

SEMN GIS User Group
City of Red Wing Council Chambers: 415 W. 4th Street, Red Wing, MN 55066
Thursday, July 9th 9:30 am - 12:00 pm
Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Alan Laumeyer – Goodhue County
Dave Wittman – Olmsted County
Sarah Schrader – Goodhue County
Michelle Trager – Rice County
Kevin Alishouse – Greater MN Gas
Shawn Gertken – Wabasha County
Nick Meyers – Winona County
Beau Kennedy – Goodhue County SWCD
Lawrence Svien – USDA NRCS
Brian Fischer – Houston Engineering
Alison Slaats – 1000 Friends

Dave Wavrin – Steele County
Mary Sheehan – Olmsted County
Brian Welch – City of Northfield
Tom Hoffmann – Winona County
Leanne Knott – City of Red Wing
Rick Garmers – Peoples Cooperative Electric
Todd Zielsdorf – Winona County
Bonnie Maffitt – MN Land Trust
Sam Klimoski – ESRI
Greta Bernatz – Goodhue County
Mayor John Howe – City of Red Wing

Introductions

4 new people attended this meeting!

Stormwater Utility Land Use project

Leanne Knott, City of Red Wing GIS Specialist

The full version of this presentation is available for viewing on the SEMN Yahoo Groups website.

In 2008, city staff discussion options to fund storm water management and maintenance. Staff decided to create a fee based on the volume of run-off for the different land use types. There is a flat fee of \$48 annually for most parcels and then various calculations were used to compile a fee for each land use type.

- City GIS staff used the county's 2007 imagery and LIDAR data, as well as the FSA 2008 imagery and city datasets to heads-up digitize the land use types for the entire city.
- Challenges:
 - Currently 675 parcels missing linework in the database. Of those, 223 are Right-of-Way parcels that are not taxed and so are not drawn in by the county, 278 are condominium units and 150 parcels that are missing.
 - Time was a factor for this project. The original goal for this project was to have it implemented by January 1st, 2009. As of July, this project still has not been implemented but it close to doing so.
 - Maintenance of the land use types and information will be time-consuming.
 - Many residential addresses did not match the billing information.
- What's Next:
 - Migrate information to the Springbrook billing software. Projected revenue is \$400,000 annually.
- Notes:
 - City of Northfield implemented their own stormwater utility project in January 2009.
 - Fees are based on the percentage of impervious surfaces on the parcels.

Questions:

Q: Were parking lots considered?

A: Yes. A different co-efficient was used to calculate the fee for these areas.

Q: Who owns the data for this project?

A: The Finance Department has taken the GIS data and is incorporating it into their own database.

Q: Who wanted this project?

A: Various departments needed to bring in revenue to pay for mandates.

Q: Who came up with the coefficients used?

A: Barr Engineering

Oakwood Cemetery mapping project

Pat Ramaker, City of Red Wing Infrastructure Assets Technician

The City of Red Wing owns three cemeteries – Oakwood (110 acres, 13,000 burial spots), Burnside (11 acres, 1,000 burial spots), and Mount Carmel (0.5 acres). For Oakwood cemetery, currently the only document listing the location of burial plots is from the late 1800's and has not clear organization to the sections and page numbers. City staff has been working on collecting location information for Oakwood cemetery's burial spots to make it easier for visitors to find grave sites.

- Pat first digitized cemetery sections by using ortho imagery as a guide. And next, Pat digitized the cemetery lots, noting how many graves were in each lot. (1,2,4,or 6)
 - The original clay markers for these lots have weathered and are mostly gone now.
 - The lots were originally laid out by a group of engineers in the 1850's and are pretty square.
 - Newer areas were put in using Auto CAD.
 - Topography of Oakwood cemetery is generally flat but there are so many large trees that it made the GPS collection more difficult.
- Interesting Facts:
 - At Oakwood cemetery, there is one mass grave site called "Potter's Field" where people would be buried if they could not afford a regular burial. Each person has their own plot but most of them do not have identification.
 - Among those buried at Oakwood cemetery are: T.B. Sheldon, General Bigsby, veterans from the Civil war and the Spanish/American war, the 1st superintendent of Minnesota, Governor Hubbard (1st governor of Minnesota), and "Martha" who by being buried in 1850, is the oldest grave in the cemetery.
- What's Next:
 - Staff would like to have this information available online for the public.
 - Create a database listing all of the names on the gravestones and add brief biographies for these sites.
 - Add a kiosk at the cemetery to make searching for burial plots easier.

The following cities have good online applications regarding cemeteries: Boulder, CO; Greeley, CO; San Antonio, TX; and Deadwood, SD.

Goodhue Land Use Model

Alison Slaats, 1000 Friends of Minnesota

The full version of this presentation is available for viewing on the SEMN Yahoo Groups website.

Goodhue County received a grant from the MN Department of Natural Resources to develop a land use model. Goodhue County hired 1000 Friends to work with county staff to develop this model. County

staff needs help with balancing the need for development while also protecting existing natural and sensitive areas. The model was created to help support land use decisions in Goodhue County.

Staff utilized ESRI's Model Builder for this project. The model currently incorporates approximately 20 data layers and assigns a score to them. The model then combines all of the vector datasets and their scores and totals the scores and creates a combined output dataset. The final dataset helps highlight areas that are more sensitive to development.

This model is set up so that County staff can add or subtract data layers or tweak the scoring for the data layers as they see fit.

Web Mapping Applications – An Overview of Two Approaches

Brian Fischer, Houston Engineering

The full version of this presentation is available for viewing on the SEMN Yahoo Groups website.

GeoMoose and GeoPRIME are two tools available for creating web applications. GeoMoose is free and based on open-source MapServer technology. There is no licensing needed and there are out-of-the-box templates available. GeoPRIME is a publisher tool for ESRI's API's. Has a modern look and feel. This software is low-cost, but not free and was developed by GeoDecisions. Houston Engineering is an authorized reseller. You do not have to program!

View a demo of Clinton County (using Java Script and Silverlight) and Hanover County (using FLEX) mapping sites. Updated functionality released this summer include – buffer tools, red-lining, and possible support for Silverlight.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, October 8th, Wabasha, MN – *Hosted by Wabasha County*

****Members are encouraged to present at a future meeting and to offer suggestions of vendors or other agencies to present. Please contact a Steering Committee member or the next meeting's host if you are interested in presenting:**

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