

AIMS Coordinator meeting minutes

May 10, 2007

Hosted by the City of Overland Park

8500 Sante Fe Drive

Overland Park, KS 66212

Announcements

Next month MARC will be hosting with location to be announced.

City Council Technology Presentation – Scott Smith

Recent renovations to the City Council chambers were demonstrated by Scott Smith. The room is used for the City Council, the Planning Commission, and other meetings. Each seat is equipped with a PC and a microphone which can be controlled at the seat or at the recorders seat. In addition there is a public podium where DVD, VCR, or computer input can be projected throughout the chamber. A citizen timer is also used to keep the meeting on time while allowing citizens the chance to speak. The lights, microphones, and projection can be controlled from one of about 3 locations including the Public podium and the Recorders station. A camera will also allow display of any object (such as a meeting agenda or map) on the wall and TV screens. Questions included if the meetings are recorded (no) and if the IT staff usually have someone at the meetings to assist (yes).

ArcIMS Traffic Count Application – Robert Meier

Robert Meier discussed an application Overland Park uses to process their traffic counts. First, using Python the intersections feature class is utilized to create other points around a given intersection that represent count locations. After the points are created a VBA ArcMap application can be used to specify and import the files from each direction from the traffic counter. Other functionality of the application included the ability to zoom to an intersection and calculation of some basic statistics.

Robert also demonstrated an ArcIMS application that displays the traffic count information. Count data from multiple years is available on the site including a percent change where applicable. Future plans include adding turn counts to the IMS site.

Mapping Dispatch Events Using Python – Mike Nelson

The goal of this project was to read and map dispatch events in real time. The AVL on the dispatch vehicles records the X,Y. These dispatch events are stored in Oracle while the GIS feature classes are in SQL server. This makes mapping of the data more difficult. Mike Nelson discussed that the procedure used is basically the same as what is used for addresses. The data is converted using a python script and ends up a few hours old but that is acceptable for their purposes.

It was explained that some points are outside the city because they answer calls outside of their area. The “dynamic maps” are used by the shift managers to decide on deployment districts. In the future Overland Park is considering an ArcServer application to serve the dispatch events on a mapping site.

Initial Impressions of ArcGIS Server – Robert Meier

Overland Park loaded ArcGIS server on to the server this week and created some basic services and applications. Robert showed the Application Development Framework or ADF that ESRI provides and a few of the wizards and address searching. Some initial complaints that Robert had included:

- Rotation in the MXD appears to cause issues on the identify.
- Zooming to a feature doesn't zoom in far enough.
- Group layers are going to have an extra layer to drill down thru on the table-of-contents.

Overall Robert indicated it had “much better performance than ArcIMS.” One of the biggest differences is that you can now put multiple services (axl files) into one application. This was not possible before.

Caching of imagery and customized identifies were also discussed. Since ArcServer reads the MXD it can be customized ahead of time and the aliases and text formatting are retained on the website. Robert indicated if you have trouble finding how to turn on the scrollbars look under the stylesheet. Also if you are having troubles with an application try troubleshooting your application with different MXD's that contain different data sources. This is important because you must have read access to both the MXD and the data.

It was noted that Tony Perkins and Robert Meier attended the ESRI Developer Conference.

Using ArcMap to Link Sidewalk Features to GBA – Dave Fullerton

Dave Fullerton demonstrated the single person VBA application that he has developed to create and link sidewalk features with GBA. The application handles both Oracle data tracked by Planning (Tidemark) and SQL data tracked by Public Works (GBA and SDE).

The process to enter sidewalks is to first select a plat and the parcels are copied. Next when a feature is selected then an attribute editor prompts you for input. At the point the information can be posted to tidemark. Finally the parcel lines are selected and copied to create the sidewalk feature.

Future enhancements of the application include dissolving the sidewalk pieces so that there are not many small pieces and updating the GBA database when sidewalks have been built.

The annual Golf tournament followed the meeting.