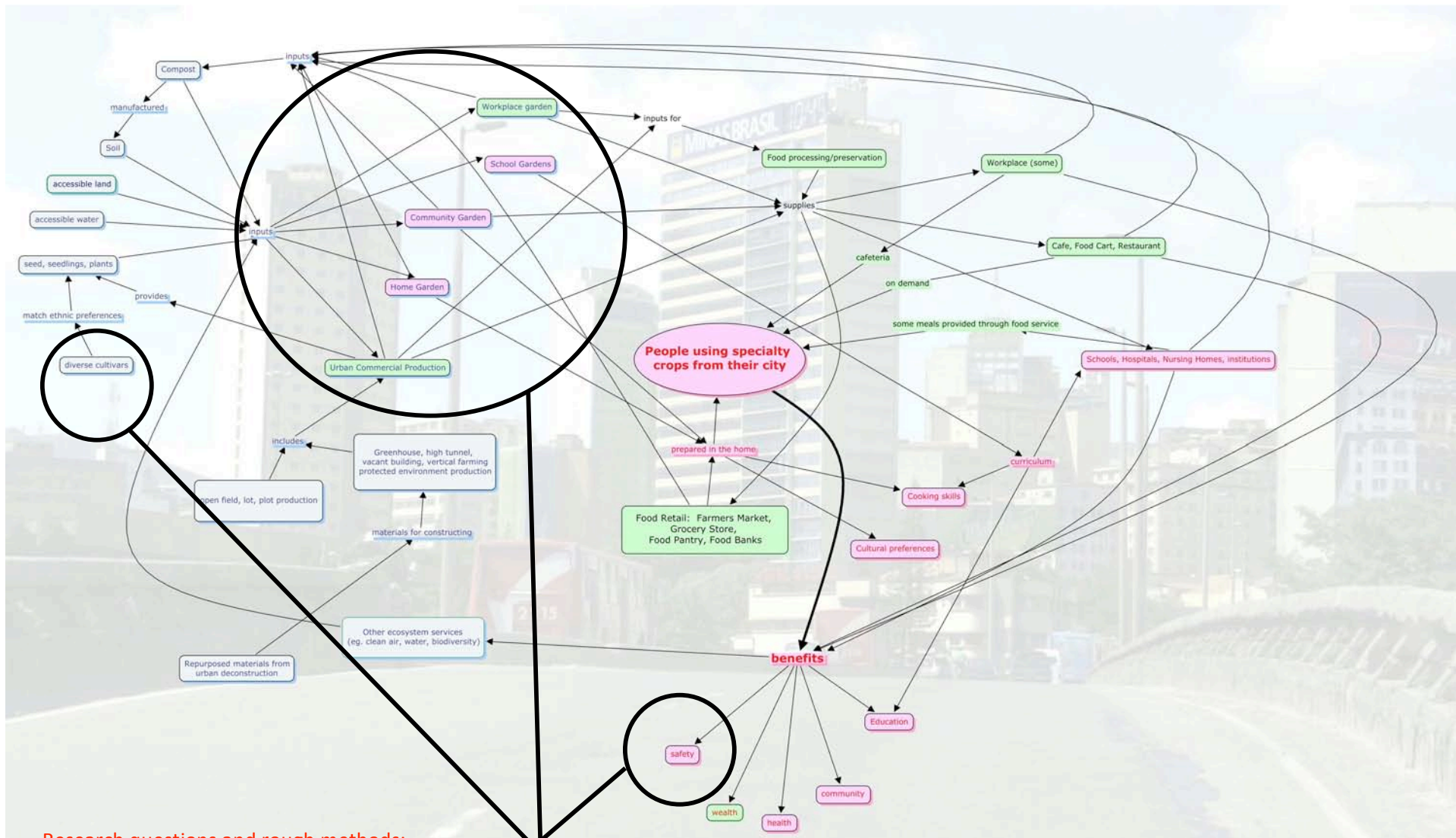


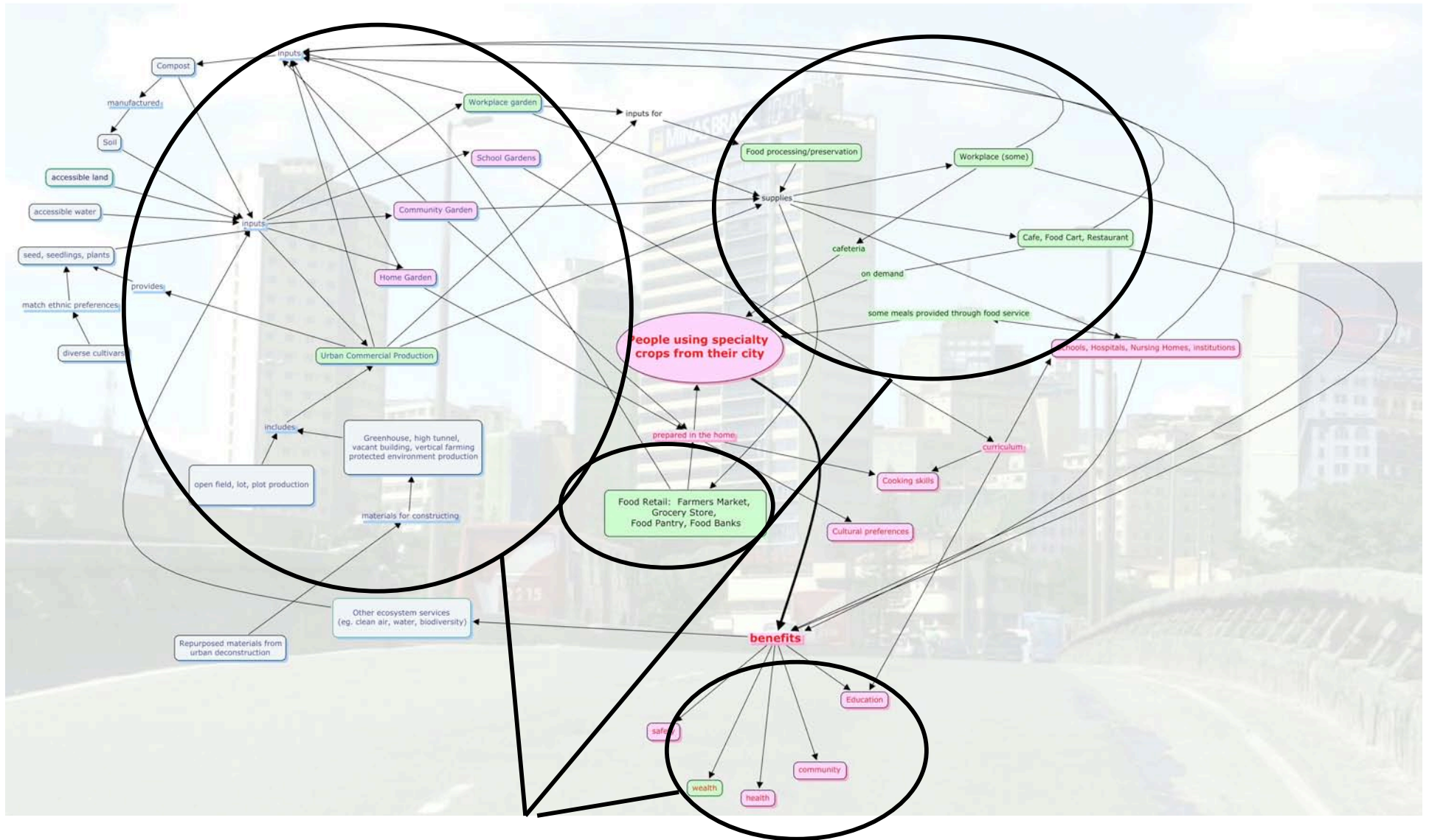
Research questions and rough methods:

- What municipal policies help or hinder urban specialty crops production? Assemble and categorize policies regarding urban land use (specifically affecting specialty crop production), water access, and local buying that are currently in place in a sample of Midwestern cities, and examine their correlation with green space, garden access, and production levels. Estimate the impact of more widespread use of innovative policy that help urban specialty crops production.



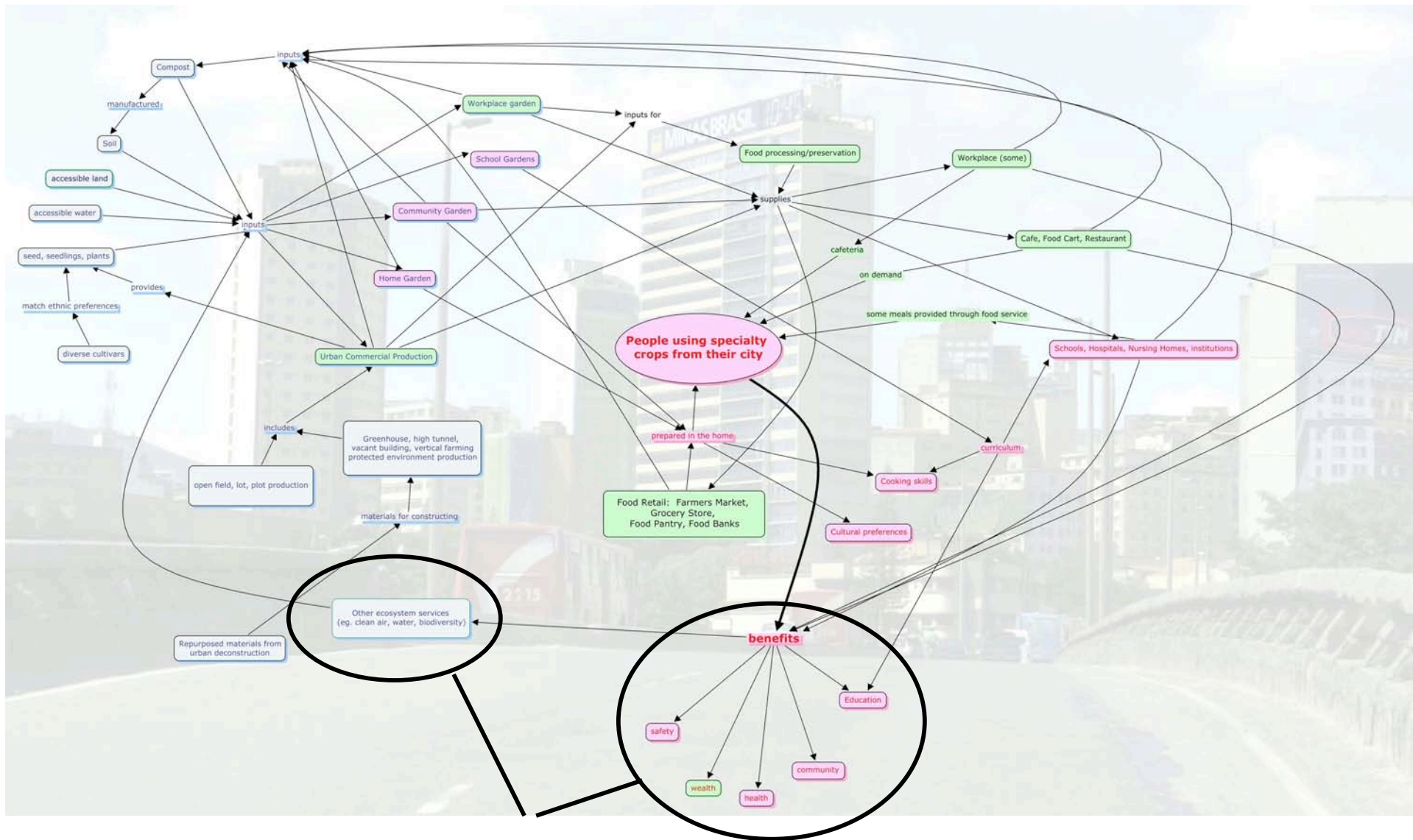
Research questions and rough methods:

- **W h a t** is the correlation between extent of use (number of groups, individuals, time spent in urban production spaces) and security in terms of vandalism and crime rates? Collect data on use for a sample of urban production locations and compare with crime statistics within a 1/4mi buffer.
- **W h a t** combination of specialty crops provide the best fences in urban production? Test combinations of blueberries, thorned and thornless blackberries, raspberries, hops, trellised vine crops (e.g. cucumber), for rate of establishment, density, productivity and “penetrability”.



Extension objectives and rough methods (based on both Education and Social Structure):

- Given the cognitive mapping framework described above for community education needs surrounding urban specialty crop production, how can we best recast the role of the extension professional to support its development? Describe the skills and activities needed for someone who assists a community in managing their commons, facilitates the formation of new businesses around urban specialty crops, builds supportive social networks and structure and helps the community access and grow whatever expertise is needed for consistent, productive, nutritious and safe specialty crop production and use by the community. Develop the profile for this professional as a collaboration between extension and community activists and leaders. Test the proposed skill and activity set in each of the urban centers collaborating in the project.



Research questions and rough methods:

- What are the specific data needs and analyses needed to fully characterize the benefits of urban specialty crop production? Develop a community specialty crops evaluation tool during year 1 of the project that, including data collected by both the community and supporting agencies such as urban organizations and universities, test the performance of the evaluation tool by applying it to communities participating in the project during years 2-5.