

As part of the **Parcel Foundation Initiative**, a multi-year effort to improve the spatial accuracy of Johnson County KS tax parcel data, more accurate coordinate pairs of a number of section corners have been obtained. With these new coordinate pairs we have been able to construct more spatially accurate Public Land Survey System (PLSS) feature classes of sections, quarter sections, and townships (PLSS_PL, PLSSQuarter_PL, and PLSSTownship_PL). In the past we stressed that our published PLSS feature classes were simply a “tiling structure”, and not a highly accurate depiction of the PLSS. With the publishing of updated PLSS feature classes on **Friday evening, April 29**, we will now have a much more accurate representation of the PLSS.

The shift in section lines is quite small (less than 3') in most parts of the county. Pictured below is an example of a typical shift. The black lines are current section lines; magenta lines are newly constructed section lines. This example is from 87th and Nall.



In a few areas of the County, however, section lines will shift up to 75'. These areas are predominantly in the unincorporated part of western Johnson County. Shifts of similar magnitude (from a few inches to upwards of 75') occur in the quarter section and township feature classes as well.

Due to these shifts, features such as parcel centroids and address points could potentially fall in different sections (and quarter sections) than they had in the past. Our analysis indicates that only .05% parcels will be affected in this way.

In addition, in order to align with the “County Boundary” feature class (CntyBnd_PL), we have extended those sections (and quarter sections and townships) along the Kansas River to closer to the middle of

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the river. Previously, the PLSS feature classes stopped at river's edge. Again, the black line in the picture below is the current section line; the magenta line is the newly constructed section line.



Please also be aware that a few meaningless fields that are currently part of these feature classes will be dropped (e.g., Shape_STArea__1, Shape_STLength__1, Shape_STArea__12, Shape_STLength__12).

After a good deal of thought and analysis, we believe the impact of these revisions to PLSS_PL, PLSSQuarter_PL, and PLSSTownship_PL will be minimal to our operations here at AIMS. We do plan to re-align some features to the newly published lines (e.g., school district boundaries, commissioner districts) after April 29. If you would, please give some thought to potential impact on your organization.

Going forward, we anticipate that new coordinate pairs for section corners will be obtained periodically to assist with the **Parcel Foundation Initiative**. As this happens, we will publish the PLSS feature classes to reflect that more accurate data.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact:

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