



Nebraska State Records Board

440 S. 8th St. Suite 210, Lincoln, NE 68508 402-471-2745

John A. Gale, Chairman

APPLICATION FOR STATE RECORDS BOARD GRANT TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION

- 1. Name of agency applying for grant :** Thayer County
- 2. Grant amount requested** \$ 25,000
- 3. Title of project:** County WebGIS
- 4. Brief description of project:** The project includes building a WebGIS application that will link to the existing MIPS database in use in the Assessor's Office to promote online access to public records by citizens, businesses, other County departments and other local/county/regional/State agencies.

Responses are required to all questions in Parts I & II and all associated documents that may be requested must be included in this submission in order to be considered for funding.

The Nebraska State Records Board is sponsoring a grant program for Nebraska government agencies for the development of programs and technology to improve electronic access to Nebraska government information and services by citizens and businesses with emphasis on web-enabled services. The State Records Board has set the maximum amount of any grant awarded at \$25,000.00 for this grant period. The grants may be used for the creation or enhancement of electronic access and delivery of government services and information, but not to fund ongoing operations. Nebraska government agencies wishing to apply for these grants may want to first contact Nebraska.gov to establish feasibility and scope of the project.

NOTE: Loss of Funding. The NE State Records Board may be unable to award grant funds, in whole or in part, in the event funding is no longer available.

Grant Criteria

Grant projects requesting funding must meet criteria #1-3.

1. Enhance the delivery of local government agency services and improve the public and business access to those services with emphasis on web-enabled services.
2. Meet the all applicable Nebraska Information Technology Commission Standards and Guidelines. State's technology access clause for providing equal access to services for persons with disabilities. A copy of the technology access clause is available at: <http://www.nitc.state.ne.us/standards/index.html> under 2. Accessibility Architecture.
3. If the project or service created or improved pursuant to the grant application involves the licensing, permitting or regulation of businesses, then the project or service must allow integration with the State of Nebraska's Business Portal at: <http://www.nebraska.gov/index.phtml?section=business>, and the One-Stop Online Business Registration System at: <http://www.nebraska.gov/osbr/cgi/domestic.cgi?osbraapplication/init/init/None>.

In addition, the following criteria will be considered when reviewing applications:

- Does the project enhance the delivery of state/local government agency services and improve the public, government and business access to those services?
- Does the project enhance or create an online presence?
- Does the project span more than one office or agency?
- What is the size of the customer base for this service and the geographic impact?
- Is there financial and or in kind contribution from other partners?
- Is there documented community support for the project?

Responses are required to all questions in Parts I & II and all associated documents that may be requested must be included in this submission in order to be considered for funding.

Part I. Grant Detail

- 1. Please describe the project in detail, to include your vision for the project (you may attach additional pages if necessary).**

Thayer County has a GIS already in place with the Assessor's office. The County also has a website that provides basic information in text format without any mapping capability. The County wants to embrace WebGIS technology for enhanced access to information, mapping and functionality – see Attachment 1 for GISW's proposal.

As an initial phase, Thayer County's WebGIS will feature the core Assessor Tab plus additional departmental tabs for Planning and Zoning, Roads, Weeds, Sheriff and Emergency Management. The WebGIS will also be helpful to other entities in the Courthouse. For example, the Treasurer's Office will be able to use it for tax inquiries while the Clerk will access property data.

The Thayer County Sheriff's Office has GIS-based dispatch technology and GIS Workshop currently maintains the County's 911 dispatching map and database. Installing the WebGIS will also assist dispatch during 911 calls and emergencies by providing easy access to aerial photography, site photos, site sketches and assessment database information for the property of interest. It will also benefit both fire and rescue departments to aid in their situational awareness when responding to emergencies.

The WebGIS will be developed and maintained by GIS Workshop, Inc. It will provide public access to query the assessment database by property owner, address, and parcel ID numbers. If the above are unknown, the WebGIS also includes an option to manually select a parcel and from the map to query the database.

The Thayer County Board, Assessor and others feel strongly that this WebGIS application will be useful by increasing efficiency for everyone accessing County public records. The web-based environment also enables the general public to access this information at any time.

- 2. Please describe who the beneficiary or recipient of this service will be.**

Anyone interested in land records information for the County will benefit from this project. The County offices of Assessor, Clerk/Elec Commissioner/Register of Deeds, Treasurer, Emergency Manager, Sheriff, Roads, Planning/Zoning, Surveyor and Weeds will benefit from this program. Property owners, banks, insurance companies, appraisers, realtors and attorneys will have access to the property assessment and valuation information at no extra cost to them. Partner agencies such as the Natural Resources Districts, the City of Hebron and various State agencies will also benefit from easy access to County data. Efficiencies realized from 24/7 access will result in increased productivity and cost savings for both public and private entities.

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- 3. Based upon your answer to question 2, what do you project the adoption rate to be in 1 year, 3 years and 5 years?**

Based on input we have received from real estate professionals and other government agencies we believe the adoption rate of the WebGIS technology will be immediate.

- 4. Timeline for implementation of the project (a specific completion date (MM/YYYY) must be provided). Grant funds may lapse if not expended prior to completion date.**

GIS Workshop confirms the project to be completed no later than December 31, 2012 (12/31/2012).

- 5. Does the project require additional statutory authority (explain)?**

No.

- 6. Specify (in detail) what the grant money will be used for. Include a complete cost breakdown of the project. Please attach bids from vendors (if applicable) and describe the relationship, if any, between a vendor and you or your agency. *These documents are mandatory for the application to be considered for funding.***

We will contract with vendor GIS Workshop, Inc. to develop a WebGIS for Thayer County. Attachment 1 contains an overview of the project in GISW's Proposal document. The Proposal is for development of a WebGIS site for Thayer County, which will make information available 24/7. The total amount of grant money awarded to Thayer County will be used to defray the following initial WebGIS development expense. See attached proposal by GIS Workshop for this project.

- 7. Collaboration. Please specify in detail any other public or private contributions for your project (financial, labor, equipment etc.) from other sources. Identify contributors and/or partners and specific dollar amounts.**

The Thayer County Assessor, Treasurer, Roads, Emergency Management and Clerk Offices will be assisting in compiling information, data entry and maintaining current data to assure all information is correct and up to date. GIS Workshop will be designing and building the WebGIS, coordinating with the County and hosting/maintaining the site. Thayer County Assessor, Planning/Zoning, Sheriff/Emergency Management and Roads/Weeds staff, along with other interested parties, will participate in GIS training provided by GISW.

- 8. Why is the grant money needed for the project and how will the service be sustained once the grant money is expended?**

The grant money is needed to improve public access to important County information and to increase efficiency in the future. Thayer County will agree to maintain the program and any fees that go along with it to keep the system up and running for future years through budgeting of this County-wide WebGIS project and by making it a priority.

Responses are required to all questions in Parts I & II and all associated documents that may be requested must be included in this submission in order to be considered for funding.

- 9. Should available funding not allow the NSRB to grant the full amount requested, but a reduced amount, would this project still be financially feasible?**

The full amount will be necessary to initially defray the cost to Thayer County of implementing the WebGIS. The County fully anticipates being able to fully meet annual maintenance costs of the WebGIS after it is implemented.

- 10. Please describe how this project will enhance the delivery of on-line government agency services and improve the public and/or business access to those services.**

The WebGIS application that is included as part of this project is a proven system for delivering tax assessment and related information. The application allows the user to submit queries to the MIPS database containing tax assessment information. The Property Record Card component of the WebGIS has several customized reports, derived from the MIPS database, containing land record information that are valuable to real estate professionals, citizens and other government agencies. The web-enabled application also shows photos and sketches from the Assessor's database.

In addition to textual database information and photos/sketches the WebGIS application also includes GIS data layers such as land use, soils and aerial photography which are all valuable for visualizing information associated with government records.

- 11. Does the project involve the licensing, permitting or regulation of business? If yes, explain how the project or service will allow integration with the State of Nebraska's Business Portal, located at: <http://www.nebraska.gov/index.phtml?section=business>, and the One-Stop Online Business registration system located at: <https://www.nebraska.gov/osbr/index.cgi>**

No, this is not applicable to this project.

- 12. Community Support. Please include letters of support to document the public expression that has caused you to implement this application.**

Attachment 2 contains numerous letters of support from the Thayer County community.

- 13. If the grant is to create an on-line application, is the application to have a fee associated with its use for accessing public records, or is the application free for use by the public, businesses and other governmental agencies?**

As a result of the 2011 SRBG application discussions, GISW developed a subscription-based WebGIS option which would allow the County to offer advanced sales information on a subscription basis to end users such as realtors, bankers, insurance and other business professionals. The County has not yet made a determination if they will select the subscription-based option but will do this during the Scope of Work development process with GISW.

Responses are required to all questions in Parts I & II and all associated documents that may be requested must be included in this submission in order to be considered for funding.

If there is to be a fee, provide any statutory authorization for assessing the fee.

The County has not yet made a determination if they will select the subscription-based option but will do this during the Scope of Work development process with GISW. Any fee will be consistent with other Nebraska Counties who are using a subscription-based format.

14. If the grant application is for a Geographic Information System project, do you and the agency you represent agree to share the data collected in that project, without costs, with other interested government agencies in the State that may have a need for such data?

Yes.

Responses are required to all questions in Parts I & II and all associated documents that may be requested must be included in this submission in order to be considered for funding.

Part II. Technical Information

1. Describe the hardware, software, and communications needed for this project and explain why these choices were made.

GISW will utilize a county WebGIS application template and host it on their redundant servers in Downtown Lincoln, NE. The WebGIS application is built using the industry standard technology, Esri ArcGIS for Server. County staff, as well as external users, will access the system using a standard internet browser such as Internet Explorer or Firefox.

County staff may also choose to use other GIS programs such as Esri ArcGIS for Desktop to view or manipulate GIS data. For persons who do not have Internet access, the Public Library supplies several computers for this service at no charge.

The Esri-based WebGIS application was chosen to maximize the user-base, simplify data access and reduce the need for user training. The WebGIS application also reduces the effort involved in maintaining the system in the future.

2. Address any technical issues with the proposed technology including:

- **Conformity with general accepted industry standards. Projects which interface with other state systems (such as distance learning systems) must meet NITC technical standards and guidelines. (The NITC standards and guidelines are located at: <http://www.nitc.state.ne.us/standards/>).**
- **Compatibility with existing institutional and/or statewide infrastructure.**
- **Reliability, security and scalability (future needs for growth or adaptation).**

The GIS system will interface with the current MIPS (or any other CAMA provider selected in the future) database systems in use in the County today.

The systems and data constructed for this project will meet all the applicable NITC and FGDC standards for GIS data and metadata. The proposed software and data format technology is Esri-based. This is the industry standard GIS technology in Nebraska today.

The GISW WebGIS interface is in use in numerous Nebraska counties with proven reliability. Since it is based on Esri technology it is scalable and GISW continues to add features based on input from clients. The WebGIS application also has security features for layers that contain sensitive information.

3. Describe how the project will comply with the State's Technology Access Clause: meet all applicable Nebraska Information Technology Commission Standards and Guidelines. Copies of the Standards are available at: <http://www.nitc.state.ne.us/standards/index.html>. under 2. Accessibility Architecture.

The WebGIS for Thayer County will be built and designed by GIS Workshop, with adherence to standards established by the State of Nebraska. The digital map database

Responses are required to all questions in Parts I & II and all associated documents that may be requested must be included in this submission in order to be considered for funding.

Part V. CONTACT INFORMATION & SIGNATURE

Contact person, and title, for any questions regarding this application:

KARLA JOE Assessor
Printed Name Title

Phone # 402-768-6417 E-mail assessor@thayer.nacone.org

Physical Address:

225 N. 4th St. Room 202
HEBRON, NE 68370

I, the Authorized Representative of Thayer County, certify to the Nebraska State Records Board that the applicant/agency has the necessary authority to undertake the proposed project, will comply with Affirmative Action requirements and provide a drug free workplace environment.

Signed this 3rd day of April, 2012

Karla S. Joe
Agency Director

Please return completed application to:

Executive Director
Nebraska State Records Board
440 South 8th Street, Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508-2294
(402) 471-2745
(402) 471-2406 (fax)

(Last updated 02/08/2012)

Responses are required to all questions in Parts I & II and all associated documents that may be requested must be included in this submission in order to be considered for funding.

**Supplemental Questionnaire for State Funded Entities on
Land Record Information and Mapping-Related Grant Applications**

Numbers refer to specific NITC Land Record Information and Mapping Standards

For a complete listing of these standards and guidelines please see:

<http://nitc.nebraska.gov/standards/3-202.html>

- 1.1 Datum.** Local government multipurpose GIS/LIS (Geographic Information System/Land Information System) and their associated geospatial data layers should be based on the North American Datum (NAD) 83 and the North American Vertical Datum (NAVD) 88. Any existing systems developed based on other datums should consider conversion to these datum.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: All GIS data that are constructed or converted as part of this project will use the specified datums.

- 1.2 Projection.** The Nebraska Plane Coordinate System, NAD 83, should be used as the primary map projection system for the recording of positions in local land-data systems in Nebraska. Selection of any other projection should be done reluctantly and only after most careful consideration. The plane coordinate values for a point on the earth's surface may be expressed in either meters or feet.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: All GIS data that are constructed or converted as part of this project will use the specified projection.

- 1.3 Geodetic Control.** GIS/LIS systems developed with the goal of providing a multipurpose cadastre for local government use should be referenced to a local geodetic reference framework that is properly connected to the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS).

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: The GIS data will reference the available geodetic control in the project area as gathered from the NE State Surveyor and/or County/local Surveyor.

1.4 Public Land Survey System Control.

1.4.1 PLSS Geodetic Framework. For all land in Nebraska that is subdivided according to the Public Land Survey System (PLSS), the geodetic reference framework for the cadastre should be the section corners of the PLSS for each section.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: All applicable GIS data (cadastre based data) will reference and fit within the NE PLSS.

1.4.2 Locate, Monument, and GPS Primary Corners. At a minimum, local government entities developing a geospatial land information system should initially invest in a precision Global Positioning System (GPS) survey to locate, re-monument as necessary, and obtain the geographic coordinates of the major boundary defining corners that legally define the boundaries of their county jurisdiction(s). These precision GPS survey coordinates for the boundary defining corners should be collected and integrated as framework data into the land information system. This effort should be coordinated with officials from the adjacent county(ies) to ensure agreement on the location of the shared corners.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: The project will utilize all available GPS based monumentation from NDOR, NE State Surveyor and the County Surveyor.

1.5 PLSS Base Map. Local governments considering the development of a multipurpose GIS, should consult with the Nebraska State Surveyor's Office to locate and access the best available data on the Public Land Survey System (PLSS) for their geographic area. To assist the State Surveyors Office in maintaining a repository of the best available PLSS data, local governments participating in the Nebraska Land Information System Program should share any enhanced PLSS data, for their geographic area, with the State Surveyors Office so that it might be integrated into the PLSS repository database.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: The project will utilize all available PLSS data from the NE State Surveyor. Any new or reset PLSS monumentation/control will be supplied to the NE State Surveyor via the County/local Surveyor.

- 1.6 Ortho-base (Aerial Layer) or Base Maps.** Both a Public Land Survey System base map and an orthophoto (surface features) base map should be used to provide the geospatial reference framework upon which a local government multipurpose land information system is developed. Both base maps should be tied to the National Spatial Reference System and have a level of spatial accuracy appropriate to the range of applications planned for a given area.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: The project will utilize the NAIP/FSA imagery as the base imagery and provide the necessary tie to the National Spatial Reference System. By using these data, the project by default will be provided with the necessary level of spatial accuracy.

1.7 Map Scale and Spatial Accuracy.

- 1.7.1 Minimum Horizontal Accuracy Standard.** Public entities developing a GIS/LIS program should conduct data collection and development in a manner to achieve at least the minimum level of horizontal spatial accuracy consistent with the National Horizontal Map Accuracy Standards corresponding to a 1:12,000 (1"= 1,000') scale map (90% of the "well defined" horizontal locations must be within ± 33.3 ft. of their real world location).

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: The project will utilize the NAIP/FSA imagery as the source base map. These data meet or exceed the stated accuracy requirements, thus the GIS data constructed using these based map data will meet or exceed these stated minimums.

1.8 Legal Lot and Parcel Layers. Two graphic data layers are necessary to provide the foundation for a wide variety of local government GIS/LIS applications that involve land subdivision and/or ownership.

a). The legal lot layer consisting of legal land subdivisions. These are aliquot portions of the PLSS, filed subdivision plats and irregular tracts defined by filed deeds.

b). The parcel layer that defines ownership tracts of land. These tracts may group multiple legal lots into one taxable account and that typically represents the boundaries of a landowner's property. These data layers include locational coordinates for points representing property corners, lines between property corners representing property boundaries and closed polygons representing the property area.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: Where the source data exists, both layers will be constructed, if applicable to the project.

1.9 Parcel Identifiers.

a). Each county/region should adopt a system of unique, permanent feature identifiers (PID) that provide the link between each graphic land ownership parcel polygon and the attribute information (ownership, size, situs address, value, etc.) related to that specific land ownership property parcel.

b). A county/region PID system must be designed in a manner such that a unique, statewide PID can be defined and maintained for each property parcel by using the county FIPS code (Federal Information Processing Standards Publications) as a prefix to the county/region's PID system.

c). To maintain this unique one-to-one association between a specific property parcel and its related attribution information, new PIDs should be assigned whenever a property parcel is altered by either splitting it into two or more parcels or by combining two or more parcels to form a new parcel. The previous PIDs should not be used for these new modified parcels, but the historical PID associations should be maintained through a parent/child PID reference table.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: The PID system currently in use in the project area meets all three requirements.

1.10 Spatial Data Format. A broad range of state and regional applications require property parcel information. Many of these applications require the combining of data across jurisdictional boundaries. To facilitate these applications, the property parcel spatial (graphic) data should be either maintained in a manner that allows it to be readily integrated in a common geographic data format (i.e., shapefile) or be capable of being exported into a common geographic data format (i.e., shapefile), while including the parcel identifiers.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: The data will be maintained in a common format (Esri geodatabase or shapefile). Both these formats are Open GIS Consortium (OGC) compatible.

Data Sharing-Data Integration. A major focus of the State Records Board grant program is enhancing access to public records. Not only the general public, but also other public agencies benefit from facilitating access to public records. As noted in the NITC standard above there are numerous applications for which substantial benefits can be derived by integrating data across jurisdictional boundaries. Please describe whether your agency would be willing to share periodic updates of GIS-enabled property parcel data, such that other agencies might integrate that data into statewide or regional datasets to provide a resource for public agencies and the general public and any restrictions that you anticipate might apply. *(Note: this is not a current NITC standard, but is an interest of the State Records Board)*

100% compliance: Yes, these data may be shared.

1.11 Metadata. All geospatial land record databases, and their associated attribute databases should be documented with Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) compliant metadata outlining how the data was derived, attribute field definitions and values, map projections, appropriate map scale, contact information, access and use restrictions, etc.

Please describe how you would comply would this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: FGDC compliant metadata will be created as part of the project.

1.12 Attribute Data. To provide the foundation necessary for a wide variety of local government applications, non-graphic, attribute data should be organized within the GIS/LIS, which describes individual property parcels relative to their basic parcel characteristics, tenure, value, history, buildings and units within the parcel, and tax status. In most cases, much of this attribute data will already exist in separate databases within a variety of local agencies and should be tied to the graphic property parcel via the unique PID. To meet a range of state and regional applications that require property parcel information, the following types of property parcel data should be maintained (for every property parcel?) and (be) available in a manner that allows it to be harvested, translated, and integrated into a statewide property parcel attribute dataset.

PID#..... Parcel identifier (county FIPS code plus local government PID)
 Situs Address..... Address of parcel (may be multiple fields)
 Owner Address..... Address of property owner (may be multiple fields)
 Township Township #
 Section Section #
 Range Range #
 Range Direction East or West
 Legal Description Narrative legal description of parcel
 Assessed Value Total assessed value of property (land and improvements)
 Land Value..... Assessed value of land
 Area (Deeded) Area of parcel according to the deed
 Property Class (Res, Ag, Com, Rec., Ind.)
 Property Sub-class i.e., Ag (Dryland, Irrigated, Grassland/Pasture, Waste)
 Ownership type..... Federal, State, County, Private, Tribal, Exempt, Other and Unknown
 Tax District..... County ID plus Tax Dist. #
 School District State number definition
 Landuse Actual landuse with NPAT defined general categories
 Property Parcel Type... NPAT defined categories
 Status (Vacant, Improved or Improved only) (NPAT defined)
 Location (Urban, Sub-urban, Rural)(NPAT defined)
 City Size..... 1st class, 2nd class, primary, metro, or village
 Source Document..... Sales/transfer reference or document (book & page)
 Recording Date..... Most recent sales/transfer date
 Sales Value..... Most recent sales value

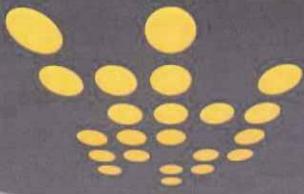
Please describe how you would comply would this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: These data are already maintained and will continue to be maintained and may be readily “harvested” from the CAMA/Administrative database.

Collaboration. In most instances, the development of a local government GIS system and the related geospatial data involves a fairly costly initial upfront investment. These costs are frequently offset by the benefits gained through coordination and collaboration that an integrated GIS can bring to local government and related public entities. For example, with property parcel data and maps the County Register of Deeds, the County Surveyor, and the County Assessor all frequently maintain and make changes to aspects of this data and the data is also commonly used by local public safety agencies, local emergency responders, local transportation agencies and state agencies such as the Dept. of Revenue, Dept. of Roads, and Game and Parks Commission. Please describe the level and nature of any multi-agency/department involvement in the planning and proposed management of your proposed GIS system.

Numerous County departments (Clerk/Elec Commissioner/Register of Deeds, Emergency Management, Planning and Zoning, Roads, Treasurer, Weeds etc) have expressed interest in collaborating and building upon the County's initial investment in GIS technology in the Assessor's office to enhance their own service provision to the public. The Emergency Manager and Sheriff see the value in having web-based mapping and property information available for 911 dispatching and local law enforcement. Planning and Zoning has seen the value of the WebGIS in neighboring Fillmore County and believes the tools will assist him in his job on a daily basis while allowing taxpayers to access critical building permit data, flood plain maps and regulations related to zoning in the County. The applicable Natural Resource Districts actively support GIS development for the County to promote collaboration. We believe the taxpayers will appreciate the advantage of having 24/7 access to critical property data and mapping and that they will save travel costs.

This project will promote public access to government records and enhanced collaboration between departments and other agencies.



GIS
Workshop

www.gisworkshop.com

Job: 0055-008

Version 1.1

Thayer County, Nebraska

Attachment 1: Budgetary Proposal for County-wide WebGIS Site

Prepared for: Karla Joe, Assessor

April 3, 2012



esri Partner Network
Gold

402.436.2150

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Thayer County Assessor currently has a basic text-only site for basic property data. She sees the need to share for advanced GIS property data across all County departments and with the public through a new WebGIS solution. The Thayer County Board of Commissioners and Department managers seek to increase efficiency in the Departments' services by providing property information to the public in an internet mapping context. Thayer County has established the Assessors' department as the foundation for subsequent departments within the County to participate in using GIS information by the development of a web-based GIS site. They wish to establish a WebGIS for the County with tabs for various departments (Assessor, Emergency Management/Sheriff, Planning and Zoning and Roads/Weeds as Phase 1) to maximize the WebGIS.

The following recommended layers and tools will appear on the new Thayer County WebGIS Site. *Exact layer and features will be part discussions during the Scope of Work development after initial budgetary proposal is approved:*

Requested Assessor layers:

1. Parcels (supplied from assessor)
2. Sections (supplied from assessor)
3. Latest FSA aerial imagery (supplied by GISW)
4. Streets and roads (centerline)

Recommended tools on the Assessor tab include:

1. Search tool for property owner identification via the property card
2. Quick identify tool for one-click basic ownership information
3. Zoom in/out slider bar
4. Pan tool
5. Measurement tool (for measuring distances and areas)
6. Photo tool

Recommended Emergency Management/Sheriff layers:

1. Parcels (supplied from assessor)
2. Sections (supplied from assessor)
3. Latest FSA aerial imagery (supplied by GISW)
4. Streets and roads (centerline)
5. Fire districts
6. Hazard materials
7. Debris fields

Recommended tools on the Emergency Management/Sheriff tab include those listed for the Assessor tab plus the addition of a Parcel Buffer tool.

Recommended Planning and Zoning layers:

8. Parcels (supplied from assessor)
9. Sections (supplied from assessor)
10. Latest FSA aerial imagery (supplied by GISW)
11. Streets and roads (centerline)
12. Wellheads
13. Floodplains
14. Zoning map

THAYER COUNTY NE

Recommended tools on the Planning and Zoning tab include those listed for the Assessor tab plus the addition of a Parcel Buffer tool.

Recommended Roads/Weeds layers:

15. Parcels (supplied from assessor)
16. Sections (supplied from assessor)
17. Latest FSA aerial imagery (supplied by GISW)
18. Streets and roads (centerline)
19. Signs
20. Bridges
21. Culverts
22. Infestation map

Recommended tools on the Roads/Weeds tab include those listed for the Assessor tab plus the addition of a Parcel Buffer tool.

ENTERPRISE WEBGIS

GISW proposes to design and build an enterprise WebGIS for Thayer County, NE, in which other departments within the County will build upon and integrate with the assessment GIS foundation in the Assessor's office. The system is designed to leverage the investment the County made in the assessment GIS to promote online GIS for multiple departments. If a County department is not "enabled" the icon is simply grayed out and unavailable. *Note: assessment and appraisal data are tied to the Assessor GIS support contract which is already in place, as is the Assessor tab on the WebGIS.

The Assessor tab is the first step in setting up the enterprise WebGIS for Thayer County. The tab will feature the data layers and tools specific to the needs of the Assessment staff and general public interested in assessment information. The Assessor tab shown in Figure 1 below illustrates such features as property search capability, a property identification tool and various map layers of interest to the Assessor and the general public. The WebGIS will allow anyone with Internet access to search for and look at maps concerning property ownership and basic sales information, assessment and appraisal data and any other data associated with future tabs. *An option also exists for the County to allow access on a subscription basis to advanced sales data and all photo/sketches on the Assessor tab of the new County WebGIS site.*



Figure 1: Opening screen (Assessor Tab) of GIS Workshop’s Enterprise WebGIS for Lincoln County, NE.

Additional tabs for this WebGIS project in the future may include Clerk, Planning and Zoning, Treasurer, Roads and Emergency Management. For example, GISW maintains the 911 dispatching map for the County’s Emergency Management department and they might choose to display critical public safety maps on an Emergency Management tab and utilize available tools on the site. This initial budgetary proposal is for an Assessor tab only with basic layers that have been identified as useful to each department and requested by the public. These tabs, over time, will be enhanced to meet needs such as asset management and budget forecasting.

The beauty of WebGIS is that it grows with each Department and continues to become an even greater asset and tool over time.

ASSESSOR, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/SHERIFF, PLANNING/ZONING, ROADS/WEEDS TAB DATA LAYERS

The default data layers include County parcels and public land survey system (PLSS) sections. The parcels will be labeled with their parcel ID (PID) when the user zooms in far enough for the PID to fit inside the parcel boundary. The PLSS section layer is mainly used to help with zooming to a specific section/township/range but it is available as a visible layer on the map.

The WebGIS opens to the Assessor tab with parcels and base map (includes road centerlines, political boundaries, and a shaded relief topography background) layers visible (as seen in Figure 1). The user can switch to a satellite view that includes 2010 FSA aerial photography (as seen in Figure 4).

SEARCHES (GET STARTED)

Complete property and sales information is available within seconds via the search features. Under the 'Get Started' drop-down menu, find a property options include owner name, parcel ID, address, or legal description. Sales data may be filtered by date range, price range, year built, or other pertinent parameters. *An option exists for the County to allow access on a subscription basis to this advanced sales data and all photo/sketches on the Assessor tab of the new County WebGIS site.* Figure 2 illustrates the 'Get Started' options. Figure 3 shows the results table after searching for "Smith" in the owner name field. Figure 4 shows the results of selecting a property. The map has zoomed into the chosen parcel and the parcel polygon is highlighted.

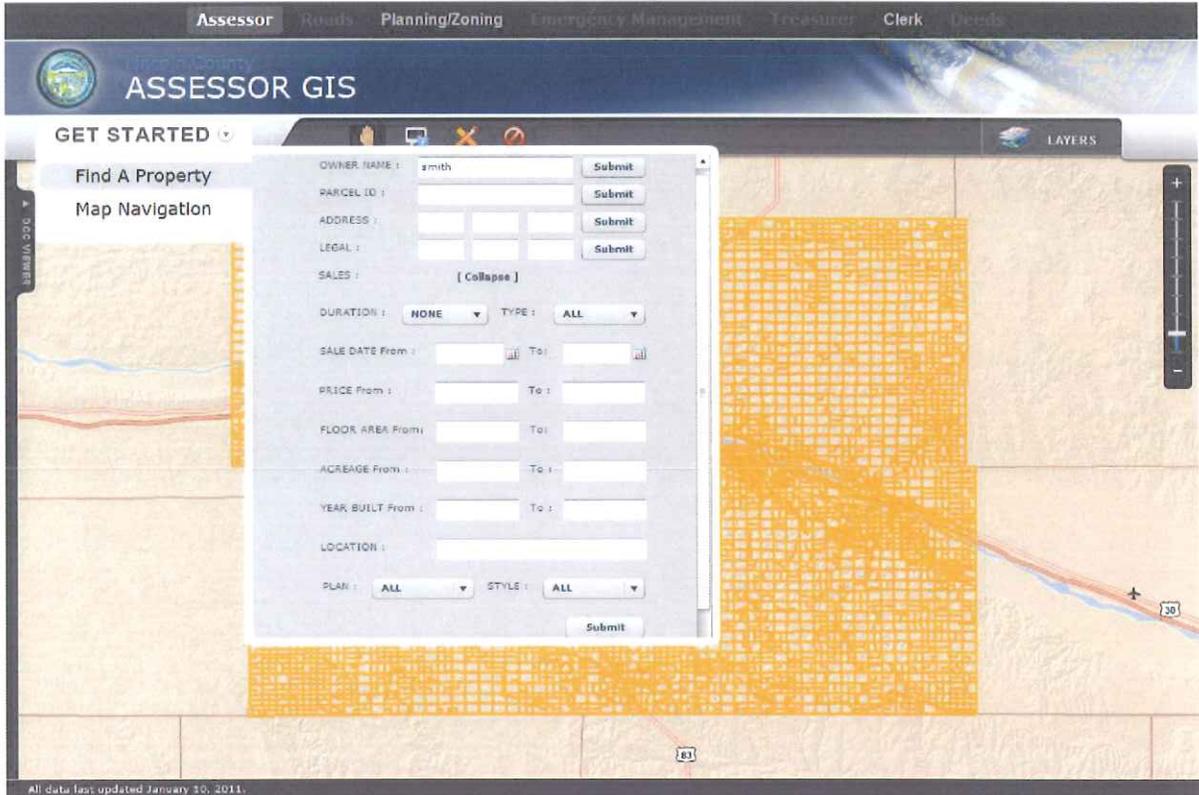


Figure 2: Assessor tab showing property search box

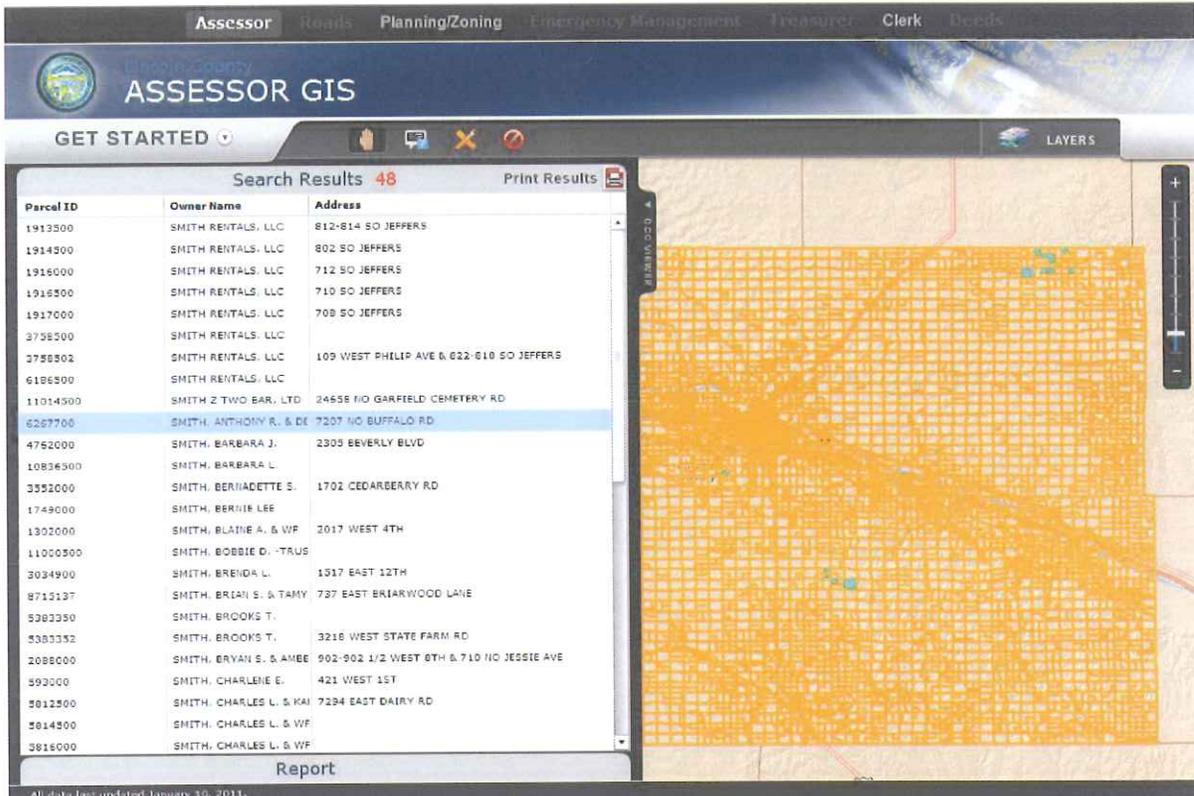


Figure 3: Property search results



Figure 4: Property Record Card (note the map zoomed in and highlighted the chosen parcel)

MAP NAVIGATION

A slider bar for general zoom in/out viewing is available at all times. Additionally, under the 'Get Started' drop down menu, the map navigation option allows the user to 'zoom to section/township/range'. Easy panning or the ability to move the map around is possible via the pan tool icon located in the toolbar. Figure 5 illustrates the zoom slider bar and pan tool (hand icon).

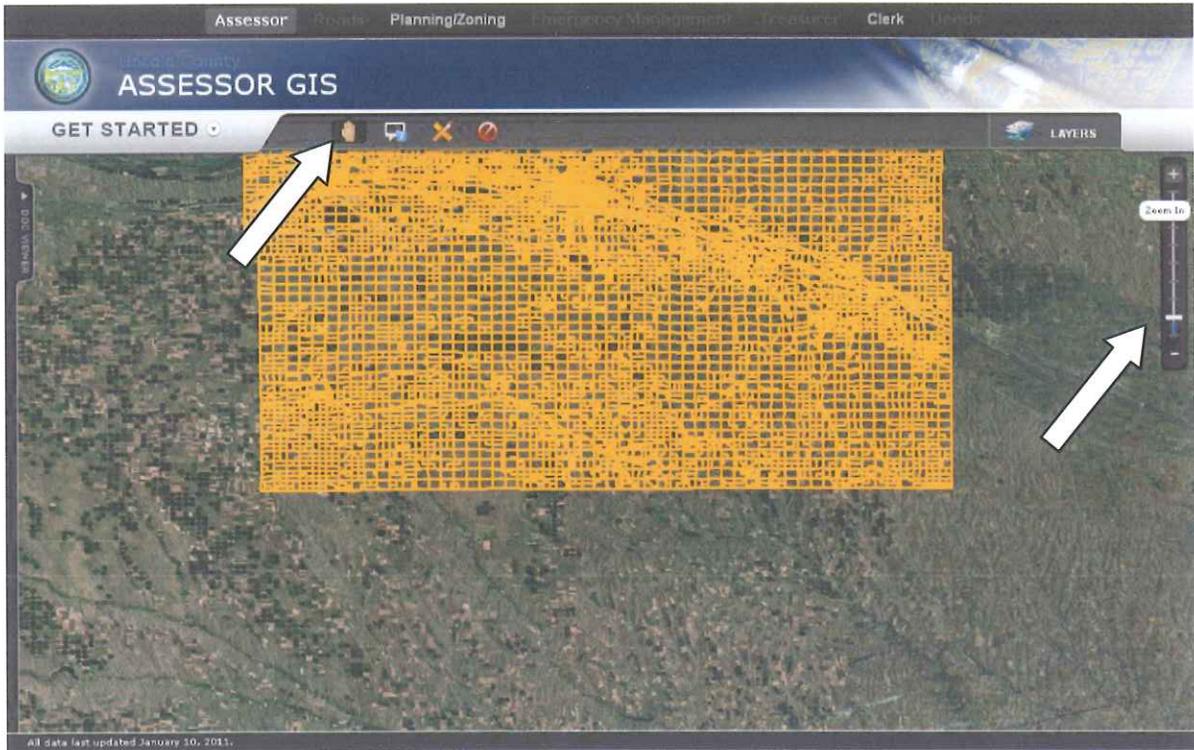


Figure 5: Zoom slider bar (right side) and activated pan tool icon (hand) in horizontal toolbar

Figures 6 and 7 illustrate the Map Navigation feature. The user enters a specific section/township/range and then the map zooms into the specified section.



Figure 6: User enters section/township/range



Figure 7: Application zooms into the specified section

QUICK IDENTIFY TOOL

The quick identify tool allows a user to click inside a parcel on the map to see a pop-up window appear with basic parcel, owner name, and address information. The quick identify tool is shown In Figure 8 below. Property card information is also available through the identify tool.



Figure 8: Activated Quick Identifier tool and information box result with link to Property Card

MEASUREMENT TOOL

Length (feet, meters, miles, and kilometers) and area (acres, square feet, square meters, square miles, and square kilometers) measurements can be easily performed via the measurement tool. Using this tool, simply click at the starting point and double click at the ending point to measure a length or draw a polygon by clicking at each vertex location to measure the area. The total measurement appears in a box at the top of the screen as seen in Figure 9 below.



Figure 9: Measurement tool showing total length of the user-drawn line segment along the parcel boundary.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/SHERIFF, PLANNING/ZONING AND ROADS/WEEDS TAB ADDITIONAL FEATURE: PARCEL BUFFER TOOL

These tabs will feature an additional Parcel Buffer Tool. The buffer tool identifies property owners within a user-defined radius (feet or meters) of a selected parcel. This information is available as a report that can be printed to a PDF document. Figures 10 and 11 illustrate the buffer tool functionality.

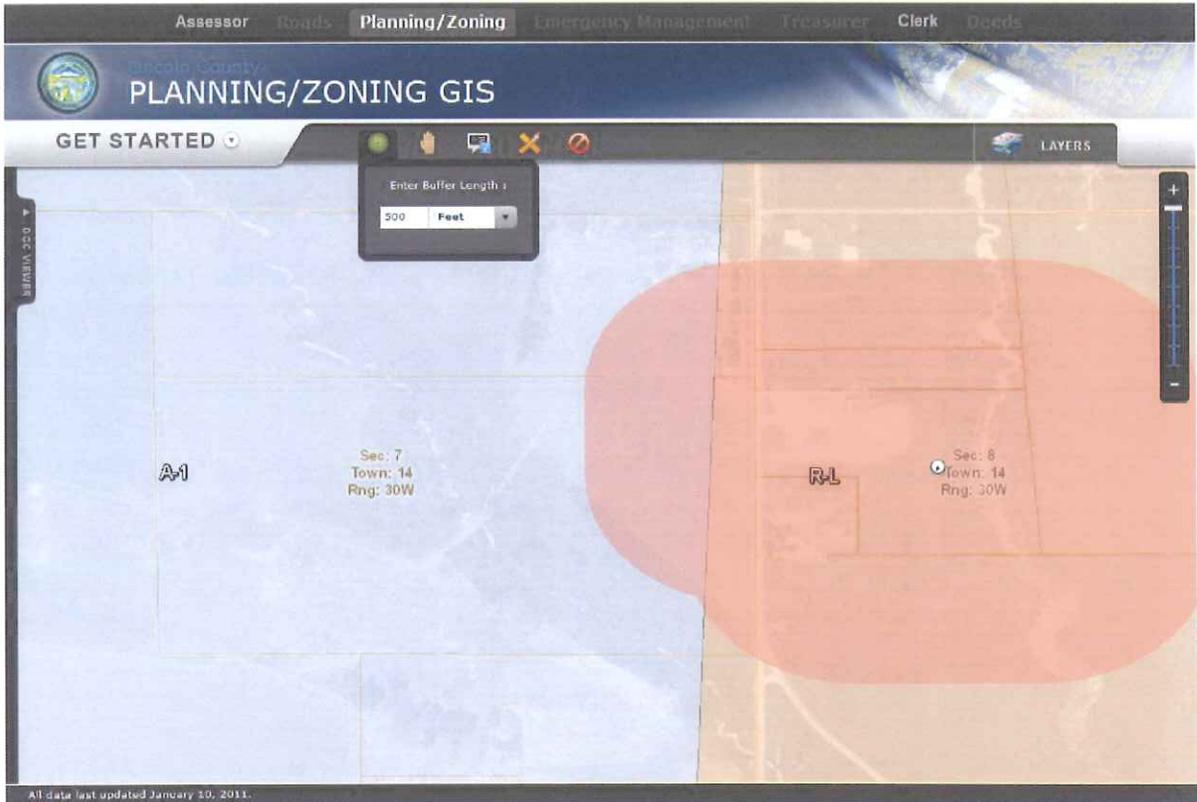


Figure 10: Activated Buffer tool with 500' radius result around the chosen parcel

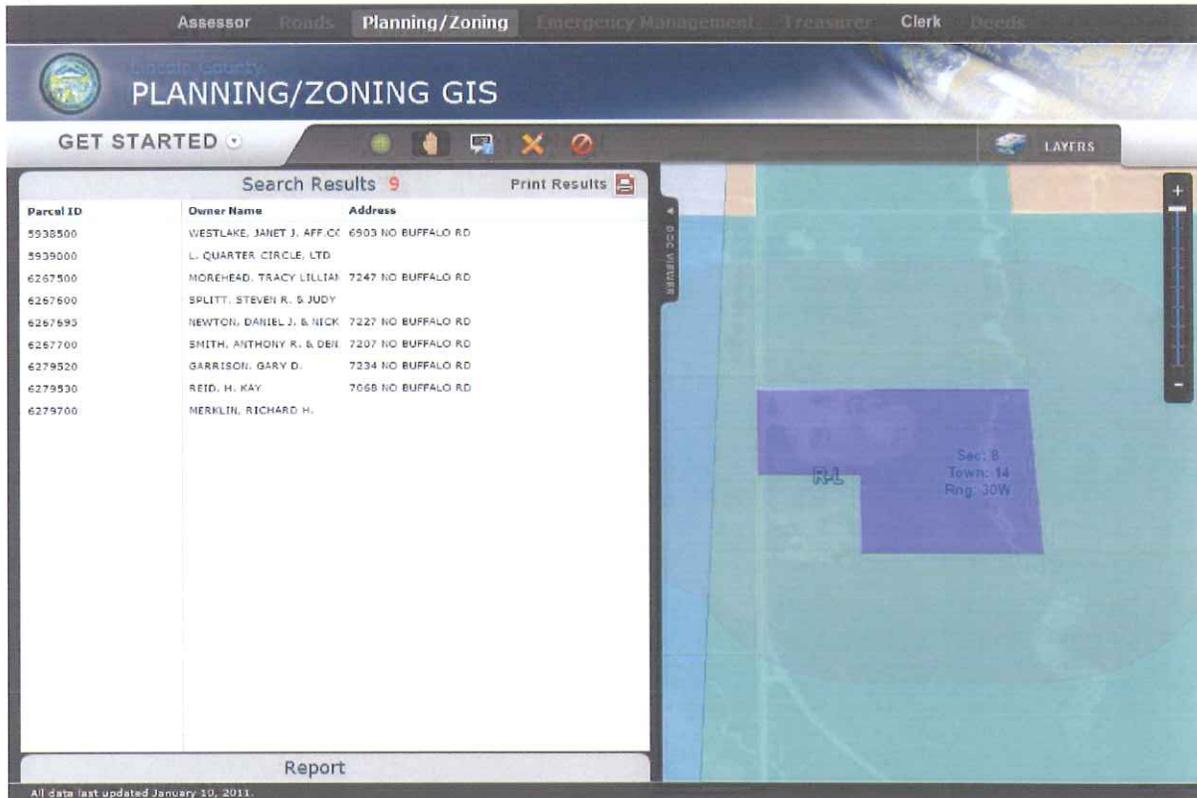


Figure 11: Property owner search results from the buffer analysis

WEBSITE MAINTENANCE

GIS Workshop will house the WebGIS on our redundant servers for Thayer County. Maintenance fees will be payable annually in July of each year, effective July 2014.

WEBSITE DATA UPDATES

A copy of the assessment data is updated every night from the County assessor's CAMA database to provide current property data.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

The GISW team is ready to develop the Thayer County WebGIS project after acceptance and receipt of a signed contract according to the tasks described in this proposal. We anticipate project completion to occur December 31, 2012 or earlier after contract execution based on the above outlined steps. Because of our reliance on various County offices to perform certain steps in the project, we cannot be held liable for any delays in delivering the final product.

PRICING INFORMATION

The following provides the total and detailed costs for the services and deliverables described in this proposal. Variations and/or additions to those tasks, features, or services stated within are subject to additional costs. Any change orders must be documented, signed by both parties and added as an addendum to this scope with the additional costs for said change order added to the following costs.

Deliverables	Cost
Thayer County WebGIS	
Assessor tab set up and year 1 maintenance (<i>with subscription option</i>)....	\$8,800
Emergency Management/Sheriff set up and year 1 maintenance.....	\$7,000
Planning/Zoning tab set up and year 1 maintenance.....	\$5,000
Roads/Weeds tab set up and year 1 maintenance.....	\$7,000
Total Upfront Costs	\$27,800

Ongoing Maintenance Costs (billed in January 2014)	Cost
Annual WebGIS maintenance (Assessor tab w/subscription):.....	\$4,800
Annual subscription option (Assessor tab w/subscription):	\$1,500
Annual WebGIS maintenance (Emergency Management/Sheriff tab).....	\$3,500
Annual WebGIS maintenance (Planning/Zoning tab).....	\$2,500
Annual WebGIS maintenance (Roads/Weeds tab).....	\$3,500
Total Annual Maintenance Costs <i>effective January 2014</i>	\$15,800

Nebraska State Records Board

**APPLICATION FOR STATE RECORDS BOARD GRANT
TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION**

ATTACHMENT 2:

**LETTERS OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT
FROM THAYER COUNTY, NEBRASKA**



www.bruningbank.com

Bruning 800-403-5889
Hebron 800-405-6167
Broken Bow 877-872-2757
Holdrege 877-995-3880

March 26, 2012

John A Gale, Chairman
Nebraska State Records Board
440 South 8th Street
Lincoln NE 68508

Cathy Danahy, Executive Director
Nebraska State Records Board
440 South 8th Street
Lincoln NE 68508

RE: Thayer County Grant Application "To Improve Access to Public Information"

Secretary Gale and Ms. Danahy,

As a former member of the Nebraska State Records Board I'm pleased to write this letter of support of the grant application submitted by the coordinated efforts of many of the elected officials in Thayer County. As you know many rural Nebraska counties have suffered population loss and have an aging population base. Given those factors, many counties experience gaps in leadership at various levels. I want to stress to anyone reviewing the Thayer County grant application that a coordinated and collaborative leadership culture is in place in our county. The grant application will further develop my point upon its review.

We are very fortunate to have a healthy local and state economy and our tax base is currently very stable and predictable, yet does not support one office or agency in moving to offer additional public access online without coordination and collaboration within our rural county. The Thayer County Commissioners are a prime example of our leadership. They have taken the necessary steps to insure that whatever the next step will be for Thayer County that they include as many stakeholders within the county as possible. The application to establish a more robust website and tools for the end user deserves the Nebraska State Records Board highest consideration.

As an example, Bruning State Bank is the largest community bank chartered in Thayer County, we will use the improved site to conduct property lookup and tax information to enhance our mortgage lending partnership with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka known as FHLBank Topeka. We make loans in Nebraska counties and other states that already have the enhanced website site and tools. These tools assist us in accelerating the loan underwriting process in the turnaround of refinancing and purchase loans of 1 to 4 family residential real estate. The largest asset class we loan to is agricultural. This update will allow us and all Ag lenders have faster access to real estate maps and soil maps in one location, instead of checking various sources of information that we use now. Again, increasing our and other lenders efficiencies that leads to increased competition and better service.



Page 2

Secretary Gale

Ms. Danahy

Thayer County Application

As a former elected official here in Thayer County and a former member of your board the need to have the "buy in" and cooperation of the various levels of county and local governments is essential and a requirement. The enhanced tools will allow the local fire and rescue units to have faster access to emergency call information locations. As the population ages fewer volunteers are available and do not know where many residents live in rural areas of the county. Having the GIS/Property Lookup available 24/7 will be a great benefit to our many local units. Enough though every local unit may not be signed on the application, the leadership displayed by the County Commissioners in enhancing this vital service for them is evidenced. Here in Bruning and other Thayer County communities are struggling with having enough First Responders and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) and we may be forced to have emergency services come from a central site that would need the property lookup as top priority to find some of the rural residences.

I understand that the Thayer County Law Enforcement Center, Thayer County Assessor, Thayer County Treasurer are involved in the development of this grant application.

I kindly request the Nebraska State Records Board to accept this letter as the strongest recommendation for the approval of the Thayer County Grant Application by Bruning State Bank and me.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at 402-353-2555 or jcatlett@bruningbank.com

Sincerely,



Jerry A. Catlett

Senior Vice President

M

Mikkelsen Real Estate & Auction

**Gale Mikkelsen, Real Estate Broker & Auctioneer
Corey Mikkelsen, Real Estate Salesperson, Appraiser & Auctioneer**

**356 E. 3rd Street
Superior, NE 68978**

March 28, 2012

To Whom It May Concern

I am writing in support for the GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service for Thayer County. Access to this information is very important to our type of business. These kind of sites are very helpful to us, it saves us time and money by not having to drive to the courthouse to access the information. Everybody knows how the price of gas is hurting ones wallet. There are times when we have a potential client that we need to access the information in a quickly manner while they are still in our office. And there are times when we need the information on weekends or evenings when the courthouse is closed.



VILLAGE OF DAVENPORT

P O Box 119, 108 N Oak Avenue, Davenport, NE 68335 Phone 402.364.2292 Fax 402.364.2293

March 28, 2012

Thayer County Assessor
225 North 4th Street Room 202
Hebron, NE 68370

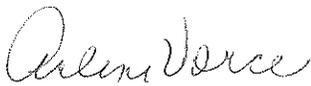
Thayer County Assessor:

The Davenport Village Board and employees wish to express their support for your desire to acquire funds to develop a new GIS Website for public use.

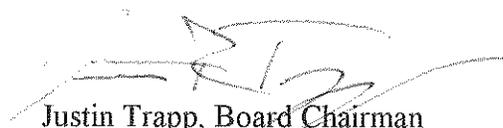
The availability of the information 24/7 is only the beginning of benefits that would be available--efficiency of time and resources by saving trips (gas and time) to the courthouse (for us it is 50 miles round trip) and collaboration and data sharing with towns and villages are all pluses. Calls between offices could be negated by accessing the GIS website and obtaining the necessary information thereby saving time as well as the gas and miles.

We laud your efforts to create a user friendly GIS public website and look forward to the benefits--information access, data sharing, availability 24/7, efficiency of time and money and much more.

Respectfully submitted,



Arlene Vorce, Village Clerk



Justin Trapp, Board Chairman



Jan Braun, Trustee



Doug Holtzen, Trustee



Donovan Knigge, Trustee



Jerry Littrel, Trustee



Everett Braun, Maintenance



Bruce Ficken, Maintenance



Little Blue Natural Resources District

"Serving The Public Since 1972"

March 30, 2012

Thayer County Commissioners
225 North 4th Street
Hebron, Nebraska 68370

Dear Commissioners:

The Little Blue Natural Resources District extends our full support for a grant application being made by Thayer County to the Nebraska State Records Board to secure funding for the development of a county-wide GIS map lookup website. It is our understanding that this website, once implemented, would provide a broad spectrum of map viewing opportunities for residents of Thayer County and the public at large. These maps may include: land use, aerial photos, plat and parcels, flood plains, zoning restrictions, roads and emergency management points of interest.

The site would provide continuous and time-saving viewing opportunities for the public and I believe would be a real asset to our residents in searching and obtaining critical information.

Another possibility of such a site is the opportunity to link Thayer County mapping resources with additional natural resources maps which will be made available on the Little Blue NRD's website. Such maps as well locations, geologic and hydrogeologic resources and a recently developed risk map for irrigation developments could be valuable tools for the Thayer County residents.

The Little Blue NRD pledges our support for your effort to develop this outstanding public resource and also pledge to work with you in any way we can to make this project a success.

Sincerely,

Michael Onnen
Manager



First National Fairbury

P.O. Box 418, Fairbury, Nebraska 68352
402-729-3344 Fax 402-729-2445

March 27, 2012

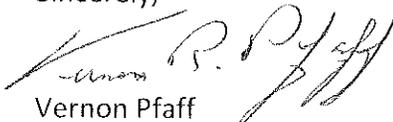
Karla Joe
Thayer County Assessor
225 North 4th Street
Room 202
Hebron, NE 68370

Dear Ms. Joe:

The First National Bank of Fairbury is very pleased to hear of your efforts to develop a new GIS Website for public use. Our Bank relies on having access to accurate data that can be obtained in the most efficient method available and the proposed website would provide that avenue. Our Bank has numerous customers in Thayer County and this website would save us time and money in not having to send a person to travel to the records at the Courthouse for needed information. We also would not be occupying the time of a Thayer County employee in helping us to obtain needed data. Having the proposed website available during non-business hours also provides flexibility for us to obtain information and process it during non-banking hours. It seems that this website would provide considerable improvement in efficiency not only for our Bank but all the entities that would utilize this website. The taxpayers would benefit due to the better use of the Thayer County Courthouse staff due to technological advancement and productivity that would accompany this website.

The First National Bank of Fairbury is very much in favor of this project and believes it would be an asset that will pay dividends for Thayer County and its business associates for years in the future. It is our hope that that your grant application to the Nebraska State Records Board will receive favorable consideration.

Sincerely,


Vernon Pfaff
Chairman


Dick Hoppe
Senior Agricultural
Loan Officer

Karla Joe

From: "Holly Troxel @ Gill Insurance" <htroxel@diodecom.net>
To: <assessor@thayer.nacone.org>
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 11:49 AM
Subject: Letter of Support

Karla,

As an independent insurance agent in Fairbury, Nebraska I want to stress how convenient it would be to have access to an online database twenty-four hours / seven days a week. Having the online public access saves our agency time and money as well as allow your county officials to continue doing their job without interruptions from our agency to obtain information via phone or in person. Often times we need legals and the number of acres owned by our insureds as well as real estate property information. Having this access online not only saves us time but also provides a quicker turnaround to our customers.

Our agency would be in strong support of the GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service for your county.

Sincerely,

Holly L. Troxel
Gill Insurance Service, Inc.
PO BOX 576
515 F Street
Fairbury NE 68352
Tele. 402-729-5157
fax 402-729-6546
Email htroxel@diodecom.net
www.gillinsurance.net

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Bruning-Davenport Unified School

District #85-2001

Trudy K. Clark, Superintendent

Elem. & Middle School / District Office
106 N. Juniper Avenue
PO Box 190
Davenport NE 68335
(402) 364-2225



Patrick Moore, Principal

Elem. & High School
340 Carroll Street
PO Box 70
Bruning NE 68322
(402) 353-4685

March 26, 2012

Thayer County Assessor
225 North 4th St, Room 202
Hebron, NE 68370

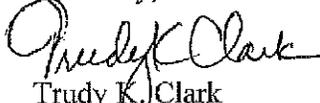
Ms. Joe:

This letter of support concerns the acquisition of funds to develop a new GIS Website for public use. Bruning-Davenport Unified School District supports this endeavor that will generate an entirely new website that is both user friendly and site specific for the Thayer County Assessor. We believe it is important for all county citizens to be able to access GIS maps as well as property information.

Bruning-Davenport USD supports the GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service. It will offer us and our patrons the opportunity to obtain information regarding roads, rivers, and other data that will be beneficial in planning. The Property Lookup service will be beneficial in identifying land that may or may not be within our boundaries. It is important that this data be accessible 24 hours a day, rather than having to wait until the county courthouse offices are open. This public access will save time and money for us and our patrons, since neither we, nor they, will need to drive to the courthouse or, as previously mentioned, wait for the courthouse to open. One of the more important benefits to this service will be the opportunity for collaboration between government entities. As we continue to become more interdependent with services, it is important that all entities have access to the same information at the same time. Future planning, especially in disaster relief, is one of the more important areas that we need to have this kind of access. This collaboration will reap benefits for all of Thayer County.

I cannot emphasize enough how important this new GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service would be to Bruning-Davenport USD and to others in Thayer County. The collaboration it could generate would be invaluable. If there is anything else that you require, please do not hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,


Trudy K. Clark
Superintendent

Mission Statement: "To prepare today's students for tomorrow's society by providing opportunities to learn in a safe environment where students are recognized as valued individuals."

Karla Joe

From: "Cheryl A Walsh" <cheryl.a.walsh.ie6b@statefarm.com>
To: <ASSESSOR@THAYER.NACONE.ORG>
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 10:18 AM
Subject: re: Grant application

To Whom it may concern,

We would strongly support a new GIS/Property lookup and map site Web Service for Thayer County. We use the current website and it saves us a lot of time and driving in our process of insuring properties.

Any way that it can be improved and provide more data would be great.

Sincerely,

Dick Walsh, agent

By [Cheryl Walsh](#)

Dick Walsh Insurance Agency, Inc.

1248 Lincoln Ave P.O. Box 189

Hebron, NE 68370

Bus 402-768-6426 Fax 402-768-6977

agentdickwalsh.com



Providing Insurance and Financial Services



Box 146
Byron, Nebraska 68325
402-236-8626

March 23, 2012

To the Nebraska State Records Board:

RE: Support for Grant being offered by the Nebraska State Records Board for a new GIS Website for Thayer County

I am writing this Letter of Support for the request of grant funds for a new GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service for Thayer County, as President of Byron State Bank in Byron, Nebraska. Byron is located 20+ miles from the County Courthouse in Hebron, NE. The availability of public information from an internet website greatly improves the banks access to important data needed in making business decisions about our customer's needs. It also provides us with a convenient, time savings means of communicating and retrieving data. We often require legal descriptions and tax information for the processing of loans and updating of financial statements for our customers.

With our limited number of employees, the need to make the physical trip to the Courthouse, greatly decreases our availability to our customers. Our goal at Byron State Bank is to make ourselves as available as possible to our clients during our business hours.

In addition, the increased amount of information that we will be able to retrieve from the new improved site, with tabs for each department and their contact information, will be a valuable resource for us. It will greatly improve our efficiency when searching for needed information.

The access to the information 24/7 is also of great importance to us. We are often busy with our clients during the Courthouse hours. Having a means of access to government public information at all times is very beneficial for our efficiency in gathering information.

I am excited about the possibility of this new, improved web based access to our County information, and am hopeful that it will be successfully implemented!

Yours truly,

Cal Tietjen
President



March 23, 2012

Karla Joe
Thayer County Assessor
225 North 4th St., Room 202
Hebron, NE 68370

Dear Karla:

On behalf of Central National Bank of Superior, Nebraska, we would wholeheartedly support your effort to develop a new GIS website for public use. Nebraska banks are required to determine values for their lending practices. The GIS website would certainly assist us in this matter. It would make the banks more efficient by eliminating travel time, and also save us the cost of \$4.00 a gallon gasoline traveling back and forth from Superior, Nebraska to Hebron, Nebraska.

I thank you in advance for providing this service.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard P. Nelson".

Richard P. Nelson
President

slp

COTTONWOOD TITLE COMPANY

**155 N. 9th STREET - P. O. BOX 133
GENEVA, NEBRASKA 68361-0133
Telephone 402-759-3800
Fax 402-759-3800**

**Karen West, Manager
Title Insurance Agent
Licensed Abstracter**

**Title Insurance
Abstracts of Title**

March 23, 2012

**Karla Joe
Thayer County Assessor
225 North 4th St., Room 202
Hebron, NE 68370**

Dear Karla,

I am writing in support of the GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service. I currently have access to this service in other counties that I cover in my business. The service is a huge help in obtaining information that I use on a daily basis. By accessing the public website, I am more productive and able to save valuable time and also save money by not travelling to the Courthouse to view the information there. The public website is an opportunity for collaboration between government entities.

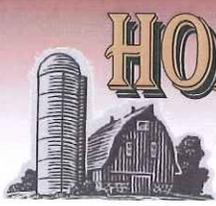
Sincerely,



Karen West

"Your independent, reliable and timely title and abstract company"

SERVING FILLMORE, THAYER AND CLAY COUNTIES



HOME & COUNTRY LLC

Real Estate, Appraisals, Auctions, Crop Insurance & AMS/GPS Farm Management

402-947-2301

www.homeandcountry.net

133 Maple St. Suite B Friend, NE 68359

3/23/2012

Thayer County Assessor
225 N 4th. Street Room 202
Hebron, NE 68370

RE: updated GIS website for public use.

I am writing this letter to show my support for the proposed GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service. Our office provides real estate and appraisal services and the ability to access this information at any hour of the day or night as well as the saving of time and money in not having to drive to the courthouse is critical to both the real estate and appraisal businesses. Many of the users of our services demand a short turn around time and if the data is not easily accessible 24/7 from the convenience of our offices, we would not be able to satisfy many of our clients and would therefore risk losing business.

I am also excited about the opportunity for collaboration between the government entities, once again making the data more applicable and accessible to those of us who use the data on a daily basis.

Sincerely

Anita K. Meyer

ANITA MEYER: 402-947-1193 Certified General Real Estate Appraiser, Broker, Crop Insurance Agent

CHRIST MEYER: 402-947-1191 GPS Farm Field Manager, Crop Insurance Agent

WILLIAM E. RUT: 402-641-5558 Auctioneer, Real Estate Salesman



DANIEL L. WERNER, P.C., L.L.O.
Attorney at Law

P.O. Box 28 • 429 Lincoln Ave.
Hebron, Nebraska 68370

Phone: (402) 768-6109
Fax: (402) 768-6271
Email: dan@wernerlaw.net

March 27, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

Re: Thayer County Grant Application to Acquire Funds to Develop a New GIS
Website for Public Use

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

I write you this letter as Thayer County Attorney and as an attorney privately practicing law in this area. I support the grant application for the enhancement of the Thayer County website including GIS maps and numerous layers which will be accessible to the public.

In my private practice and as Thayer County Attorney, I use the Thayer County website and information involving county offices routinely. The information is critical to my profession and for the general public. As I understand the new GIS website, it will be more user friendly and will have much more information available which can be accessed at all times. The new website would be available when offices are closed and when I am unable to directly access the information by traveling to the courthouse. This will be a great benefit not only for me but for many of the general public.

I support funding of this very deserving project.

Very truly yours,

DANIEL L. WERNER, P.C., L.L.O.

BY



March 24, 2012

Karla Jo, Thayer County Assessor
225 North 4th Street, Room 202
Hebron, NE 68370

Dear Karla:

I would like to support Thayer County in adding GIS Data to the County's on-line presence. GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Services are a tremendous convenience for 24x7 usage for business and private usage. Public access to information about Thayer County is extremely valuable. Just this week I collaborated with an engineer working on some City utility business, a private business owner and myself as a banker with on-line data. The map sources we were using were not nearly as reliable as sources that we work with in other counties that are already GIS ready. Conferencing and looking at the same, quality data, is a tremendous value to doing business where those services are available. As a member of our City's Planning Commission I also realize the significant value that improved mapping and data could bring to our community. I receive many publications which provide articles about the services that GIS data makes available. Public access to that data would be a valuable asset for our county, its government agencies and the general public.

Sincerely,

Patrick W. Kenner
President – Thayer County Bank
City of Hebron Planning Commission

P.O. Box 135
Carleton, Nebraska 68326
Ph. 402-356-2601
Fax 402-356-2501

Citizens State Bank

March 23, 2012

Thayer County Assessor
225 North 4th St., Room 202
Hebron NE 68370

Attention: County Commissioners, Dave Bruning, Chairman

RE: Grant Application for Funds to Improve Access to Public Information.

Dear Dave,

We, here at Citizens State Bank, are excited about the possibility of having more of the public information at the County Courthouse available to us at our fingertips! It would make the job of serving our customers much more efficient and shorten the loan processing time significantly. We strongly support this grant application for funds to make this happen.

The GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service would be especially helpful in the loan making process. When processing loans for the purchase real property, the data available at the County Courthouse is used extensively. The maps of the properties, available pictures, and assessed value are all tools used in the process. The property tax information that is already available has proven to be a great time savings just in itself. Being fifteen miles from the courthouse creates a large time lag in processing and there is a substantial savings of fuel and transportation costs. Another benefit to our bank would be the availability of maps of the farm properties for work in developing annual cash flows with our farm customers. The bulk of our loan portfolio are agricultural related loans.

Another benefit of having the information on line is the hours that the information is available. A customer coming in late in the afternoon could be served "after hours". The information would be accessible at any time and not just from 8:00-4:30 on week-days (except of course on Holidays!).

Sincerely,


Mike VanClee, President/CEO
Citizens State Bank

Member FDIC



THAYER CENTRAL COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

P.O. Box 9, Hebron, NE 68370

Drew Harris, Superintendent
930 Eads Ave.
Phone: 402-768-6117
Fax: 402-768-6110

Tom Kiburz, HS/MS Principal
930 Eads Ave.
Phone: 402-768-6117
Fax: 402-768-6110

Kurk Wiedel, Elem. Principal
1030 Eads Ave.
Phone: 402-768-7287
Fax: 402-768-2572

3/23/2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

From: Drew Harris, Supt.
Thayer Central Community Schools

Re: Thayer County GIS System

This letter is to indicate the strong support from the Thayer Central Communities School district for Thayer County in their efforts to upgrade to a new GIS Website for public use at the county level. In this day and age of accountability and transparency in governmental operations, I believe it is very important for governmental agencies to have information available to the public in such easily attainable formats.

As a school district, I could see this providing an opportunity to access a considerable amount of information such as maps and property values without having to make several trips to the courthouse. This system would increase productivity by allowing access from any location without regard to courthouse hours and would save transportation cost and travel time.

As superintendent of schools, there are several circumstances in which I may need information from the office of the county assessor, county treasurer, or county clerk. This would be an excellent opportunity to provide great collaboration between our offices and between other school districts in the county and even other governmental agencies in our communities as we could share information so much easier.

Additionally, the ease of access this provides people who live outside of Hebron would be a great benefit in the form of saving time and money. A constituent in Byron, for example, would need to drive 40 miles roundtrip to get to the courthouse.

To summarize, I believe the GIS system would be an excellent addition to our county; it would increase the public's accessibility of information, be a great asset for entities such as schools that need to access county information, increase potential collaboration between agencies and organizations, and save constituents time and money. I hope you will give the Thayer County application strong consideration.

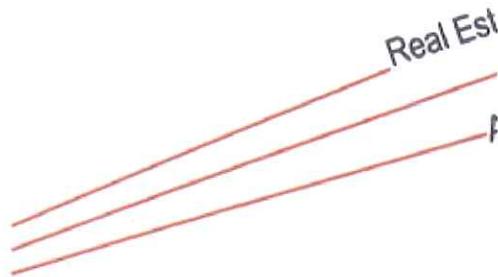
Home of the Titans

Karla Joe

From: "Tyler Rosener" <tyler@kettelhut.biz>
To: <assessor@thayer.nacone.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 1:40 PM
Subject: Public Records
Karla,

This is Tyler Rosener with Kettelhut Real Estate in Fairbury, in regards to your letter of support for GIS/Property online. We are appraisers in the area, which rely heavily on public records. We strongly support your movement towards improving access towards public information online. While working appraisals, this would allow us to be more efficient, save time, and be more productive. Finding sales online is a huge benefit in working appraisals. Hope everything works out.

Tyler L. Rosener
Kettelhut Real Estate
515 E St.
Fairbury, NE 68352





April 2, 2012

Cathy Danahy, Executive Director
Nebraska State Records Board
440 South 8th Street, Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508-2294

RE: Grant Funding for County GIS Programs

Dear Ms. Danahy:

On behalf of Farm Credit Services of America, an Omaha, Nebraska-based company dedicated to serving the credit, risk management and financial needs of farmers and ranchers in Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming, I am writing to register our support for grant funding to establish additional county-based GIS layers and WebGIS applications throughout Nebraska.

Our appraisal department is responsible for providing detailed reports that include:

- Area and neighborhood analysis including recent market trends and recent sales activity;
- Specific location of buildings for flood insurance purposes;
- Location map of subject and sales; and
- Aerial and soil maps.

The availability of county records through the online format in counties that have information built and on-line is very beneficial to our company. Not only does it reduce the amount of time required to travel for inspections, it gives us access to county data (24/7) and the ability to offer quick turnaround times for providing up-to-date, accurate appraisal reports to our customers.

The agriculture industry in Nebraska depends upon innovative data-sharing, like GIS mapping, to compete in the most efficient and productive food system (American agriculture) in the world. It is from this point of view that Farm Credit Services of America advocates for these types of programs to supply our farm and ranch producers with the finest tools and technologies available.

Providing GIS capabilities for all counties throughout the state would be a tremendous way to keep our industry on the cutting edge.

Thank you for your consideration!



Kirk Manker
VP Chief Appraiser
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fcsamerica.com

