

Location Value



[Location value](#) is created and sustained by the community. It is the totality of businesses and residents that use the landed gifts of God or Nature (climate, fertile soil, waterways, minerals, etc.) to create this value. It is a whole that is bigger than the sum of its parts.

Population density is both a cause and effect of increased location value. Technological progress is both a cause and effect of increased location value. Abundant business and employment opportunities, enhanced choice, and product availability are both causes and effects of increased location value. Diverse choices in entertainment, places of worship, friends, and associations are all causes and effects of increased location value.

Because location value is a complex calculus of subjective desire over a diverse population, it cannot be measured outside of a market. Transactions for location, such as the purchase of land for a factory or restaurant, will themselves have a material effect on location value.

Because every location is unique and because there is a wide variance of subjective value placed on a given location, and because location value is dynamic, it is difficult to extrapolate any useful information from a transaction for location.

Location has no objective value. While a particular business might have an objective way to measure the value of a specific location, another business or individual will value it quite differently. Location value is either subjective or microeconomic.

Because most effects are themselves causes of increased location value, the natural dynamic is for location value to forever increase, providing great benefit to humanity. Some benefit is lost, even in prosperous communities, because location value is siphoned off by individuals for personal gain by collecting the [ground rent](#) on location value they had no hand in creating.

Is this theft of community-created value the root of social and economic injustice?



Were there 100 people left on Earth, neither Fifth Avenue in New York nor Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills would have any location value. Should 90 of those 100 people be clustered in Urbana, Illinois, survivors would flee the fashion outlets and abandoned luxury condominiums on Fifth Avenue, risking life and limb to find their way to Urbana, Illinois.

The claim that theft of community-created value is the primary root of social and economic injustice is not a cry for class warfare, nor is it an assumption found in the proposed remedy. A second wrong is not demanded as vengeance for the first.

After all, most of us either own a small amount of land, or wish we could. We expect most of those legally holding claims on community-created value to gladly surrender those claims in exchange for rich compensation. Which is very likely, given the very real probability that those claims will ultimately become worthless.



The subjective value of land is arbitrarily high, potentially of infinite value. Many have killed and died for land.