Alaska Smart Communities Forum
February 12, 2019   8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Hilton Anchorage – Denali Room
Live streaming/broadcasting provided by Radio Free Palmer

Meeting Notes

Slide presentations and links from presenters are posted on the Alaska Smart Communities Forum (https://akscf.matsugov.us).

Introductions & Overview (slides posted)	Doug Miller

- Forum initiated 3 years ago with quarterly meetings.

Municipality of Anchorage "iTeam" (slides posted)	Brendan Babb
	Municipality of Anchorage

- Challenge: Freedom to fail (difficult when working for a government entity); great support from Mayor & management to try and fail.
- Everyone has ideas on how to make things better for citizens. Goal is to evolve ideas into an application that bring the greatest value to citizens in the shortest amount of time. When you bring it back, bring a visual for them to see.
- Competitive workshop held with stakeholders to discover ways to improve communications to citizens.
- Innovation does not always need to be technology. (Example: compost swap at landfill)
- Important to remember to talk to users; important to listen to feedback and change a direction that was set based on your assumptions versus reality.
- Partner with other organizations who are already meeting a need help to make funds go farther, strengthen programs, and create new prototypes that bring more efficiency.

Questions:
- How do you filter down what you will work on with so many ideas and limited staffing resources? Currently developing a scoping/rubric to identify priorities; those with a greater financial savings impact and meet a greater overall need will be given a greater priority. Technology is not an end-all, but a tool among many. Whatever is developed needs to be easy for the user.

Alaska Statewide Geoportal (Link)	Mike Hendricks
	State of Alaska Division of Natural Resources, DGGS

- When building a portal, make it user friendly, not "large and imposing".
- Important to focus on public data use for internal GIS users as well as public GIS users.
- Web maps and web apps available will change, based on needs.

Questions:
- How do we know what to deliver to the Portal? Many requests received through email into the State DNR office all the time from many backgrounds.

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- Why is it advantageous for small portals to feed into the State Portal? When you have your own portal you control everything; internal sharing between agencies help to share information to a larger audience.

Alaska DOT Online Right of Way Maps	Ryan Quigley
	State of Alaska DOT & PF

- Not a creator of data, but a user combining Local, State and Federal data to streamline property and highway Right of Way research.

Questions:
- Have you received any feedback from users of the maps ROW creates? Unsure, but the availability of data from all the sources is invaluable to his team in building the maps. All data that feed into their ROW Plans does not require any passwords or special access, it's all open data.
- How do you use ArcGIS Data? Use the data from a separate screen and reconstruct into AutoCAD; have not really found any easy way to import.

Mat-Su Borough Open Data Apps and Usage	Eric Wyatt
	Matanuska-Susitna Borough

- Security still important for public data resources.
- Because of networking through this community, the Borough received a lot of support by this community.
- Silos (i.e., "Cylinders of Excellence") within the Borough addressed through SharePoint's collaboration platform to provide a venue to share information between departments and divisions (see image to right for layout of sites.)

- As apps are built, metrics are kept that track usage.
- Borough staff have built some apps are built for partnerships; i.e., Find My School was built for MSBSD. Besides the Borough website, a link to the portal is also on the MSBSD website.
- SharePoint platform also used for eCommerce services that allow citizens to pay online, saving time for both citizens and Borough staff. This platform is integrated with the Borough's GIS portal.

Questions:
- How is Project Management accomplished? The IT Department has several project managers; the Project Site helps with project planning. Project sites are template, which makes setup quick, updates quick, collaboration seamless with all Project Team members. If additional tools are needed, it can be modified to meet the needs of the project.

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CyberSecurity Briefing for Alaska   Mike Messick
                                                    Deep Forest Security Consulting

- Current state of cyberattacks nationally; prevention & recovery.
- For most cyberattacks, the actual attacker will never be known.
- While prevention is important, more important is to have a plan for what to do when intrusions occur.

Questions:
- For small organizations that can't afford the tools implement effective security? Risk analysis needed for each area of network and then, based on analysis, which areas need more protection and which areas don't need as much protection.
- Have you run into situation where security requirements may keep small organizations from winning contracts? There are creative ways to implement standards without spending lots of money, need to research the resources available.
- What are common indicators to detect bad guys? At a high level, look for the differences/irregularities in network traffic.