

GIS Assignment 04: Activity Nodes & Walksheds

October 20, 2025

Activity Nodes

Plaza Midwood

Plaza Midwood's activity nodes lie along the Central Avenue corridor at three key clusters of activity. While nodes 1 and 2 fall within the neighborhood's designated social district, the third recognizes an important, if less-frequented, outpost of Plaza Midwood's restaurant and retail scene.

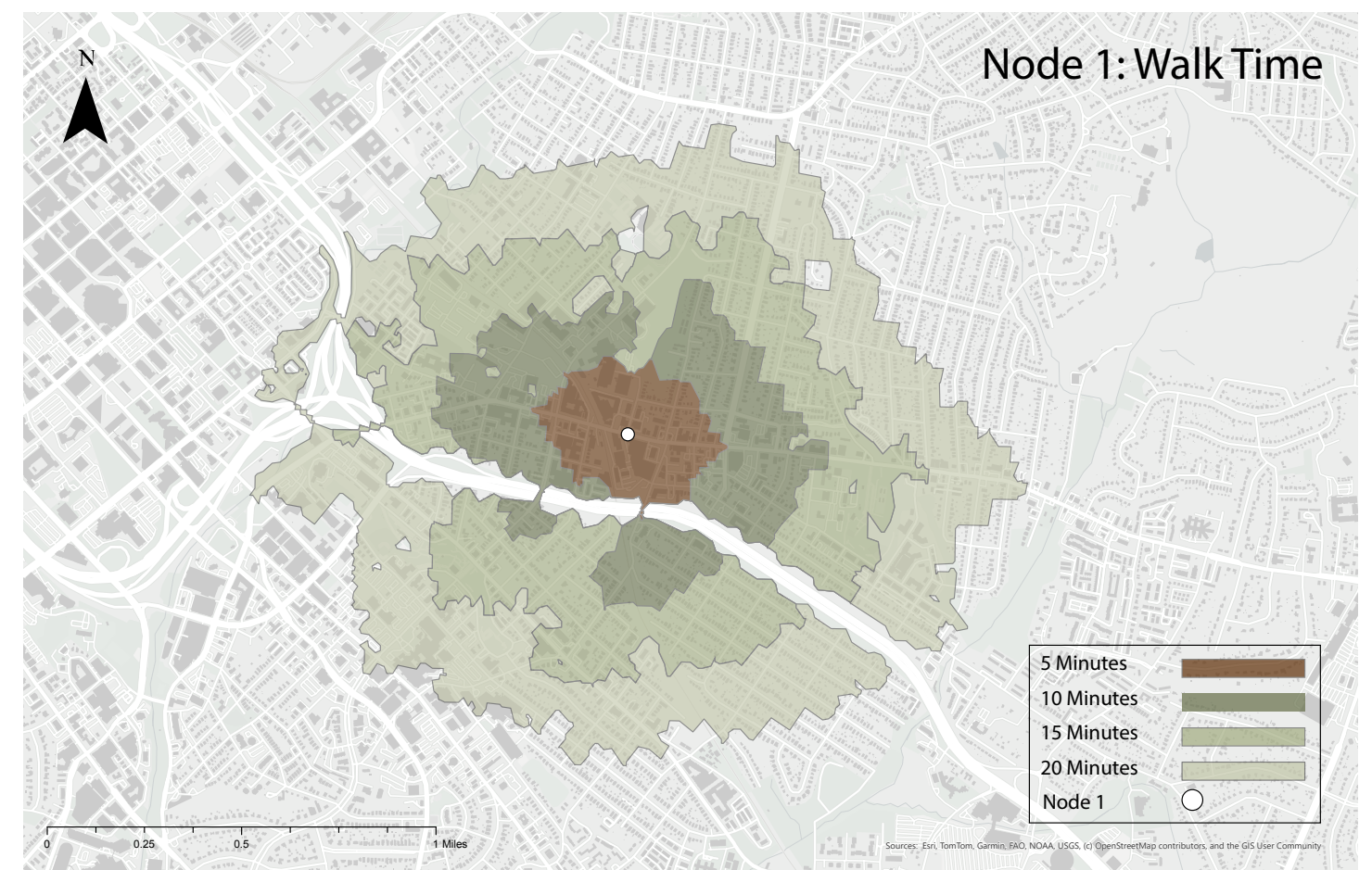
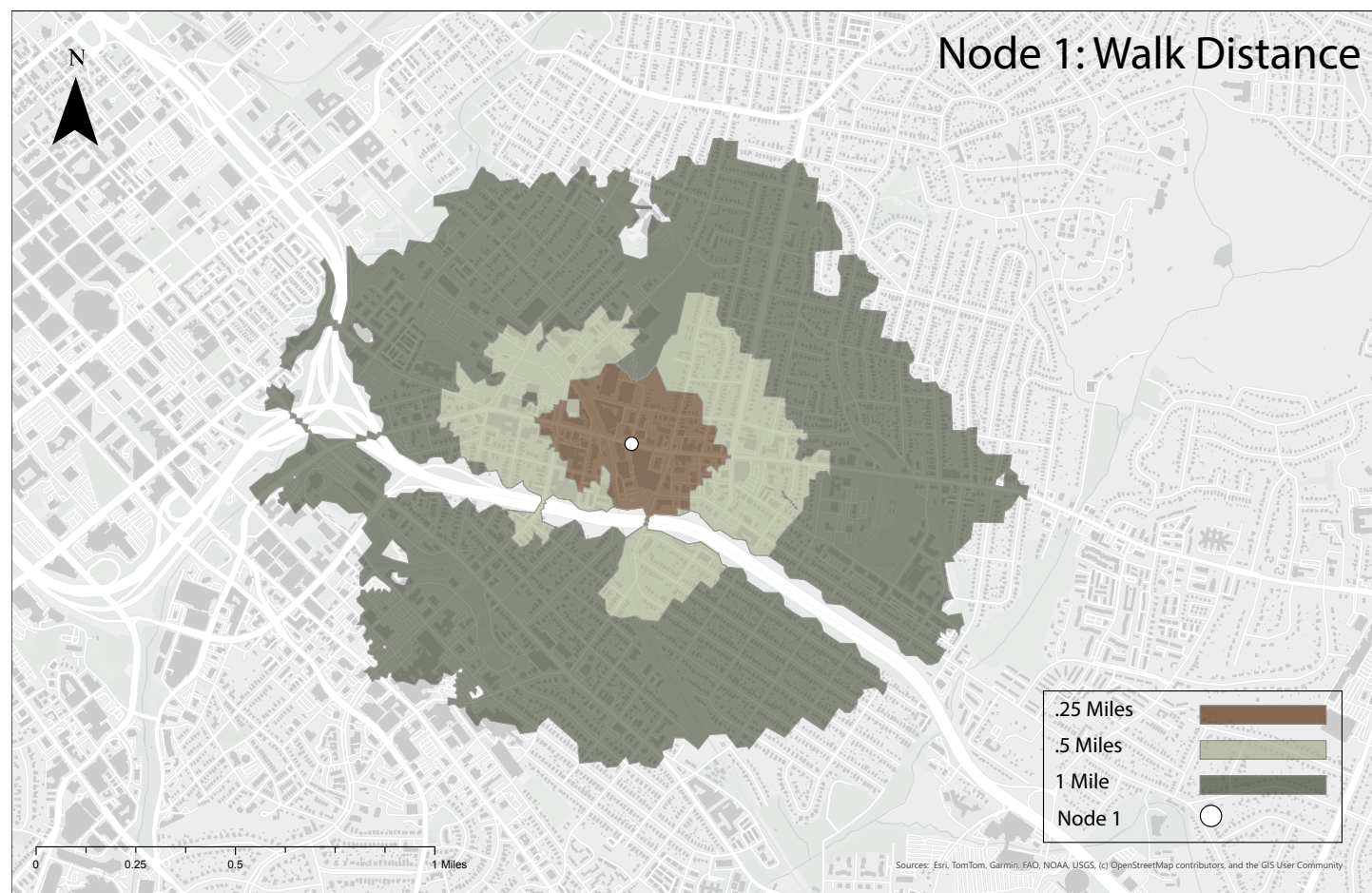


Activity Node 1

Plaza Midwood

Node 1 is located at the intersection of Central Avenue and the newly-built continuation of Commonwealth Avenue. This node represents a cluster of restaurants and other retail businesses, as well as a new mixed use housing development.

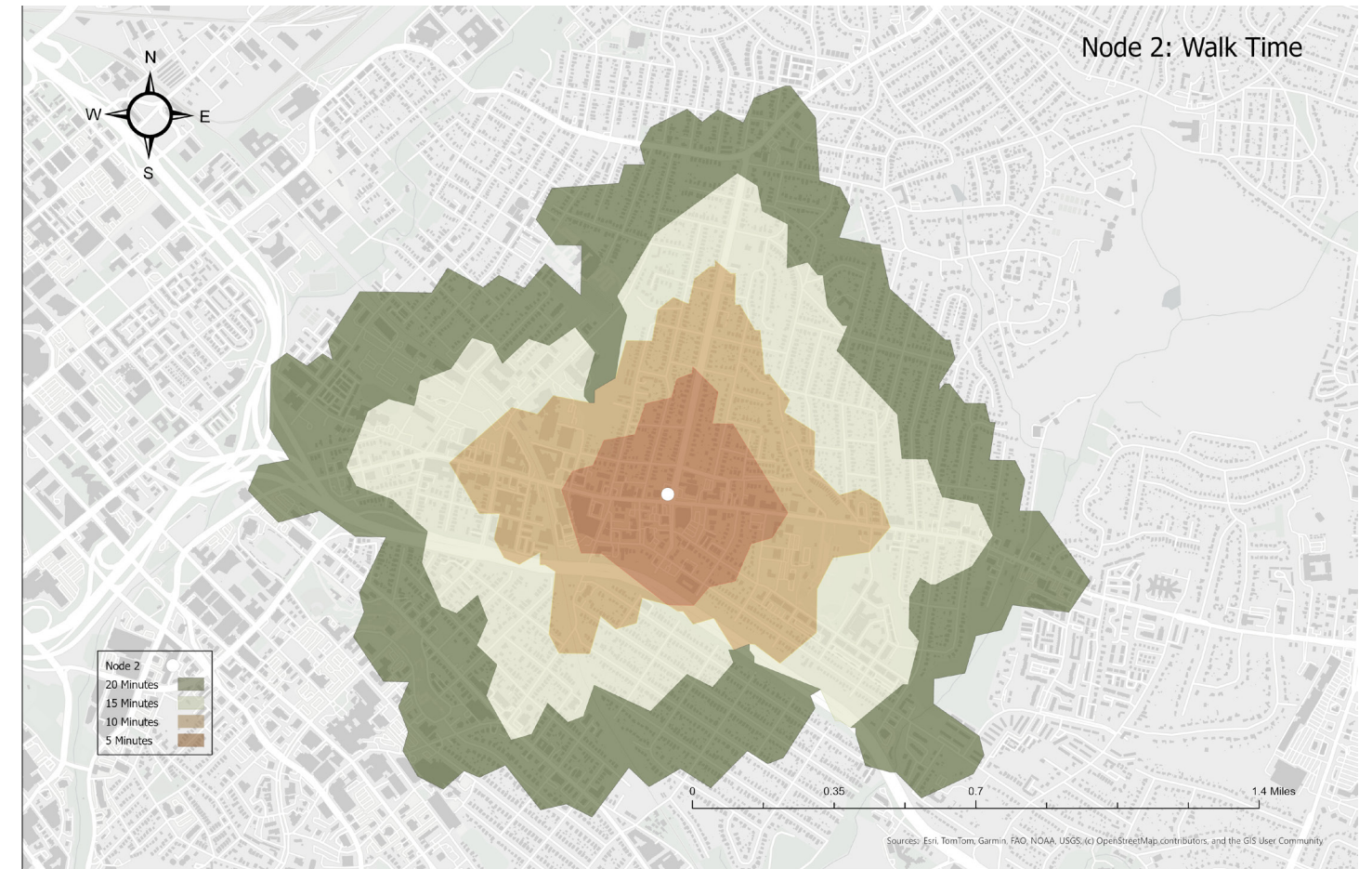
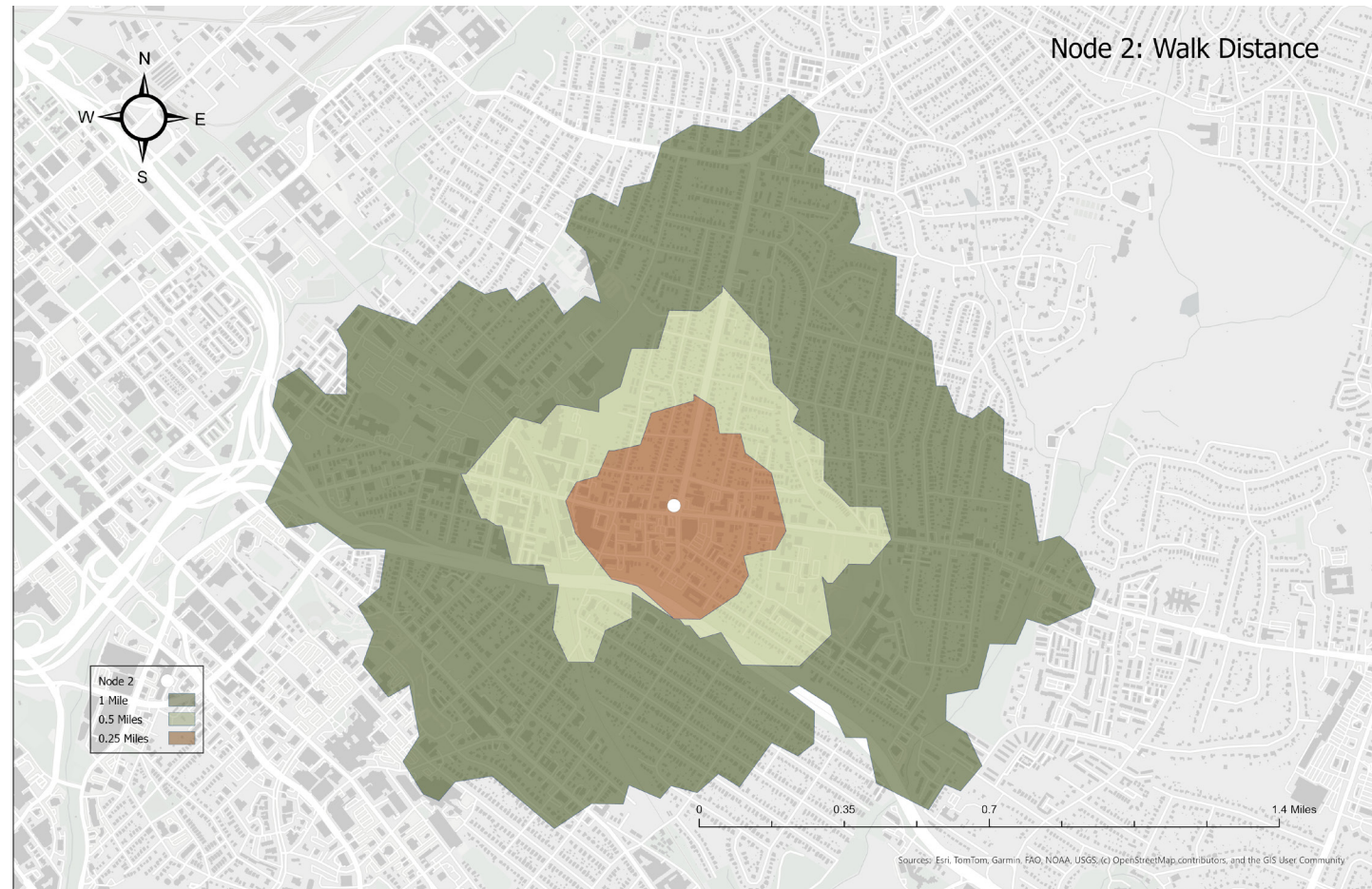
The node is situated about a quarter mile from East Independence Freeway (I-74), which splits its walkshed. While the areas most proximate to the node's center feature a high concentration of commercial properties, its reach extends to a significant number of residential buildings within the 1-mile and 20-minute walk time radii.



Activity Node 2

Plaza Midwood

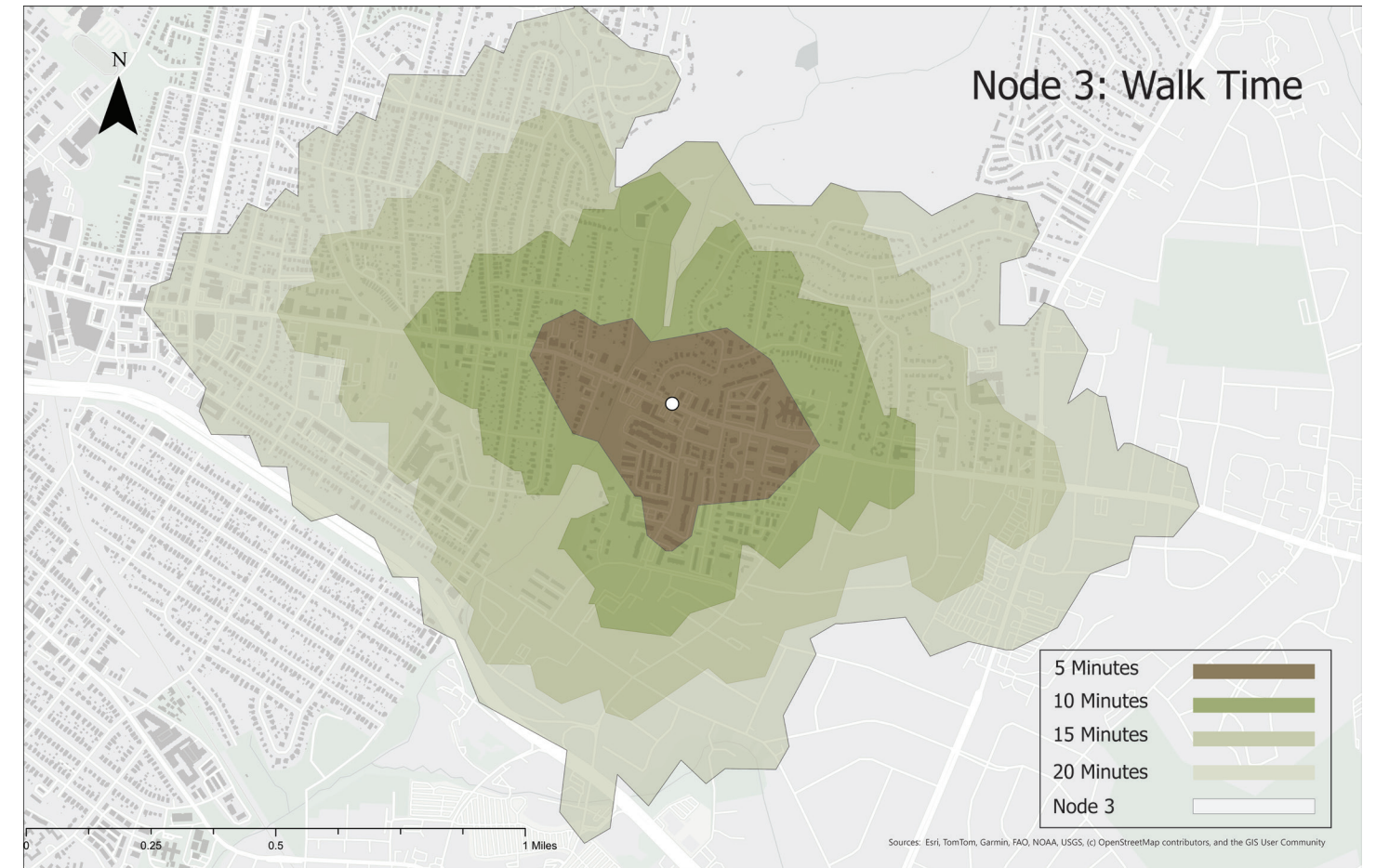
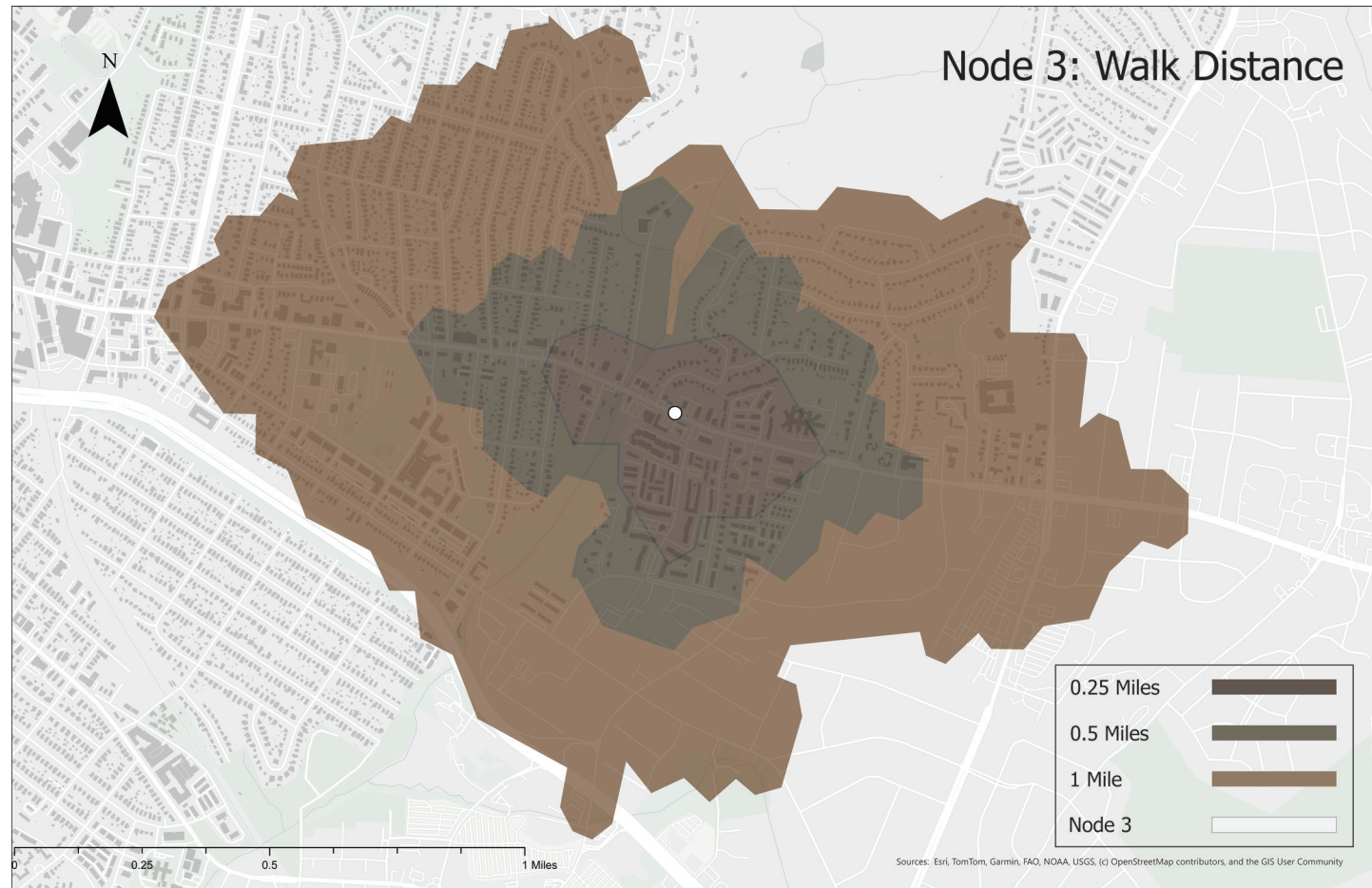
This Node is at the intersection of Central Avenue and The Plaza: historically and currently a very important crossroads. Today, a library, grocery store, bank, as well as several restaurants and bars are tucked in close proximity. Within a few steps, midsize historic single family homes allow residents to enjoy most of their necessary amenities. Historically, trolley cars ran down Central Ave as well as Plaza. This area has been a bustling hub of activity round the clock.



Activity Node 3

Plaza Midwood

This node is characterized by a notable cluster of ethnic restaurants separate from the other points of interest on the corridor. Node three is located on Central Ave between Wembley Dr. and Masonic Dr. It exhibits a unique characteristic of Plaza Midwood: small scale, local businesses.



GIS Assignment 05: Topography, Slope, and 3D Base Model

November 3, 2025

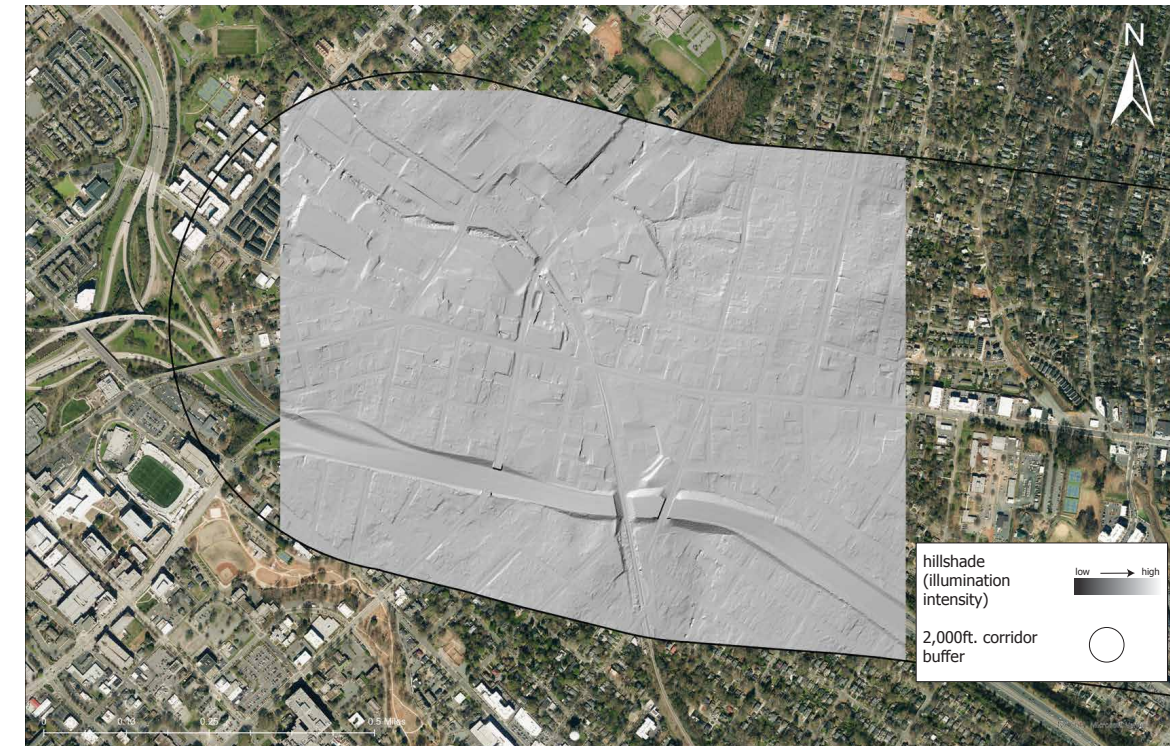
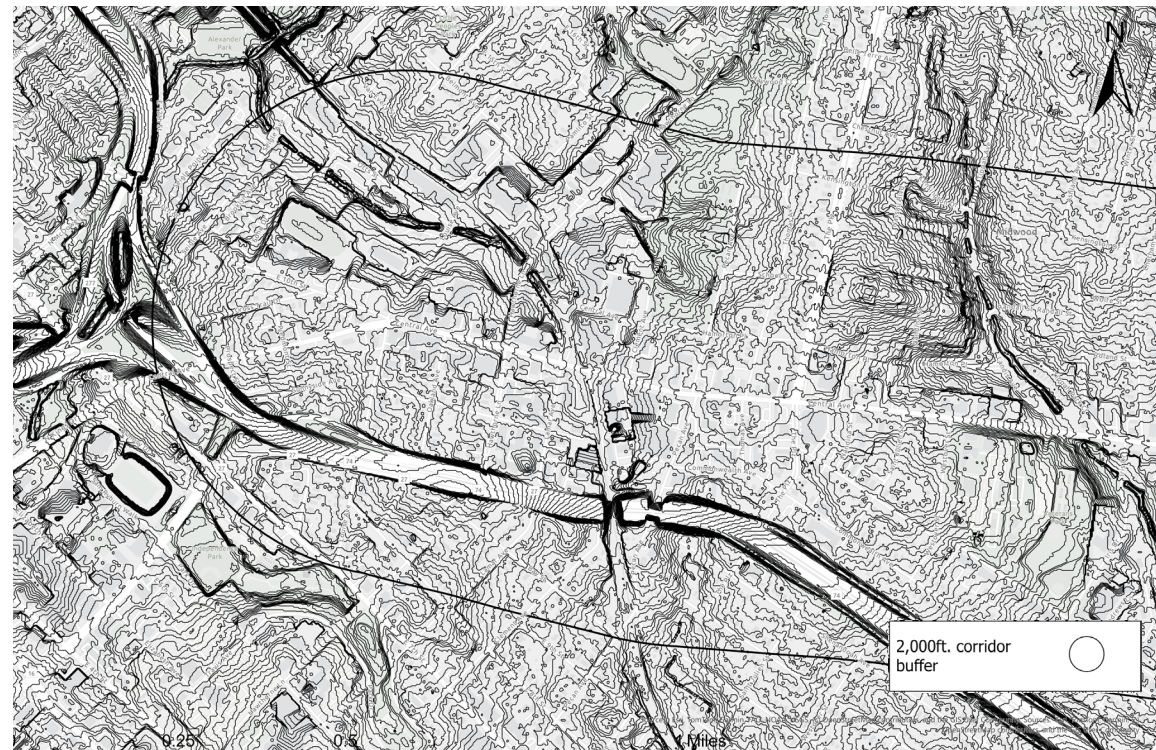
Central Avenue Corridor: Node 1

Plaza Midwood

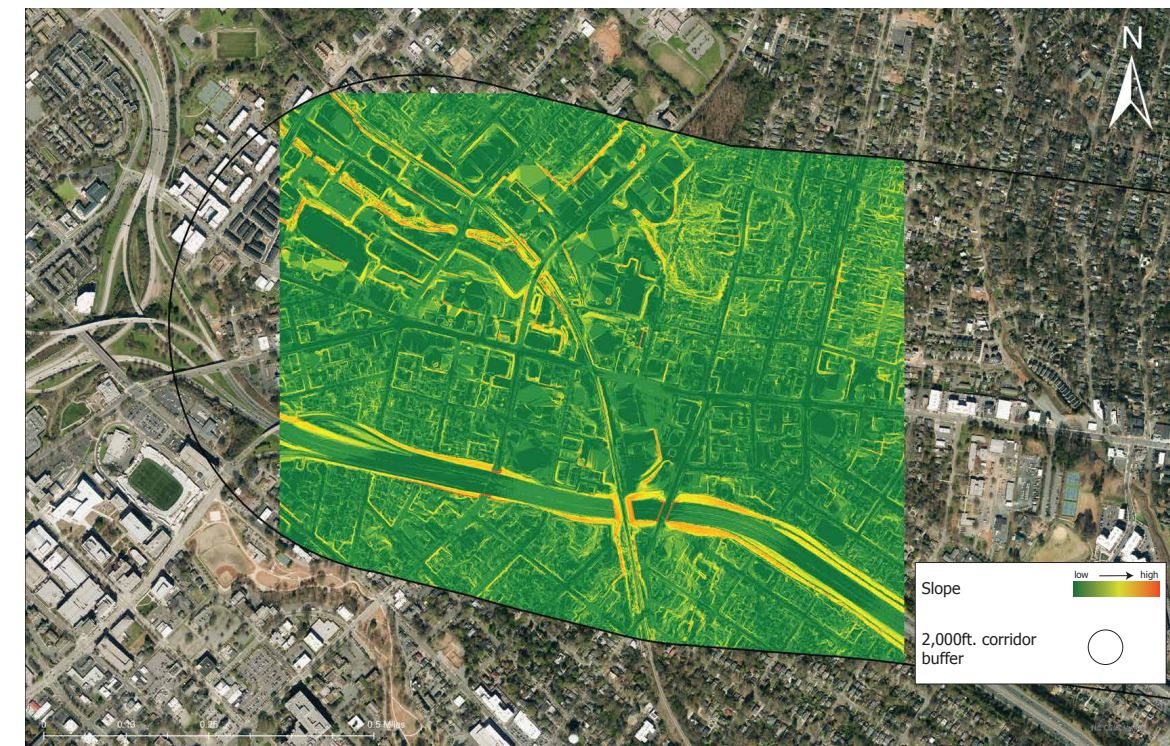
RASTER MAPS

Node 1 seems to be relatively continuous without much slope, except for alongside the highway and around a few major streets. The topographic map shows small changes in elevation in the areas surrounding the center of the map, creating the impression of a shallow valley.

TOPOGRAPHIC



HILLSHADE



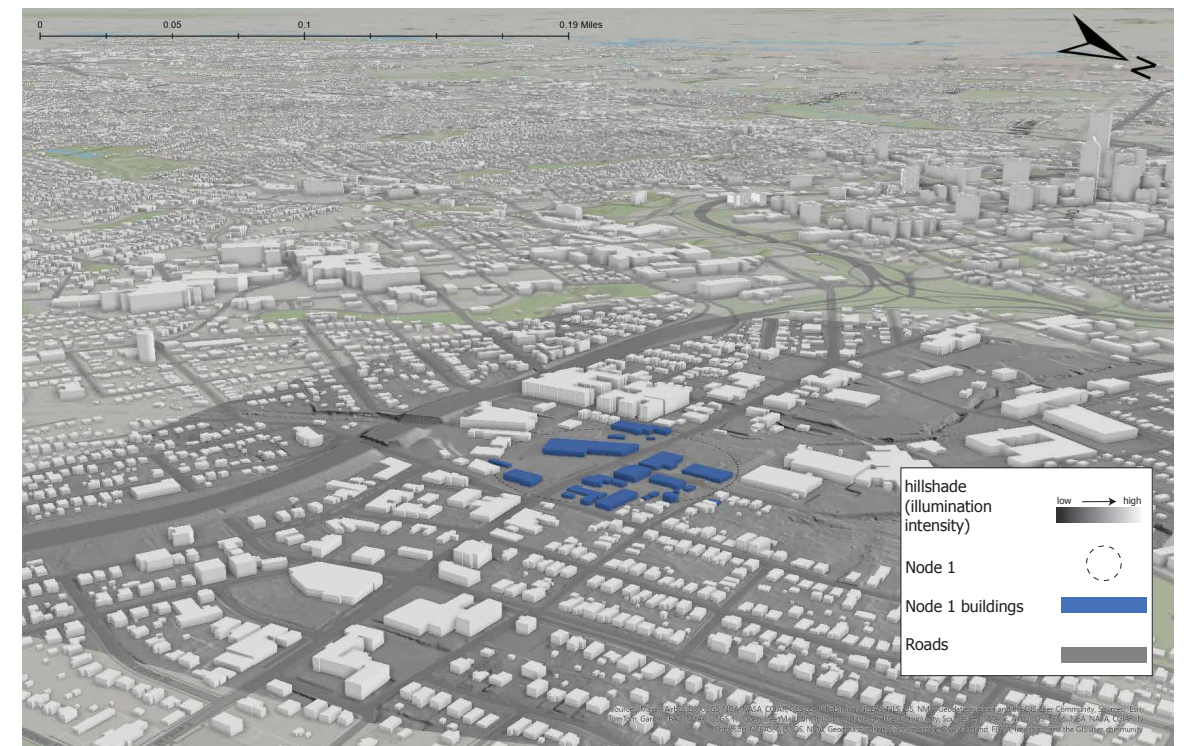
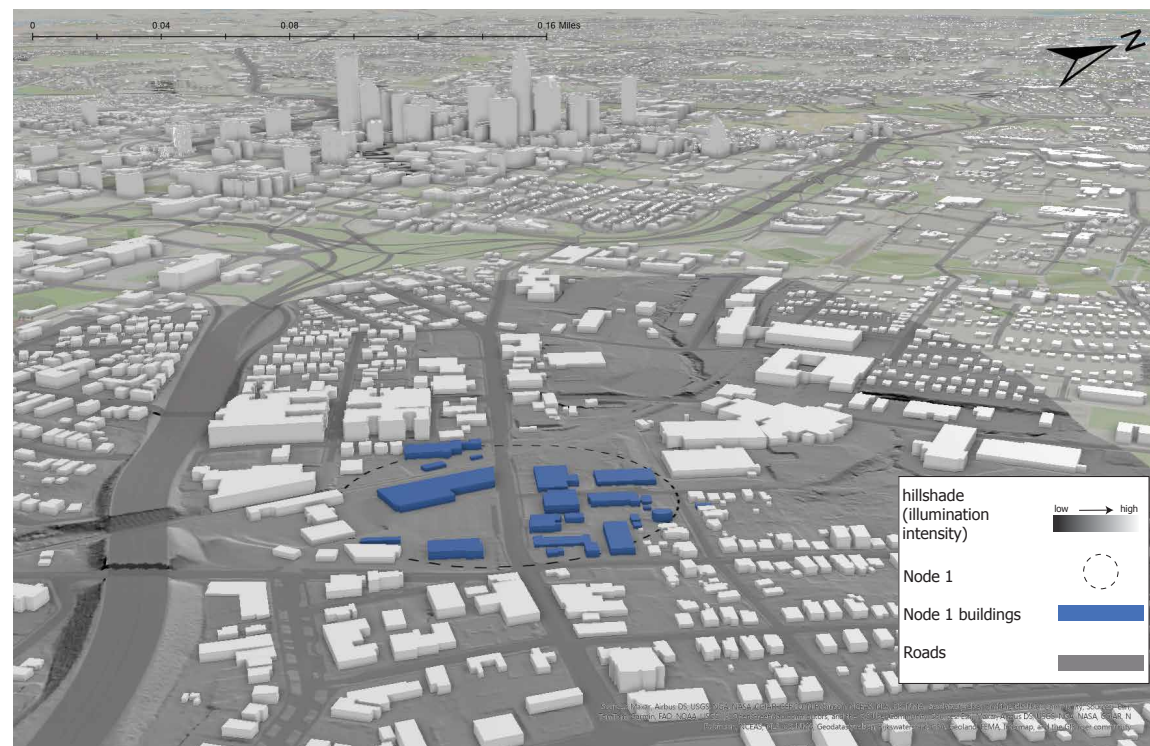
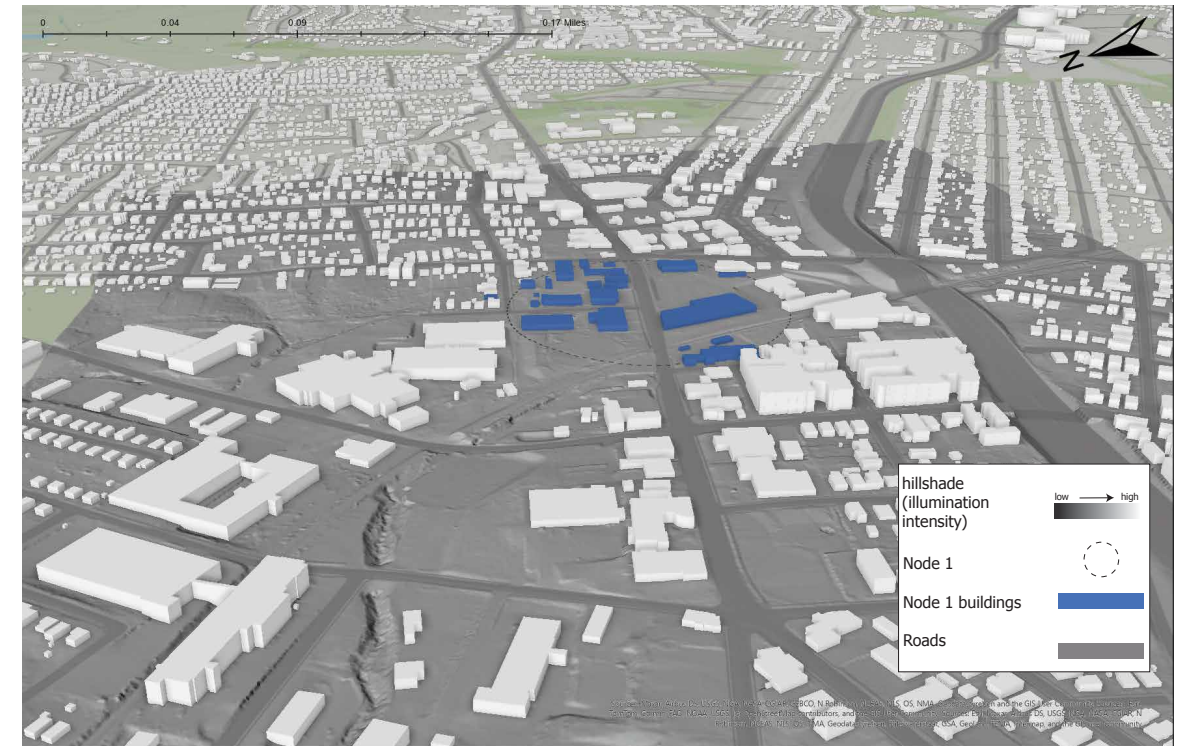
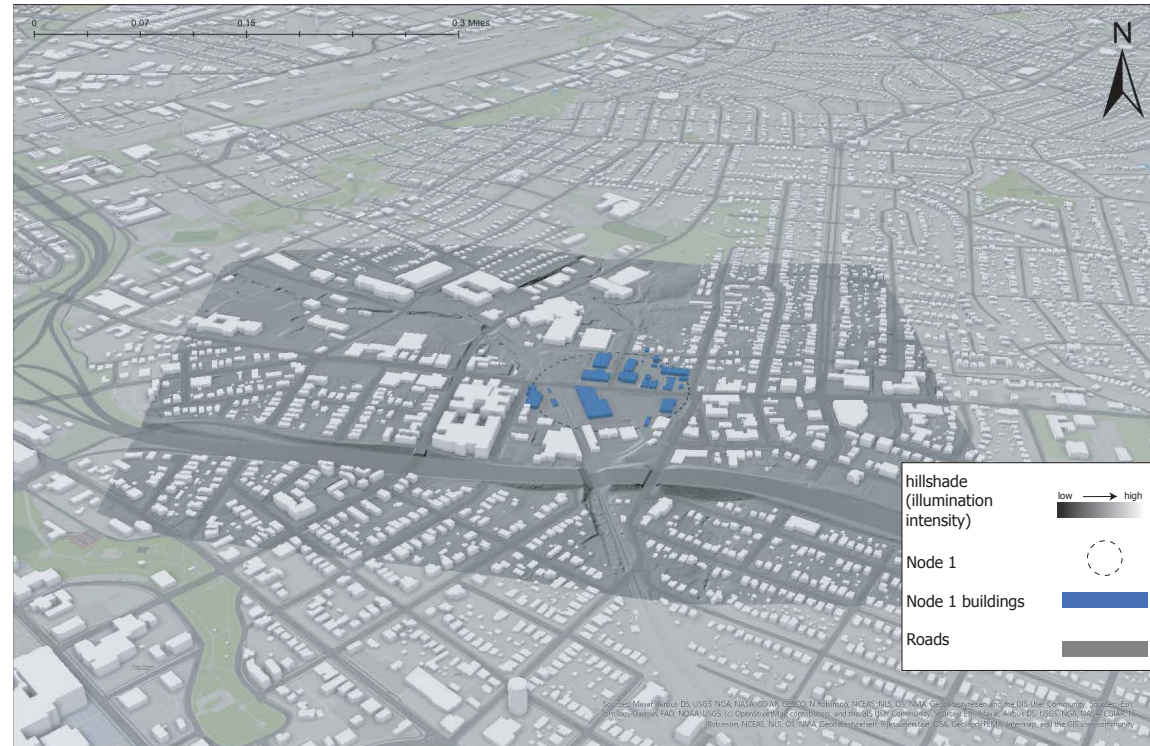
SLOPE

Central Avenue Corridor: Node 1

Plaza Midwood

3D URBAN FORM

This node features primarily mid- and low-rise buildings, in keeping with the urban scale outside the highway loop of I-277 and Uptown Charlotte. The buildings represented within this node have changed significantly since this data was recorded, with higher-rise, larger-footprint buildings rising in the past few years. Overall, the area's industrial nature is visible in the larger building footprints, while most structures are smaller residential buildings set close together.



Central Avenue Corridor: Node 2

Plaza Midwood

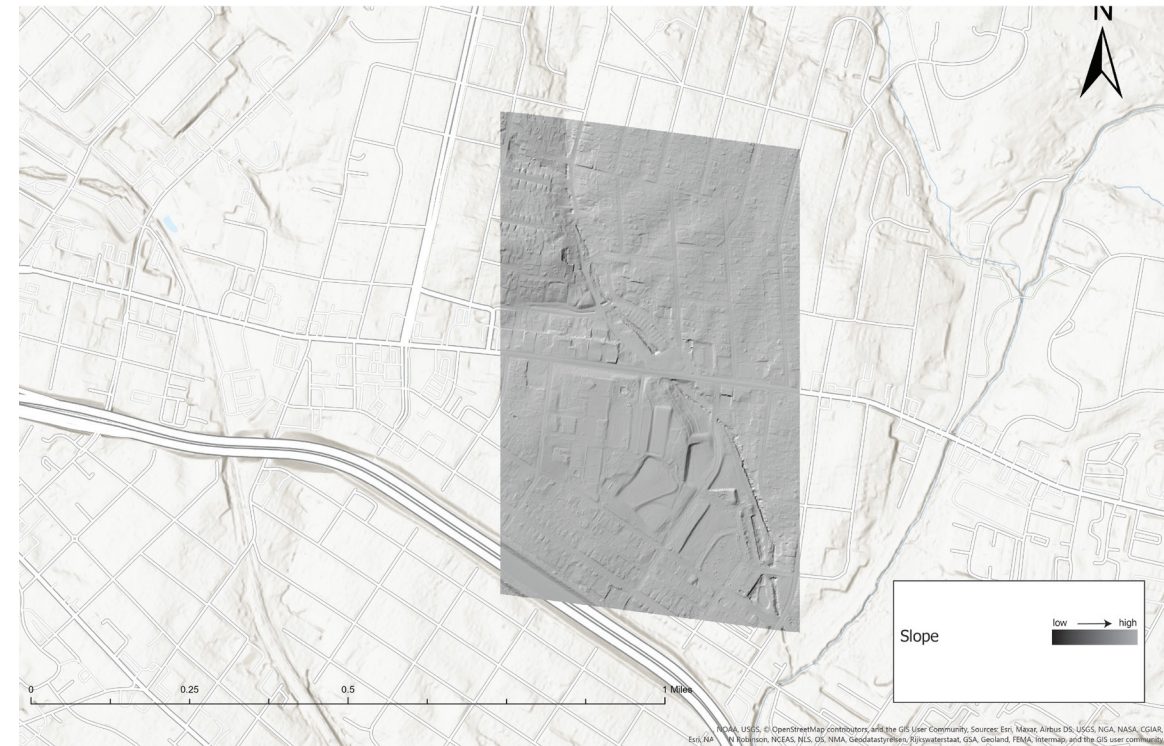
RASTER MAPS

Node 2 shows only a slight change in elevation, the greatest change marked by the valley cut through by Briar Creek.

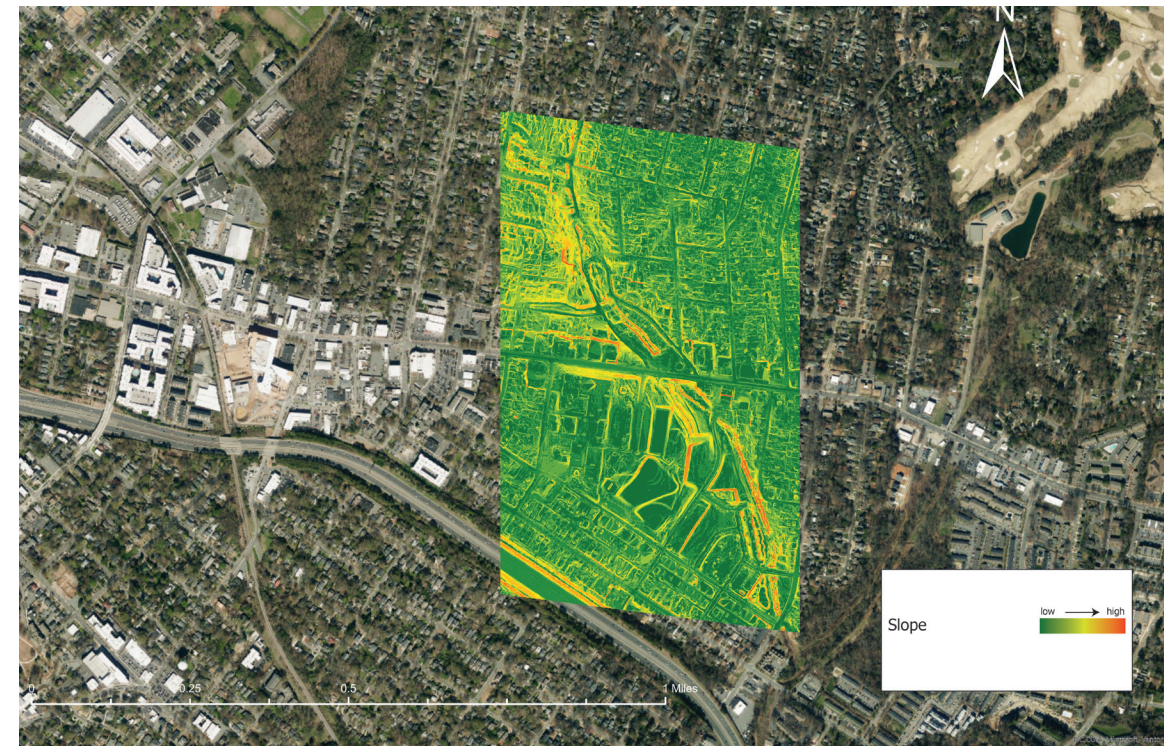
TOPOGRAPHIC



HILLSHADE



SLOPE

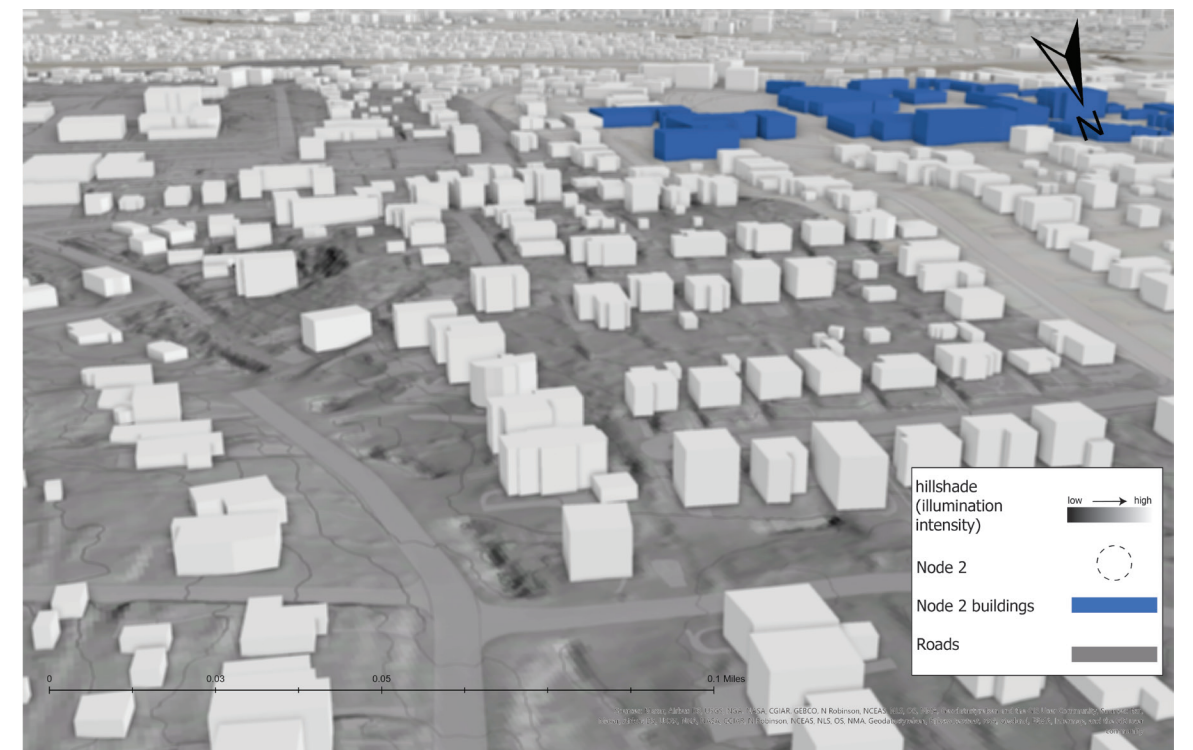
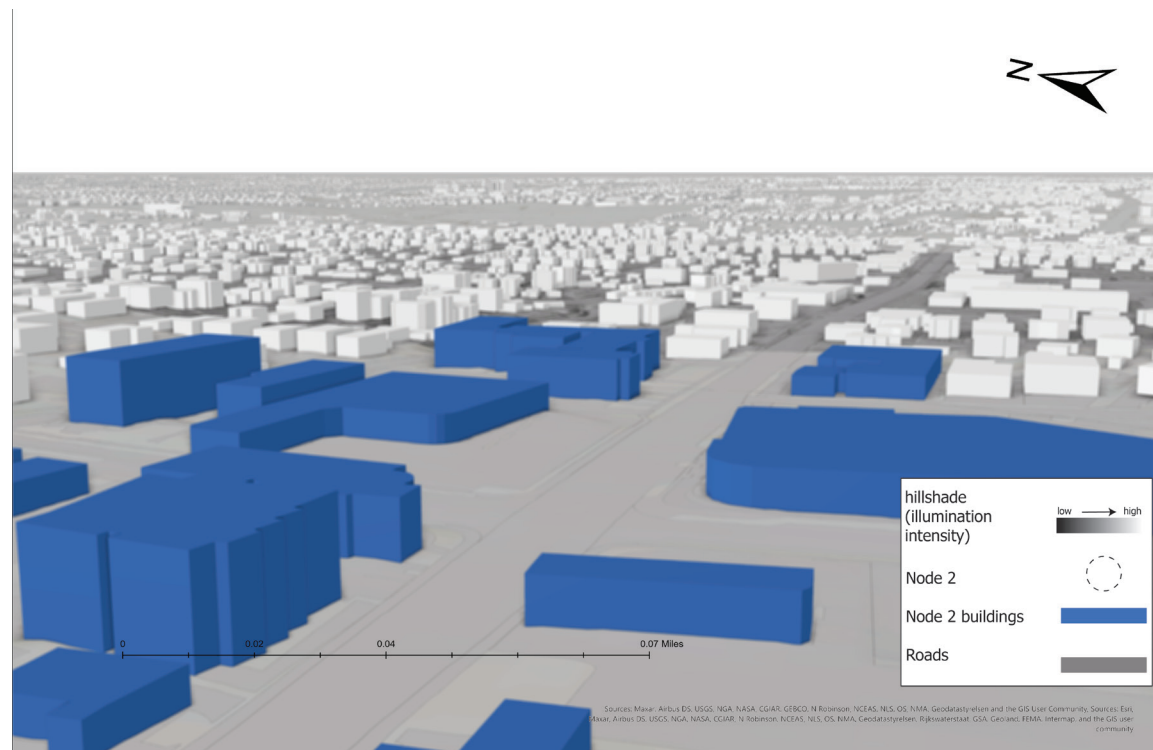
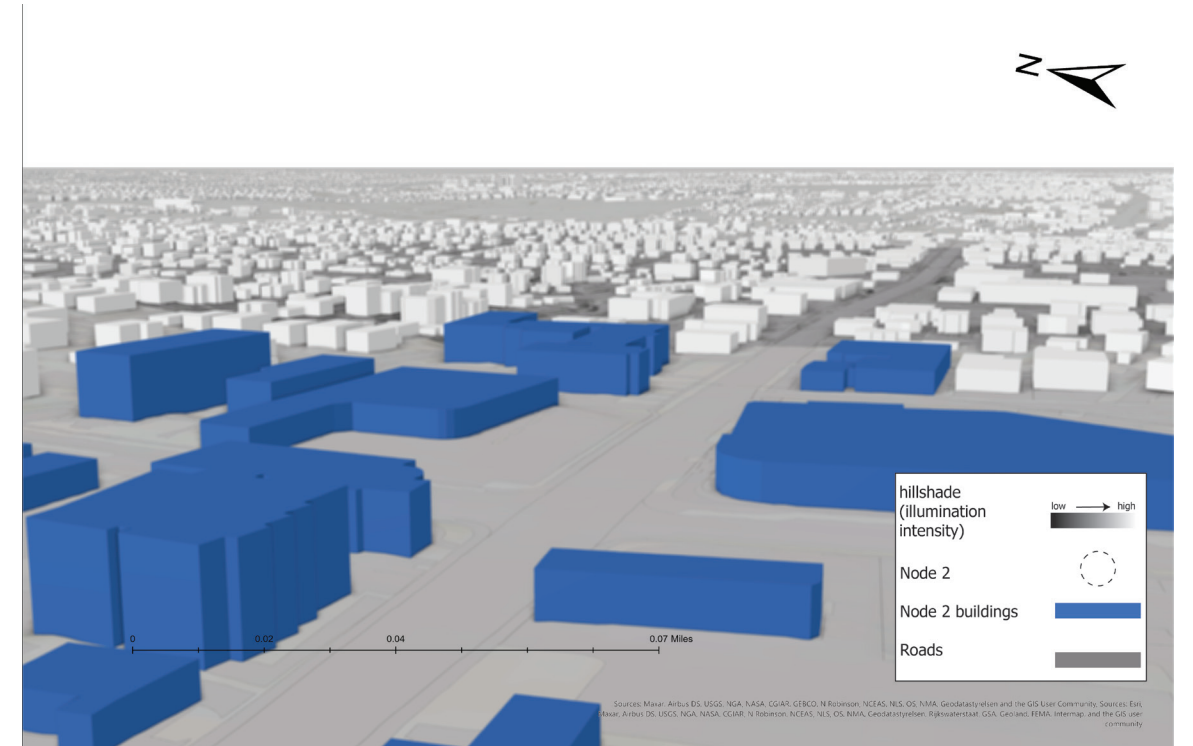
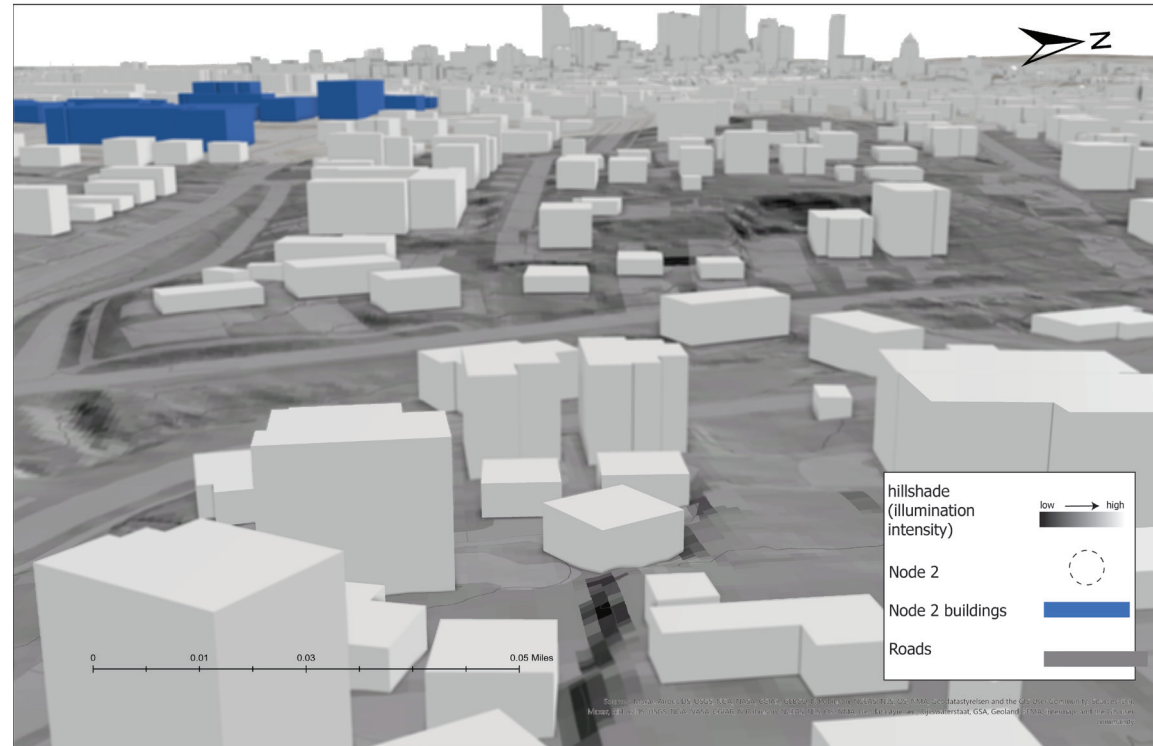


Central Avenue Corridor: Node 2

Plaza Midwood

3D URBAN FORM

These show the slight elevation change throughout the plaza, Central Ave and The Plaza are along the crests of these slopes. Briar Creek runs parallel to The Plaza, and the valley created is evident. Properties along The Plaza, modest single family homes spread out away from the more commercial corridor of Central Ave.



Central Avenue Corridor: Node 3

Plaza Midwood

RASTER MAPS

Node 3 is also fairly level, with the most notable slope and darkest hillshade being along Briar Creek and its connections. There are also more apparent changes in elevation along the southern edge of the golf course.

TOPOGRAPHIC



HILLSHADE



SLOPE



Central Avenue Corridor: Node 3

Plaza Midwood

3D URBAN FORM

Primarily low rise buildings along this section of the corridor. There are a few mid-rise buildings with larger footprints south of node three. The 3D view shows variety but also suggests clustering of building typology dependent on location relative to Briar Creek and Central Ave.

