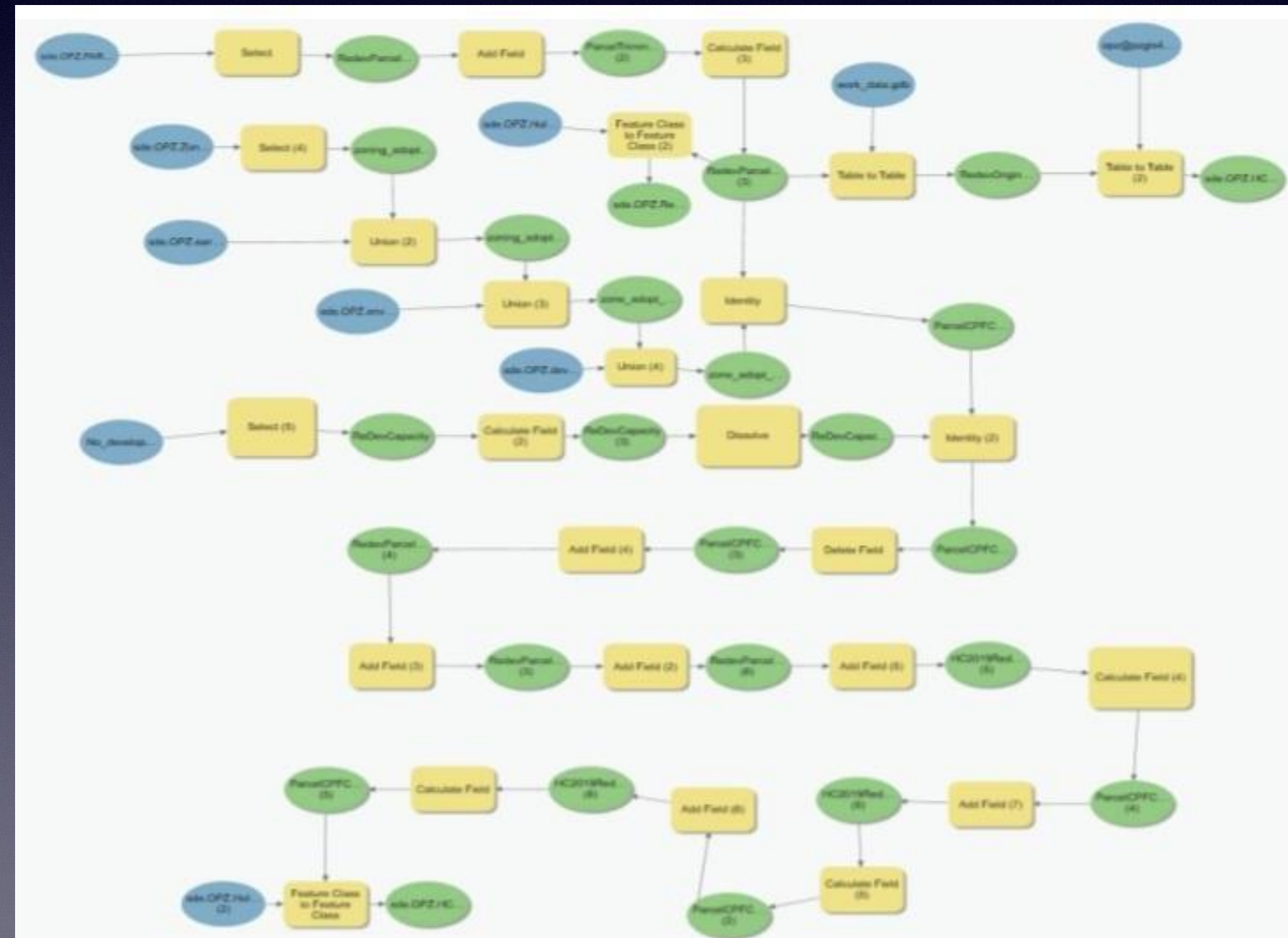
- Identifying properties that cannot be developed.
- Owned by the Federal, State, or Local Government.
- Recorded subdivision plats as open space or floodplains.
- Constrained by recorded conservation easements (such as agricultural preservation easements or conservation easements)
- Projects currently in the subdivision review process.

Holding Capacity Analysis:

- How are residential units allocated to potential properties?
- The residential holding capacity model analyzes both:
 - Residential Zoning districts (RA - R22)
 - Other Zoning districts where residential use is allowed by right or as a conditional use (C1, C2, C3, W1, MXD-R, MXD-C, MXD-R, MXD-T, TC, and the Odenton zones)
- The analysis removes protected natural features (bogs, bog protection areas, steep slopes, wetlands, and stream buffers)

Key Steps in the Model:

- Identify parcels with development potential
 - Step by step model was created using ModelBuilder in ArcGIS Pro



Key Steps in the Model:

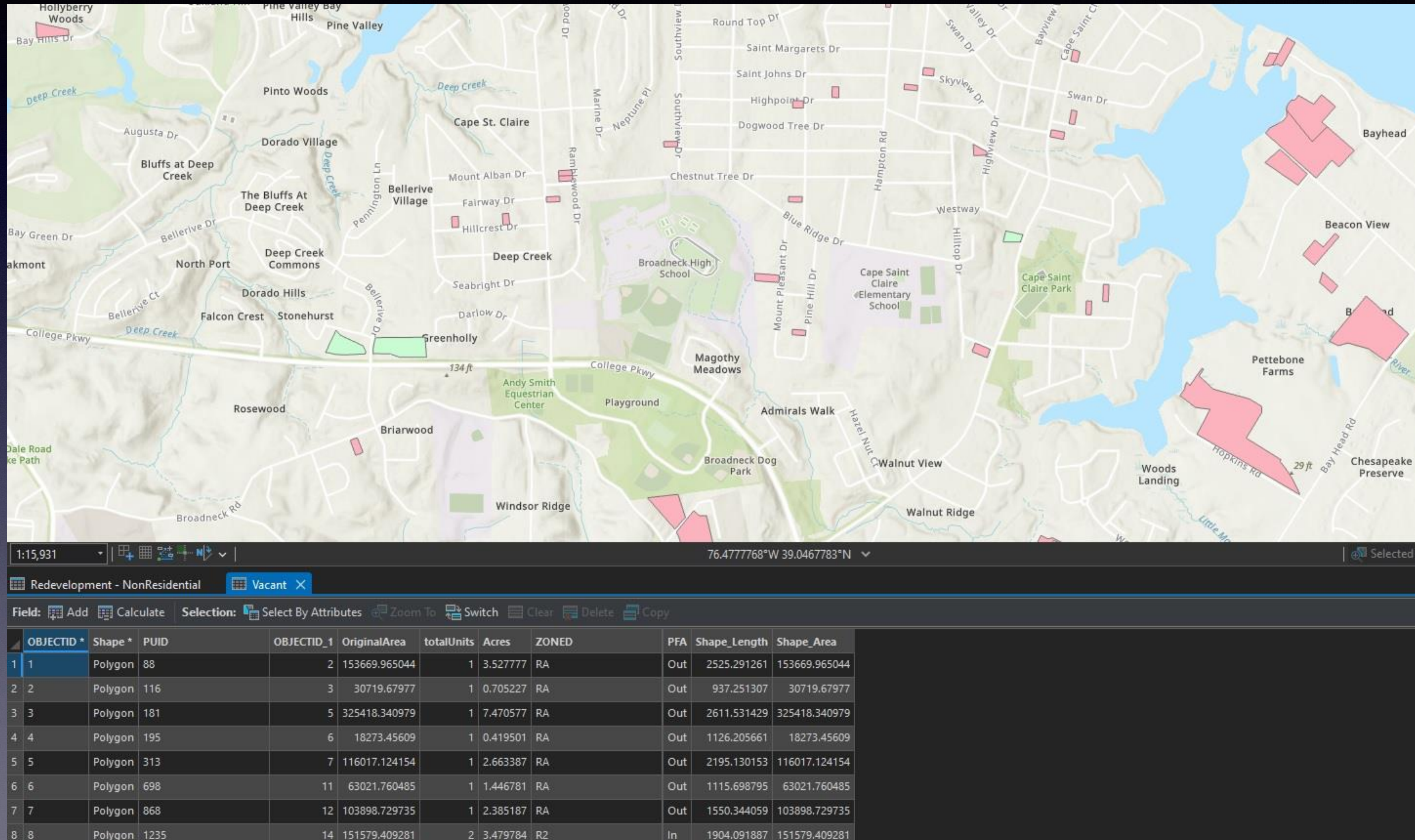
- Calculate actual yields for each recent development in each zone
- Factors that impact yields, minimum lot size, critical areas, water and sewer service

Case	Zone	Min. Lot Size	Sewer	Critical Area	Yield	Actual Yield (Units/Per Acre) for Lots >Min. Acreage for Subdivision	Min Acreage for Subdivision	Min Lot Size for Development	New Yield Factor	Sq. Ft Range for New Yield Factor
1	R1	40,000 sq.ft.	no	N/A	1/40,000 sq.ft.	0.75	2.75 (120,000 sq.ft.)	8000 sq.ft.	1.09	80,000 - 120,000
2	R1	40,000 sq.ft.	yes	N/A	1/40,000 sq.ft.	0.75	2.75 (120,000 sq.ft.)	4000 sq.ft.	1.09	80,000 - 120,000
3	R1	40,000 sq.ft.	no	RCA	1/ 20 acres	0.05	40	8000 sq.ft.		
4	R2	15,000 sq.ft.	yes	N/A	2.5/acre	1.8	1.03 (45,000 sq.ft.)	4000 sq.ft.	3	30,000 - 45,000
5	R2	20,000 sq.ft.	no	N/A	1/20,000 sq.ft.	0.6	1.38 (60,000 sq.ft.)	4000 sq.ft.	2.2	30,000 - 60,000
6	R2	20,000 sq.ft.	no	RCA	1/ 20 acres	0.05	40	8000 sq.ft.		
7	R5	7,000 sq.ft.	yes	N/A	5/acre	2.7	0.48 (21000 sq.ft.)	4000 sq.ft.	6.3	14,000 - 21,000
8	R5	7,000 sq.ft.	yes	LDA	4/acre	2.2	0.92 (40000 sq.ft.)	4000 sq.ft.	4.5	30,000 - 40,000
9	R5	7,000 sq.ft.	no	RCA	1/ 20 acres	0.05	40	4000 sq.ft.		
10	R10	N/A	yes	N/A	10/acre	8.6	0.18 (8000sq.ft.)	4000 sq.ft.		
11	R10	N/A	yes	LDA	4/acre	2.2	0.32 (14000 sq.ft.)	4000 sq.ft.		
12	R10	N/A	yes	RCA	1/ 20 acres	0.05	40	4000 sq.ft.		
13	R15	N/A	yes	N/A	15/acre	11.5	0.18 (8000sq.ft.)	4000 sq.ft.		
14	R15	N/A	yes	LDA	4/acre	2.2	0.32 (14000 sq.ft.)	4000 sq.ft.		
15	R15	N/A	yes	RCA	1/ 20 acres	0.05	40	4000 sq.ft.		
16	R22	N/A	yes	N/A	22/acre	16	0.18 (8000sq.ft.)	4000 sq.ft.		
17	RLD	40,000 sq.ft.	no	N/A	1/ 5 acres	0.2	10	4000 sq.ft.		
18	RLD	40,000 sq.ft.	no	RCA	1/ 20 acres	0.05	40	4000 sq.ft.		
19	RA	40,000 sq.ft.	no	N/A	1/ 20 acres	0.05	40	4000 sq.ft.		
20	RA	40,000 sq.ft.	no	RCA	1/ 20 acres	0.05	40	4000 sq.ft.		
21	R1	40,000 sq.ft.	no	IDA	1/40,000 sq.ft.	0.75	2.75 (120,000 sq.ft.)			
22	R1	40,000 sq.ft.	no	LDA	1/40,000 sq.ft.	0.75	2.75 (120,000 sq.ft.)			
23	R1	40,000 sq.ft.	yes	IDA	1/40,000 sq.ft.	0.75	2.75 (120,000 sq.ft.)			
24	R1	40,000 sq.ft.	yes	LDA	1/40,000 sq.ft.	0.75	2.75 (120,000 sq.ft.)			
25	R1	40,000 sq.ft.	yes	RCA	1/ 20 acres	0.05	40			
26	R2	15,000 sq.ft.	yes	IDA	2.5/acre	1.8	1.03 (45,000 sq.ft.)			
27	R2	15,000 sq.ft.	yes	LDA	2.5/acre	1.8	1.03 (45,000 sq.ft.)			
28	R2	20,000 sq.ft.	yes	RCA	1/ 20 acres	0.05	40			
29	R2	20,000 sq.ft.	no	IDA	1/20,000 sq.ft.	0.6	1.38 (60,000 sq.ft.)			
30	R2	20,000 sq.ft.	no	LDA	1/20,000 sq.ft.	0.6	1.38 (60,000 sq.ft.)			
31	R5	7,000 sq.ft.	yes	IDA	5/acre	2.7	0.48 (21000 sq.ft.)			
32	R5	20,000 sq.ft.	yes	RCA	1/ 20 acres	0.05	40			

Zone	Min. Lot Size	Sewer	Critical Area	Yield	Actual Yield (Units/Per Acre)
R1	40,000 sq.ft.	N/A	N/A	1/40,000 sq.ft.	0.75
R1	40,000 sq.ft.	N/A	RCA	1/40,000 sq.ft.	0.3
R2	15,000 sq.ft.	yes	N/A	2.5/acre	1.8
R2	20,000 sq.ft.	no	N/A	1/20,000 sq.ft.	0.6
R5	7,000 sq.ft.	yes	N/A	5/acre	2.7
R5	7,000 sq.ft.	yes	LDA	5/acre	2.2
R10	N/A	yes	N/A	10/acre	8.6
R15	N/A	yes	N/A	15/acre	11.5
R22	N/A	yes	N/A	22/acre	16
RLD	40,000 sq.ft.	no	N/A	1/ 5 acres	0.2
RLD	40,000 sq.ft.	no	CA	1/ 5 acres	0.1
RA	40,000 sq.ft.	no	N/A	1/ 20 acres	0.05
RA	40,000 sq.ft.	no	CA	1/ 20 acres	0.05

Key Steps in the Model:

- Apply Yield to Developable Parcels



Questions?

Rick Fisher

Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning
Research and GIS

rfisher@aacounty.org

<https://www.aacounty.org/departments/planning-and-zoning/research-gis/research>