

# Innovation Districts

A dark blue map of the United States is shown, with numerous small, glowing yellow dots scattered across the landmasses. These dots represent innovation districts. The dots are concentrated in the Northeast corridor, the Great Lakes region, and the West Coast, with more sparse distribution in the central and southern regions.



1 2 3

# 1 Why Innovation Districts? Why Now



PROFOUND ECONOMIC,  
DEMOGRAPHIC, AND CULTURAL  
SHIFTS ARE CHANGING THE SPATIAL  
GEOGRAPHY OF INNOVATION





Photo: Ajuntament de Barcelona

Our most creative institutions, firms, and workers are craving greater **proximity and integration** so that knowledge can be transferred—and built upon—more quickly and seamlessly.

Our diverse population is demanding **more and better choices** in where they live, work, and play—across jurisdictions, neighborhoods, and building types.



Photo: Ajuntament de Barcelona

Our networked way of life is increasingly more **collaborative and 'open,'** which is altering and accelerating how firms and people interact, how ideas flow, and how places are designed.



# Innovation District

A 21st Century economy-shaping/place-making strategy that connects and clusters innovation-generating anchor institutions and companies with entrepreneurial firms, infrastructure, housing, retail, and amenities.



## Starbuck, Stadia, Stealing Businesses



## 20th Century Science Parks and Suburban Corridors



## Placemaking Without Economy Building

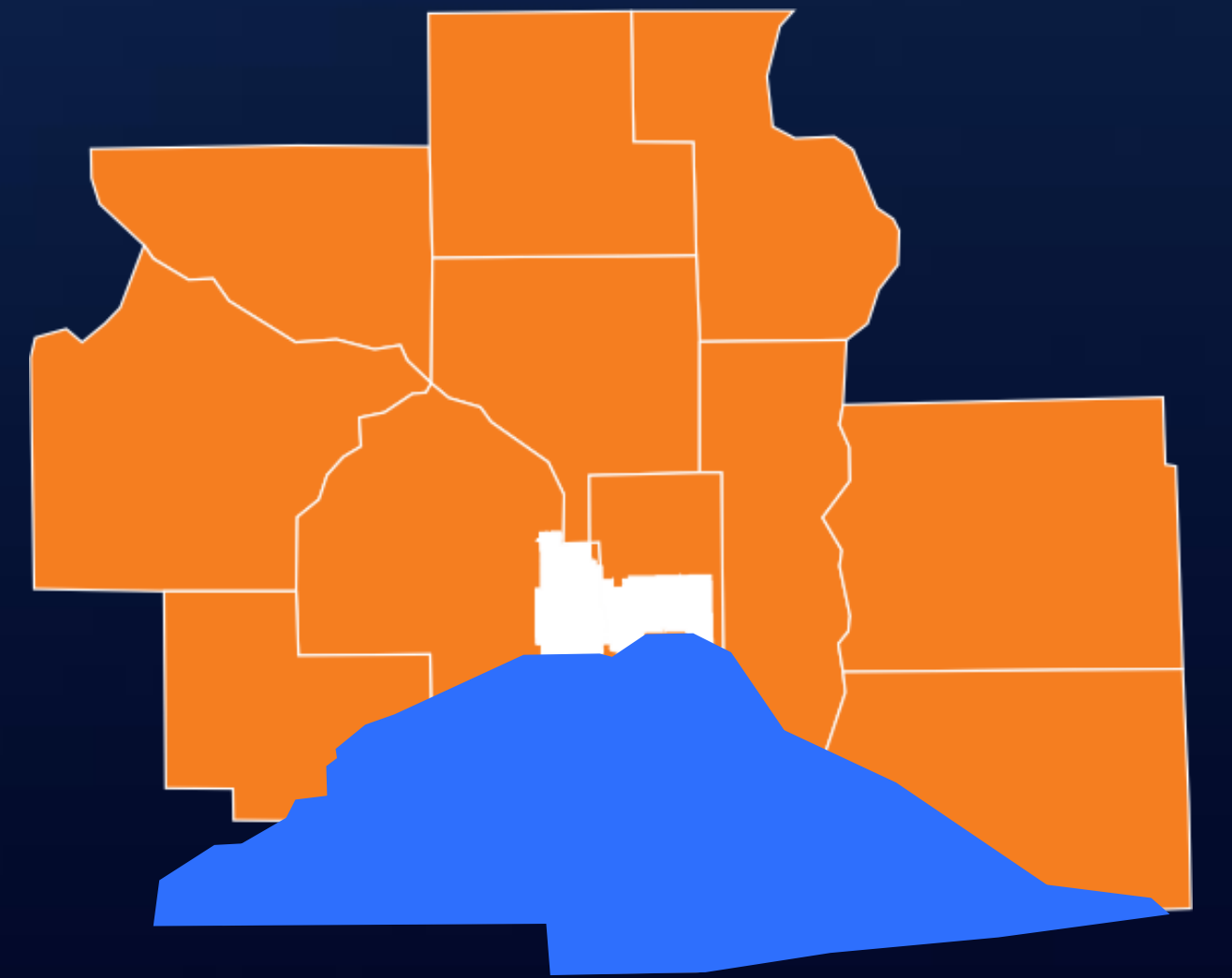




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Where are Innovation Districts?  
What form do they take?



# Global Districts



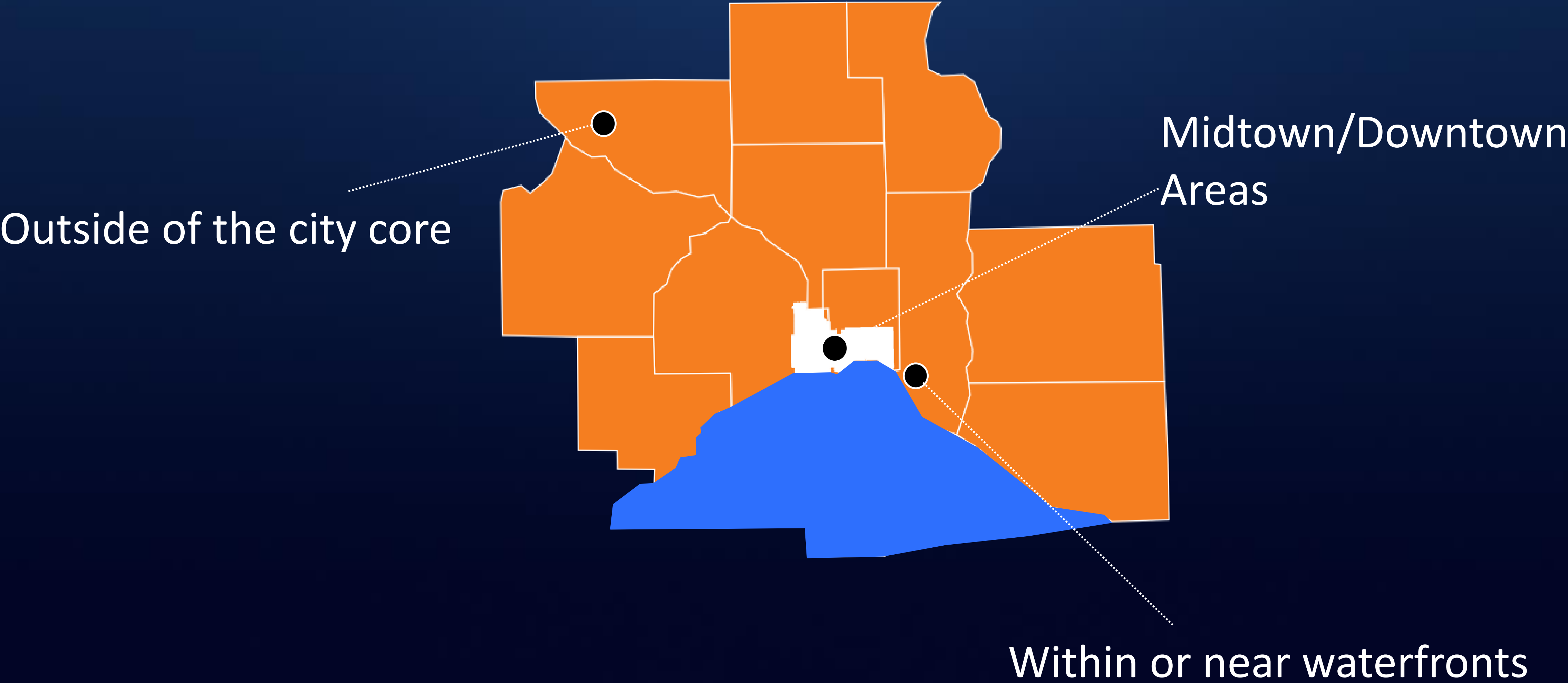


# U.S. Metros that are Assembling Assets for an Innovation District





# Typology of Innovation Districts





# Boston

## Waterfront



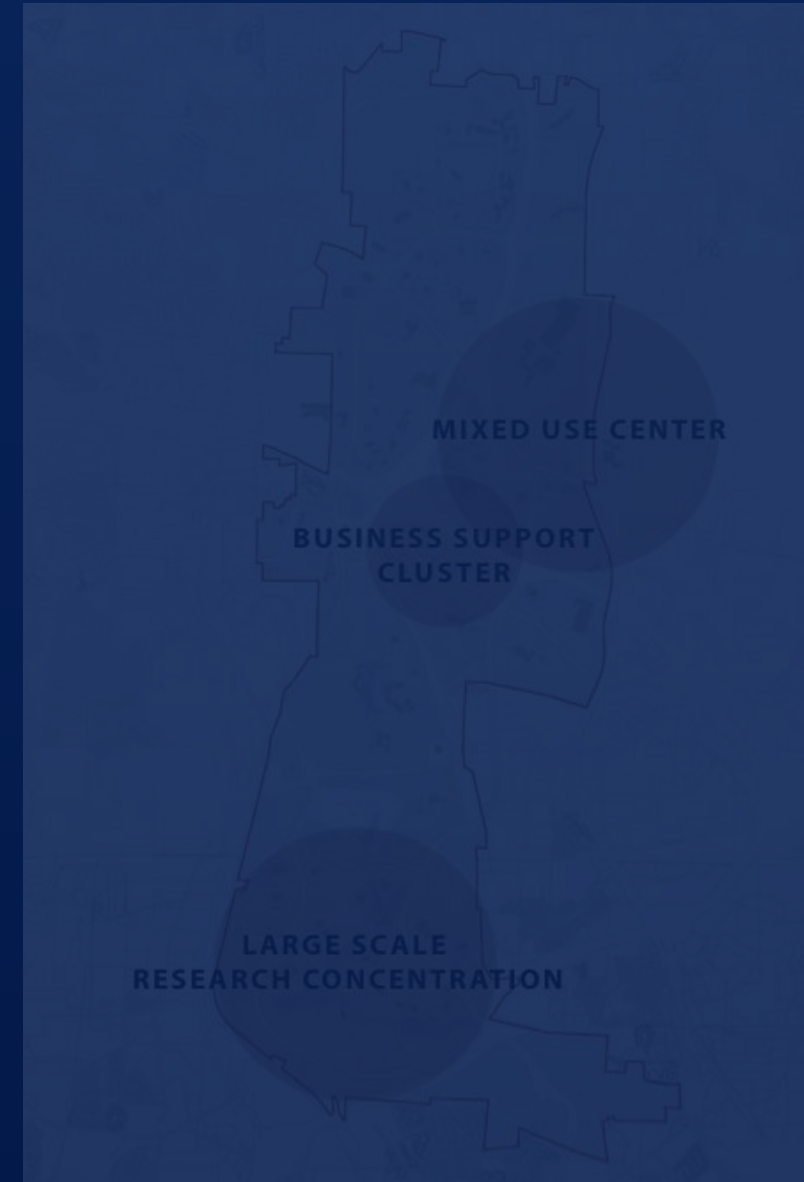
1000 acres

“To invent a 21st century district that meets the needs of the innovators who live and work in Boston”

Mayor Menino, 2010

# Research Park

## Outside City Core



7000 acres

“...a once-in-a-generation opportunity to re-envision the concept of the Park as a center of innovation for the 21st Century.”

RTP Master Plan, 2011

# Detroit

## Downtown/Midtown



3328 acres

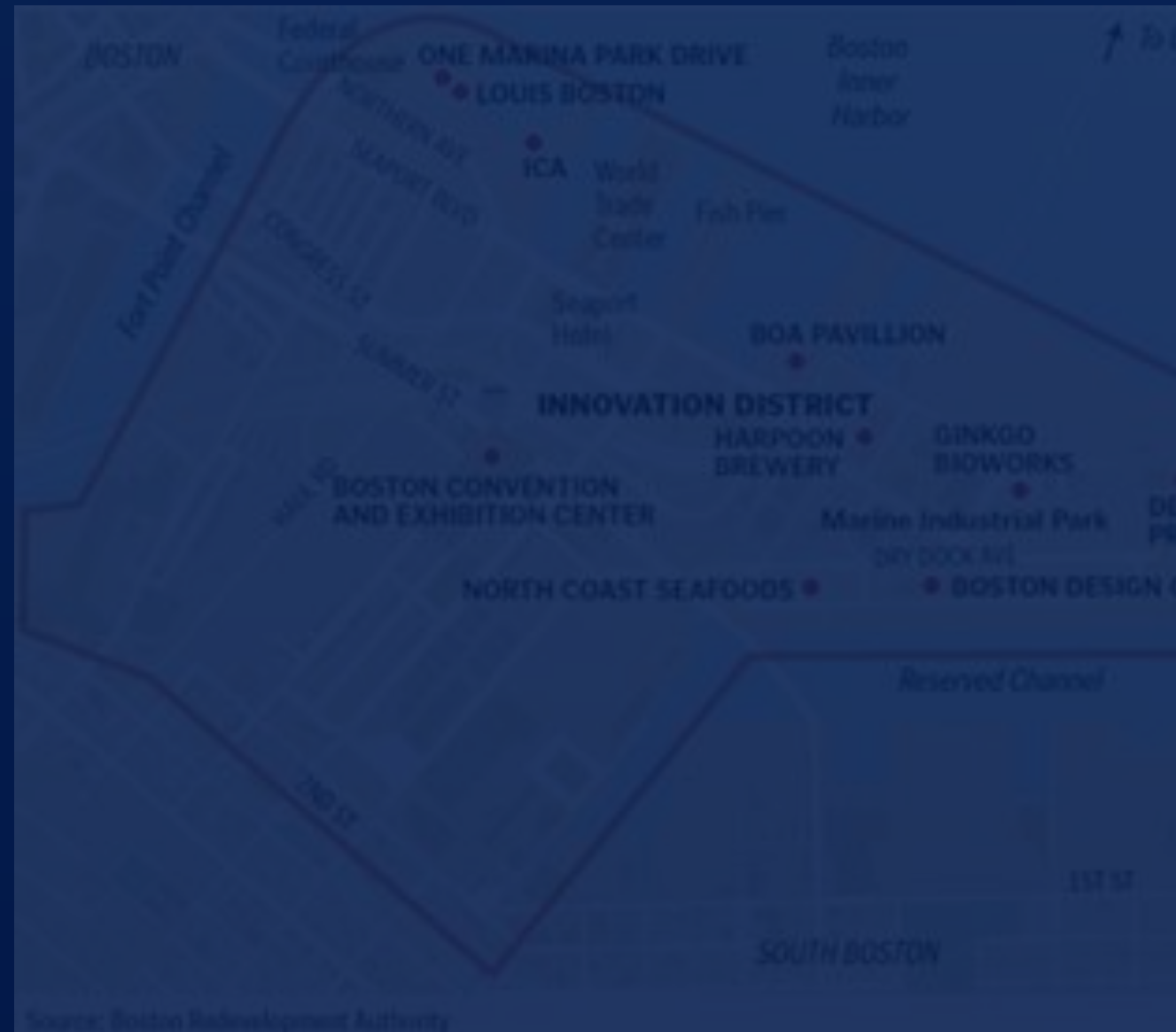
“Midtown has the potential to be a national model for innovation-based economic growth”

Detroit Future City, 2013



# Boston

## Waterfront



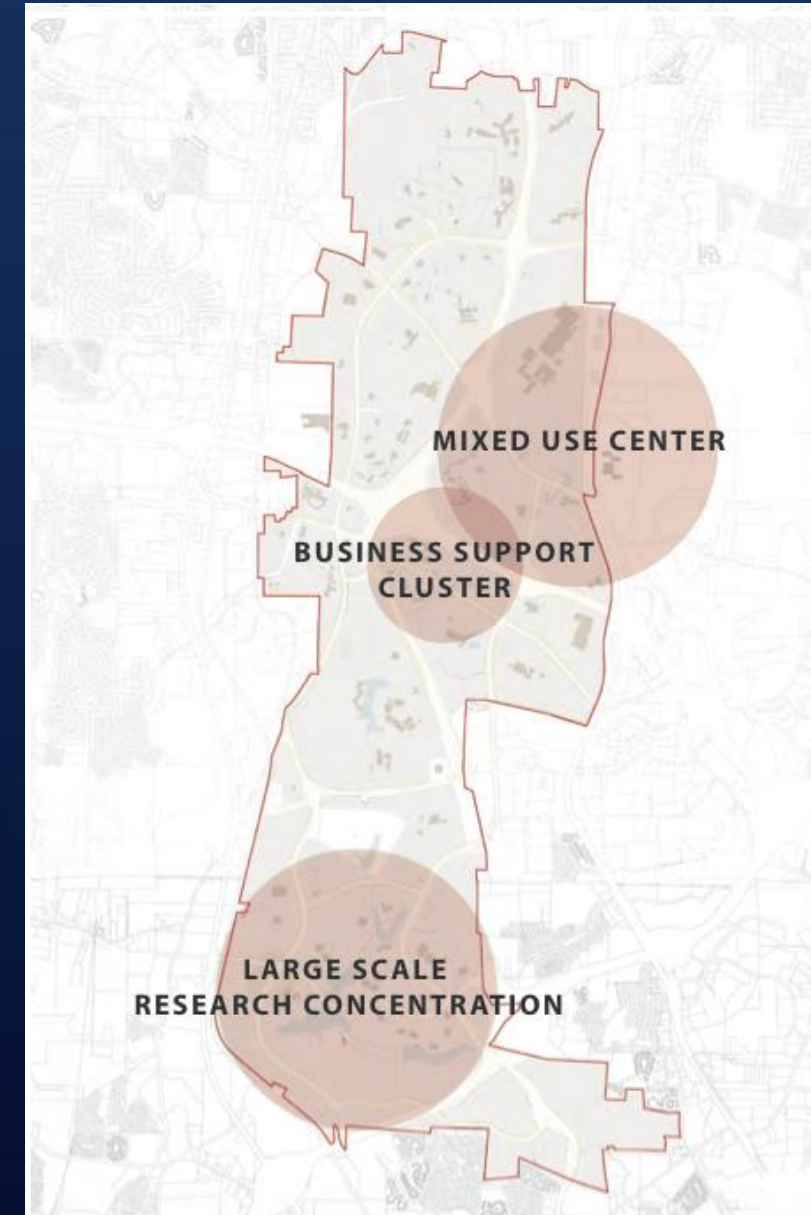
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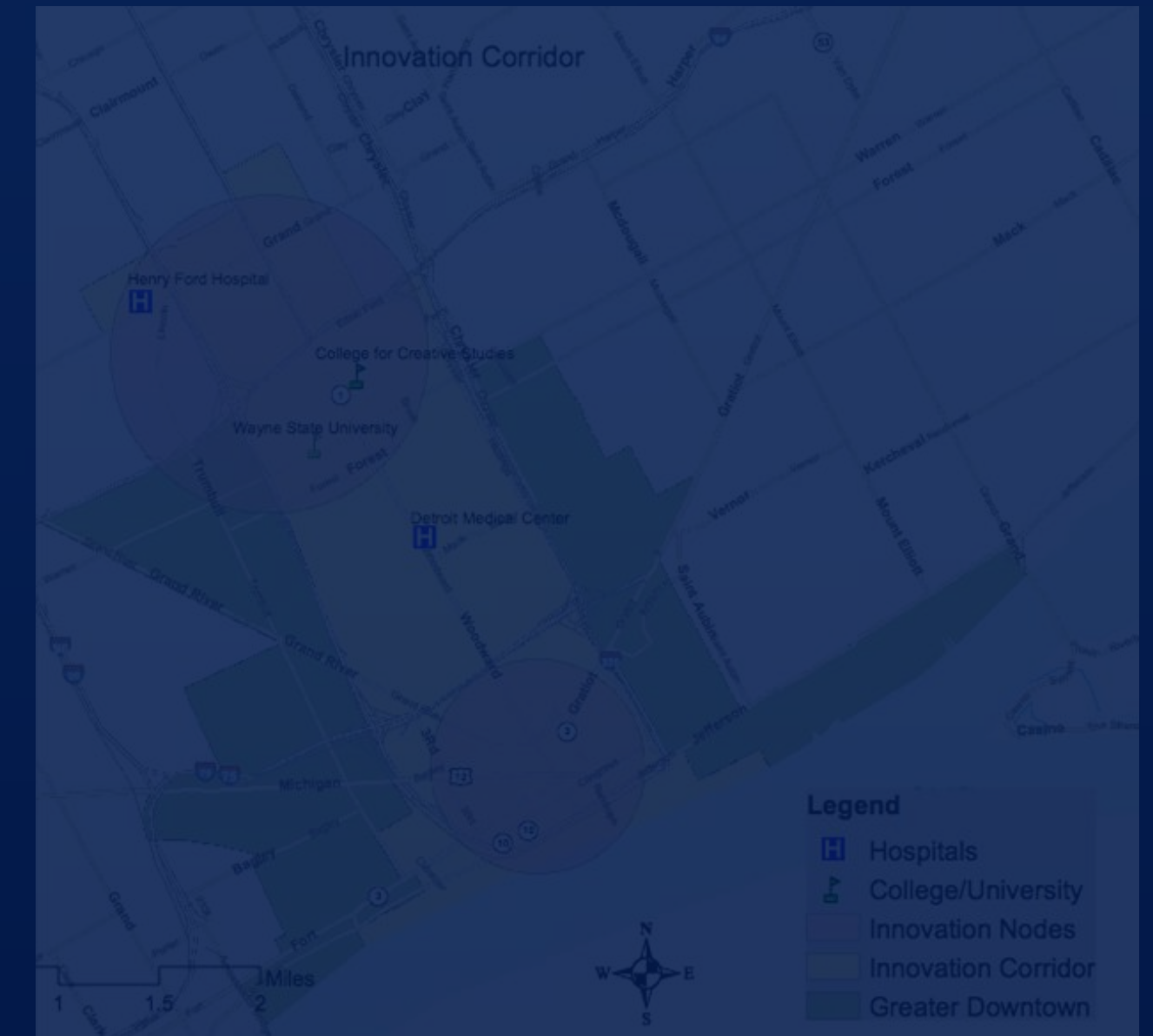
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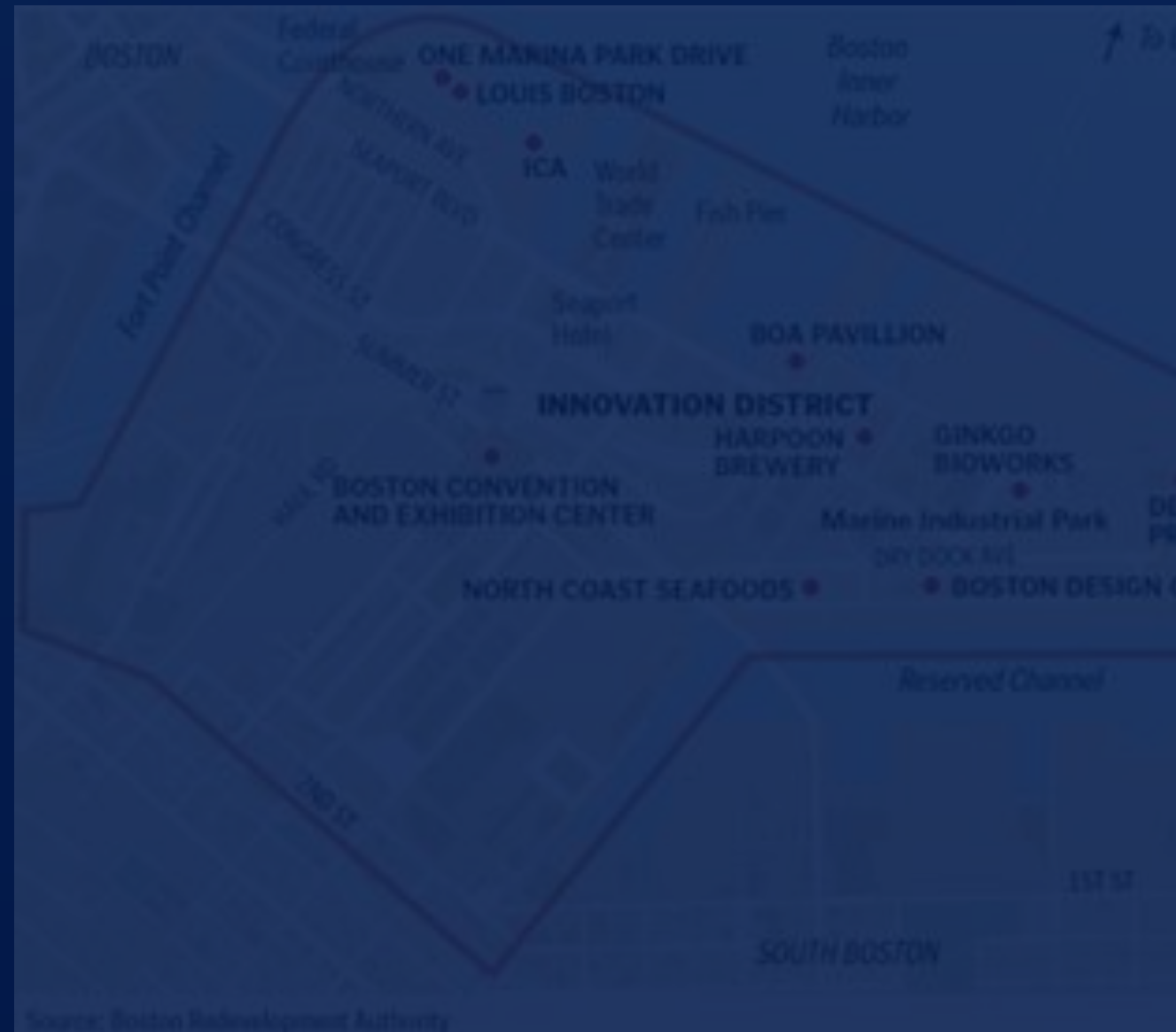
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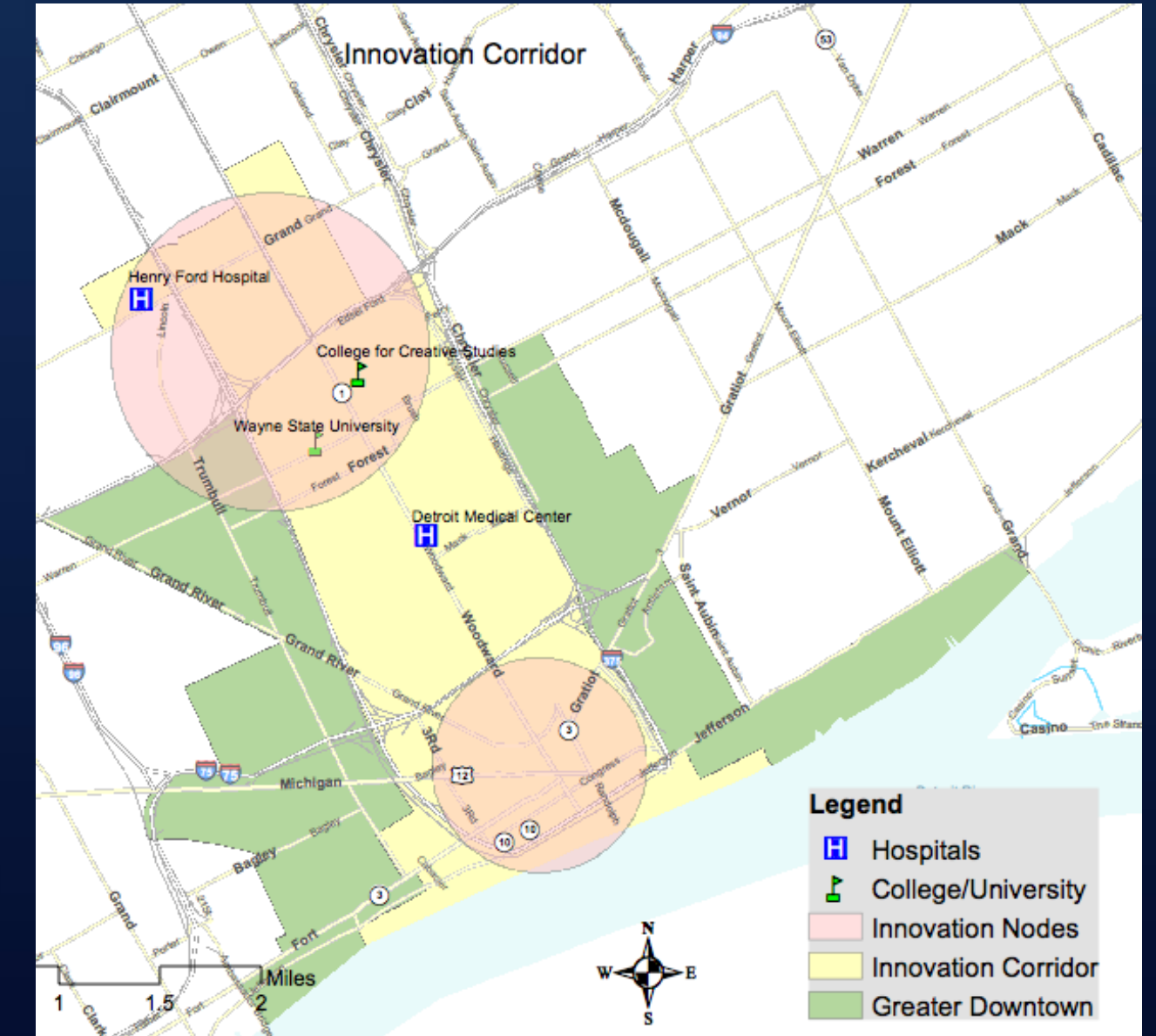
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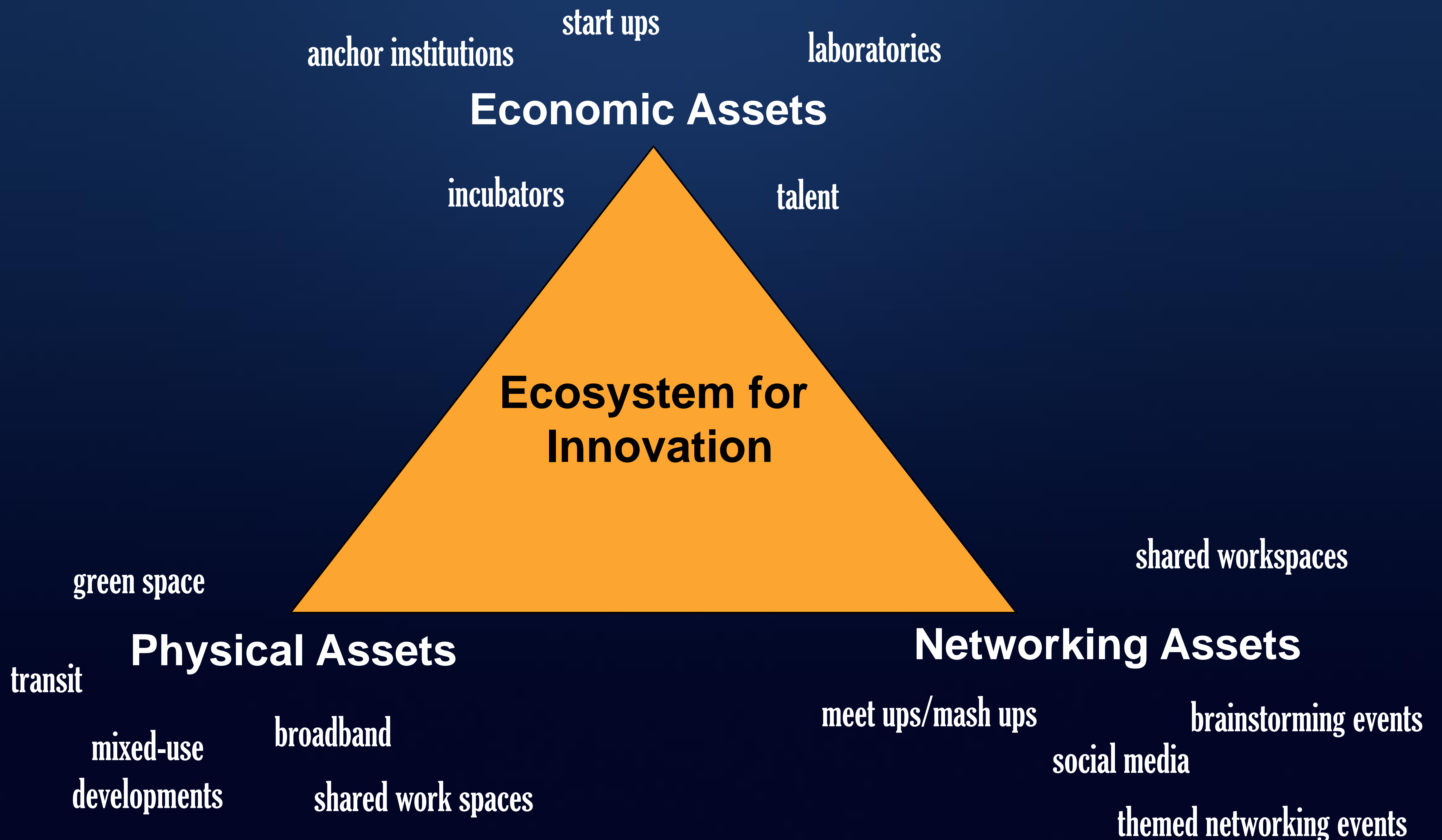
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Breaking Apart Innovation Districts









# Factors of Success

Clusters

Talent

Technology

Capital

Culture

Organized leadership





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