

Alaska Smart Communities Forum
January 30, 2018, 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Atwood Conference Center/Room 104, Anchorage
Meeting Notes

Slide presentations and links from presenters at this Forum are posted on the [Alaska Smart Communities Forum](https://akscf.matsugov.us) (<https://akscf.matsugov.us>).

Introductions & Updates (slides posted)

New Attendees/Introductions (46 attendees)

Doug Miller, Wostmann & Assoc.

- This is the 8th Forum. Forums are held quarterly.
- This forum is for partnering and gaining ideas from each other.
- For questions and making more connections with participants, please contact Doug Miller, doug.miller@wostmann.com, or Eric Wyatt, eric.wyatt@matsugov.us.
- If there is someone you feel should be invited to future forums, send their name, organization and contact information to Doug Miller, doug.miller@wostmann.com.

“Find My School” App

Eric Wyatt, Mat-Su Borough/IT

- This was a partnership between MSB & MSBSD that was identified as part of this Forum. This App is relatively new but has already proved to be very valuable for MSBSD staff and parents. Click [Find My \(Elementary\) School](#) app and visit [Matsu Borough Featured Apps](#) for many more.

New Aerial Imagery

Heather Kelley, Mat-Su Borough/GIS

- New imagery for the Borough is available on Borough website with various ways to view imagery.
- Recurring Aerial Imagery Program: Presented map showing plans for capturing aerial imagery in the next two years; third year will be more with partners that will assist with funding. Please contact Heather if you have areas you’d like to see flown or if your organization can partner with cost sharing. See aerial imagery update map on the AKSC site for this Forum.
- Suggestion made for MSB to share their updated base-map data with Esri; Borough has shared with Google in the past (with challenges).
- MSB is willing to share the Recurring Aerial Imagery Program with other municipalities.

Fire Support Partnership with AK DOF

Heather Kelley, Mat-Su Borough/GIS

- Partnership began as a result of shared confusion regarding who is responsible for mapping during Sockeye Fire between the Borough and Dept. of Forestry. Training was set-up for two MSB GIS staff to learn how State Incident Management Team handles wildfires and wildfire mapping.
- Heather and Leah have assisted with wildfire mapping efforts within the State and in the Lower 48, which has provided opportunity for them to learn, share with co-workers in the office, and expand efforts for GIS in the Borough.

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Exploring & Using Open Data (Presentation posted) Kenny Kleewein, Mat-Su Borough/GIS

- ArcGIS Online allows for free public user accounts, allowing users to leverage data that is free to create maps and apps. Steps to set up account are in presentation.
- MSB's Open Data is available on the Borough's website, which includes the MSB's GIS Data Dictionary which defines terms for their data and gives the user knowledge and understanding.
 - Click here for [Matsu Open Data](#)
 - Click here for [Storyboard](#) that explains using ArcGIS and Open Data
- Borough Infrastructure: Road, bike paths, Borough-owned buildings. Borough does not share utilities data, etc. Borough data, i.e., wetlands, is credited to the vendor that collected the data for the Borough.

Municipality Updates (Presentation posted) Amber Jackson, Municipality of Anchorage/GIS

- MOA GIS organization is hybrid model with small central team and distributed power users
- MOA has partnered with organizations to keep data updated. Shared current projects, recent new projects, Open Data (some data pulled from partners, like Assisted Living facilities from State), Maps and Data User Guide for users.
- External data collectors – given attribute editing to MOA maps. Work with the data collectors to find the best fit of equipment/software for them to enter data.
- Discussed updating data, such as for homeless camps. Ticketing system has workflow from department to department. As an event record is appended, the dataset is moved to the next department for action.
- Story on the MOA's homeless camps is in the Esri magazine. A copy has been posted for reference on the AKSC site for this Forum.

State of Oregon GIS & Open Data (Presentation slides posted) Cy Smith, State of Oregon/GIO
Josh Tanner/Web Admin, Dave Mather/System Admin, Teresa Berk/Mainframe Coordinator

- "NavigatOR" is Oregon's Spatial Data Infrastructure; [Oregon Geospatial Enterprise Office](#)
- Oregon seeks to include local GIS-related User Groups and agencies for data resource.
- Geospatial data is 85% of all data collected in the state.
- This model is one that Alaska could emulate for a common GIS services; notably, Alaska has made steps in this direction, including the [Alaska Geospatial Council](#).
- Question: Funding/Cost Sharing Model? Or just silos participating in their own way?
 - The State has a Framework fund. Program operates similar to a grant program – proposals for projects to develop data layers with input for funding. Monies are held within each program/department to fund projects through collaboration.

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- More than 15 statewide Working Groups with staff from various agencies, as part of their job descriptions, though some are volunteer staff.
 - Every state agency contributes funds to GIS projects, based on the importance of that data to their specific responsibilities.
 - 85% of projects and GIS maintenance and updates is labor
 - Please see the detailed presentation from Oregon GEO on the AKSC Forum site
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State of Alaska “Geoportal”

Kenny Kleewein, Mat-Su Borough/GIS &
Ryane Shranke, State of Alaska/GIS

- From the Alaska Geospatial Council, the fledgling [Geoportal site](#) will serve-up data from State/municipalities to interact with organizations that currently don’t have the capabilities and help can share their data.
 - Presented the Geoportal site (in progress) being developed by the Alaska Geospatial Council. Governance is going to be very important for data accessed via the portal.
 - Presented progress to date, future plans regarding portal, data, work plan, open data, and how to give GIS capabilities to areas that do not have their own platform.
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FirstNet (Presentation slides posted)

John Rockwell, State of Alaska &
Paul Braunstein, AT&T

- FirstNet allows interoperable communication across disciplines and first responder organizations. FirstNet/AT&T partnership was selected by the Federal Government to set-up networks in each state.
 - Funding was given to AT&T, and they are working with all 50 states and the 6 territories equally.
 - FirstNet is already available on the AT&T LTE network in Alaska. Working to build-out and increase use of this network.
 - It complements, does not replace, Alaska Land Mobile Radio (ALMR) for interoperable communication among different agencies.
 - Jawad Tareen, AT&T Smart Cities, presented an overview of the AT&T’s solution as applied to monitoring infrastructure, first responders, transportation in order to better track, maintain services and improve information available to the public. See the presentation on the AKSC Forum site.
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Mat-Su Demographic Analysis (Presentation slides posted)

Shannon Bingham,
Western Demographics

- Presentation about land development build-out research in the Mat-Su Valley, future impact, how businesses could use this research to make decisions. See the build-out
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presentation on the AKSC Forum site. The build-out data will be available on Open Data and GIS by this summer.

Return on Investment

Need to understand whether and how cities and organizations value the Smart Communities Forum. What return does each organization gain by participating in the forums.

- Terri/Esri: Gains relationships, new contacts, new information, building another level of understanding of and for spatial data.
- Steve/eTerra: All this data has been developed incrementally over many years. The forum provides an opportunity to discuss base data layers that can be shared; I come together to figure-out priorities and partner to fund more data, more applications to serve the public and businesses in Alaska.
- Mike/KVFR: Learn different ways to get additional information to increase transparency in government.
- Partnerships: being made with COP/Matsu and COW/Mat-Su.

Share your answers and ideas with Doug on the following questions before the next Forum:

- What data, apps, technologies, and partnerships have you implemented or are using as a result of the Forums? *Could be those you've implemented or that you are using that are provided by*
- What is the ROI to your organization from these Smart Community efforts and services?
- How are the Forums valuable? What is your ROI from attending the Forums?

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