

## **Helpful Hints in Choosing Maps for the Community Atlas Project**

It is important to remember that the project should tell a story about your community.

Begin by creating a plan of the different maps. Consider what they will be showing and possible text descriptions to go along.

The project has a home page introducing the project. This page typically has an index that links to the different map pages.

The project consists of at least 10 original maps as a minimum and up to 20 maps total.

The first map is a locator map showing the region where your community is located. An example would be the state of Oklahoma with the county highlighted.

The next map would be an up close view of the location of the project. This usually shows the surrounding counties. An aerial photograph of the area could also be included here.

The next map pages are decided upon by the group. The following is a list of potential maps that can be created for your community:

### **Public Services**

- Hospital and medical centers locations
- Dentist and doctor office locations
- Location of safety services (police station, ambulances, etc.)
- Location of government/city offices
- Water, phone, electric service offices
- Airport
- Location of school buildings
- Voting district boundaries/precincts
- Banks
- Cemetery locations
- School district boundaries
- City Zoning areas
- Public voting results
- Recycling centers/Landfills

### **Transportation**

- Major intersections in community (stop signs, stop lights, highway crossovers)
- Types of transportation in community (railroads, waterways, highways)
- Bridges
- Number of accidents at dangerous locations
- Bus routes and stops

### **Population**

- Population growth over time
- Demographics

- City growth over a time period
- Urban versus rural areas
- Types of housing
- Occupations

### **Culture**

- Churches in community
- Local dining establishments
- Theaters

### **Recreation**

- Hiking, biking, and walking trails/scenic drive routes
- If near a body of water: places to ski, swim, boat ramps, fishing areas, etc.
- Recreation areas and parks

### **Economy**

- Shopping areas
- Commercial versus residential areas
- Industrial areas
- Development areas (housing, industrial, commercial, etc.)
- Oil and gas well locations
- Military camp locations
- Tourist sites
- Wind mill location
- Power plant locations
- Current local issues

### **Environment/Conservation**

- Tornado damage/path
- Flood damage (from a certain year)
- Invasive weeds and plants
- Rivers
- Elevation of area
- Soil types in community
- Different crops planted in community
- Land use
- Fire Damage

### **Historical**

- 100 year old farms, trees, buildings, etc.
- Historical monuments & architecture
- If someone or something famous is from your community, map all sites associated with that person/thing

Some projects include a section about where to go for more information as well as a section that gives credit to those who helped with the project at the end.