Monitoring North Carolina's Economic Recovery from COVID-19

UNC-CH: City & Regional Planning (Noreen McDonald (PI), Nikhil Kaza (co-PI), Nichola Lowe, Tabitha Combs), Odum Institute of Social Science Research (Jon Crabtree)

Policymakers need real-time information to monitor North Carolina's economic reopening from COVID-19. The availability of large-scale data collected through cellphones, credit bureaus, and satellite imagery allows the research team to create a dashboard to monitor economic health for firms and families across North Carolina. The team will use the dashboard to provide decision makers with clear and concise data visualizations of economic impacts at the county and neighborhood level during 2020.

The team will pursue data from the sources listed in Table 1. The final set of sources will depend on vendor pricing and responsiveness.

Table 1. Anticipated Dashboard Data Elements

Type	Vendor/Source	Temporal Resolution	Spatial Resolution
Consumer debt burden and delinquency	Transunion/ CoreLogic	Monthly	Neighborhood
Business starts/closures/employees	Transunion	Monthly	Employment centers
Device counts	Safegraph/ Descartes Labs	Weekly	Neighborhoods, Points of Interest
Parking Lot Occupancy	Descartes Labs/ PLANET	Weekly	Points of Interest

Faculty and staff from UNC Chapel Hill bring expertise in transportation, economic development and labor markets as well as experience in large-scale data analytics, storage, and visualization. This team has familiarity with creating policy-relevant research through previous collaborations with the NC Departments of Commerce and Transportation.

Budget

Item	Budget Request
EHRA Salary	117,982
SHRA Salary	
Grad Student	17,720
Temps	
Fringe Pool	33,211
Non-Personnel Expenses	105,599
Tuition/Fees	12,516
Total	**287,028**