MEETING AGENDA

Technical Advisory Committee
to the
State Records Board

May 30, 2012
12:00 p.m.
Executive Building - Lower Level Conference Room
521 S 14th Street
Lincoln, Nebraska

AGENDA

Meeting Documents (Large File: 747 pages - 102 MB .pdf file).

1. Roll Call, Meeting Notice & Open Meetings Act Information

2. Public Comment

3. Approval of Minutes* - June 3, 2011

4. Grant Reviews*

- GIS Related Applications
  - Cass County -- County WebGIS
  - Cheyenne County -- County WebGIS
  - Dodge County -- Assessor GIS and County WebGIS
  - Garfield County -- Assessor GIS and County WebGIS
  - Greeley County -- Assessor GIS and County WebGIS
  - Harlan County -- Assessor GIS and County WebGIS
  - Hitchcock County -- Assessor GIS and County WebGIS
  - Pierce County -- County WebGIS
  - Saunders County -- Assessor GIS and County WebGIS
  - Scotts Bluff County -- Assessor GIS and County WebGIS
  - Scotts Bluff County Mapping Department -- Scotts Bluff County Web GIS Initiative
  - Seward County -- County WebGIS
  - Thayer County -- County WebGIS
- Other Applications
  - Plattsmouth Public Library Foundation -- Digitization of Plattsmouth Newspapers

5. Other Business

6. Adjourn

* Denotes action items

(The Committee will attempt to adhere to the sequence of the published agenda, but reserves the right to adjust the order of items if necessary and may elect to take action on any of the items listed.)

Meeting notice posted to the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar on April 13, 2012.
Agenda posted to the NITC website on April 13, 2012 and corrected meeting documents for Cheyenne County added on May 17, 2012.

Technical Advisory Committee
to the
State Records Board

June 3, 2011
9:00 a.m.
Executive Building – Lower Level Conference Room
521 S 14th Street
Lincoln, Nebraska

PROPOSED MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Brenda Decker, CIO, State of Nebraska
Walter Weir, CIO, University of Nebraska
Richard Brown, Legislative Council

ROLL CALL, MEETING NOTICE & OPEN MEETINGS ACT INFORMATION

Ms. Decker called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Roll call was taken. A quorum was present. The meeting notice was posted to the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar on May 26, 2011. The meeting agenda posted to the NITC Website on May 25, 2011. A copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available on a table in the front of the meeting room.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 22, 2009 and November 10, 2009

Mr. Weir moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

GRANT REVIEWS

GIS Related Applications

Members discussed the GIS applications in general. Discussion topics included: going out to bid for these GIS services; a state-wide contract; relationship to NebraskaMAP; involvement of the Department of Revenue; and accessibility issues.

Mr. Becker noted that prior to the meeting, the GIS related grant applications were shared with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the GIS Council – Mr. Michael Schonlau, Douglas County/City of Omaha and Mr. Jeff McReynolds, City of Lincoln/Lancaster County – for their review and comment. The comments received from these reviewers were shared with the members. Mr. Zink has reviewed GIS grants in the past for the Committee; however, because he was the primary author of one of the applications currently under review, the GIS Council chairs were ask to review the GIS grants. Mr. McReynolds was available at the meeting for questions.

A number of applicants listed Chad Kudym of GIS Workshop as their technical contact for questions related to their GIS applications. The committee called Mr. Kudym. The first question for Mr. Kudym was whether or not city parcel data was being provided as part of the county wide applications, which referenced the rural parcel layer. Mr. Kudym consulted a coworker in his office and responded that they

will be creating both of those layers. The second question was: In the Keith County contract, section 1.6 (page 203 of the meeting document) addresses data ownership, is that provision included in all of these contracts? Mr. Kudym indicated that this is included in their standard contract language. A third question to Mr. Kudym was whether both the property parcel layer and the legal lot layer were being created for these GIS Workshop related applications. After consulting with a coworker, Mr. Kudym indicated that both layers were being created. The call to Mr. Kudym was concluded.

Members discussed recommending some possible conditions for these GIS grants.

Mr. Brown moved that the OCIO develop a Technical Review Checklist for GIS related grant awards. The checklist will be based on the State Records Board's Supplemental Questionnaire utilized for GIS related grant applications. Mr. Weir seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

Buffalo County -- County Wide GIS Implementation

Ms. Decker moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- The project is technically feasible.
- The proposed technology is appropriate for the project.
- The technical elements can be accomplished within the proposed time frame and budget.
- Further, the committee recommends that if this grant is awarded, payment of grant funds be conditioned upon the following:
  - Applicant must identify a project manager;
  - Applicant must provide a copy of the data and metadata to NebraskaMAP with agreement that any updates of the data will be made available to NebraskaMAP at least quarterly and at no cost; and
  - The OCIO confirms that the data and metadata meets the requirements of the Technical Review Checklist.

Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

Cherry County Assessor -- County Wide GIS Implementation

Mr. Weir moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- The project is technically feasible.
- The proposed technology is appropriate for the project.
- The technical elements can be accomplished within the proposed time frame and budget.
- Further, the committee recommends that if this grant is awarded, payment of grant funds be conditioned upon the following:
  - Applicant must identify a project manager;
  - Applicant must provide a copy of the data and metadata to NebraskaMAP with agreement that any updates of the data will be made available to NebraskaMAP at least quarterly and at no cost; and
  - The OCIO confirms that the data and metadata meets the requirements of the Technical Review Checklist.

Ms. Decker seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

Kimball County -- WebGIS for County

Mr. Brown moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- The project is technically feasible.
- The proposed technology is appropriate for the project.
- The technical elements can be accomplished within the proposed time frame and budget. However, it is unclear to the committee why the budget for this hosting service exceeds the costs associated with some other applicants that have both data maintenance and hosting.
- Further, the committee recommends that if this grant is awarded, payment of grant funds be conditioned upon the following:
  - Applicant must identify a project manager;
  - Applicant must provide a copy of the data and metadata to NebraskaMAP with agreement that any updates of the data will be made available to NebraskaMAP at least quarterly and at no cost; and
  - The OCIO confirms that the data and metadata meets the requirements of the Technical Review Checklist.

Mr. Weir seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

Madison County -- WebGIS for County

Mr. Weir moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- The project is technically feasible.
- The proposed technology is appropriate for the project.
- The technical elements can be accomplished within the proposed time frame and budget. However, it is unclear to the committee why the budget for this hosting service exceeds the costs associated with some other applicants that have both data maintenance and hosting.
- The committee notes that the budget includes funds for hardware, software, and training.
- Further, the committee recommends that if this grant is awarded, payment of grant funds be conditioned upon the following:
  - Applicant must identify a project manager;
  - Applicant must provide a copy of the data and metadata to NebraskaMAP with agreement that any updates of the data will be made available to NebraskaMAP at least quarterly and at no cost; and
  - The OCIO confirms that the data and metadata meets the requirements of the Technical Review Checklist.

Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

City of Nebraska City -- City-Wide WebGIS implementation

Mr. Weir moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- The project is technically feasible.
- It is unclear if the proposed technology is appropriate for the project because there is conflicting information in the proposal as to whether this information will be publicly available.
- The technical elements can be accomplished within the proposed time frame and budget.

- Further, the committee recommends that if this grant is awarded, payment of grant funds be conditioned upon the following:
  - Applicant must identify a project manager;
  - Applicant must provide a copy of the data and metadata to NebraskaMAP with agreement that any updates of the data will be made available to NebraskaMAP at least quarterly and at no cost; and
  - The OCIO confirms that the data and metadata meets the requirements of the Technical Review Checklist.

Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

Pawnee County -- County Wide GIS Implementation

Ms. Decker moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- There is insufficient information to make any comments or recommendations.

Mr. Weir seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

Perkins County -- WebGIS for County

Mr. Brown moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- The project is technically feasible.
- The proposed technology is appropriate for the project.
- The technical elements can be accomplished within the proposed time frame. However, the budget is unclear. The budget information provided in the application requests $25,000 from the State Records Board; however, the request states that $25,500 is the costs for GIS Workshop while the included GIS Workshop proposal only shows $20,000, which includes the second year of maintenance.
- Further, the committee recommends that if this grant is awarded, payment of grant funds be conditioned upon the following:
  - Applicant must identify a project manager;
  - Applicant must provide a copy of the data and metadata to NebraskaMAP with agreement that any updates of the data will be made available to NebraskaMAP at least quarterly and at no cost; and
  - The OCIO confirms that the data and metadata meets the requirements of the Technical Review Checklist.

Ms. Decker seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

Keith County -- County Wide GIS Implementation

Mr. Weir moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- The project is technically feasible.
- The parcel layer technology is appropriate for the project. Oblique imagery is not included in any state standard.
- The timeline appears compacted unless the work has already begun. The budget is appropriate.

- Further, the committee recommends that if this grant is awarded, payment of grant funds be conditioned upon the following:
  - Applicant must identify a project manager;
  - Applicant must provide a copy of the data and metadata to NebraskaMAP with agreement that any updates of the data will be made available to NebraskaMAP at least quarterly and at no cost; and
  - The OCIO confirms that the data and metadata meets the requirements of the Technical Review Checklist.

Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

The committee was in recess from 12:30 p.m. to 1:10 p.m.

The NebraskaMAP application was passed over.

Other Applications

City of Papillion -- Citizen Services

A representative from the City of Papillion was available for questions.

Ms. Decker moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- There are no technical elements to review.

Mr. Weir seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

NE PostSecondary Education Commission -- On-Line ACE Scholarship Application

Representatives of the applicant were available for questions.

Mr. Weir moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- The project is technically feasible.
- The proposed technology is appropriate for the project.
- The technical elements can be accomplished within the proposed time frame and budget.

Ms. Decker seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

Arthur County -- Web Site Creation [Attachment to Application]

Ms. Decker moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- The project is technically feasible.
- The technology identified is appropriate; however, the use of students may not be the best approach.
- The committee could not determine if the budget was sufficient without a work plan and information about potential licensing expenses, etc.

Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

City of Alliance -- Municipal Code re-codification and electronic publishing

Ms. Decker moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- There is insufficient information to make any comments or recommendations.

Mr. Weir seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

City of Fremont -- OnBase 24/7 access

Mr. Brown moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- The project is technically feasible.
- The proposed technology is appropriate for the project.
- The technical elements can be accomplished within the proposed time frame and budget.
- The response to Part III Number 3 does not address how the Applicant will make the forms accessible.
- With regard to the response to Part II Number 10, reducing the number of licenses to accommodate a reduced financial commitment could be a potential violation of a licensing agreement.

Ms. Decker seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

Garden County Clerk - District Court -- Computer Access to Public Records

Mr. Weir moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- The project is technically feasible.
- The proposed technology is not appropriate for providing online public access to these records. Citizens would still be required to travel to the county office.
- The technical elements can be accomplished within the proposed time frame and budget for the project as presented.

Ms. Decker seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

Lancaster County Board of Commissioners -- Enhancement of Lancaster County's Tower TRIM electronic records management software

Ms. Decker moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- The project is technically feasible. However, this project does not provide improved electronic access to government information.
- There is insufficient information to determine if the proposed technology is appropriate for the project.

- There is insufficient information to determine if the technical elements can be accomplished within the proposed time frame and budget.

Mr. Weir seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

NE Real Estate Commission -- On-Line License Renewal

Mr. Brown moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- The project is technically feasible.
- The committee has concerns over the type of technology being proposed; including relying on existing, dated hardware and software.

Mr. Weir seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

Saline County -- Marriage License Public Access

Mr. Brown moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- The project is technically feasible.
- The proposed technology is not appropriate for providing online public access to these records. Citizens would still be required to travel to the county office.
- The technical elements can be accomplished within the proposed time frame and budget for the project as presented.

Ms. Decker seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Yes and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-3 and No-0. Motion carried.

Returned to GIS Related Applications

OCIO - State of Nebraska -- NebraskaMAP - A Geospatial Data Sharing and Web Services Network II

Mr. Weir moved the following resolution:
The committee, having reviewed the grant application, finds that:

- The project is technically feasible.
- The proposed technology is appropriate for the project.
- The technical elements can be accomplished within the proposed time frame and budget.

Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Decker-Abstain and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-2, No-0, and Abstain-1. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Brown move to adjourn. Mr. Weir seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting minutes were taken by Rick Becker, Office of the CIO.

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 :** Cass County NE

2. **Grant amount requested** $ 21,800

3. **Title of project:** County WebGIS

4. **Brief description of project:** The project includes building a WebGIS application that will link to the existing Manatron/TerraScan 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 **N**ebraska **I**nformation **T**echnology **C**ommission 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).**

   Cass County has a robust GIS already in place which services multiple departments. They have an internal website that features some mapping with older technology but want to embrace WebGIS technology for increased information and functionality that will be accessed through the internet on a specific website designed for Cass County.

   As an initial phase, Cass County's WebGIS will feature the core Assessor Tab plus additional departmental tabs for the Election Commissioner, Emergency Management and Planning and Zoning. The WebGIS will also be helpful to other entities in the Courthouse. The Clerk's Office will be able to field inquiries for information; the Treasurer's Office will be able to use it for tax inquiries. The Weeds department will use it for determining property owners and property location for spraying noxious weeds and issuing notices to landowners.

   The Cass County Sheriff's Office has GIS-based dispatch technology and GIS Workshop currently maintains the County's 911 dispatching map. 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 Cass County Board, Assessor, Election Commissioner, GIS Coordinator, Planning and Zoning Administrator and the Emergency Manager, other departments, cities and villages feel that this WebGIS will be useful by increasing efficiency for numerous County departments. 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, cities/villages 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.

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. Numerous County department staff have attended Board meetings to express their support.

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 Cass County. Attachment 1 contains an overview of the project in GISW's Proposal document. The Proposal is for development of a WebGIS site for Cass County, which will make information available 24/7. The total amount of grant money awarded to Cass County will be used to defray the following initial GIS 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 Cass County Assessor, the GIS Department, Election Commissioner, Emergency Manager and Clerk Offices will all 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. Cass County Assessor, Election Commissioner, Emergency Management and Planning and Zoning staff 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 allow the public access to important County information and to increase efficiency in the future. Cass 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.

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 Cass County of implementing the GIS. The County fully anticipates being able to fully meet annual maintenance costs of the GIS 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 Manatron/TerraScan database containing tax assessment information. The Property Record Card component of the WebGIS has several customized reports, derived from the Manatron/TerraScan 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 Cass County community.

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.

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.

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.

Part II. Technical Information

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

   The construction of the Website is included in the fee with GIS Workshop. Cass County will purchase the additional years of maintenance fees. These fees include unlimited maintenance, which will continue to keep this program current and to continue to be beneficial.

   Access to the data from the GIS program will be throughout the Internet. For persons that do not have Internet access, the Public Library supplies several computers for this service at no charge.

   Cass County believes that this program is necessary to keep the public up to date and informed and to increase efficiency across all departments.

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 will interface with the current Manatron/TerraScan (or any other CAMA provider selected in the future) database systems in use in Cass 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 and for protecting features such as the Land Use Calculator Tool from unauthorized use.

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 Cass County will be built and designed by GIS Workshop, with adherence to standards established by the State of Nebraska. The digital map database has been developed using the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System, NAD83 as per State/NITC guidelines. The system will comply with any other applicable NITC items.

4. Agencies submitting grant applications for funding of a Geographic Information System (GIS) project must in addition to the standard grant application complete and submit the ***Supplemental Questionnaire for State Funded Entities on Land Record Information and Mapping-Related Grant Application*** found on the Boards website page "Grant Information" at www.staterecordsboard.ne.gov.

   The supplemental questionnaire has been completed and is attached to this application.

5. **Describe how technical support will be provided.**

   Cass County will be responsible for sending data updates to GIS Workshop. GIS Workshop will download a copy of the TerraScan CAMA data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GIS Workshop server. GISW have dedicated technical support staff available at any time during business hours to service the County's needs. They will provide training, phone support and online support to help County staff quickly adapt to the new technology.

Part III. EXPECTATIONS

It is the expectation of the Nebraska State Records Board that the grantee recognize the project as an ongoing effort to make public documents and or transactions more accessible. As this application relates to public documents the goal encompasses not only the availability of current documents as described in this application but the ongoing addition of new and updated documents in a timely manner. This goal recognizes the public's interest in not only historical information but the expectation that current data is obtainable. The Nebraska State Records Board recognizes that this is a long term commitment on the part of the grantee and anticipates the continued financial support of the grantee to maintain these expectations.

Part IV. STATE LAW COMPLIANCE

Nebraska law, sections 4-108 through 4-114 state that no political subdivision of the State shall provide public benefits, to include grants or contracts, to a person not lawfully present in the United States. If this application is awarded in whole or in part, and during the time the grant is in effect, the undersigned, on behalf of the political subdivision grant applicant, by signing this grant application, affirmatively states and acknowledges that the political subdivision will comply with this law.

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:

ROBERT G. VAN DYNE — GIS COORDINATOR
Printed Name — Title

Phone # 402-296-9354 **E-mail** BOBV@CASSNE.ORG

Physical Address: 346 MAIN ST., RM 108
PLATTSMOUTH, NE. 68048

I, the Authorized Representative of CASS 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 9 **day of** APRIL, **2012**

Robert G. Van Dyne
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, Election Commissioner, GIS Coordinator, Register of Deeds, Roads, Treasurer, Weeds etc), along with the cities and villages, have expressed interest in collaborating and building upon our existing investment in GIS technology to enhance their service provision to the public. Both the city of Plattsmouth and the County partnered with GIS Workshop in commissioner redistricting projects this year and they want to make those district maps conveniently available to the public via the WebGIS. The devastating flooding that the County experienced during 2010 really emphasized the value of the already-existing GIS housed in the County; but, a web-based version of maps and data would have been invaluable to FEMA, local emergency responders and decision makers dealing with a crisis situation and public safety during the flood event. Our Natural Resource Districts actively support GIS development for the County to promote collaboration. With a population of over 25,000, close proximity to the Omaha area and a busy highway system, we believe the emergency management staff will find value in having immediate access to County mapping.

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

GIS Workshop

www.gisworkshop.com

Job: 0078-013
Version 1.2

Cass County, Nebraska

ATTACHMENT 1: Proposal for County-wide WebGIS Site

Prepared for:
Robert VanDyne, GIS Manager

March 08, 2012

Trimble Authorized Business Partner

esri Partner Network Gold

402.436.2150
4949 NW 1st Street, Lincoln NE 68521

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Cass County GIS Manager, the Board of Commissioners and various other departments see the need to share GIS property data across all County departments and with the public through a new WebGIS solution. The County currently has a mapping website through GIS Workshop but seek to increase efficiency in the Departments' services by providing property information to the public in an internet mapping context. Cass 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 to maximize the WebGIS.

The following additional departments have expressed an interest in being featured on the Cass County WebGIS site, with individual tabs:

- Assessor
- Election Commissioner
- Emergency manager
- Planning/Zoning

The following recommended layers and tools will appear on the new Cass County WebGIS Site. ***Exact layer and features, per department, 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. Landuse (supplied from assessor)
4. Latest FSA aerial imagery or best available imagery (supplied by GISW or County)
5. 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

Requested Election Commissioner layers:

1. Parcels (supplied from assessor)
2. Sections (supplied from assessor)
3. Commissioner boundaries (supplied by County)
4. Voting precincts (supplied by County)
5. School districts (supplied by County)
6. Latest FSA aerial imagery or best available imagery (supplied by GISW or County)
7. Streets and roads (centerline)

Recommended tools on the Election Commissioner tab include those listed for Assessor tab.

Requested Emergency Management layers:

1. Parcels (supplied from assessor)
2. Sections (supplied from assessor)
3. Fire districts (supplied by County)
4. Rescue districts (supplied by County)
5. Explosives locations **(password protected layer)**
6. Hazardous Materials locations **(password protected layer)**
7. Latest FSA aerial imagery or best available imagery (GISW or County to supply)
8. Streets and roads (centerline)

Recommended tools on the Emergency Management 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
7. Parcel buffer tool

Requested Planning and Zoning layers:

1. Parcels (supplied from assessor)
2. Sections (supplied from assessor)
3. Floodplain areas (from NDNR when available)
4. Wellheads (supplied by County)
5. Zoning maps (supplied by County)
6. Swine confinement (supplied by County)
7. Latest FSA aerial imagery or best available imagery (GISW or County to supply)
8. Streets and roads (centerline)

Recommended tools on the Planning and Zoning tab include those listed for the Emergency Management tab. Future tools will be added as they are developed by GISW.

ENTERPRISE WEBGIS

GISW proposes to design and build an enterprise WebGIS for Cass 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 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 Cass 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 sales information, assessment and appraisal data and any other data associated with future tabs. A subscription-based option is available for advanced sales data and photo/sketches, should the County elect that option.

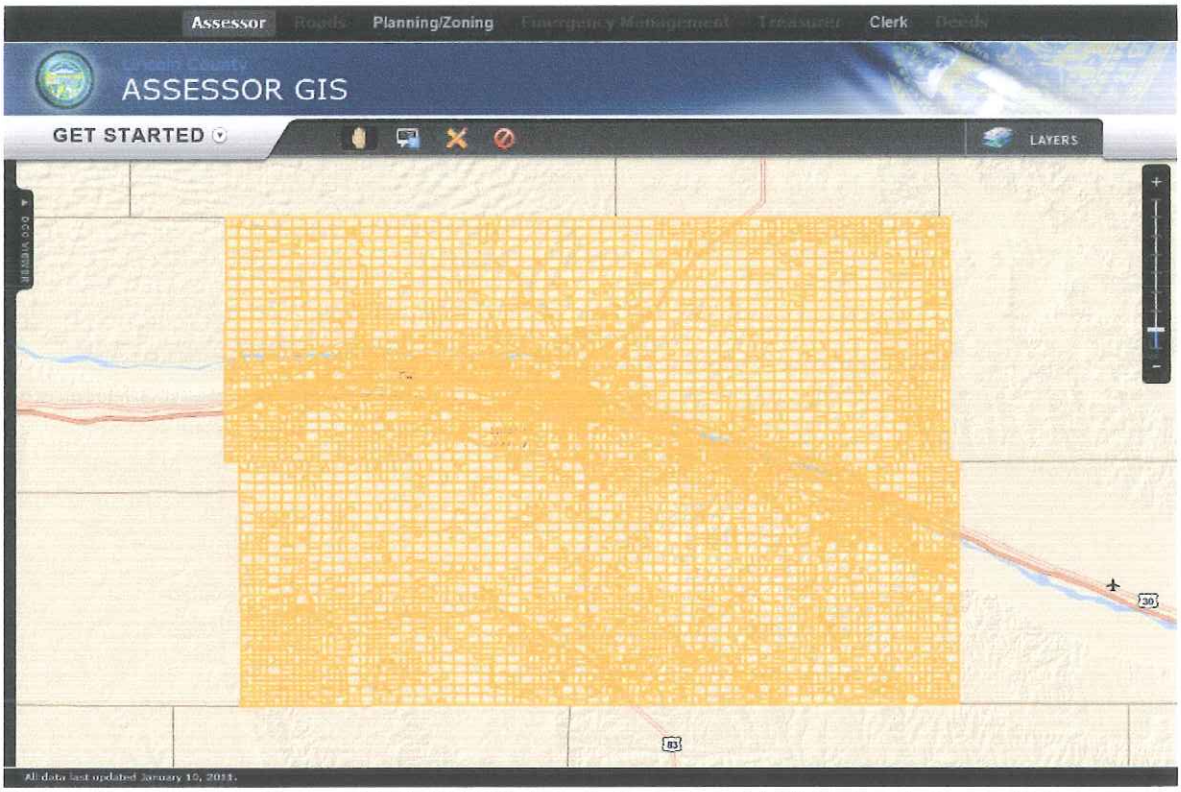


Figure 1: Opening screen (Assessor Tab) of GIS Workshop's Enterprise WebGIS for Lincoln County, NE.

Additional tabs for this WebGIS project will include Election Commissioner, Planning and Zoning, and Emergency Management. This initial budgetary proposal is for 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.** For example, the Planning and Zoning department currently has several maps available and those will start the Planning and Zoning tab. GISW provided redistricting services for the County and that new commissioner boundary map will start the Election Commissioner tab.

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

ASSESSOR 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. 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.

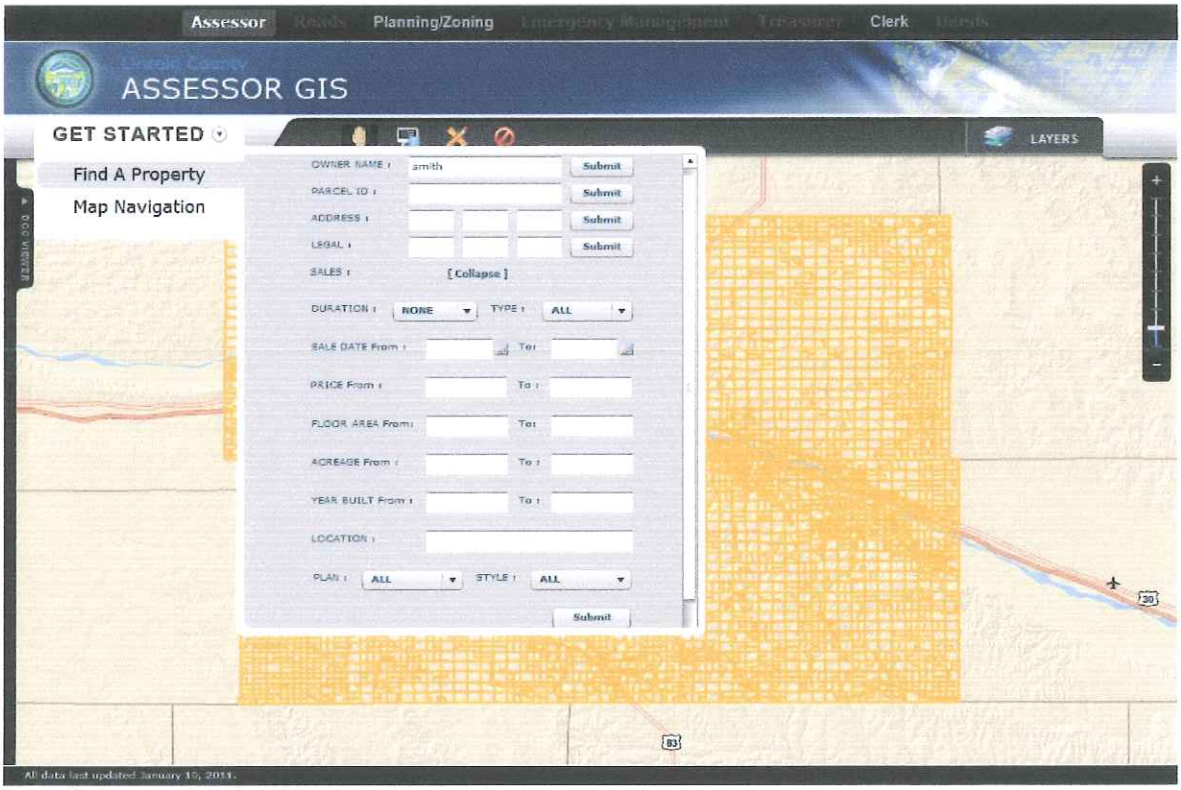


Figure 2: Assessor tab showing property search box

CASS COUNTY NE

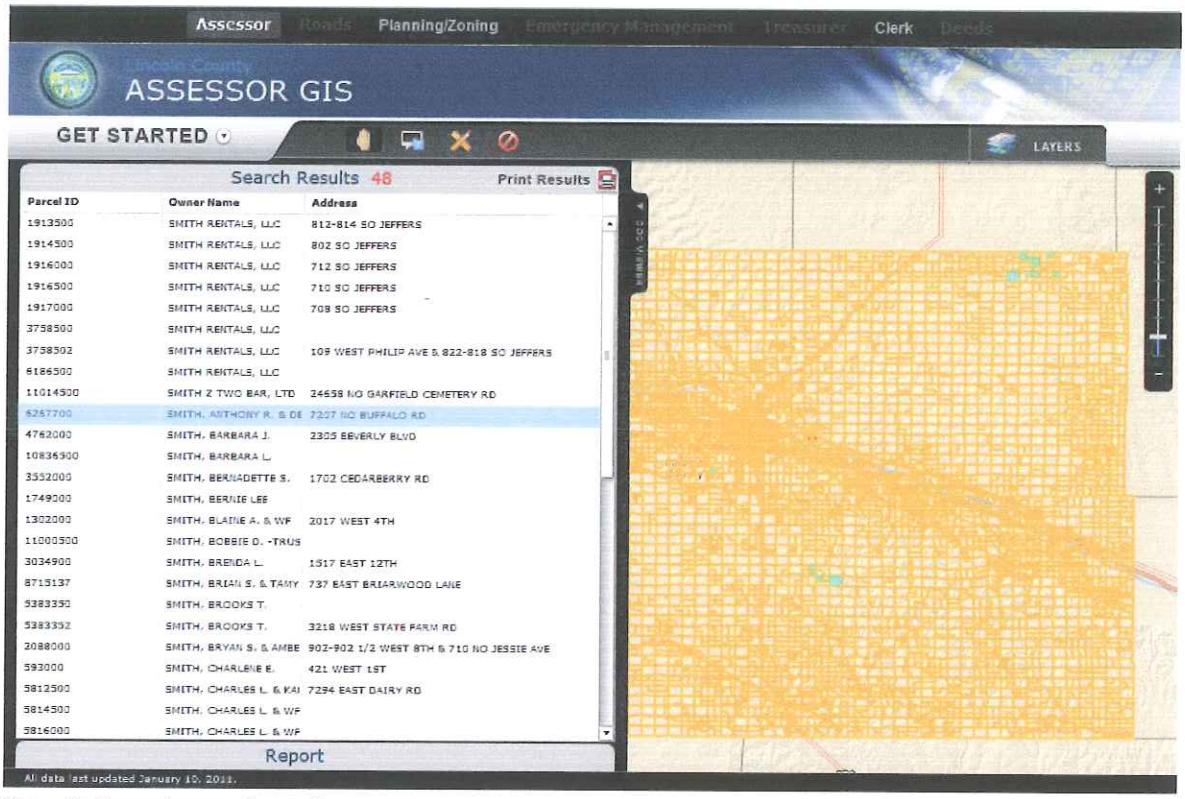


Figure 3: Property search results

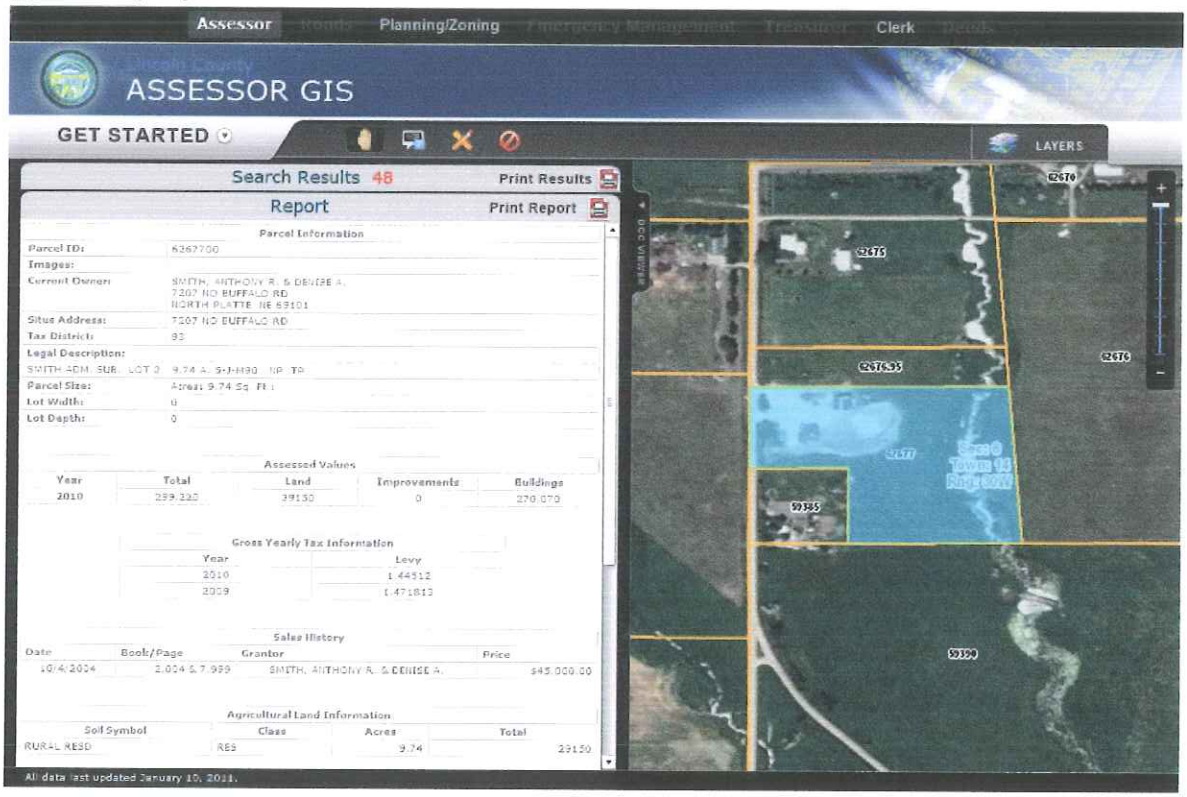


Figure 4: Property Record Card (note the map zoomed in and highlighted the chosen parcel)

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

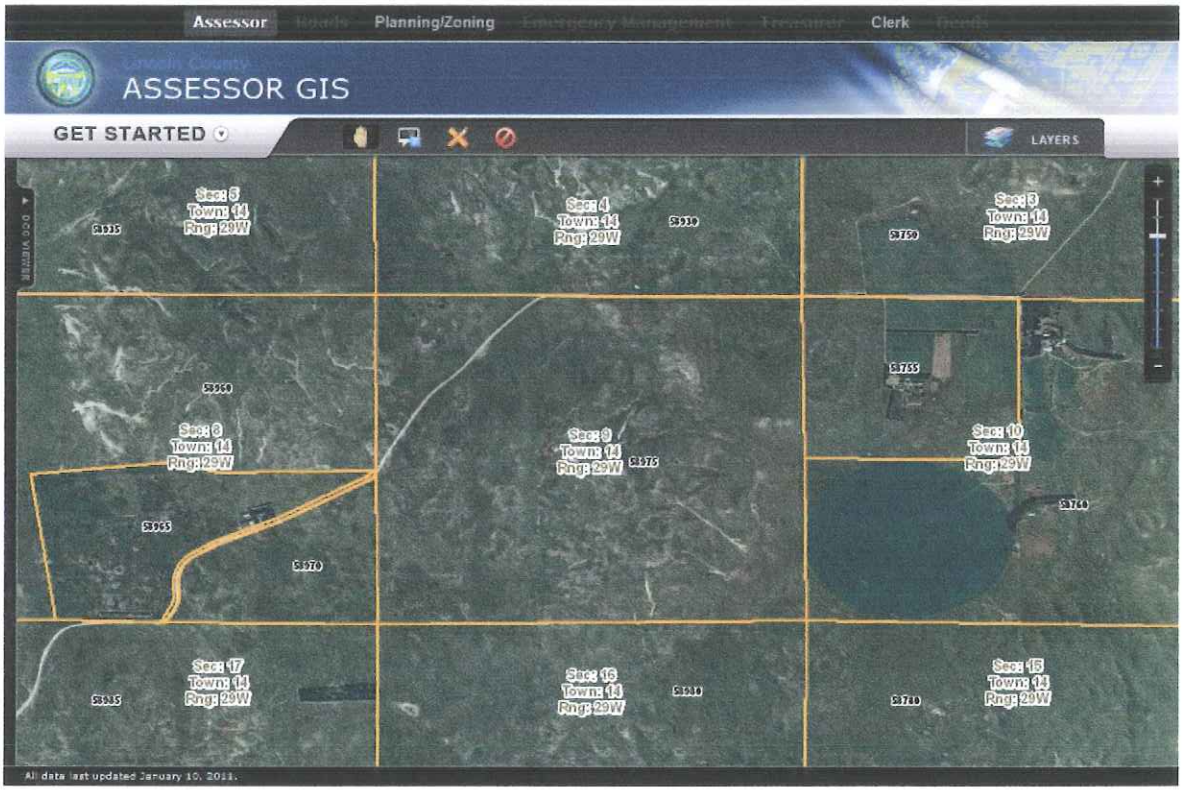


Figure 7: Application zooms into the specified section

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.

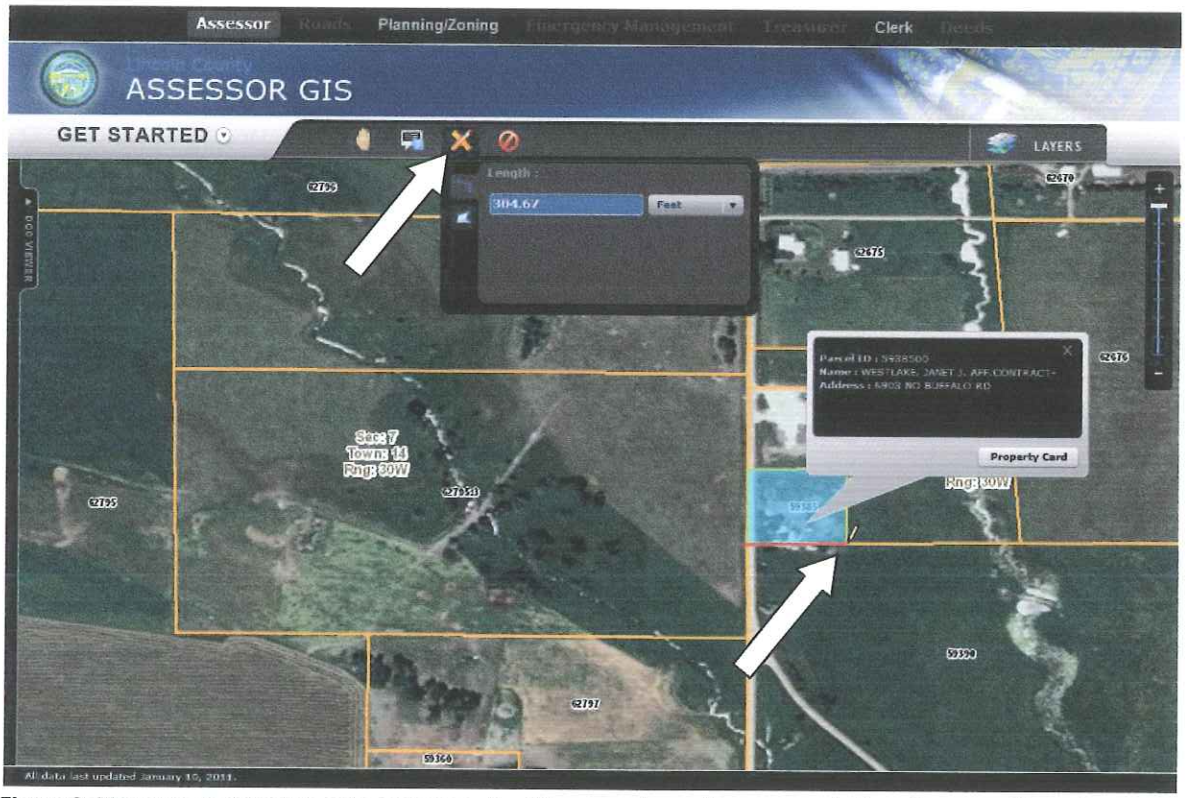


Figure 9: Measurement tool showing total length of the user-drawn line segment along the parcel boundary.

PARCEL BUFFER TOOL

The Planning and Zoning and Sheriff/Emergency Management tabs 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.

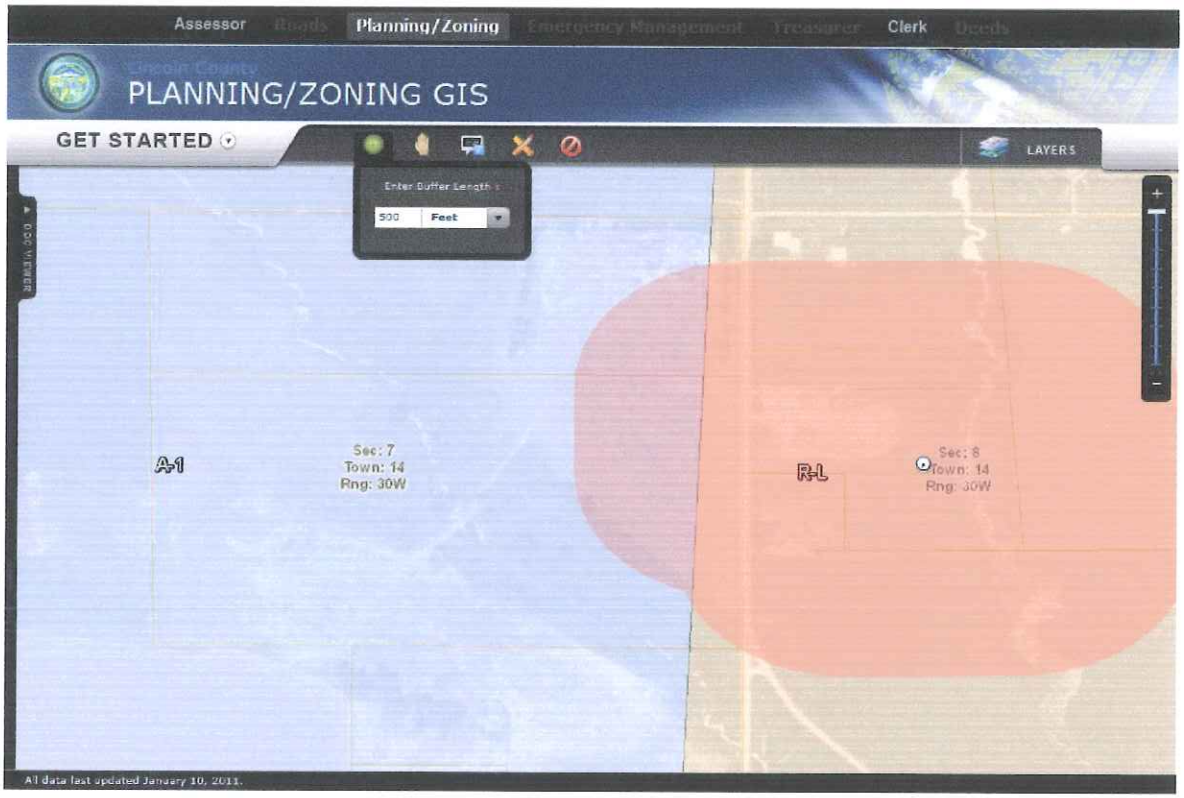


Figure 10: Activated Buffer tool with 500' radius result around the chosen parcel

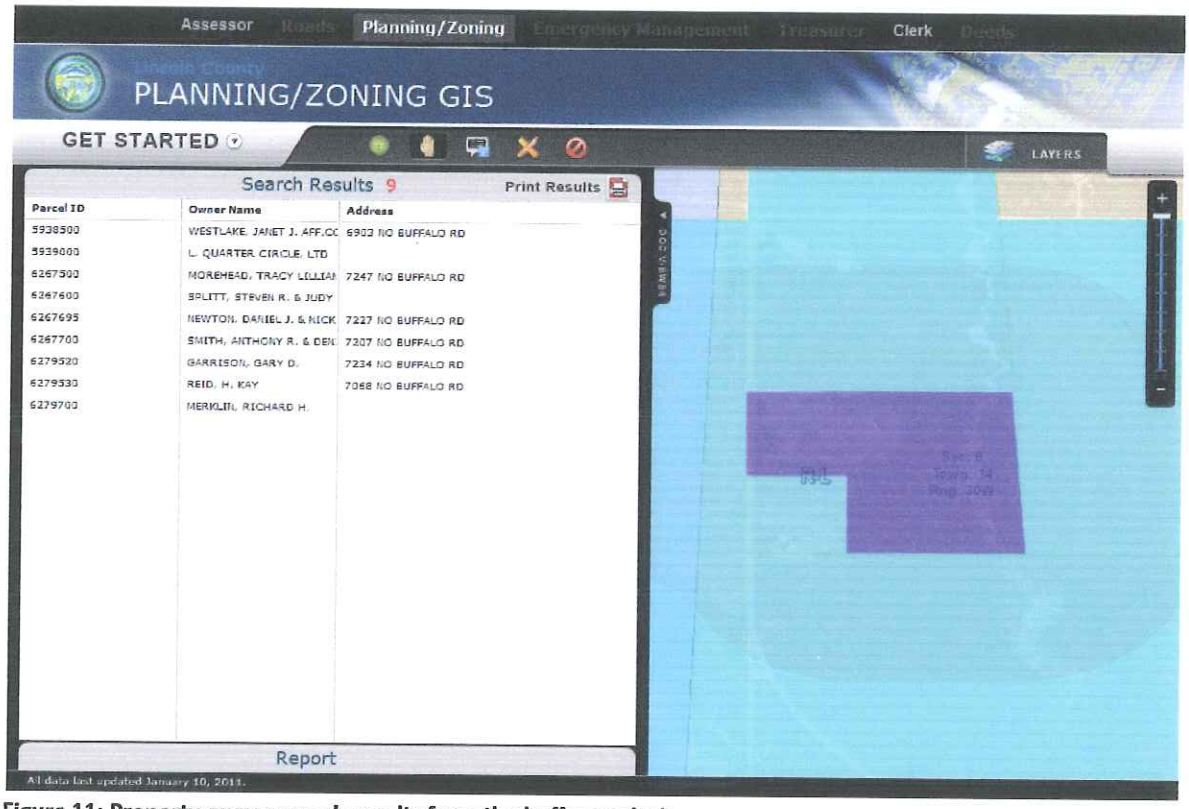


Figure 11: Property owner search results from the buffer analysis

WEBSITE MAINTENANCE

GIS Workshop will house the WebGIS on our redundant servers for Cass 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 TerraScan CAMA database to provide current property data. Updates to individual map layers on the Election Commissioner, EM and Planning/Zoning tabs will be sent to GISW for updating on a schedule determined by each individual department with GISW or as coordinated between GIS Workshop and the GIS Manager.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

The GISW team is ready to develop the Cass 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 paries and added as an addendum to this scope with the additional costs for said change order added to the following costs.

Deliverable	Cost
Cass County WebGIS	
Assessor tab (set-up at no cost) and year 1 maintenance	$4,800
Election Commissioner tab set-up and year 1 maintenance	$5,000
Planning/Zoning Tab set-up and year 1 maintenance	$5,000
EM tab set-up and year 1 maintenance	$7,000
Total Upfront Costs	**$21,800**

NOTE: Any awarded Grant funds will be applied to the total cost above and any amount in excess will be the responsibility of the County.

Ongoing Maintenance Costs (billed in January 2014)	Cost
Annual WebGIS maintenance (Assessor tab):	$4,800
Annual WebGIS maintenance (Election Commissioner tab):	$2,500
Annual WebGIS maintenance (P&Z tab):	$2,500
Annual WebGIS maintenance (EM tab):	$3,500
Total Annual Maintenance Costs effective January 2014	$13,300

OPTIONAL ITEMS

Additional annual maintenance for subscription-based option on assessor tab	$1,500 annually
Subscription-based management tool	*included*

Nebraska State Records Board

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

ATTACHMENT 2:

LETTERS OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT FROM CASS COUNTY, NEBRASKA

GIS Office, Cass County Nebraska
346 Main Street – Plattsmouth, Ne. 68048

Phone (402) 296-9354 Fax (402) 296-9318 Cass County Website www.cassne.org

March 3, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

To the Committee Members of the Nebraska State Records Board:

This letter is being written on the behalf of the citizens of Cass County, Nebraska. First I like to say that after 38 years of employment in county government I can still say that it has been my greatest pleasure to be serving the people of this great county. Having the responsibility of updating cadastral maps with pen and ink during the 70's I can assert to the time saving capability of a geographic information system, but none have been so great as the ability to represent ones data in map form via a GIS Website.

Our county board over the years, both past and present have expressed an ongoing desire to provide the public with information that would assist in their daily routine. The Board recognizes that citizens and businesses work, live and play in a time sensitive environment that seems to be more restrained every day. The ability to access data online at any given time is an asset to the public and provides the user with the ability to resolve an issue, plan a project, become informed, print maps, etc. Saving money is a priority in every ones lives today and accessing data from your home or office certainly saves time, fuel and increases your productivity. The County will also see the reward with less foot traffic in the office and employees time better spent on projects at hand without interruptions.

As the GIS Coordinator for Cass County it is my intent and desire to communicate with the city and villages regarding the possibility of incorporating data layers that are pertinent to their jurisdiction into our GIS Website. City and Village Zoning is one endeavor that I have already begun. As a test project and with the County Boards permission I have already completed the zoning layer for the City of Plattsmouth and it is under review by them at this time.

I have also collaborated with several other villages and have acquired their zoning maps for the same purpose. It is through this project that I intend to open a line of communication, participation and collaboration on future projects. This endeavor to incorporate the city and villages into the County GIS Website has been well received; however, I informed them that financial restraints would be the leading factor that must be considered. Certainly agreements and a strong working relationship will be required.

Cass County would like to thank you for your review and consideration of our application.

Sincerely

Robert G. Van Dyne

Robert Van Dyne
Cass County GIS Coordinator

Home State Bank

Serving you since 1915

218 Main Street
PO Box 429
Louisville, NE 68037
PHONE 402-234-2155
FAX 402-234-2458
www.hsbonline.com

March 6, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

To Whom It May Concern:

Home State Bank supports Cass County's request for grant assistance to develop a new GIS website for public use. As a major lending institution in Cass County, our employees would regularly use this website to access property information. We use the public records to gather information for several reasons, particularly to determine property ownership when processing loan requests. Another reason we need access to these public records is for zoning reasons. This website would allow our employees access to an accurate, consistent and trusted resource.

County's residents would also benefit from having internet access to the GIS website without having to drive up to 60 miles round-trip to the court house in Plattsmouth.

Thank you for your consideration of grant funds to Cass County to develop a new GIS Website for public use.

Sincerely,

David C. Pankonin

David C. Pankonin
President

VILLAGE OF EAGLE

INCORPORATED 1891

540 C STREET / PO BOX 130
EAGLE, NEBRASKA 68347
OFFICE 402-781-2748
FAX 402-781-2775

March 8, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

The Village of Eagle supports Cass County in preparing a grant application to acquire funds to assist in developing a new GIS Website for public use.

The Village of Eagle frequently uses the GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site to assist our local government and residents with reliable information. The Village of Eagle is able to access important information such as property owners, legal descriptions and property tax information without having to call the Cass County Courthouse or drive to Plattsmouth for assistance. Eagle is located approximately 42 miles from Plattsmouth and access to the website is critical to our daily needs. This information is available 24/7 to serve our community and allows our office to be more efficient by saving both time and money.

As Cass County continues to grow, this website will provide a positive collaboration between the county, its cities and local government entities.

Sincerely,

Donna Stevens

Donna Stevens
Village Clerk

Nebraska State Legislature

SENATOR R. PAUL LAMBERT

District 2
State Capitol
PO Box 94604
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4604
(402) 471-2613
plambert@leg.ne.gov

COMMITTEES

General Affairs
Health and Human Services
Nebraska Retirement Systems
Urban Affairs

March 7, 2012

GIS Office
346 Main Street
Plattsmouth, NE 68048

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of Cass County's application for funds, with which to develop a new public GIS website.

Plattsmouth is the seat of government for Cass County. As a former city councilman and mayor of Plattsmouth, I endorse the county's efforts to develop a new GIS website, because it will help county residents and elected officials to answer questions and solve problems by looking at data in a way that is quickly understood and easily shared.

Legislative District 2 includes portions of Otoe and Sarpy Counties, and all of Cass County. In the past this office has needed information about each of the counties that can best be obtained through the use of GIS technology. To this point the information from Otoe and Sarpy Counties has been far superior to and, therefore, more useful to my staff and me than the information that has been provided by Cass County. The ability to obtain improved information from Cass County will benefit the District 2 office and the people it serves.

Sincerely,

Senator R. Paul Lambert
District 2

City of Plattsmouth

MICHAEL C. BOWMAN,
MAYOR
ERVIN PORTIS,
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

136 North 5th Street
Plattsmouth, Nebraska 68048-1922
(402) 296-2522

SANDRA J. MEYER,
CITY CLERK
PEGGY A. WILSEY,
CITY TREASURER

March 7, 2012

To:
Cass County GIS Office
346 Main Street
Plattsmouth, NE 68048

Re: Proposed GIS upgrade

To Whom It May Concern,

As the Plattsmouth Building Inspector and Zoning Administrator, I use the Cass County GIS website on a daily basis. It provides accurate information and allows me to serve the citizens in a prompt, concise manner.

On a regular basis, potential homebuyers, developers, and business people will come into this office armed with information from the GIS website, confident in their research and ready to make an investment in the community.

The website has also enhanced an already wonderful working relationship with the various county offices. Communication and collaboration are simplified, allowing all the communities and the courthouse to cooperate and make Cass County even better.

Kevin Larson

Kevin Larson
Plattsmouth Building Inspector

City of Plattsmouth

MICHAEL C. BOWMAN,
MAYOR
ERVIN PORTIS,
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

136 North 5th Street
Plattsmouth, Nebraska 68048-1922
(402) 296-2522

SANDRA J. MEYER,
CITY CLERK
PEGGY A. WILSEY,
CITY TREASURER

March 7, 2012

To:
Cass County GIS Office
346 Main Street
Plattsmouth, NE 68048

Re: GIS upgrade

To Whom It May Concern,

Cass County's GIS service is a valuable tool used on a daily basis by the City of Plattsmouth. From code enforcement to economic development, the GIS website helps the city serve its citizens in a timely and accurate fashion, as well as providing people from outside the community an opportunity to learn more about Plattsmouth and Cass County.

Ervin Portis
City Administrator

336 Main St
Plattsmouth, NE 68048

Wm. C. Brueggemann
Sheriff
CASS COUNTY

402-296-9370
FAX 402-296-9390
Crime Stoppers
1-800-527-3699

March 7, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the grant application for the re-design of the GIS/Property Lookup and Mapping Website for public use in Cass County.

As a law enforcement agency, it is important to be able to access information on this website easily and efficiently 24 hours a day/7 days a week. The information obtained on this website offers the ability to research owner information, addresses, legal descriptions of properties for things like search warrants, property distress warrants, information for Sheriff's sales and for our deputies to locate hard to find address, just to name a few. Accessing this website saves vital time when responding to emergencies in out of the way locations where someone's life or property could be in jeopardy.

Thank you for taking your time to review my letter and if I can answer any questions or provide additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

William C. Brueggemann, Sheriff
Cass County Sheriff's Office

VILLAGE OF ALVO
P.O. BOX 408
EAGLE, NE 68347

March 17th, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

The Chairman and Village Board of the Village of Alvo wish to express their support for Cass County to apply for a Grant through the Nebraska State Records Board to be used to improve access to Public Information by developing a GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service. This would be very helpful for the Village of Alvo to be able to lookup property information when needed to add in utilizing our Comprehensive Plan, reviewing Building Permit Applications, annexation of properties and several other duties handled by the Village of Alvo. It is very important to have public access to Cass County data 24/7 and would save us and our Citizens time and the expense by being able to access the public website anytime and not have to actually drive to the Courthouse in Plattsmouth every time we need property information. This would allow the Village of Alvo to be more efficient in our duties and save the Village time and money. By utilizing this website it provide for the opportunity for the Village of Alvo and Cass County to collaborate by being able to view city/county zoning, water lines, fire hydrants, street & alley vacations, and annexations. This would also help all communities in Cass County. This letter serves as the Village of Alvo's Letter of Support for this project. If you have any further questions, you can reach me at (402) 786-2312 or e-mail me at gingern@citywaverly.com.

Sincerely,

Ginger R. Neuhart MMC
Village Clerk/Treasurer
Village of Alvo

20 March 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

As a member of the Greenwood Rural Fire District board of directors, I am in support of the GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service.

As a rural fire district, our fire fighters rely on the Cass County Sheriff's office for dispatch services in times of emergency. To have this type of information at the dispatcher's fingertips on a 24/7 basis is very important. Obviously the electronic availability is the essential component.

Also important is the ability to have public access to such information for not just the rural areas but also for the incorporated towns in the county. That public access will aid fire service providers as they preplan their response, with the result being better service to their taxpayers.

The grant that the Cass County GIS Office is seeking will be very beneficial in improving services to the emergency responders through out the county.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Eric J. Rasmussen
Greenwood Rural Fire District Board Member.

Cass County Bank

2020 W. 8th Avenue - PO Box #430
Plattsmouth, Nebraska 68048
Phone (402) 296-3333 Fax (402) 296-3348

Member FDIC Equal Housing Lender

March 21, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
c/o GIS Office
346 Main Street
Plattsmouth, NE 68048

This letter is written in support of the GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service.

Our bank uses the current website in a variety of ways. We use the assessor's information to make a preliminary review of properties that our customers are interested in purchasing or refinancing. This site helps us to determine the approximate value of the property and many times the general condition. The mapping function helps us to determine the location and the general neighborhood the property is located in, assisting us in making a physical inspection. Having this information early in the lending process allows our loan officers to be more efficient and to engage in meaningful discussions early in the relationship.

The site is also useful in the servicing of our loan portfolio. The treasurer's information is valuable in monitoring the payment of real estate taxes. We are able to identify potential stress much earlier and are able to be in contact with our customers to ensure situations do not get out of control. We hope that our monitoring efforts help to keep citizens of Cass County in their homes.

The 24/7 access to the information not only saves our institution time and expense for research, it also makes the county offices more efficient by reducing the multitude of phone calls that would come to the office regarding information that can be found on the website.

Upgrades to the system to more easily move from office to office will allow the entire process to be more efficient and cut down further on the time and expense associated with calls to the various county or city employees.

Sincerely,

Julie A. Schmale

Julie A. Schmale
Senior Vice President

446 Main St.
PO Box 340
Plattsmouth NE 68048

Plattsmouth State Bank

Member FDIC

Phone (402) 296-BANK (2265)
Fax (402) 296-5164

March 7, 2012

Re: GIS Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service

To: Nebraska State Record Board,

On behalf of Plattsmouth State Bank, we would like to offer our opinion on the County's web Service and how important it is.

The loan department uses the assessor valuation page when we are considering doing a real estate transaction for a customer. The site gives us valuable information that is used in the initial determination of a loan. From this page we are able to determine the physical condition of the property (if the photo is current), the size, how the customer took title, tax id number and a handful of other useful information. Without this page we would be relying solely on the title insurance company to give us basic property information.

This website is used almost daily by the loan department. We use it to confirm that the taxes have been paid on our property used for collateral. We use it for our escrowed loans to update the amounts that change yearly.

It is a useful page but would be even better if it had comparable sales listed. I know the county assessor's office has a computer for public use but it can be somewhat cumbersome and does not always list the different types of property we are looking for. It saves time and money to have access to this information and is available 24/7.

Also on some property, "adjusted structure costs" have been updated but the photo itself is greater than 8 years old.

Sincerely,

Terri Anderson

Terri Anderson
Executive Assistant
Plattsmouth State Bank
tanderson@plattsmouthbank.com

Village of Greenwood

619 Main Street • PO Box 190 • Greenwood, NE 68366 • 402.789.2300

March 27, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board –

Please accept this letter of support for Cass County to acquire grant funding through the Nebraska State Records Board for the purpose of developing a new GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service for public use. The Village of Greenwood utilizes the current site on a weekly, if not daily, basis and we believe that an update of the current site would provide for an even greater opportunity to access relevant information.

We are especially excited about the opportunity to work in collaboration with the county on the addition of local zoning on the new site, allowing for further data sharing. Having this information available to the public for review will allow for our office to be more efficient and productive as I can now direct the public to the County's site for answers to their questions.

If you have any questions, please contact the Village office at 402.789.2300.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Angie Stein

Angie Stein
Village Clerk/Treasurer

McHUGH & McHUGH
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

OFFICES IN
CORN GROWERS STATE BANK
333 NEBRASKA STREET
P.O BOX 405
MURDOCK, NEBRASKA 68407-0405

LYNN D. McHUGH
EDWIN T. McHUGH, 1915-2004

TELEPHONE
(402) 867-2141

March 17, 2012

Cathy Danahy, Executive Director
Nebraska State Records Board
440 S. 8th St., Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508-2294

Re: Cass County, Nebraska's Grant Application to improve its GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service

To: Nebraska State Records Board

This letter is written in very strong support of the above-described grant application submitted to you. As the senior member of this law firm located in central Cass County (but; just about 30 miles and 30 minutes from the courthouse), I assure you it is often critical and sometimes urgent to our clients that we are able to access our county officials' public information on a 24/7/365 basis.

Although I combine trip purposes as much as possible, I estimate my law practice requires me to travel 3,000 miles per year to my own courthouse. We make this approximately 60 mile round trip to the courthouse in Plattsmouth just about 50 times a year. Although there are times when the trip is made 2 – 3 times in a given week, there are also some weeks in which we do not make a single trip to the courthouse in Plattsmouth (but this is a rare occurrence).

I count my lucky Irish stars every time a client's needs can be met simply by reference to our county's current website (but this only educates the client to access the information themselves and so limits the amount of my future reasonable attorney fees). Although this website already provides great access to the county assessor's parcel information for planning, this data is not sufficiently detailed for many other purposes.

The true ownership of any given parcel of real estate and its legal description are not contained in the county assessor's records. I expect it would save me 1,500 – 2,000 miles per year if the deeds, mortgages and other miscellaneous records on file with the register of deeds office were "imaged" and accessed online from the county's GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service.

With each and every enhancement to this county's GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service, we become better equipped to provide the legal services and advice needed by our clients to make important personal decisions. Although not ideal, we are "pressed" by our clients to advise them of their property rights and/or draft legal documents overnight more often that one might think.

This is not the only law firm serving clients located, or owning property, in Cass County, Nebraska. There are other attorneys with offices just as distant from the courthouse in Plattsmouth as mine. Those located in Cass County, Nebraska are found in Elmwood, Louisville, Union and Weeping Water. If they have not written in support of this application, it is only because they are unaware of it.

Should you have any questions or feel I can provide further input in support of Cass County's application, please let me know. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Lynn D. McHugh

CASS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ROADS
LEONARD THORNE - HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT
13860 12th STREET
PLATTSMOUTH, NE 68048
PH: 402-296-9353 FAX: 402-296-9360
E-MAIL: roads@cassne.org

March 6, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service

To whom it may concern;

I am writing in support of the GIS/Property lookup & Map Site Grant Funding for Cass County. Our office is not located in the Courthouse therefore our Department does not have the convenience of on-site records that are easily accessible which complicates our researching abilities.

With the collaboration of City and County data sharing along with the 24/7 availability we will be able to be more efficient when gathering information needed to access road information such as vacations, right-of-way, and property ownership. It is also our hope that once the information is completely accessible we will be able to use the GIS/Map site look up to its fullest potential.

Respectfully,

Lenny Thorne

Cass County Emergency Management Agency
8400 144th St. Suite 200
Weeping Water, NE 68463-0195
(402) 267-6765 O. (402) 267-7945 F.

Sandra L. Weyers
Director

Shelia Peterson
Chief Deputy Director

Jacob Blunt
Administrative Officer

March 19, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

To Whom It May Concern:

Cass County Emergency Management is writing this letter in support of the GIS Office receiving grant funding to improve access to public information. This would help our office in several ways. It would allow us to use the information in disaster situations and would make things more efficient and cost effective. It would allow us to share information with our responders and our citizens when life and property is at stake. We would be able to share information across jurisdictions in times of major disasters. It would allow us to use our resources and be more productive as an emergency management agency and coordination center for the 14 cities and villages within the county as well as the 14 volunteer fire departments and rescue squads throughout the county.

Sincerely

Sandra Weyers
Director, Cass County Emergency Management Agency

15 March, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

This letter is to support the acquisition of funds needed for Cass County, NE to develop a new GIS Website for public use.
I serve as the Floodplain Manager for the Village of Cedar Creek, NE. The duties include the assessment of ;accurate property locations, of property owners, of tax assessed valuations, of year constructed. The Cass County public use site allows me to obtain this information without physically visiting the county records offices. This a saving of time and cost. Additionally, since my position is considered part time, I may review the floodplain development permit and above identified public records at times of the day or night when the county offices are not open .
The processing of Floodplain Development Permits needs to be timely and accurate. The ability of the community to provide residents with access to flood insurance depends on a Floodplain Manager's evaluation of data that is current and accurate, or the governing agency , Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) may penalize the community.

I support the development of the new website to support me and my assigned duties with current, accurate and easily accessible information.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Paukert, P.E., CFM

CITY OF LOUISVILLE
PO BOX 370, 210 MAIN ST., LOUISVILLE, NE 68037
PHONE 402-234-7605 OR 7705 FAX: 402-234-2221
city@louisvillenebraska.com

March 1, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

To Whom It May Concern:

The City of Louisville fully supports Cass County's request for grant assistance to develop a new GIS website for public use. As a City within Cass County, our employees and elected officials would continually use the website to access information. We use the public records to gather information for various reasons, particularly for property ownership for nuisance reasons and liens. Another reason we need access public records is for zoning reasons. This website would save time and gas money by not having to drive to the county courthouse. The City sees the potential to collaborate by adding its own information, such as water lines, alley vacations, etc. to the website to further enhance its effectiveness.

Besides City employees and officials, it would also be very helpful for our City's residents to be able to access county records 24/7 and not have to drive to Plattsmouth to obtain this information.

Thank you for your consideration of grant funds to Cass County to develop a new GIS Website for public use.

Sincerely,

John A. Mueller, Mayor
City of Louisville

CITY OF WEEPING WATER
P.O. BOX 329
WEEPING WATER, NE 68463
402-267-5152
kg33101@windstream.net

March 7, 2012

Robert Van Dyne
Cass County GIS Office
346 Main Street
Plattsmouth, NE 68048

RE: Letter of Support

Dear Mr. Van Dyne:

The City of Weeping Water would like to offer a letter of support in Cass County's venture in seeking grant funds to assist in developing a new GIS Website for public use.

Having public access to GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service has proven to be a valuable asset to the Weeping Water's city governmental operations in the following ways:

1. We are able to obtain access to an address approved by the Postal System of numerous individuals for whom we have no other way of looking up an address.
2. This system has helped the city locate property owners of vacant property to assure compliance with city health code and city maintenance issues.
3. We have been able to quickly obtain exact legal descriptions and to collaborate between the city and county to assist in various zoning/property transactions, street/alley vacations and special assessments.
4. This system saves a considerable amount of time and money for the City of Weeping Water as it allows instant access to the necessary information without having to leave the office, allowing city officials to operate more efficiently.

An updated web site would further enhance the present system and increase each user's efficiency.

Sincerely,

Kay Gerdes

Kay Gerdes
City Clerk

13708 S. 18th St.
Bellevue, NE 68123

March 23, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
440 S. 8th St.
Lincoln, NE 68508-2294

Dear Nebraska State Records Board:

I am writing to you in support of the GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service for Cass County. Having quick and convenient access to a web site is much more convenient than driving to the Courthouse or waiting for a weekday for the same information as the hobby that I enjoy operates only on weekends.

A few years ago I began skydiving at the Lincoln Sport Parachute Club in Weeping Water. We wanted to improve our static line student training program with better aerial maps of the dropzone rather than symbols for the road and runway. When I volunteered for this task I went to search for the Cass County's online GIS system. Unfortunately it had not yet been converted to a website and was only accessible to those employed by Cass County. Although Bob was able to provide us aerial maps of the dropzone and we thank him for helping us, a website one click away would have been much more convenient because it is always available, even after business hours. We also would have used it to estimate the distance between two buildings to determine whether we would need to install antennas to connect both buildings to the same Internet gateway.

I highly value access to information over the web as it is always available. Access to this information for residents and businesses should as convenient as the largest counties in Nebraska. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter of support. If you have any questions on how we would like to use the GIS please contact me at 402-218-1489.

Sincerely,

Cory Becker

Cass County Nebraska
Economic Development Council

March 22, 2012

Mr. Robert Van Dyne
346 Main St.
Cass County GIS Office
Plattsmouth, NE 68048

Dear Mr. Van Dyne:

This letter is written as support of your grant application to acquire funds for creating a new GIS website for public use in Cass County, Nebraska. It will be much more efficient to have a County GIS website that is more user friendly, and continues to offer 24/7 access to public information. Updates that will share data from various departments will be very helpful, and allow more efficiency by both the various department staff and by the public users.

The GIS site provided timely and valuable information for us as we do land and building data searches for our economic development projects. We absolutely do find this an essential tool in determining site or building ownership, geographic size, zoning information, and basic mapping of details. We know you continue to get additional information that is not always incorporated in the current GIS site, and we hope this grant application allows you to continually provide up to date information, that will be available to everyone.

We appreciate your efforts to be more effective in providing this technology to the public. We believe this will save time and money for the businesses & residents in Cass County.
If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at 402-978-7909.

Sincerely,

John Yochum
Executive Director
Cass County Nebraska Economic Development Council

1301 Harney Street
Omaha, NE 68102
402-978-7909

www.SelectGreaterOmaha.com
A Partner with Greater Omaha
Economic Development Partnership

Harlan Seyfer
Historian, Plattsmouth Main Street
Plattsmouth City Hall
136 North 5th Street
Plattsmouth, NE 68048
March 17, 2012

Dear Nebraska State Records Board:

I am writing in support of funding the Cass County GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service.

As Historian for Plattsmouth Main Street Historic District (my office is in the Plattsmouth City Hall), my job is to document the history of structures and property within the District as designated on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) by the U.S. Department of the Interior. In addition to this role, I often assist in the preparation of nominations for the NRHP Inventory elsewhere, primarily in Plattsmouth, but also in Cass County.

This work often occurs during non-business hours, on evenings and weekends, due to the limited availability of the property owners, who have day-jobs. Hence access to GIS records is critically needed 24/7, during "off hours."

Currently a trip to the GIS Office is required to research property information. For property not located in Plattsmouth, online access would indeed be welcome, providing savings in both time and travel expense.

Availability of information in digital form online would facilitate documentation of NRHP nominations through "cut and paste" and help eliminate transcription errors.

For these reasons, I urge you to move forward on providing funds to improve access to the public information maintained by the Cass County GIS office.

I should add that working with the Cass County GIS office has been a pleasure in addition to being fruitful. I applaud their initiative to improve services to their users.

Sincerely,

Harlan Seyfer
Historian
Plattsmouth Main Street
136 North 5th Street (south entrance of city hall)
(402) 296-5544 (office & fax)
(402) 415-9405 (mobile)
HistorianPlattsmouthMainStreet@gmail.com

March 12, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

I am writing in support for Cass County to obtain grant money to support it in its GIS/Property Lookup & Map Web Service. This service that the county offers is a great service for the citizens of the county as well as many companies that need to gather data on properties that are located in Cass County.

During my 8 years of serving as a Trustee on Sanitary Improvement District #5 aka Buccaneer Bay, I used the Cass County GIS services many times to track property owners, as well a property values and descriptions of the properties. The map option has been very helpful in finding properties as well as being able to apply the various layers.

The fact that the GIS site is available 24 hours a day has been a great time and money saver for me. It is often after court house hours when I need to do my research and having this available online with easy access from my home computer saves me needing to take time off of work to make sure I can get to the court house before it closes. I can easily print off the information I need right on my home printers, which saves me time, as well as saving the county time from having to print something for me.

I am now serving as a Cass County Commissioner and as I get calls from my constituents with complaints regarding their property or roads in their area, it is easy for me to find their location via the GIS site first. This helps me know where they are located so I can drive out and take a look at the situation they are concerned with.

I especially like that it will be possible that several counties in Nebraska will be using the same format. This will help everyone in not having to learn how to navigate each counties GIS site.

Sincerely,

Janet M. McCartney

Janet M. McCartney

Hello,

I am writing this letter in support for the GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service. Our Company is in the real estate business, we examine the courthouse records and provide insurance and reports as the status of real property in many counties in Nebraska. We also have relationships with real estate brokers and lenders that rely on us to give them quick accurate information to do their jobs. An online GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site would be an amazing tool that we would use daily to help get our jobs done and also help foster our relationships outside our Company. This would also save us time and expense, being able to access information without pulling our examiners from other work to drive to the courthouse and back for this information. It would also save time and hassle to the employees working in the courthouse that we regularly call for information. They would have more time for their day to day work and customers in the courthouse if we could get the information ourselves 24/7, without the need to call the courthouse. We use this technology with a few other Counties in Nebraska that are outside the Omaha Metro area, and the access plays a major role in our ability to quickly serve our needs and customers. So we already know what an asset it would be to add Cass to that list.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jill Kussman
Title Manager / Abstractor
1448 Washington Street
Blair, NE 68008

402.452.3811 Phone
402.452.3959 E-Fax
402.778.9778 Office Fax
jkussman@titleservicesne.com

WASHINGTON COUNTY
ABSTRACT & TITLE
COMPANY

Peabody title & Escrow Company
8007 South 46th Street • Omaha, NE • 68157
(402) 896-9985
Fax (402) 896-9986
rick@peabodytitle.com

March 9, 2012

Dear Nebraska State Records Board,

I am writing in support of Cass County, Nebraska GIS receiving a Grant to further expand their GIS system. As an owner of Peabody Title & Escrow Company, the internet access to county systems is imperative to quickly address our customers Real Estate needs and any questions pertaining to names, address, legal description or even to verify what county the property is in or for that matter what county it isn't in. As a business owner time and accuracy is of the essence , and the County GIS site also allows us the access to county information to verify the accuracy of owners names, address and or legal descriptions, before sending an employee to the County Courthouse to conduct a title search. The Cass County GIS is one of the better sites available online and with the Grant funds, they are going to make it even more efficient to all users,

We certainly are looking forward to Cass County, Nebraska, GIS receiving the Grant money to further their GIS systems.

Please call if there are any additional questions or information you need from myself or Peabody Title & Escrow Company.

Sincerely,

Richard T. Peabody
Vice President

March 3, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

Please be advised that I am writing in support of the Cass County GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service.

As a candidate in two Cass County elections, I used the GIS on-line property lookup many times. I feel it provided me a valuable service in running for office since I had not lived in Cass County for the number of years my opponent did and was not nearly as familiar with the geography. Driving to the courthouse each time I needed to get information would have been costly and time consuming to my campaign. With this website, I was able to look up various property owners and request permission to put up campaign signs. Using this website was of huge importance to me in keeping the process fair.

Bob Van Dyne does an excellent job with the website. It is efficiently maintained and updated. I don't recall ever experencing downtime in trying to access the site. I'm certain that many businesses in and outside of Cass County use this website. I am a supporter of having records on-line. I honestly believe it saves time and money. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Rita Ford
PO Box 19
203 Sunrise Lane
Cedar Creek, Nebraska 68016
email: ritaford@windstream.net

Cass County GIS Office
346 Main Street
Plattsmouth, NE 68048

Letter of Support
Subject: GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Website

I wholeheartedly support a grant for the development of the subject website. Having used the services of the Cass County GIS Office on 10 occasions over the last three years, in support of 2009-2010 Federal Census operations, the Beaver Lake Neighborhood Watch, and the Beaver Lake Community "Safe Connections" Pedestrian Pathway Project, I can attest to the need for a GIS Website. In each case, the services of Robert Van Dyne, Cass County GIS Coordinator, were invaluable to my projects and Mr. Van Dyne is a true professional who has always been eager and completely capable of helping me with my GIS-related requirements. However, I had to make special trips to the Cass County GIS Office in Plattsmouth to obtain residential/commercial lot maps, surveyed property plats, and other surveyor information on easements and specific roadway dimensions/alignments. Many of the trips to the GIS Office could have been avoided if a GIS Website had been available for public use.

The availability of a user-friendly, online GIS resource would save City/County resources by reducing the time spent answering questions from the public and retrieving GIS products. A GIS Website would reduce public's travel time and expenses while encouraging greater citizen use of the GIS database. A GIS Website would increase the accuracy of many private and commercial real estate and other transactions that rely on the latest GIS information. A City/County GIS Website, available 24 hours daily, would facilitate project research, work schedules, and improve coordination among diverse organizations working on the same projects. Together, these would increase project efficiencies by not having to fit construction and other land use tasks to specific GIS Office hours.

I strongly recommend the Nebraska State Records Board grant the Cass County GIS Office the necessary grant to develop a GIS Website at the earliest date.

//S//
Ronald R Russell
904 Beaver Lake Blvd
Plattsmouth, NE 68048
402-235-2773

Date: March 8, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

The purpose of this letter is to extend my full support for the GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service.

As President of our Lake Lot Owner's Association for the past three years, as well as the current chairman of the Architectural Control Committee for the Association, the GIS information available to me 24/7 has been an invaluable tool. I doubt that I would have wasted time and fuel to drive to the court house to obtain such information had it not been available on the website. It has allowed me to be most efficient and productive.

I highly endorse acquiring funds to assist in developing a new GIS Website for public use.

Sincerely,

Stephen J. Kessler
19707 Shoreline Circle
Plattsmouth, NE 68048
402-296-5568
nausetlight@windstream.net

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in support of the development of the new GIS Website for public use in Cass County, Nebraska. As the Village Clerk of Manley, NE I have been given authorization to send this letter of support by the Village Board Chairperson, Mrs. Betty Meyer.

The Village Board now has a one-mile jurisdiction from the boarders of Manley. We will be able to use this new website as a tool to to effectively provide necessary information to the Board and to the individuals we serve when making decisions that affect our community. In the past we have had to determine ownership and contact information for property that has been abandoned and neglected. The general public will also be able to access information that otherwise would not be available to them without utilizing government officials/employees. We therefore for see an increase efficiency in gather information, coordination of services, at a savings to the public and to government.

As you know the Village of Manley is located in the center of Cass County. It is not always convenient for members of a volunteer board or the public to drive to Plattsmouth in order to receive information necessary or to provide information in an efficient and accurate manner. A GIS Website accessible to the public 24/7 will be a valuable tool four our Village Board and its citizens which will allow a savings in money by reducing costs for fuel and allow citizens to continue working instead of spending time at the courthouse. In these economic times when everyone is going "Green" it just makes good sense to make information available on the internet and provide access when convenient to the consumer of that information.

It is our hope that the website will enable our community to work more efficiently when collaborating with the the Cass County government, when finding information, reporting information, and serving the citizens of our Village and Cass County. We look forward with anticipation when this project comes to fruition.

Sincerely,

Kevin Holdorf
Village Clerk
PO Box 97
Manley, NE 68403
(402) 707-2223
kevinholdorf@hotmail.com

VILLAGE OF MURRAY
P. O. BOX 79
MURRAY, NE 68409

Shelley Lesac
Chairperson
[phone 402 235 2119]

March 13, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

Dear Board Members:

The Village of Murray is sending this letter in support of the Cass County GIS services and their pursuit of a grant to update the same.

Our Village clerk utilizes the GIS service almost daily, having it available without having to drive to the courthouse enables our office to run more efficiently and more productively. In addition, it provides access at any time, any day, so our staff does not have to wait on someone being available or an office being closed for holidays or due to illness.

This service also enables our clerk to correct (or clarify) any discrepancies that may exist between county information and Village information. We have been able to keep our records up-to-date by having complete access to this service.

We completely support any effort by the county to upgrade and improve this service.

Sincerely,

VILLAGE OF MURRAY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Shelley Lesac
Chairperson

VILLAGE OF UNION

March 22, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

The Village of Union Board of Trustees, during their March 14, 2012 Board Meeting, voted unanimously in support of the Cass County GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service and the development of a new Cass County GIS website.

The village clerk uses the current GIS Property Lookup and Map Site regularly to identify and locate the property owners within the village for various administrative purposes. Because the clerk has immediate access to the abbreviated legal descriptions on properties, she can email the Register of Deeds Office the shortened description, and they in turn email the complete legal description, so the village clerk can prepare liens quickly for filing. Having access to this information online saves the clerk the time and gas it takes for the 15 mile trip to the courthouse to get the information in person.

Recently, the village clerk used Cass County GIS to quickly and efficiently organize a water meter equipment audit by neighborhood on her computer, instead of physically driving the neighborhoods to get the information. The clerk's position in Union is a part time position and remains flexible because she is able to access the pertinent information contained on the County GIS Website, from office or home, 24 hours a day, 7 days per week.

With a new improved GIS website, the village can collaborate with the County to update address information and even add infrastructure information that would greatly improve the quality and quantity of information provided to the public through this website.

Sincerely,

Melissa M. Hansen

Melissa M. Hansen
Clerk/Treasurer, Village of Union

500 Main Street
P.O. Box 127
Union, Nebraska
68455

PHONE (402) 263-3865
FAX (402) 263-3865
E-MAIL villageofunion@yahoo.com
WEB SITE http://www.unionnebraska.com

Farm Credit Services *of* America
AGRICULTURE WORKS HERE...

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
kirk.manker@fcsamerica.com
402-348-3367
402-661-3367 (fax)

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 :** Cheyenne County NE

2. **Grant amount requested** $ 20,800

3. **Title of project:** County WebGIS

4. **Brief description of project:** The project includes building a WebGIS application that will link to the existing Manatron/TerraScan 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 **N**ebraska **I**nformation **T**echnology **C**ommission 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).**

   Cheyenne 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.

   As an initial phase, Cheyenne County's WebGIS will feature the core Assessor Tab plus additional departmental tabs for the Clerk and Roads departments. 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. The Weeds department will use it for determining property owners and property location for spraying noxious weeds and issuing notices to landowners.

   The Cheyenne County Sheriff's Office has GIS-based dispatch technology and GIS Workshop currently maintains the County's 911 dispatching map. 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 Cheyenne County Board, Assessor, Election Commissioner, GIS Coordinator, Planning and Zoning Administrator and the Emergency Manager, other departments, cities and villages feel that this WebGIS will be useful by increasing efficiency for numerous County departments. 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 Sidney 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.

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. Numerous County department staff have attended Board meetings to express their support.

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 GIS for Cheyenne County. Attachment 1 contains an overview of the project in GISW's Proposal document. The Proposal is for development of a WebGIS site for Cheyenne County, which will make information available 24/7. The total amount of grant money awarded to Cheyenne County will be used to defray the following initial GIS 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 Cheyenne County Assessor, Treasurer, Roads 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. Cheyenne County Assessor, Clerk and Roads 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. Cheyenne 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.

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 Cheyenne County of implementing the GIS. The County fully anticipates being able to fully meet annual maintenance costs of the GIS 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 Manatron/TerraScan database containing tax assessment information. The Property Record Card component of the WebGIS has several customized reports, derived from the Manatron/TerraScan 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 Cheyenne 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.

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.

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 Manatron/TerraScan (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 Cheyenne County will be built and designed by GIS Workshop, with adherence to standards established by the State of Nebraska. The digital map database has been developed using the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System, NAD83 as per State/NITC guidelines. The system will comply with any other applicable NITC items.

4. Agencies submitting grant applications for funding of a Geographic Information System (GIS) project must in addition to the standard grant application complete and submit the ***Supplemental Questionnaire for State Funded Entities on Land Record Information and Mapping-Related Grant Application*** found on the Boards website page "Grant Information" at www.staterecordsboard.ne.gov.

   The supplemental questionnaire has been completed and is attached to this application.

5. **Describe how technical support will be provided.**

   GIS Workshop will edit and maintain the GIS data on our redundant servers. Cheyenne County will be responsible for sending parcel splits and land use changes to GIS Workshop. GIS Workshop will download a copy of the Manatron/TerraScan CAMA data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GIS Workshop server. They have a dedicated technical support staff that is available at any time during business hours to service the County's needs.

Part III. EXPECTATIONS

It is the expectation of the Nebraska State Records Board that the grantee recognize the project as an ongoing effort to make public documents and or transactions more accessible. As this application relates to public documents the goal encompasses not only the availability of current documents as described in this application but the ongoing addition of new and updated documents in a timely manner. This goal recognizes the public's interest in not only historical information but the expectation that current data is obtainable. The Nebraska State Records Board recognizes that this is a long term commitment on the part of the grantee and anticipates the continued financial support of the grantee to maintain these expectations.

Part IV. STATE LAW COMPLIANCE

Nebraska law, sections 4-108 through 4-114 state that no political subdivision of the State shall provide public benefits, to include grants or contracts, to a person not lawfully present in the United States. If this application is awarded in whole or in part, and during the time the grant is in effect, the undersigned, on behalf of the political subdivision grant applicant, by signing this grant application, affirmatively states and acknowledges that the political subdivision will comply with this law.

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:

Louella D. Pippitt — Printed Name

Cheyenne County Assessor — Title

Phone # 308-254-2633 **E-mail** Cheycoassessor@ham.Hm.net

Physical Address:

1000 10th Ave
Sidney, NE 69162

I, the Authorized Representative of Cheyenne 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 5 **day of** April, **2012**

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 02/01/2012)

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 Comm/Register of Deeds, Planning and Zoning, Roads, Treasurer, Weeds etc) have expressed interest in collaborating and building upon their initial investment in GIS technology to enhance their service provision to the public. In addition, the cities, villages and 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 valuable time and reduce travel costs. The proximity of the Interstate within the County requires emergency responders' close attention; we believe they will find the WebGIS mapping to be of critical importance to them in emergency situations.

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

GIS Workshop

www.gisworkshop.com

Job: 0168-010
Version 1.0

Cheyenne County, Nebraska

Attachment 1:

Budgetary Proposal for County-wide WebGIS Site

Prepared for:
Louella Pippitt, Assessor

March 21, 2012

Trimble Authorized Business Partner

esri Partner Network Gold

402.436.2150
4949 NW 1st Street, Lincoln NE 68521

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Cheyenne 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 Cheyenne County Board and Department managers seek to increase efficiency in the Departments' services by providing property information to the public in an internet mapping context. Cheyenne 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, Clerk and Roads as Phase 1) to maximize the WebGIS. The following recommended layers and tools will appear on the new Cheyenne 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)
5.

   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 Clerk 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. Voting precincts
6. School districts

   Recommended tools on the Clerk tab include those listed for the Assessor tab.

Recommended Roads 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. Signs
6. Bridges
7. Culverts

   Recommended tools on the Roads 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 Cheyenne 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 Cheyenne 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, the Treasurer currently also has a text-only site that can be upgraded to the WebGIS site that will allow searching for tax information and payment of taxes online. GISW also maintains the 911 dispatching map for the County's Emergency Management department and they might choose to display critical public safety maps on a Emergency Management tab. 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 <u>an even greater asset</u> and tool over time.

ASSESSOR, CLERK AND ROADS 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. 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.

CHEYENNE COUNTY NE

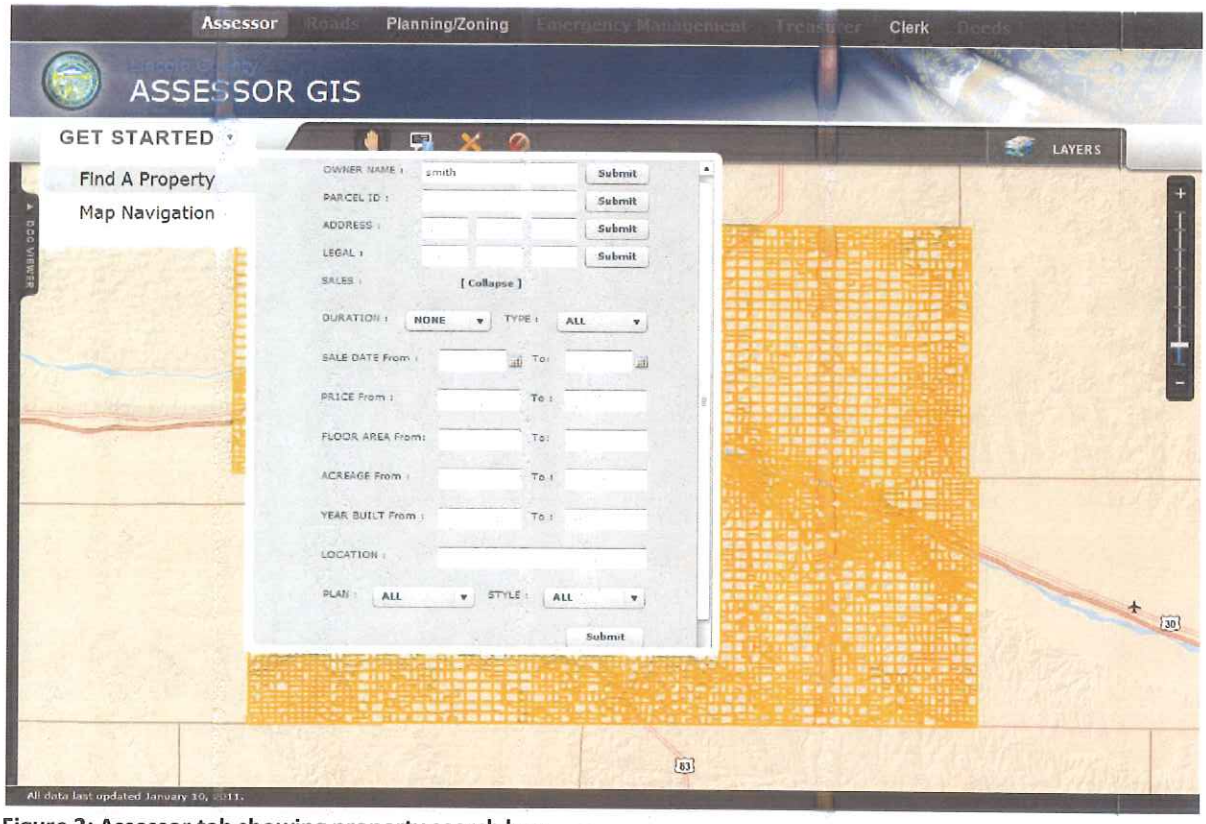


Figure 2: Assessor tab showing property search box

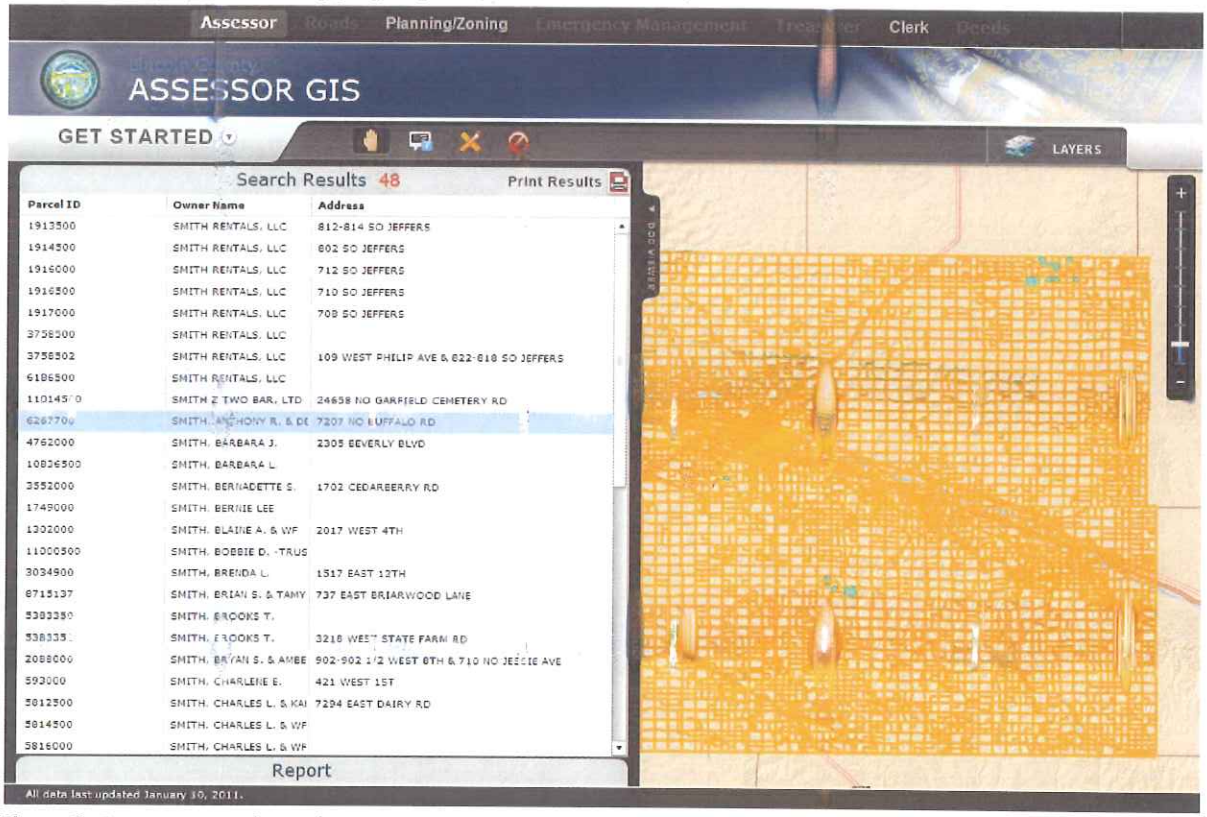


Figure 3: Property search results

CHEYENNE COUNTY NE

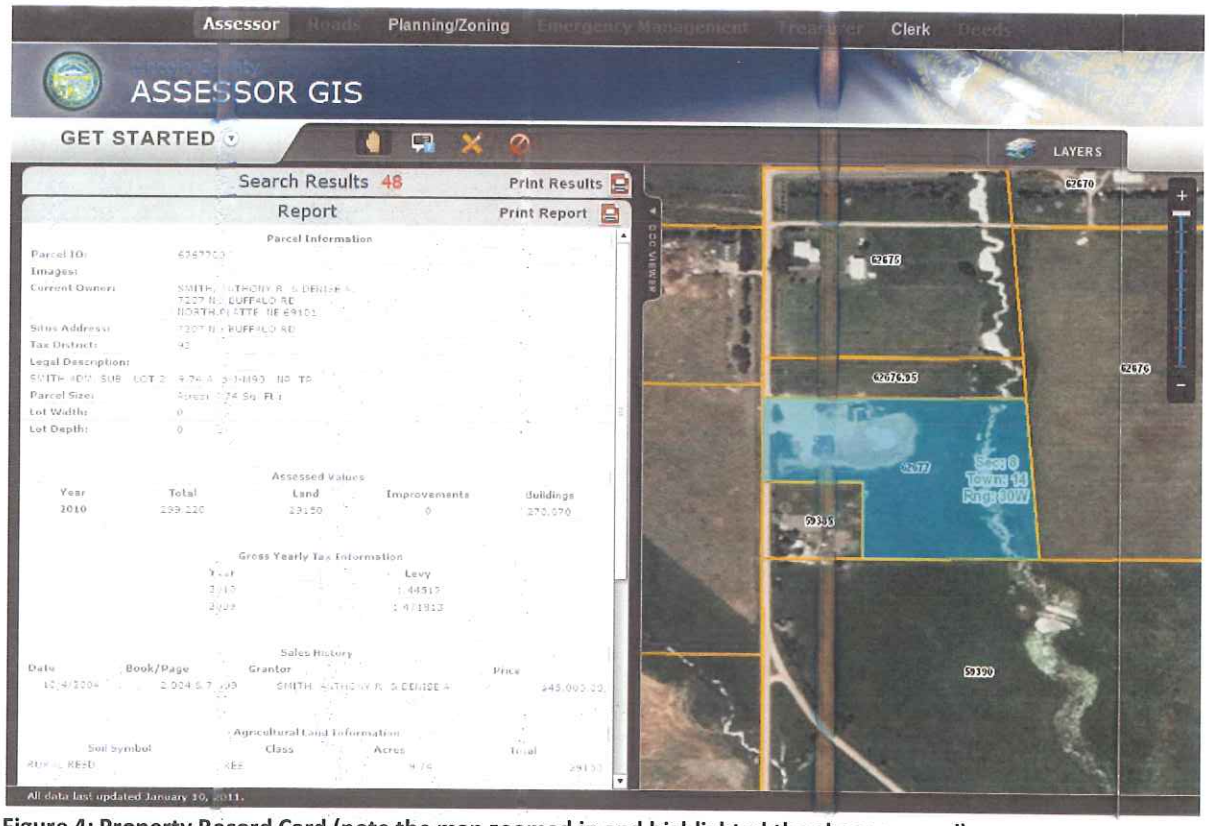


Figure 4: Property Record Card (note the map zoomed in and highlighted the chosen parcel)

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).

CHEYENNE COUNTY NE

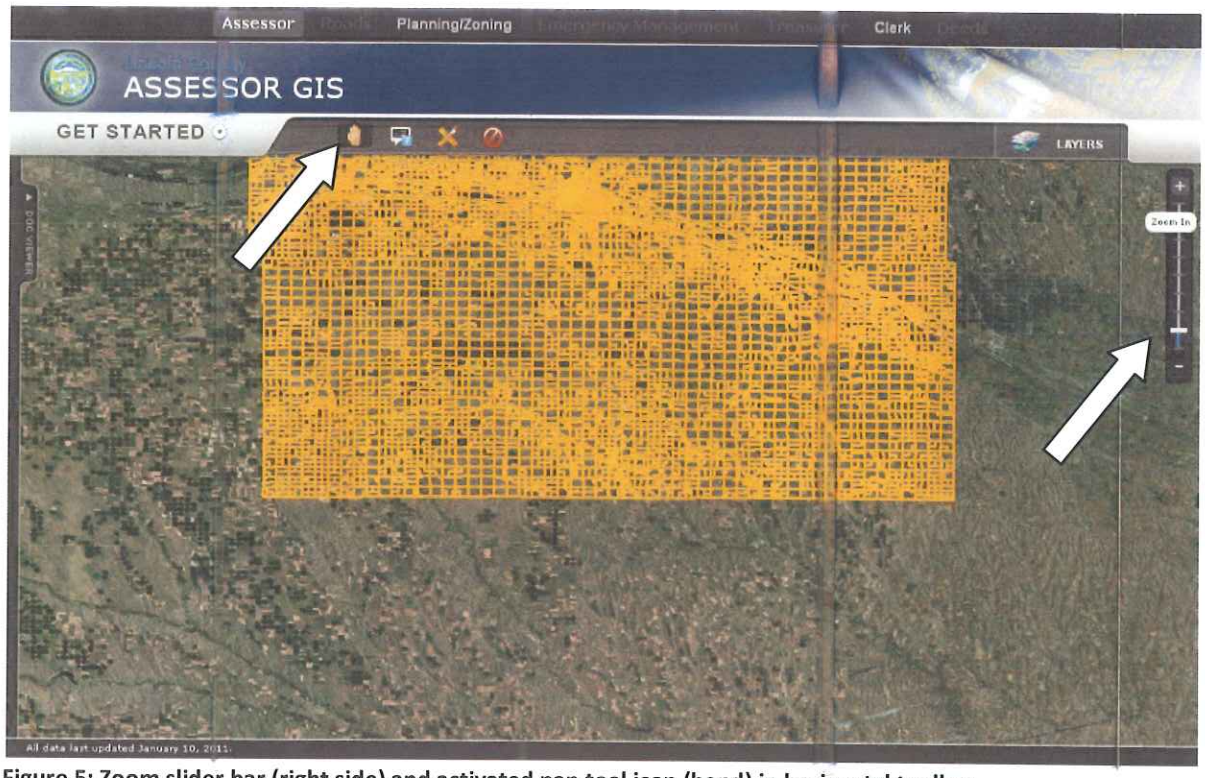


Figure 5: Zoom slider bar (right side) and activated pan tool icon (hand) in horizontal toolbar

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.

CHEYENNE COUNTY NE

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.

ROADS TAB ADDITIONAL FEATURE: PARCEL BUFFER TOOL

The Roads tab 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.

CHEYENNE COUNTY NE

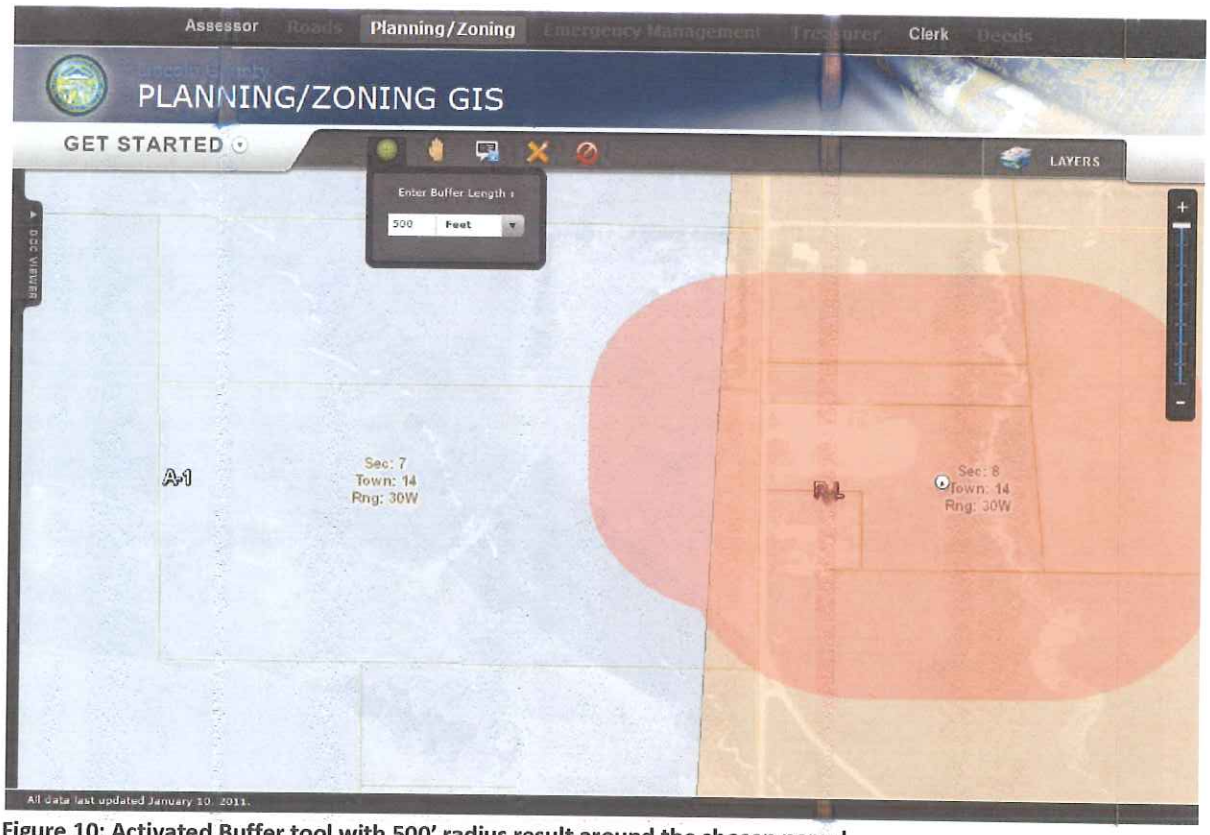


Figure 10: Activated Buffer tool with 500' radius result around the chosen parcel

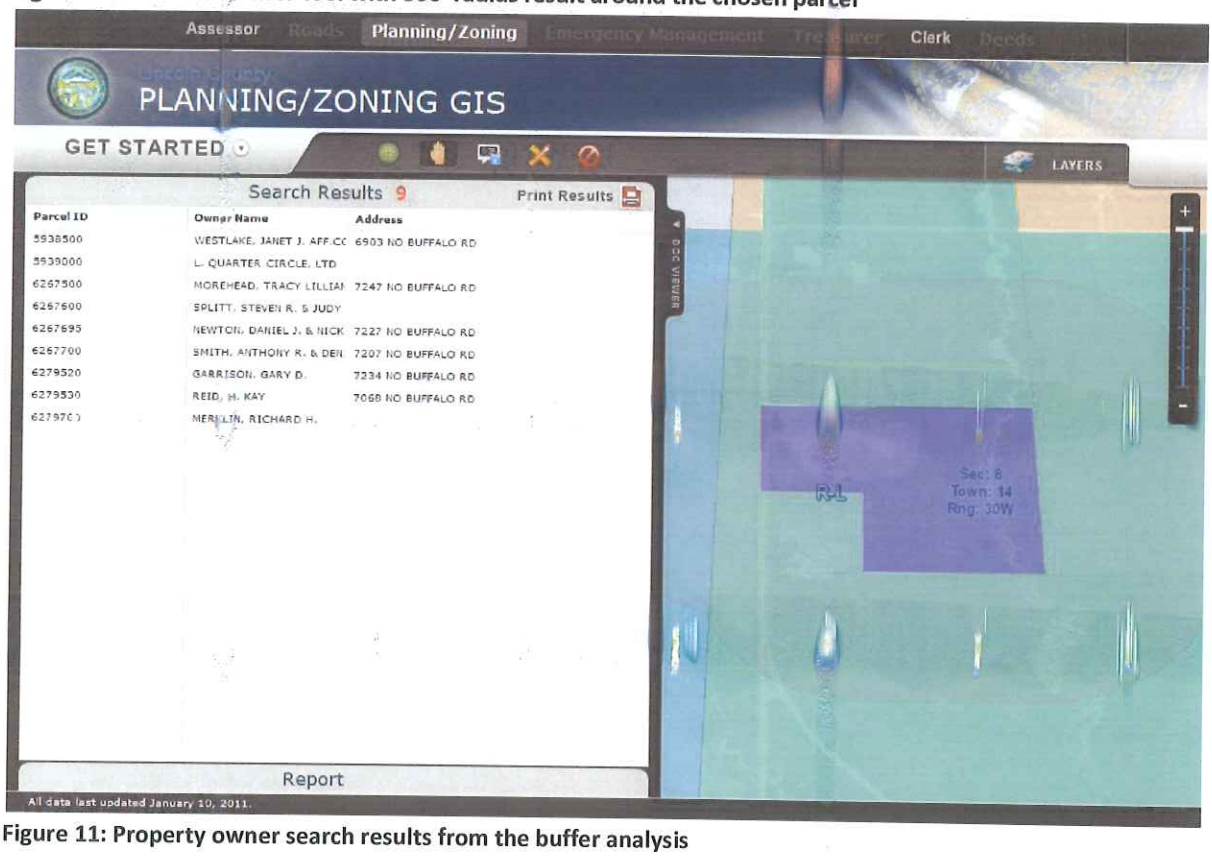


Figure 11: Property owner search results from the buffer analysis

WEBSITE MAINTENANCE

GIS Workshop will house the WebGIS on our redundant servers for Cheyenne 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 Cheyenne 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
Cheyenne County WebGIS:	
Assessor tab set up and year 1 maintenance (with subscription option) ...	$8,800
Clerk tab set up and year 1 maintenance	$5,000
Roads tab set up and year 1 maintenance	$7,000
Total Upfront Costs	**$20,800**

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 (Clerk tab)	$2,500
Annual WebGIS maintenance (Roads tab)	$3,500
Total Annual Maintenance Costs *effective January 2014*	$12,300

Nebraska State Records Board

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

ATTACHMENT 2:

LETTERS OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT FROM CHEYENNE COUNTY, NEBRASKA

CHEYENNE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
2383 Illinois Street ● P.O. Box 262 ● Sidney, Nebraska 69162-0262
Phone: 308-254-4294 ● 254-5744 ● Fax: 308-254-4295
Web Site: www.co.cheyenne.ne.us
E-mail: hiwayc17@cheyennecounty.net

Thomas L. Noel

Highway Superintendent

March 23, 2012

Louella D. Pippitt
P.O. Box 217
1000 10th Ave.
Sidney, NE 69162-0217

Dear Mrs. Pippitt

Cheyenne County Highway Dept. is in support of the upgrade to the GIS Website, this will improve our sign inventory and location of our bridges and culverts. This would show the public if there were load limits on a road or bridge. This way they would not have to come to town to our office this in turn would save time and money.

Thank You

Thomas L Noel

Thomas Noel
Cheyenne County Highway Superintendent

Louella Pippitt

From: Matt Monheiser [mmonheiser@pwcbank.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 24, 2012 9:35 AM
To: 'cheycoassessor@hamilton.net'
Subject: Letter of Support

To Whom My Concern:

Please consider this e-mail a "Letter of Support" to the county on behalf of Points West Community Bank and myself. We would like to thank you for implementing the GIS Website. I can't begin to tell you the time and money it has saved our employees and our institution. We no longer have to leave the bank to access information that should be readily available to the public. Cheyenne County has always been a progressive community and needs to continue to devote resources to the infrastructure of our county. The GIS Website has been a great addition to our County, the benefits you have given to the business community by implementing this website has been nothing but positive. We would recommend continuing to improve the website to keep up with our surrounding communities. Please let Cheyenne County be a leader with information access to our county public records and devote the financial resources needed to do so.

Thank You,

Matt Monheiser
mmonheiser@pwcbank.com

PointsWest
Community Bank

PO Box 157
Sidney, NE 69162
Phone: 308-254-7110
Fax: 308-254-7118

Great Western Bank℠
Making Life Great
Member FDIC

March 26, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
c/o Cheyenne County Assessor
1000 10th Ave
PO Box 217
Sidney, NE 69162

Nebraska State Records Board:

I am writing in support of the Cheyenne County Assessor's office receiving a grant to upgrade their GIS website. As a financial institution, we use the website for information each and every time we have a loan application. Each loan applicant must have accurate information concerning their property. We use the website to verify address and ownership information as well as the current tax assessed value of the property. The tax assessed value is vital to us so that a loan to value can be established on the property.

Previously, it was necessary to drive to the Cheyenne Co. Courthouse to pick up the information in print form. The website is more advantageous for our business purpose. It is available after normal business hours and is a definite time saver for us. The website is immediate access. We don't have to take time out to leave and drive to the Court House thus saving precious work time.

It is our sincere hope that the Cheyenne County Assessor's office will be awarded grant monies in order to improve their website.

Thank you for the time spent reading this letter of support for the Cheyenne County Assessor.

Sincerely,

Linda Berlage
Mary Whalen

Linda Berlage
Mary Whalen
Loan Originators
Great Western Bank
1028 Toledo St.
Sidney, NE 69162

LAW OFFICES OF

MATZKE & MATTOON, L.L.C., L.L.O.

907 JACKSON STREET

P.O. BOX 316

SIDNEY, NEBRASKA 69162-0316

GERALD E. MATZKE
STEVEN F. MATTOON

TELEPHONE
(308) 254-5595
FACSIMILE
(308) 254-5019

March 26, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
Records Management Division
440 S. 8th Street St., Suite 210
Lincoln, Nebraska 68580

In re: Cheyenne County Assessor
Upgrade GIS Website

Gentlemen:

It is come to our attention that Cheyenne County is seeking a grant to assist in the funding of a new GIS system. Our firm deals extensively in real estate, including real estate transactions and probate of estates. We feel it would be advantageous for our office, and consequently to our clients, to have information readily accessible on line. With this advanced technology, we could access information more efficiently and at a potentially reduced cost to our clients.

Our office fully supports this project and supports the application of the Cheyenne County Assessor to obtain a grant.

Very truly yours,

STEVEN F. MATTOON
For the Firm

SFM:bjs

Post Office Box 19
Sidney, Nebraska 69162
Phone (308) 254-5536
Fax: (308) 254-5547

AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK

March 27, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
440 S 8th Street Suite 210
Lincoln NE 68508
Attn: Cathy Danahy Executive Director

RE: Cheyenne County Assessor's Grant Application

Dear Ms. Danahy:

The American National Bank of Sidney would like to express its support for the grant application to the Nebraska State Records Board to allow the Cheyenne County Assessor to upgrade their GIS Website.

We have found the website to be very valuable in accessing information to support various loan documentation requirements. The access through the web site is very convenient, efficient and support documents can be printed on site.

The requested upgrade to the website would certainly enhance an already valuable and convenient research source providing necessary and vital information for our business.

We respectfully request that the Nebraska States Records Board act favorably toward the Cheyenne County Assessor's request.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Leininger
President

Larry E. Reiser
Executive Vice President

William E. Butkus, III
Vice President

Andrew A. Hurt
Loan Officer

MAL/ac

Ron Ahlschwede Insurance Agency Inc.
State Farm Insurance

March 27, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

Re: Cheyenne County Grant request

We wanted to let you know that our office uses the GIS Website almost daily and find that the information found therein has been extremely helpful. We have seen sites from other counties that have been updated and would love to see Cheyenne County do the same. Finding the property information online has helped our office generate quotes more efficiently and is a cost savings for us also.

Sincerely,

Ron Candace J. Door

Ron Ahlschwede and Candace Door LSA5

* 1640 10th Ave* Sidney, NE 69162 *
* Phone 308-254-4576 * Fax 308-254-2887 *
Email- ron@insurewithron.com

Cheyenne County Treasurer
Diane M. Scott
Shelley Bowlin, Deputy

1000 10th Avenue
P.O. Box 217
Sidney, Nebraska 69162
308-254-2733
Fax 308-254-5290

Marleen Nienhueser
Kathy McCallum
Dori Blanke
Carrie Glanz

March 27, 2012

Mrs. Louella Pippitt
Cheyenne County Assessor
P. O. Box 217
Sidney, NE 69162-0217

Reference: GIS System

Dear Louella,

Thank you for pursuing the Web Base GIS System for Cheyenne County. Getting your records out to the general public will save you and your staff many hours of looking up material and copying records for local taxpayers and the business sector. We all know that the days are sometimes not long enough to get mandated procedures' done let alone the extras that we are called upon to do. This system will also be a great benefit to all that use it. Being able to look up your records at their convenience and having it available 24/7 speaks for itself.

The presentation given by Brenda Wilson, of GIS Systems also showed that by getting your records on the Web base system it would be beneficial to so many other departments within Cheyenne County. Anytime we can work together for the betterment of County Government we are truly serving the residents of Cheyenne County.

Sincerely,

Diane M. Scott

Diane M. Scott
Cheyenne County Treasurer

March 28, 2012

Mrs. Louella Pippitt
Cheyenne County Assessor
PO Box 217
1000 10th Avenue
Sidney, NE 69162

RE: GIS System

Dear Louella:

In response to your letter regarding the grant from the Nebraska State Records Board to Assist in the funding to upgrade the GIS Website. The upgrade to improve electronic access to the public information would be of great advantage to my business, as I work from my home office, which is not always normal business days and hours. Access to the readily accessible on-line information would be more time productive and reduced cost of drive time/gas for my business. In addition, this system would be saving the Cheyenne County employees manual labor, time and expense of providing these services

As an appraiser in Cheyenne County and a constant user of the information, I would strongly support Cheyenne County in pursuing this grant to upgrade the GIS Website.

Sincerely,

Dyanne Bowers
Bowers Appraisal Service
PO Box 851
Sidney, NE 69162
308-254-7845

March 26, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

To Whom This May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the Cheyenne County Assessor online services.

Our office fully supports any upgrade to the current system as we utilize the online services daily. The online service has been instrumental for us in running a more efficient and faster business and passing that service on to our customers and clients.

The system can be accessed anywhere 24/7 which is extremely beneficial on weekends and after hours when we need to obtain information fast.

Please feel free to contact our office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kelly Lapp
Broker/Owner

Kelly Lapp, Broker
RE/MAX Realty Partners
920 10th Avenue • Sidney, NE 69162
Office: (308) 254-0913
Cellular: (308) 249-3248
Fax: (308) 254-5588
E-Mail: kraylpp@yahoo.com
Website: www.yourrealtyassistant.com

Key Realty & Insurance

LARRY PIPPITT
BROKER

REAL ESTATE SALES AND MANAGEMENT
P.O. BOX 261 925 10TH AVENUE
SIDNEY, NE 69162
www.keyrealty-ins.com/

(308) 254-3436
FAX: (308) 254-4731

March 28, 2012
Louella Pippitt
Cheyenne County Assessor
P.O. Box 217
Sidney, Nebraska 69162

Dear Louella;

It is my understanding that as the Cheyenne County Assessor, you are desiring to make application for a grant from the state of Nebraska Records Board in hopes of obtaining money to improve and enhance customer use of your GIS Website.

Knowing how convenient it is already and how accessible it already is, I'm hopeful you get the funding you need in order to provide even more and better service to the general public and to realtors.

The 24 hour daily service it provides is greatly appreciated and saves me both time and money.

Good Luck in your pursuit of obtaining the funding you need.

Sincerely,

Larry Pippitt

Larry Pippitt/Broker
Key Realty & Insurance

Sidney Federal Savings & Loan

Serving Western Nebraska since 1899

March 29th, 2012

Louella D. Pippitt
Cheyenne County Assessor
1000 10th Avenue
Sidney, NE 69162

Re: Grant for upgrade of the Cheyenne County GIS Website

Dear Louella:

I am writing to give support for the upgrading of Cheyenne County GIS Website. Sidney Federal Savings and Loan Association uses the GIS system extensively. I believe that the upgrade to the GIS website, with enhanced data and map sharing between departments, will provide the residents and taxpayers of Cheyenne County with improved access to this very valuable public information.

Sincerely,

Steven M. Smith
President
Sidney Federal Savings and Loan Association

FDIC
1045 Tenth Avenue
P.O. Box 73
Sidney, NE 69162

email: sidfed@hamilton.net
www.sidneyfederal.com

308 254-2401
800 788-4642
Fax: 308 254-2288

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

ALL AMERICAN REALTY

March 29, 2012

Cheyenne County Assessor
Box 217
Sidney, NE 69162-0217

Attention: Louella Pippitt

We wish to pledge our support to furthering Cheyenne County's improvement in electronic access to public information.

The access of this public information is continually utilized through our business of real estate 24/7 and it is with appreciation that we encourage continued growth and improvement in our county.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to and thank you for improving your public information systems.

Respectfully submitted,

Nan Mull

Nan Mull
All American Realty
PO Box 71, 841 Illinois
Sidney, NE 69162

South Platte
Natural Resources District

551 Parkland Drive, PO Box 294 Sidney, Nebraska 69162
(308) 254-2377 FAX (308) 254-2783 www.spnrd.org

March 29, 2012

Louella Pippitt
Cheyenne County Assessor
1000 10th Avenue
P.O. Box 217
Sidney, Nebraska 69162

Re: Cheyenne County Geographic Information System (GIS) Website Upgrade Letter of Support

Dear Ms. Pippitt:

The South Platte Natural Resources District offers this letter of support concerning Cheyenne County's effort to pursue a grant that will fund a new on-line venture into upgrading the county's GIS and to improve electronic access to public information and use. GIS technology, techniques and capabilities are important in today's world to make informed decisions.

Currently, we contact the county departments to obtain information. The information is either hand delivered, mailed, faxed or scanned and electronically sent to us. The maps, all associated data and measurements from applications produced from an upgraded GIS website would be easily accessible to our staff from our offices. I believe the modification to the county's GIS would also ease the burden on the county's departments' staff in obtaining the information for us. GIS capabilities enable the efficient use of resources in addressing the public's wants and needs.

We encourage the Nebraska State Records Board to consider and approve the Cheyenne County's grant request to fund a new on-line endeavor to upgrade its geographic information system website.

Sincerely,

Rod L. Horn, General Manager
South Platte Natural Resources District

RLH/s

Security First Bank

1205 Jackson St.
PO Box 137
Sidney, NE 69162
308-254-4525
Fax: 308-254-5031

April 4, 2012

Mrs. Louella Pippitt
Cheyenne County Assessor's Office
1010 Ave.
Sidney, NE 69162

REF: GIS System

Dear

It has come to my attention that Cheyenne County is seeking a grant to assist in the funding of a new GIS system. It would be advantageous for all people who rely on Cheyenne County information to have it readily accessible on-line. With this advanced technology, users could access information 24/7 and provide faster service to customers more efficiently at a reduced cost. In addition, it would save Cheyenne County employees manual labor, time and expense of providing these services.

As a professional banker and a constant user of Cheyenne County information, I strongly support the efforts of Cheyenne County pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system.

Sincerely,

Clem D. Schumacher, EVP

Clem D. Schumacher, EVP
Security First Bank
PO Box 137
Sidney, NE 69162-0137

Farm Credit Services *of* America
AGRICULTURE WORKS HERE...

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
kirk.manker@fcsamerica.com
402-348-3367
402-661-3367 (fax)

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 :** Dodge County

2. **Grant amount requested** $ 25,000

3. **Title of project:** Assessor GIS and County WebGIS

4. **Brief description of project:** The project includes building a county-wide land records GIS database and WebGIS application that will link to the existing Orion 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).**

   Dodge County has chosen to develop a Geographic Information System (GIS) database and web-enabled mapping interface and database query tool (or WebGIS). The WebGIS application will provide an intuitive interface for citizens, businesses, County departments and other local/county/regional/state agencies to easily find public records data. The attached proposal illustrates the specific data layers and the WebGIS application features.

   The County selected GIS Workshop, Inc (GISW) as the vendor for this project. GISW recently completed projects involving Dodge County parcels and irrigated land use (projects include Lower Platte North Natural Resources District Irrigation Certification, Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District Irrigation Certification and City of Fremont WebGIS). The data development accomplished during the GISW projects with LPNNRD, LENRD and the City will reduce the cost of this project by $15,000.

   The project will include data development tasks for parcels, land use and legal land base (lot, block and subdivision) layers. The parcels will be developed from the best available source data (survey plats, legal descriptions, cadastral maps, etc) and assigned a parcel identification number to match the Assessor's Orion database system.

   The land use layer will be developed using a combination of available data sources including the Orion database parcel records, air photo interpretation, etc. The land use classes will match those defined by the Nebraska Property Assessment Division. Land use classes will include dryland crop, irrigated crop, grass, CRP (optional), tree (optional), homesite, farmsite, road, exempt and waste. This layer will also be very useful for agencies such as the Natural Resource Districts.

   GISW will also assemble other datasets such as SSURGO soils, FSA aerial photography and any available high-resolution photography (i.e. City of Fremont 2010 imagery).

   The WebGIS application will provide an intuitive interface for users to search for public records using either the text search menu or the map tools. Users will be able to toggle layers on/off individually, click on a parcel to see its Record Card, click on a parcel to see all available photos/sketches, measures distances/areas, print to PDF or export to Microsoft Excel. The WebGIS will provide 24/7/365 access to public records for citizens, businesses and government employees.

   The WebGIS application will also include a highly specialized tool for the Assessor's Office to calculate land value for new parcel splits or verify the land use and soil characteristics of an existing parcel. The Land Use Calculator is very valuable for fast, efficient and equitable tax assessment.

Other County departments will also benefit from the WebGIS application. The Clerk, Treasurer and Register of Deeds Offices will all benefit from easy access to land records information. The Weeds department will use it for determining property owners and property location for spraying noxious weeds and issuing notices to landowners. The County Election Office will better determine exact voter precinct maps. The WebGIS application will also serve as a valuable resource for County emergency management and law enforcement staff. The Dodge County Board of Commissioners is excited about the opportunity for offices such as Planning/Zoning, Roads, Treasurer and Register of Deeds to build upon the land records foundation to create a one-stop web-enabled interface to County data.

Other GISW clients have cited a 50-75% reduction in phone call volume after implementing the WebGIS application. The application will provide better service to County residents while increasing the efficiency of multiple County departments.

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

   Anyone interested in land records information for Dodge County will benefit from this project. Dodge 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 Lower Elkhorn and Lower Platte North Natural Resources Districts, the City of Fremont and various State agencies will also benefit from easy access to Dodge County data. Efficiencies realized from 24/7 access will result in increased productivity and cost savings for both public and private entities.

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. Numerous County department staff have attended Board meetings to express their support. Both NRDs and the City of Fremont attended Board meetings to express their support for this project.

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.**

   GISW confirms the project to be completed no later than June 30, 2013 (06/30/2013).

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

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.**

   GISW recently completed projects involving Dodge County parcels and irrigated land use. The projects include Lower Platte North Natural Resources District Irrigation Certification, Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District Irrigation Certification and City of Fremont WebGIS. LPNNRD specifically requested additional tasks to help develop GIS for Dodge County. The data development accomplished during GISW projects with LPNNRD, LENRD and the City will reduce the cost of this project by $15,000.

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 assist with the initial data development and WebGIS setup costs. The County will be moving from state to county-assessed near the completion of this project and the GIS will help the County get back on pace with surrounding agencies. Dodge County will commit to paying the annual maintenance fees to keep the system thriving after this project is completed.

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 substantial upfront cost to Dodge County of developing the GIS dataset. The County fully anticipates being able to fully meet annual maintenance costs of the GIS 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 Orion database containing tax assessment information. The Property Record Card component of the WebGIS has several customized reports, derived from the Orion 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.**

    Dodge County has solicited exceptional community support. Attachment 2 contains letters of support from the Dodge County community. The letters include Dodge County citizens, business professionals, both city and county department heads and NRD staff.

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 Dodge 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.

    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.

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. Dodge County staff, as well as external users, will access the system using a standard internet browser such as Internet Explorer or Firefox.

   Dodge 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 will interface with the current Tyler Orion (or any other CAMA provider selected in the future) database systems in use in Dodge County today. GISW built the software interface for the Orion system as part of the Keith County project.

   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 and for protecting features such as the Land Use Calculator Tool from unauthorized use.

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 application for Dodge County will be configured by GISW with adherence to standards established by the State of Nebraska. The digital map database has been developed using the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System, NAD83 as per State/NITC guidelines. The system will comply with any other applicable NITC items.

4. Agencies submitting grant applications for funding of a Geographic Information System (GIS) project must in addition to the standard grant application complete and submit the ***Supplemental Questionnaire for State Funded Entities on Land Record Information and Mapping-Related Grant Application*** found on the Boards website page "Grant Information" at www.staterecordsboard.ne.gov.

   The supplemental questionnaire has been completed and is attached to this application.

5. **Describe how technical support will be provided.**

   GISW will edit and maintain the GIS data and provide access to the data using the WebGIS application. Dodge County will be responsible for sending parcel splits and land use changes to GISW. GISW will download a copy of the Tyler Orion data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GISW server.

   GISW have dedicated technical support staff available at any time during business hours to service the County's needs. They will provide training, phone support and online support to help County staff quickly adapt to the new technology.

Part III. EXPECTATIONS

It is the expectation of the Nebraska State Records Board that the grantee recognize the project as an ongoing effort to make public documents and or transactions more accessible. As this application relates to public documents the goal encompasses not only the availability of current documents as described in this application but the ongoing addition of new and updated documents in a timely manner. This goal recognizes the public's interest in not only historical information but the expectation that current data is obtainable. The Nebraska State Records Board recognizes that this is a long term commitment on the part of the grantee and anticipates the continued financial support of the grantee to maintain these expectations.

Part IV. STATE LAW COMPLIANCE

Nebraska law, sections 4-108 through 4-114 state that no political subdivision of the State shall provide public benefits, to include grants or contracts, to a person not lawfully present in the United States. If this application is awarded in whole or in part, and during the time the grant is in effect, the undersigned, on behalf of the political subdivision grant applicant, by signing this grant application, affirmatively states and acknowledges that the political subdivision will comply with this law.

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:

Cathy Gusman
Printed Name

Dodge County Assessment manager
Title

Phone # 402-727-3918 **E-mail** cathy.gusman@nebraska.gov

Physical Address:

435 N Park St Room 202
Fremont NE 68025

I, the Authorized Representative of _____, 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**

Cathy Gusman
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, Planning and Zoning, Register of Deeds, Roads, Treasurer, etc) have expressed interest in collaborating and building upon this initial investment in GIS technology to enhance their service provision to the public. In addition, the City of Fremont, Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District and Lower Platte North Natural Resources District have all actively supported GIS development for Dodge County to promote collaboration.

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

GIS Workshop

www.gisworkshop.com

VERSION 1.2

Project: 0087-006

DODGE COUNTY, NE

ATTACHMENT 1:

Proposal for

Assessor GIS and County WebGIS

Prepared for Cathy Gusman, Assessor

and the Dodge County Board of Commissioners

March 31, 2012

Trimble Authorized Business Partner

esri Partner Network Gold

402.436.2150

4949 NW 1st Street, Lincoln NE 68521

CONTENTS

PROJECT BACKGROUND

GIS Workshop, Inc. (GISW) recently completed projects involving Dodge County parcels and irrigated land use; projects include Lower Platte North Natural Resource District Irrigation Certification, Lower Elkhorn Natural Resource District Irrigation Certification and City of Fremont WebGIS. **The data development accomplished during GISW projects with LPNNRD, LENRD and the City will reduce the cost of this project by $15,000.** Figure 1 below illustrates the data already developed as part of related projects. The shaded green areas show irrigated land use and the shaded light gray polygons show areas where more research is necessary to complete the parcel digitizing and parcel ID assignment process.

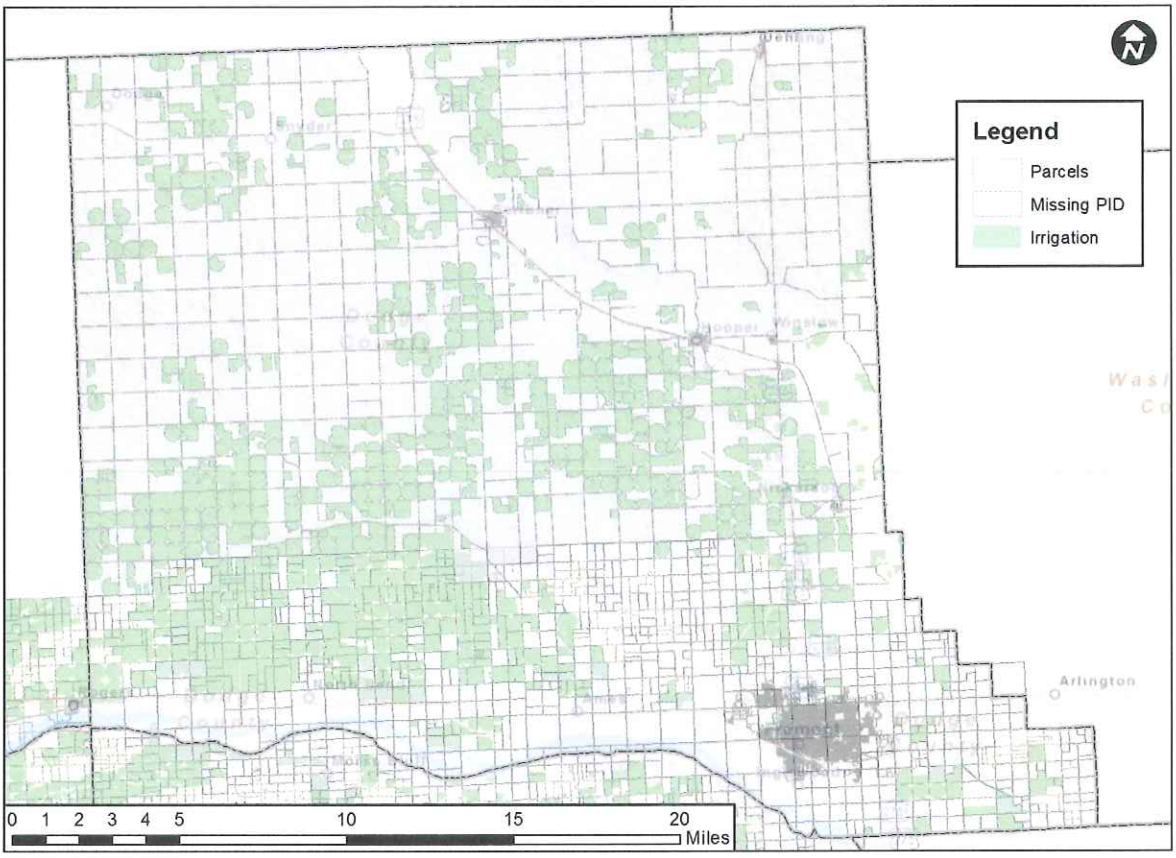


Figure 1: Data development summary from completed projects

GIS BENEFITS

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are a powerful combination of digital maps and database information. Traditionally, county assessment has used paper maps to track parcel, soil and land use boundaries; in addition, the assessment database was completely disconnected from the mapping making it hard to crosscheck information. This process was very labor intensive and difficult to implement with high precision.

When properly implemented, Assessment GIS seamlessly links the parcel, soil and land use data directly to the appraisal database. GIS can increase efficiency and increase accuracy in many ways:

- Enter new parcel splits using specialized tools for survey data and aliquot parts
- Parcel-by-parcel comparison of deeded acres to mapped acres
- Calculate current land value for each parcel and report the breakdown of acres in each unique combination of soil and land use
- Visualize individual parcels to see the soils, land uses and aerial photograph
- Share information with land owners, real estate professionals and potential developers to significantly reduce call volume for County staff and facilitate easy access to public information
- Quickly and uniformly change land value calculations for the entire County if any of the parameters change (soils database, land use classes, etc)

THE GIS WORKSHOP DIFFERENCE

EXPERIENCE WITH NEBRASKA ASSESSMENT GIS

GISW has been providing quality Assessment GIS data and analysis solutions for more than 14 years. Our clients include over 85 counties in Nebraska and surrounding states. GISW staff has over 75 years combined experience in GIS implementation and are exceptionally experienced in Nebraska assessment systems. GISW is the only GIS Company in Nebraska that can provide the automatic database linking and other tools necessary to build a complete assessment GIS for Dodge County to ensure compliance with Property Assessment Division (PAD) mandates. We are the only GIS Company recognized by the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO). As you transition from State-assessed to County-assessed, the GIS will ensure you are providing equal, fair, consistent valuation of property in the most efficient manner possible.

DODGE COUNTY NE

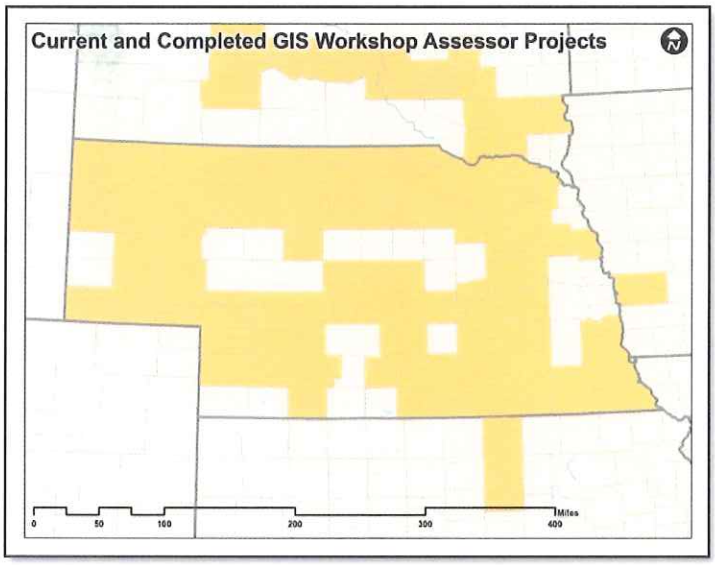


Figure 2: GISW is the most experienced Assessor GIS provider in the State

GISW is a full service GIS provider with a team of technicians ready to build your GIS. We will develop your GIS database, train your staff to use GIS information in their day-to-day workflow, provide unlimited support and develop internet mapping, or WebGIS, sites to make GIS more accessible to all your departments, real estate professionals and your constituents.

GISW specializes in developing GIS datasets and providing easy access to the data. Below is a list of key differentiators:

- **WebGIS – our product gives everyone 'Google-like' access to GIS data. No one else offers web access!**
- Costs – our costs are lower because our experience translates into efficiency
- Training – we provide upfront and ongoing training to ensure clients can make use of their investment
- Support staff – we have a long list of satisfied clients who can attest to our excellent support services. We have a dedicated team of technical support staff ready and waiting on the phone.
- Experience – we are the most experienced GIS company in the State and it shows in the quality of our products and services
- Software tools – we have customized tools we use internally to quickly perform routine operations such as land use calculation, survey data entry, aliquot part splits, etc.
- CAMA integration – we are the only company with tools to link directly into assessment databases such as Tyler, TerraScan, MIPS and County Solutions.
- Complete package – we offer a turnkey solution including data conversion, data development data maintenance and the products to make the data accessible to everyone

GIS Workshop, Inc. is the most experienced Assessment GIS provider in the State. We will become an extension of your staff. Our extensive expertise together with our specialized tools helps us provide superior products and services.

CLIENT SATISFACTION

Please ask our clients about our support staff, training services, how they use GIS on a day-to-day basis, do they use desktop or WebGIS, did GIS help with the recent soil conversion mandate, flexible payment options, oblique photos, etc. We are confident that you will hear our level of service is second-to-none. Here are direct quotes from a sampling of our Assessor clients after implementing GIS in their departments; they are a testimony to the fact that implementing GIS increases revenue through accuracy in land use calculations and decreases costs through enhanced efficiency and time savings:

- **Merrick County:** "We found 13,000 additional irrigated acres by matching up NRD data with GIS."
- **Pierce County:** "Our GIS paid for itself the first year" by identifying pivots, new buildings, etc.
- **Phelps County:** "We increased assessed acres through accuracy in land use calculations."
- **Cuming County:** "I have confidence in my valuations when dealing with property owners because we can SEE how the value was determined. I also use my land use calculator to compare deeded acres vs GIS acres to identify inaccuracies in assessment."
- **Colfax County:** "Our GIS has paid for itself many times over" by using GISW's oblique imagery along with GIS to identify new buildings and to correct land use.
- **Platte County:** "We reduced daily inbound phone call volume by 50-70% by having information available online – this has freed up my staff to work more effectively on critical projects."
- **Madison County:** "We are able to do from our desks things that used to require time in the field. This has resulted in both cost and time savings for my County."
- **Keith County:** "GIS Workshop staff always answers the phone right away. They are great with support and customer service. I have never heard a single bad thing about their service from anyone I have talked to."

DATABASE DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION

GISW will do all the database development for Dodge County. We will rely on the Assessment staff for their local knowledge and our staff will do all the GIS development. GISW has developed a suite of desktop GIS tools that communicate with your assessment database and help us develop databases more efficiently than our competitors. **As an Esri (the leader in GIS technology) Gold Business Partner we know GIS better than anyone in the State.**

Once the GIS database is ready we will integrate the GIS data into your existing system. **We not only build the databases but we help you learn how to make them useful to you.** With our online meeting technology Dodge County staff can visit with our technical staff at any point to provide guidance or to view project progress from the comfort of your own office.

TRAINING AND UNLIMITED SUPPORT

We have a team of experienced and skilled technicians dedicated to keeping your GIS up-to-date. Complete training is provided in process flow of updates to the GIS, such as parcel splits or changes to land use and the use of the WebGIS site and accompanying tools.

WEBGIS

GISW technology greatly increases the value of your GIS investment. We provide true GIS mapping, not just a database of derived information. Our WebGIS product makes your data available throughout

the County without the need for expensive training and desktop software. County staff, real estate professionals, banks, insurance agents, potential businesses/residents and Dodge County residents have 24/7 access to assessment information. Easy access to data is great for economic development and reduces phone calls for assessment staff.

PROJECT APPROACH

The power of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) lies in the ability to overlay various datasets and perform complex analysis within a simple user interface. GIS Workshop specializes not only in building systems, but more importantly, helping clients leverage their investment to perform standardized, accurate assessment with limited staffing. Our training and support technicians provide proven results and our WebGIS site gives your constituents access to all their assessment information 24 hours a day.

GIS helps provide equitable and accurate assessment across the entire county. When State statute requires assessment changes, such as the recent NRCS soil conversion, GIS can automate the process of making universal changes to all parcels in the County. A county-wide soil conversion can be accomplished in a day with GIS and would take months to accomplish accurately with paper maps.

GISW will build the Dodge County GIS by:

- Converting the cadastral maps to a GIS layer
- Attributing Parcel Identification Number for each Parcel
- Developing a comprehensive land use layer
- Incorporating soil survey data

DATA DEVELOPMENT – BUILDING THE PARCEL GIS

REFINE PUBLIC LAND SURVEY SYSTEM DATASET

GISW will utilize all GPS corner control that the Surveyor provides. The system is constructed to incorporate new corner and quarter control the Surveyor may collect in the future. Incorporation of new survey control into the GIS over time will gradually "tighten" the accuracy of the GIS. The base dataset will utilize the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System [NESPCS], NAD83 coordinate system (note: the Nebraska GIS Steering Committee and Nebraska State Surveyor recommend that counties use the NESPC system for assessment GIS).

PAPER TO DIGITAL PARCEL BOUNDARY CONVERSION

GISW will collect and scan the rural assessment cadastral maps from Dodge County. The cadastral maps together with CAMA database information will be used to draw the parcel layer based on the data layer described above. An example of this process can be seen in Figure 3 below.

ASSIGN PARCEL IDENTIFICAL NUMBER

After extracting the property boundaries from the scanned cadastral maps to create the digital parcel layer, GISW will populate the Parcel Identification Number for each parcel.

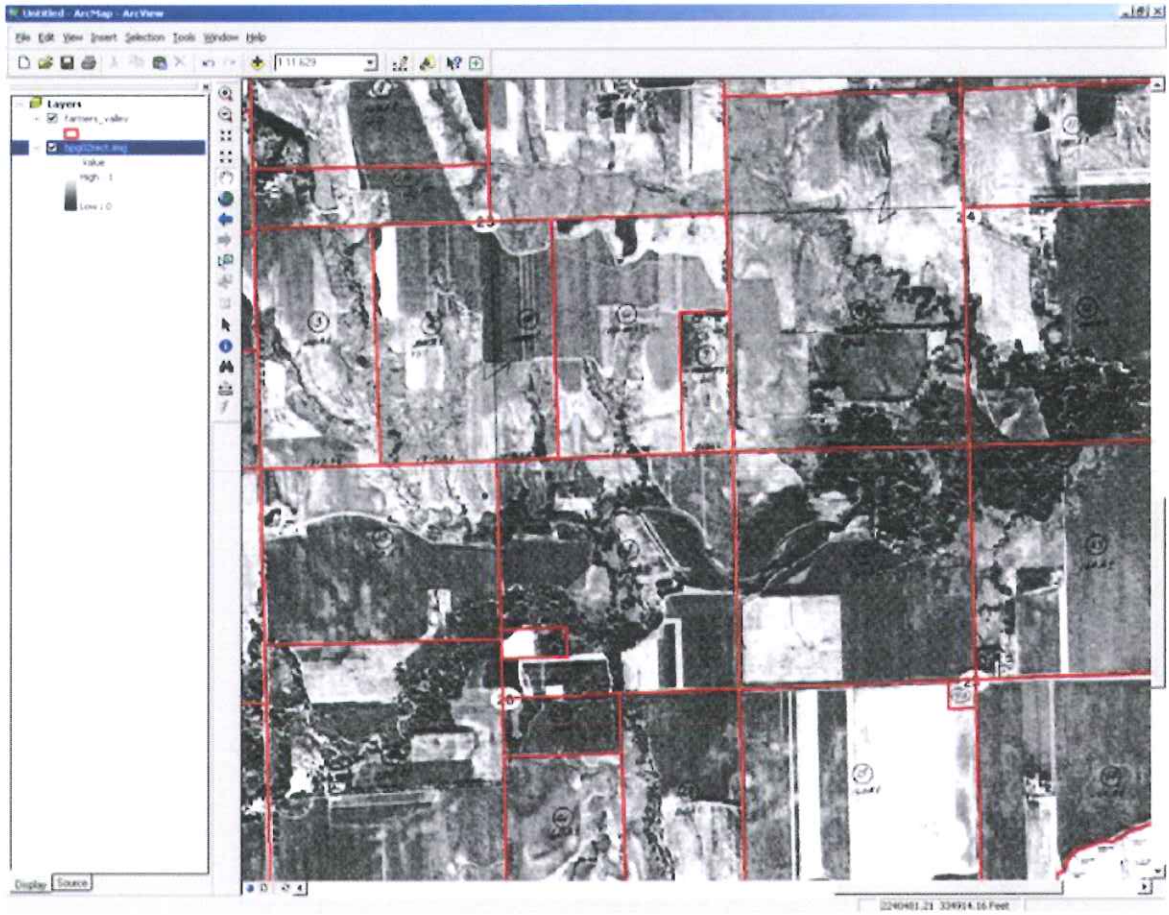


Figure 3: Scanned cadastral map with parcel lines digitized in red

DATA DEVELOPMENT - LAND USE LAYER CREATION

Upon completion of the parcel layer, GISW will create the Land Use layer, which identifies the land use codes for particular areas of a parcel. GISW will identify the various areas of a particular land use, digitize the boundaries of that land use, and incorporate those data into the GIS for analysis and reporting. This layer will also be very useful for agencies such as your local Natural Resource Districts.

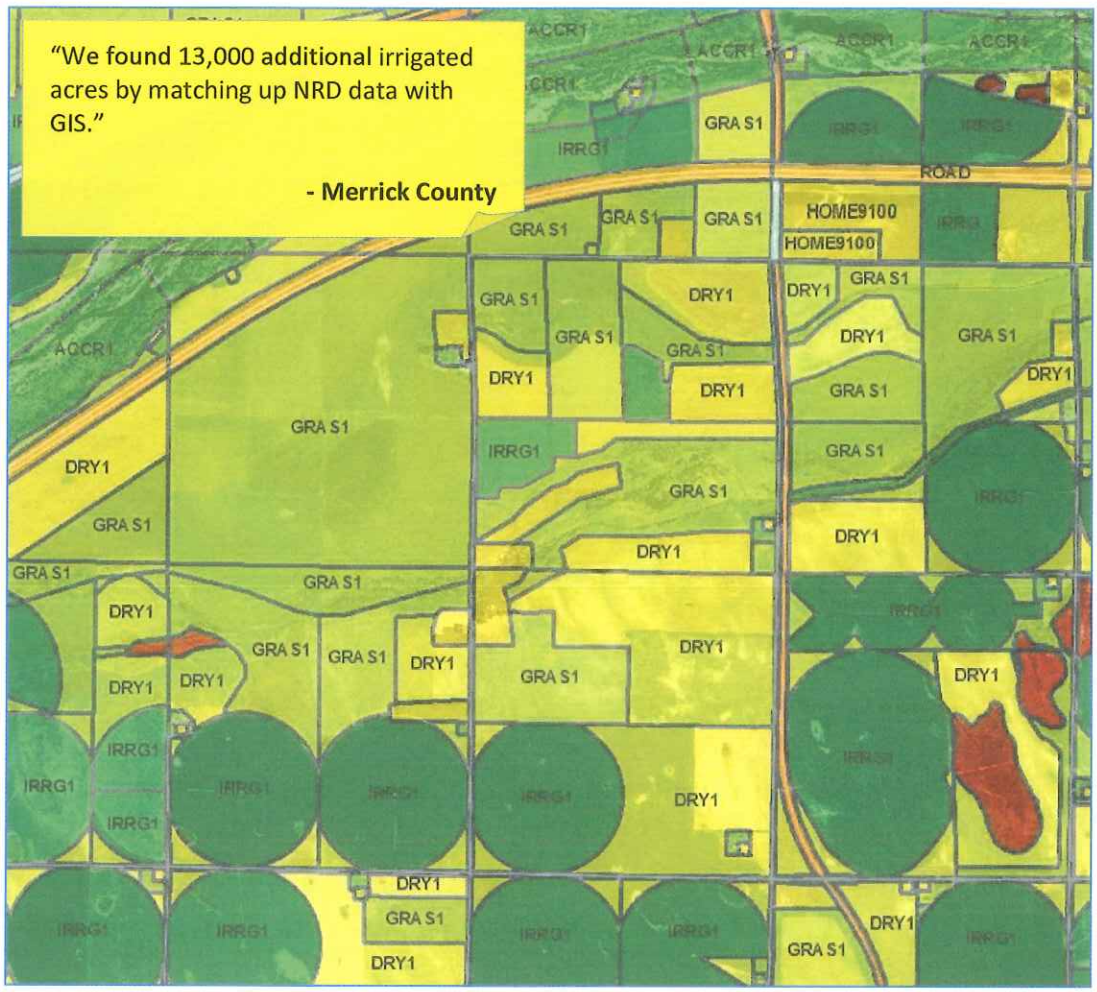


Figure 4: Example Land Use Map

DATA DEVELOPMENT - SOILS LAYER

GISW will acquire the NRCS soils layers to display together with the parcel boundaries, land use layer and aerial photography background. The GISW Land Use Calculator Tool (discussed below) will help evaluate every parcel in the County. **This type of analysis is one of the most powerful benefits of assessment GIS, it would take months to recount all the soils manually!**

Figure 5: An example in Platte County showing the parcel lines (red), land use layer (transparent colors), and the soils (thin black lines), overlaid together for purposes of rural assessment acreage calculation

GIS DATA MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT

GIS Workshop will edit and maintain all GIS data on our redundant servers. This frees up assessor department staff to concentrate on critical projects and issues. **This 100% maintenance web-based approach also eliminates the need for department staff to learn GIS software** – this will be important as the County transitions from State-assessed to County-assessed.

County will be responsible for sending parcel splits and land use changes to GIS Workshop. County staff will be able to use the GISW WebGIS Land Use Calculator to estimate the value of a parcel split for a walk-in customers. GIS Workshop will download a copy of the Orion (or other CAMA system if a change is made) data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GIS Workshop server. After an initial introductory period, an annual data maintenance fee will be due. See the Pricing Information section for more details.

GISW dedicated support staff is waiting to field your support call at all times during regular business hours.

TRAINING

GISW will train Dodge County staff to use the GIS data. We provide a wide variety of training options customized to your needs. We support clients on a daily basis so we know what is important to you and how to make the GIS data useful. We will train staff how to use the WebGIS site via an on-line meeting after the site is operational.

WEBGIS

The WebGIS will make the assessment/appraisal information available to other County departments, city departments, real estate professionals and the general public. **Only GISW offers this type of web access to the GIS database in an easy to use interface that will become the foundation for information access at the County.**

The GISW WebGIS:

- Provides 24/7 access to public information for real estate professionals, general public and other city/county departments.
- The GISW Web GIS **REDUCES** the number of calls into the Assessor's Office, allowing staff to get on with the business of assessment. Our Assessor clients say it best: **Phelps County experienced a 50%-75% reduction in the daily call volume related to property tax issues. Kearney County estimated a 75% reduction in call volume when they went online!**
- Promotes information sharing amongst city/county departments and **reduces duplications of effort.**
- Provides the Enterprise GIS foundation so **other departments (roads, planning/zoning, etc.) may start using GIS technology more cost effectively.**

DODGE COUNTY'S WEBGIS

GISW proposes to design and build an enterprise WebGIS for Dodge County 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 support contract which is already in place, as is the Assessor tab on the WebGIS.

The Assessor tab was the first step in setting up the enterprise WebGIS for the 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 6 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 sales information, assessment and appraisal

data*, and any other data associated with future tabs. **(NOTE: an optional subscription-based version is also available to provide advanced information on a subscription basis.)**

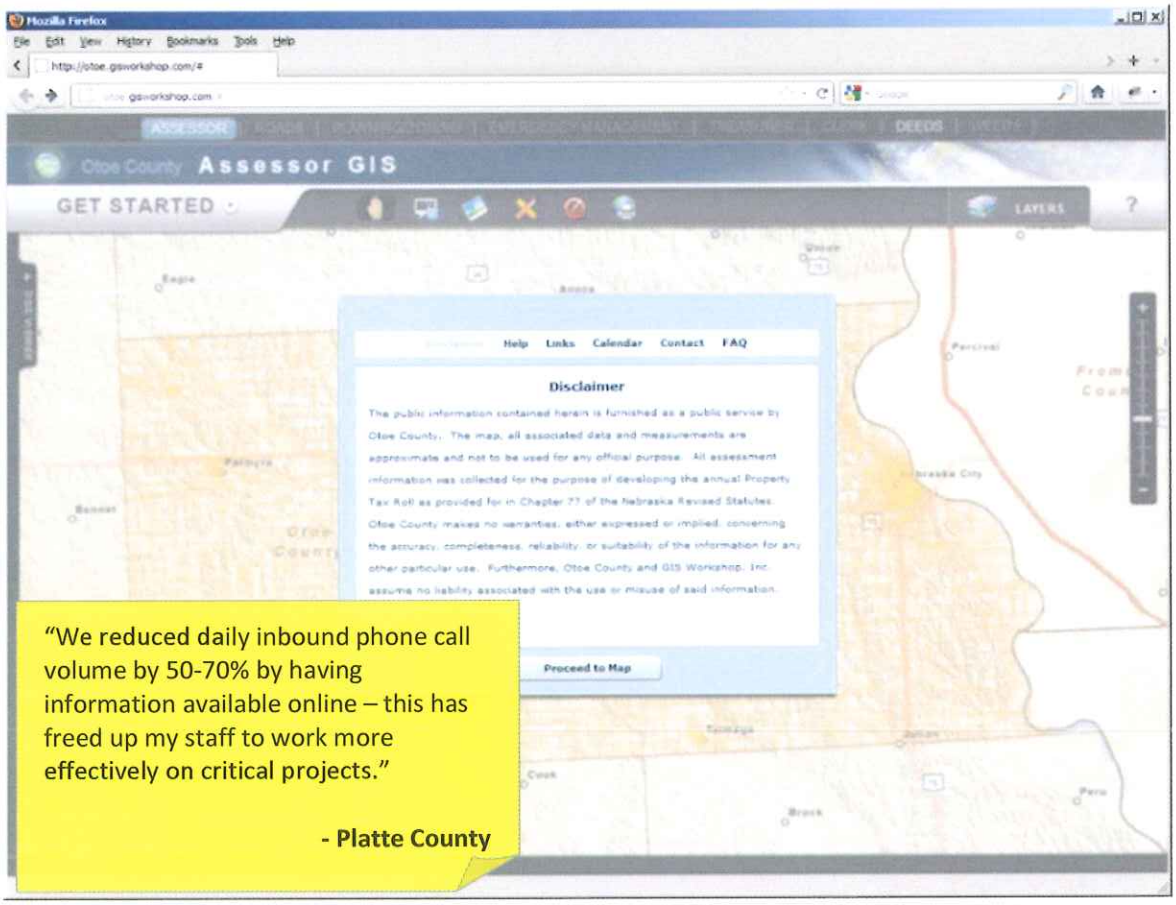


Figure 6: Opening screen (Assessor Tab) of GIS Workshop's Enterprise WebGIS for Otoe County, NE.

Additional tabs for this WebGIS project may include Clerk, Treasurer, Roads and Sheriff/Emergency Management. **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 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. The user can switch to a satellite view that includes 2010 FSA aerial photography.

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 is available may be filtered by date range, price range, year built, or other pertinent parameters. **For those counties wishing to offer sales data on a subscription basis, GISW offers a subscription-based option (see Optional Items under the Pricing section of this document).** Figure 7 illustrates the 'Get Started' options. Figure 8 shows the results table after searching for "Smith" in the owner name field. Figure 8 shows the results of selecting a property. The map has zoomed into the chosen parcel and the parcel polygon is highlighted. Figure 9 shows the full property report card with links to photos, value, sale, building and land information.

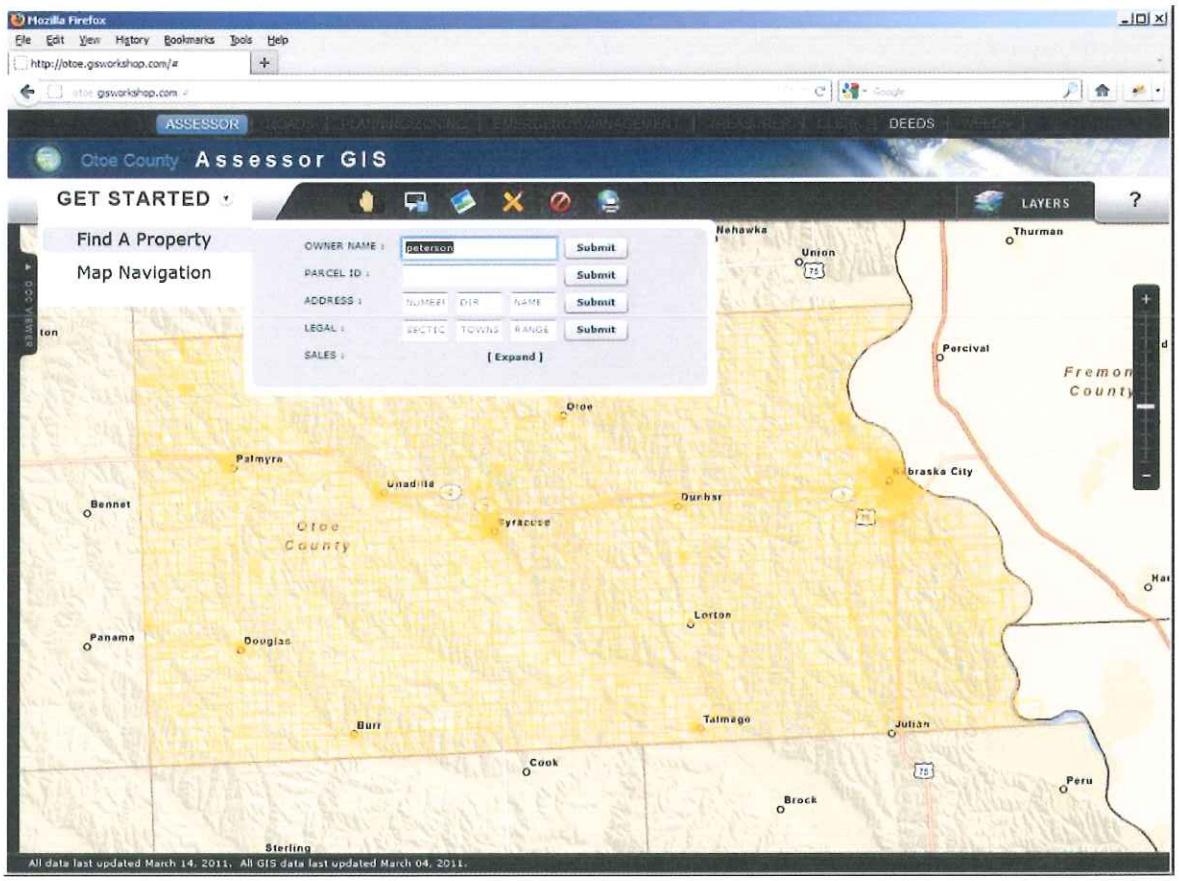


Figure 7: Assessor tab showing property search box

DODGE COUNTY NE

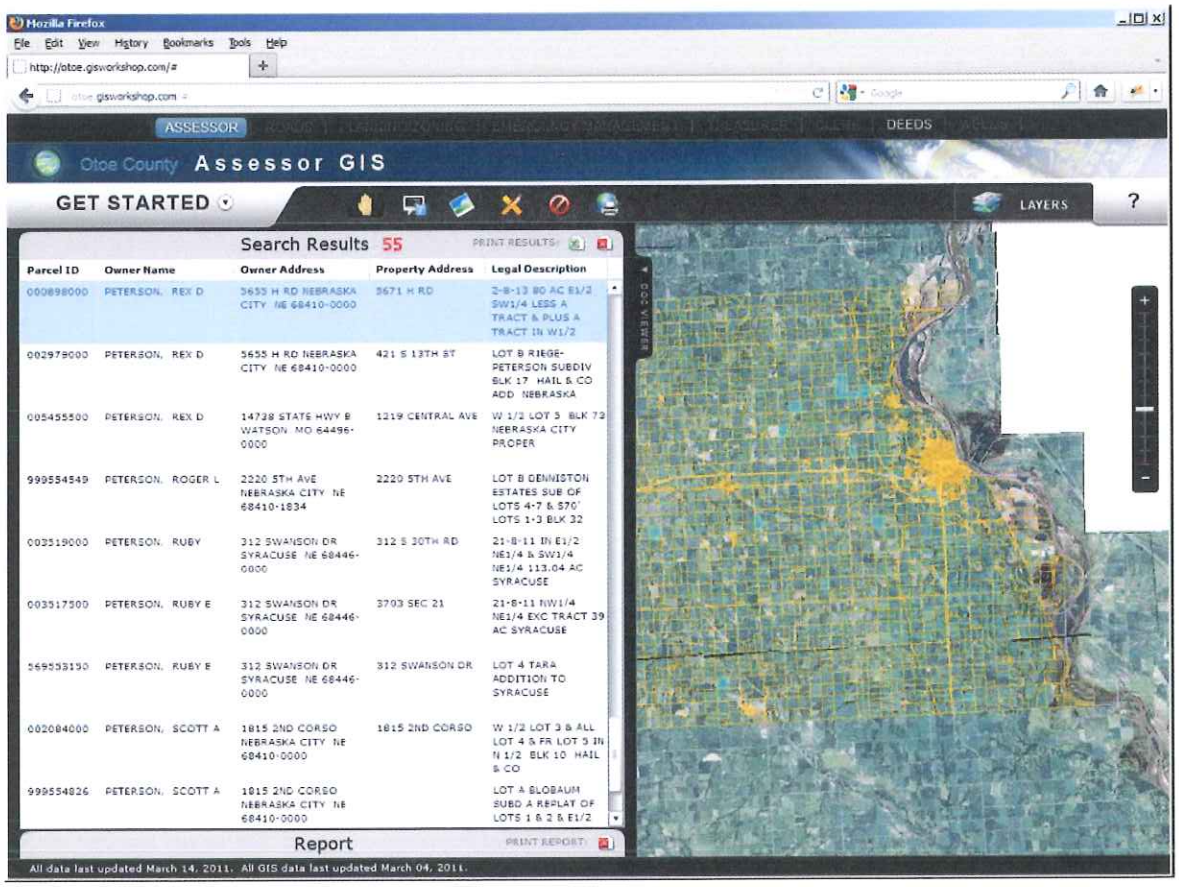


Figure 8: Property search results

DODGE COUNTY NE

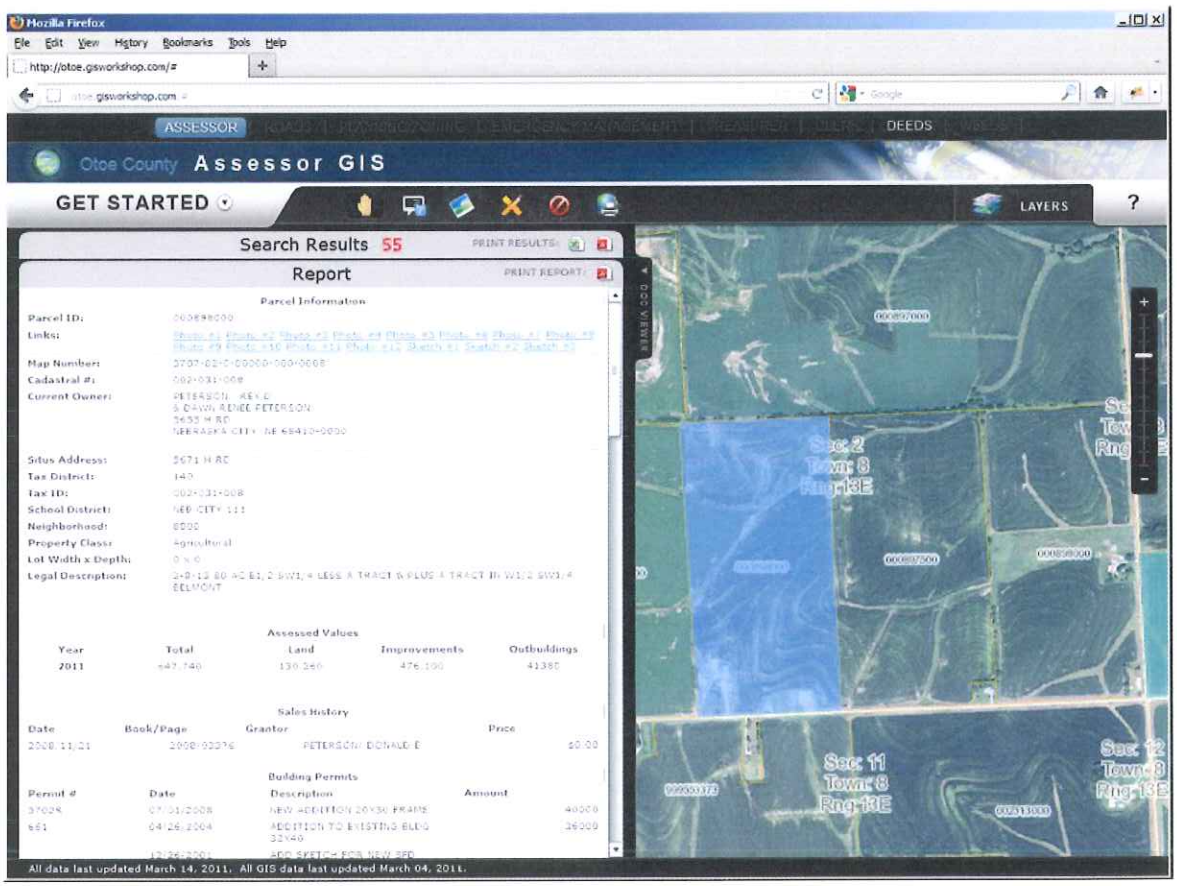


Figure 9: Property Record Card (note the map zoomed in and highlighted the chosen parcel)

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 10 illustrates the zoom slider bar and pan tool (hand icon).

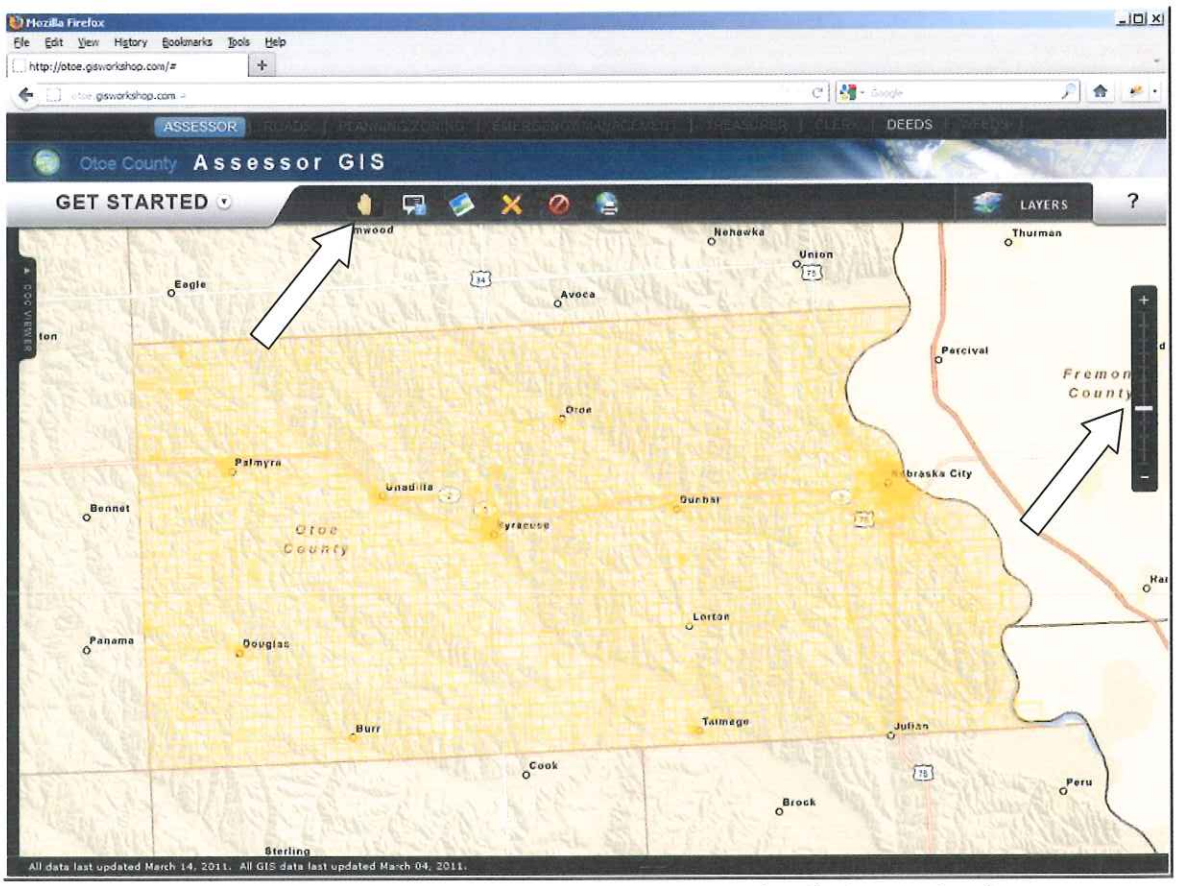


Figure 10: Zoom slider bar (right side) and activated pan tool icon (hand) in horizontal toolbar

Figures 11 and 12 illustrate the Map Navigation feature. The user enters a specific section/township/range and then the map zooms into the specified section.

DODGE COUNTY NE

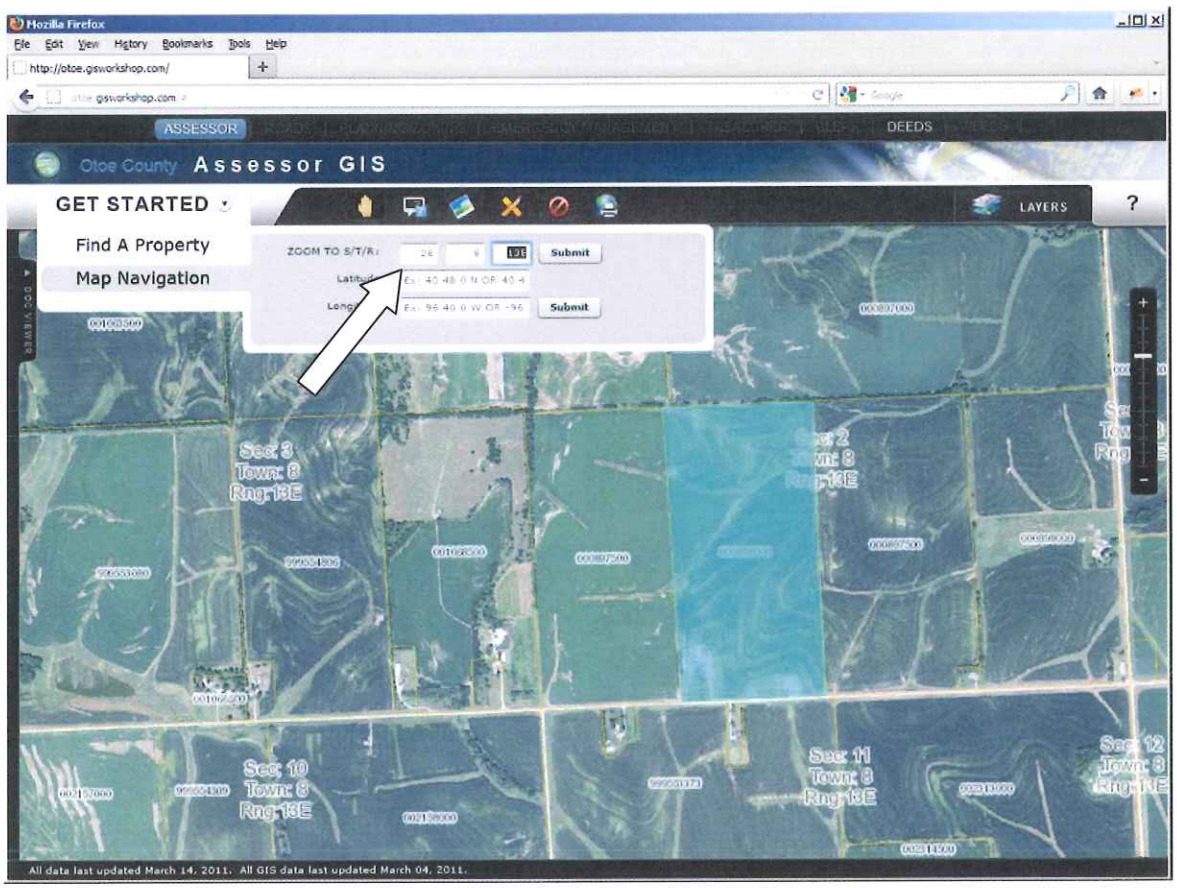


Figure 11: User enters section/township/range

DODGE COUNTY NE

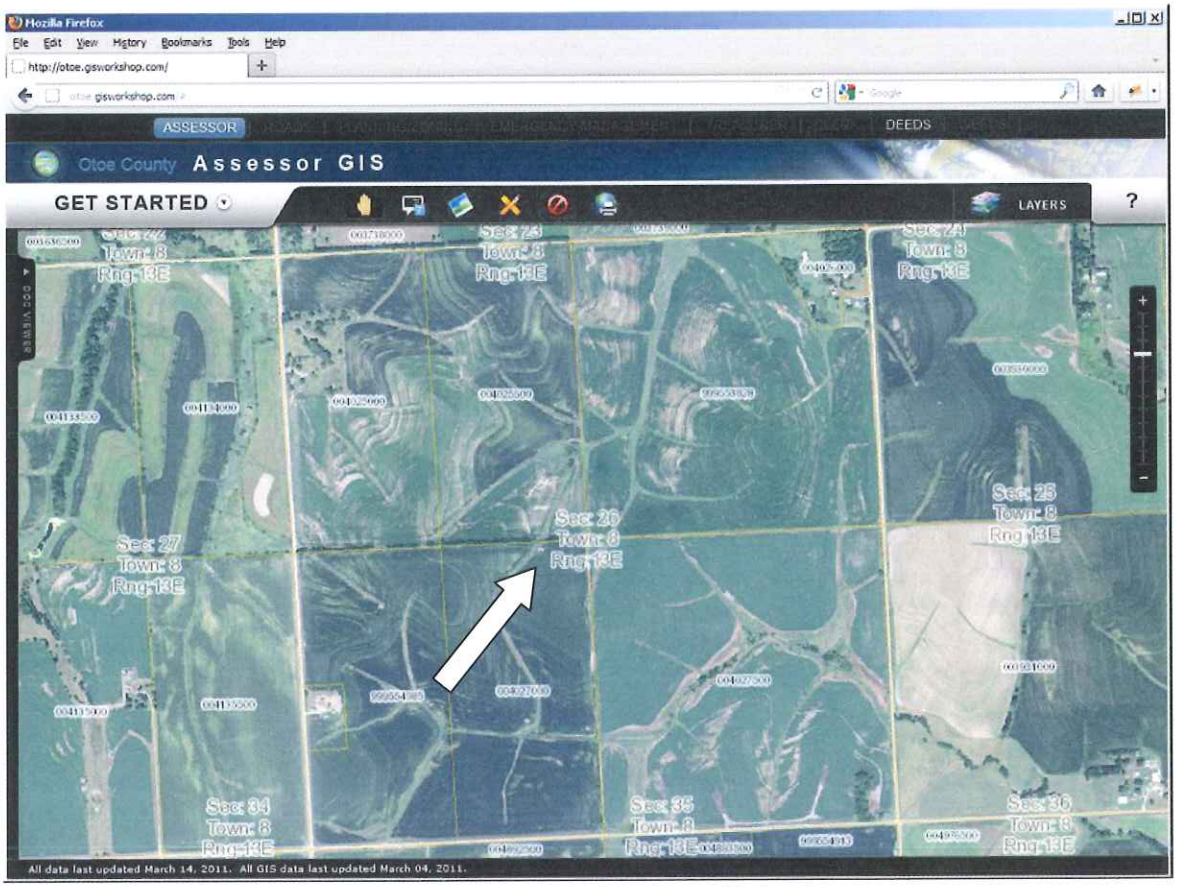


Figure 12: Application zooms into the specified section

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 13 below. Property card information is also available through the tool.

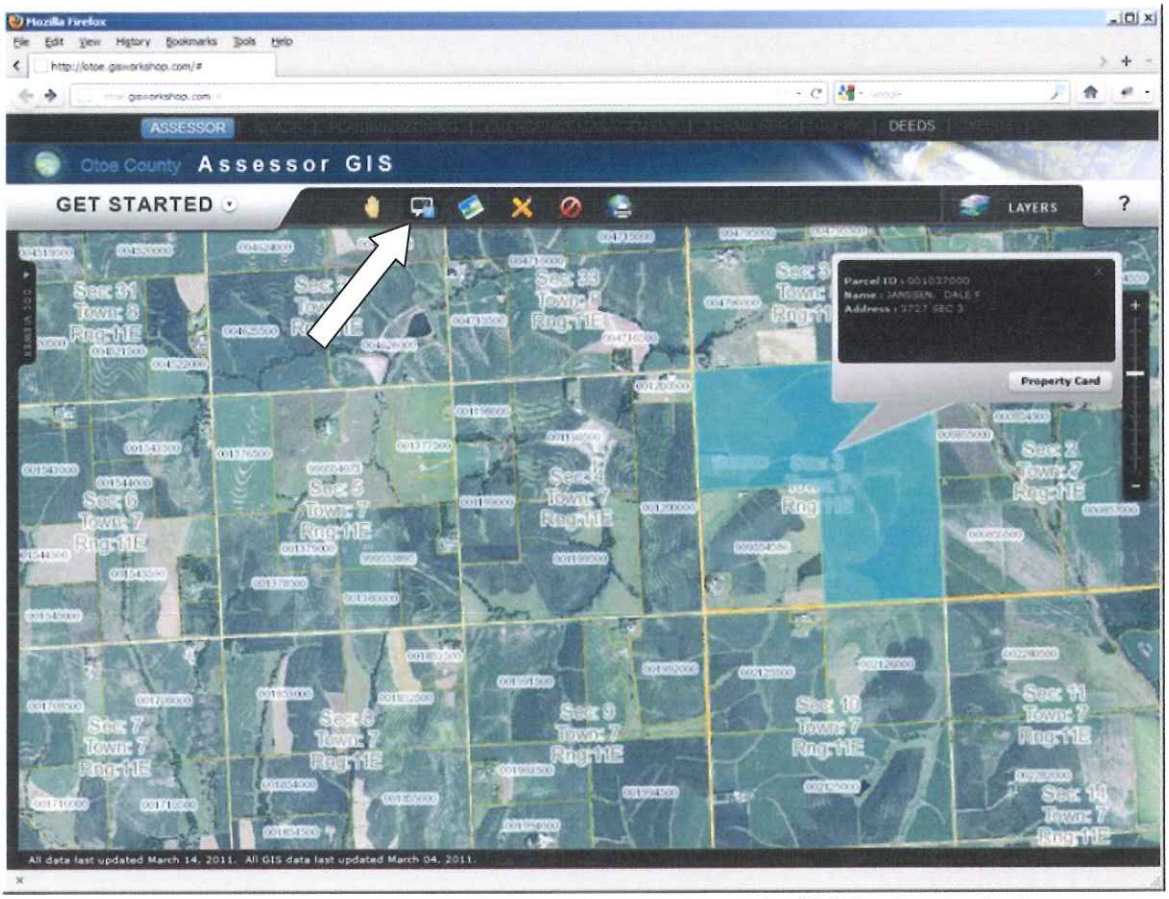


Figure 13: Activated Quick Identifier tool and information box result with link to Property Card

PHOTO TOOL

The Photo Tool is a great way to view individual building improvements. The tool reads the assessment database for all available photos and sketches and displays them in a photo window. If GISW has flown oblique aerial photography for the County those will also be available in the photo tool.

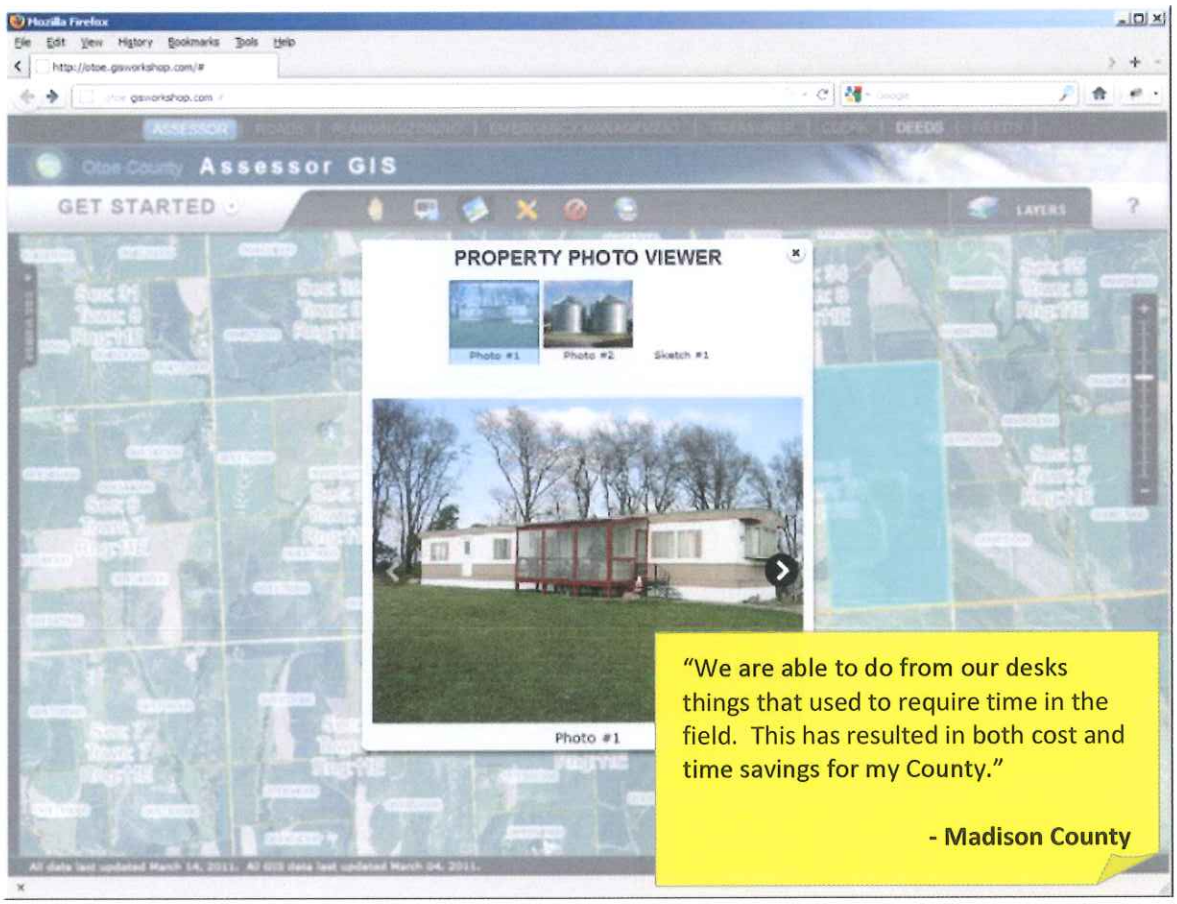


Figure 14: Property Photo Viewer Tool shows all available images from the Assessor's database

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 the figure below.

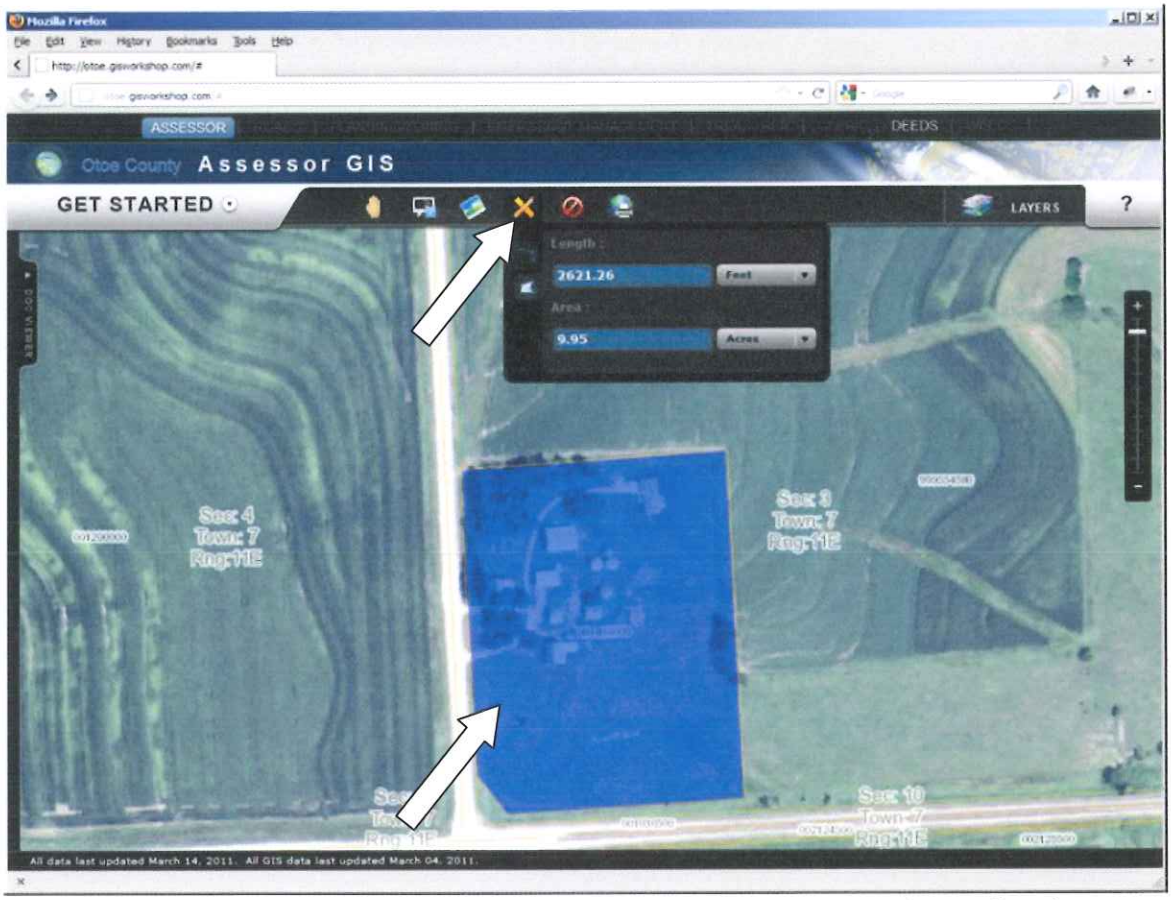


Figure 15: Measurement tool showing total length of the user-drawn line segment along the parcel boundary.

LAND USE CALCULATOR

The WebGIS Land Use Calculator Tool is a powerful tool for fast and accurate evaluation. The tool is protected by a simple login feature and allows the Assessor's Office to quickly calculate land value and provided a detailed report of the acreage breakdown of each LVG code category.

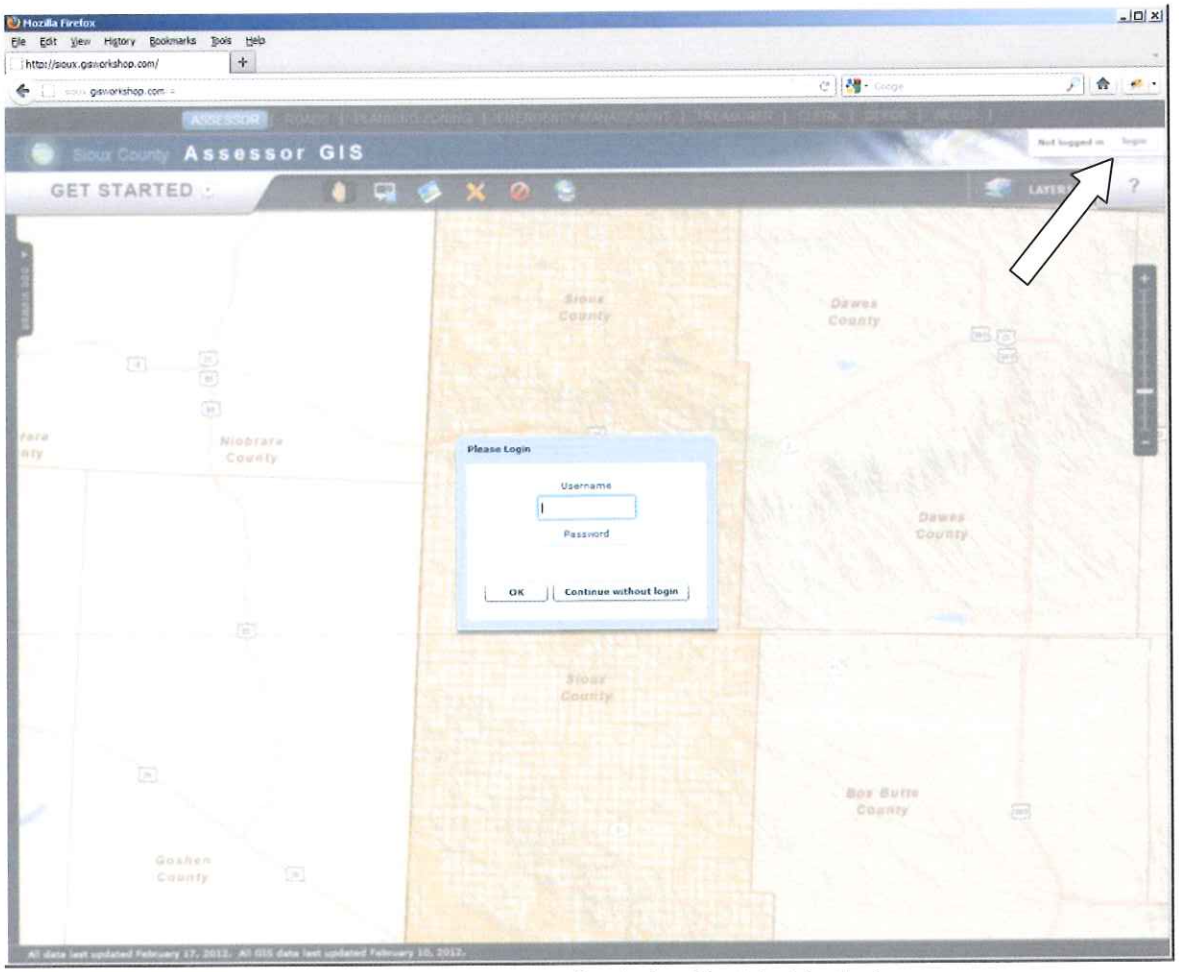


Figure 16: Login Screen protecting the Land Use Calculator Tool

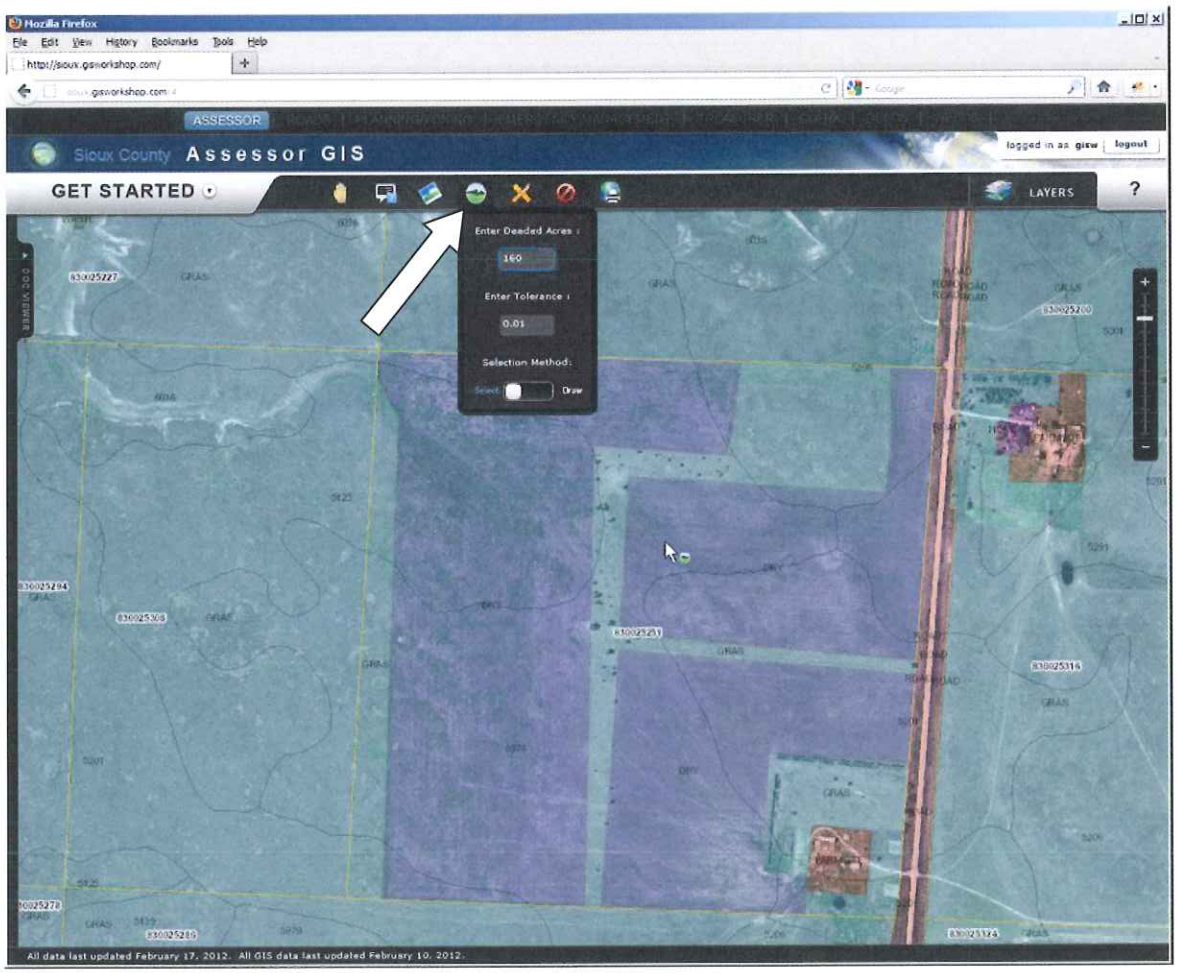


Figure 17: Land Use Calculator Tool options

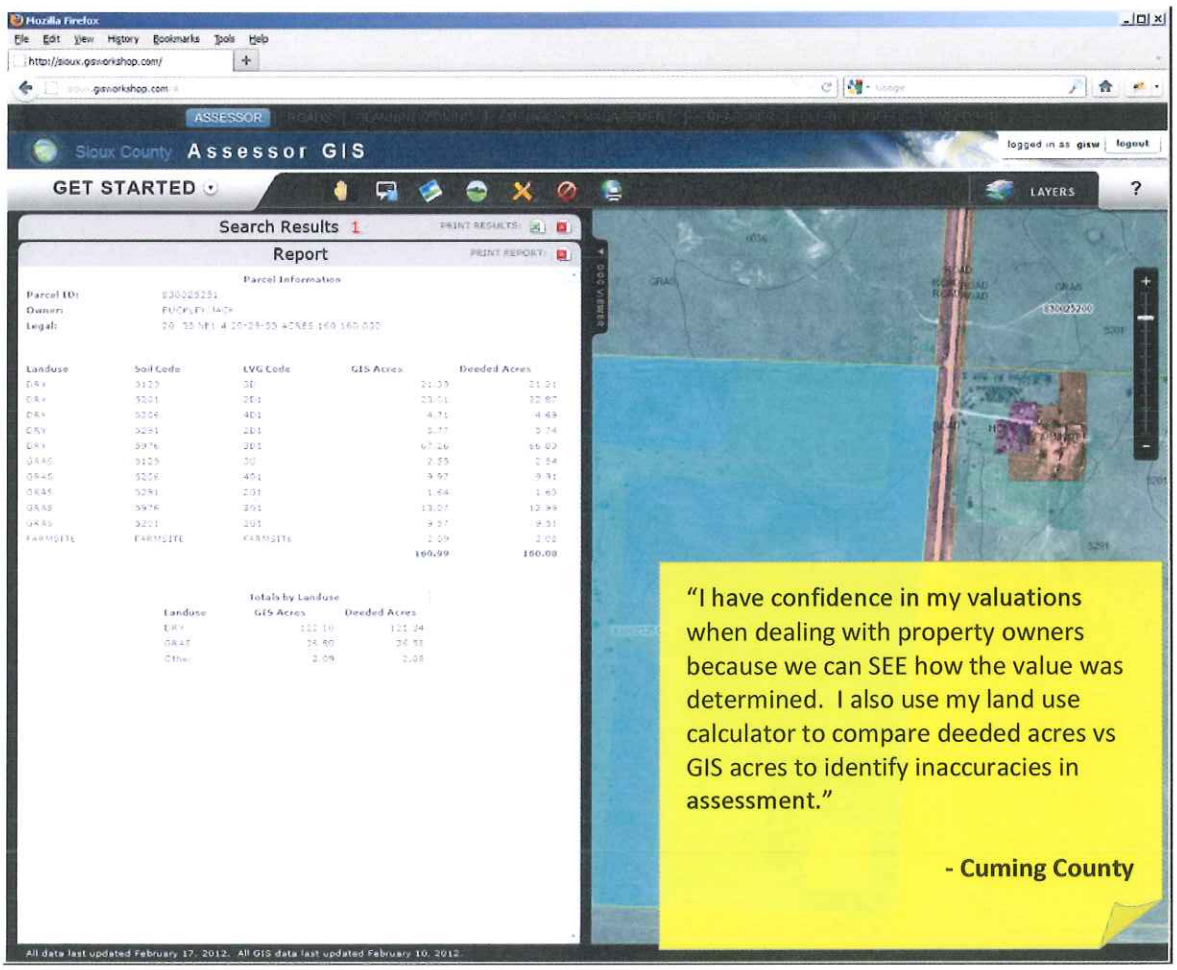


Figure 18: Land Use Calculator Report

SCHEDULE

The GISW team is ready to start the Dodge County Assessor GIS project after acceptance and receipt of a signed contract according to the tasks described in this proposal. We anticipate GIS project buildout and WebGIS setup completion before June 30, 2013.

PROJECT COSTS

The following pricing and package is ***FULLY INCLUSIVE,*** providing the Assessor with everything needed for a fully functional assessment GIS. There are no hidden charges or expenses. The cost is based on the size of the County. Variations and/or additions to those tasks/features/service stated within are subject to additional costs. Any change orders must be documented and added as an addendum to this scope with the additional costs for said change order added to the following costs. **GIS WORKSHOP WILL NOT SEND A SINGLE INVOICE UNTIL THE PROJECT IS COMPLETE AND YOU ARE 100% SATISFIED WITH YOUR PRODUCT.**

Services	Cost ($)
GIS Build-out Services and Assessor Tab on WebGIS, with Year One Maintenance	$93,500
Credit for work accomplished by LPNNRD, LENRD and City of Fremont	-$15,000

Deliverables:

- GIS layers
  - Rural and town parcels
  - Sections
  - Town lot/subdivision
  - Land use
  - Latest FSA aerial photography or integrate County-supplied custom photography
  - Soils
- Assessor Tab WebGIS featuring the Land Use Calculator Tool
- Initial year of GIS data maintenance and support
- Online County staff training on use of WebGIS

Total Costs for above listed Services	**$78,500**

FINANCING OPTIONS

GISW will deliver and install all systems upon completion. Delivery is unrelated to the payment schedule. Support fees are not financed or included in this potential scheme. **Use of our interest free financing options does not delay product delivery in any way.**

NOTE: Any awarded Grant funds will be applied to the total cost and payment schedule will be based upon the remaining balance. Remaining project balance may be spread over four years.

ONGOING ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS

GIS Data maintenance by GISW for Assessor **(effective July 2014)**	$5,800 annually
Assessor Tab WebGIS maintenance by GISW **(effective July 2014)**	$4,800 annually

OPTIONAL ITEMS

Additional annual maintenance for subscription-based option	$1,500 annually
Subscription-based management tool	included

Nebraska State Records Board

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

ATTACHMENT 2:

LETTERS OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT FROM DODGE COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Dodge County Board of Supervisors

435 North Park, Fremont Nebraska 68025

March 27, 2012

Chairman John A. Gale, Secretary of State
Nebraska State Records Board
440 S. 8th Street, Suite 210
Lincoln NE 68509-4946

RE: Dodge County's Grant Application

Dear Mr. Gale and Records Board:

At recent meetings of the Dodge County Board of Supervisors, the Board discussed with our Assessment Office and GIS Workshop, Inc. the need for a County WebGIS System. The information they shared with our County Board and other county officials helped in our decision making process to move forward with the system.

We as a County Board understand the importance of record keeping and the availability of accessing those records, but found our county behind in this type of advanced technology. As a County Board, we strive to serve our public in the best ways, financially and economically and found this system to be a step in the right direction.

The Dodge County Board of Supervisors would like your support in the new system and asked that you consider our application for a grant to help with the funding of our new GIS System.

Thanks again for considering.

Sincerely,

Bob Missel
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

STATE OF NEBRASKA

Dave Heineman
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, PROPERTY ASSESSMENT DIVISION
Ruth Sorensen, Property Tax Administrator
State Assessment Office for Dodge County
435 N. Park Ave. • Room 202 • Fremont, Nebraska 68025
Phone: (402) 727-3911 • Fax (402) 727-3913
www.pat.ne.gov

March 28, 2012

Dear Nebraska State Records Board Members,

As the assessment manager for Dodge County, I am in full support of GIS mapping by GIS Workshop for our county. The technology of this mapping system will allow tasks that took several minutes to several days to be completed within a matter of moments, such as agricultural acres counted by soil and land usage to parcel splits. GIS mapping will allow my staff more time to do other critical tasks. GIS by GIS Workshop will be easily understood by the current staff because of its simplicity and will make training any new staff members easier. The availability of parcel maps on the web has been much needed to keep up with our neighboring counties and public demand. Currently we receive calls daily from the public requesting parcel maps online and unfortunately have not been available to them until now. Other counties have also expressed the additional value that they have added to their counties with this technology, which will bring additional monetary resources to the county. During these hard economic times, it is essential that the counties find all their tax dollar resources in the most economical way.

I am looking forward to working with the staff at GIS Workshop because of the many positive comments I have heard from other assessors throughout Nebraska. I am also looking forward to moving towards this new technology not only for the benefit of the assessment office, but for the other Dodge County offices and users of Dodge County data. This will allow them to be self-sufficient in searching for the information they need.

Thank you for your consideration in the possible grant for Dodge County.

Sincerely,

Cathy Gusman

Cathy Gusman
Dodge County Assessment Manager

STATE OF NEBRASKA

Dave Heineman
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, PROPERTY ASSESSMENT DIVISION
Ruth Sorensen, Property Tax Administrator
State Assessment Office for Dodge County
435 N. Park Ave. • Room 202 • Fremont, Nebraska 68025
Phone: (402) 727-3911 • Fax (402) 727-3913
www.pat.ne.gov

March 23, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

I am writing this letter in support of the Dodge County WebGIS. I believe this mapping system will be an invaluable tool to help my staff with our real property assessments throughout Dodge County. We could be a more reliable, more efficient source of information to the public 24 hours a day.

The time it would save us in implementing a soil survey or updating land use would be phenomenal. We have a staff with a lot of years of experience in all facets of the office. This would free them up to do more special projects in property valuation.

Public demand for easier access to all of our information keeps increasing, and this would help tremendously with that workload, again giving us more time to work with other projects that have been on hold.

During these economic times, everyone is conscious of cost and efficiency. WebGIS will enable us to provide our taxpayers/clients with more easily accessible public information anytime of the day or night. I encourage your financial assistance for Dodge County.

Respectfully yours,

June Racely

June Racely
Appraiser for Dodge County Assessor's Office
435 N Park St., Suite 202
Fremont, NE 68025
(402)727-2915

DODGE COUNTY TREASURER

CATHY A DILL, TREASURER *JUDITH J MAIN, DEPUTY*

435 N. PARK P.O. Box 999 Fremont, Nebraska 68026-0999 Phone 402-727-2750

March 27, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

Recently GIS Workshop gave a presentation to the Dodge County Board of Supervisors of the many benefits they can offer our County and taxpayers. It was stated at the meeting Dodge County could apply for a grant to assist with the funding.

Since I am the Dodge County Treasurer I was very interested in how the software could benefit my office. The technology GIS offers would be a great asset and resource to many customers. My office is responsible for collecting Real Estate and Personal Property taxes. We have a number of customers telephone daily requesting tax amounts for property. This software would reduce the number of calls and Abstractors needing information. A number of mortgage companies call on us from all over the United States. With the differences in time zones information would be available 24/7. In addition to being available to the public it would help alleviate some work load on my staff.

I as an elected official would ask that your consideration in providing this grant be approved. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Cathy A Dill

Cathy A Dill
Dodge County Treasurer

LOWER PLATTE NORTH
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
511 Commercial Park Road PO Box 126 Wahoo, NE 68066
PHONE: (402) 443-4675 FAX: (402) 443-5339
WEB SITE: www.lpnnrd.org

April 2, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board,

This is a letter of support for both Dodge and Saunders Counties in their effort to modernize their land records and move into a web-based GIS. Both counties are adjacent to Nebraska's major metropolitan cities and are feeling the pressures of urban growth. On top of these pressures both counties are transitioning from State Assessors back to County Elected Assessors. Now is the time to encourage a positive change that GIS will bring.

The Lower Platte North NRD is in the process of certifying all irrigated acres in our district. As we worked with our seven county assessors those who had a GIS in place were easy to exchange the data we needed. Saunders and Dodge counties did not have a GIS and we spent great time and effort to construct the needed records. Several times each year we send employees to our county courthouse to obtain needed land owner information. This necessity has been eliminated for Butler, Colfax and Platte Counties due to their web based GIS.

Our NRD used to have a steady stream of calls for maps with various information. After implementation of our web based IMS and now Arc Map Servers these requests have all but been eliminated. The same will happen for Dodge and Saunders Counties when their systems are up and running.

My interest and support of this project goes beyond our NRD as I represent all of the NRDs on the Nebraska GIS Council. Land records modernization has been a priority for the council since I began in 1995. From the first time I viewed a GIS land record I have felt Dodge and Saunders Counties needed this system to serve the public, businesses and government

Bringing Dodge and Saunders Counties on line should be a top priority considering their size, number of parcels and future growth potential. These two counties deserve to be at the top of the list when decisions are made for grant funding.

Sincerely,

John R. Miyoshi
General Manager

CITY OF FREMONT
NEBRASKA

400 E. Military • ~~P.O. Box 1266~~ • Fremont, NE 68026-1266 • (402) 727-2636 • FAX (402) 727-2659 • TDD (402) 727-2619

March 27, 2012

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is written in support of Dodge County's GIS project. We as the City of Fremont feel this project would be a useful tool to various governmental agencies and the general public.

At the present time, our GIS system is limited inits capabilities, and this project would not only help Dodge County progvide better access to information, but would assist the City of Fremont in provide more information to residents as well while promoting a more open and transparent government.

In addition, the development of Dodge County's GIS website would allow us to work together in order to establish a highly accurate, useable, and reliable datebase of property information that is able to be accedd faster than what is currently allowed under current methods. Furthermore, this would allow the City of Fremont and Dodge County to once again work together on a vital project, and therefore stretch taxpayer dollars.

For these reasons, I would ask that you consider supporting this project with an award of grant funds. In the meantime, if you have questions or desire additional information, please advise.

Kind regards,

Rian Harkins, AICP
Director of Planning
City of Fremont

William Pook, Director
135 North Park Avenue
Suite 404
Fremont, Nebraska 68025
402-727-2785
800-374-7356
bill@region5-6.org

Region 5/6 Emergency Management

March 26, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

Re: GIS Grant Request

As the Region 5/6 Emergency Manager for Dodge County I am very supportive of the use of GIS for emergency planning. This will provide us with an invaluable tool in our public safety and emergency response planning.

The GIS Workshop has been extremely helpful in bring these systems to use here in Dodge County. Their subject matter expertise and ability to make this a working tool for all user departments is well noted.

The infusion of this one-time $25,000 GIS grant through Nebraska State Records will be an extremely worthwhile investment that we plan to reap multi-rewards from. Region 5/6 Emergency Management wholeheartedly endorses this grant application for Dodge County.

Sincerely,

William Pook, Director
Region 5/6 EMA

RECEIVED
MAR 30 2012
NEBRASKA DEPT. OF REVENUE
PROPERTY ASSESSMENT DIVISION

LOWER ELKHORN
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Lifelong Learning Center • 601 East Benjamin Avenue • P.O. Box 1204
(402) 371-7313 FAX: (402) 371-0653 www.lenrd.org NORFOLK, NE 68702-1204

March 26, 2012

ATTENTION: Nebraska State Records Board

Staff at the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District (the District) believe the WebGIS mapping website will be of great benefit to all citizens of Dodge County.

The District relies heavily on public information to ensure our databases stay accurate and up to date for projects the District undertakes. The District relies heavily on County Assessors to provide us with information in our Variance Process to add irrigated acres. In the process we require a map of the proposed irrigated ground they would like to irrigate. This information relies on the landowner visiting the County Courthouse and supplying us with copies of the current irrigated acres. With development of WebGIS the landowner would not need to visit the courthouse and will save crucial time for the county assessor.

The District will also be conducting Certification of Irrigated Acres very soon. We will be asking landowners to verify their irrigated acres. If a change is needed, we will easily be able to verify the change by looking at WebGIS and looking at the irrigated layer; without having to e-mail or call the assessor.

Madison County currently has WebGIS and has proven very useful to us. The District receives calls from real estate appraisers asking us questions of what will happen to the ground that is irrigated during the certification process. We can tell appraisers that the land they see on the website shown as irrigated is what we will base our certification efforts on. They then base decisions on the information they can see in front of them.

WebGIS for the assessors could be a stepping stone for other departments in the county to have applications on the web. The Zoning Department could have maps on the web that would assist the District with rules and regulations for Wellhead Protection Programs. The Weed Department would be able to have areas they have sprayed with chemicals readily available for our field staff to know areas to avoid. The County Road Department can have maps showing road closures so our field staff can save time finding a different way to another field site. All county departments would find WebGIS useful.

For the above reasons, I support WebGIS and encourage your financial assistance for Dodge County.

Sincerely,

Michael Murphy

Michael Murphy,
GIS Specialist

DODGE COUNTY TITLE & ESCROW CO. LLC.

Kathie Nathan
549 North Main Street
Fremont, NE 68025
402-721-5833 X 11
Fax 402-721-8632
Mobile 402-719-0389
knathan@dcte.net
www.dcte.net

Office of the County Assessor
Dodge County Nebraska

Our office works with the Register of Deeds and Assessor's office every day. It would be a great aid to have the GIS system.

Please inform the board members of my interest in this matter and that I recommend and request the board's consideration of this request.

Very truly yours,

DODGE COUNTY TITLE & ESCROW CO. LLC

Kathie Nathan

Kathie Nathan

NEBRASKA LAND TITLE & ABSTRACT

www.NebraskaLandTitle.com

March 27, 2012

Cathy Gusman
Saunders County Assessment Manager
433 N Chestnut St., Suite 200
Wahoo, NE 68066

RE: GIS Mapping System

Dear Cathy,

How delighted I was to hear that the Saunders and Dodge County Boards of Supervisors have voted to pursue GIS Workshop mapping for both counties.

In my job as an Abstracter/Title Agent for Nebraska Land Title and Abstract, my research is buoyed by the chance to visualize properties within the county. I often visit the GIS sites in Sarpy, Butler and Lancaster Counties to access information regarding land parcels.

Working in Saunders county for the last 20 years both in the Saunders County Assessor's office as well as in the field of title insurance and abstracting I've seen the growing trend that most agriculture parcels can no longer be so easily described by the original section number system. Most parcels are now portions of many of these original 160 acre parcels. To have the ability to access those maps to determine, ownership, access and other pertinent facts regarding a property is invaluable to me and a cost savings for my clients.

Saunders county's cadastral books were last done in the late 1980s and a whole lot of transactions have run through the register of deeds since that time. To have an updated system available on-line to access information will provide a valuable tool for abstracters, surveyors, civil engineers, realtors, attorneys and auctioneers servicing our area.

Regards

Linda K. Little, Abstracter/Agent

Please respond to:

☐ OMAHA
16949 Lakeside Hills Plaza
Omaha, NE 68130
Ph: 402.778.1000
Fax: 402.778.1020

☐ BELLEVUE
11511 South 42nd St., #106
Bellevue, NE 68123
Ph: 402.778.1000
Fax: 402.778.1020

☐ LINCOLN
3910 South Street
Lincoln, NE 68506
Ph: 402.434.3737
Fax: 402.434.3736

☐ BEATRICE
603 Dorsey Street
Beatrice, NE 68310
Ph: 402.223.2395
Fax: 402.228.3398

☐ SEWARD
P.O. Box 251
Seward, NE 68434
Ph: 402.643.6228
Fax: 402.643.6229

☑ WAHOO
412 North Linden Street
Wahoo, NE 68066
Ph: 402.443.1254
Fax: 402.443.1261

100 E. 6th • P.O. Box 1268 • Fremont, NE 68026-1268 • (402) 721-9700 • FAX (402) 721-0109 • E-Mail: realest@donpeterson.com
620 E. 23rd Street • Fremont, NE 68025 • (402) 721-7177 • FAX (402) 727-1749 • E-Mail: realest2@donpeterson.com

March 28, 2012

To Nebraska State Records Board

Don Peterson & Associates is writing this letter of support for Dodge County Web GIS. We are a leading Real Estate Company for Fremont and Dodge County. Don Peterson's is involved with residential, commercial and farm sales along with farm management, residential rental and commercial leasing.

Our company relies on public records and believes the county offices and the public will be able to become more efficient and accurate with accessible records that the Web GIS provides.

We whole heartedly support Dodge County's transition to Web GIS and encourage your financial assistance to reach our goal.

Respectfully Submitted,

Larry Shepard

KELLER WILLIAMS
REALTY

March 20, 2012

To Whom it may Concern,

I am writing this letter to support Dodge County WebGIS. In the real estate profession, I believe the mapping website will enhance our profession. Public information is gathered daily and to have access to it through a web-site allows us to access the information 24/7. Currently we have to call the Assessor's office to obtain this information.

The information we collect allows us to do a market analysis, and access comparable properties, in determining the listing price of a property. Not only will this make our job more sufficient, but the County would save money, as the clerk has to take the time to access the file and make copies.

For the above reasons, I support the program and urge for financial assistance to Dodge County.

Thank You,

Sherie Bussen

Sherie Bussen
Realtor
Keller Williams Realty

March 29, 2012

Assessor's Office
Dodge County, Nebraska
435 North Park
Fremont, Ne 68025

Attn: Cathy Gusman

Dear Cathy,

We, as tax payers of Dodge County feel being online with the GIS web based public information system would serve as a valuable asset to Dodge County, Nebraska.

Please take the necessary steps to initiate this program as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kenneth H. Hahring

March 29, 2012

Assessor's Office
Dodge County, Nebraska
435 North Park
Fremont, Ne 68025

Attn: Cathy Gusman

Dear Cathy,

We, as tax payers of Dodge County feel being online with the GIS web based public information system would serve as a valuable asset to Dodge County, Nebraska.

Please take the necessary steps to initiate this program as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

March 29, 2012

Assessor's Office
Dodge County, Nebraska
435 North Park
Fremont, Ne 68025

Attn: Cathy Gusman

Dear Cathy,

We, as tax payers of Dodge County feel being online with the GIS web based public information system would serve as a valuable asset to Dodge County, Nebraska.

Please take the necessary steps to initiate this program as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

March 29, 2012

Assessor's Office
Dodge County, Nebraska
435 North Park
Fremont, Ne 68025

Attn: Cathy Gusman

Dear Cathy,

We, as tax payers of Dodge County feel being online with the GIS web based public information system would serve as a valuable asset to Dodge County, Nebraska.

Please take the necessary steps to initiate this program as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Sahlstrom

March 29, 2012

Assessor's Office
Dodge County, Nebraska
435 North Park
Fremont, Ne 68025

Attn: Cathy Gusman

Dear Cathy,

We, as tax payers of Dodge County feel being online with the GIS web based public information system would serve as a valuable asset to Dodge County, Nebraska.

Please take the necessary steps to initiate this program as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Barbara Huizenga

March 29, 2012

Assessor's Office
Dodge County, Nebraska
435 North Park
Fremont, Ne 68025

Attn: Cathy Gusman

Dear Cathy,

We, as tax payers of Dodge County feel being online with the GIS web based public information system would serve as a valuable asset to Dodge County, Nebraska.

Please take the necessary steps to initiate this program as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charlene Jordan

March 29, 2012

Assessor's Office
Dodge County, Nebraska
435 North Park
Fremont, Ne 68025

Attn: Cathy Gusman

Dear Cathy,

We, as tax payers of Dodge County feel being online with the GIS web based public information system would serve as a valuable asset to Dodge County, Nebraska.

Please take the necessary steps to initiate this program as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather Rangos

March 29, 2012

Assessor's Office
Dodge County, Nebraska
435 North Park
Fremont, Ne 68025

Attn: Cathy Gusman

Dear Cathy,

We, as tax payers of Dodge County feel being online with the GIS web based public information system would serve as a valuable asset to Dodge County, Nebraska.

Please take the necessary steps to initiate this program as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gina D Weir

March 29, 2012

Assessor's Office
Dodge County, Nebraska
435 North Park
Fremont, Ne 68025

Attn: Cathy Gusman

Dear Cathy,

We, as tax payers of Dodge County feel being online with the GIS web based public information system would serve as a valuable asset to Dodge County, Nebraska.

Please take the necessary steps to initiate this program as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

March 29, 2012

Assessor's Office
Dodge County, Nebraska
435 North Park
Fremont, Ne 68025

Attn: Cathy Gusman

Dear Cathy,

We, as tax payers of Dodge County feel being online with the GIS web based public information system would serve as a valuable asset to Dodge County, Nebraska.

Please take the necessary steps to initiate this program as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Beverly J. Sadlfield

Farm Credit Services *of* America
AGRICULTURE WORKS HERE...

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
kirk.manker@fcsamerica.com
402-348-3367
402-661-3367 (fax)

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 : Garfield County NE**

2. **Grant amount requested $ 25,000**

3. **Title of project: Assessor GIS and County WebGIS**

4. **Brief description of project:** Build a county-wide land records GIS database and WebGIS application that will link to the existing Orion 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).**
   Garfield County has chosen to install a Geographic Information System (GIS) that will be accessed through the internet on a specific website designed for Garfield County.

   Installing the GIS system in Garfield County will assist in calculating valuations based on the GIS data. It will assist in simplifying more current and precise parcel information for assessments and land valuation. It will also help the Assessor in calculating soil and land class acreage and values for agricultural parcel in Garfield County, while allowing them to expedite the process for property splits and measurements through the GIS program.

   Upon installing GIS in Garfield County will also be helpful to other entities in the Courthouse. The Clerk's Office will be able to field inquiries for information; the Treasurer's Office will be able to use it for tax inquiries. The Weeds department will use it for determining property owners and property location for spraying noxious weeds and issuing notices to landowners. The County Election Office will better determine exact voter precinct maps.

   Installing the system in the Assessor's Office will assist dispatch in determining exact locations for 911 calls and emergencies. It will also benefit our Fire Departments and Ambulance Departments to aid in their quick response to emergencies.

   The GIS System will be generated and maintained by GIS Workshop, Inc. servers and will give public access to the assessment data base by property owner, address, and parcel ID numbers. If the above are unknown, there will also be an option available for the user to manually select a parcel and from the view the data connected to obtain their information.

   The Garfield County Assessor and the Board of Commissioners feel that this system will be useful and a time saver for the County. The web-based technology enables the general public to access property information at any time which will save taxpayers money on gasoline and valuable time by reducing the need to visit the courthouse. They further believe the timing of implementing the GIS is optimal for staffing and developing processes due to the fact that they are moving from State-assessed to County-assessed.

2. **Please describe who the beneficiary or recipient of this service will be.**
   Garfield County offices of Assessor, Clerk/Elec Comm/Register of Deeds, Treasurer, Emergency Manager/Sheriff, Roads, Planning/Zoning and Weeds will benefit from this program. Property owners, banks, insurance companies, appraisers, realtors and the citizens of Garfield County will have access to the property assessment and valuation information at no extra cost to them. Efficiencies realized from 24/7 access will result in increased productivity and cost savings within the County Departments.

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?**
   We believe the adoption rate of the WebGIS technology to be immediate upon availability due to the desire of the public to have this information at their fingertips and demonstrated buy-in from other County departments.

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 June 30, 2013 (06/30/2013).

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 GIS for Garfield County. Attachment 1 contains an overview of the project in GISW's Proposal document. The Proposal is for development of a GIS for Garfield County, updating of the GIS and development of a WebGIS site for the County, which will make information available 24/7. The total amount of grant money awarded to Garfield County will be used to defray the following initial GIS 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.**
   Garfield County Assessor 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. The Surveyor will also be contributing data as the project progresses. GIS Workshop will be compiling data, scanning cadastral maps, designing and building the GIS. Garfield County assessor staff will participate in GIS training provided by an approved Esri trainer from GIS Workshop, Inc.

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 allow the public access to important County information and to increase efficiency in the future. Garfield 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 GIS project and by making it a priority.

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 Garfield County of implementing the GIS. The County fully anticipates being able to fully meet annual maintenance costs of the GIS 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 Orion database containing tax assessment information. The Property Record Card component of the WebGIS has several customized reports, derived from the Orion 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 Garfield 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.

    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.

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 Tyler Orion (or any other CAMA provider selected in the future) database systems in use in the County today. GISW built the software interface for the Orion system as part of the Keith County project.

     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 and for protecting features such as the Land Use Calculator Tool from unauthorized use.

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 Garfield County will be built and designed by GIS Workshop, with adherence to standards established by the State of Nebraska. The digital map database has been developed using the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System, NAD83 as per State/NITC guidelines. The system will comply with any other applicable NITC items.

4. Agencies submitting grant applications for funding of a Geographic Information System (GIS) project must in addition to the standard grant application complete and submit the ***Supplemental Questionnaire for State Funded Entities on Land Record Information and Mapping-Related Grant Application*** found on the Boards website page "Grant Information" at www.staterecordsboard.ne.gov.

5. **Describe how technical support will be provided.**

GISW will edit and maintain the GIS data and provide access to the data using the WebGIS application. The County will be responsible for sending parcel splits and land use changes to GISW. GISW will download a copy of the Tyler Orion data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GISW server.

GISW have dedicated technical support staff available at any time during business hours to service the County's needs. They will provide training, phone support and online support to help County staff quickly adapt to the new technology.

Part III. EXPECTATIONS

It is the expectation of the Nebraska State Records Board that the grantee recognize the project as an ongoing effort to make public documents and or transactions more accessible. As this application relates to public documents the goal encompasses not only the availability of current documents as described in this application but the ongoing addition of new and updated documents in a timely manner. This goal recognizes the public's interest in not only historical information but the expectation that current data is obtainable. The Nebraska State Records Board recognizes that this is a long term commitment on the part of the grantee and anticipates the continued financial support of the grantee to maintain these expectations.

Part IV. STATE LAW COMPLIANCE

Nebraska law, sections 4-108 through 4-114 state that no political subdivision of the State shall provide public benefits, to include grants or contracts, to a person not lawfully present in the United States. If this application is awarded in whole or in part, and during the time the grant is in effect, the undersigned, on behalf of the political subdivision grant applicant, by signing this grant application, affirmatively states and acknowledges that the political subdivision will comply with this law.

Part V. CONTACT INFORMATION & SIGNATURE

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

Sharon L. Boucher — State Assessor for Garfield County
Printed Name — Title

Phone # 308-346-4542 **E-mail** sharon.boucher@nebraska.gov

Physical Address:

250 So 8th Avenue, Burwell NE 68823

I, the Authorized Representative of Garfield 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**

Sharon L. Boucher
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 Comm/Register of Deeds, Sheriff, Treasurer, Weeds etc) have expressed interest in collaborating and building upon this initial investment in GIS technology to enhance their service provision to the public. In addition, the City of Burwell and applicable Natural Resource Districts actively support GIS development for the County to promote collaboration. The County is predominately rural in nature and 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. We also believe our emergency responders will make use of the mapping as they serve the public to ensure safety in the County.

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

GIS Workshop

www.gisworkshop.com

VERSION 1.1

Project: 0426-001

GARFIELD COUNTY, NE

ATTACHMENT 1:

Proposal for

Assessor GIS and County WebGIS

Prepared for Sharon Boucher, Assessor
And Garfield County Board of Commissioners

March 14, 2012

Trimble Authorized Business Partner

esri Partner Network Gold

402.436.2150
4949 NW 1st Street, Lincoln NE 68521

PROJECT BACKGROUND

As Garfield County transitions from State-assessed to County-assessed, the Board recognizes the value of implementing a GIS for analysis and record keeping in the Assessor's Office. The Board of Commissioners has participated in a demonstration about GISW's WebGIS product. As a result, they have requested GISW to provide budgetary pricing on the development of GIS for the Assessor's office and implementation of a county-wide Web-based GIS to provide property information on-line to property owners, the general public and other departments.

GIS BENEFITS

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are a powerful combination of digital maps and database information. Traditionally, county assessment has used paper maps to track parcel, soil and land use boundaries; in addition, the assessment database was completely disconnected from the mapping making it hard to crosscheck information. This process was very labor intensive and difficult to implement with high precision.

When properly implemented, Assessment GIS seamlessly links the parcel, soil and land use data directly to the appraisal database. GIS can increase efficiency and increase accuracy in many ways:

- Enter new parcel splits using specialized tools for survey data and aliquot parts
- Parcel-by-parcel comparison of deeded acres to mapped acres
- Calculate current land value for each parcel and report the breakdown of acres in each unique combination of soil and land use
- Visualize individual parcels to see the soils, land uses and aerial photograph
- Share information with land owners, real estate professionals and potential developers to significantly reduce call volume for County staff and facilitate easy access to public information
- Quickly and uniformly change land value calculations for the entire County if any of the parameters change (soils database, land use classes, etc)

THE GIS WORKSHOP DIFFERENCE

EXPERIENCE WITH NEBRASKA ASSESSMENT GIS

GISW has been providing quality Assessment GIS data and analysis solutions for more than 14 years. Our clients include over 85 counties in Nebraska and surrounding states. GISW staff has over 75 years combined experience in GIS implementation and are exceptionally experienced in Nebraska assessment systems. GISW is the only GIS Company in Nebraska that can provide the automatic database linking and other tools necessary to build a complete assessment GIS for Garfield County to ensure compliance with Property Assessment Division (PAD) mandates. We are the only GIS Company recognized by the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO). As you transition from State-assessed to County-assessed, the GIS will ensure you are providing equal, fair, consistent valuation of property in the most efficient manner possible.

GARFIELD COUNTY NE

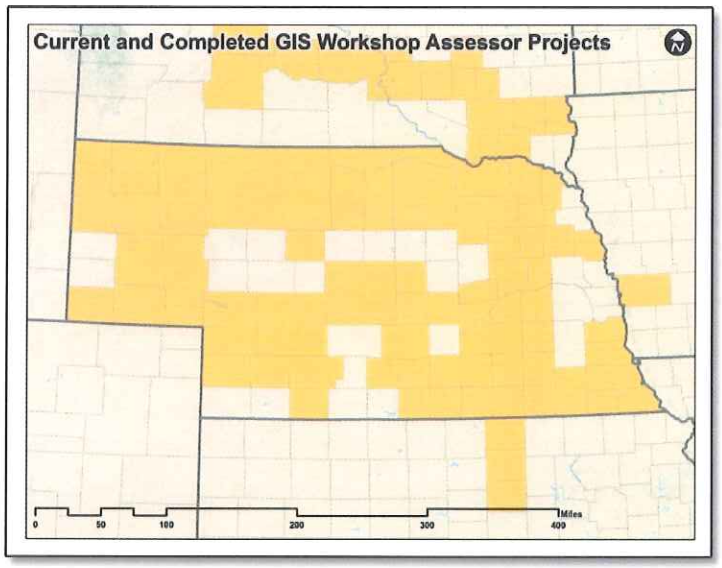


Figure 1: GISW is the most experienced Assessor GIS provider in the State

GISW is a full service GIS provider with a team of technicians ready to build your GIS. We will develop your GIS database, train your staff to use GIS information in their day-to-day workflow, provide unlimited support and develop internet mapping, or WebGIS, sites to make GIS more accessible to all your departments, real estate professionals and your constituents.

GISW specializes in developing GIS datasets and providing easy access to the data. Below is a list of key differentiators:

- **WebGIS – our product gives everyone 'Google-like' access to GIS data. No one else offers web access!**
- Costs – our costs are lower because our experience translates into efficiency
- Training – we provide upfront and ongoing training to ensure clients can make use of their investment
- Support staff – we have a long list of satisfied clients who can attest to our excellent support services. We have a dedicated team of technical support staff ready and waiting on the phone.
- Experience – we are the most experienced GIS company in the State and it shows in the quality of our products and services
- Software tools – we have customized tools we use internally to quickly perform routine operations such as land use calculation, survey data entry, aliquot part splits, etc.
- CAMA integration – we are the only company with tools to link directly into assessment databases such as Tyler, TerraScan, MIPS and County Solutions.
- Complete package – we offer a turnkey solution including data conversion, data development data maintenance and the products to make the data accessible to everyone

GIS Workshop, Inc. is the most experienced Assessment GIS provider in the State. We will become an extension of your staff. Our extensive expertise together with our specialized tools helps us provide superior products and services.

CLIENT SATISFACTION

Please ask our clients about our support staff, training services, how they use GIS on a day-to-day basis, do they use desktop or WebGIS, did GIS help with the recent soil conversion mandate, flexible payment options, oblique photos, etc. We are confident that you will hear our level of service is second-to-none. Here are direct quotes from a sampling of our Assessor clients after implementing GIS in their departments; they are a testimony to the fact that implementing GIS increases revenue through accuracy in land use calculations and decreases costs through enhanced efficiency and time savings:

- **Merrick County:** "We found 13,000 additional irrigated acres by matching up NRD data with GIS."
- **Pierce County:** "Our GIS paid for itself the first year" by identifying pivots, new buildings, etc.
- **Phelps County:** "We increased assessed acres through accuracy in land use calculations."
- **Cuming County:** "I have confidence in my valuations when dealing with property owners because we can SEE how the value was determined. I also use my land use calculator to compare deeded acres vs GIS acres to identify inaccuracies in assessment."
- **Colfax County:** "Our GIS has paid for itself many times over" by using GISW's oblique imagery along with GIS to identify new buildings and to correct land use.
- **Platte County:** "We reduced daily inbound phone call volume by 50-70% by having information available online – this has freed up my staff to work more effectively on critical projects."
- **Madison County:** "We are able to do from our desks things that used to require time in the field. This has resulted in both cost and time savings for my County."
- **Keith County:** "GIS Workshop staff always answers the phone right away. They are great with support and customer service. I have never heard a single bad thing about their service from anyone I have talked to."

DATABASE DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION

GISW will do all the database development for Garfield County. We will rely on the Assessment staff for their local knowledge and our staff will do all the GIS development. GISW has developed a suite of desktop GIS tools that communicate with your assessment database and help us develop databases more efficiently than our competitors. **As an Esri (the leader in GIS technology) Gold Business Partner we know GIS better than anyone in the State.**

Once the GIS database is ready we will integrate the GIS data into your existing system. **We not only build the databases but we help you learn how to make them useful to you.** With our online meeting technology Garfield County staff can visit with our technical staff at any point to provide guidance or to view project progress from the comfort of your own office.

TRAINING AND UNLIMITED SUPPORT

We have a team of experienced and skilled technicians dedicated to keeping your GIS up-to-date. Complete training is provided in process flow of updates to the GIS, such as parcel splits or changes to land use and the use of the WebGIS site and accompanying tools.

WEBGIS

GISW technology greatly increases the value of your GIS investment. We provide true GIS mapping, not just a database of derived information. Our WebGIS product makes your data available throughout the County without the need for expensive training and desktop software. County staff, real estate professionals, banks, insurance agents, potential businesses/residents and Garfield County residents have 24/7 access to assessment information. Easy access to data is great for economic development and reduces phone calls for assessment staff.

PROJECT APPROACH

The power of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) lies in the ability to overlay various datasets and perform complex analysis within a simple user interface. GIS Workshop specializes not only in building systems, but more importantly, helping clients leverage their investment to perform standardized, accurate assessment with limited staffing. Our training and support technicians provide proven results and our WebGIS site gives your constituents access to all their assessment information 24 hours a day.

GIS helps provide equitable and accurate assessment across the entire county. When State statute requires assessment changes, such as the recent NRCS soil conversion, GIS can automate the process of making universal changes to all parcels in the County. A county-wide soil conversion can be accomplished in a day with GIS and would take months to accomplish accurately with paper maps.

GISW will build the Garfield County GIS by:

- Converting the cadastral maps to a GIS layer
- Attributing Parcel Identification Number for each Parcel
- Developing a comprehensive land use layer
- Incorporating soil survey data

DATA DEVELOPMENT – BUILDING THE PARCEL GIS

REFINE PUBLIC LAND SURVEY SYSTEM DATASET

GISW will utilize all GPS corner control that the Surveyor provides. The system is constructed to incorporate new corner and quarter control the Surveyor may collect in the future. Incorporation of new survey control into the GIS over time will gradually "tighten" the accuracy of the GIS. The base dataset will utilize the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System [NESPCS], NAD83 coordinate system (note: the Nebraska GIS Steering Committee and Nebraska State Surveyor recommend that counties use the NESPC system for assessment GIS).

PAPER TO DIGITAL PARCEL BOUNDARY CONVERSION

GISW will collect and scan the rural assessment cadastral maps from Garfield County. The cadastral maps together with CAMA database information will be used to draw the parcel layer based on the data layer described above. An example of this process can be seen in Figure 2 below.

ASSIGN PARCEL IDENTIFICAL NUMBER

After extracting the property boundaries from the scanned cadastral maps to create the digital parcel layer, GISW will populate the Parcel Identification Number for each parcel.

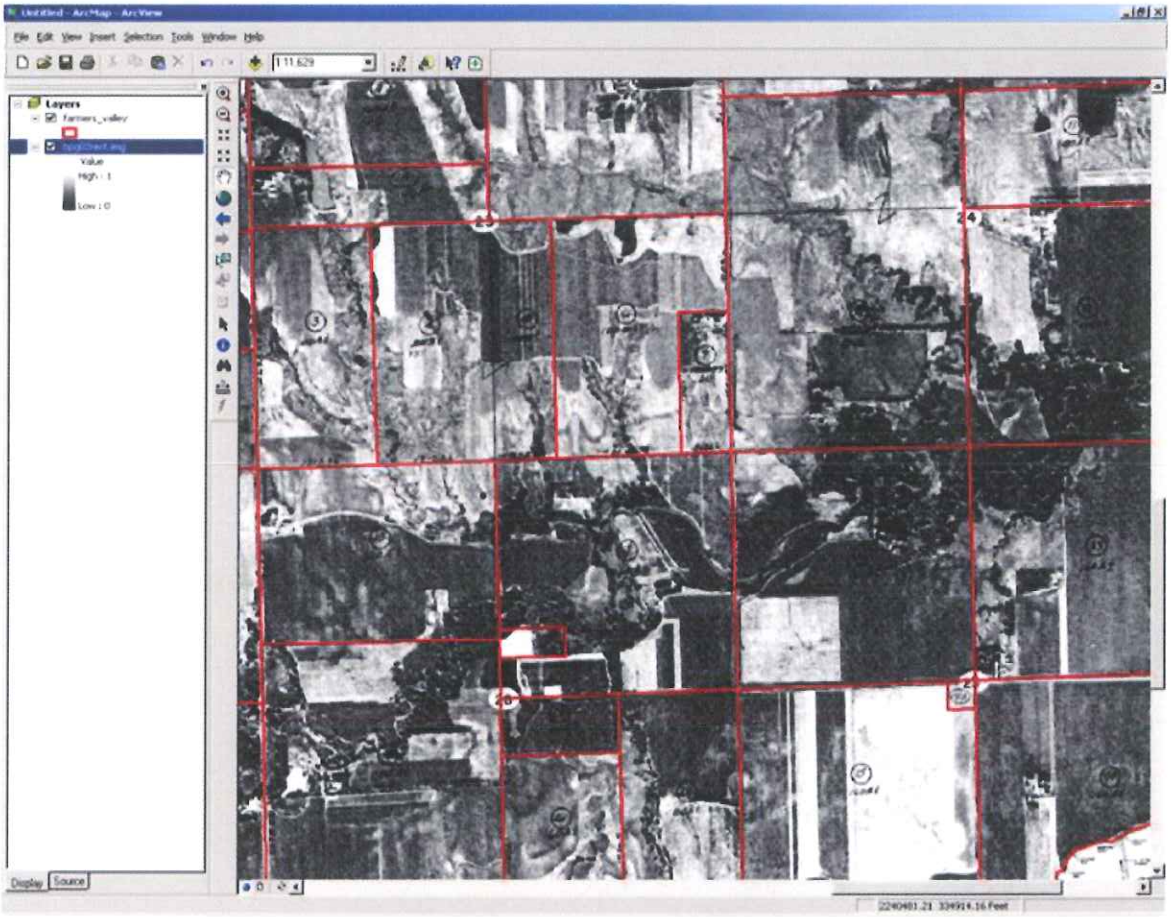


Figure 2: Scanned cadastral map with parcel lines digitized in red

DATA DEVELOPMENT - LAND USE LAYER CREATION

Upon completion of the parcel layer, GISW will create the Land Use layer, which identifies the land use codes for particular areas of a parcel. GISW will identify the various areas of a particular land use, digitize the boundaries of that land use, and incorporate those data into the GIS for analysis and reporting. This layer will also be very useful for agencies such as your local Natural Resource Districts.

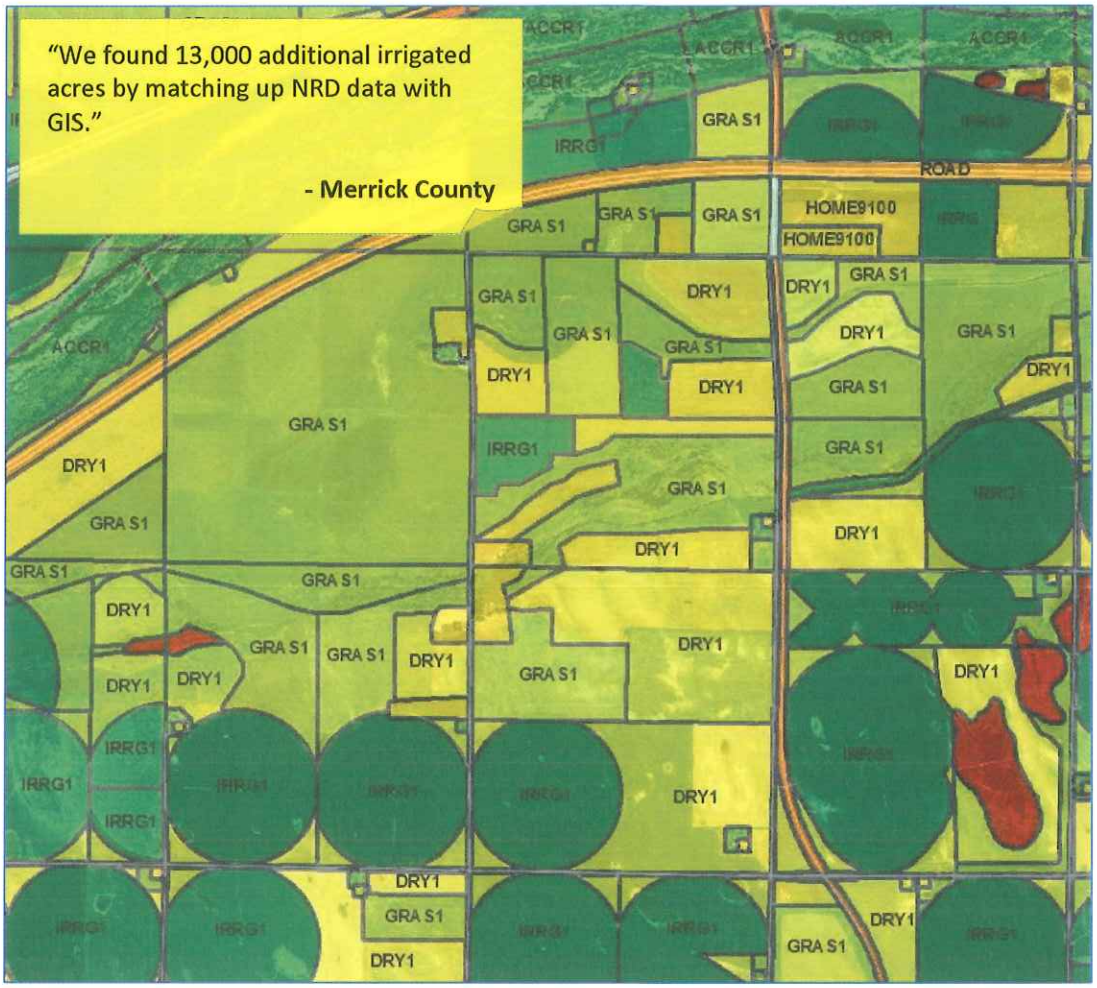


Figure 3: Example Land Use Map

DATA DEVELOPMENT - SOILS LAYER

GISW will acquire the NRCS soils layers to display together with the parcel boundaries, land use layer and aerial photography background. The GISW Land Use Calculator Tool (discussed below) will help evaluate every parcel in the County. **This type of analysis is one of the most powerful benefits of assessment GIS, it would take months to recount all the soils manually!**

Figure 4: An example in Platte County showing the parcel lines (red), land use layer (transparent colors), and the soils (thin black lines), overlaid together for purposes of rural assessment acreage calculation

GIS DATA MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT

GIS Workshop will edit and maintain all GIS data on our redundant servers. This frees up assessor department staff to concentrate on critical projects and issues. **This 100% maintenance web-based approach also eliminates the need for department staff to learn GIS software –** this will be important as the County transitions from State-assessed to County-assessed.

County will be responsible for sending parcel splits and land use changes to GIS Workshop. County staff will be able to use the GISW WebGIS Land Use Calculator to estimate the value of a parcel split for a walk-in customers. GIS Workshop will download a copy of the Orion (or other CAMA system if a change is made) data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GIS Workshop server. After an initial introductory period, an annual data maintenance fee will be due. See the Pricing Information section for more details.

GISW dedicated support staff is waiting to field your support call at all times during regular business hours.

TRAINING

GISW will train Garfield County staff to use the GIS data. We provide a wide variety of training options customized to your needs. We support clients on a daily basis so we know what is important to you and how to make the GIS data useful. We will train staff how to use the WebGIS site via an on-line meeting after the site is operational.

WEBGIS

The WebGIS will make the assessment/appraisal information available to other County departments, city departments, real estate professionals and the general public. **Only GISW offers this type of web access to the GIS database in an easy to use interface that will become the foundation for information access at the County.**

The GISW WebGIS:

- Provides 24/7 access to public information for real estate professionals, general public and other city/county departments.
- The GISW Web GIS **REDUCES** the number of calls into the Assessor's Office, allowing staff to get on with the business of assessment. Our Assessor clients say it best: **Phelps County experienced a 50%-75% reduction in the daily call volume related to property tax issues. Kearney County estimated a 75% reduction in call volume when they went online!**
- Promotes information sharing amongst city/county departments and **reduces duplications of effort.**
- Provides the Enterprise GIS foundation so **other departments (roads, planning/zoning, etc.) may start using GIS technology more cost effectively.**

GARFIELD COUNTY'S WEBGIS

GISW proposes to design and build an enterprise WebGIS for Garfield County 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.

The Assessor tab was the first step in setting up the enterprise WebGIS for the 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 5 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 sales information, assessment and appraisal data*, and any other data associated with future tabs. **(NOTE: an optional subscription-based version is also available to provide advanced information on a subscription basis and the Board feels this would be a valuable asset to assist with maintenance of the WebGIS on an ongoing basis.)**

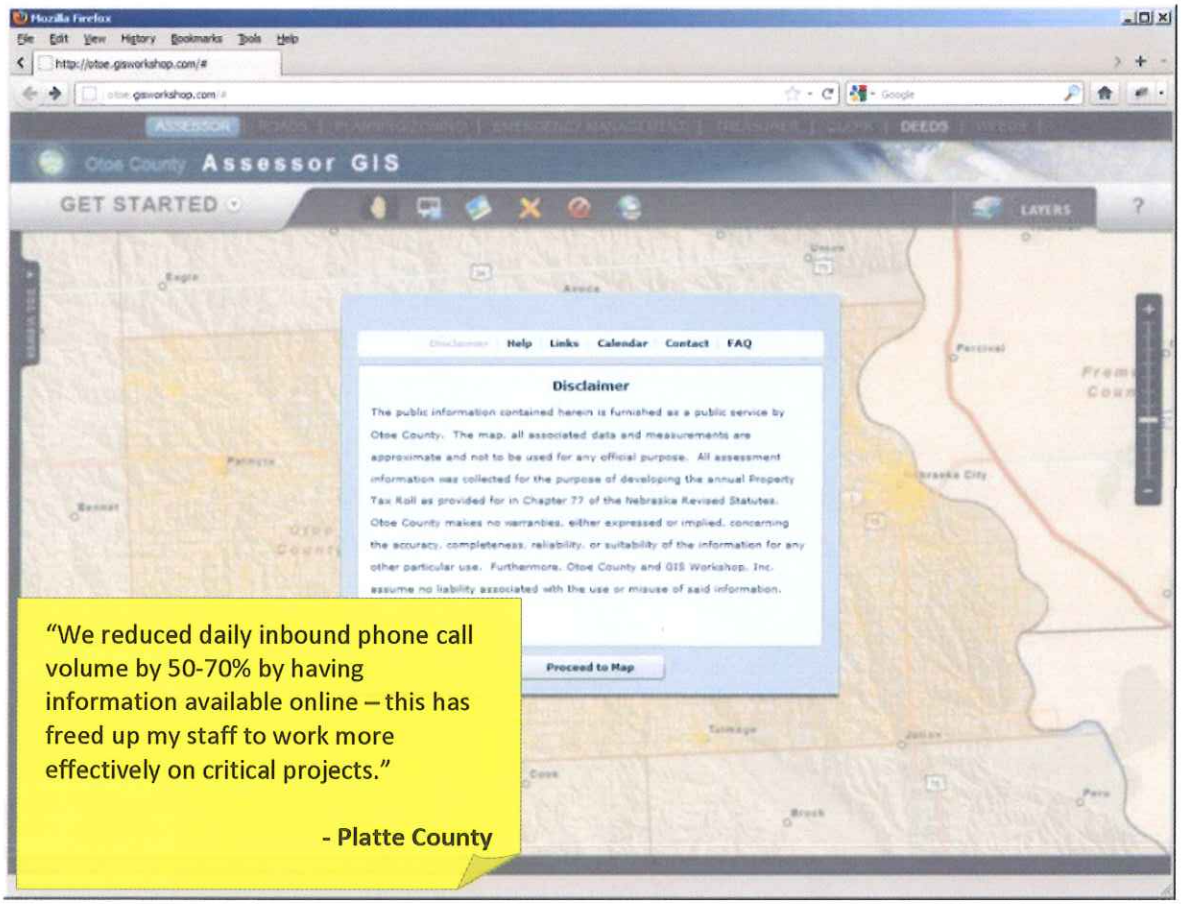


Figure 5: Opening screen (Assessor Tab) of GIS Workshop's Enterprise WebGIS for Otoe County, NE.

Additional tabs for this WebGIS project may include Clerk, Treasurer, Roads and Sheriff/Emergency Management. **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 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. The user can switch to a satellite view that includes 2010 FSA aerial photography.

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 is available may be filtered by date range, price range, year built, or other pertinent parameters. **For those counties wishing to offer sales data on a subscription basis, GISW offers a subscription-based option (see Optional Items under the Pricing section of this document).** Figure 6 illustrates the 'Get Started' options. Figure 7 shows the results table after searching for "Smith" in the owner name field. Figure 8 shows the results of selecting a property. The map has zoomed into the chosen parcel and the parcel polygon is highlighted. Figure 8 shows the full property report card with links to photos, value, sale, building and land information.

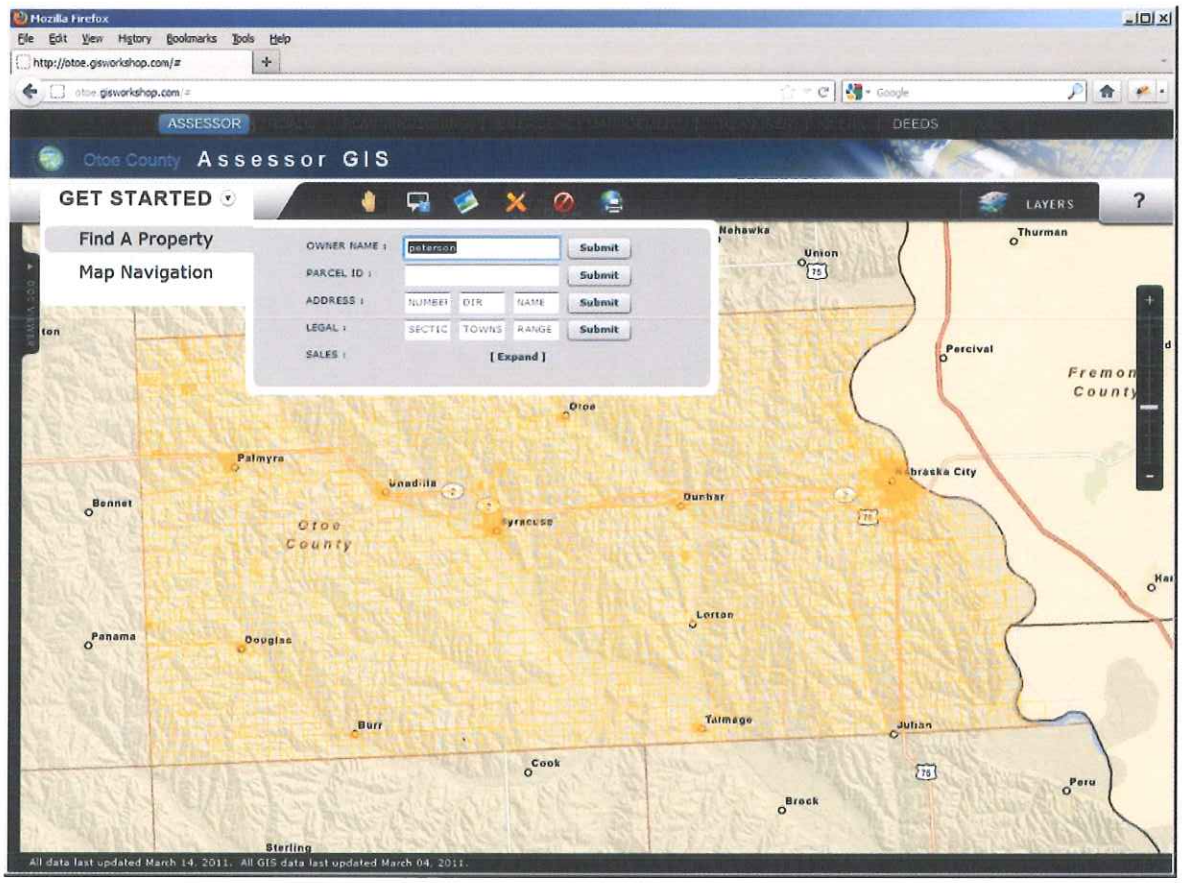


Figure 6: Assessor tab showing property search box

GARFIELD COUNTY NE

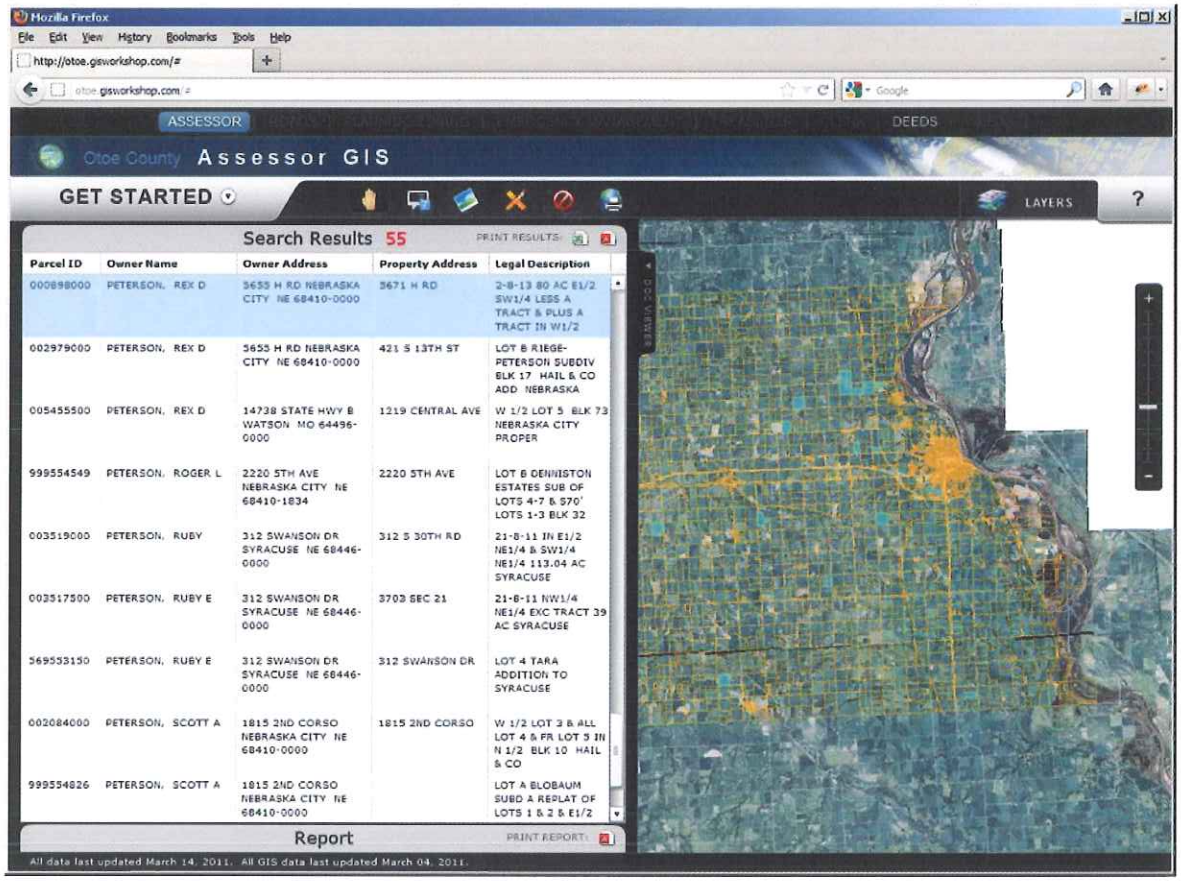


Figure 7: Property search results

GARFIELD COUNTY NE

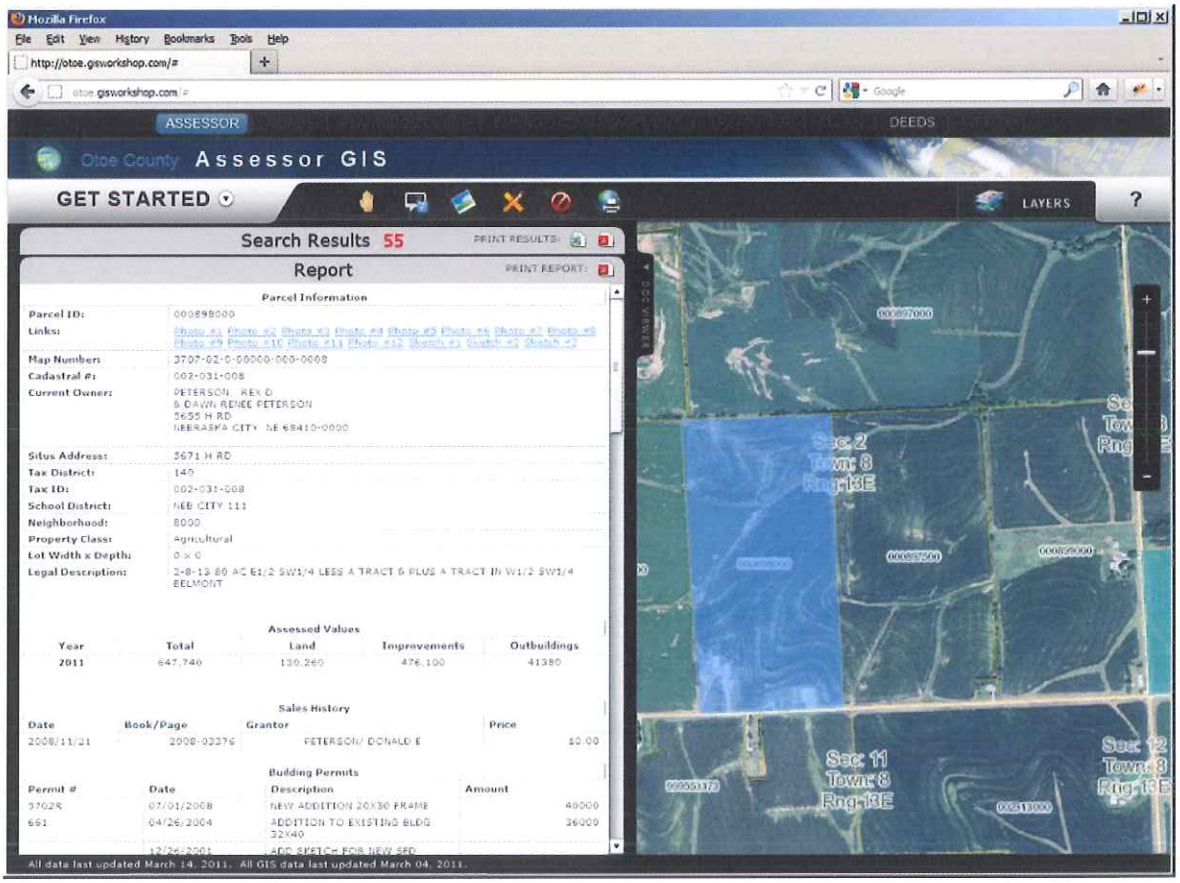


Figure 8: Property Record Card (note the map zoomed in and highlighted the chosen parcel)

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 9 illustrates the zoom slider bar and pan tool (hand icon).

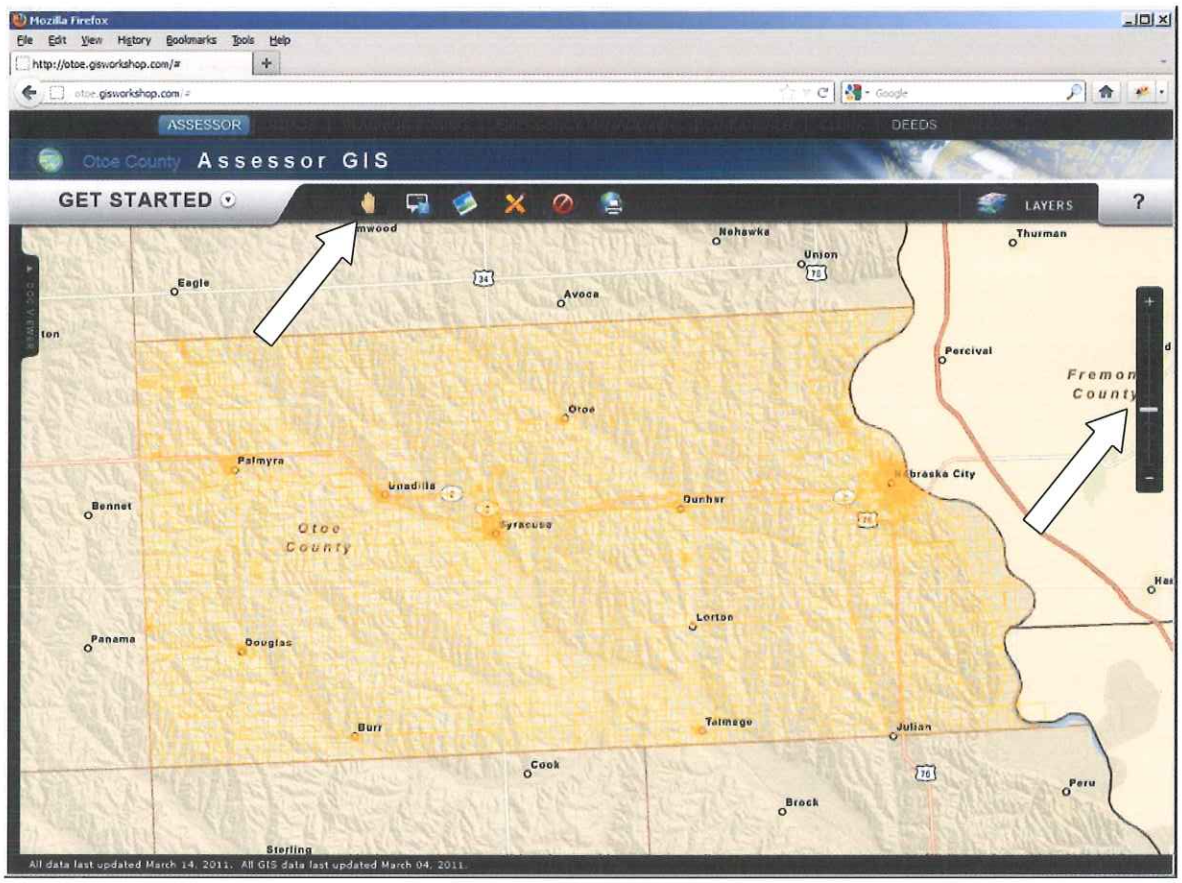


Figure 9: Zoom slider bar (right side) and activated pan tool icon (hand) in horizontal toolbar

Figures 10 and 11 illustrate the Map Navigation feature. The user enters a specific section/township/range and then the map zooms into the specified section.

GARFIELD COUNTY NE

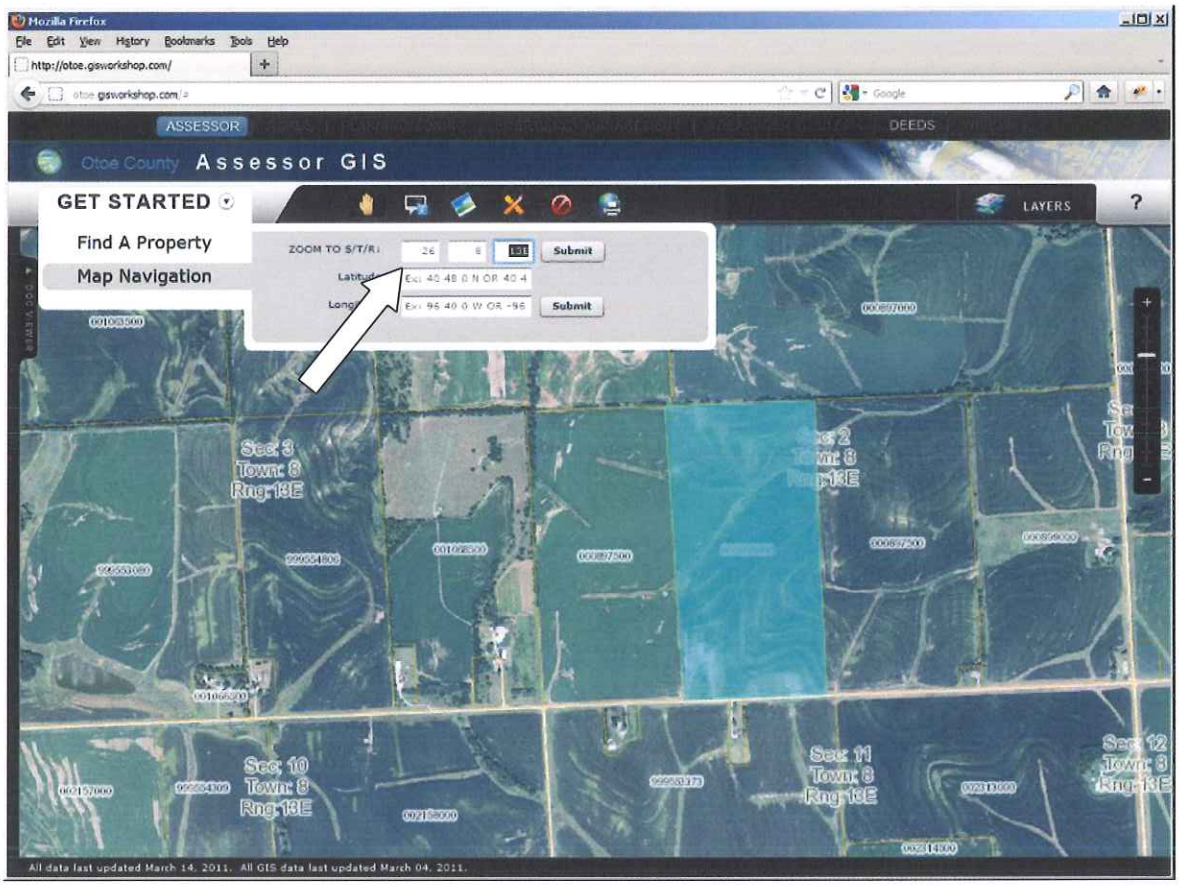


Figure 10: User enters section/township/range

GARFIELD COUNTY NE

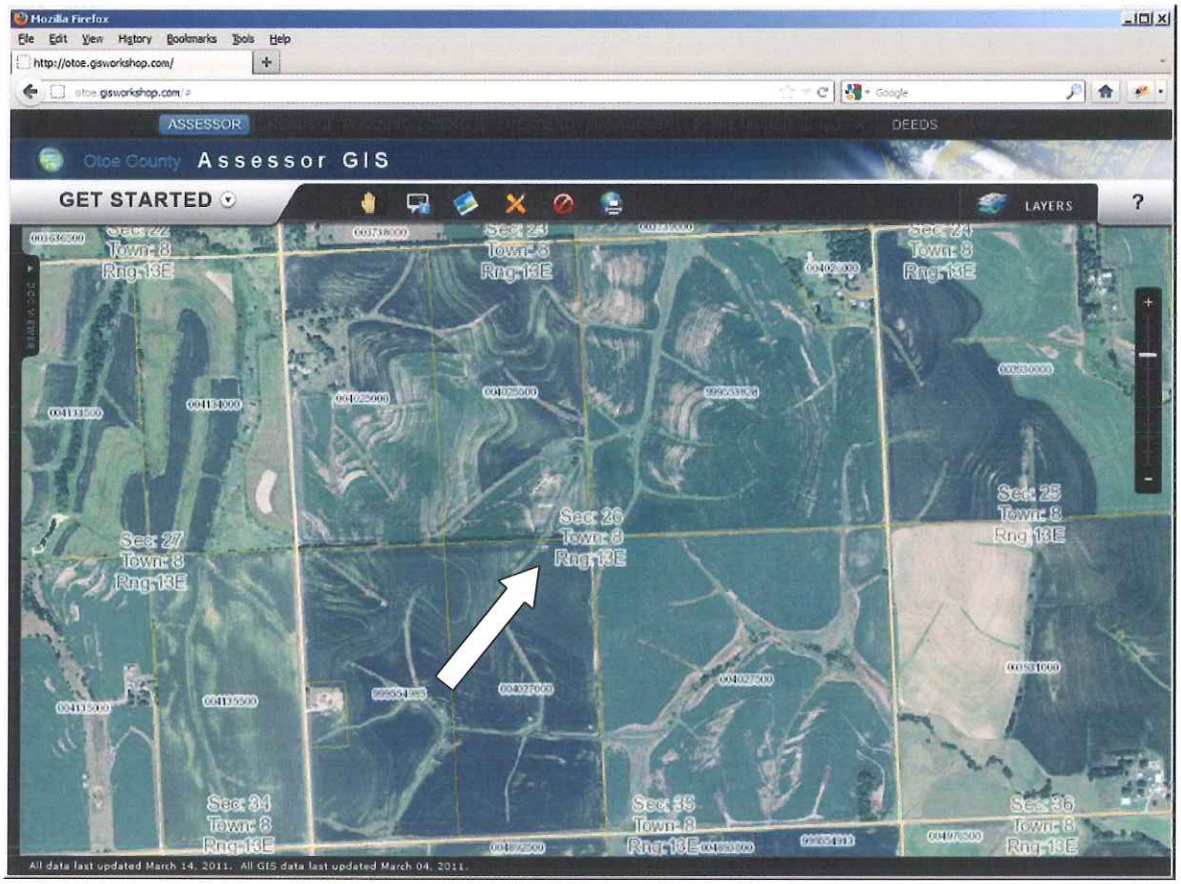


Figure 11: Application zooms into the specified section

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 12 below. Property card information is also available through the tool.

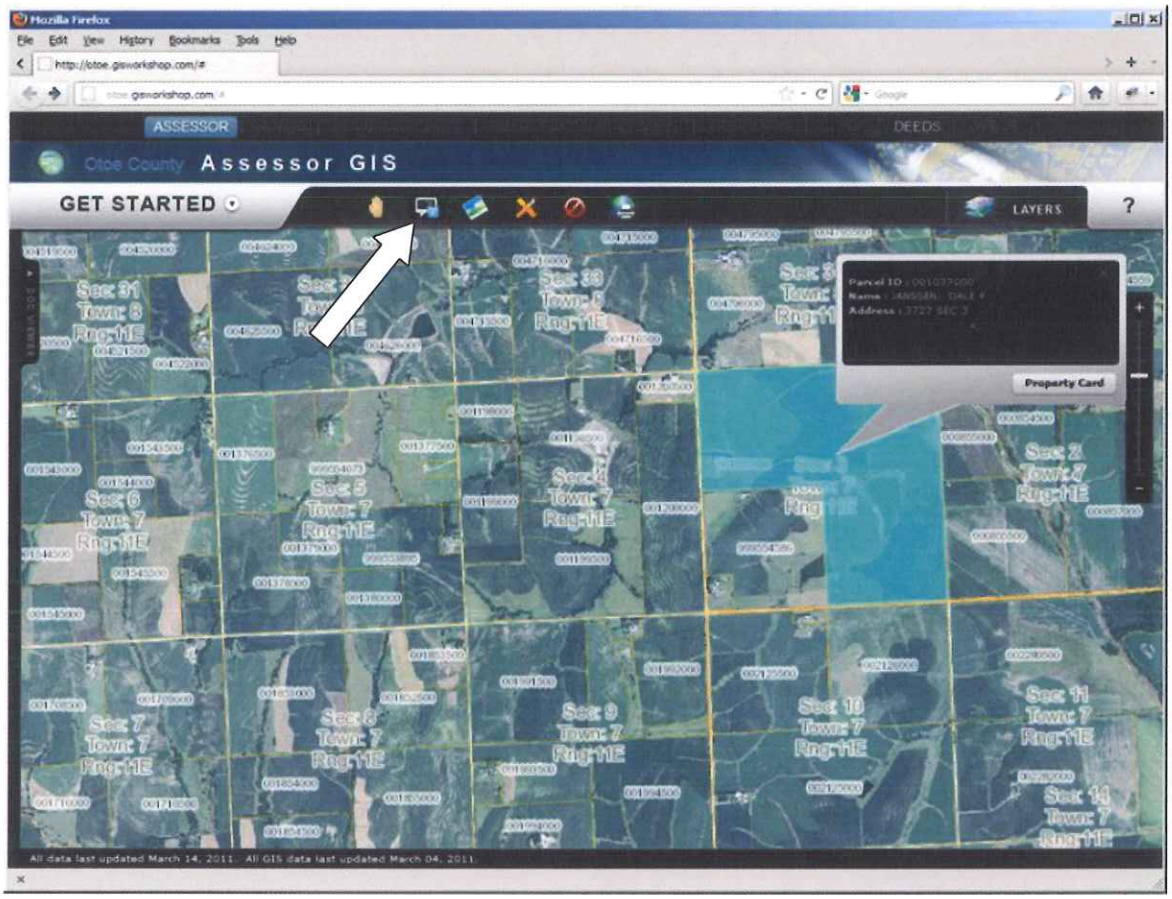


Figure 12: Activated Quick Identifier tool and information box result with link to Property Card

PHOTO TOOL

The Photo Tool is a great way to view individual building improvements. The tool reads the assessment database for all available photos and sketches and displays them in a photo window. If GISW has flown oblique aerial photography for the County those will also be available in the photo tool.

Figure 13: Property Photo Viewer Tool shows all available images from the Assessor's database

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 the figure below.

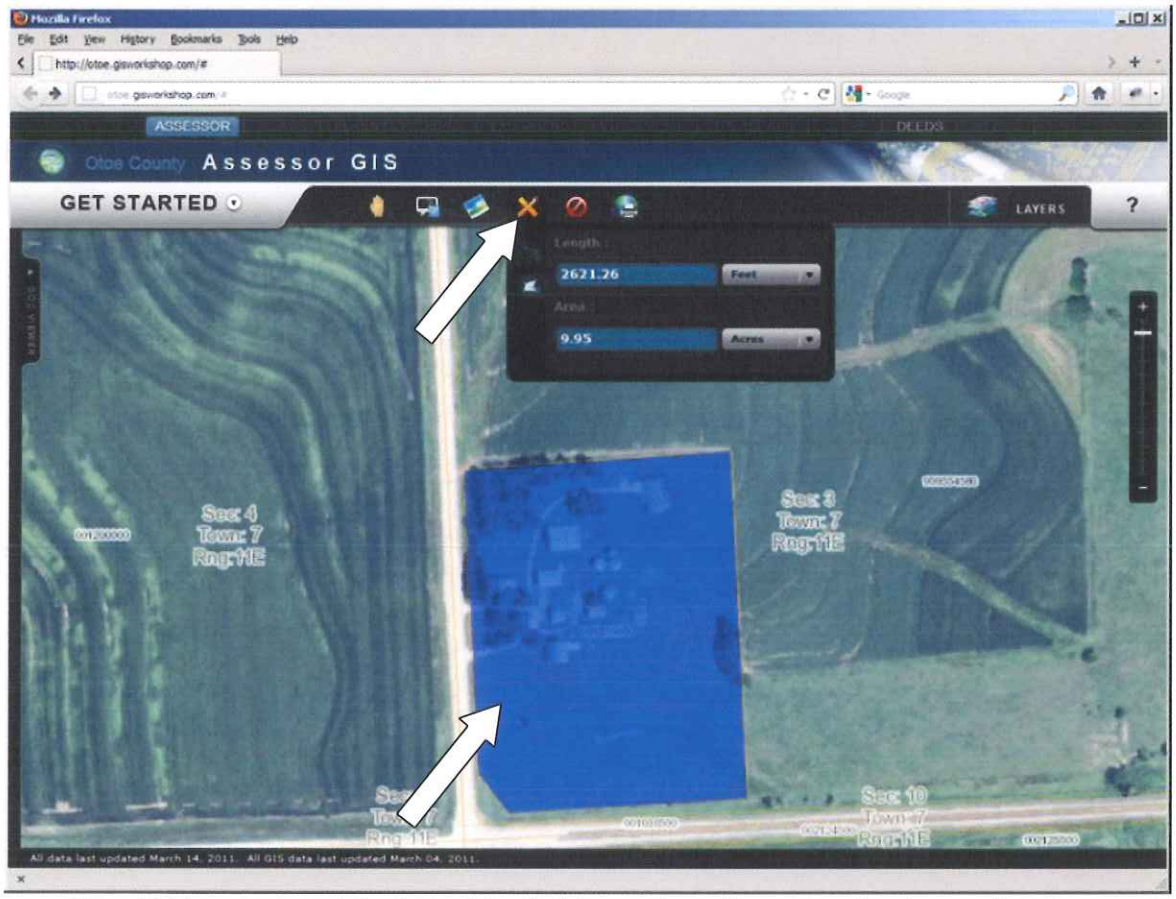


Figure 14: Measurement tool showing total length of the user-drawn line segment along the parcel boundary.

LAND USE CALCULATOR

The WebGIS Land Use Calculator Tool is a powerful tool for fast and accurate evaluation. The tool is protected by a simple login feature and allows the Assessor's Office to quickly calculate land value and provided a detailed report of the acreage breakdown of each LVG code category.

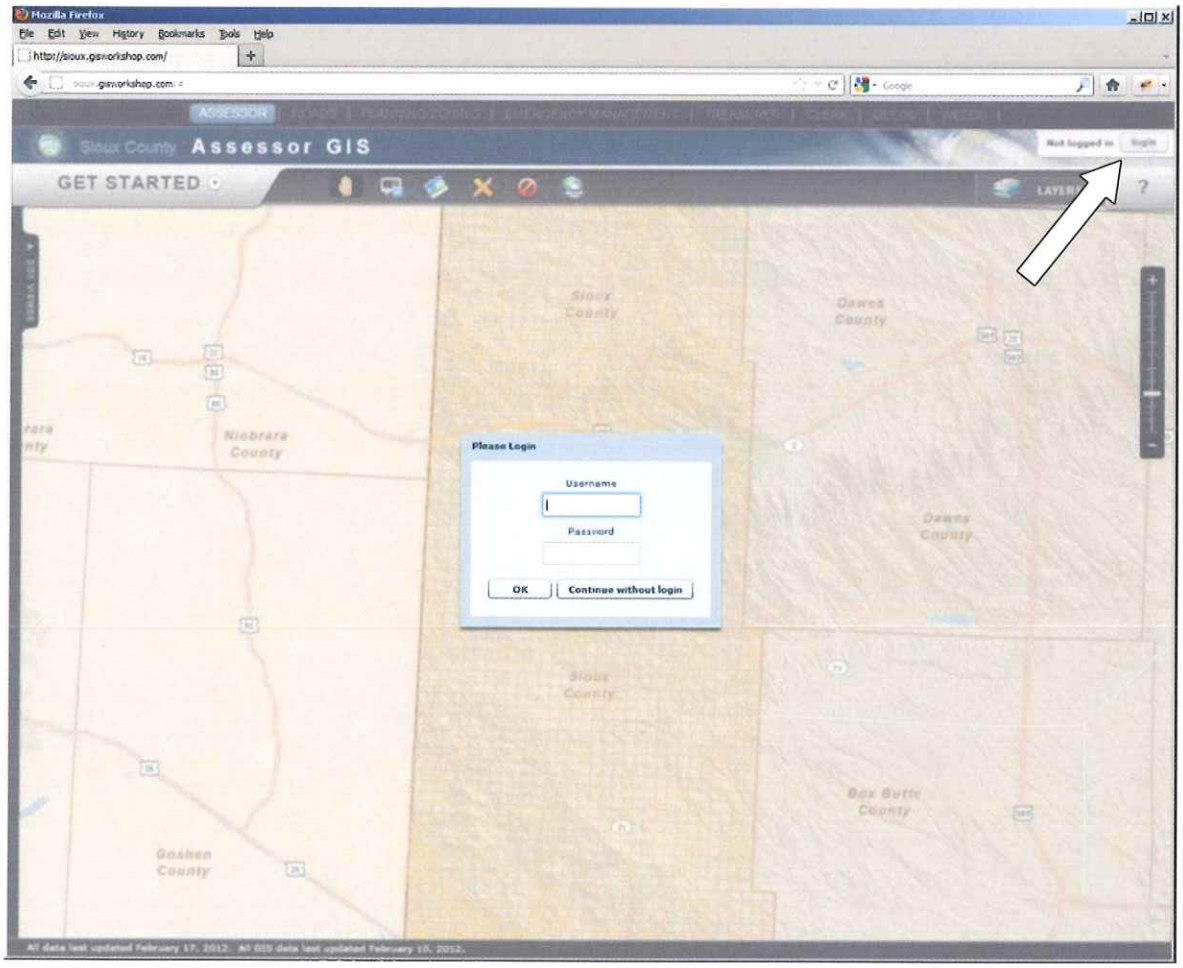


Figure 15: Login Screen protecting the Land Use Calculator Tool

GARFIELD COUNTY NE

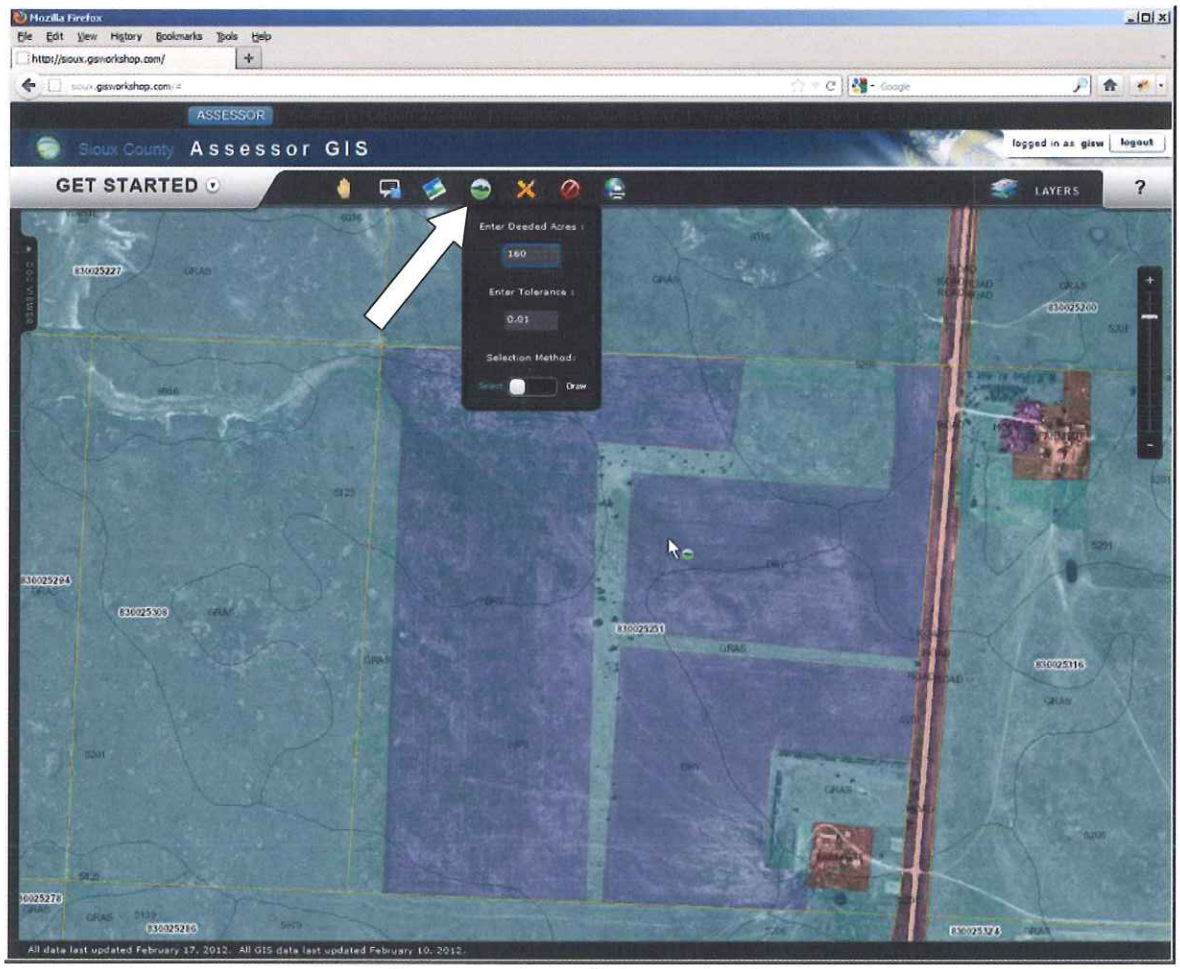


Figure 16: Land Use Calculator Tool options

GARFIELD COUNTY NE

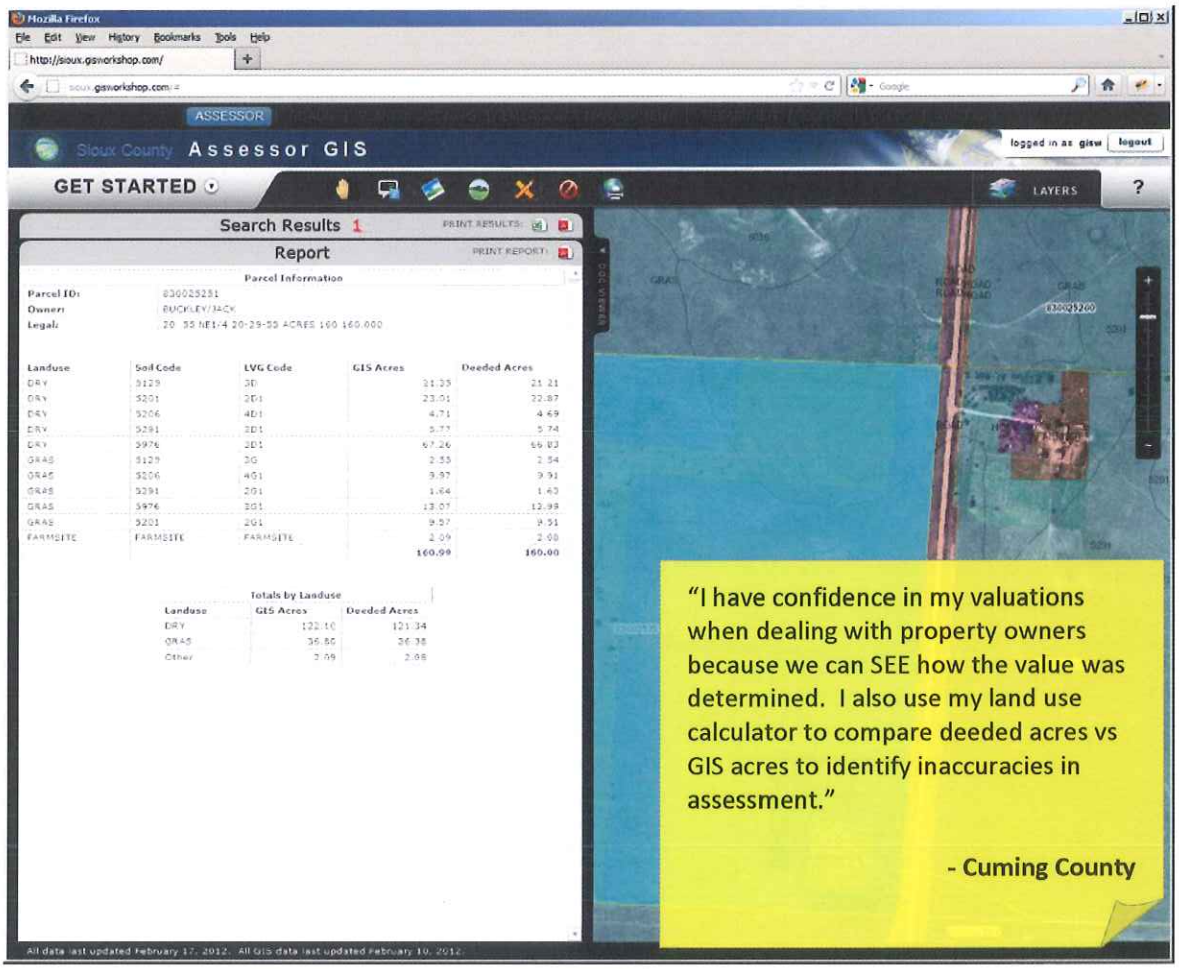


Figure 17: Land Use Calculator Report

SCHEDULE

The GISW team is ready to start the Garfield County Assessor GIS project after acceptance and receipt of a signed contract according to the tasks described in this proposal. We anticipate GIS project build-out and WebGIS setup completion before June 30, 2013.

PROJECT COSTS

The following pricing and package is ***FULLY INCLUSIVE,*** providing the Assessor with everything needed for a fully functional assessment GIS. There are no hidden charges or expenses. The cost is based on the size of the County. Variations and/or additions to those tasks/features/service stated within are subject to additional costs. Any change orders must be documented and added as an addendum to this scope with the additional costs for said change order added to the following costs.

GIS WORKSHOP WILL NOT SEND A SINGLE INVOICE UNTIL THE PROJECT IS COMPLETE AND YOU ARE 100% SATISFIED WITH YOUR PRODUCT.

Services	Cost ($)
GIS Build-out Services and Assessor Tab on WebGIS, with Year One Maintenance	$54,800

Deliverables:

- GIS layers
  - Parcels
  - Sections
  - Town lot/subdivision
  - Land use
  - Ortho-photography (Latest FSA imagery)
  - Soils
- Assessor Tab WebGIS featuring the Land use Calculator tool
- Initial year of GIS data maintenance and support
- Online County staff training on use of WebGIS

Total Costs for above listed Services	**$54,800**

FINANCING OPTIONS

GISW will deliver and install all systems upon completion. Delivery is unrelated to the payment schedule. Support fees are not financed or included in this potential scheme. **Use of our interest free financing options does not delay product delivery in any way.**

NOTE: Any awarded Grant funds will be applied to the total cost and payment schedule will be based upon the remaining balance. **Remaining project balance may be spread over five years.**

ONGOING ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS

GIS Data maintenance by GISW for Assessor **(effective July 2014)**	$4,200 annually
WebGIS maintenance by GISW **(effective July 2014)**	$4,200 annually

OPTIONAL ITEMS

Additional annual maintenance for subscription-based option	$1,500 annually
Subscription-based management tool	included

Nebraska State Records Board

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

ATTACHMENT 2:

LETTERS OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT FROM GARFIELD COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Nebraska State Legislature

SENATOR KATE SULLIVAN

District 41

State Capitol
PO Box 94604
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4604
(402) 471-2631
ksullivan@leg.ne.gov

COMMITTEES

Education
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
Building Maintenance
Legislature's Planning

March 28, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
440 S. 8th St., Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Nebraska State Records Board Members:

I'm writing to indicate my strong support for Garfield County's grant application for funds to develop a new GIS Website for public use. Garfield County intends to create a user-friendly website that provides 24/7 electronic access to and delivery of county government services and information. The individual county departments tabs would allow the user to access maps and data specific to each county department.

Garfield County's planned technology would vastly improve electronic access to public records by citizens and businesses. Since the website will be user-friendly, citizens will be able to easily access just the information they need. They'll be able to print that information from their own computer. Not only will the website provide more information to the public, but the information will be accessible without driving to the courthouse.

My legislative staff and I already utilize county websites when we can. This website would assist me in my legislative duties, just as it will assist citizens, local businesses and political subdivisions who share and collaborate with county officials.

I strongly encourage you to look favorably upon Garfield County's grant application. The funds will be put to good use and directly benefit Garfield County residents.

Sincerely,

Kate Sullivan

KATE SULLIVAN
District 41

KS:mm

Lower Loup Natural Resources District

2620 Airport Drive, P.O. Box 210
Ord, Nebraska 68862-0210

www.llnrd.org

PHONE (308) 728-3221
FAX (308) 728-5669

March 28, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

Members of the Board:

Re: Garfield County GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service

Please accept this letter as our support of the grant application for assistance in developing a new GIS website in Garfield County. Our office has been heavily involved with the certification and management of irrigated acres in Garfield County and in providing assistance to landowners on conservation planning of their property in the county. We have utilized GIS in these processes for years and the opportunity for improved access to public information through their county GIS website would greatly improve the efficiency, accuracy, and service to our constituents.

We have long hoped for the ability to share data between the NRD and collaborating government entities. The approval of the Garfield County grant would provide us this opportunity. I urge you to look favorably in considering Garfield County's grant application.

I would be happy to answer any questions concerning our interaction with the county should the grant evaluation committee need additional information.

Sincerely,

Lower Loup Natural Resources District

Leon Kochlmoos
General Manager

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
1-800-223-3131

BURWELL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
(308)346-5210

CITY OF BURWELL

P.O. Box 604
BURWELL, NEBRASKA 68823

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

"Home of Nebraska's Big Rodeo"
"Calamus Reservoir"
"2008 Governor's Showcase Community"

Telephone
(308) 346-4509
Fax: 308-346-5604
E-Mail: cityofburwell@nctc.net

MAYOR
Charles A. Cone

COUNCILORS
Terry L. Cone Carolyn DeBaets
Linda Buhlke Richard Pedersen, DDS

March 26, 2012

Sharon Boucher
GIS Coordinator
P O Box 411
Burwell, NE 68823

RE: Letter of Support

Dear Mrs. Boucher:

The City of Burwell would like to offer a letter of support in Garfield County's venture in seeking grant funds to assist in developing a new GIS Website for public use.

Having public access to GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service has proven to be a valuable asset to the Burwell's city governmental operations in the following ways:

1. We are able to obtain access to an address approved by the Postal System of numerous individuals for whom we have no other way of looking up an address.
2. This system has helped the city locate property owners of vacant property to assure compliance with city health code and city maintenance issues.
3. We have been able to quickly obtain exact legal descriptions and to collaborate between the city and county to assist in various zoning/property transactions, street/alley vacations and special assessments.
4. This system saves a considerable amount of time and money for the City of Burwell as it allows instant access to the necessary information without having to leave the office, allowing city officials to operate more efficiently.

An updated web site would further enhance the present system and increase each user's efficiency.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Beat

Robert D. Beat
City Administrator
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Burwell NEBRASKA

Economic Development

404 Grand Avenue
P.O. Box 131
Burwell, NE 68823

Phone: 308-346-5210
Email: burwellecondev@nctc.net
Web: www.visitburwell.org
Facebook: "Burwell Nebraska"

March 30, 2012

Sharon Boucher
Garfield County GIS Coordinator
P.O. Box 411
Burwell, NE 68823

Re: Letter of Support

Dear Sharon:

The City of Burwell Economic Development Department is in support of Garfield County's pursuit of grant funds to develop a new GIS website that will be available for public use.

Having a GIS website would provide for public access for GIS/Property Lookup and the Map Site Web Service has proven to be an asset to our department's ongoing economic development activities, including:

- Obtaining access to individual resident addresses, particularly rural addresses, that may not be otherwise available.
- Identifying the location/contact information for vacant property owners to address compliance and maintenance issues.
- Identifying/accessing specific property legal descriptions for residences and businesses relative to dealing with various zoning/assessment issues.

Access to such a new system would greatly improve our overall productivity, which ultimately will save taxpayer money. Further, the website would enhance the current system and increase access and use for our area citizens.

Sincerely,

David Sawyer
Director

OFFICE OF THE
GARFIELD COUNTY ATTORNEY

DALE C. CRANDALL

455 GRAND AVENUE
P.O. BOX 310
BURWELL, NEBRASKA 68823
(308) 346-4284
Fax (308) 346-5402
Justice@nctc.net

March 30, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

Re: *Public Access GIS Website Development*
Garfield County, Nebraska

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I write in support of the grant application submitted on behalf of Garfield County, Nebraska, for funds to develop a publicly accessible GIS/Property Lookup and Map website.

I have served as the elected Garfield County Attorney for more than 30 years, and I have a private law practice as well. In addition, I served as Burwell City Attorney for more than 25 years. With that background, I understand the importance of collaboration among cities, counties and public service agencies, as well as the efficiencies to be gained from sharing data and avoiding duplication of systems and equipment. I also appreciate the many benefits that will come to officials, practitioners and the general public from real-time, online access to multi-faceted GIS-based information.

At present, accessing much of this information requires a trip to the county courthouse and personal assistance from county employees, who must often physically locate and manually retrieve the information, then transcribe and/or make copies for the consumer. Obviously, the present system is high-maintenance, outdated and inefficient. Unfortunately, Garfield County needs help with the initial cost of providing these essential services in order to assure that our rural service area has adequate resources and access to critically needed information and expertise. Without your funding assistance, a genuine public need is likely to go unmet. I encourage you to approve funding for this worthwhile effort.

Very Truly Yours,

D. Crandall

Garfield County Attorney

Region 26 Council

Emergency Management & 911 Communications Center

PO Box B
404 4th Street
Taylor, NE 68879
(308) 942-3461 Fax (308) 942-9104
Email - region26@region26.org
www.region26.org

March 30, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing this letter in support of the need for GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service. We are an Emergency Management and 911 Center for eight counties in central Nebraska. This is a great resource for us to know landowners of property in an emergency situation. For 911 Communications we have the ability to map 911 telephone calls and to see an aerial view; however that is where our abilities end.

If there was a large disaster we would be able to bring up a map in our Emergency Operations Center of the landowners and to have pictures of facilities or buildings of an unknown area when sending first responders. This would be a valuable resource to help in an ongoing incident. Also, having the ability to access this information 24/7 would be of most importance.

Thank you for considering the need for this valuable tool for Garfield County.

Sincerely,

Alma Beland

Alma Beland, Director
REGION 26 COUNCIL

Your Insurance Home!

Town and Country Insurance Agency, Inc.

147 South 8th PO Box 9 Burwell, NE 68823
(308) 346-5220 800-952-6618 tci@nctc.net
www.townandcountryinsuranceagency.com

04/03/2012

Sharon Boucher
GIS Coordinator
Garfield County
Burwell, NE 68823

Sharon,

I write this letter of support for public and governmental access to GIS capabilities in Garfield County. There are a multitude of reasons why I feel it is critical that this information be readily available. I will address these issues primarily only from the point of view as the owner of an Insurance agency.

Legal descriptions, land ownership, location, property characteristics and other significant data bits can be maintained and readily accessible 24/7 through a Geographic Information System. In todays day and age, accuracy of data and speed at which data can be obtained is often the difference between a successful or unsuccessful organization. As an insurance agent, we would place a high value on accurate readily accessible data. It would make our work more accurate, timely, and instill a higher degree of confidence not only in ourselves but with our clients.

I am able to speak to this matter from a unique perspective. I served 4 terms as the Weston County Assessor in Wyoming. Although we were a very small county, we were one of the first to fully integrate GIS capability into County Government. We were amazed by the uses of the data sets that became apparent after full integration of our system. Beneficiaries of our data were Federal agencies, State agencies, County Government, City Government, Police and Sheriff offices, private landowners ,private business's, Title and Insurance companies, the Road and Bridge department, historians, recreationists, surveyors, oil and gas leessors and lessees.. the list goes on ad infinitum.

We found that we were able to provide more with less. More detail / less work, more service / less money.

I strongly encourage and recommend that GIS functionality be made available in Garfield County. The need is here, more so than can be imagined.

Sincerely,

Kurt Kremke, Owner
Town and Country Insurance Agency Inc.

Pathway Bank

P.O. BOX 250/817 "H" STREET • BURWELL, NE 68823-0250 • PHONE: 308.346.5015 • FAX: 308.346.4099

March 26, 2012

Sharon Boucher
GIS Coordinator
PO Box 411
Burwell, NE 68823

REF: GIS Website

Dear Sharon:

It has come to our attention here at Pathway Bank, that Garfield County is seeking a grant to assist in the funding of a new GIS website. We as a bank rely on Garfield County information for loan decisions, and we are excited to hear of this possibility. Advanced technology is the wave of the future, and we strongly support the efforts of Garfield County pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system.

Sincerely,

Wilma Dunbar

Wilma Dunbar
Branch Manager

Denise Wray, Agent
1514 J Street
Ord, NE 68862
Bus 308 728 5900
Toll Free 800 247 0965
www.denisewray.com

Providing Insurance and
Financial Services

April 2, 2012

TO: Nebraska State Records Board

To Whom It May Concern;

This letter is in reference and support for the grant being submitted by Sharon Boucher, GIS Coordinator for Garfield County, and the continued need for the GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service. This service provides the necessary information and photos for all property owners in Garfield County, and is utilized in our office when searching and quoting insurance business. It allows us to have the needed information without spending time searching the internet, calling our county offices, and or spending a great deal of time researching the properties before quoting. This service has added to our offices efficiency in doing business.

Collaboration is a necessity when we live in rural Nebraska. This website does not offer information that would disclose or contradict personal privacy laws, but does allow for public records to be gathered quickly. Therefore, the collaboration between offices is also enhanced. Our State Farm Office is fortunate to be able to offer services between many counties in Nebraska. We have found that the information provided by the GIS/Property Lookup Service in our local area is superior to other services. We appreciate the time and money spent to develop this service.

We ask that you consider with great emphasis the grant that Sharon Boucher has submitted for Garfield County, as the continuation of this website helps many of us provide the needed services in our area. If we can be of any further help or information source, please do not hesitate to contact us. We appreciate your time and considerations.

Sincerely,

Denise Wray

Denise Wray,

State Farm Insurance Companies

Boucher, Sharon

From: patty cox [pattyacox@msn.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2012 4:14 PM
To: Boucher, Sharon
Subject: Letter of support.

4/3/2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

As an appraiser I find having information available 24 hours a day and seven days a week extremely important. Being in a rural area with few sales and having the need for the most recent sales available is very important to the lending world.

When you live in a rural area you often have to drive long distances to the next town to read records. With the price of gas and wanting to be more green it is important to have public access available 24/7 on line.

I often look up addresses and map sites for my business and I would greatly appreciate Garfield County being able to be up to date with the newest, fastest and user friendly website.

Sincerely,
Patricia Cox
CR270040
Nebraska Certified Appraiser

Great Western Bank
Making Life Great
Member FDIC

April 3, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

I would like to recommend Garfield County to receive funding for the GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service. We use this type of information from the county on a regular basis when we are doing real estate loans and appraisals. This is a very efficient service and gives us access any time of the day or week to complete our projects. The current system they are on is not very user-friendly and the information is not consistent. A more user-friendly and dependable system would be very beneficial for our business. I hope you will consider Garfield County in extending this grant.

If you have any questions please feel free to call.

Sincerely,

Maurie D. Larsen

Maurie D. Larsen
Market President

Martinsen Appraisal

200 West Maple-POB 182
Elgin, NE 68638 (402-843-5791)
Web Site: www.martinsenappraisal.com

April 3, 2012

Sharon Boucher
GIS Coordinator
POB 411
Burwell, NE 68823

Dear Sharon (or who it may concern):

This letter is to provide support for a grant of the GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service. I have been around the appraisal industry since 1998. I specialize in residential and agricultural appraisals. There have been many changes in our industry over the years. The GIS system is a valuable tool for us and anyone in the real estate business. This system provides valuable information 24/7 in a 24/7 world. This system also cuts back on time for Assessor offices. This gives these offices more time to do their work and less time on the phone answering questions of Real Estate Professionals about properties. Access to this information & Data sharing available 24/7 allows my office to be more efficient saving time and money, allows me to be more productive and saving time and gas not wasted driving to the courthouse.

If you have any questions regarding this information please feel free to give me a call.

Sincerely yours,

Chad Martinsen
Certified General Appraiser

04/02/2012

Nebraska State Records Board

Osentowski Appraisal
2002 O Street
Ord, Ne 68862

RE: Garfield, Ne., GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service

To Whom it may concern,

I am a Licensed Real Property Appraiser who would greatly encourage the continuation and grant for the GIS for Garfield County, Ne. It is a beneficial feature for many to have this service in our rural area. As an Appraiser,for over 15 years,for rural areas in North Central Nebraska,with no MLS option, it it is of considerable convenience to be able to have a 24/7 service for information when researching county properties. It saves greatly on drive time, gas and thus money to have access to a public website with this kind of information.In past years,prior to GIS, I have traveled to County offices, only to hope to find sales or comparable properties necessary for my Clients research.It increases my production and allows me to be more efficient as viable information can be readily accessed without making unwarranted or less prepared trips to County offices,thus saving my time and assessor service help. It is not only for appraising use that it is useful, I have known many parties that have accessed information for their own personal or business use and have instructed them how to access this site. In this day and age of information the collaboration between counties and cities the service it provides would be vital for dissemination of such information to and from each entity.

I would hope that the GIS would continue in rural areas like Garfield County as it is the only viable 24/7 public access to rural county property information, it is very useful and a necessary tool for many in the community.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas M. Osentowski

Thomas M. Osentowski NE L280176

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

P.O. BOX 248
ORD, NE 68862
(308) 728-3201

P.O. BOX 130
SARGENT, NE 68874
(308) 527-3603

04/02/2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

First National Bank in Ord currently utilizes the Garfield County Assessor website as a reference for our in house statement of values. With a list of know sales we can research these properties online for there addresses, legal descriptions, building descriptions, and pictures to determine if the properties are comparable sales. We also utilize this website to verify square footage of buildings, total acres, and ground type. By being able to research these properties online we are able to be more efficient in our onsite inspections, save significant time and money by decreasing travel, and have the opportunity to access this data at our convenience.

Any further collaboration by the city and county that would allow us to view city and county zoning, water lines, vacated streets and alleys would only increase our efficiency and knowledge of the researched properties.

Sincerely,

Zeb Augustyn
Asst. Loan / Security Officer
First National Bank in Ord

BURWELL INSURANCE AGENCY

P. O. Box 397 • Burwell, NE 68823 • 308/346-4071 • Fax: 308/346-5598

March 30, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
c/o Mrs. Sharon Boucher - GIS Coordinator
PO Box 411
Burwell NE 68823

Re: GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service

To Whom It May Concern:

We have been informed that Garfield County is seeking grant opportunities for assistance in funding a new GIS Website. We feel it would be a great asset for all individuals and businesses alike that rely on Garfield County information to have it readily available 24/7 at the convenience of their specific location via the internet.

Access to such a website equips our business with the ease of checking out property data and verification of ownership that is equally important in maintaining current insurance accuracy and required in writing new business. It allows us to write business more efficiently without making a trip to the courthouse or bothering the county assessor for needed information. This information is also accessed by our specific insurance company underwriters for property condition as well from their location for quick, efficient prior approval. These remote access sites should save Garfield County employees manual labor, time and expense of providing these services.

As a professional insurance agent and very frequent user of Garfield County information, we strongly support the efforts of Garfield County pursuing grants to obtain this GIS system and look forward to the implementation of same.

Sincerely,

Amy L Brunken

Amy L Brunken
Agent/Office Manager

burinsag@nctc.net

TRIANGLE INSURANCE
Affiliate

Sandi Steele
PO Box 236
Burwell, NE 68823

April 2, 2012

Sharon Boucher
GIS Coordinator
PO Box 411
Burwell, NE 68823

Dear Sharon,

It has come to my attention that Garfield County is actively seeking a grant for funding a GIS system in Garfield County.

In the past I have worked for both county and city government and know the value of having all available technology at hand to do business as quickly and efficiently as possible.

In addition, in this day and age of advanced technology, it would be advantageous for all who rely on these records to have this information readily accessible online. As a taxpayer in Garfield County, I strongly support Garfield County's efforts in pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system.

Sandi Steele

Sandi Steele

Sandhills Abstract Company
320 South 13th
Burwell, Nebraska 68823

April 2, 2012

Sharon Boucher
GIS Coordinator
P. O. Box 411
Burwell, Nebraska 68823

Dear Sharon:

It has come to my attention, through your office, that Garfield County is seeking a grant to assist in funding a GIS system in Garfield County.

I have my abstracter's license and I do research for attorneys, banks and title insurance companies. I use all available court records, aerial photos, etc. to give my clients a clear picture of the property involved.

It would be advantageous for those of us who rely on these records to have this information readily accessible on line. This advanced technology would allow me to access this information

April 2, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
440 S. 8th Street, Suite 210
Lincoln NE 68508-2294

To Members of the Board:

I am a handicapped person and my mobility is limited to a wheelchair. The courthouse does have handicap accessibility but even then, I find it difficult to access the building at times.

It has come to my attention that Garfield County is applying for a GIS website to enhance public use. This enhancement would greatly increase my ability to research public information 24/7. I can see the importance of this project for collaboration between the city and county as well as other Government entities.

I strongly support the efforts of Garfield County for a public access website.

Sincerely,

Steve Jeffres
627 D Street
Burwell NE 68823

BIRCH LAW FIRM, P.C.

DWAINE L. BIRCH
ATTORNEY AT LAW

A LIMITED LIABILITY ORGANIZATION

428 GRAND AVENUE
P.O. BOX 577
BURWELL, NEBRASKA 68823

TELEPHONE: 308/346-4661
FAX: 308/346-4396
BIRCH@CORNHUSKER.NET

March 30, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

Re: GIS System

It has come to my attention that Garfield County is seeking a grant to assist in the funding of a new GIS system.

I believe this would be of benefit to all people who rely on Garfield County real estate records to have easy access to this information and have it readily available 24/7.

In addition, this is a great opportunity for collaboration between Burwell and Garfield County, as well as other government entities, as it would allow these entities to be more efficient, ultimately saving time and money.

As an attorney practicing real estate law, who constantly uses Garfield County information, I strongly support the efforts of Garfield county in pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system.

Sincerely,

Dwaine L. Birch

DLB:jlg

D12-0179

SIKYTA LAW OFFICE

Curtis A. Sikyta
Attorney at Law
curt@sikytalaw.com

314 S. 14th St. • P.O. Box 128 • Ord, NE 68862-0128
(308) 728-3639 • Fax: (308) 728-3630
www.sikytalaw.com
Spalding Office • Spalding, NE 68665 • 308-497-2706
Please Reply to Ord Office

Heather L. Sikyta
Attorney at Law
heather@sikytalaw.com

March 30, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

This letter is to support Garfield County`s application for a grant concerning a GIS Website. I believe that it is extremely important that Garfield County have such a website. As an attorney who works frequently with real estate issues, governmental issues, and estate planning, I find it helpful to have access to the information that would be provided on such a website. We frequently look up property on the websites that are available for many reasons. These include such things as verifying information, getting tax and assessment records, obtaining real estate descriptions, verifying owners (including assuring ourselves that the information provided is the same as that on the records), verifying appurtenances, and so forth.

It is extremely important to us to have such access because it saves us time and money over traveling to the various county seats. These savings can be passed on to our clients. It also helps us avoid burdening the county officials with questions, while having the information at our fingertips.

Our office represents some political subdivisions and contractors. If such things as zoning maps, water and sewer lines, fire hydrants, streets, alleys, lot lines, and the like were available, it would be greatly aid us in providing them the information necessary to represent them in projects such as building permits, coordination between entities, and zoning compliance.

Having the information available at all times and hours is also a big plus, since we often work before and after normal office hours, including weekends. That allows us to quickly respond to client requests and to complete projects when we do not have the normal interruptions inherent in an office during "office hours".

We also represent several realtors and work with others and with title companies. Having the information at hand helps us in their representation and would keep us from having to contact them or their clients for information we may need.

In short, we believe that the GIS website is important for Garfield County and support it to the utmost.

Sincerely,

Curtis A. Sikyta
Attorney at Law

Sincerely,

Heather L. Sikyta
Attorney at Law

SIKYTA LAW OFFICE
Ord, NE 68862-0128
(308) 728-3639
Spalding, NE 68665
308-497-2706

ALAN J. SVOBODA
82601 476th Avenue
Burwell, Nebraska 68823
308-346-4764 or 308-991-5088
NE Certified General Appraiser
Real Estate Appraisal & Consulting since 1993

March 30, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
440 S. 8th Street; Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508-2294

To Whom It May Concern;

I strongly support the efforts of Garfield County, Nebraska in developing a new GIS Website for public use. I have been an independent fee appraiser for over twenty years, specializing primarily in the appraisal of agricultural and ag commercial real property throughout central Nebraska. During that time, I have seen a number of innovations in data access and mapping due to changes in computer technology. GIS/Mapping websites at the individual county level has been one of most helpful to my business and to my clients.

Not many years ago, conducting research for an appraisal assignment meant at least one trip to the county courthouse for a seach of the public record, a trip to the respective counties FSA office for aerial photos of the subject property and comparble sales, and a trip to the office of the NRD in which the county was located for irrigtion well data. All of this took time and more importantly, money. Often a second trip was required for additional data and information overlooked or not available on the initial research trip.

Today, much of that information is on-line and can be accessed easily from the office twenty-four hour a day. Specific to county offices (assessor, treasurer and register of deeds). This result in a savings of time for the appraiser and the staffs of the various officies which are asked to retrieve data, often on thirty to fifty different parcels of land. More important, this results in lower cost for appraisal services for the appraisal client (with the fee usually paid by the landowner needing the appraisal) and even more important, a savings of time required to complete an appraisal assignment.

Currently 58 of the 93 Nebraska counties have some capability for electronic real property data retrieval. The level of detail available on-line varies from county to county, but even a minimal level of information, such as provided on a property record card, saves considerable time, travel and expense for the appraiser and more importantly, time and expense for the client.

Thank you for your time and, needless to say, I strongly support the efforts of Garfield County, Nebraska to upgrade their GIS Website.

Respectfully submitted;

Alan J. Svoboda

Alan J Svoboda

Certified General Appraiser #CG970152

Burwell, Nebraska 68823

Valley Title & Abstract, Inc.
145 N 15th Street Suite 3
Ord, NE 68862

Telephone
(308) 728-3227

Cellular
(308) 730-1680

Telecopier
(308) 728-3527

March 21, 2012

Sharon Boucher
Appraiser for Garfield County
250 South 8th Avenue
Burwell, NE 68823

RE: GIS Website

Dear Sharon:

It has come to my attention that Garfield County is seeking a grant to assist in the funding of a new GIS system. It would be convenient for the many people who use this website to have the information accessible on-line. As the business world becomes more demanding, the need to access information 24 hours a day becomes apparent, without having to drive to the Courthouse.

As a title insurance agent, I am constantly seeking information with regard to ownership, legal descriptions and assessed values in many different counties and strongly support the efforts of Garfield County pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Knapp

Shirley M. Knapp
Valley Title & Abstract, Inc.
145 N 15th Street
Ord, NE 68862

Great Plains AgriBusiness, Inc.
C. M. "Cy" Thoene, Certified General Appraiser
816 Gage Street - PO Box 250 Ansley, NE 68814
Telephone & Fax: (308) 935-1438

March 31, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
% Sharon Boucher, GIS Coordinator
Garfield County
PO Box 411
Burwell, NE 68823

In re: GIS System

Dear Sharon:

The following is my letter of support for your efforts in obtaining a grant to develop a public GIS Website for Garfield County. I am an independent appraiser specializing in agricultural property valuation services in a number of Central Nebraska counties and a frequent user of county websites when available. It is a huge time saver for me and greatly enhances the quality of service that I can provide for the property owners and my clients in those counties.

There are a number of county officials and real estate professionals as well as the individual property owners that can potentially benefit from these enhanced services. They include county assessors and related assessment procedures, zoning officials, road and utility departments, appraisers, farm managers, insurance agencies, law firms, brokers, and other consultants. We can all benefit from better information, less time taken away from county officials who assist us with repetitive research and examination of county records on site, and reduction of non-productive travel time.

My son has an advanced degree in GIS technology and works in private industry utilizing this technology to map and develop public utilities such as pipelines, electrical transmission lines, rights of way, etc. in a number of Mid-Western States. The efficiency gains that can be obtained with this technology are amazing. The availability of mapping data is readily available for these users if they have the proper tools. In addition to mapping capability, the GIS system also allows the user to manage related data and records tied to these map locations.

This grant to Garfield County should provide those tools. I strongly support this technology and grant application not only as a real estate professional, but, as a taxpayer in three Nebraska counties, if it can be cost effective and properly administered.

Yours truly,

GREAT PLAINS AGRIBUSINESS, INC.
By:

C. M. "Cy" Thoene, Certified General Appraiser

SPRINGDALE TITLE & REALTY, INC.

TELEPHONE
(308)728-3569

1545 M STREET, P.O. BOX 40
ORD, NE 68862

FAX
(308)728-3587

March 29, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
440 S. 8th St., Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508-2294

RE: Garfield County GIS website

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in support of the GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service for the Garfield County Assessor. We provide title insurance and abstracting services in our area, and we find these types of online resources very useful in our daily work. Since we are in a rural area and work frequently on land in the surrounding counties, it is important for us to find ways to save time and money, and online access to property records is one of our most valuable tools. By doing everything possible online, it saves us time away from the office, as we can make sure we have accurate information before we begin our search process. For example, at times we receive an incorrect or incomplete legal description from our client. By checking the assessor's website, we can clear up any discrepancies and verify the legal descriptions before we leave the office.

Again, we have found that online property records have been a valuable resource for saving time, money and stress in our daily work. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Heidi K. Proskocil
Title Agent & Abstracter
heidi@springdale-title.com
Enclosure

Management Information Systems, Inc.
Terry J. DeGroff

P.O. Box 217
Burwell, Nebraska 68823

Telephone (308) 346-4508
FAX Number (308) 346-4547
E-mail: terryd@cornhusker.net

March 29, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

From: Terry J. DeGroff

Re: Support for GIS website

I am writing this letter to express my support for the GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service.

I use the current site at least once a week. The access to the public information is very helpful in consultation with many clients. The website access allows me to provide current, accurate information to my clients in a timely fashion at any hour of any day.

My primary use is in Garfield County, but it would be great if Loup and Wheeler Counties were also available on the website as I do work in those counties as well.

The availability of this site is a valuable resource for me in my business.

Sincerely,

Terry DeGroff

Management Information Systems

WOLF, INC.

AUCTION & REAL ESTATE

1514 L St., Box 328 • Ord, NE 68862 • Phone 308-728-3101

www.wolfnebraska.com

March 30, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
440 S 8th St
Suite 210
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-2294

To whom it may concern:

We, at Wolf Auction and Real Estate, are writing in support of a grant application to be used for a GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service for Garfield County. Web sites such as these are invaluable to us and our potential customers for use in researching property for sale in the county.

In addition, having the professional web site makes the area look more progressive and appealing to potential investors in our area.

Sincerely,

Danielle Warner, Sales Associate

Coy Wolf, Sales Associate

Farm Credit Services *of* America
AGRICULTURE WORKS HERE...

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
kirk.manker@fcsamerica.com
402-348-3367
402-661-3367 (fax)

AGRICULTURE WORKS HERE.™

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 :** Greeley County

2. **Grant amount requested** $ 25,000

3. **Title of project:** Assessor GIS and County WebGIS

4. **Brief description of project:** The project includes building a County-wide land records GIS database and WebGIS application that will link to the existing Orion 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).**

Greeley County has chosen to develop a Geographic Information System (GIS) database and web-enabled mapping interface and database query tool (or WebGIS). The WebGIS application will provide an intuitive interface for citizens, businesses, County departments and other local/county/regional/state agencies to easily find public records data. The attached proposal (Attachment 1) illustrates the specific data layers and the WebGIS application features.

The County selected GIS Workshop, Inc (GISW) as the vendor for this project. GISW has extensive experience in developing Geographic Information Systems and we believe that their skill is unparalleled for this project. The Planning/Zoning Administrator for Greeley County also holds the same position in Howard County. He has exhibited and shared with the Board the functionality of the existing WebGIS in Howard County and how much the public has used and supported the project.

The project will include data development tasks for parcels, land use and legal land base (lot, block and subdivision) layers. The parcels will be developed from the best available source data (survey plats, legal descriptions, cadastral maps, etc) and assigned a parcel identification number to match the Assessor's Orion database system. The County had a previous relationship several years ago with vendor Mr. Mitch Clark in which he was contracted to initiate work on a parcel layer for the County. Not all departments participated and information has not been shared nor kept updated. Greeley County and Mr. Clark have recently made this existing data available to GISW and they are in the process now of evaluating the data for usability in the County-wide GIS and WebGIS projects. As stated in the GISW proposal (see Attachment 1), if GISW is able to reduce costs through the use of this existing data, it will be reflected as a discount during the Scope of Work phase.

The land use layer will be developed using a combination of available data sources including the Orion database parcel records, air photo interpretation, etc. The land use classes will match those defined by the Nebraska Property Assessment Division. Land use classes will include dryland crop, irrigated crop, grass, CRP (optional), tree (optional), homesite, farmsite, road, exempt and waste. This layer will also be very useful for agencies such as the Natural Resource Districts.

GISW will also assemble other datasets such as SSURGO soils, FSA aerial photography and any available high-resolution photography.

The WebGIS application will provide an intuitive interface for users to search for public records using either the text search menu or the map tools. Users will be able to toggle layers on/off individually, click on a parcel to see its Record Card, click on a parcel to see all available photos/sketches, measures distances/areas, print to PDF or export to

Microsoft Excel. The WebGIS will provide 24/7/365 access to public records for citizens, businesses and government employees.

The WebGIS application will also include a highly specialized tool for the Assessor's Office to calculate land value for new parcel splits or verify the land use and soil characteristics of an existing parcel. The Land Use Calculator is very valuable for fast, efficient and equitable tax assessment.

Other County departments will also benefit from the WebGIS application. The Clerk, Treasurer and Register of Deeds Offices will all benefit from easy access to land records information. The Weeds department will use it for determining property owners and property location for spraying noxious weeds and issuing notices to landowners. The County Election Office will better determine exact voter precinct maps. The WebGIS application will also serve as a valuable resource for County emergency management and law enforcement staff. The Planning/Zoning Administrator looks forward to adding a tab for his department as the next Phase in this project. The Greeley County Board of Commissioners is excited about the opportunity for offices such as Planning/Zoning, Roads, Treasurer and Register of Deeds to build upon the land records foundation to create a one-stop web-enabled interface to County data.

Other GISW clients have cited a 50-75% reduction in phone call volume after implementing the WebGIS application. The application will provide better service to County residents while increasing the efficiency of multiple County departments.

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

   Anyone interested in land records information for Greeley County will benefit from this project. Greeley County offices of Assessor, Clerk/Elec Commissioner/Register of Deeds, Treasurer, Emergency Manager/Roads, Sheriff, 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 Lower Loup Natural Resources District, the City of Greeley and various State agencies will also benefit from easy access to Greeley County data. Efficiencies realized from 24/7 access will result in increased productivity and cost savings for both public and private entities.

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. Numerous County department staff members have attended Board meetings to express their support.

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 June 30, 2013 (06/30/2013).

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 GISW to develop a GIS for Greeley County. Attachment 1 contains an overview of the project in GISW's Proposal document. The Proposal is for development of a GIS for Greeley County, updating of the GIS and development of a WebGIS site for the County, which will make information available 24/7. The total amount of grant money awarded to Greeley County will be used to defray the following initial GIS development expense. The Board believes the maximum grant amount is critical to funding of this project. 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 County had a previous relationship several years ago with vendor Mr. Mitch Clark in which he was contracted to initiate work on a parcel layer for the County. Not all departments participated and information has not been shared nor kept updated. Greeley County and Mr. Clark have recently made this existing data available to GISW and they are in the process now of evaluating the data for usability in the County-wide GIS and WebGIS projects. As stated in the GISW proposal (see Attachment 1), if GISW is able to reduce costs through the use of this existing data, it will be reflected as a discount during the Scope of Work phase.

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 **critical** to assist with the initial data development and WebGIS setup costs. The County will take advantage of GISW's offer to spread the remaining development costs over several years, interest-free which will allow us to budget for the project. The County will be moving from state to county-assessed near the completion of this project and the GIS will help the County get back on pace with surrounding agencies. Greeley County will commit to paying the annual maintenance fees to keep the system thriving after this project is completed

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 *absolutely necessary* to initially defray the substantial upfront cost to Greeley County of developing the GIS dataset. The County fully anticipates being able to fully meet annual maintenance costs of the GIS 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 Orion database containing tax assessment information. The Property Record Card component of the WebGIS has several customized reports, derived from the Orion 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.

Greeley County has solicited and received excellent community support. Attachment 2 contains letters of support from the Greeley County community. The letters include Greeley County citizens, business professionals, County department heads and associated agencies.

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 Greeley 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.

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.

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. Greeley County staff, as well as external users, will access the system using a standard internet browser such as Internet Explorer or Firefox.

Greeley 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 will interface with the current Tyler Orion (or any other CAMA provider selected in the future) database systems in use in Greeley County today. GISW built the software interface for the Orion system as part of the Keith County project.

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 and for protecting features such as the Land Use Calculator Tool from unauthorized use.

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 application for Greeley County will be configured by GISW with adherence to standards established by the State of Nebraska. The digital map database has been developed using the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System, NAD83 as per State/NITC guidelines. The system will comply with any other applicable NITC items.

4. Agencies submitting grant applications for funding of a Geographic Information System (GIS) project must in addition to the standard grant application complete and submit the ***Supplemental Questionnaire for State Funded Entities on Land Record Information and Mapping-Related Grant Application*** found on the Boards website page "Grant Information" at www.staterecordsboard.ne.gov.

   The supplemental questionnaire has been completed and is attached to this application.

5. **Describe how technical support will be provided.**

   GISW will edit and maintain the GIS data and provide access to the data using the WebGIS application. Greeley County will be responsible for sending parcel splits and land use changes to GISW. GISW will download a copy of the Tyler Orion data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GISW server.

   GISW have dedicated technical support staff available at any time during business hours to service the County's needs. They will provide training, phone support and online support to help County staff quickly adapt to the new technology.

Part III. EXPECTATIONS

It is the expectation of the Nebraska State Records Board that the grantee recognize the project as an ongoing effort to make public documents and or transactions more accessible. As this application relates to public documents the goal encompasses not only the availability of current documents as described in this application but the ongoing addition of new and updated documents in a timely manner. This goal recognizes the public's interest in not only historical information but the expectation that current data is obtainable. The Nebraska State Records Board recognizes that this is a long term commitment on the part of the grantee and anticipates the continued financial support of the grantee to maintain these expectations.

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 IV. STATE LAW COMPLIANCE

Nebraska law, sections 4-108 through 4-114 state that no political subdivision of the State shall provide public benefits, to include grants or contracts, to a person not lawfully present in the United States. If this application is awarded in whole or in part, and during the time the grant is in effect, the undersigned, on behalf of the political subdivision grant applicant, by signing this grant application, affirmatively states and acknowledges that the political subdivision will comply with this law.

Part V. CONTACT INFORMATION & SIGNATURE

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

Joan M Goodrich — Appraiser Assistant - Greeley County

Printed Name — Title

Phone # (308) 428-3211 **E-mail** joan.goodrich@nebraska.gov

Physical Address:

101 South Kildare Street - PO Box 247
Greeley NE 68842

I, the Authorized Representative of Greeley 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**

Joan M Goodrich
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 Comm/Register of Deeds, Sheriff, Treasurer, Weeds etc) have expressed interest in collaborating and building upon this initial investment in GIS technology to enhance their service provision to the public. In addition, the Villages of Greeley, Spalding, Scotia, Wolbach and applicable Natural Resource Districts actively support GIS development for the County to promote collaboration and the sharing of data. The County is predominately rural in nature and 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. We also believe our emergency responders will make use of the mapping as they serve the public, monitor one major US Highway and several other highways to ensure safety in the County.

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

GIS Workshop

www.gisworkshop.com

VERSION 1.2

Project: 0394-003

GREELEY COUNTY, NE

ATTACHMENT 1:

Proposal for

Assessor GIS and County WebGIS

Prepared for Joan Goodrich, Assessor's Office

And Greeley County Board of Commissioners

March 31, 2012

Trimble Authorized Business Partner

esri Partner Network Gold

402.436.2150
4949 NW 1st Street, Lincoln NE 68521

CONTENTS

GREELEY COUNTY NE

PROJECT BACKGROUND

As Greeley County transitions from State-assessed to County-assessed, the Board recognizes the value of implementing a GIS for analysis and record keeping in the Assessor's Office. The Board of Commissioners has participated in a demonstration about GISW's WebGIS product. As a result, they have requested GISW to provide a proposal (see Attachment 1) on the development of GIS for the Assessor's office and implementation of a county-wide Web-based GIS to provide property information on-line to property owners, the general public and other departments.

GIS BENEFITS

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are a powerful combination of digital maps and database information. Traditionally, county assessment has used paper maps to track parcel, soil and land use boundaries; in addition, the assessment database was completely disconnected from the mapping making it hard to crosscheck information. This process was very labor intensive and difficult to implement with high precision.

When properly implemented, Assessment GIS seamlessly links the parcel, soil and land use data directly to the appraisal database. GIS can increase efficiency and increase accuracy in many ways:

- Enter new parcel splits using specialized tools for survey data and aliquot parts
- Parcel-by-parcel comparison of deeded acres to mapped acres
- Calculate current land value for each parcel and report the breakdown of acres in each unique combination of soil and land use
- Visualize individual parcels to see the soils, land uses and aerial photograph
- Share information with land owners, real estate professionals and potential developers to significantly reduce call volume for County staff and facilitate easy access to public information
- Quickly and uniformly change land value calculations for the entire County if any of the parameters change (soils database, land use classes, etc)

THE GIS WORKSHOP DIFFERENCE

EXPERIENCE WITH NEBRASKA ASSESSMENT GIS

GISW has been providing quality Assessment GIS data and analysis solutions for more than 14 years. Our clients include over 85 counties in Nebraska and surrounding states. GISW staff has over 75 years combined experience in GIS implementation and are exceptionally experienced in Nebraska assessment systems. GISW is the only GIS Company in Nebraska that can provide the automatic database linking and other tools necessary to build a complete assessment GIS for Greeley County to ensure compliance with Property Assessment Division (PAD) mandates. We are the only GIS Company recognized by the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO). As you transition from State-assessed to County-assessed, the GIS will ensure you are providing equal, fair, consistent valuation of property in the most efficient manner possible.

GREELEY COUNTY NE

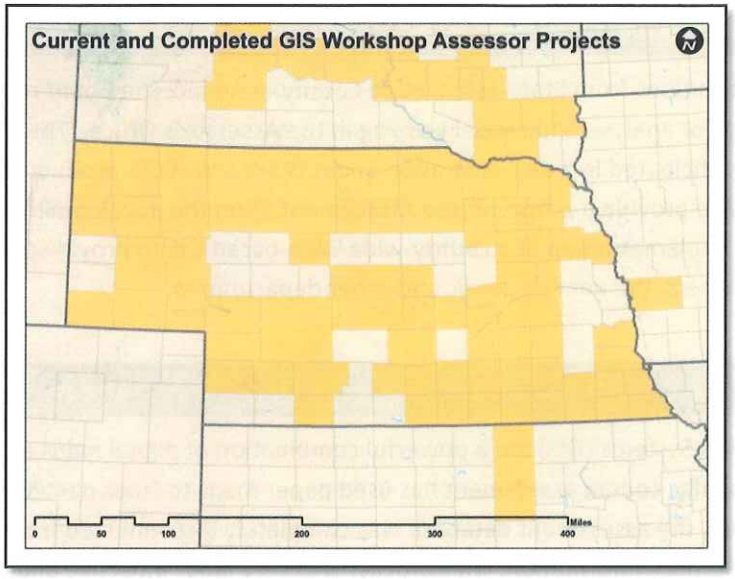


Figure 1: GISW is the most experienced Assessor GIS provider in the State

GISW is a full service GIS provider with a team of technicians ready to build your GIS. We will develop your GIS database, train your staff to use GIS information in their day-to-day workflow, provide unlimited support and develop internet mapping, or WebGIS, sites to make GIS more accessible to all your departments, real estate professionals and your constituents.

GISW specializes in developing GIS datasets and providing easy access to the data. Below is a list of key differentiators:

- **WebGIS – our product gives everyone 'Google-like' access to GIS data. No one else offers web access!**
- Costs – our costs are lower because our experience translates into efficiency
- Training – we provide upfront and ongoing training to ensure clients can make use of their investment
- Support staff – we have a long list of satisfied clients who can attest to our excellent support services. We have a dedicated team of technical support staff ready and waiting on the phone.
- Experience – we are the most experienced GIS company in the State and it shows in the quality of our products and services
- Software tools – we have customized tools we use internally to quickly perform routine operations such as land use calculation, survey data entry, aliquot part splits, etc.
- CAMA integration – we are the only company with tools to link directly into assessment databases such as Tyler, TerraScan, MIPS and County Solutions.
- Complete package – we offer a turnkey solution including data conversion, data development data maintenance and the products to make the data accessible to everyone

GIS Workshop, Inc. is the most experienced Assessment GIS provider in the State. We will become an extension of your staff. Our extensive expertise together with our specialized tools helps us provide superior products and services.

CLIENT SATISFACTION

Please ask our clients about our support staff, training services, how they use GIS on a day-to-day basis, do they use desktop or WebGIS, did GIS help with the recent soil conversion mandate, flexible payment options, oblique photos, etc. We are confident that you will hear our level of service is second-to-none. Here are direct quotes from a sampling of our Assessor clients after implementing GIS in their departments; they are a testimony to the fact that implementing GIS increases revenue through accuracy in land use calculations and decreases costs through enhanced efficiency and time savings:

- **Merrick County:** "We found 13,000 additional irrigated acres by matching up NRD data with GIS."
- **Pierce County:** "Our GIS paid for itself the first year" by identifying pivots, new buildings, etc.
- **Phelps County:** "We increased assessed acres through accuracy in land use calculations."
- **Cuming County:** "I have confidence in my valuations when dealing with property owners because we can SEE how the value was determined. I also use my land use calculator to compare deeded acres vs GIS acres to identify inaccuracies in assessment."
- **Colfax County:** "Our GIS has paid for itself many times over" by using GISW's oblique imagery along with GIS to identify new buildings and to correct land use.
- **Platte County:** "We reduced daily inbound phone call volume by 50-70% by having information available online – this has freed up my staff to work more effectively on critical projects."
- **Madison County:** "We are able to do from our desks things that used to require time in the field. This has resulted in both cost and time savings for my County."
- **Keith County:** "GIS Workshop staff always answers the phone right away. They are great with support and customer service. I have never heard a single bad thing about their service from anyone I have talked to."

DATABASE DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION

GISW will do all the database development for Greeley County. We will rely on the Assessment staff for their local knowledge and our staff will do all the GIS development. GISW has developed a suite of desktop GIS tools that communicate with your assessment database and help us develop databases more efficiently than our competitors. **As an Esri (the leader in GIS technology) Gold Business Partner we know GIS better than anyone in the State.**

Once the GIS database is ready we will integrate the GIS data into your existing system. **We not only build the databases but we help you learn how to make them useful to you.** With our online meeting technology Greeley County staff can visit with our technical staff at any point to provide guidance or to view project progress from the comfort of your own office.

TRAINING AND UNLIMITED SUPPORT

We have a team of experienced and skilled technicians dedicated to keeping your GIS up-to-date. Complete training is provided in process flow of updates to the GIS, such as parcel splits or changes to land use and the use of the WebGIS site and accompanying tools.

WEBGIS

GISW technology greatly increases the value of your GIS investment. We provide true GIS mapping, not just a database of derived information. Our WebGIS product makes your data available throughout the County without the need for expensive training and desktop software. County staff, real estate professionals, banks, insurance agents, potential businesses/residents and Greeley County residents have 24/7 access to assessment information. Easy access to data is great for economic development and reduces phone calls for assessment staff.

PROJECT APPROACH

The power of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) lies in the ability to overlay various datasets and perform complex analysis within a simple user interface. GIS Workshop specializes not only in building systems, but more importantly, helping clients leverage their investment to perform standardized, accurate assessment with limited staffing. Our training and support technicians provide proven results and our WebGIS site gives your constituents access to all their assessment information 24 hours a day.

GIS helps provide equitable and accurate assessment across the entire county. When State statute requires assessment changes, such as the recent NRCS soil conversion, GIS can automate the process of making universal changes to all parcels in the County. A county-wide soil conversion can be accomplished in a day with GIS and would take months to accomplish accurately with paper maps.

GISW will build the Greeley County GIS by:

- Converting the cadastral maps to a GIS layer
- Attributing Parcel Identification Number for each Parcel
- Developing a comprehensive land use layer
- Incorporating soil survey data

DATA DEVELOPMENT – BUILDING THE PARCEL GIS

REFINE PUBLIC LAND SURVEY SYSTEM DATASET

GISW will utilize all GPS corner control that the Surveyor provides. The system is constructed to incorporate new corner and quarter control the Surveyor may collect in the future. Incorporation of new survey control into the GIS over time will gradually "tighten" the accuracy of the GIS. The base dataset will utilize the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System [NESPCS], NAD83 coordinate system (note: the Nebraska GIS Steering Committee and Nebraska State Surveyor recommend that counties use the NESPC system for assessment GIS).

PAPER TO DIGITAL PARCEL BOUNDARY CONVERSION

GISW will collect and scan the rural assessment cadastral maps from Greeley County. The cadastral maps together with CAMA database information will be used to draw the parcel layer based on the data layer described above. An example of this process can be seen in Figure 2 below. *All available parcel information provided by Greeley County's previous relationship with Mitch Clark will be used. GISW has received the parcel data files from Mr. Clark and is in the process of analyzing the quality of the data. If significant portions of existing GIS data can be used during this new project, a discount will be reflected in the final cost of the project during the Scope of Work phase.*

ASSIGN PARCEL IDENTIFICAL NUMBER

After extracting the property boundaries from the scanned cadastral maps to create the digital parcel layer, GISW will populate the Parcel Identification Number for each parcel.

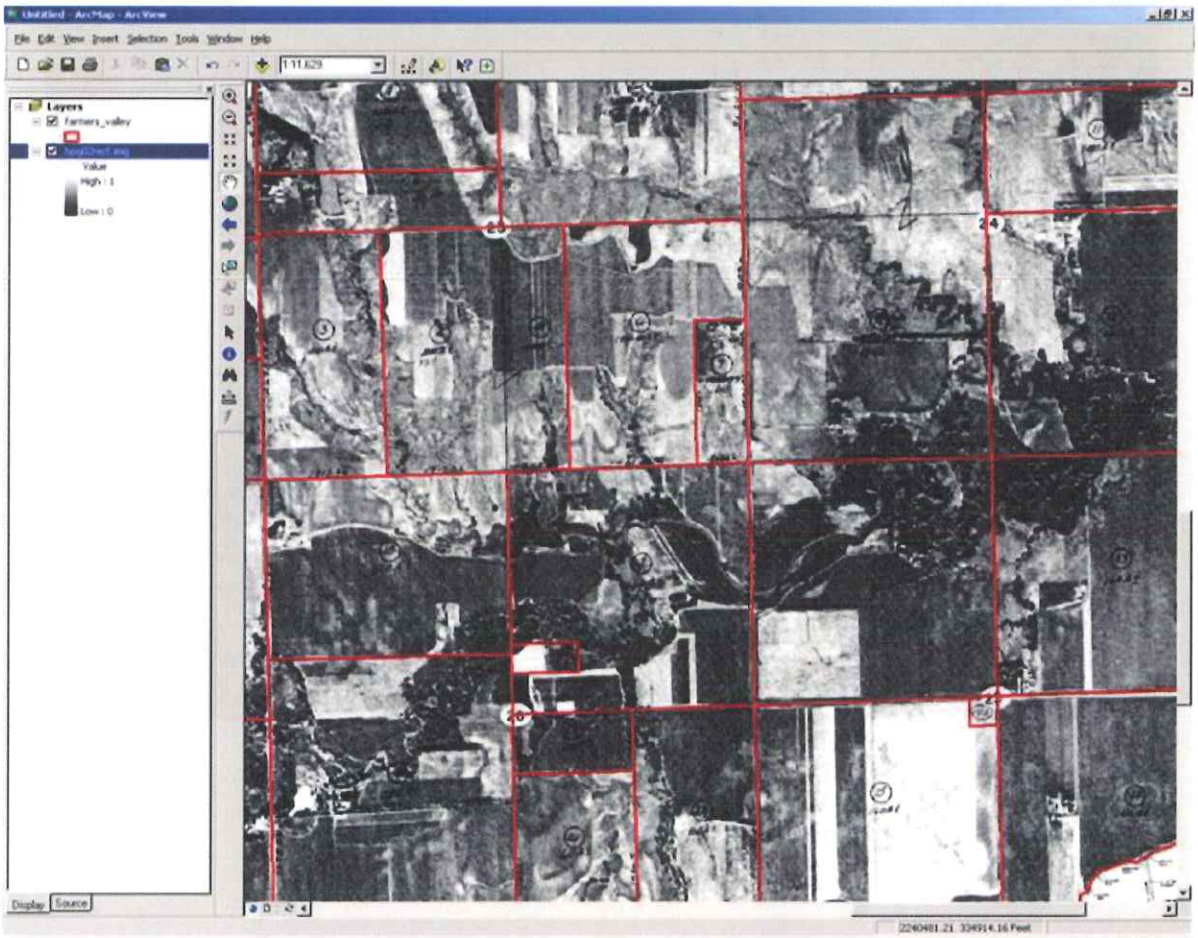


Figure 2: Scanned cadastral map with parcel lines digitized in red

DATA DEVELOPMENT - LAND USE LAYER CREATION

Upon completion of the parcel layer, GISW will create the Land Use layer, which identifies the land use codes for particular areas of a parcel. GISW will identify the various areas of a particular land use, digitize the boundaries of that land use, and incorporate those data into the GIS for analysis and reporting. This layer will also be very useful for agencies such as your local Natural Resource Districts.

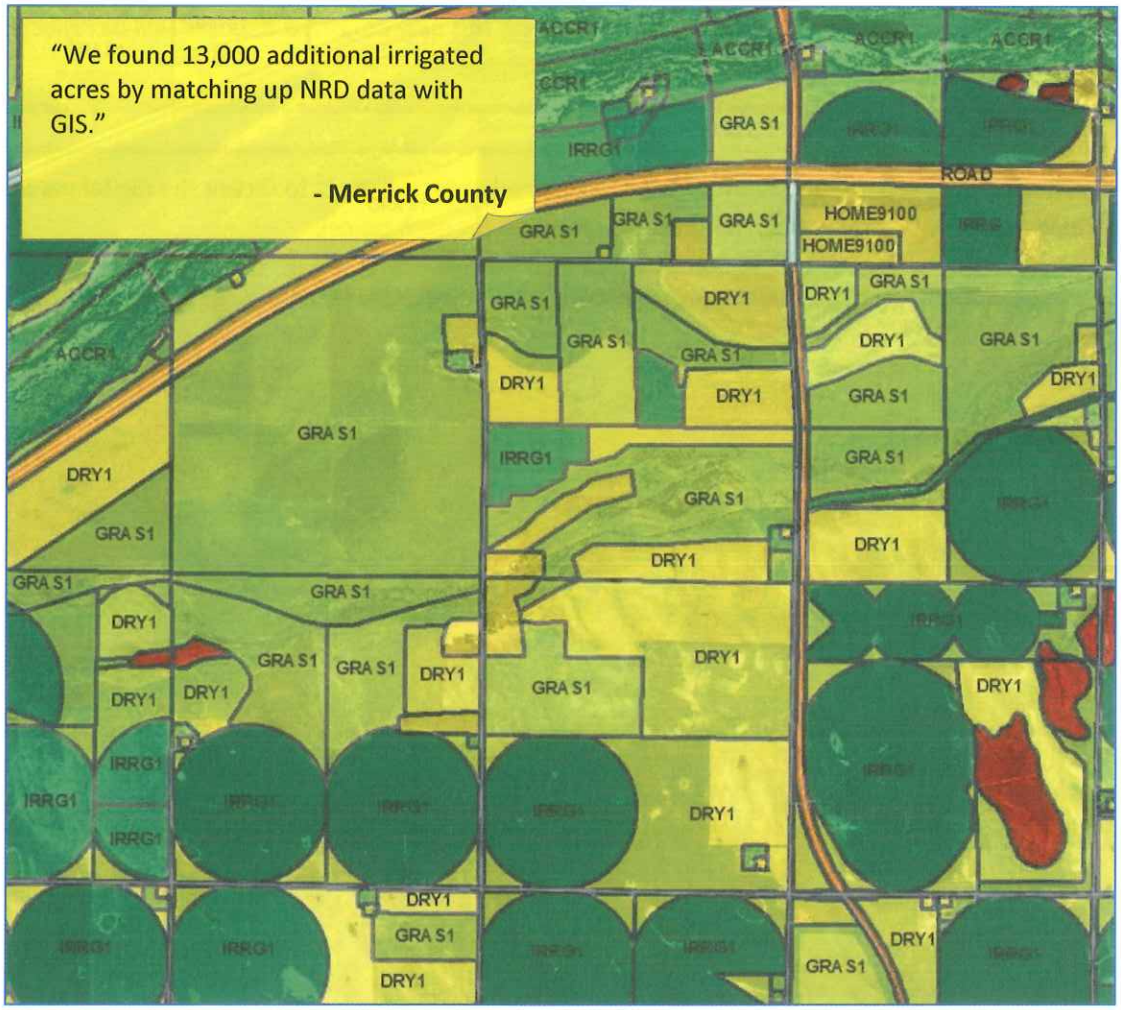


Figure 3: Example Land Use Map

DATA DEVELOPMENT - SOILS LAYER

GISW will acquire the NRCS soils layers to display together with the parcel boundaries, land use layer and aerial photography background. The GISW Land Use Calculator Tool (discussed below) will help evaluate every parcel in the County. **This type of analysis is one of the most powerful benefits of assessment GIS, it would take months to recount all the soils manually!**

Figure 4: An example in Platte County showing the parcel lines (red), land use layer (transparent colors), and the soils (thin black lines), overlaid together for purposes of rural assessment acreage calculation

GIS DATA MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT

GIS Workshop will edit and maintain all GIS data on our redundant servers. This frees up assessor department staff to concentrate on critical projects and issues. **This 100% maintenance web-based approach also eliminates the need for department staff to learn GIS software** – this will be important as the County transitions from State-assessed to County-assessed.

The County will be responsible for sending parcel splits and land use changes to GIS Workshop. County staff will be able to use the GISW WebGIS Land Use Calculator to estimate the value of a parcel split for a walk-in customers. GIS Workshop will download a copy of the Orion (or other CAMA system if a change is made) data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GIS Workshop server. After an initial introductory period, an annual data maintenance fee will be due. See the Pricing Information section for more details.

GISW dedicated support staff is waiting to field your support call at all times during regular business hours.

TRAINING

GISW will train Greeley County staff to use the GIS data. We provide a wide variety of training options customized to your needs. We support clients on a daily basis so we know what is important to you and how to make the GIS data useful. We will train staff how to use the WebGIS site via an on-line meeting after the site is operational.

WEBGIS

The WebGIS will make the assessment/appraisal information available to other County departments, city departments, real estate professionals and the general public. **Only GISW offers this type of web access to the GIS database in an easy to use interface that will become the foundation for information access at the County.**

The GISW WebGIS:

- Provides 24/7 access to public information for real estate professionals, general public and other city/county departments.
- The GISW Web GIS **REDUCES** the number of calls into the Assessor's Office, allowing staff to get on with the business of assessment. Our Assessor clients say it best: **Phelps County experienced a 50%-75% reduction in the daily call volume related to property tax issues. Kearney County estimated a 75% reduction in call volume when they went online!**
- Promotes information sharing amongst city/county departments and **reduces duplications of effort.**
- Provides the Enterprise GIS foundation so **other departments (roads, planning/zoning, etc.) may start using GIS technology more cost effectively.**

GREELEY COUNTY'S WEBGIS

GISW proposes to design and build an enterprise WebGIS for Greeley County 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.

The Assessor tab was the first step in setting up the enterprise WebGIS for the 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 5 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 sales information, assessment and appraisal data*, and any other data associated with future tabs. **(NOTE: an optional subscription-based version is also available to provide advanced information on a subscription basis.)**

GREELEY COUNTY NE

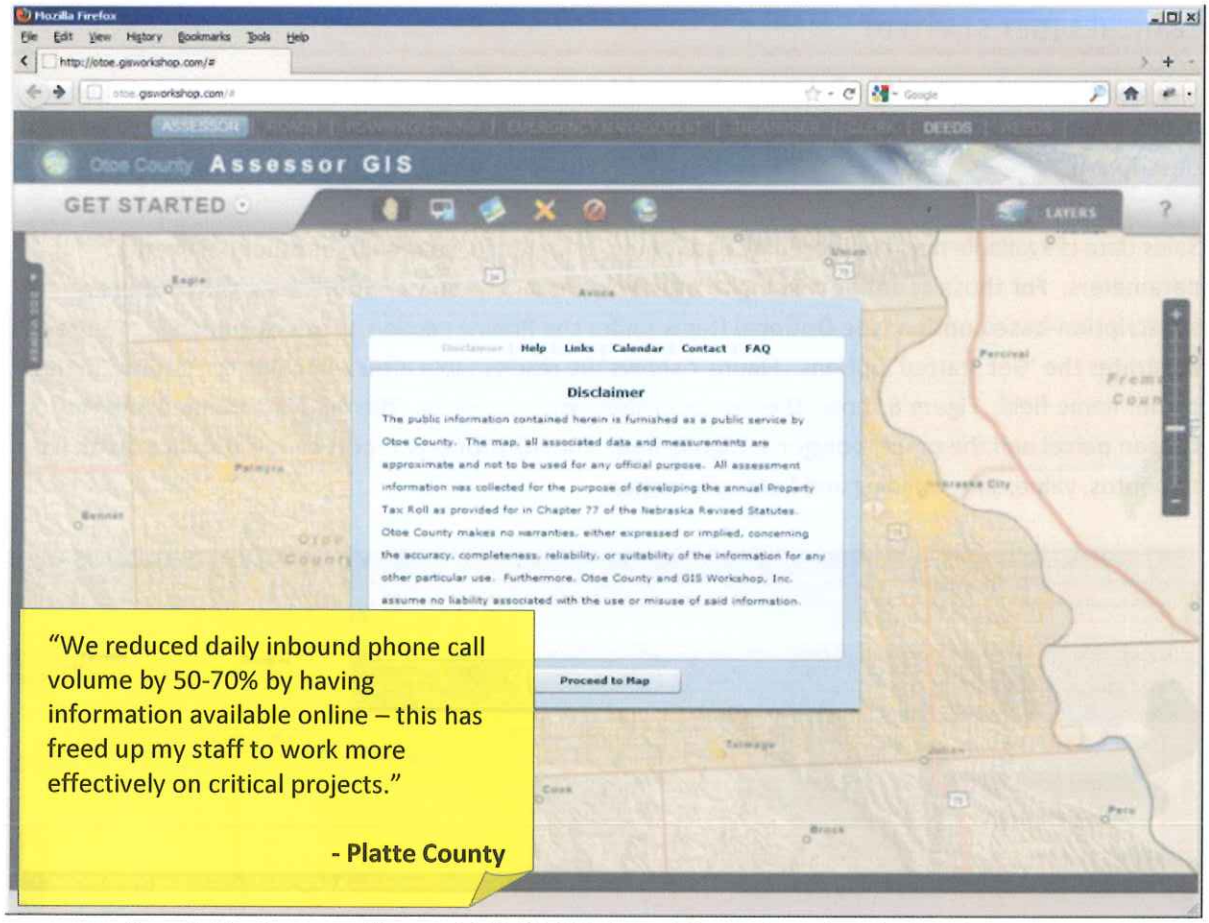


Figure 5: Opening screen (Assessor Tab) of GIS Workshop's Enterprise WebGIS for Otoe County, NE.

Additional tabs for this WebGIS project may include Clerk, Treasurer, Roads and Sheriff/Emergency Management. **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 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. The user can switch to a satellite view that includes 2010 FSA aerial photography.

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 is available may be filtered by date range, price range, year built, or other pertinent parameters. **For those counties wishing to offer sales data on a subscription basis, GISW offers a subscription-based option (see Optional Items under the Pricing section of this document).** Figure 6 illustrates the 'Get Started' options. Figure 7 shows the results table after searching for "Smith" in the owner name field. Figure 8 shows the results of selecting a property. The map has zoomed into the chosen parcel and the parcel polygon is highlighted. The full property report card is displayed with links to photos, value, sale, building and land information.

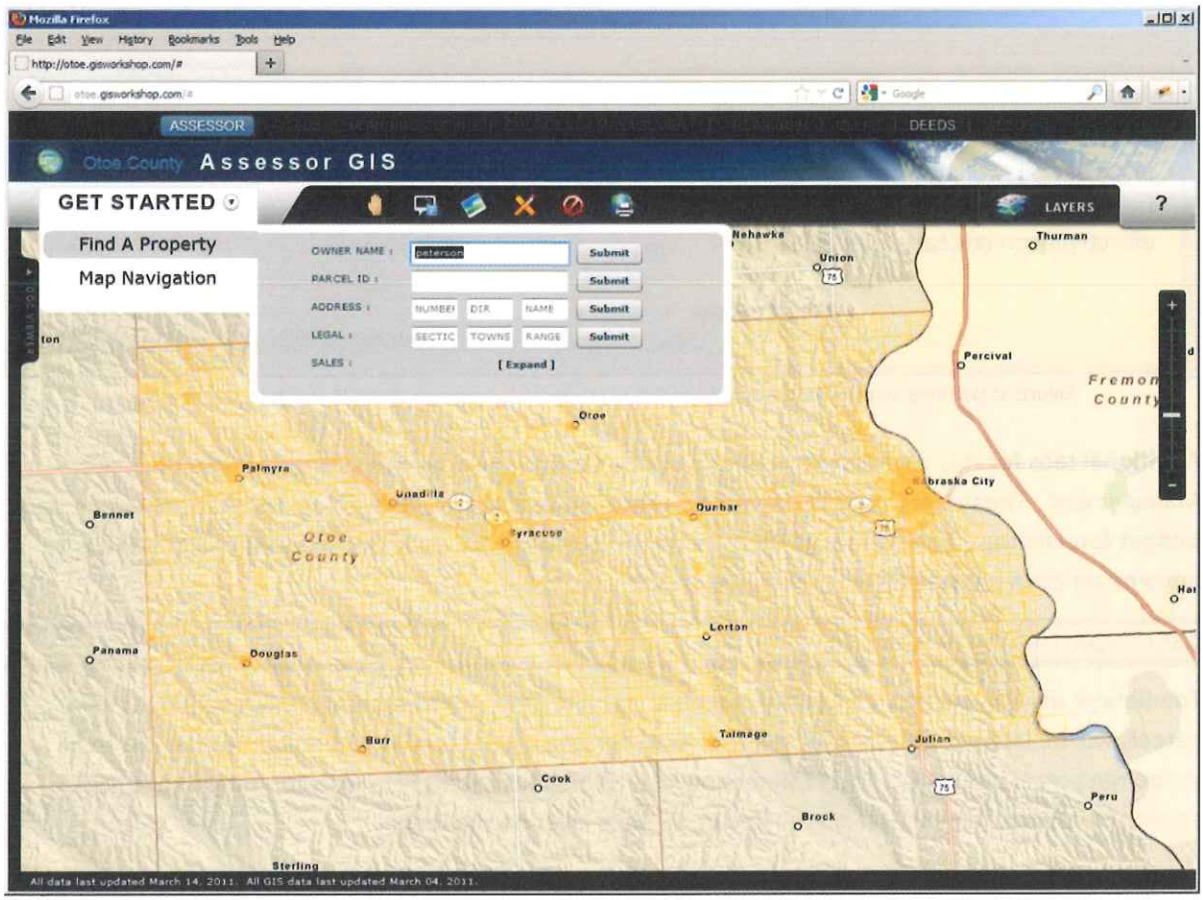


Figure 6: Assessor tab showing property search box

GREELEY COUNTY NE

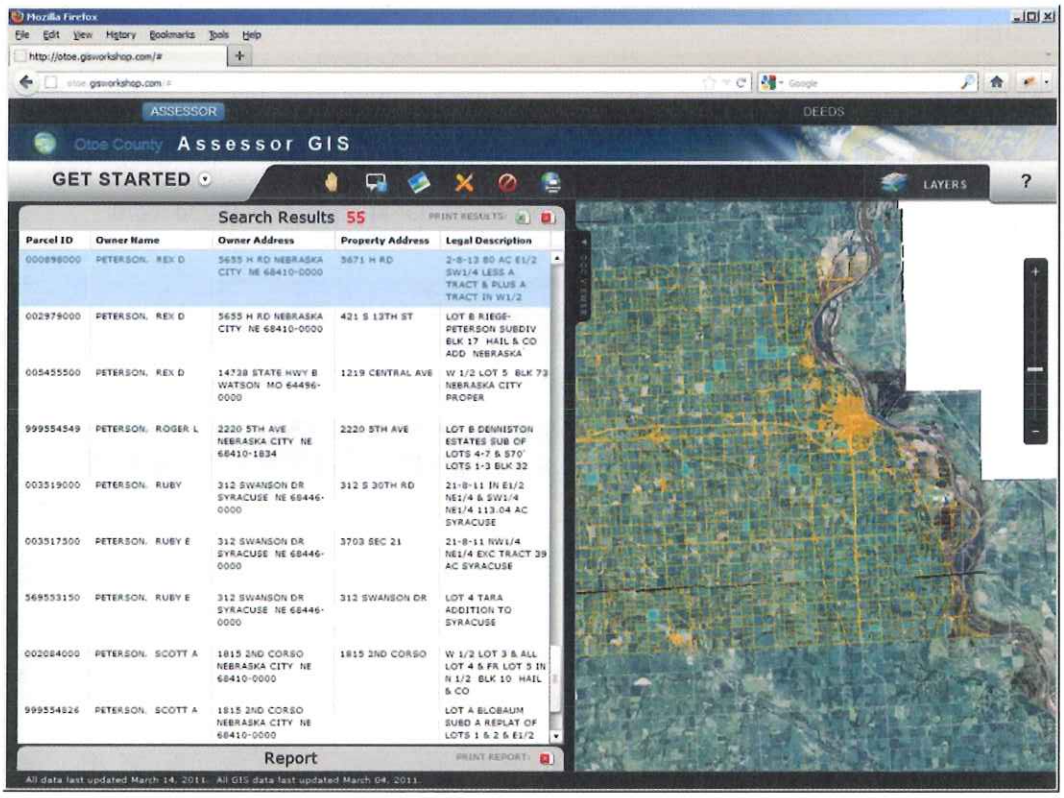


Figure 7: Property search results

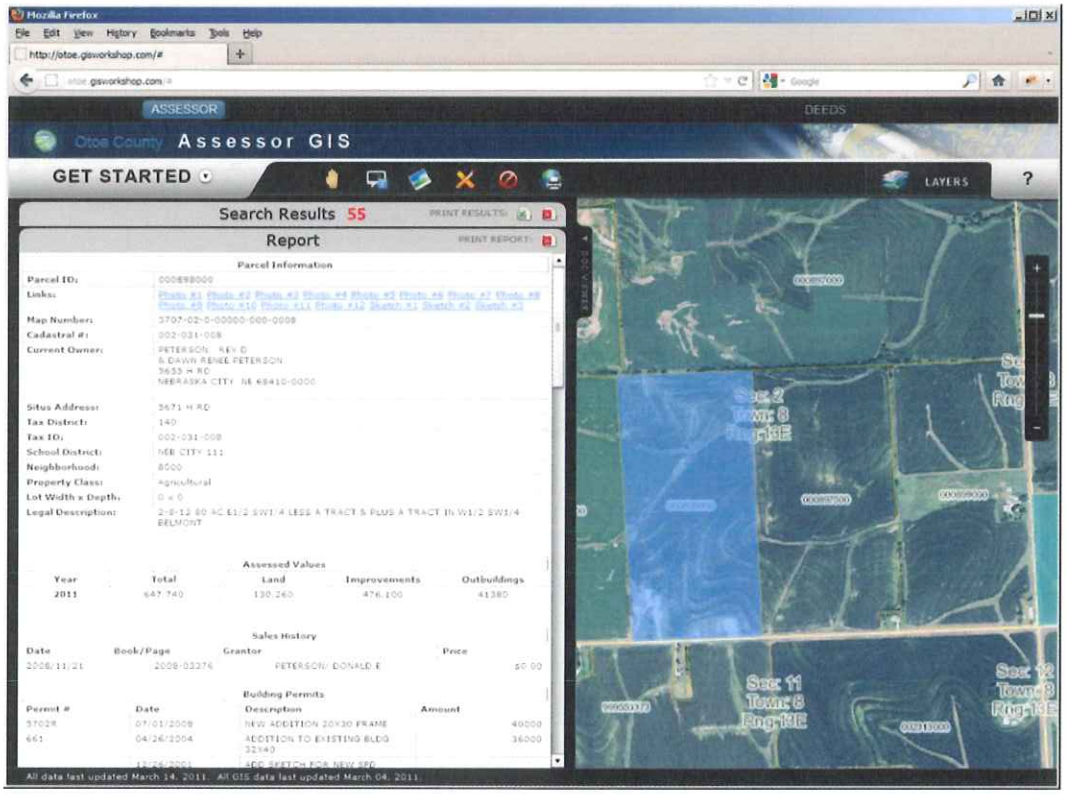


Figure 8: Property Record Card (note the map zoomed in and highlighted the chosen parcel)

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 9 illustrates the zoom slider bar and pan tool (hand icon).

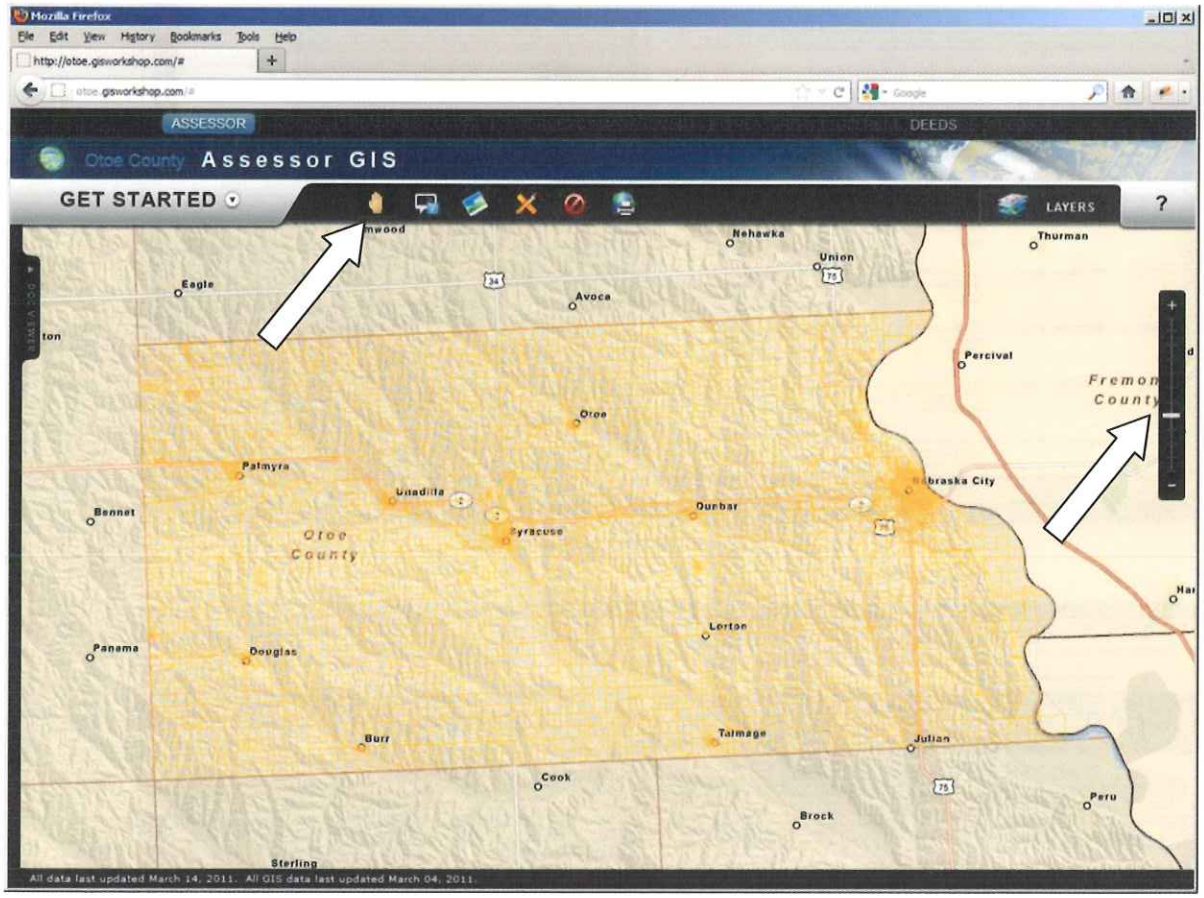


Figure 9: Zoom slider bar (right side) and activated pan tool icon (hand) in horizontal toolbar

Figures 10 and 11 illustrate the Map Navigation feature. The user enters a specific section/township/range and then the map zooms into the specified section.

GREELEY COUNTY NE

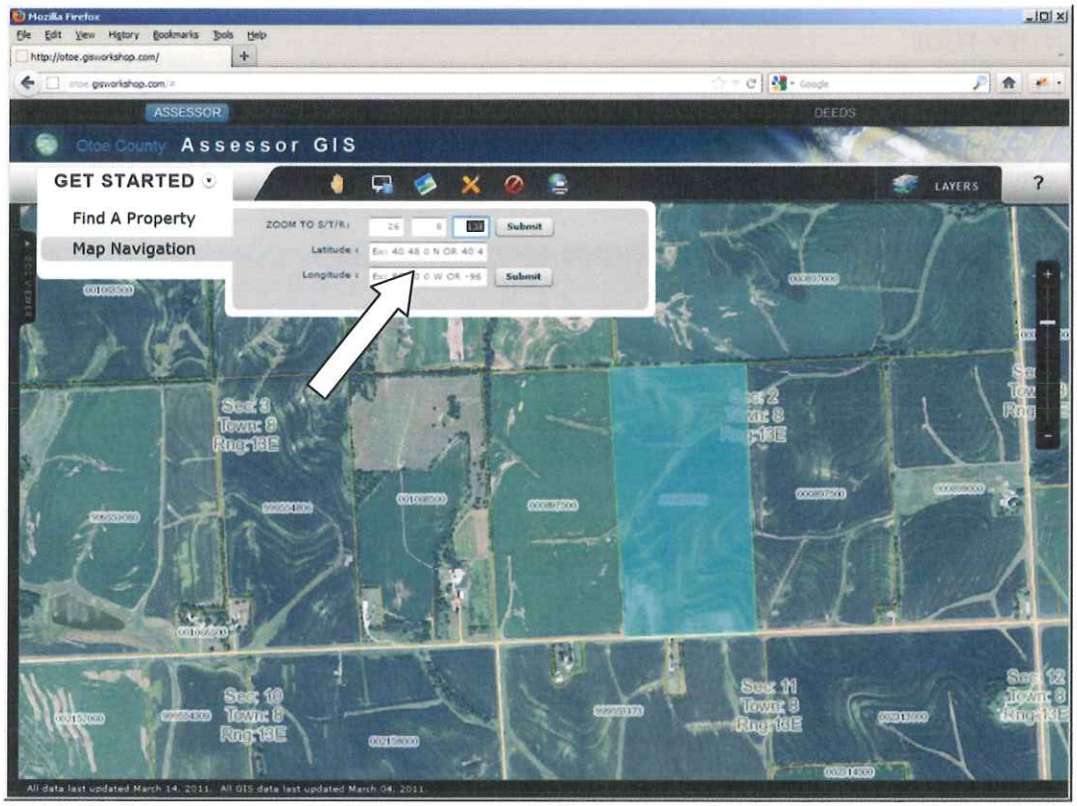


Figure 10: User enters section/township/range

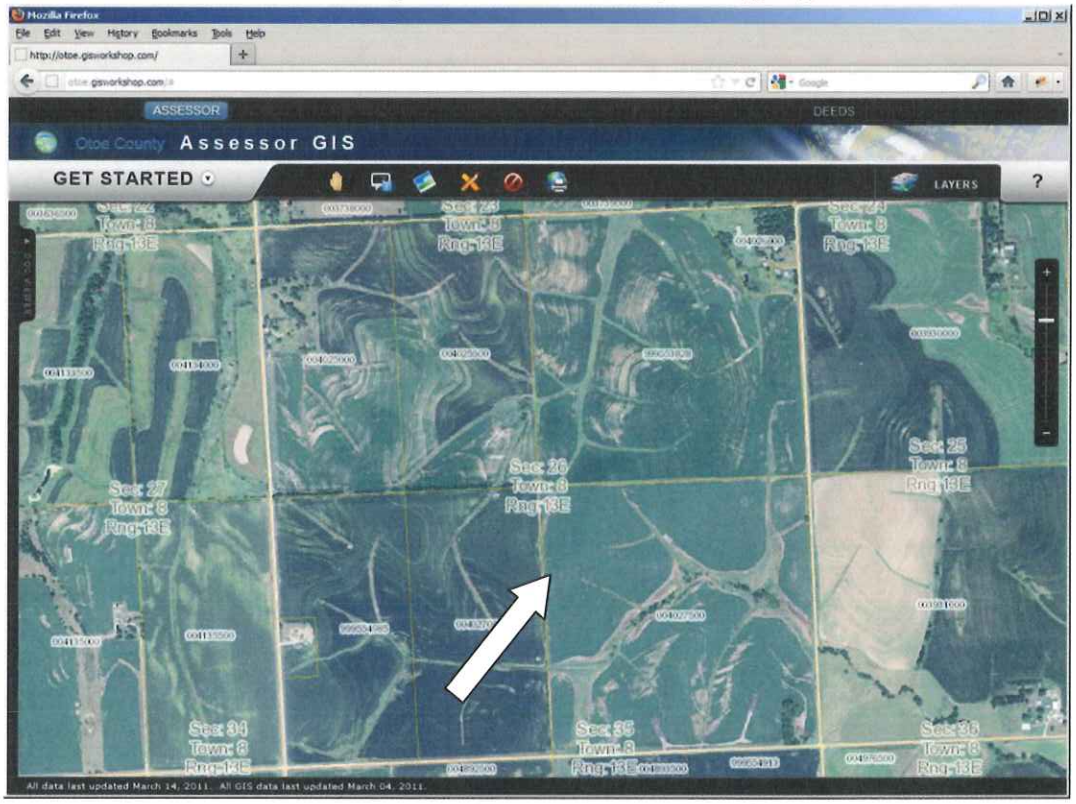


Figure 11: Application zooms into the specified section

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 12 below. Property card information is also available through the tool.

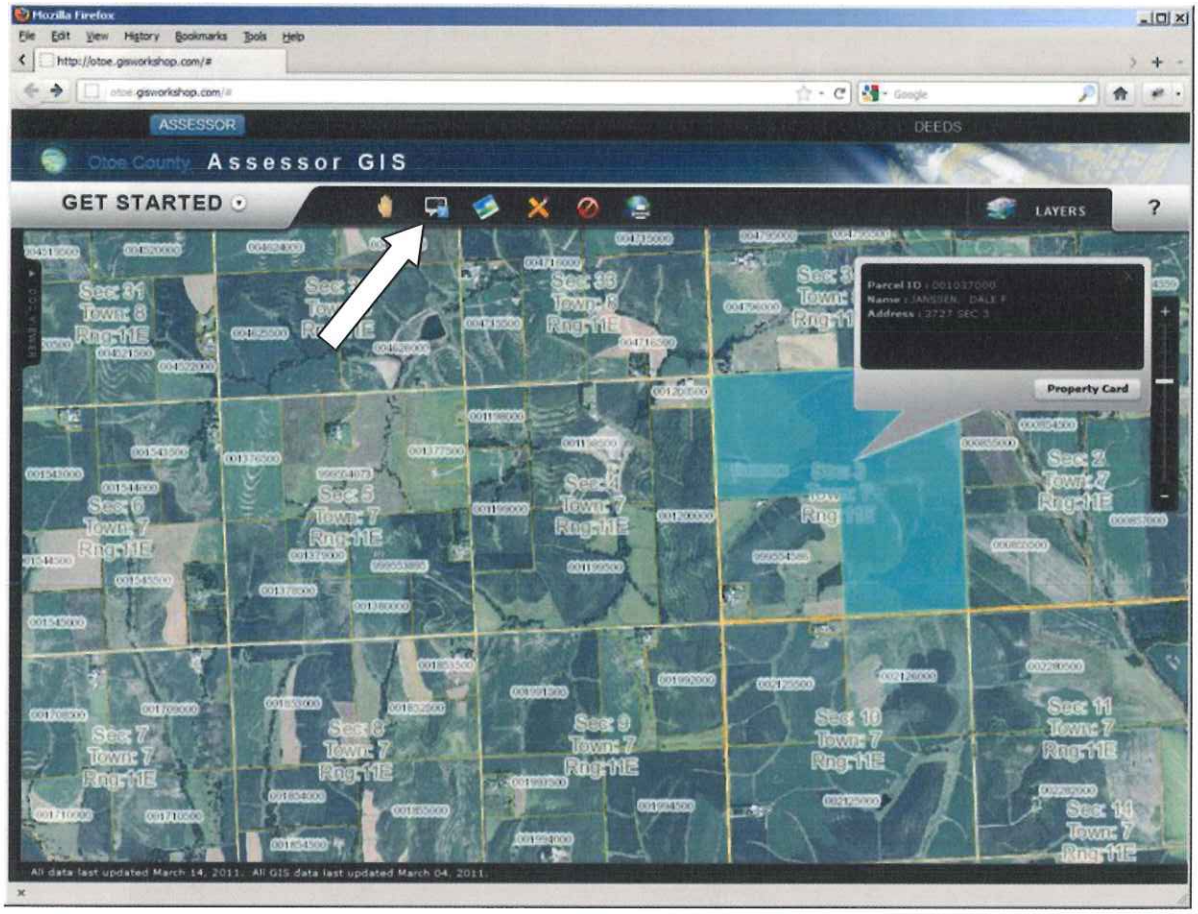


Figure 12: Activated Quick Identifier tool and information box result with link to Property Card

PHOTO TOOL

The Photo Tool is a great way to view individual building improvements. The tool reads the assessment database for all available photos and sketches and displays them in a photo window. If GISW has flown oblique aerial photography for the County those will also be available in the photo tool.

Figure 13: Property Photo Viewer Tool shows all available images from the Assessor's database

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 the figure below.

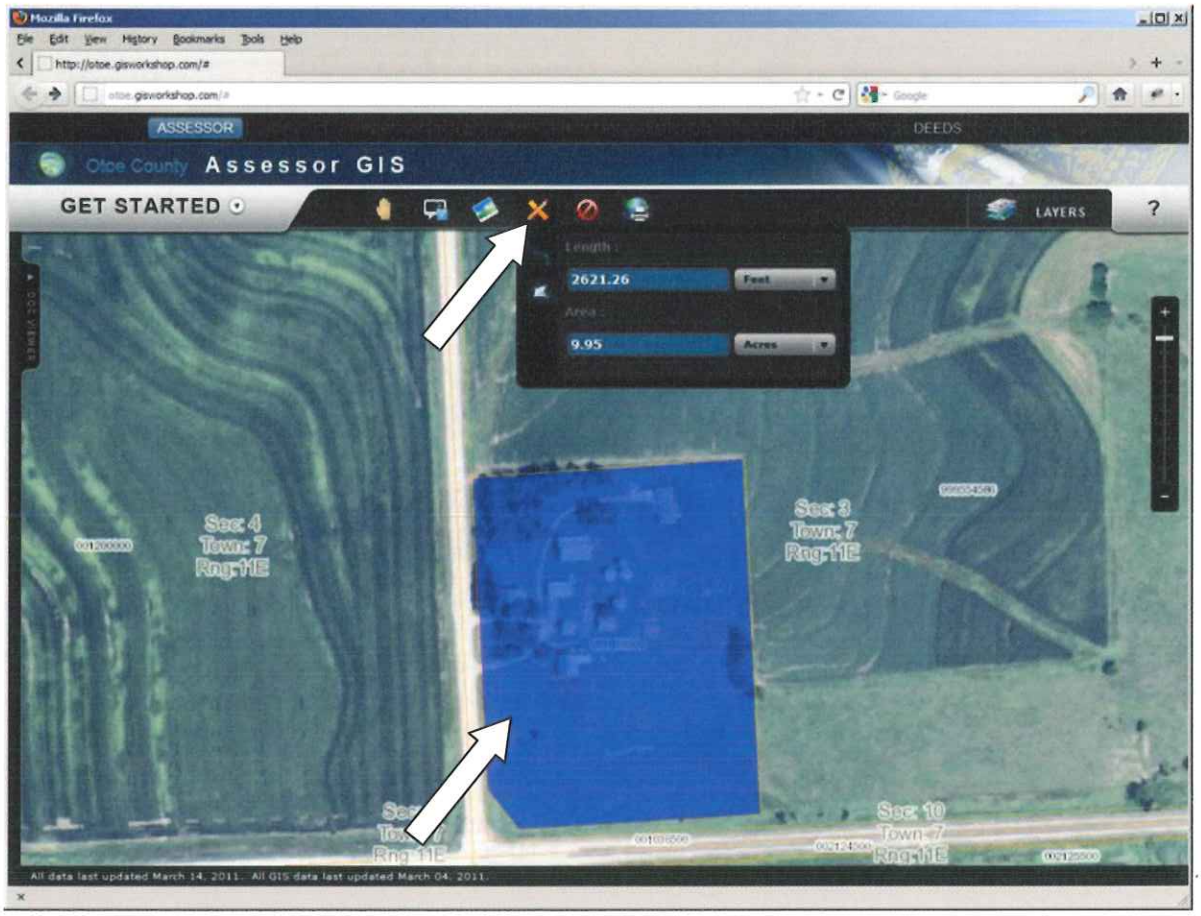


Figure 14: Measurement tool showing total length of the user-drawn line segment along the parcel boundary.

LAND USE CALCULATOR

The WebGIS Land Use Calculator Tool is a powerful tool for fast and accurate evaluation. The tool is protected by a simple login feature and allows the Assessor's Office to quickly calculate land value and provided a detailed report of the acreage breakdown of each LVG code category.

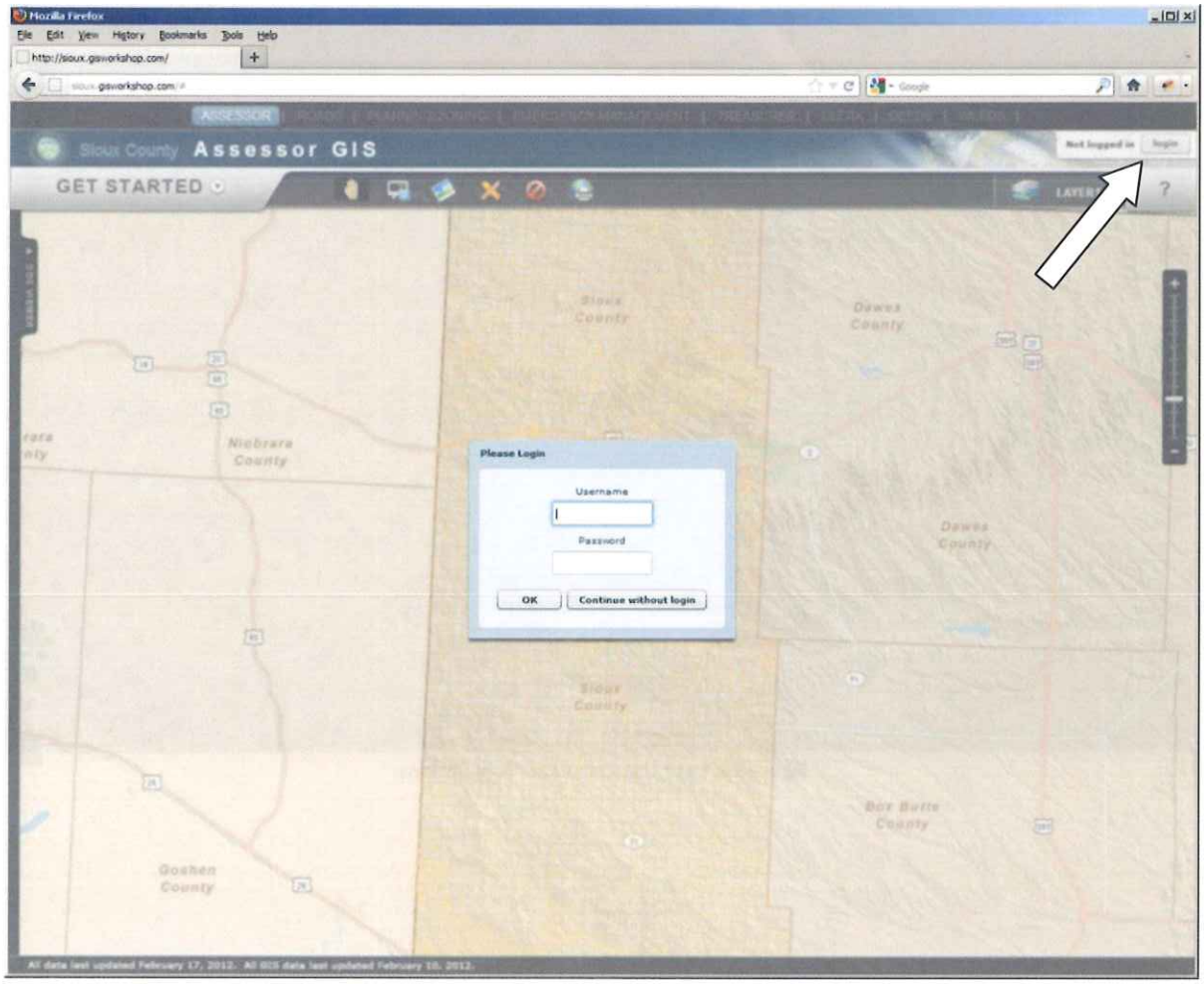


Figure 15: Login Screen protecting the Land Use Calculator Tool

GREELEY COUNTY NE

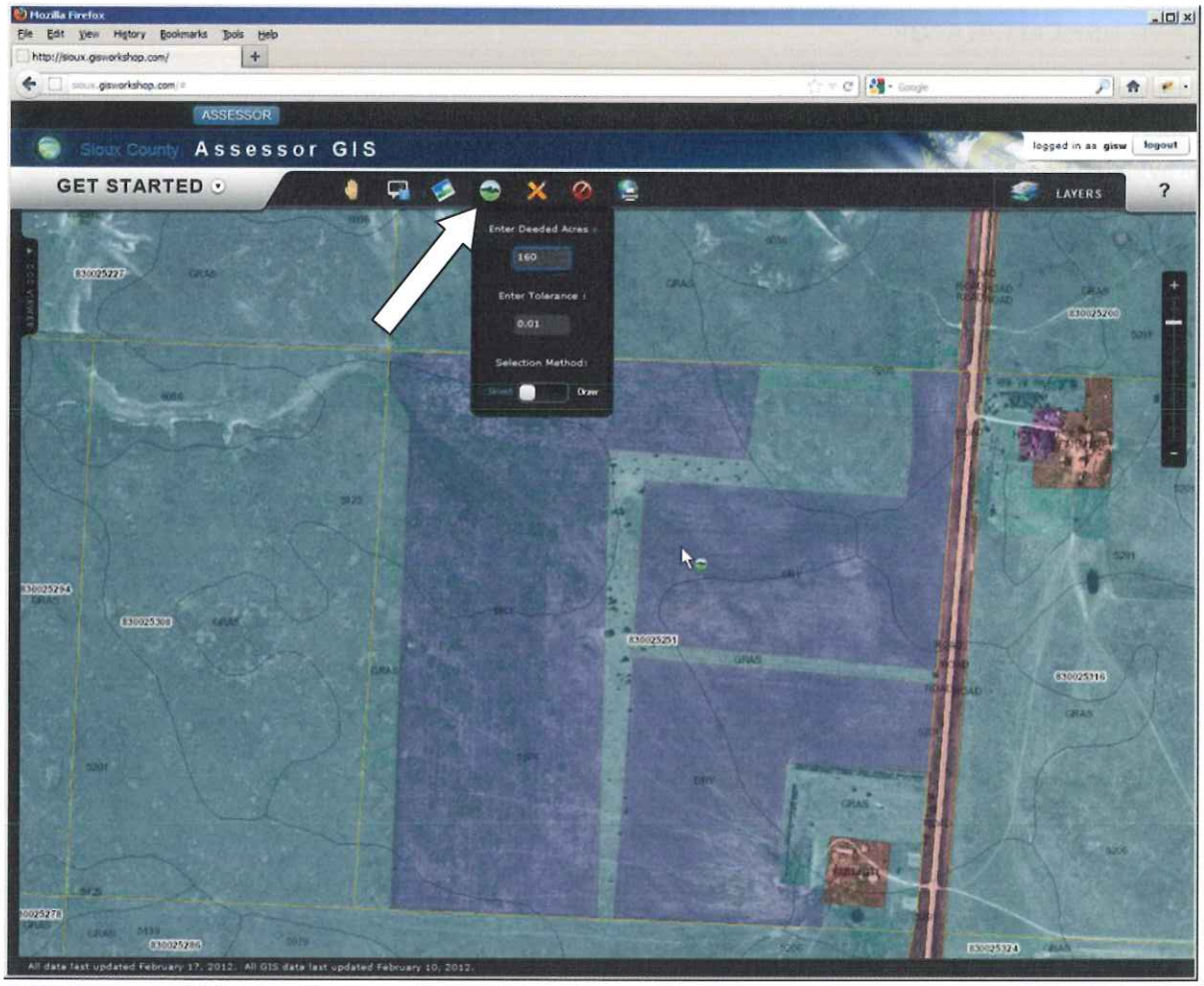


Figure 16: Land Use Calculator Tool options

GREELEY COUNTY NE

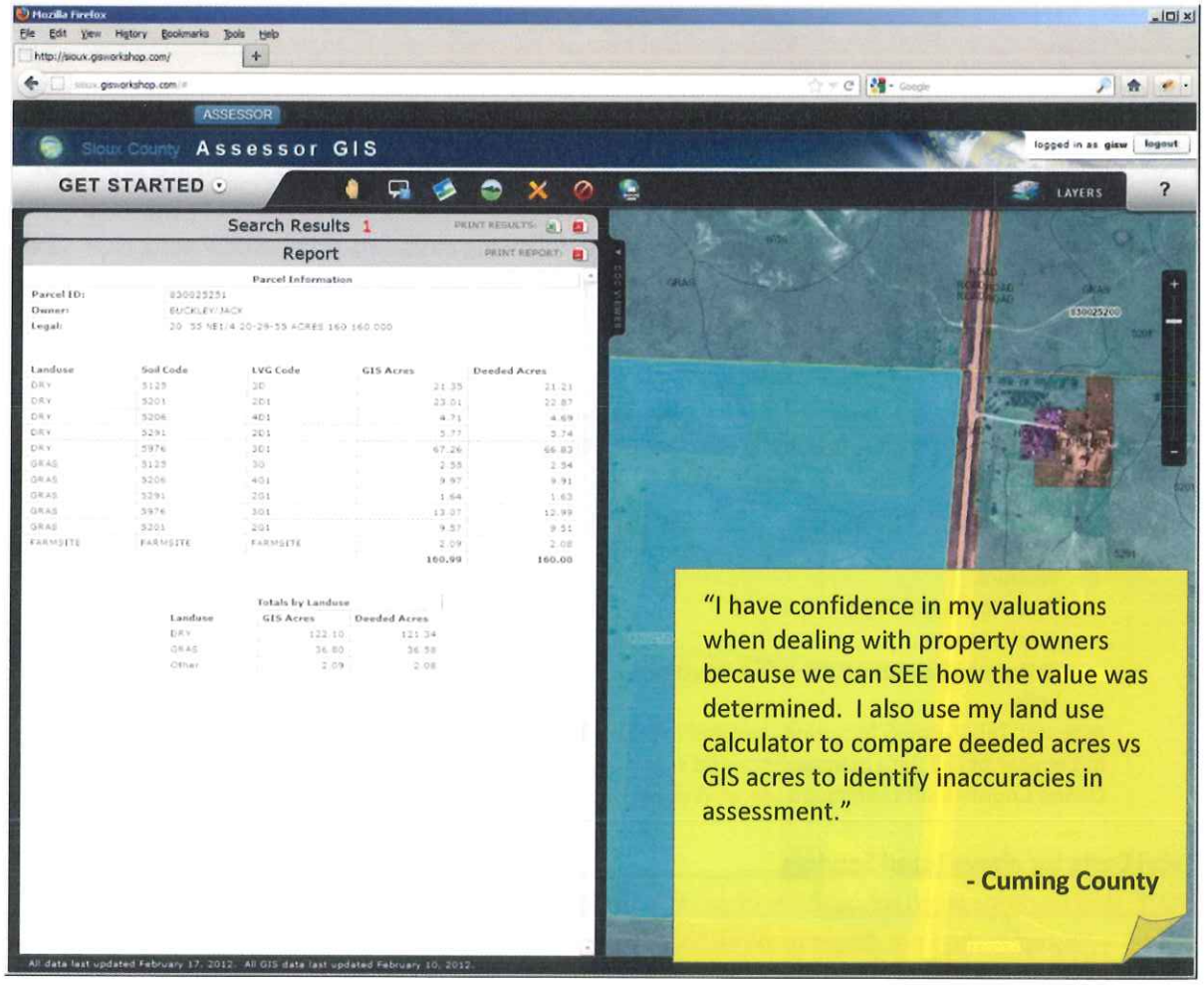


Figure 17: Land Use Calculator Report

SCHEDULE

The GISW team is ready to start the Greeley County Assessor GIS project after acceptance and receipt of a signed contract according to the tasks described in this proposal. We anticipate GIS project build-out and WebGIS setup completion before June 30, 2013.

GREELEY COUNTY NE

PROJECT COSTS

The following pricing and package is fully inclusive, providing the Assessor with everything needed for a fully functional assessment GIS. There are no hidden charges or expenses. The cost is based on the size of the County. Variations and/or additions to those tasks/features/service stated within are subject to additional costs. Any change orders must be documented and added as an addendum to this scope with the additional costs for said change order added to the following costs. **GIS WORKSHOP WILL NOT SEND A SINGLE INVOICE UNTIL THE PROJECT IS COMPLETE AND YOU ARE 100% SATISFIED WITH YOUR PRODUCT.**

Services	Cost ($)
GIS Build-out Services and Assessor Tab on WebGIS, with Year One Maintenance	$59,800

Deliverables:

- GIS layers
  - Parcels
  - Sections
  - Town lot/subdivision
  - Land use
  - Ortho-photography (Latest FSA imagery)
  - Soils
- Assessor Tab WebGIS featuring the Land use Calculator tool
- Initial year of GIS data maintenance and support
- Online County staff training on use of WebGIS

Total Costs for above listed Services **$59,800**

NOTE: Any discount given for usability of existing (Mitch Clark) GIS data after analysis by the GISW team will be reflected in the final Scope of Work document.

FINANCING OPTIONS

GISW will deliver and install all systems upon completion. Delivery is unrelated to the payment schedule. Support fees are not financed or included in this potential scheme. **Use of our interest free financing options does not delay product delivery in any way.**

NOTE: Any awarded Grant funds will be applied to the total cost and payment schedule will be based upon the remaining balance. **Remaining project balance may be spread over five years.**

ONGOING ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS

GIS Data maintenance by GISW for Assessor **(effective July 2014)**	$4,800 annually
WebGIS maintenance by GISW **(effective July 2014)**	$4,800 annually

OPTIONAL ITEMS

Additional annual maintenance for subscription-based option	$1,500 annually
Subscription-based management tool	included

Nebraska State Records Board

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

ATTACHMENT 2:

LETTERS OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT

FROM GREELEY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

RASMUSSEN LAND SURVEYING

85774 US Highway 281
O'Neill, NE 68763
Phone 402-482-5851 • FAX 402-482-5841

April 2nd, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
440 S. 8th St. Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508

I have used the GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Services in Holt, Valley and Antelope Counties extensively. Assessor records are a key component in the practice of legal surveying so the more assessable the records are the better. The ability to access the property data via these websites has saved my company and the counties I do work for numerous trips to the perspective courthouses, saving fuel, time and money. When county or city zoning is required on subdivisions we survey, we have used these GIS/Property Lookup Websites to compare and confirm the current deeds with tax roll information saving us again fuel, time and money and I have answered numerous "quick question" calls from clients with a click of my mouse.

This would prove to be, for me, a huge time and fuel saver as a trip to the Greeley County Courthouse is a 100 mile round trip.

Regards,

Steve Rasmussen
Greeley County Surveyor
Rasmussen Land Surveying

April 2, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board
440 S. 8th St. Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508

As employees of the Greeley County Assessor Office we would like to offer this letter of support and express the need for the GIS Website to be implemented here in Greeley County. We are a small department that is made up of two employees at the current time. With the possibility of getting the GIS grant it would add the ability for users to look up a name, address or legal description for the County this in turn would save a lot of counter conversation, phone calls and time spent pulling Property Record Cards for Owners-Real Estate Agents and other office traffic. We have a number of interruptions thru out the day and when we are busy with reports or one of us is out reviewing sales or viewing new improvements or on vacation that leaves one person to maintain the office. This would help this office tremendously. With the GIS system this would allow patrons of Greeley County and users of our office information the ability of 24/7 access that would free up our time for office tasks. Talking to other Counties that are using the GIS system already, they say it made a big difference in the office traffic. If implemented it would also allow for more County Offices to add on to the GIS system and allow more information to be shared.

We as employees of the Greeley County Assessor Office support this request for the GIS Website and feel that it would be of great benefit to the County. Please consider Greeley County for this grant.

Thank You for your time
Sincerely,

Charlotte E Murphy

Charlotte E Murphy
Greeley, NE 68842

Joan M Goodrich

Joan M Goodrich
Greeley, NE 68842

Office Of
Greeley County Treasurer

Vicki E. Goodrich, Treasurer – Sharon Rosander, Deputy
P.O. Box 288 – Greeley, Nebraska 68842
Telephone 308-428-3535

March 30th 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board,

Please consider Greeley County for the grant for the GIS website. It would save time and gas by allowing everyone to have access to records whether the court house is open or not. It would also be a collaboration of information between the city and county and also other government entities. It would also be of benefit to the Greeley County Treasurer's office to look up legal descriptions, identify tax districts and also look up parcels of property. Please consider Greeley County for this grant.

Sincerely,

Vicki Goodrich

Vicki Goodrich
Greeley County Treasurer

Greeley County Commissioners
P.O. Box 287
Greeley, NE 68842
(308) 428-2965

Leo Reilly
Chairman

Douglas J. Wrede
Vice Chairman

Michael Goldfish

March 29, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

The Greeley County Board of Commissioners would like to express our support towards the Greeley County Assessor acquiring funds to assist in obtaining services from GIS Workshop.

Development of the GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service for Greeley County will be extremely beneficial to the Greeley County Officials, as well as to the general Public.

The demand for fast, easy access to public information is always increasing and the ability to access information online 24/7 is an important factor to the Public. Online services are not only convenient, but save individuals time and money in travel expenses they would normally incur.

Providing quality services to our Taxpayers is important to us, but obtaining funding for these services is always an issue for a small county. It is our opinion that this GIS project is money well spent as it will provide an invaluable service to our County Officials as well as to the Public.

Sincerely,

Leo Reilly, Chairman
Greeley County Board of Commissioners

Mindy A. Grossart
Greeley County Clerk
P.O. Box 287
Greeley, NE 68842
Phone (308) 428-3625
Fax (308) 428-3022

Lois Nordhues
Deputy County Clerk

Monica Carraher
Office Clerk

March 29, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

I would like to take this opportunity to express my support towards Greeley County's Grant Application for obtaining services from GIS Workshop.

Online services are becoming increasingly important to the public for accessing information at their own convenience. Information online can be accessed from a taxpayers home at any hour, providing them the flexibility they desire and saving them time and expense in travel to the Courthouse.

As a County Official, I have found in my own office that computer based and online information enables me and my staff to serve our customers much more quickly and efficiently than searching through our records manually. Customer satisfaction and office productivity have greatly increased as we continue to improve the access to public information.

I believe the GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service will benefit the Assessor's office much in the same manner and will be a valuable resource to other County Officials as well as to the public. Therefore, I offer my support to the development of the project.

Sincerely,

Mindy A. Grossart

Mindy A. Grossart
Greeley County Clerk

March 30, 2012

Nebraska State Records

RE: Letter of Support
Greeley NE

Ladies and/or Gentlemen:

On behalf of FIVE POINTS BANK of Grand Island, Nebraska, we are greatly in favor of supporting the grant being offered by the Nebraska State Records Board to improve access to public information for Greeley County, Nebraska. We use similar sites from other counties on a daily basis. It would be very helpful and less time consuming for the information to be on-line for easy access.

- We look for GIS/Property locations on the sites we have from other counties. Thus, we totally support the Greeley Map Site Web Service.
- We use the GIS/Property to look up properties, Deeds of Trusts, Deeds of Reconveyances, assessed value of property, correct legal descriptions, etc.
- It is important to our bank to be able to access this site 24/7 as we have many real estate closings for which this information is needed in a timely manner.
- This site would save our bank money as we can obtain such information ourselves on line rather than driving to the county courthouse, or having a title company research it for us.
- The opportunity for future collaboration between the city and county would definitely be a benefit to us to have joint information.
- It would also be beneficial for us to have other government entities share their information on-line as well. It saves us time, energy, money, and frustration if the information we need is at our fingertips, rather than having to wait for answers before we can proceed on a loan.
- In reiteration, please know that any access to this information, preferably collaboration between city/county, all data sharing, being available 24/7, allows us to be more efficient, and saves us time and money. We can be much more productive in our business. And lastly, we would not be wasting time and gas to drive to the courthouse to obtain the information we need.

MEMBER FDIC P.O. BOX 1507 Main Bank at 2015 North Broadwell 308-384-5350 the South Bank at 3111 West Stolley Park Road 308-384-5681 GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA 68802

We greatly appreciate this opportunity to give you our insight as to how this on-line access would be greatly used and how helpful it would be in our business.

Should you have any questions, please give me a call at 308/384-5350. We look forward to Greeley County receiving these funds to assist in developing a new GIS Website for public use.

Sincerely,

Catherine Oakley
Asst. Vice President

CA/mo

SBS STATE BANK of SCOTIA
P.O. BOX 325 SCOTIA, NEBRASKA 68875
TEL: 308-245-4201 MEMBER FDIC

March 30, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board:

This letter is to convey our support and encouragement for the development of a new GIS Website for Greeley County.

We use this type of service frequently in the banking business to research tax records, assessments, legal descriptions and general property information. An advanced website will substantially expedite our work, some of which is done while our customer is waiting.

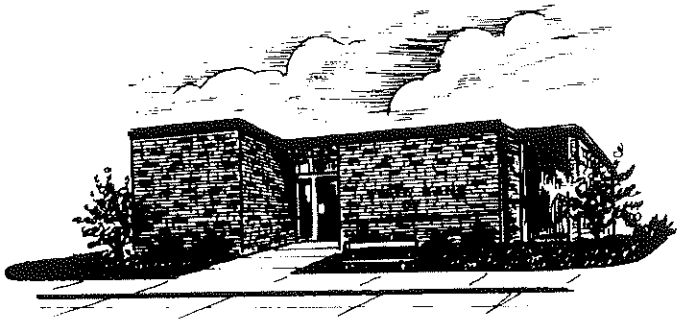
Our bank has a small number of staff members. It can be quite disruptive when one of us has to take 45 to 60 minutes during business hours to travel to the courthouse in order to research matters that should be available on the new website.

I hope the project will be able to move forward as it would definitely help our business and, I am sure, a number of others who utilize this information.

Sincerely,

Scott E. Emmett

Scott E. Emmett, Executive Vice President
State Bank of Scotia



Nebraska Central Telephone Company
Nebraska Central Telecom, Inc.

22 LaBarre St
PO Box 700
Gibbon, NE 68840-0700

Phone: (308) 468-6341
Fax: (308) 468-9929

www.nctc.net

Date: March 30, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
c/o Joan Goodrich
PO Box 247
Greeley, NE 68842

Via email to: joan.goodrich@nebraska.gov

Re: GIS Website Grant – Greeley County

This correspondence is to express Nebraska Central Telephone Company and Nebraska Central Telecom, Inc. support of the grant application of Greeley County for funds to develop a new GIS Website.

The Nebraska Central companies provide telecommunications, broadband, and cable television services in parts of Greeley County. Having 24/7 online access will help us become more efficient in researching and identifying service locations, roads, and other public rights of way in the county in our daily business activities. This will be particularly helpful should outages or disasters occur outside of typical business hours when the courthouse and other government offices are closed, allowing us to be more responsive to Greeley County residents and our customers.

Implementation of the new system should save the county and its patrons money which is becoming more and more important due to the pressure on state, county and local budgets to operate more efficiently.

Sincerely,

Andrew D. Jader
Vice President - Administration

TAYLOR REALTY & APPRAISER

420 Main Street
Neligh, NE 68756

Phone 402-887-4811
Fax 402-887-4811
bennie@taylorrealty.net

March 30, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
P. O. Box 247
Greeley, NE 68842

Dear Joan:

I am a Nebraska licensed General Certified Real Property Appraiser and also a Registered Abstracter. My base is Neligh, Nebraska, in Antelope County. Assessors office in Neligh was one of the first counties to have a GIS system. This has been a great assistance for myself and my staff. Before the GIS system, my office employees and myself spent a considerable amount of time looking up assessment information and making copies. We also had to check in the County Clerk's office for ownership. This can now be done by going to the assessor's web. That site will also show the amount of the real estate taxes, which is a great help for doing appraisers.

An appraisal was completed recently in Greeley County. I did research the records for ownership, checked the taxes and then checked for comparable sales. I did not check the assessor's file for property to be appraised and get copies of information for the comparables. Back at the office, I looked for the web site and was surprised that Greeley county did not have a GIS system.

Most of the counties in the area that I work do have GIS systems. In my opinion, this is a must. These systems do save me a considerable amount of time, travel and is very convenient. Recently I have had offers from several banks and loan companies to bid on appraisals. The GIS sites are a great help in determining the type of property, land use, (being irrigated, dry or grass), and also if there are any improvements.

I am a strong supporter of the GIS systems. This needed for any of the counties that do not have the system at this time.

Yours truly,

Bennie C. Taylor,
General Certified RP Appraiser

Greeley County Attorney
P.O. Box 328
Greeley, NE 68842
(308) 428-5020

April 2, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
440 S. 8th Street Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508

RE: Greeley County GIS/Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service Grant,

Nebraska State Records Board,

I am the Greeley County Attorney and I wish to express my sincere desire to see the Greeley County Assessor obtain a Grant to assist them in building a web site to allow our office quicker and easier access to the Greeley County Assessor's records.

As a county attorney, it is often necessary to know who owns a piece of property and other information which is often available from the Greeley County Assessor's Office. Law suits, criminal cases and other cases often times need the above information. Being able to get those records online would make my job much easier and make it possible for me to get that information more quickly and focus on the legal issues in a case.

Greeley County, like I mentioned earlier, has a small population. Obtaining web services is very difficult for a small County like this in these difficult economic times. Greeley County is working to become more open and available to the public, and this website will help us immeasurably in reaching that goal.

Thank you,

James R. Swanson
Greeley County Attorney

04/02/2012

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service

To Whom it may concern,

I am a Licensed Real Property Appraiser who would greatly encourage the continuation and grant for the GIS for Greeley County, Ne. It is a beneficial feature for many to have this service in our rural area. As an Appraiser,for over 15 years,for rural areas in North Central Nebraska,with no MLS option, it it is of considerable convenience to be able to have a 24/7 service for information when researching county properties. It saves greatly on drive time, gas and thus money to have access to a public website with this kind of information.In past years,prior to GIS, I have traveled to County offices, only to hope to find sales or comparable properties necessary for my Clients research.It increases my production and allows me to be more efficient as viable information can be readily accessed without making unwarranted trips to County offices. It is not only for appraising use that it is useful, I have known many parties that have accessed information for their own personal or business use and have instructed them how to access this site. In this day and age of information the collaboration between counties and cities the service it provides would be vital for dissemination of such information to and from each entity.

I would hope that the GIS would continue in rural areas like Greeley County as it is the only viable 24/7 public access to rural county property information, it is very useful and a necessary tool for many in the community.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas M. Osentowski

Thomas M. Osentowski NE L280176

April 2, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board
440 S. 8th St. Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508

As a past president and a current member of the Greeley Fire and Rescue Department for Greeley I would like to express the departments support and express the need for the GIS Website to be implemented in Greeley County. We are a small department that is made up of all volunteers with no paid positions. When we are paged out for a rescue, fire or weather related call we are given the 911 addresses as a location. At times they are hard to locate in the rural area. With the haste and need to get there in a safe and reasonable time frame the ability to look up a name, address or legal description that has the location maps attached would be of great benefit to our department. We have had calls where the communication between dispatch and the vehicles would have been very helpful to have been collaborated with other County/State services, such as with the Sheriff office and other Fire and Rescue Departments in our County. We have on numerous accounts helped other departments within our County and also neighboring Counties with fire and rescue assist calls. With the GIS system this would allow a faster response time. The ability of 24/7 access would greatly enhance our service as the calls come anytime day or night and would be beneficial to the Community and surrounding area, and perhaps even saves lives.

We as a department support this request for the GIS Website and feel that it would be of great benefit to the County. Please consider Greeley County for this grant.

Thank You for your time
Sincerely,

Joan M Goodrich

Joan M. Goodrich for Greeley Fire and Rescue
300 East Wicklow Avenue
Greeley, NE 68842
308-428-3485

SCOTIA, NE. 68875
APRIL 2, 2012

TO: NE STATE RECORDS BOARD

FROM: CHARLES E. BEEBE
P.O. BOX 276
SCOTIA, NE. 68875-0276

I AM VERY INTERESTED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GIS WEBSITE FOR USE IN GREELEY CO.

THIS WEBSITE WOULD SAVE ME MILES AND TIME BY HAVING THIS SERVICE 24/7.

MY INTEREST IS BOTH BUSINESS AND CIVIC CONCERN, I AM INVOLVED WITH REAL ESTATE AND HAVE SERVED ON THE SCOTIA VILLAGE BOARD AND THE NORTH LOUP-SCOTIA SCHOOL BOARD.

THIS WEBSITE COULD PROVIDE VALUABLE INFORMATION AS TO TAX BASE, LAND VALUATION - BOTH FOR VALUATION CONCERNING SALES AS WELL AS ANTICIPATED TAX INFORMATION FOR BUDGET PURPOSES, ESPECIALLY WHEN AVAILABLE 24/7.

IT WOULD ALSO SAVE THE ASSESORS OFFICE VALUABLE TIME.

Charles E. Beebe
CHARLES E. BEEBE

GREELEY COUNTY WEED CONTROL
PO BOX 53, GREELEY, NE. 68842
PHONE 308-428-5955

04/02/2012

Nebraska State Records Board

Dear Sirs:

This is my letter of support for the GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service.

In the course of doing my job of weed control in Greeley County, I am constantly looking up who owns a particular parcel of land, as my authority rests only with the land owner. I work part time, and only on my time. That means I normally work late in the afternoons. Having access to the county data 24/7 will save me a tremendous amount to time and travel. I make my inspections and then do the contacts with the landowner. By this time of day the courthouse is closed, and I must wait until the next day, when I could be out making more inspections. If I have 24/7 access to the county data I do not need to go to the County Assessor and take up their time or mine.

Having access to this kind of data would make sharing data between my office and The Nebraska State Department of Agriculture, as required by law, about the levels of noxious weed infestations and their locations a whole lot easier and much more accurate.

This web service will save me a lot of time, money, and travel, which will in turn save tax money. There are several new uses for sharing data on a larger scale being developed within weed management. I whole hearted support the use of this new wed site in Greeley County.

Thank You.

Sincerely,
Walter Bjorklund
Walter Bjorklund, Supt.
Greeley County Weed Control

Sweeney Auction & Realty, Inc.

Chuck Sweeney, Broker
Rt. 1, Box 30 • Greeley, NE 68842

Phone (308) 428-5971
www.sweeneyauction.net

Apr. 3, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

I am a business owner in Greeley and I would like to add my support for Greeley County obtaining a new GIS Website for public use.

As you can tell I'm in the Real Estate business and the counties that have this type of website now it is MUCH easier to use to find property and ownership records. This website is MUCH easier to access information and it really allows me to save time and money (travel) and helps everyone to be more productive in our work.

I believe this will also allow for future collaboration between the county and the cities within its borders to share information and also with other government organizations.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely;

Charles L. Sweeney

Charles L. Sweeney

Martinsen Appraisal

200 West Maple-POB 182
Elgin, NE 68638 (402-843-5791)
Web Site: www.martinsenappraisal.com

April 3, 2012

Joan Goodrich
GIS Coordinator
POB 247
Greeley, NE 68842

Dear Joan (or who it may concern):

This letter is to provide support for a grant of the GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service. I have been around the appraisal industry since 1998. I specialize in residential and agricultural appraisals. There have been many changes in our industry over the years. The GIS system is a valuable tool for us and anyone in the real estate business. This system provides valuable information 24/7 in a 24/7 world. This system also cuts back on time for Assessor offices. This gives these offices more time to do their work and less time on the phone answering questions of Real Estate Professionals about properties. Access to this information & Data sharing available 24/7 allows my office to be more efficient saving time and money, allows me to be more productive and saving time and gas not wasted driving to the courthouse.

If you have any questions regarding this information please feel free to give me a call.

Sincerely yours,

Chad Martinsen
Certified General Appraiser

Greeley County Planning and Zoning Department
Greeley County Courthouse
P.O. Box 21
Greeley, NE 68842
308-428-9924

April 3, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

As the Zoning Administrator for Greeley County I have full support for the GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service. In my department, we have to notify landowners within 1 mile of a site applying for a permit and we put in many hours trying to locate all the addresses. Access to the GIS would be more efficient because it would allow the applicant to do this part of the process from their home, resulting in less time and money wasted for the Zoning Department. Because they would have access to the GIS 24/7, it would be convenient for them as well.

I think the GIS program would result in a more productive use of time for the county, and open up more opportunities for future partnership between the county and the city. It will help everyone be on the same page which would result in a better community as a whole. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Franz Trumler

Franz Trumler
Greeley County Zoning Administrator

Greeley County Roads Department
Greeley County Courthouse
P.O. Box 287
Greeley, NE 68842
308-428-9924

April 3, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

As the Highway Superintendent for Greeley County I have full support for the GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service. I think it is important for the public to have access to this county data and would free up more time for county employees. It would help to current information on landowners so everyone is on the same page and would produce more efficiency.

Having access to the GIS program would also make it easier on the public, as they would be able to get information at any time. I know that this would help the government offices of Greeley County collaborate more productively with the city office. I appreciate you considering Greeley County for this opportunity to improve our public access to county data.

Sincerely,

Donald Roy
Greeley County Highway Superintendent

Goodrich, Joan

From: Bill Mcquillan [bmcq@cnbgreeley.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2012 11:32 AM
To: Goodrich, Joan

4/3/12

Joan—

This is a product that we would support & certainly utilize for our loan customers here at the bank, assuming there Is no additional ongoing cost . Interactivity would certainly help also.

We are always supportive of enhanced collaboration between governmental entities , as it typically lowers costs in the end.

Based on what I have heard, this enhancement would also allow residents and taxpayers 24/7 access to the database, which would certainly be a major benefit.

Sincerely,

William L. McQuillan
Chairman/Pres/CEO
CNB Community Bank
P. O. Box 306
Greeley, NE 68842

HENDERSON STATE BANK

P.O. Box 100
Greeley, NE 68842

Phone (308) 428-9992 Fax (308) 428-9994

April 3, 2012

Mrs. Joan Goodrich
GIS Coordinator for the
Greeley County Courthouse
P.O. Box 247
Greeley, NE 68842

RE: GIS Website

Dear Mrs. Goodrich:

I am writing on behalf of our bank and our customers regarding the need for the GIS Website in Greeley County. Being able to access, print, and share county data and maps are a very useful and timesaving tool. We have had satisfactory experiences with GIS for other counties where we have other customers and feel that Greeley County needs and deserves the GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service.

Most of our farm customers are very computer savvy and I feel this is a valuable service that can be offered by Greeley County. I believe the CIS Website will save all users time and money and the benefit will create goodwill between county government and the taxpayers.

Please feel free to call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

HENDERSON STATE BANK

Sandy Rother
Loan Officer

April 2, 2012

Dear Nebraska State Records Board,

I want to express my support for the GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service for Greeley County. I think this would be an excellent service to be offered to the county residents. Online property lookup is gaining more interest from the people in Greeley County, and I feel that offering them an updated and public accessible website would not only hold the interest but would also help advance Greeley County in the technology aspect.

I myself would be much more apt to access the public website at any hour of the day rather than attempt to access the information at the county courthouse. I also feel the majority of the residents throughout Greeley County would have the same opinion considering today's economy.

Sincerely,

Katie A. Johnson

Katie A. Johnson

SPALDING CITY AGENCY

121 N Chestnut St ~ POB 10 ~ Spalding NE 68665
phone 308-497-2423 ~ fax 308-497–2437 ~ e-mail spaldingcityagency@gpcom.net

April 3, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

I would like to express my support for the development of a Global Imaging System to provide easy access to property and map site information for Greeley County, NE.

I am in the business of providing insurance coverage and quotes to clients and access to a System such as this would greatly improve my efficiency in quoting and appraising property worth.

This GIS will continue to be a great tool for all uses in property information. I will look forward to using this site on development.

Thank you

Tim Pfeifer
Spalding City Agency

CITIZENS STATE BANK

Member FDIC

Phone (308) 497-2436 | Fax (308) 497-2437 | 121 N. Chestnut Street | P.O. Box 10 | Spalding, NE 68665

April 3, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board:

We would like to express our support for the development of a Global Imaging System to provide easy property lookup and map site information for Greeley County.

We provide Real Estate and Agricultural loans to residents of Greeley County. This requires constantly doing evaluations of the real estate and improvements on the properties. Access to this information on line would allow us to be more efficient, provide quicker services to our customers, while at the same time reducing our cost on trips to the courthouse. An added convenience to this GIS website is that it is available anytime we need the information.

This GIS website is a great tool for government entities such as Greeley County to provide public data to users such as ourselves in an efficient manner.

We look forward to using this new GIS website upon its development.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Boyer
Community Bank President

White Realty & Appraisal
508 Main Street
PO Box 133
Neligh, NE 68756
Phone: 402-887-5142 **whiterealty@citlink.net** **FAX: 402-887-4320**

March 30, 2012

Greeley County
% Joan Goodrich
GIS Coordinator for Greeley County
PO Box 247
Greeley, NE 68842

RE: GIS System in Greeley County

To Whom It May Concern,

White Realty & Appraisal is in full support of the update of the Greeley County Assessor's GIS website to include GIS mapping applications. It would benefit our appraisal office, and many others in the area, as well as the county assessor's office itself, and the general public of Greeley County. Time management, supply costs, fuel costs, and time constraints would be greatly improved by this addition. As we are able to "help ourselves" via the WebGIS, the office staff of the Greeley county Assessor's office would be available to assist the general public without delay. In addition to freeing up office personnel, the county records remain uncompromised without laypeople such as myself shuffling through paper records at the office. Finally, the internet is "open" twenty four seven. There are no office hours, which can really be helpful during a rush situation.

Technology is moving forward, and we must do the same to stay competitive.

Sincerely,

Keith White,
White Realty & Appraisal

Farm Credit Services *of* America
AGRICULTURE WORKS HERE...

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
kirk.manker@fcsamerica.com
402-348-3367
402-661-3367 (fax)

AGRICULTURE WORKS HERE.™

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 : Harlan County NE**
2. **Grant amount requested $ 25,000**
3. **Title of project: Assessor GIS and County WebGIS**
4. **Brief description of project:** The project includes building a county-wide land records GIS database and WebGIS application that will link to the existing Orion 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.

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.

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.

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).**

Harlan County has chosen to develop a Geographic Information System (GIS) database and web-enabled mapping interface and database query tool (or WebGIS). The WebGIS application will provide an intuitive interface for citizens, businesses, County departments and other local/county/regional/state agencies to easily find public records data. The attached proposal (see Attachment 1) illustrates the specific data layers and the WebGIS application features.

The County selected GIS Workshop, Inc (GISW) as the vendor for this project. The project will include data development tasks for parcels, land use and legal land base (lot, block and subdivision) layers. The parcels will be developed from the best available source data (survey plats, legal descriptions, cadastral maps, etc) and assigned a parcel identification number to match the Assessor's Orion database system.

The land use layer will be developed using a combination of available data sources including the Orion database parcel records, air photo interpretation, etc. The land use classes will match those defined by the Nebraska Property Assessment Division. Land use classes will include dryland crop, irrigated crop, grass, CRP (optional), tree (optional), homesite, farmsite, road, exempt and waste. This layer will also be very useful for agencies such as the Natural Resource Districts.

GISW will also assemble other datasets such as SSURGO soils, FSA aerial photography and any available high-resolution photography.

The WebGIS application will provide an intuitive interface for users to search for public records using either the text search menu or the map tools. Users will be able to toggle layers on/off individually, click on a parcel to see its Record Card, click on a parcel to see all available photos/sketches, measures distances/areas, print to PDF or export to Microsoft Excel. The WebGIS will provide 24/7/365 access to public records for citizens, businesses and government employees.

The WebGIS application will also include a highly specialized tool for the Assessor's Office to calculate land value for new parcel splits or verify the land use and soil characteristics of an existing parcel. The Land Use Calculator is very valuable for fast, efficient and equitable tax assessment.

Other County departments will also benefit from the WebGIS application. The Clerk, Treasurer and Register of Deeds Offices will all benefit from easy access to land records information. The Weeds department will use it for determining property owners and property location for spraying noxious weeds and issuing notices to landowners. The County Election Office will better determine exact voter precinct maps and voters will be able to access the redistricted commissioner boundary maps that the County contracted with GISW to build late I 2011. The Harlan County Board of Commissioners is excited

about the opportunity for offices such as Planning/Zoning, Roads, Treasurer, Weeds and Register of Deeds to build upon the land records foundation to create a one-stop web-enabled interface to County data. They feel that the timing of developing the GIS with the transition of moving from State-assessed to County-assessed is optimum for ease in staffing and processes.

Installing the system in the Assessor's Office will assist dispatch in determining exact locations for 911 calls and emergencies. It will also benefit our Fire Departments and Ambulance Departments to aid in their quick response to emergencies.

Other GISW clients have cited a 50-75% reduction in phone call volume after implementing the WebGIS application. The application will provide better service to County's over 3,400 residents while increasing the efficiency of multiple County departments.

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

   Anyone interested in land records information for Harlan County will benefit from this project. 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 Alma and various State agencies will also benefit from easy access to the County data. Efficiencies realized from 24/7 access will result in increased productivity and cost savings for both public and private entities.

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. County department staff members have attended Board meetings to express their support. NRDs have also expressed their support for this project to build collaboration.

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 June 30, 2013 (06/30/2013).

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 GIS for Harlan County. Attachment 1 contains an overview of the project in GISW's Proposal document. The Proposal is for development of a GIS for Harlan County, updating of the GIS and development of a WebGIS site for the County, which will make information available 24/7. The total amount of grant money awarded to Harlan County will be used to defray the following initial GIS 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.**

   Harlan County Assessor 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. The Surveyor will also be contributing data as the project progresses. GIS Workshop will be compiling data, scanning cadastral maps, designing and building the GIS. Harlan County assessor staff will participate in GIS training provided by an approved Esri trainer from GIS Workshop, Inc.

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 allow the public access to important County information and to increase efficiency in the future. Harlan 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 GIS project and by making it a priority.

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 Harlan County of implementing the GIS. The County fully anticipates being able to fully meet annual maintenance costs of the GIS 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 Orion database containing tax assessment information. The

Property Record Card component of the WebGIS has several customized reports, derived from the Orion 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 Harlan County community. We have received much support from community business professionals and taxpayers.

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 Harlan 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.

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.

Part II. Technical Information

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

   The construction of the Website is included in the fee with GIS Workshop. Harlan County will purchase the additional years of maintenance fees. These fees include unlimited maintenance, which will continue to keep this program current and to continue to be beneficial.

   Access to the data from the GIS program will be throughout the Internet. For persons that do not have Internet access, the Public Library supplies several computers for this service at no charge.

   Harlan County believes that this program is necessary to keep the public up to date and informed and to increase efficiency across all departments.

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 Tyler Orion (or any other CAMA provider selected in the future) database systems in use in Harlan County today.

   Our vendor, GIS Workshop, Inc. has stated to us (informally) that any systems or data they construct meets all the applicable NITC and FGDC standards for GIS data and metadata.

   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 and for protecting features such as the Land Use Calculator Tool from unauthorized use.

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 Harlan County will be built and designed by GIS Workshop, with adherence to standards established by the State of Nebraska. The digital map database has been developed using the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System, NAD83 as per State/NITC guidelines. The system will comply with any other applicable NITC items.

4. Agencies submitting grant applications for funding of a Geographic Information System (GIS) project must in addition to the standard grant application complete and submit the ***Supplemental Questionnaire for State Funded Entities on Land Record Information and Mapping-Related Grant Application*** found on the Boards website page "Grant Information" at www.staterecordsboard.ne.gov.

This supplement is attached.

5. **Describe how technical support will be provided.**

GIS Workshop will edit and maintain the GIS data on our redundant servers. Harlan County will be responsible for sending parcel splits and land use changes to GIS Workshop. GIS Workshop will download a copy of the Tyler Orion data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GIS Workshop server. They have a dedicated technical support staff that is available at any time during business hours to service the County's needs.

Part III. EXPECTATIONS

It is the expectation of the Nebraska State Records Board that the grantee recognize the project as an ongoing effort to make public documents and or transactions more accessible. As this application relates to public documents the goal encompasses not only the availability of current documents as described in this application but the ongoing addition of new and updated documents in a timely manner. This goal recognizes the public's interest in not only historical information but the expectation that current data is obtainable. The Nebraska State Records Board recognizes that this is a long term commitment on the part of the grantee and anticipates the continued financial support of the grantee to maintain these expectations.

Part IV. STATE LAW COMPLIANCE

Nebraska law, sections 4-108 through 4-114 state that no political subdivision of the State shall provide public benefits, to include grants or contracts, to a person not lawfully present in the United States. If this application is awarded in whole or in part, and during the time the grant is in effect, the undersigned, on behalf of the political subdivision grant applicant, by signing this grant application, affirmatively states and acknowledges that the political subdivision will comply with this law.

Part V. CONTACT INFORMATION & SIGNATURE

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

Pamela A. Meisenbach
Printed Name

Assessor (State)
Title

Phone # 308-928-2177 **E-mail** pam.meisenbach@nebraska.gov

Physical Address: 706 West Second, Alma, NE 68920

I, the Authorized Representative of Harlan 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**

Pamela A. Meisenbach
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 Comm/Register of Deeds, Planning and Zoning, Roads, Weeds, Treasurer, etc) have expressed interest in collaborating and building upon this initial investment in GIS technology to enhance their service provision to the public. In addition, the City of Alma and applicable Natural Resource Districts actively support GIS development for Harlan County to promote collaboration. We believe the WebGIS will be a valuable tool to those working in public safety because of the Harlan County Reservoir in our County and the lake-front properties surrounding the waterway. The property ownership information will be valuable to them in water safety situations. With six highways routed through Harlan County, we believe the law enforcement and emergency management staff will find value in having immediate access to County mapping.

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

GIS Workshop

www.gisworkshop.com

VERSION 1.2
Project: 0407-001

HARLAN COUNTY, NE

ATTACHMENT 1:

Proposal for

Assessor GIS and County WebGIS

Prepared for Pam Meisenbach, Assessor and the Harlan County Board of Commissioners

February 17, 2012

Trimble Authorized Business Partner

esri Partner Network Gold

402.436.2150
4949 NW 1st Street, Lincoln NE 68521

CONTENTS

THE GIS WORKSHOP DIFFERENCE

EXPERIENCE WITH NEBRASKA ASSESSMENT GIS

GIS Workshop, Inc., (GISW) has been providing quality Assessment GIS data and analysis solutions to over 65 assessment offices in Nebraska for more than 14 years. GISW staff has over 75 years combined experience in GIS implementation and are extremely experienced in Nebraska assessment systems. GISW is the only GIS Company in Nebraska that can provide the automatic database linking and other tools necessary to build a complete assessment Geographic Information System (GIS) for Harlan County to ensure compliance with Property Assessment Division (PAD) mandates. We are the only GIS Company recognized by the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO). As you transition from State-assessed to County-assessed, the GIS will ensure you are providing equal, fair, consistent valuation of property in the most efficient manner possible.

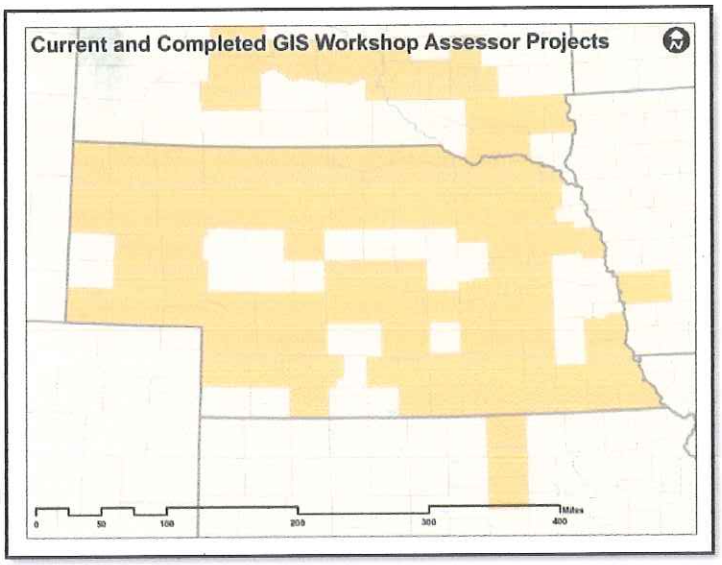


Figure 1: GISW is the most experienced Assessor GIS provider in the State

GISW is a full service GIS provider with a team of technicians ready to build your GIS. We will develop your GIS database, train your staff to use GIS information in their day-to-day workflow, provide unlimited support and develop internet mapping, or WebGIS, sites to make GIS more accessible to all your departments, real estate professionals and your constituents.

GISW specializes in developing GIS datasets and providing easy access to the data. Below is a list of key differentiators:

- WebGIS – our product gives everyone 'Google-like' access to GIS data. No one else offers web access!
- Costs – our costs are lower because our experience translates into efficiency
- Training – we provide upfront and ongoing training to ensure clients can make use of their investment

- Support staff – we have a long list of satisfied clients who can attest to our excellent support services. We have a dedicated team of technical support staff ready and waiting on the phone.
- Experience – we are the most experienced GIS company in the State and it shows in the quality of our products and services
- Software tools – we have customized tools we use internally to quickly perform routine operations such as land use calculation, survey data entry, aliquot part splits, etc.
- CAMA integration – we are the only company with tools to link directly into assessment databases such as Tyler, TerraScan, MIPS and County Solutions.
- Complete package – we offer a turnkey solution including data conversion, data development data maintenance and the products to make the data accessible to everyone

GIS Workshop, Inc. is the most experienced Assessment GIS provider in the State. We will become an extension of your staff. Our extensive expertise together with our specialized tools helps us provide superior products and services.

CLIENT SATISFACTION

Please ask our clients about our support staff, training services, how they use GIS on a day-to-day basis, do they use desktop or WebGIS, did GIS help with the recent soil conversion mandate, flexible payment options, oblique photos, etc. We are confident that you will hear our level of service is second-to-none. Here are direct quotes from a sampling of our Assessor clients after implementing GIS in their departments; they are a testimony to the fact that implementing GIS increases revenue through accuracy in landuse calculations and decreases costs through enhanced efficiency and time savings:

- **Merrick County:** "We found 13,000 additional irrigated acres by matching up NRD data with GIS."
- **Pierce County:** "Our GIS paid for itself the first year" by identifying pivots, new buildings, etc.
- **Phelps County:** "We increased assessed acres through accuracy in landuse calculations."
- **Cuming County:** "I have confidence in my valuations when dealing with property owners because we can SEE how the value was determined. I also use my landuse calculator to compare deeded acres vs GIS acres to identify inaccuracies in assessment."
- **Colfax County:** "Our GIS has paid for itself many times over" by using GISW's oblique imagery along with GIS to identify new buildings and to correct landuse.
- **Platte County:** "We reduced daily inbound phone call volume by 50-70% by having information available online – this has freed up my staff to work more effectively on critical projects."
- **Madison County:** "We are able to do from our desks things that used to require time in the field. This has resulted in both cost and time savings for my County."
- **Keith County:** "GIS Workshop staff always answers the phone right away. They are great with support and customer service. I have never heard a single bad thing about their service from anyone I have talked to."

DATABASE DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION

GISW will do all the database development for Harlan County. We will rely on the Assessment staff for their local knowledge and our staff will do all the GIS development. GISW has developed a suite of desktop GIS tools that communicate with your assessment database and help us develop databases

more efficiently than our competitors. **As an Esri (the leader in GIS technology) Gold Business Partner we know GIS better than anyone in the State.**

Once the GIS database is ready we will integrate the GIS data into your existing system. **We not only build the databases but we help you learn how to make them useful to you.** With our online meeting technology Harlan County staff can visit with our technical staff at any point to provide guidance or to view project progress from the comfort of your own office.

TRAINING AND UNLIMITED SUPPORT

We have a team of experienced and skilled technicians dedicated to keeping your GIS up-to-date. Complete training is provided in process flow of updates to the GIS, such as parcel splits or changes to landuse and the use of the WebGIS site and accompanying tools.

WEBGIS

GISW technology greatly increases the value of your GIS investment. We provide true GIS mapping, not just a database of derived information. Our WebGIS product makes your data available throughout the county without the need for expensive training and desktop software. County staff, real estate professionals, banks, insurance agents, potential businesses/residents and Harlan County residents have 24/7 access to assessment information. Easy access to data is great for economic development and reduces phone calls for assessment staff.

PROJECT APPROACH

As Harlan County transitions from State-assessed to County-assessed, the Board recognizes the value of implementing a GIS for analysis and record keeping in the Assessor's Office. The Board of Commissioners has participated in a demonstration about GISW's WebGIS product. As a result, they have requested GISW to provide budgetary pricing on the development of GIS for the Assessor's office and implementation of a county-wide Web-based GIS to provide property information on-line to property owners, the general public and other departments.

The power of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) lies in the ability to overlay various datasets and perform complex analysis within a simple user interface. GIS Workshop specializes not only in building systems, but more importantly, helping clients leverage their investment to perform standardized, accurate assessment with limited staffing. Our training and support technicians provide proven results and our WebGIS site gives your constituents access to all their assessment information 24 hours a day.

GIS helps provide equitable and accurate assessment across the entire county. When State statute requires assessment changes, such as the recent NRCS soil conversion, GIS can automate the process of making universal changes to all parcels in the county. A county-wide soil conversion can be accomplished in a day with GIS and would take months to accomplish accurately with paper maps.

GISW will build the Harlan County GIS by:

- Converting the cadastral maps to a GIS layer
- Attributing Parcel Identification Number for each Parcel
- Developing a comprehensive land use layer
- Incorporating soil survey data
- Performing the analysis and conversion from old NRCS data to new soils data (this analysis would take months to do manually but the GIS can automatically calculate the changes!)

DATA DEVELOPMENT – BUILDING THE PARCEL GIS

REFINE PUBLIC LAND SURVEY SYSTEM DATASET

GISW will utilize all GPS corner control that the Surveyor provides. The system is constructed to incorporate new corner and quarter control the Surveyor may collect in the future. Incorporation of new survey control into the GIS over time will gradually "tighten" the accuracy of the GIS. The base dataset will utilize the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System [NESPCS], NAD83 coordinate system (note: the Nebraska GIS Steering Committee and Nebraska State Surveyor recommend that counties use the NESPC system for assessment GIS).

PAPER TO DIGITAL PARCEL BOUNDARY CONVERSION

GISW will collect and scan the rural assessment cadastral maps from Harlan County. The cadastral maps together with the best available information will be used to draw the parcel layer based on the data layer described above. An example of this process can be seen in Figure 2 below.

ASSIGN PARCEL IDENTIFICAL NUMBER

After extracting the property boundaries from the scanned cadastral maps to create the digital parcel layer, GISW will populate the Parcel Identification Number for each parcel.

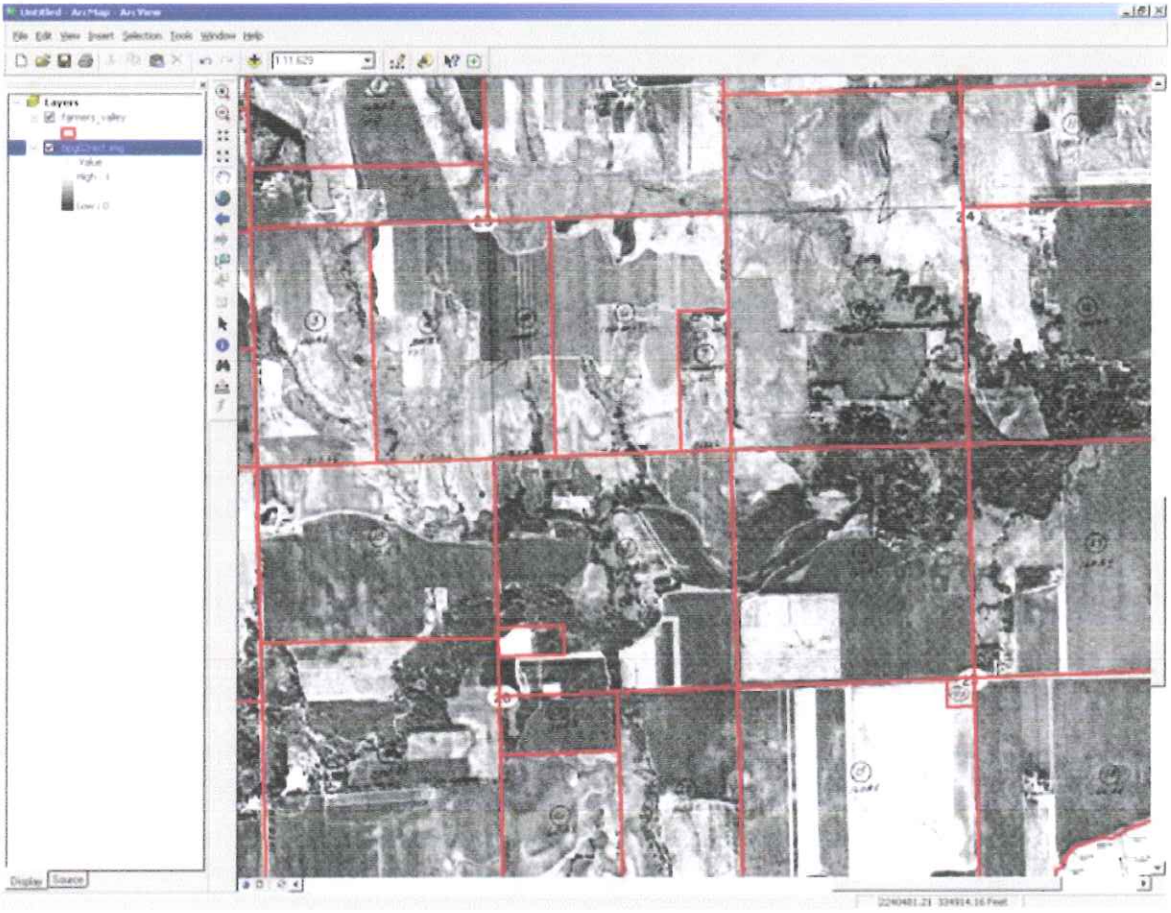


Figure 2: Scanned cadastral map with parcel lines digitized in red

DATA DEVELOPMENT - LAND USE LAYER CREATION

Upon completion of the parcel layer, GISW will create the Land Use layer, which identifies the land use codes for particular areas of a parcel. GISW will identify the various areas of a particular land use, digitize the boundaries of that land use, and incorporate those data into the GIS for analysis and reporting. This layer will also be very useful for agencies such as your local Natural Resource Districts.

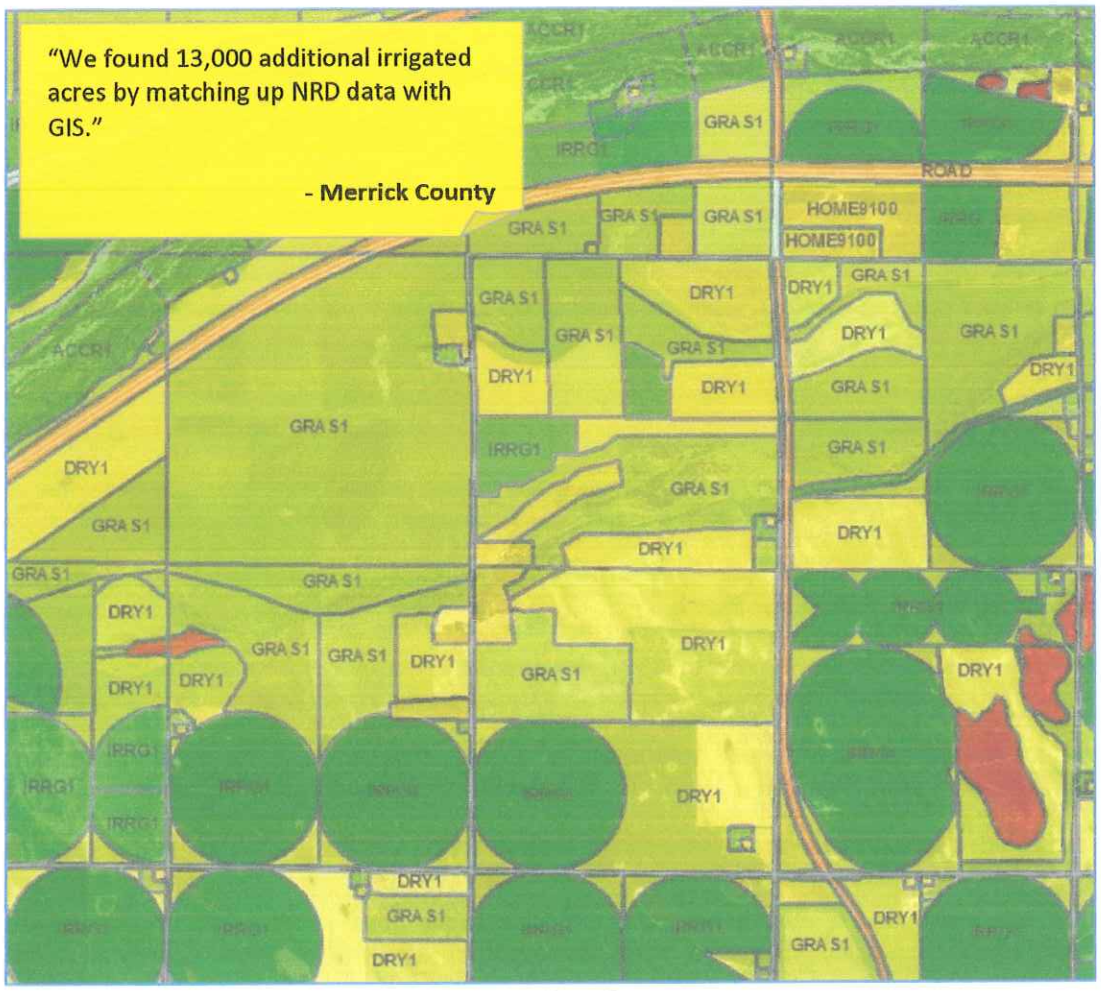


Figure 3: Example Land Use Map

DATA DEVELOPMENT - SOILS LAYER

GISW will acquire both the old and new NRCS soils layers to identify where soils have changed and to calculate the new acreage counts. The GISW land use calculator will help us use the land use, soil and parcel layers to evaluate every parcel in the County. **This type of analysis is one of the most powerful benefits of assessment GIS, it would take months to recount all the soils manually!**

Figure 4: An example in Platte County showing the parcel lines (red), land use layer (transparent colors), and the soils (thin black lines), overlaid together for purposes of rural assessment acreage calculation

GIS DATA MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT

GIS Workshop will edit and maintain all GIS data on our redundant servers. This frees up assessor department staff to concentrate on critical projects and issues. This 100% maintenance web-based approach also eliminates the need for department staff to learn GIS software – this will be important as the County transitions from State-assessed to County-assessed. This 100% maintenance also eliminates the need to pay desktop GIS software licensing fees.

Harlan County will be responsible for sending parcel splits and land use changes to GIS Workshop. Harlan County staff will be able to use the GISW WebGIS Land Use Calculator to estimate the value of a parcel split for a walk-in customers. GIS Workshop will download a copy of the Tyler/Orion (or other CAMA system if a change is made) data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on

the GIS Workshop server. After an initial introductory period, an annual data maintenance fee will be due. See the Pricing Information section for more details.

GISW dedicated support staff is waiting to field your support call at all times during regular business hours.

TRAINING

GISW will train Harlan County staff to use the GIS data. We provide a wide variety of training options customized to your needs. We support clients on a daily basis so we know what is important to you and how to make the GIS data useful. We will train staff how to use the WebGIS site via an on-line meeting after the site is operational.

WEBGIS

The WebGIS will make the assessment/appraisal information available to other county departments, city departments, real estate professionals and the general public. **Only GISW offers this type of web access to the GIS database in an easy to use web page that will become the foundation for information access at the county.**

The GISW WebGIS:

- Provides 24/7 access to public information for real estate professionals, general public and other city/county departments.
- The GISW Web GIS ***REDUCES*** the number of calls into the assessor office, allowing staff to get on with the business of assessment. Our Assessor clients say it best: **Phelps County experienced a 50%-75% reduction in the daily call volume related to property tax issues. Kearney County estimated a 75% reduction in call volume when they went online!**
- Promotes information sharing amongst city/county departments and **reduces duplications of effort.**
- Provides the Enterprise GIS foundation so **other departments (roads, planning/zoning, etc.) may start using GIS technology more cost effectively.**

HARLAN COUNTY'S WEBGIS

GISW proposes to design and build an enterprise WebGIS for Harlan 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 support contract which is already in place, as is the Assessor tab on the WebGIS.

The Assessor tab was the first step in setting up the enterprise WebGIS for the 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 5 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 sales information, assessment and appraisal data*, and any other data associated with future tabs. **(NOTE: an optional subscription-based version is also available to provide advanced information on a subscription basis.)**

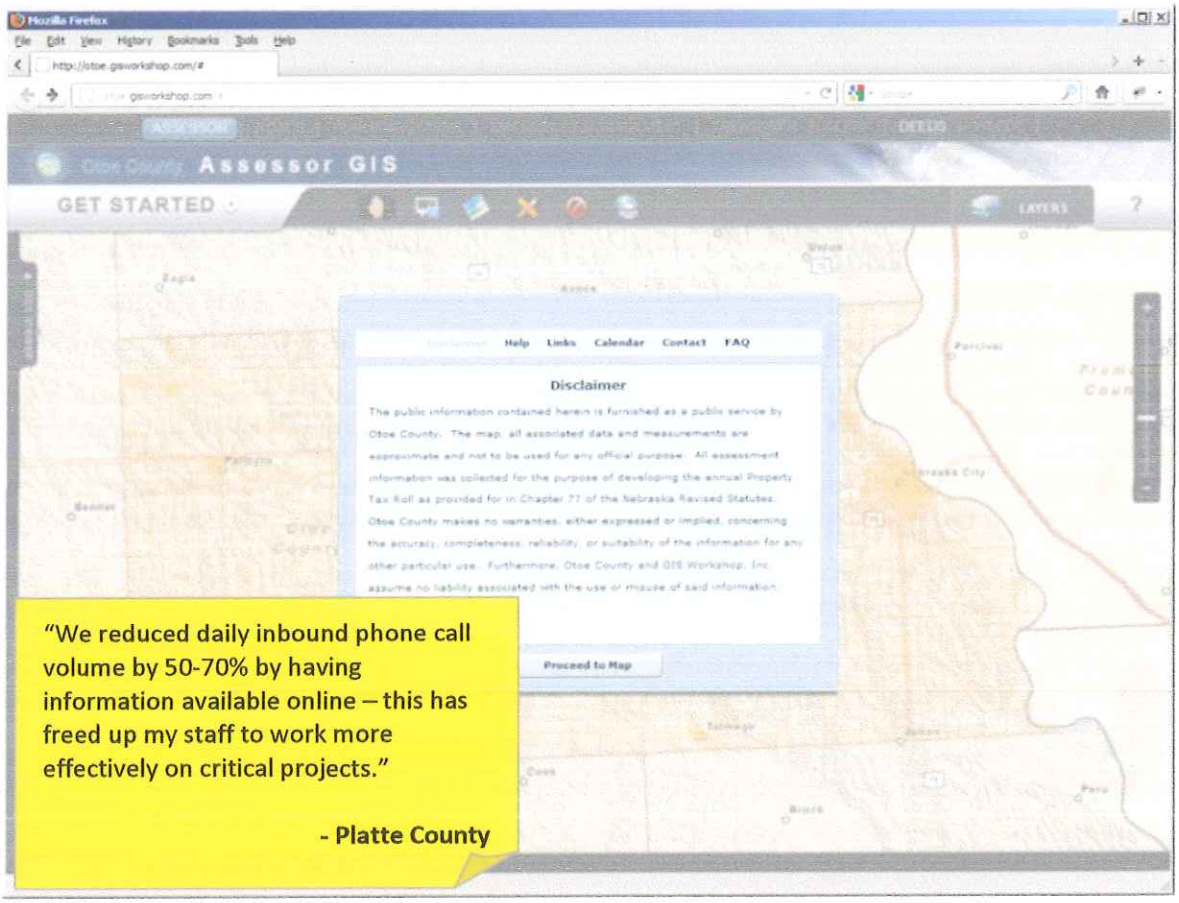


Figure 5: Opening screen (Assessor Tab) of GIS Workshop's Enterprise WebGIS for Lincoln County, NE.

Additional tabs for this WebGIS project may include Clerk, Treasurer, Roads and Sheriff/Emergency Management. **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 <u>an even greater asset</u> and tool over time.***

ASSESSOR 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. The user can switch to a satellite view that includes 2010 FSA aerial photography.

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 is available may be filtered by date range, price range, year built, or other pertinent parameters. **For those counties wishing to offer sales data on a subscription basis, GISW offers a subscription-based option (see Optional Items under the Pricing section of this document).** Figure 6 illustrates the 'Get Started' options. Figure 6 shows the results table after searching for "Smith" in the owner name field. Figure 7 shows the results of selecting a property. The map has zoomed into the chosen parcel and the parcel polygon is highlighted. Figure 8 shows the full property report card with links to photos, value, sale, building and land information.

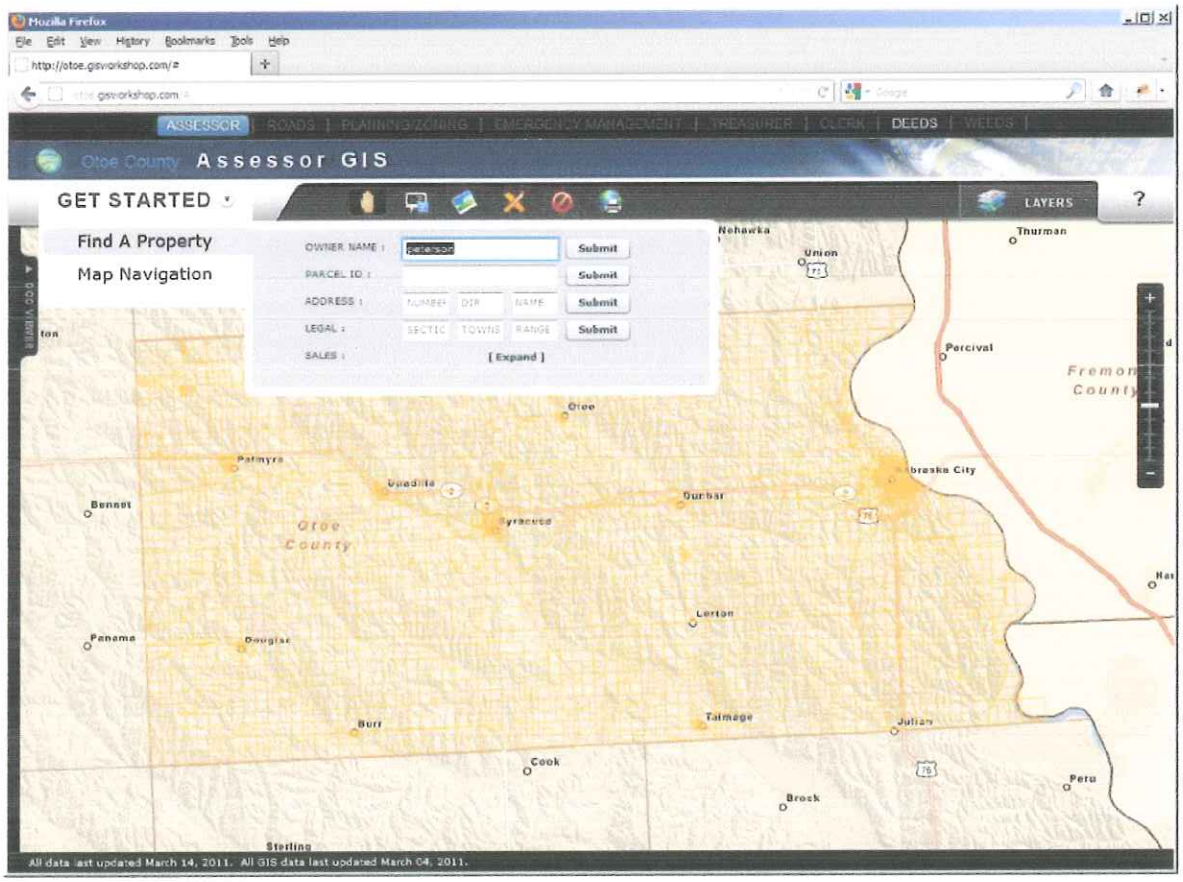


Figure 6: Assessor tab showing property search box

Figure 7: Property search results

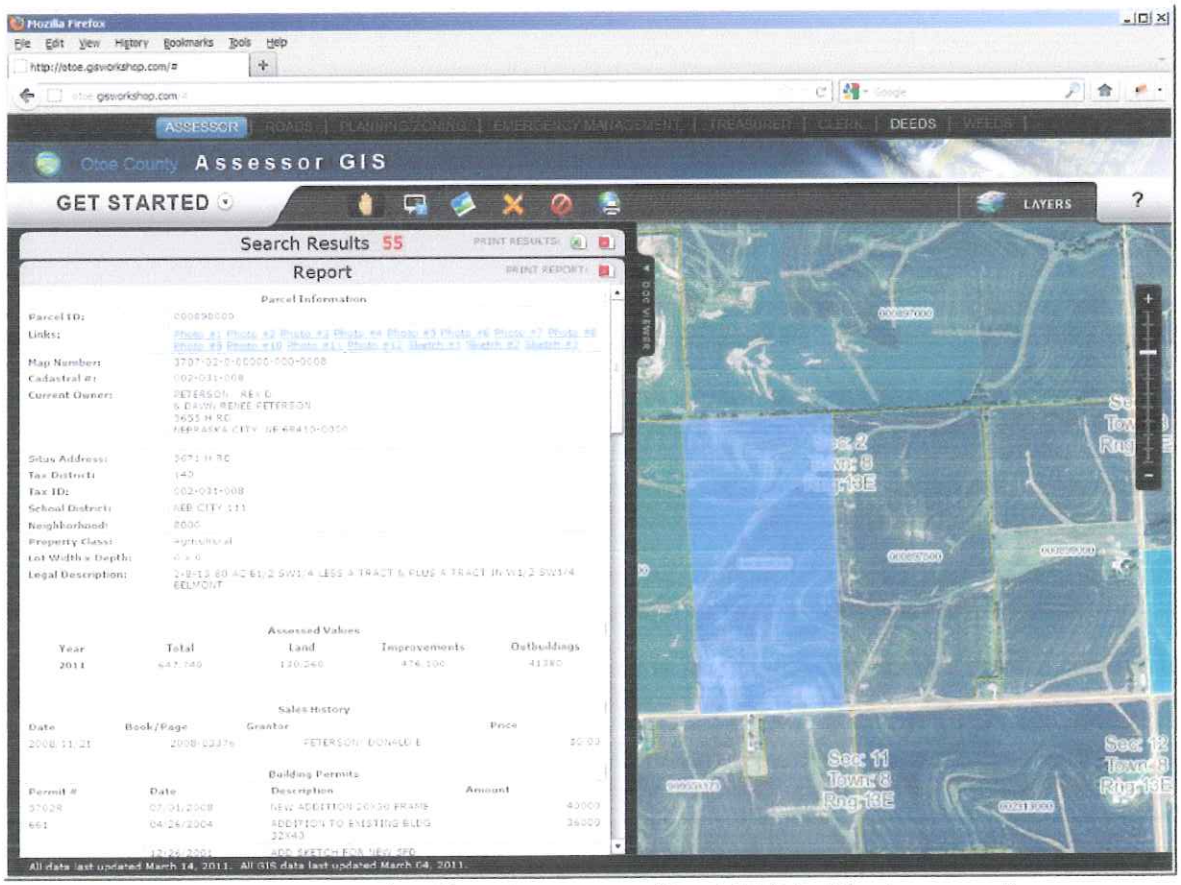


Figure 8: Property Record Card (note the map zoomed in and highlighted the chosen parcel)

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 9 illustrates the zoom slider bar and pan tool (hand icon).

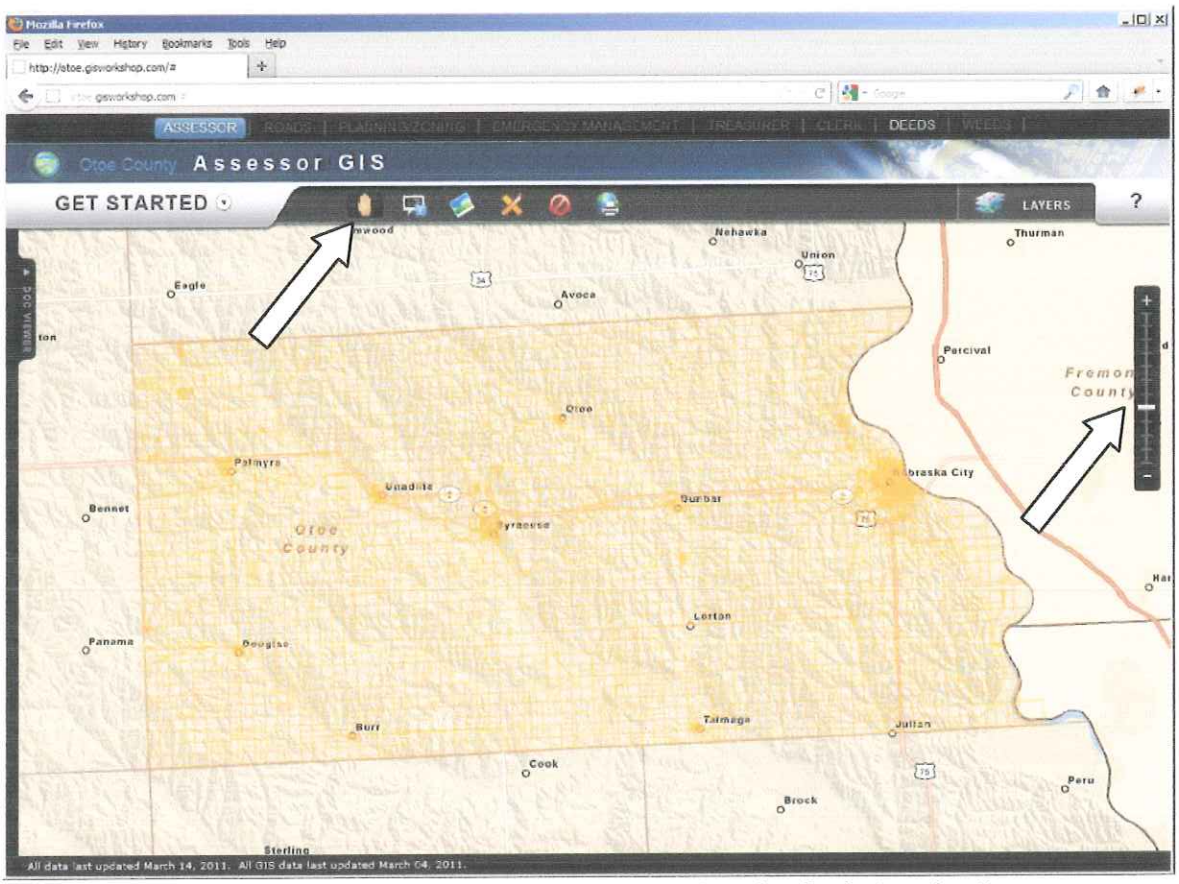


Figure 9: Zoom slider bar (right side) and activated pan tool icon (hand) in horizontal toolbar

Figures 10 and 11 illustrate the Map Navigation feature. The user enters a specific section/township/range and then the map zooms into the specified section.

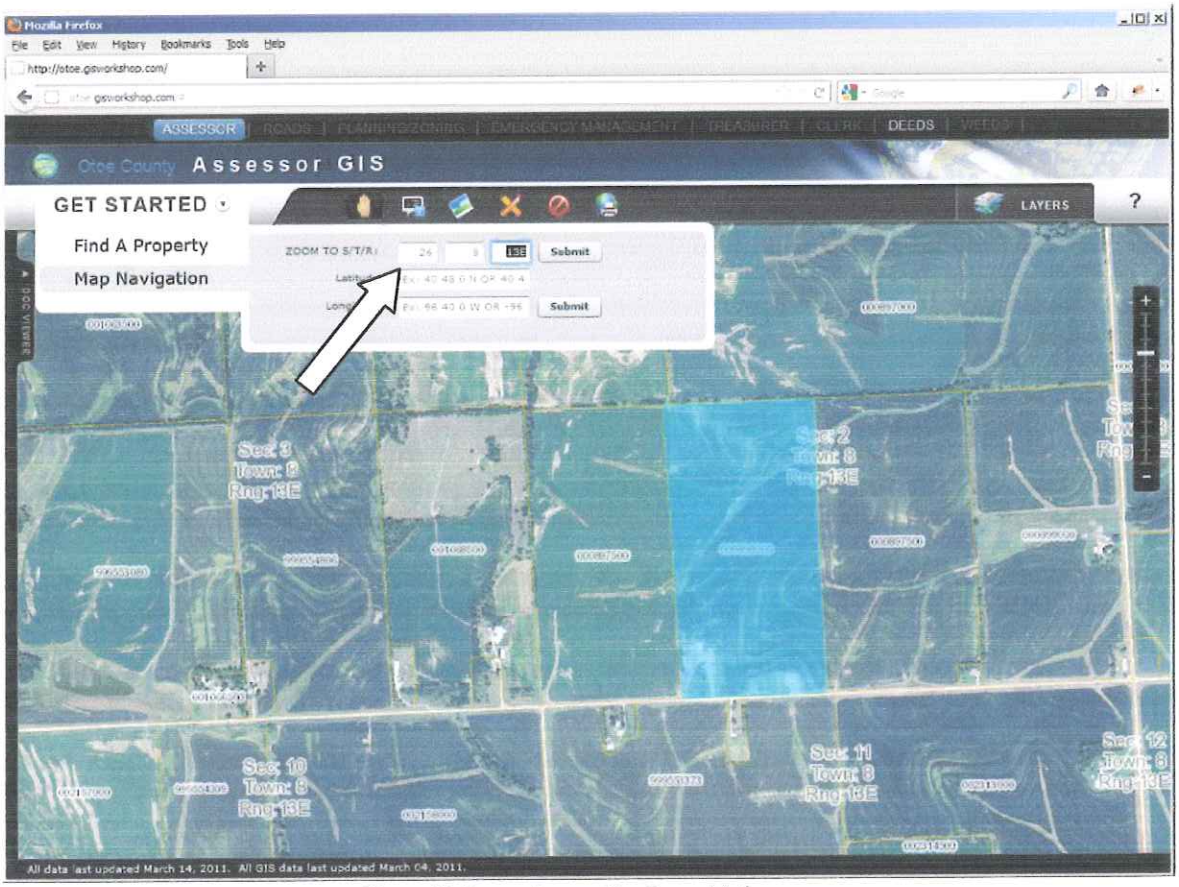


Figure 10: User enters section/township/range

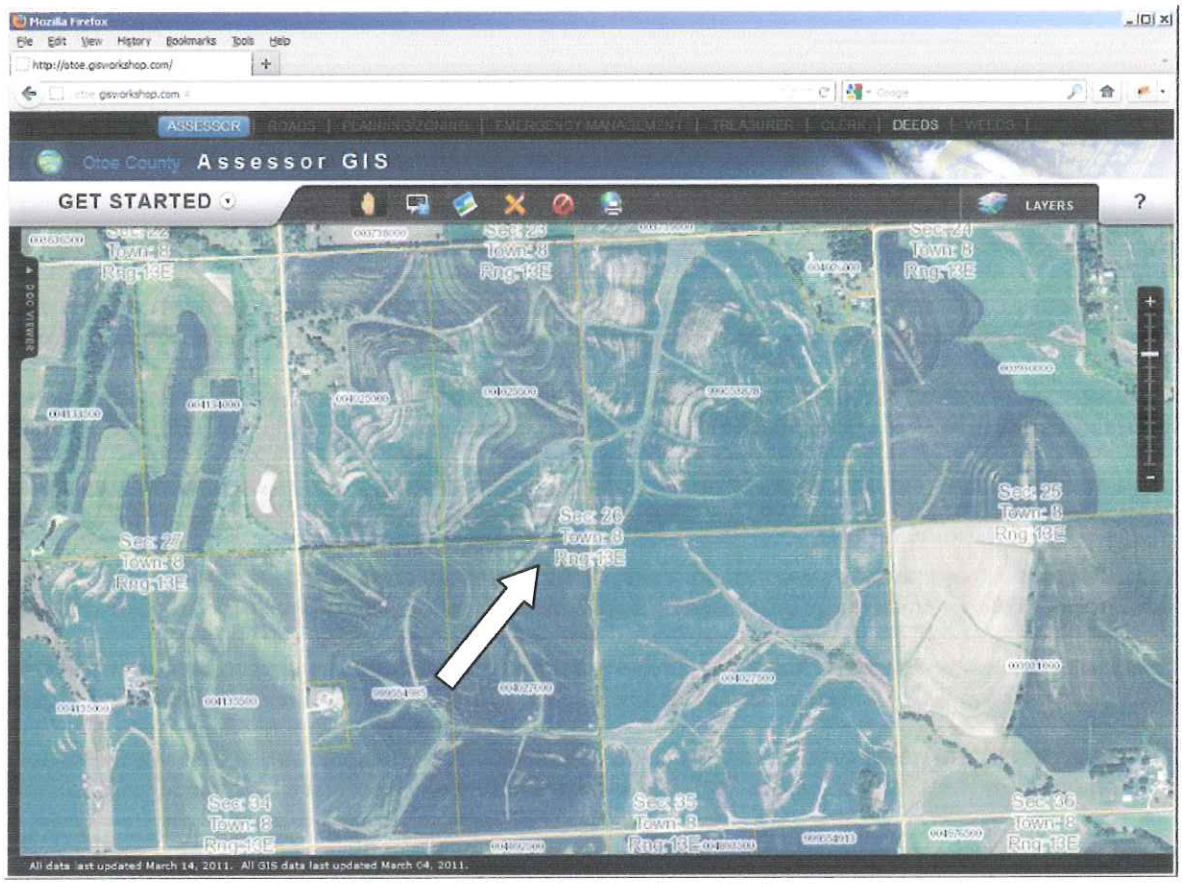


Figure 11: Application zooms into the specified section

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 12 below. Property card information is also available through the identify tool.

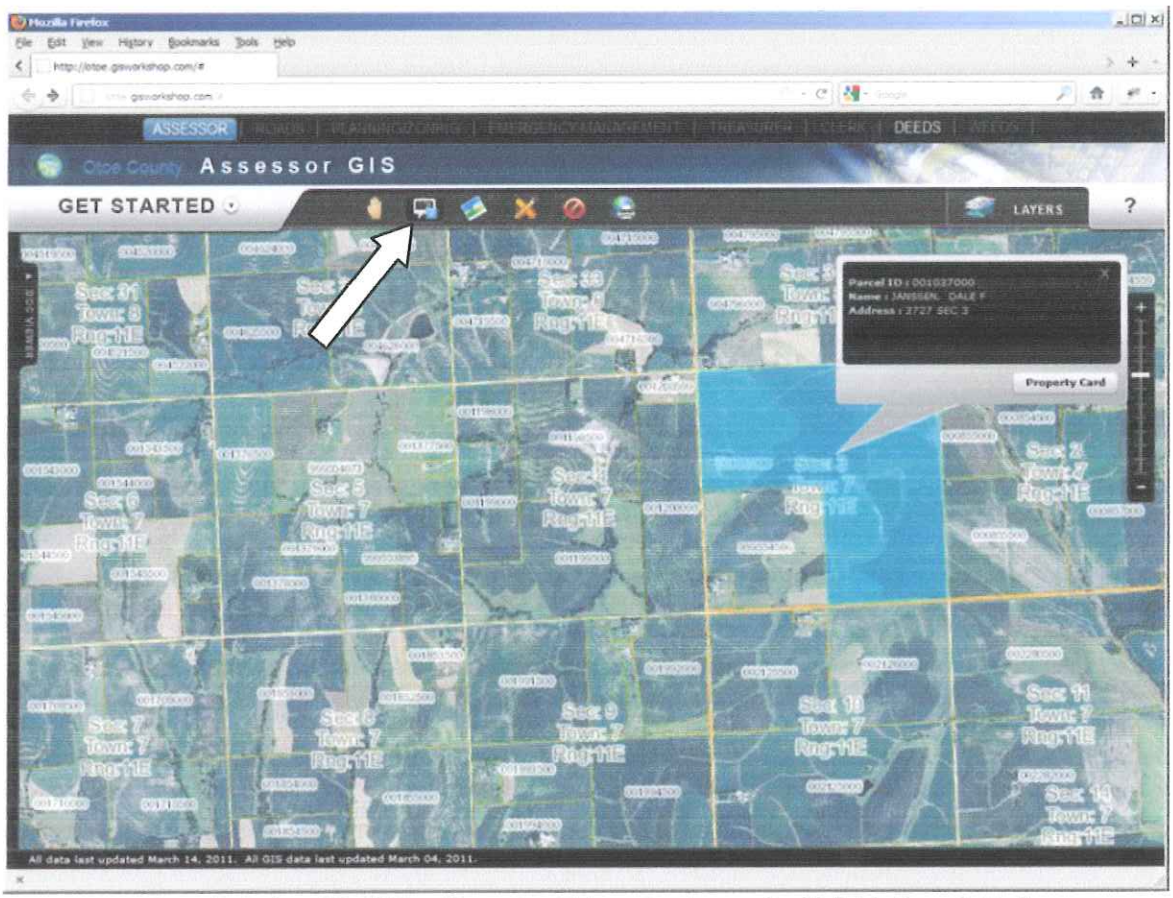


Figure 12: Activated Quick Identifier tool and information box result with link to Property Card

PHOTO TOOL

The photo tool is a great way to view individual building improvements. The tool reads the assessment database for all available photos and sketches and displays them in a photo window. If GISW has flown oblique aerial photography for the County those will also be available in the photo tool.

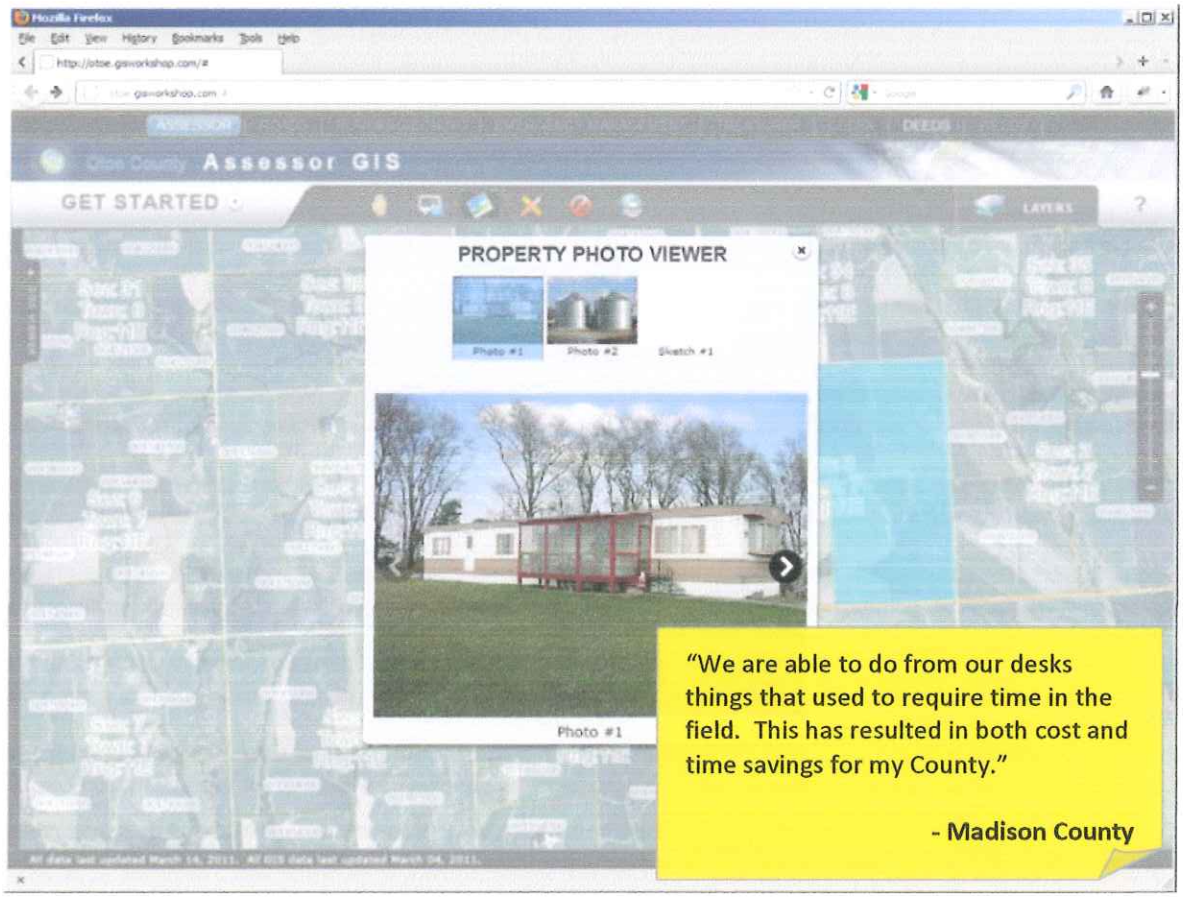


Figure 13: Property Photo Viewer Tool shows all available images from the Assessor's database

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 the figure below.

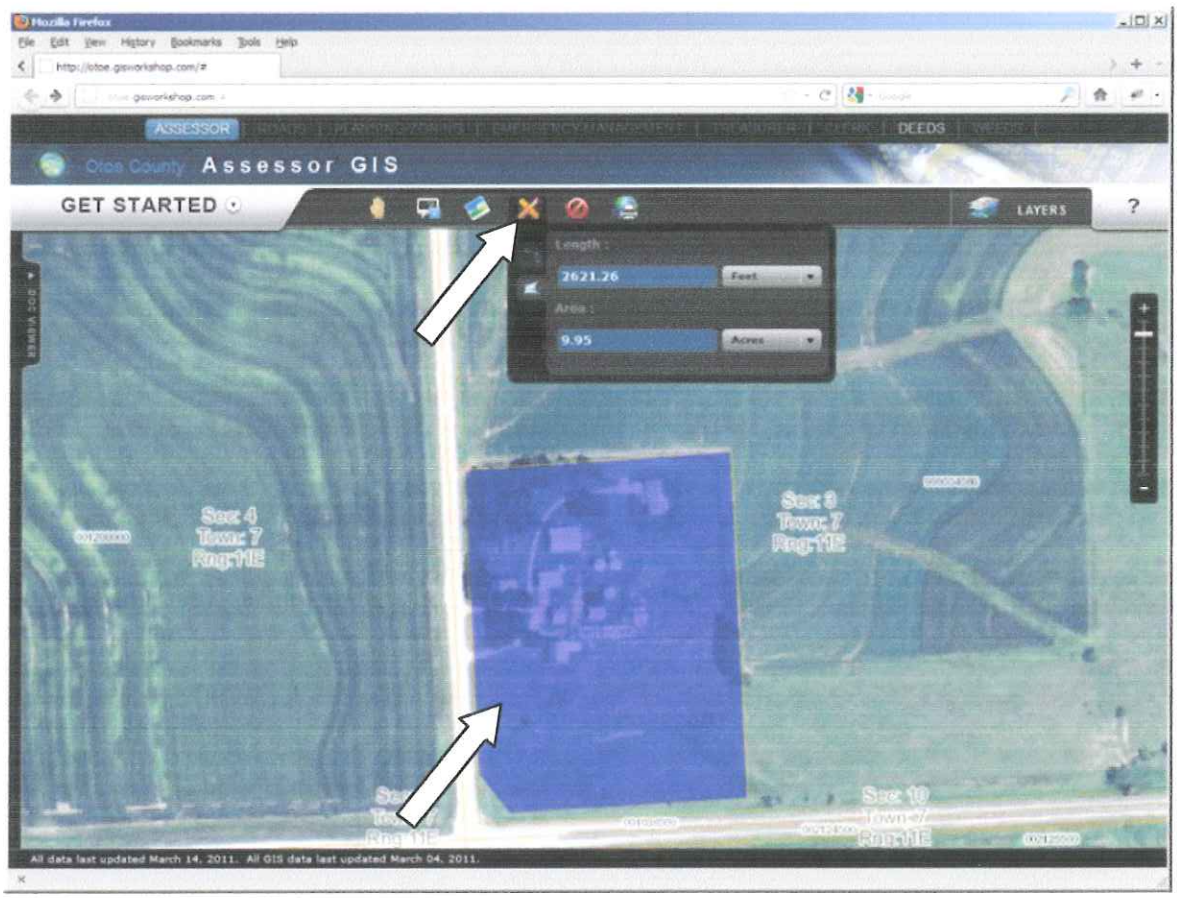


Figure 14: Measurement tool showing total length of the user-drawn line segment along the parcel boundary.

LAND USE CALCULATOR

The WebGIS Land Use Calculator Tool is a power for fast and accurate evaluation. The tool is protected by a simple login feature and allows the Assessor's office to quickly calculate land value and provided a detailed report of the acreage breakdown of each LVG code category.

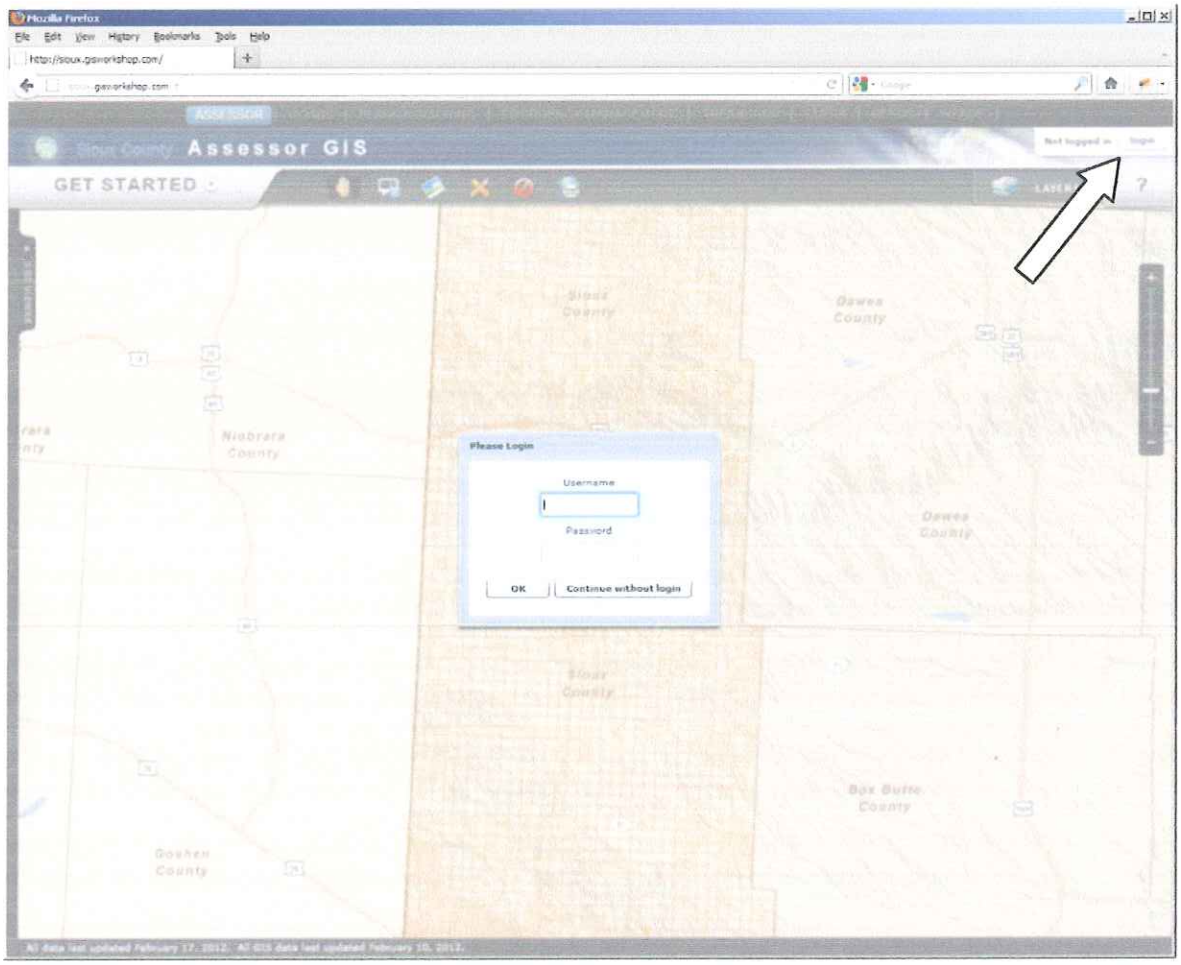


Figure 15: Login Screen protecting the Land Use Calculator Tool

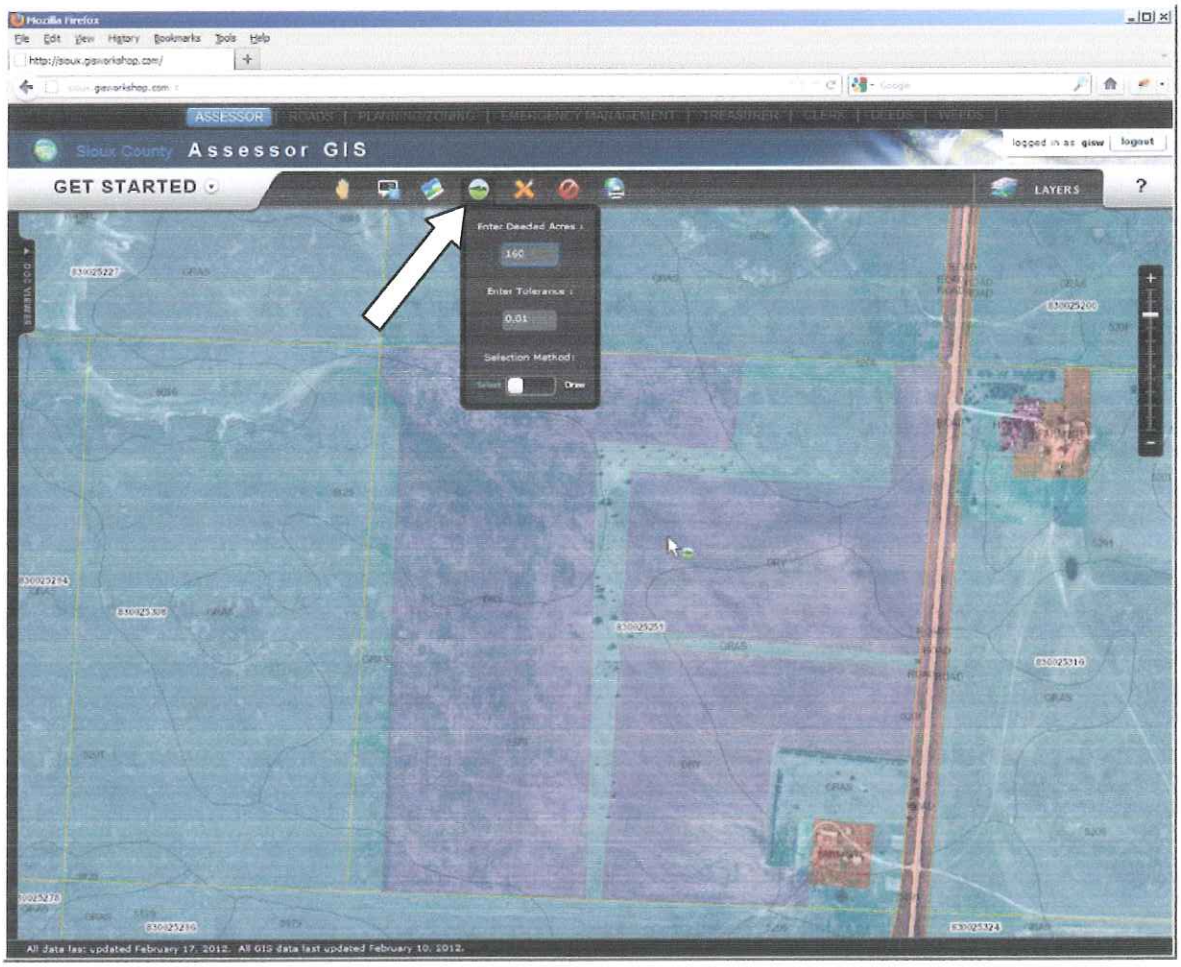


Figure 16: Land Use Calculator Tool options

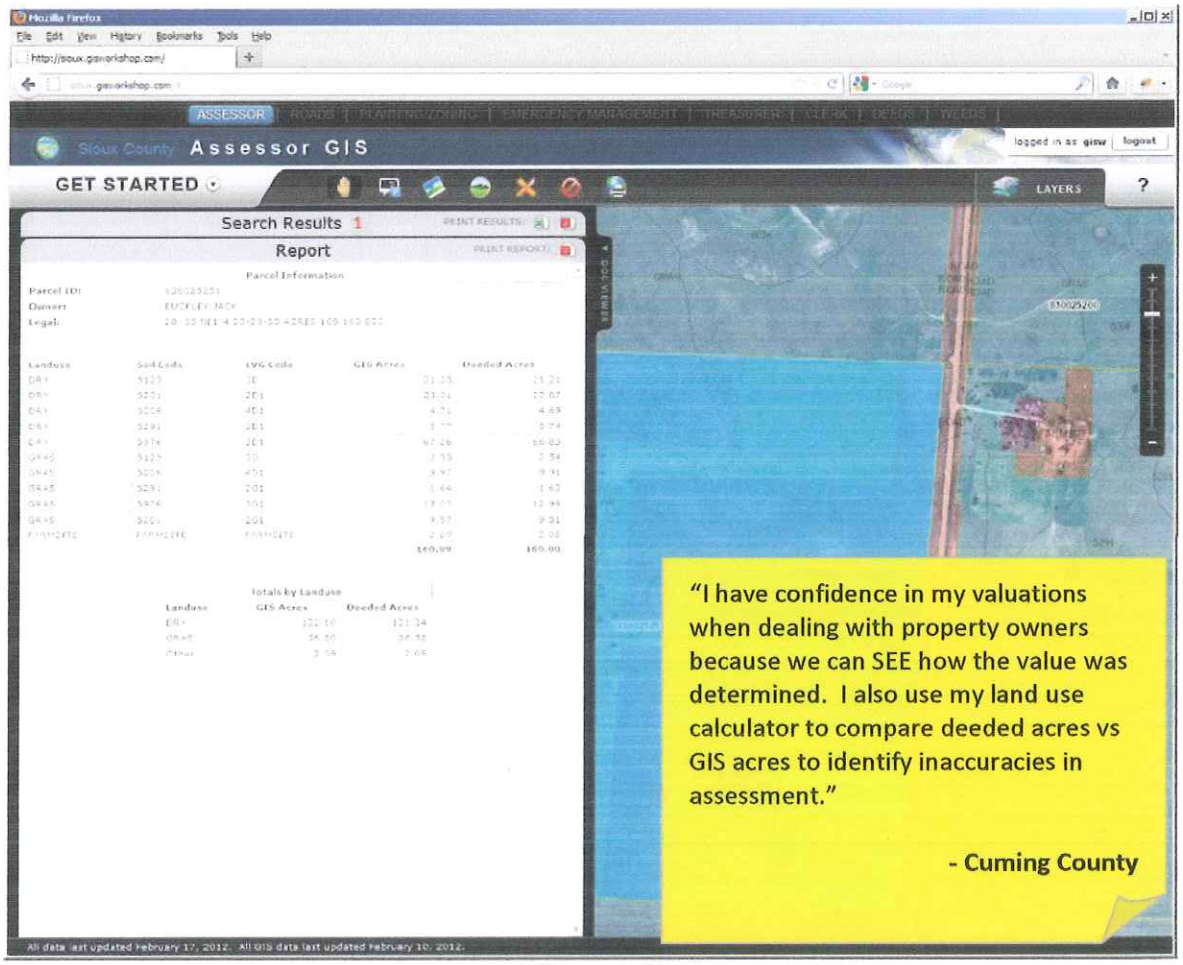


Figure 17: Land Use Calculator Report

SCHEDULE

The GISW team is ready to start the Harlan County, NE Assessor GIS project after acceptance and receipt of a signed contract according to the tasks described in this proposal. We anticipate GIS project buildout and WebGIS setup completion before June 30, 2013.

PROJECT COSTS

The following pricing and package is ***FULLY INCLUSIVE,*** providing the Assessor with everything needed for a fully functional assessment GIS. There are no hidden charges or expenses. The cost is based on the size of the county. Variations and/or additions to those tasks/features/service stated within are subject to additional costs. Any change orders must be documented and added as an addendum to this scope with the additional costs for said change order added to the following costs. **GIS WORKSHOP WILL NOT SEND A SINGLE INVOICE UNTIL THE PROJECT IS COMPLETE AND YOU ARE 100% SATISFIED WITH YOUR PRODUCT.**

Services	Cost ($)
GIS Build-out Services and Assessor Tab on WebGIS, with Year One Maintenance	$59,800

Deliverables:

- GIS layers
  - Parcels
  - Sections
  - Town lot/subdivision
  - Land use
  - Ortho-photography (Latest FSA imagery)
  - Soils
- Assessor Tab WebGIS featuring the Landuse Calculator tool
- Initial year of GIS data maintenance and support
- Online County staff training on use of WebGIS

Total Costs for above listed Services	**$59,800**

FINANCING OPTIONS

GISW will deliver and install all systems upon completion. Delivery is unrelated to the payment schedule. Support fees are not financed or included in this potential scheme. **Use of our interest free financing options does not delay product delivery in any way.**

NOTE: Any awarded Grant funds will be applied to the total cost and payment schedule will be based upon the remaining balance. Remaining project balance may be spread over four years.

ONGOING ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS

GIS Data maintenance by GISW for Assessor **(effective July 2014)**	$4,800 annually
WebGIS maintenance by GISW **(effective July 2014)**	$4,800 annually

OPTIONAL ITEMS

Additional annual maintenance for subscription-based option	$1,500 annually
Subscription-based management tool	included

Nebraska State Records Board

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

ATTACHMENT 2:

LETTERS OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT FROM HARLAN COUNTY, NEBRASKA

COUNTRY ROAD REALTY
DAVID B. WOLF - Broker
P.O. Box 725 – 901 W. Main Street – Alma, NE 68920-0725
Phone 308-928-3120 Fax 308-928-2071

February 28, 2012

RE: Harlan County WebGIS

To the Nebraska State Records Board:

I support the electronic access provided by WebGIS and the maps and information that it provides. This access is very useful to my business and the community that I serve. Besides being relevant to my realty business it is useful as a helpful tool to the community who are seeking the most up to date and accurate information on file.

There are many advantages to having this information available. Most of all, it frees up the county official so that they do not have to wait upon many who can access the information. This allows the county employs much less distraction with unnecessary service. These employees can be more productive by not being interrupted in much of their technical work.

Sincerely,

David B. Wolf
Country Road Realty
Alma, NE

Harlan County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Chris Becker

P.O. Box 679
Alma, NE 68920
(308) 928-2147
FAX (308) 928-2592
email: hclaw@megavision.com

April 2, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

Dear Board:

The Harlan County Sheriff's Office is in full support of the grant application being submitted by the Harlan County Assessor. As Sheriff I would find the GIS system to be very beneficial to Law Enforcement especially during search warrants or other emergency calls. The GIS system would be a great asset for locating property and directing Officers to a certain location. I would also like to utilize the program in mapping out crime areas and certain incidents.

Since I'm also the Emergency manager for Harlan County I would expect GIS to be a great asset for mapping out certain areas for any type of emergency or damages that may occur during a storm or related incident.

I again appreciate the opportunity for Harlan County to apply for this grant and I look forward to being able to utilize these tools to better serve the citizens of Harlan County.

Sincerely

Sheriff Chris Becker

Emergency Manager

Harlan County Road Department

Douglas K. Lennemann, Superintendent
PO Box 227
Alma, NE 68920
Phone ~ (308) 928-9800 Fax ~ (308) 928-2223

April 3, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

I support the GIS project with GIS workshop. It would provide the Harlan County Road Department to be able to adequately perform our day-to-day duties more efficiently for the citizens of Harlan County.

In the future, with this system, I hope to be able to provide the public with a better understanding of the county roads, bridges, culverts, tonnage on bridges, and right-of-ways.

This system would be a great benefit for the Harlan County Road Department and residents of Harlan County.

Sincerely,

Doug Lennemann

Doug Lennemann
Harlan County Highway Superintendent

Janet Dietz, Harlan County Clerk
P. O. Box 698
Alma, NE 68920
March 30, 2012

Pam Meisenbach, Assessor
Harlan County
Alma, NE 68920

Dear Pam:

I am a former GIS Technician for Phelps County Nebraska. I have worked with the program and GIS Workshop for ten years. What an amazing program and staff support this would be for Harlan County. I believe that all offices in the courthouse would benefit by having this implemented to our organization. The technology and possibility for a website is definitely needed in this rural area.
I would like to commend GIS Workshop for the important contribution it would make to our community.

Sincerely,

Janet Dietz, Harlan County Clerk

March 30, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
440 South 8th Street
Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508

RE: GIS Harlan County

Dear Board:

This letter is being written to support the GIS grant application being submitted by the Harlan County Assessor. I believe this mapping website would be of great benefit to First National Bank. As an Appraisal Analyst I utilize GIS websites in multiple states and this is a necessity for these offices in my opinion.

This website would not only help First National Bank but also the Harlan County Assessor and the taxpayers and other individuals, government entities and companies.

A GIS system tied with the CAMA package and a sales search would also be beneficial. I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Harlan County.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Wilhelm

Jeffrey Wilhelm | Appraisal Analyst & Certified General Appraiser NE & SD
First National of Nebraska, Inc. | Appraisal Review Dept.
11 South John Street Unit C
P.O. Box 853 Alma, NE 68920
P: 308-928-9207 | F: 308-928-9227 | E: jwilhelm@fnni.com

Community Bank

MEMBER F.D.I.C.

March 30, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

Please accept this letter as our strong support for the Harlan County WebGIS system.

We believe that a county enterprise mapping website would definitely be a valuable tool to assist our lending operations as well as a benefit to our customers and the community. The ability to access public information and provide reliable information would enable our loan officers to be much more efficient and be able to provide our customers with better information in making timely decisions on loan requests.

The current procedures for obtaining public record information, which entails examination and copying of documents at our local courthouse are very inefficient and outdated in light of the current technology available. I believe that an updated change to the current recording system would also be a cost saving tool for our local county office operations.

Sincerely,

COMMUNITY BANK

Russ Loewenstein

Russ Loewenstein, President

P. O. BOX 897 • ALMA, NE 68920 • 308-928-2929

P. O. BOX 95 • STAMFORD, NEBRASKA 68977 • 308-868-2175

Alma is for YOU!

City Of Alma

March 30, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
440 South 8th Street
Suite 210
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Dear Board:

This letter is being written to support the GIS grant application being submitted by the Harlan County Assessor. I believe this mapping website would be of great benefit to the City Office.

Currently, I access public information on a daily basis, particularly when we are verifying physical or mailing addresses to send nuisance letters to property owners who may not have city utilities and therefore, they are not in our billing database. Another common problem I have observed is new property owners being unfamiliar with their property lines, or unable to locate them.

The accessibility that the GIS data would provide would not only benefit the City's operations, but would instill confidence in the county government's ability to serve the public at a higher level.

This website would enable to the City to more efficiently access public information and help provide a better service to our citizens. For the above reasons, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Harlan County.

Sincerely,

Emily J. Anderson

Emily J. Anderson
City Clerk

614 Main Street
P.O. Box 468
Alma, NE 68920-0468

www.almacity.com

Ph: (308) 928-2242
Fax: (308) 928-2683

Harlan County Zoning

706 2nd St. Alma, Ne. 68920

March 30, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

I am in full support of the GIS project with GIS workshop. The tools and information that it can provide will allow me to be more efficient and effective in doing my job as Zoning Administrator for Harlan County.

In the long term, I would like to share maps with the public on the Planning and Zoning tab on the GIS web.

I think this would be a great asset for the Citizens of Harlan County.

Sincerely,

Ron Melbye

Zoning Administrator

Lower Republican
Natural Resources District

March 30, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

I am writing this letter to support the Harlan County WebGIS. I believe this mapping website will be of great benefit to the Lower Republican Natural Resource District. We rely greatly on public information on a daily basis to ensure that our databases, most importantly our water databases, have the most up to date and accurate ownership records and parcel information. Access to this information on a website will increase our efficiency and effectiveness in serving our constituents.

At this time, we currently call to ask specific questions regarding ownership changes and parcel information. We rely on the assessors to provide us with this information as our District must communicate on a very regular basis with the landowners of irrigated acres. If we fail to notify irrigated landowners of current or pending rule changes or specific matters that they need to address, then compliance issues which could jeopardize the irrigated status of the land may ensue.

To be able to access this information on a website would definitely decrease our time spent retrieving public information. In addition, access to public information 24/7 will enable us to make decisions after normal government business hours if needed. We rely on public information and believe the availability on a website will only enhance the retrieval process. This time-saving element results in a cost-saving payoff. Not only will this reduce our cost but it will also reduce the expense to the County as there is always an employee retrieving a file(s), copying and re-filing our requested information.

This data in visible form at the end of our finger tips will not only benefit the District, but the confidence in the county government's ability to serve the public will be promoted to a higher level.

At this time, every business is conscious of cost and efficiency. The WebGIS will enable us to reduce our costs of accessing public information and increase our efficiency immediately. There will be no transition period for development of a new program, system, etc. We will simply electronically access the up-to-date public information. For the above reasons, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Harlan County.

Sincerely,

Kristi Coe

Kristi Coe
Water Resources Administrator

MEMBER FDIC

April 2, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

Dear Sir or Madam:

Subject: Harlan County Assessor Information Website

On behalf of the Community Bank and Stamford Insurance we support the easy access to public information. We use the current website on real estate on a daily basis. The current system has incomplete information as to the current and past year's taxes. The old system seemed to have more complete information. To service our customer we need to have all the reliable public information. The web based information is extremely handy in light of this office being 15 miles from the courthouse. Currently we have to contact the county for information that is not on the web. This is not very cost effective to their office or us.

The information technology is changing how we do business. Thus everyone needs to grow and make improvements.

Sincerely,

Leon D. Lyon
Executive Vice President
MLO Identifier 440828

P.O. BOX 95 STAMFORD, NE. 68977 308-868-2175 FAX 308-868-3215

HARLAN COUNTY ABSTRACT INC
27 North John Street
P.O. BOX 695
ALMA, NEBRASKA 68920

To the Nebraska State Records Board: **April 3, 2012**

I support the electronic access provided by GIS and the maps and other information it provides. As an abstracter it would provide me with critical information that I so often need to complete my research. I also believe it would save me valuable time, and I wouldn't have to interrupt the county employees during their workday.

Sincerely,

Raetha J. Nelsen

Raetha J. Nelsen
Harlan County Abstract, Inc.

Farm Credit Services *of* America
AGRICULTURE WORKS HERE...

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
kirk.manker@fcsamerica.com
402-348-3367
402-661-3367 (fax)

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 : Hitchcock County NE**
2. **Grant amount requested $ 25,000**
3. **Title of project: Assessor GIS and County WebGIS**
4. **Brief description of project:** The project includes building a county-wide land records GIS database and WebGIS application that will link to the existing Orion 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.

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.

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.

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).**

Hitchcock County has chosen to develop a Geographic Information System (GIS) database and web-enabled mapping interface and database query tool (or WebGIS). The WebGIS application will provide an intuitive interface for citizens, businesses, County departments and other local/county/regional/state agencies to easily find public records data. The attached proposal (see Attachment 1) illustrates the specific data layers and the WebGIS application features.

The County selected GIS Workshop, Inc (GISW) as the vendor for this project. The project will include data development tasks for parcels, land use and legal land base (lot, block and subdivision) layers. The parcels will be developed from the best available source data (survey plats, legal descriptions, cadastral maps, etc) and assigned a parcel identification number to match the Assessor's Orion database system.

The land use layer will be developed using a combination of available data sources including the Orion database parcel records, air photo interpretation, etc. The land use classes will match those defined by the Nebraska Property Assessment Division. Land use classes will include dryland crop, irrigated crop, grass, CRP (optional), tree (optional), homesite, farmsite, road, exempt and waste. This layer will also be very useful for agencies such as the Natural Resource Districts.

GISW will also assemble other datasets such as SSURGO soils, FSA aerial photography and any available high-resolution photography.

The WebGIS application will provide an intuitive interface for users to search for public records using either the text search menu or the map tools. Users will be able to toggle layers on/off individually, click on a parcel to see its Record Card, click on a parcel to see all available photos/sketches, measures distances/areas, print to PDF or export to Microsoft Excel. The WebGIS will provide 24/7/365 access to public records for citizens, businesses and government employees.

The WebGIS application will also include a highly specialized tool for the Assessor's Office to calculate land value for new parcel splits or verify the land use and soil characteristics of an existing parcel. The Land Use Calculator is very valuable for fast, efficient and equitable tax assessment.

Other County departments will also benefit from the WebGIS application. The Clerk, Treasurer and Register of Deeds Offices will all benefit from easy access to land records information. The Weeds department will use it for determining property owners and property location for spraying noxious weeds and issuing notices to landowners. The County Election Office will better determine exact voter precinct maps. The Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners recognizes the opportunity for offices such as Planning/Zoning, Roads, Treasurer, Weeds and Register of Deeds to build upon the land

records foundation to create a one-stop web-enabled interface to County data. They feel that the timing of developing the GIS with the transition of moving from State-assessed to County-assessed is optimum for ease in staffing and processes.

Installing the system in the Assessor's Office will assist dispatch in determining exact locations for 911 calls and emergencies. It will also benefit our Fire Departments and Ambulance Departments to aid in their quick response to emergencies.

Other GISW clients have cited a 50-75% reduction in phone call volume after implementing the WebGIS application. The application will provide better service to County's over 2,900 residents while increasing the efficiency of multiple County departments.

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

   Anyone interested in land records information for Hitchcock County will benefit from this project. 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, cities/villages and various State agencies will also benefit from easy access to the County data. Efficiencies realized from 24/7 access will result in increased productivity and cost savings for both public and private entities.

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. County department staff members have attended Board meetings to express their support. NRDs have also expressed their support for this project to build collaboration.

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 June 30, 2013 (06/30/2013).

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 GIS for Hitchcock County. Attachment 1 contains an overview of the project in GISW's Proposal document. The Proposal is for development of a GIS for Hitchcock County, updating of the GIS and development of a WebGIS site for the County, which will make information available 24/7. The total amount of grant money awarded to Hitchcock County will be used to defray the following initial GIS 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.**

   Hitchcock County Assessor 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. The Surveyor will also be contributing data as the project progresses. GIS Workshop will be compiling data, scanning cadastral maps, designing and building the GIS. Hitchcock County assessor staff will participate in GIS training provided by an approved Esri trainer from GIS Workshop, Inc.

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 allow the public access to important County information and to increase efficiency in the future. Hitchcock 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 GIS project and by making it a priority.

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 Hitchcock County of implementing the GIS. The County fully anticipates being able to meet annual maintenance costs of the GIS 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 Orion database containing tax assessment information. The Property Record Card component of the WebGIS has several customized reports, derived from the Orion 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 Hitchcock County community. We have received much support from community business professionals and taxpayers.

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 Hitchcock 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.

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.

Part II. Technical Information

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

   The construction of the Website is included in the fee with GIS Workshop. Hitchcock County will purchase the additional years of maintenance fees. These fees include unlimited maintenance, which will continue to keep this program current and to continue to be beneficial.

   Access to the data from the GIS program will be throughout the Internet. For persons that do not have Internet access, the Public Library supplies several computers for this service at no charge.

   Hitchcock County believes that this program is necessary to keep the public up to date and informed and to increase efficiency across all departments.

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 Tyler Orion (or any other CAMA provider selected in the future) database systems in use in Hitchcock County today.

   Our vendor, GIS Workshop, Inc. has stated to us (informally) that any systems or data they construct meets all the applicable NITC and FGDC standards for GIS data and metadata.

   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 and for protecting features such as the Land Use Calculator Tool from unauthorized use.

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 Hitchcock County will be built and designed by GIS Workshop, with adherence to standards established by the State of Nebraska. The digital map database has been developed using the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System, NAD83 as per State/NITC guidelines. The system will comply with any other applicable NITC items.

4. Agencies submitting grant applications for funding of a Geographic Information System (GIS) project must in addition to the standard grant application complete and submit the ***Supplemental Questionnaire for State Funded Entities on Land Record Information and Mapping-Related Grant Application*** found on the Boards website page "Grant Information" at www.staterecordsboard.ne.gov.

This supplement is attached.

5. **Describe how technical support will be provided.**

GIS Workshop will edit and maintain the GIS data on our redundant servers. Hitchcock County will be responsible for sending parcel splits and land use changes to GIS Workshop. GIS Workshop will download a copy of the Tyler Orion data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GIS Workshop server. They have a dedicated technical support staff that is available at any time during business hours to service the County's needs.

Part III. EXPECTATIONS

It is the expectation of the Nebraska State Records Board that the grantee recognize the project as an ongoing effort to make public documents and or transactions more accessible. As this application relates to public documents the goal encompasses not only the availability of current documents as described in this application but the ongoing addition of new and updated documents in a timely manner. This goal recognizes the public's interest in not only historical information but the expectation that current data is obtainable. The Nebraska State Records Board recognizes that this is a long term commitment on the part of the grantee and anticipates the continued financial support of the grantee to maintain these expectations.

Part IV. STATE LAW COMPLIANCE

Nebraska law, sections 4-108 through 4-114 state that no political subdivision of the State shall provide public benefits, to include grants or contracts, to a person not lawfully present in the United States. If this application is awarded in whole or in part, and during the time the grant is in effect, the undersigned, on behalf of the political subdivision grant applicant, by signing this grant application, affirmatively states and acknowledges that the political subdivision will comply with this law.

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:

Judy K. McDonald
Printed Name

Assessment Assistant
Title

Phone # 308-334-5219 **E-mail** judy.mcdonald@nebraska.gov

Physical Address:

229 East D Street
Trenton, NE 69044

I, the Authorized Representative of Hitchcock 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 30th **day of** March**, 2012**

Judy K. McDonald
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, Roads, Weeds, Treasurer, etc) have expressed interest in collaborating and building upon this initial investment in GIS technology to enhance their service provision to the public. In addition, applicable Natural Resource Districts actively support GIS development for the County to promote collaboration. With several major highways routed through the County, we believe the emergency management staff and law enforcement will find value in having immediate access to County mapping to promote public safety. Because the County is predominantly rural, we believe taxpayers will save travel costs by having critical property data available 24/7 via the WebGIS.

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

www.gisworkshop.com

GIS Workshop

VERSION 1.0

Project: 0425-001

HITCHCOCK COUNTY, NE

ATTACHMENT 1:

Proposal for

Assessor GIS and County WebGIS

Prepared for Pam Meisenbach, Assessor
And Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

March 5, 2012

Trimble Authorized Business Partner

esri Partner Network Gold

402.436.2150
4949 NW 1st Street, Lincoln NE 68521

CONTENTS

PROJECT BACKGROUND

As Hitchcock County transitions from State-assessed to County-assessed, the Board recognizes the value of implementing a GIS for analysis and record keeping in the Assessor's Office. The Board of Commissioners has participated in a demonstration about GISW's WebGIS product. As a result, they have requested GISW to provide budgetary pricing on the development of GIS for the Assessor's office and implementation of a county-wide Web-based GIS to provide property information on-line to property owners, the general public and other departments.

GIS BENEFITS

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are a powerful combination of digital maps and database information. Traditionally, county assessment has used paper maps to track parcel, soil and land use boundaries; in addition, the assessment database was completely disconnected from the mapping making it hard to crosscheck information. This process was very labor intensive and difficult to implement with high precision.

When properly implemented, Assessment GIS seamlessly links the parcel, soil and land use data directly to the appraisal database. GIS can increase efficiency and increase accuracy in many ways:

- Enter new parcel splits using specialized tools for survey data and aliquot parts
- Parcel-by-parcel comparison of deeded acres to mapped acres
- Calculate current land value for each parcel and report the breakdown of acres in each unique combination of soil and land use
- Visualize individual parcels to see the soils, land uses and aerial photograph
- Share information with land owners, real estate professionals and potential developers to significantly reduce call volume for County staff and facilitate easy access to public information
- Quickly and uniformly change land value calculations for the entire County if any of the parameters change (soils database, land use classes, etc)

THE GIS WORKSHOP DIFFERENCE

EXPERIENCE WITH NEBRASKA ASSESSMENT GIS

GISW has been providing quality Assessment GIS data and analysis solutions for more than 14 years. Our clients include over 85 counties in Nebraska and surrounding states. GISW staff has over 75 years combined experience in GIS implementation and are exceptionally experienced in Nebraska assessment systems. GISW is the only GIS Company in Nebraska that can provide the automatic database linking and other tools necessary to build a complete assessment GIS for Hitchcock County to ensure compliance with Property Assessment Division (PAD) mandates. We are the only GIS Company recognized by the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO). As you transition from State-assessed to County-assessed, the GIS will ensure you are providing equal, fair, consistent valuation of property in the most efficient manner possible.

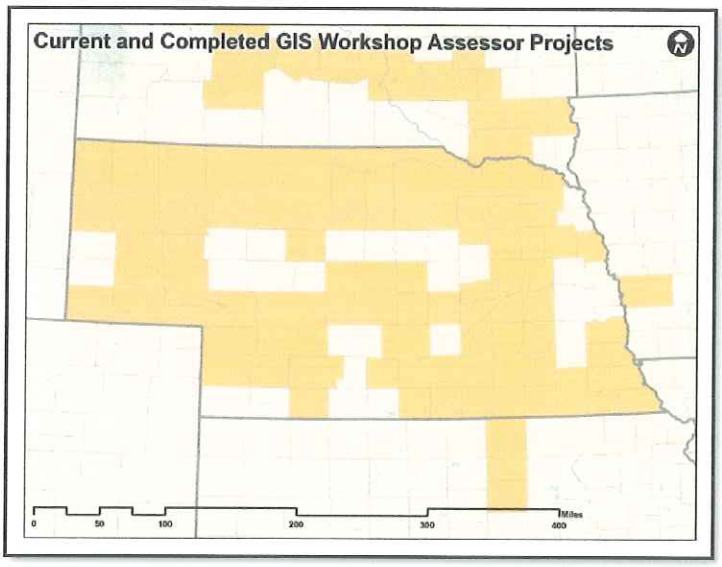


Figure 1: GISW is the most experienced Assessor GIS provider in the State

GISW is a full service GIS provider with a team of technicians ready to build your GIS. We will develop your GIS database, train your staff to use GIS information in their day-to-day workflow, provide unlimited support and develop internet mapping, or WebGIS, sites to make GIS more accessible to all your departments, real estate professionals and your constituents.

GISW specializes in developing GIS datasets and providing easy access to the data. Below is a list of key differentiators:

- **WebGIS – our product gives everyone 'Google-like' access to GIS data. No one else offers web access!**
- Costs – our costs are lower because our experience translates into efficiency
- Training – we provide upfront and ongoing training to ensure clients can make use of their investment
- Support staff – we have a long list of satisfied clients who can attest to our excellent support services. We have a dedicated team of technical support staff ready and waiting on the phone.
- Experience – we are the most experienced GIS company in the State and it shows in the quality of our products and services
- Software tools – we have customized tools we use internally to quickly perform routine operations such as land use calculation, survey data entry, aliquot part splits, etc.
- CAMA integration – we are the only company with tools to link directly into assessment databases such as Tyler, TerraScan, MIPS and County Solutions.
- Complete package – we offer a turnkey solution including data conversion, data development data maintenance and the products to make the data accessible to everyone

GIS Workshop, Inc. is the most experienced Assessment GIS provider in the State. We will become an extension of your staff. Our extensive expertise together with our specialized tools helps us provide superior products and services.

CLIENT SATISFACTION

Please ask our clients about our support staff, training services, how they use GIS on a day-to-day basis, do they use desktop or WebGIS, did GIS help with the recent soil conversion mandate, flexible payment options, oblique photos, etc. We are confident that you will hear our level of service is second-to-none. Here are direct quotes from a sampling of our Assessor clients after implementing GIS in their departments; they are a testimony to the fact that implementing GIS increases revenue through accuracy in land use calculations and decreases costs through enhanced efficiency and time savings:

- **Merrick County:** "We found 13,000 additional irrigated acres by matching up NRD data with GIS."
- **Pierce County:** "Our GIS paid for itself the first year" by identifying pivots, new buildings, etc.
- **Phelps County:** "We increased assessed acres through accuracy in land use calculations."
- **Cuming County:** "I have confidence in my valuations when dealing with property owners because we can SEE how the value was determined. I also use my land use calculator to compare deeded acres vs GIS acres to identify inaccuracies in assessment."
- **Colfax County:** "Our GIS has paid for itself many times over" by using GISW's oblique imagery along with GIS to identify new buildings and to correct land use.
- **Platte County:** "We reduced daily inbound phone call volume by 50-70% by having information available online – this has freed up my staff to work more effectively on critical projects."
- **Madison County:** "We are able to do from our desks things that used to require time in the field. This has resulted in both cost and time savings for my County."
- **Keith County:** "GIS Workshop staff always answers the phone right away. They are great with support and customer service. I have never heard a single bad thing about their service from anyone I have talked to."

DATABASE DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION

GISW will do all the database development for Hitchcock County. We will rely on the Assessment staff for their local knowledge and our staff will do all the GIS development. GISW has developed a suite of desktop GIS tools that communicate with your assessment database and help us develop databases more efficiently than our competitors. **As an Esri (the leader in GIS technology) Gold Business Partner we know GIS better than anyone in the State.**

Once the GIS database is ready we will integrate the GIS data into your existing system. **We not only build the databases but we help you learn how to make them useful to you.** With our online meeting technology Hitchcock County staff can visit with our technical staff at any point to provide guidance or to view project progress from the comfort of your own office.

TRAINING AND UNLIMITED SUPPORT

We have a team of experienced and skilled technicians dedicated to keeping your GIS up-to-date. Complete training is provided in process flow of updates to the GIS, such as parcel splits or changes to land use and the use of the WebGIS site and accompanying tools.

WEBGIS

GISW technology greatly increases the value of your GIS investment. We provide true GIS mapping, not just a database of derived information. Our WebGIS product makes your data available throughout the County without the need for expensive training and desktop software. County staff, real estate professionals, banks, insurance agents, potential businesses/residents and Hitchcock County residents have 24/7 access to assessment information. Easy access to data is great for economic development and reduces phone calls for assessment staff.

PROJECT APPROACH

The power of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) lies in the ability to overlay various datasets and perform complex analysis within a simple user interface. GIS Workshop specializes not only in building systems, but more importantly, helping clients leverage their investment to perform standardized, accurate assessment with limited staffing. Our training and support technicians provide proven results and our WebGIS site gives your constituents access to all their assessment information 24 hours a day.

GIS helps provide equitable and accurate assessment across the entire county. When State statute requires assessment changes, such as the recent NRCS soil conversion, GIS can automate the process of making universal changes to all parcels in the County. A county-wide soil conversion can be accomplished in a day with GIS and would take months to accomplish accurately with paper maps.

GISW will build the Hitchcock County GIS by:

- Converting the cadastral maps to a GIS layer
- Attributing Parcel Identification Number for each Parcel
- Developing a comprehensive land use layer
- Incorporating soil survey data

DATA DEVELOPMENT – BUILDING THE PARCEL GIS

REFINE PUBLIC LAND SURVEY SYSTEM DATASET

GISW will utilize all GPS corner control that the Surveyor provides. The system is constructed to incorporate new corner and quarter control the Surveyor may collect in the future. Incorporation of new survey control into the GIS over time will gradually "tighten" the accuracy of the GIS. The base dataset will utilize the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System [NESPCS], NAD83 coordinate system (note: the Nebraska GIS Steering Committee and Nebraska State Surveyor recommend that counties use the NESPC system for assessment GIS).

PAPER TO DIGITAL PARCEL BOUNDARY CONVERSION

GISW will collect and scan the rural assessment cadastral maps from Hitchcock County. The cadastral maps together with CAMA database information will be used to draw the parcel layer based on the data layer described above. An example of this process can be seen in Figure 2 below.

ASSIGN PARCEL IDENTIFICAL NUMBER

After extracting the property boundaries from the scanned cadastral maps to create the digital parcel layer, GISW will populate the Parcel Identification Number for each parcel.

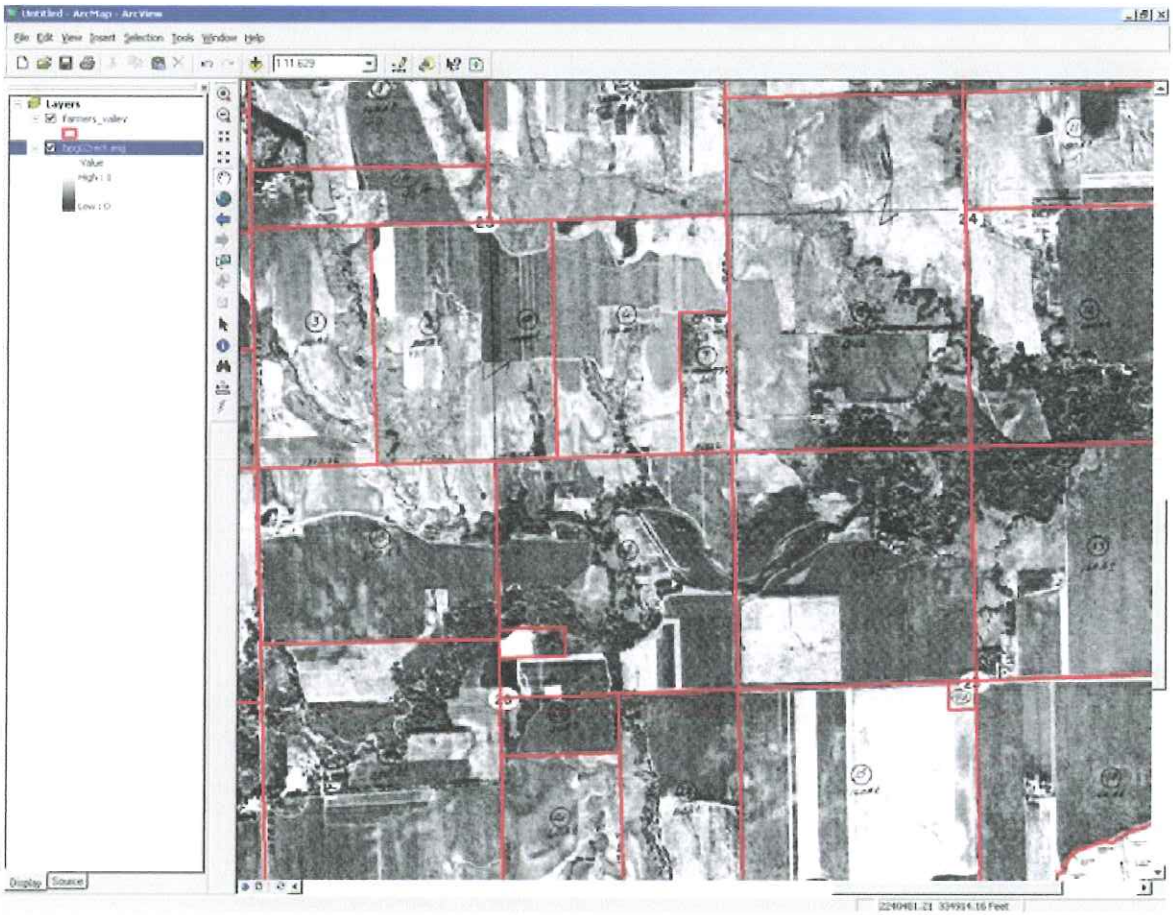


Figure 2: Scanned cadastral map with parcel lines digitized in red

DATA DEVELOPMENT - LAND USE LAYER CREATION

Upon completion of the parcel layer, GISW will create the Land Use layer, which identifies the land use codes for particular areas of a parcel. GISW will identify the various areas of a particular land use, digitize the boundaries of that land use, and incorporate those data into the GIS for analysis and reporting. This layer will also be very useful for agencies such as your local Natural Resource Districts.

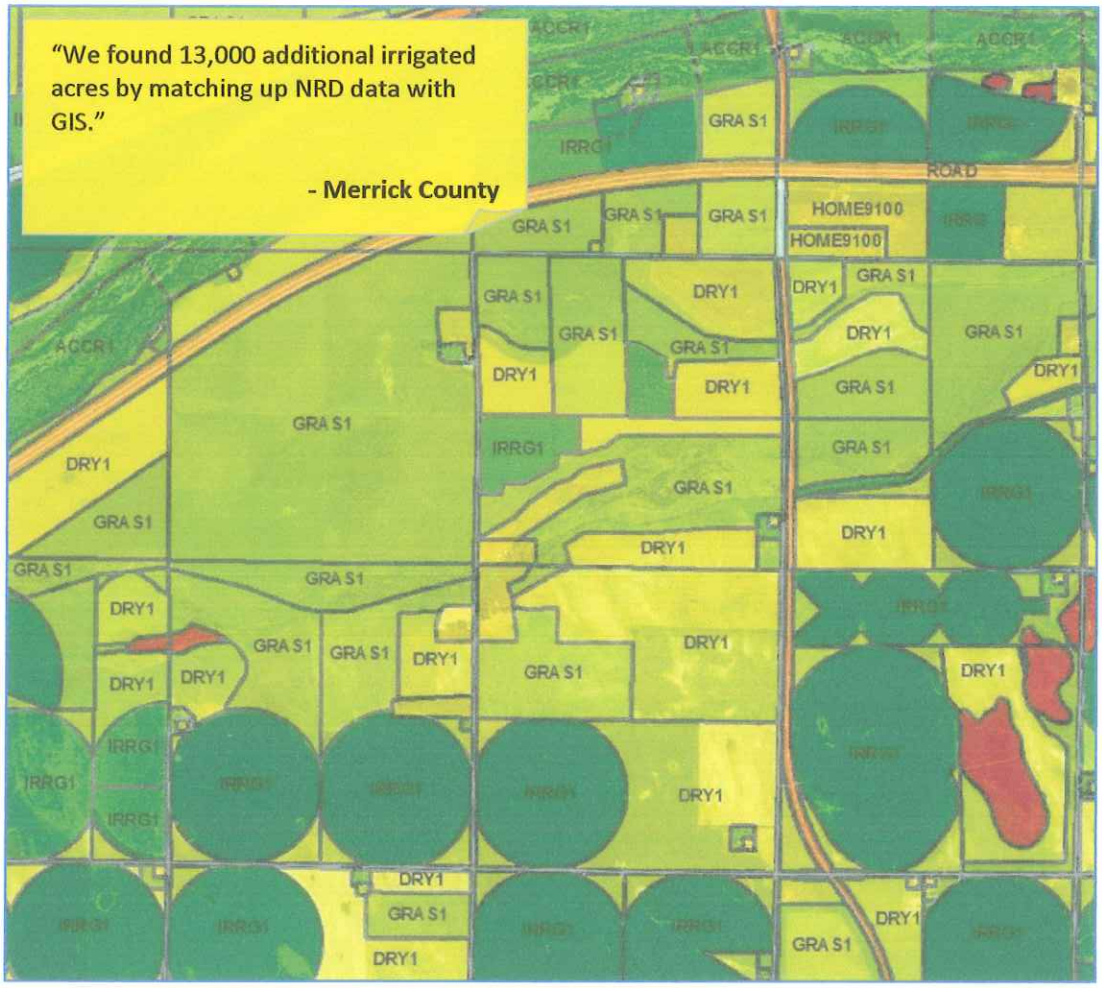


Figure 3: Example Land Use Map

DATA DEVELOPMENT - SOILS LAYER

GISW will acquire the NRCS soils layers to display together with the parcel boundaries, land use layer and aerial photography background. The GISW Land Use Calculator Tool (discussed below) will help evaluate every parcel in the County. **This type of analysis is one of the most powerful benefits of assessment GIS, it would take months to recount all the soils manually!**

Figure 4: An example in Platte County showing the parcel lines (red), land use layer (transparent colors), and the soils (thin black lines), overlaid together for purposes of rural assessment acreage calculation

GIS DATA MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT

GIS Workshop will edit and maintain all GIS data on our redundant servers. This frees up assessor department staff to concentrate on critical projects and issues. **This 100% maintenance web-based approach also eliminates the need for department staff to learn GIS software** – this will be important as the County transitions from State-assessed to County-assessed.

County will be responsible for sending parcel splits and land use changes to GIS Workshop. County staff will be able to use the GISW WebGIS Land Use Calculator to estimate the value of a parcel split for a walk-in customers. GIS Workshop will download a copy of the Orion (or other CAMA system if a change is made) data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GIS Workshop server. After an initial introductory period, an annual data maintenance fee will be due. See the Pricing Information section for more details.

GISW dedicated support staff is waiting to field your support call at all times during regular business hours.

TRAINING

GISW will train Hitchcock County staff to use the GIS data. We provide a wide variety of training options customized to your needs. We support clients on a daily basis so we know what is important to you and how to make the GIS data useful. We will train staff how to use the WebGIS site via an on-line meeting after the site is operational.

WEBGIS

The WebGIS will make the assessment/appraisal information available to other County departments, city departments, real estate professionals and the general public. **Only GISW offers this type of web access to the GIS database in an easy to use interface that will become the foundation for information access at the County.**

The GISW WebGIS:

- Provides 24/7 access to public information for real estate professionals, general public and other city/county departments.
- The GISW Web GIS **REDUCES** the number of calls into the Assessor's Office, allowing staff to get on with the business of assessment. Our Assessor clients say it best: **Phelps County experienced a 50%-75% reduction in the daily call volume related to property tax issues. Kearney County estimated a 75% reduction in call volume when they went online!**
- Promotes information sharing amongst city/county departments and **reduces duplications of effort.**
- Provides the Enterprise GIS foundation so **other departments (roads, planning/zoning, etc.) may start using GIS technology more cost effectively.**

HITCHCOCK COUNTY'S WEBGIS

GISW proposes to design and build an enterprise WebGIS for Hitchcock County 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.

The Assessor tab was the first step in setting up the enterprise WebGIS for the 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 5 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 sales information, assessment and appraisal data*, and any other data associated with future tabs. **(NOTE: an optional subscription-based version is also available to provide advanced information on a subscription basis.)**

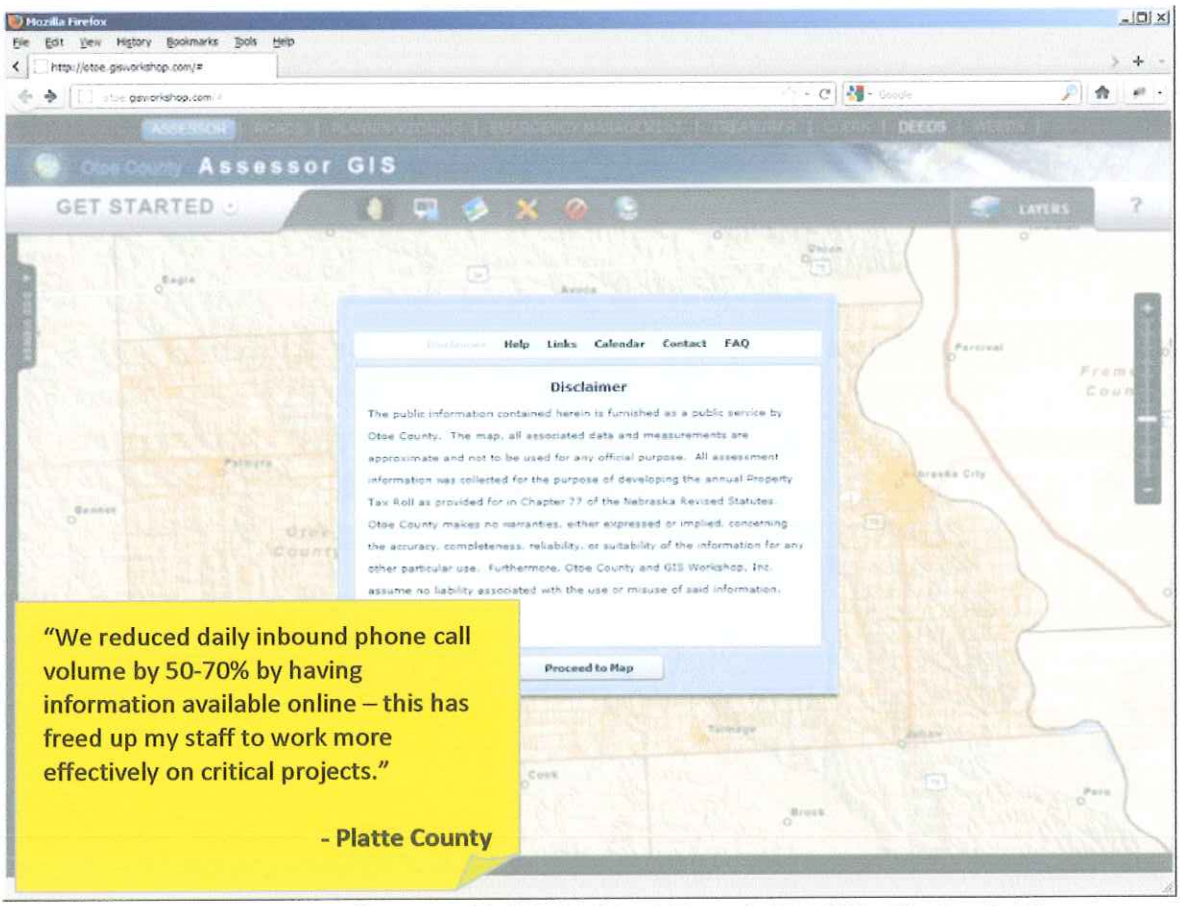


Figure 5: **Opening screen (Assessor Tab) of GIS Workshop's Enterprise WebGIS for Otoe County, NE.**

Additional tabs for this WebGIS project may include Clerk, Treasurer, Roads and Sheriff/Emergency Management. **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 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. The user can switch to a satellite view that includes 2010 FSA aerial photography.

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 is available may be filtered by date range, price range, year built, or other pertinent parameters. **For those counties wishing to offer sales data on a subscription basis, GISW offers a subscription-based option (see Optional Items under the Pricing section of this document).** Figure 6 illustrates the 'Get Started' options. Figure 7 shows the results table after searching for "Smith" in the owner name field. Figure 8 shows the results of selecting a property. The map has zoomed into the chosen parcel and the parcel polygon is highlighted. Figure 9 shows the full property report card with links to photos, value, sale, building and land information.

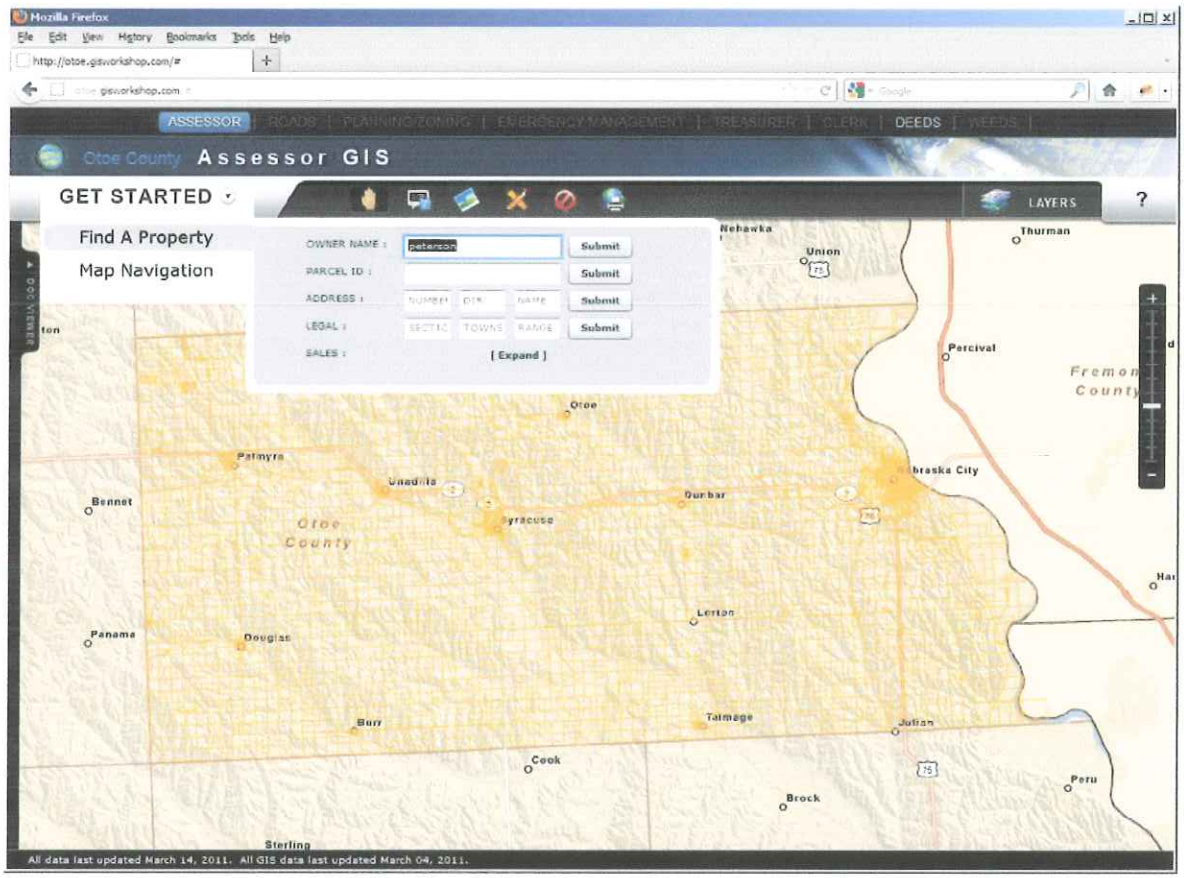


Figure 6: **Assessor tab showing property search box**

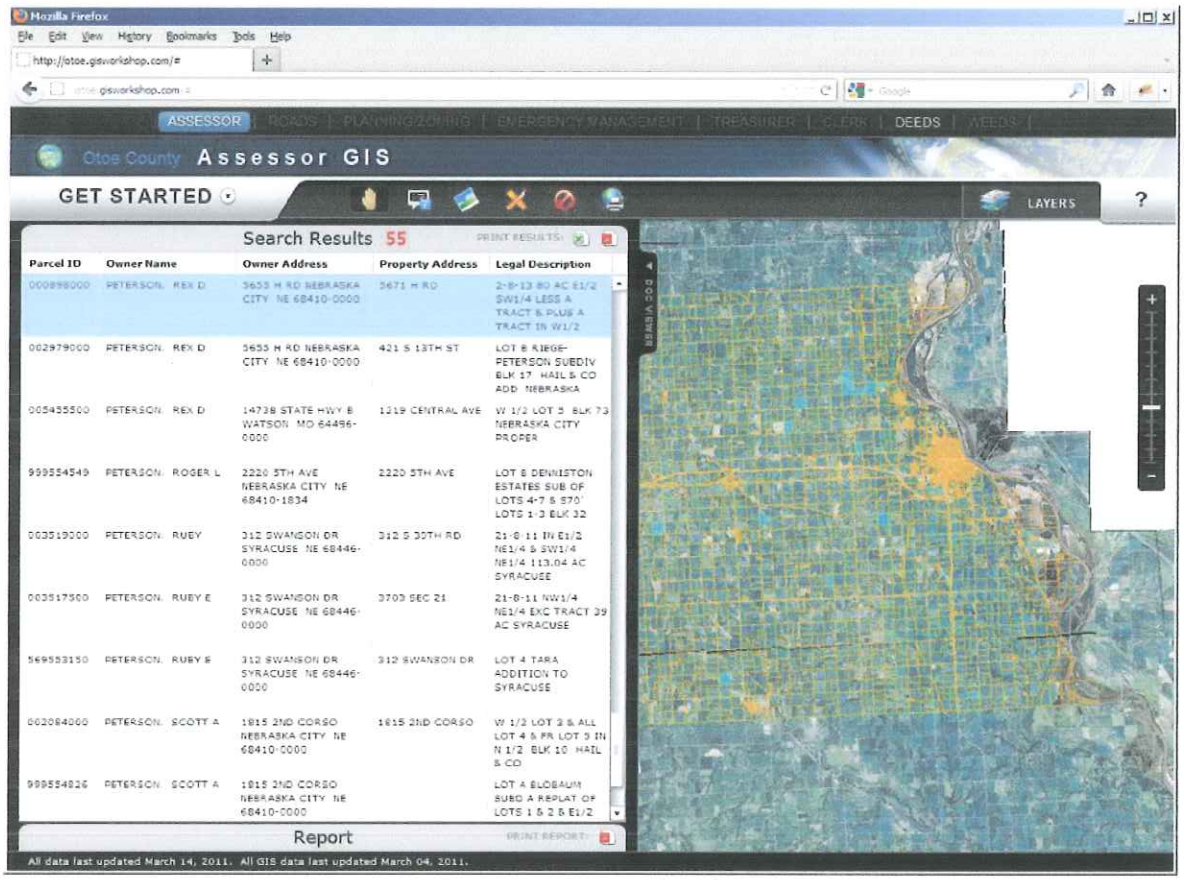


Figure 7: Property search results

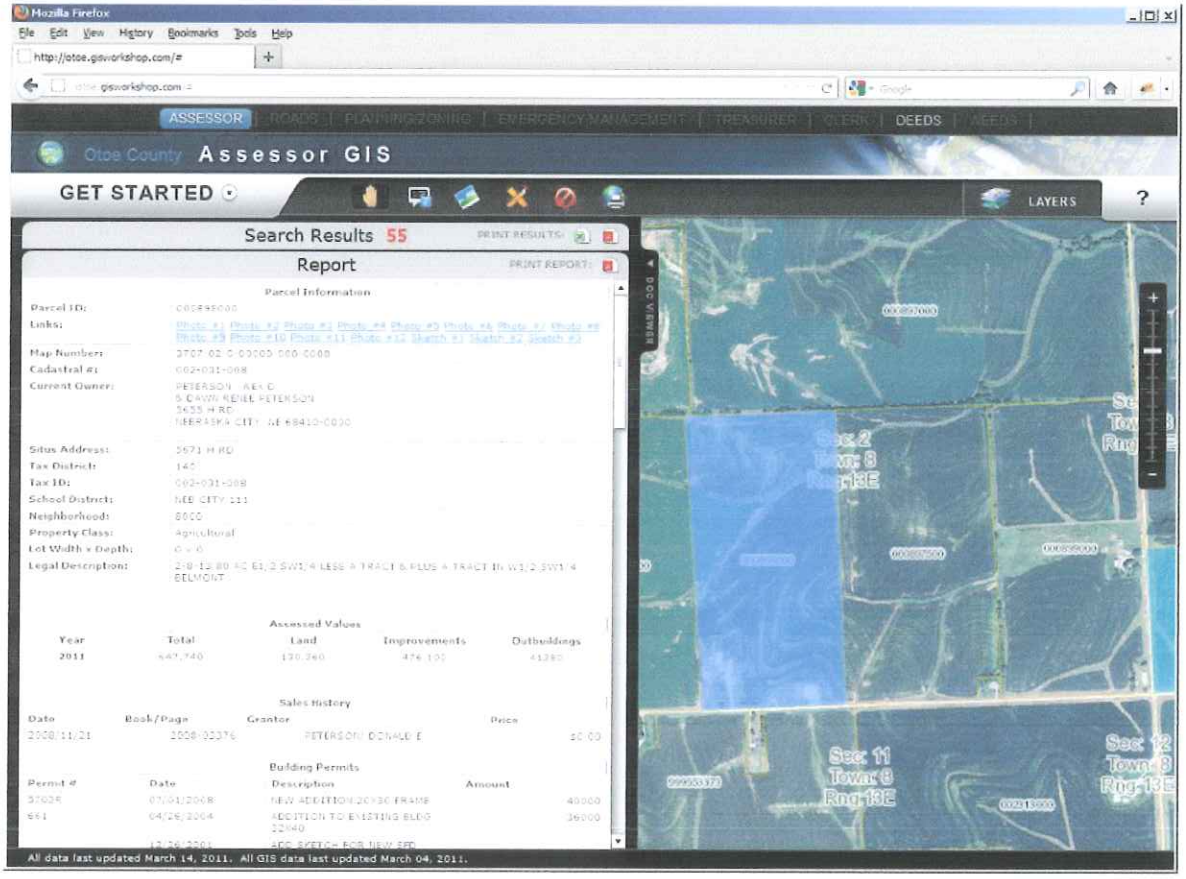


Figure 8: **Property Record Card (note the map zoomed in and highlighted the chosen parcel)**

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 9 illustrates the zoom slider bar and pan tool (hand icon).

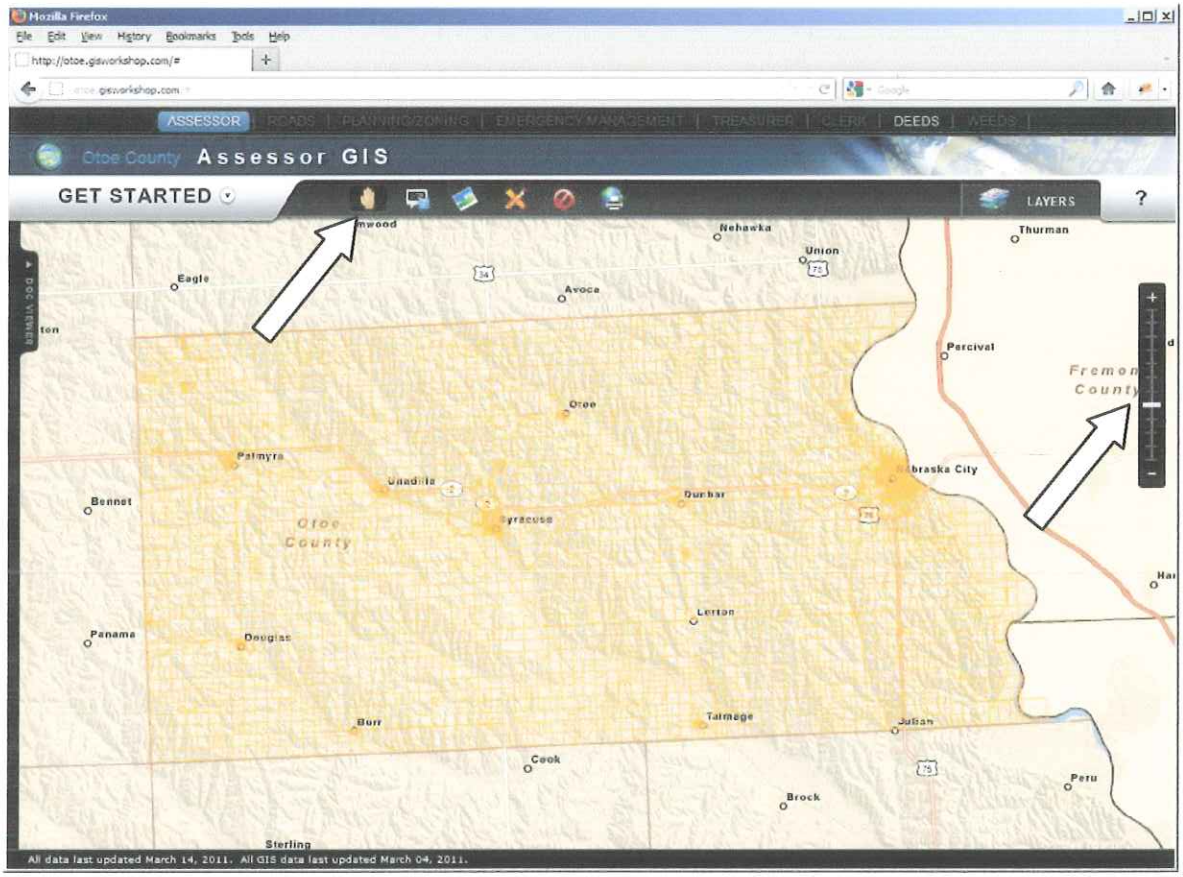


Figure 9: Zoom slider bar (right side) and activated pan tool icon (hand) in horizontal toolbar

Figures 10 and 11 illustrate the Map Navigation feature. The user enters a specific section/township/range and then the map zooms into the specified section.

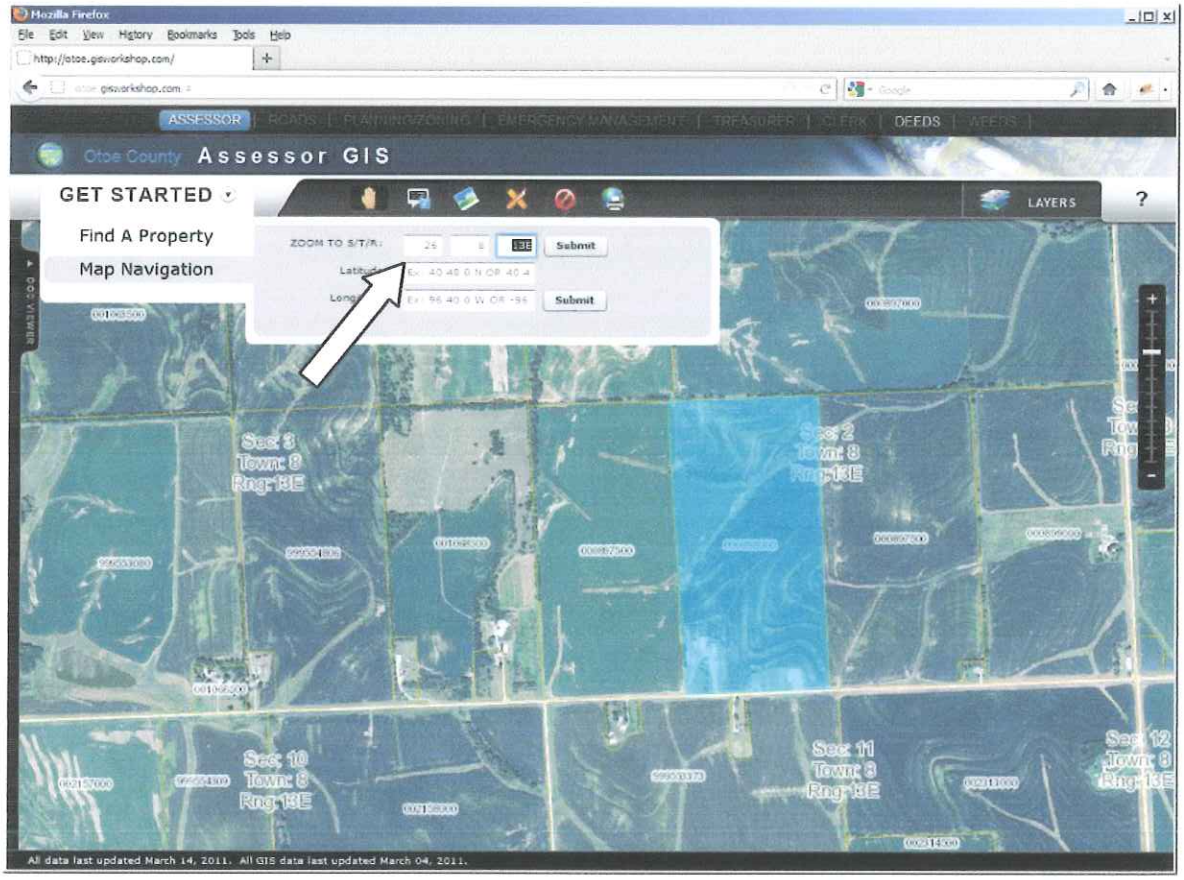


Figure 10: **User enters section/township/range**

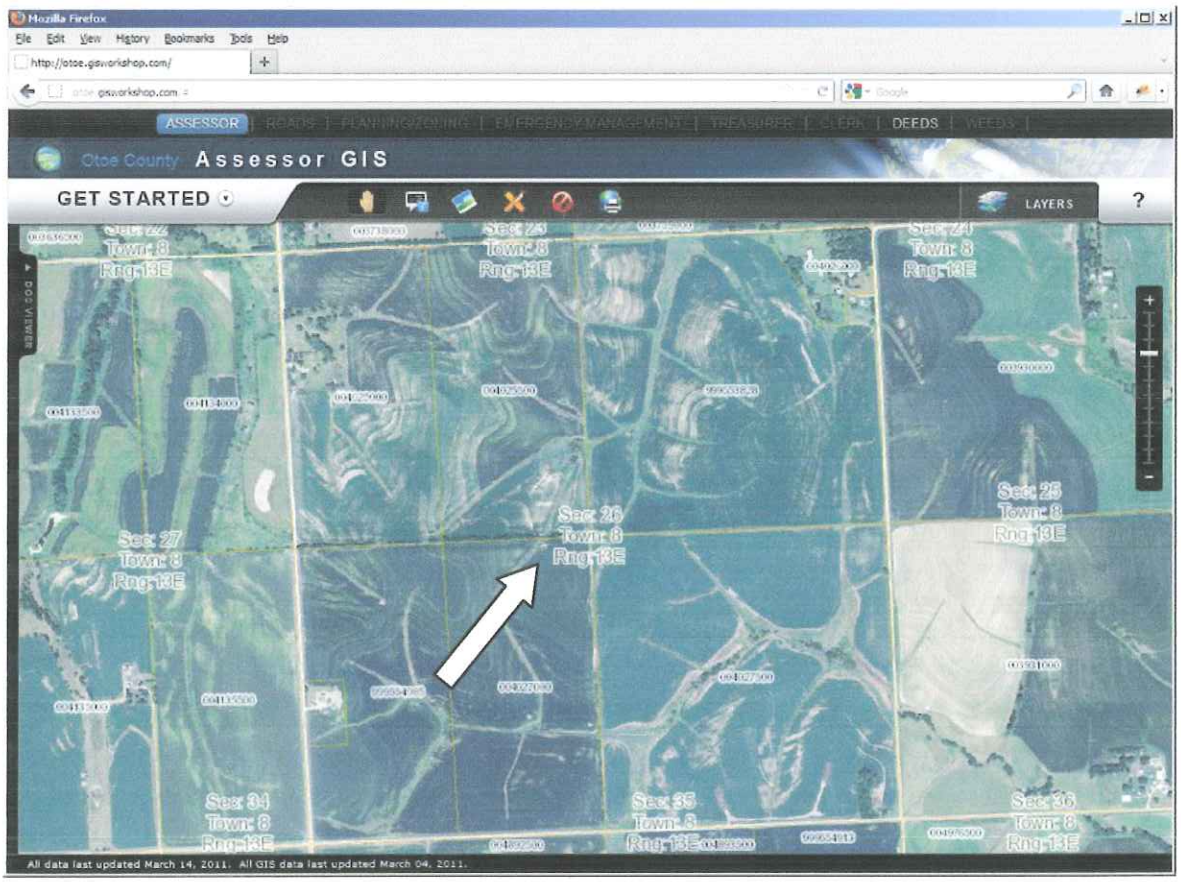


Figure 11: **Application zooms into the specified section**

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 12 below. Property card information is also available through the tool.

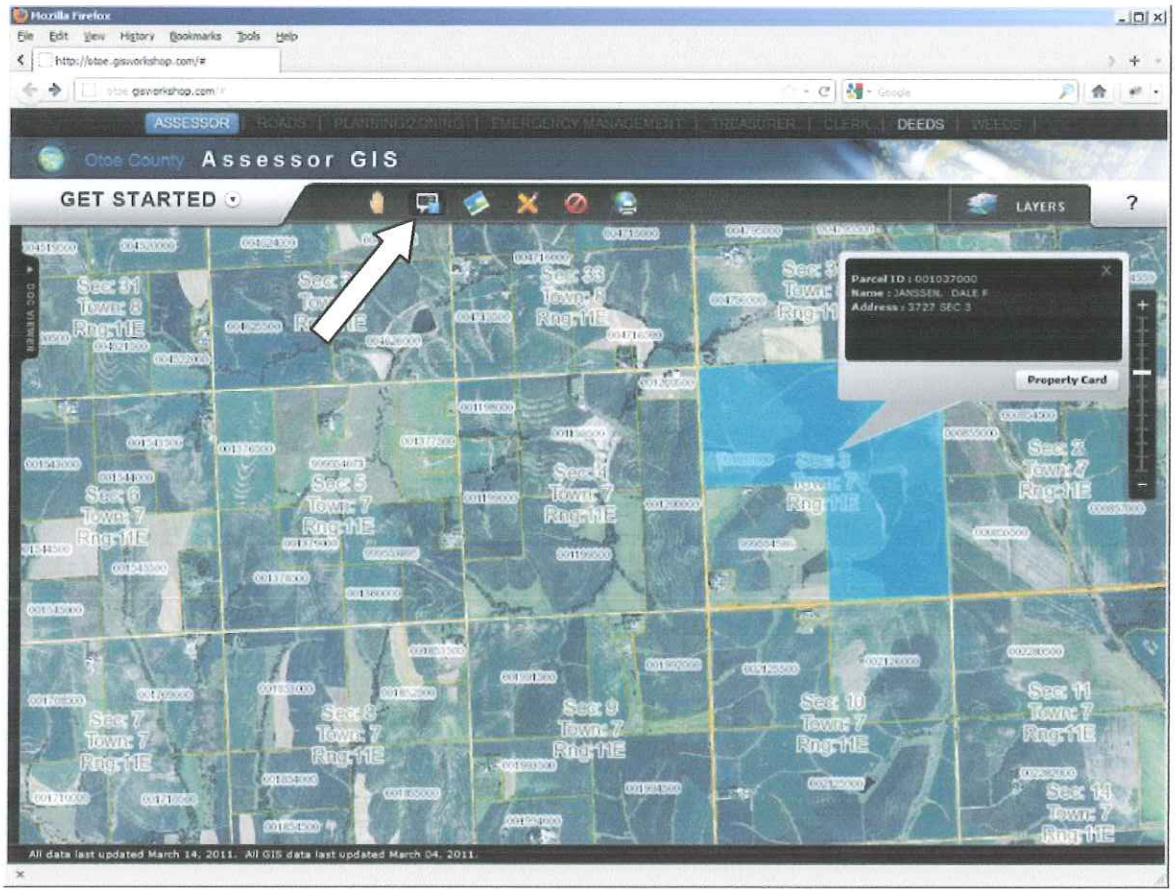


Figure 12: **Activated Quick Identifier tool and information box result with link to Property Card**

PHOTO TOOL

The Photo Tool is a great way to view individual building improvements. The tool reads the assessment database for all available photos and sketches and displays them in a photo window. If GISW has flown oblique aerial photography for the County those will also be available in the photo tool.

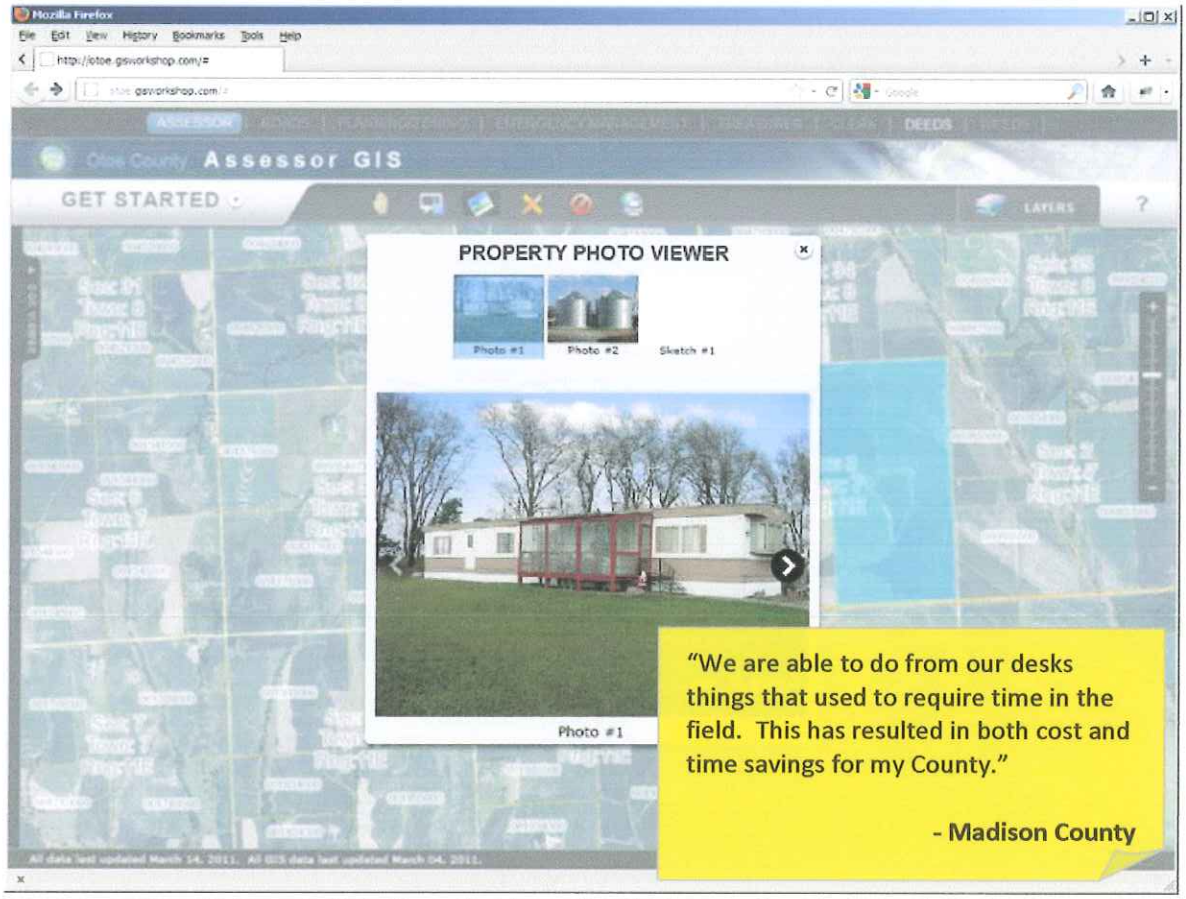


Figure 13: Property Photo Viewer Tool shows all available images from the Assessor's database

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 the figure below.

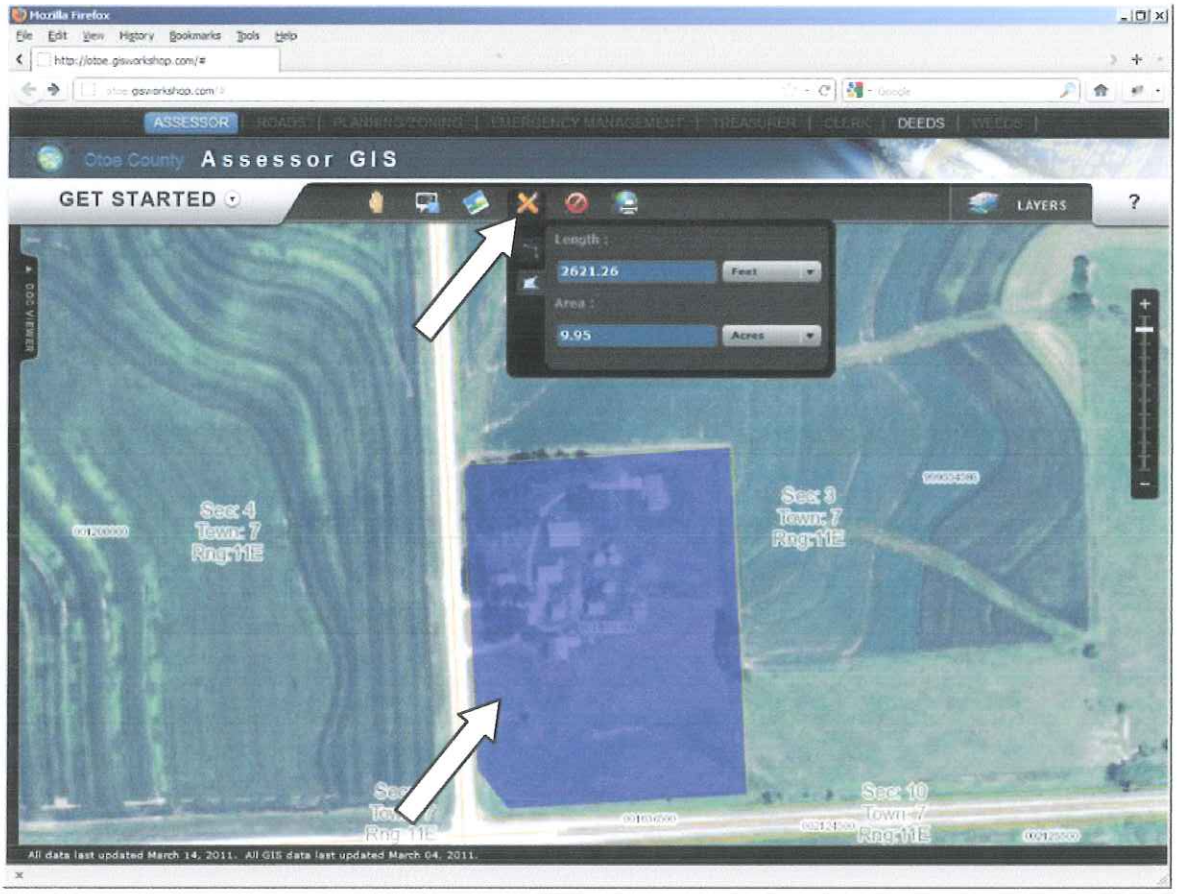


Figure 14: Measurement tool showing total length of the user-drawn line segment along the parcel boundary.

LAND USE CALCULATOR

The WebGIS Land Use Calculator Tool is a powerful tool for fast and accurate evaluation. The tool is protected by a simple login feature and allows the Assessor's Office to quickly calculate land value and provided a detailed report of the acreage breakdown of each LVG code category.

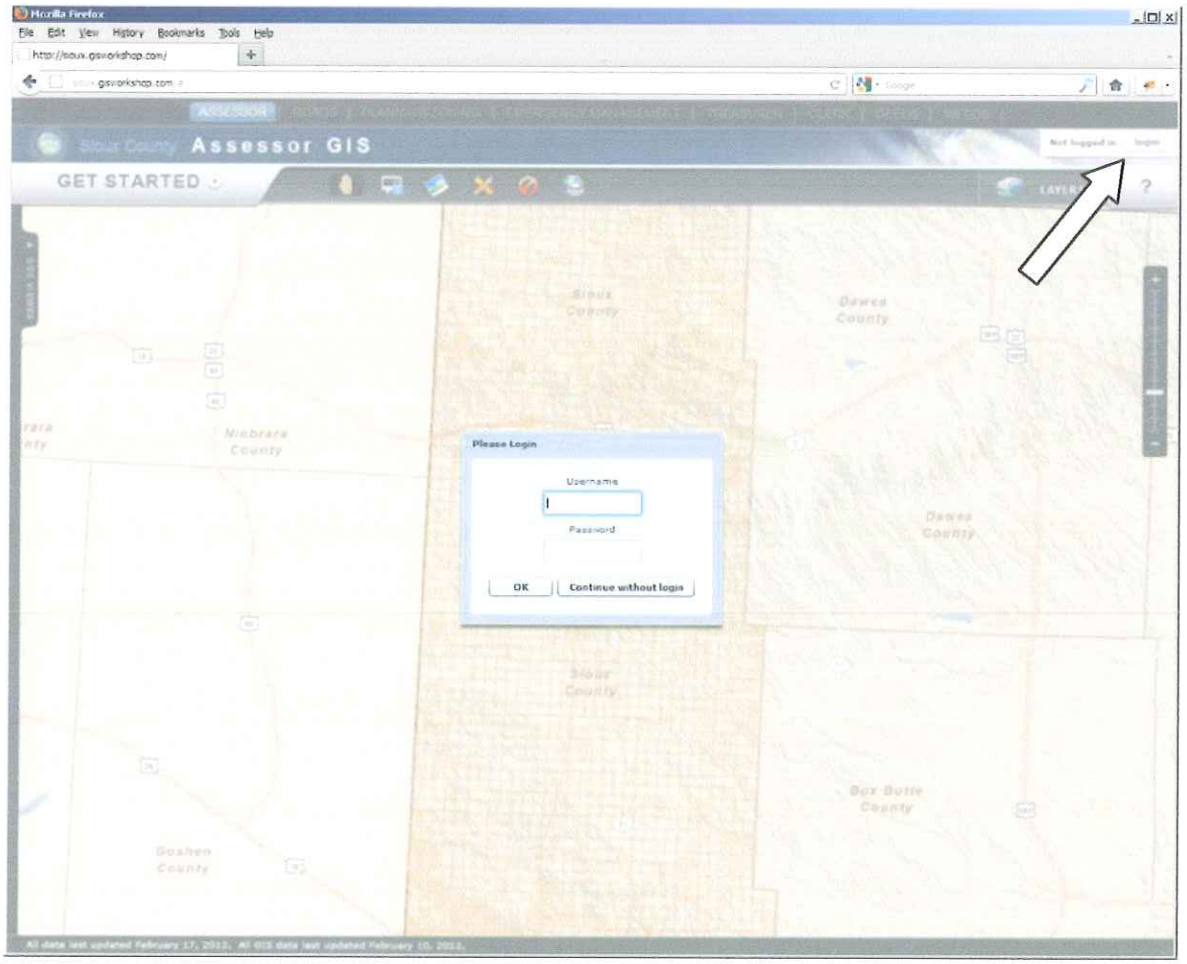


Figure 15: Login Screen protecting the Land Use Calculator Tool

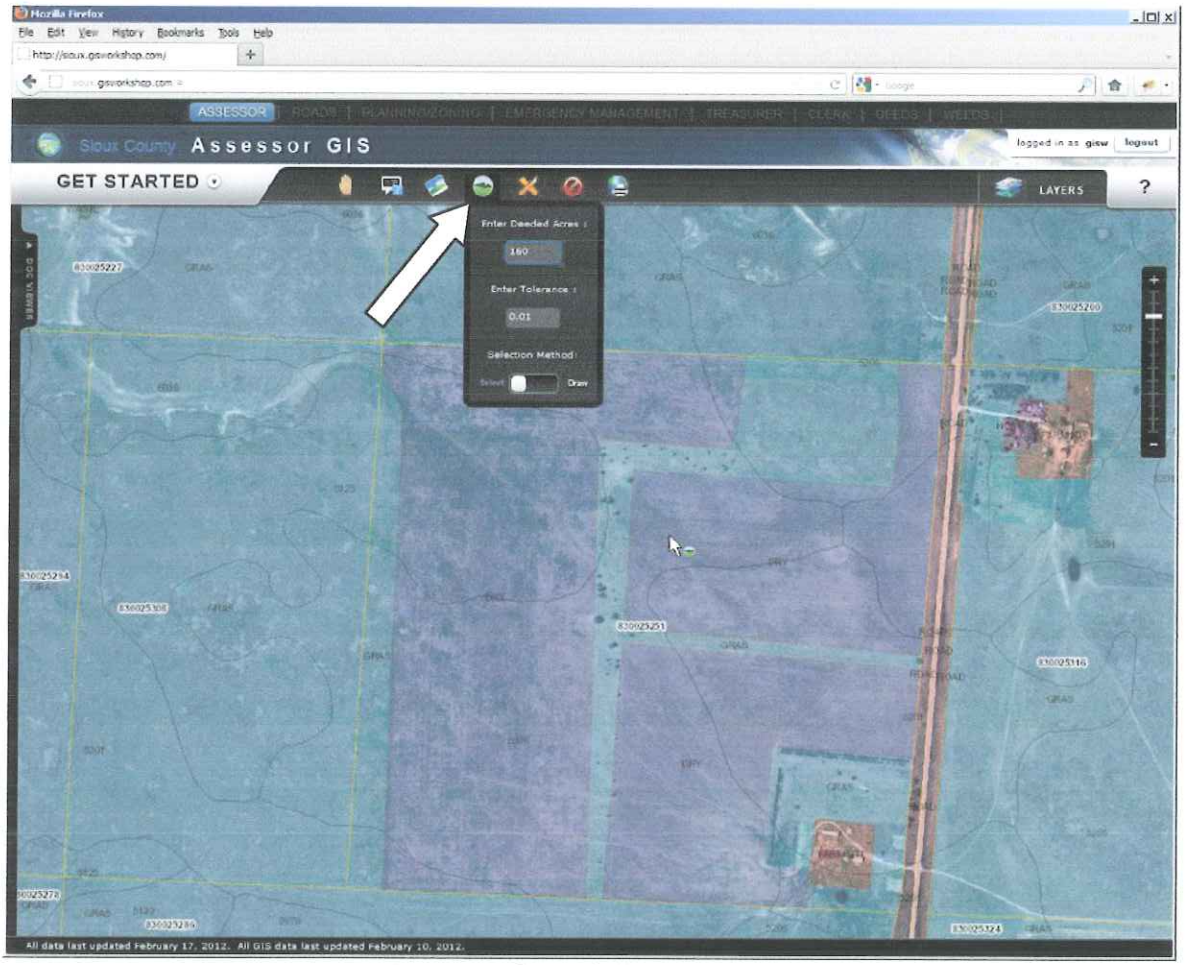


Figure 16: Land Use Calculator Tool options

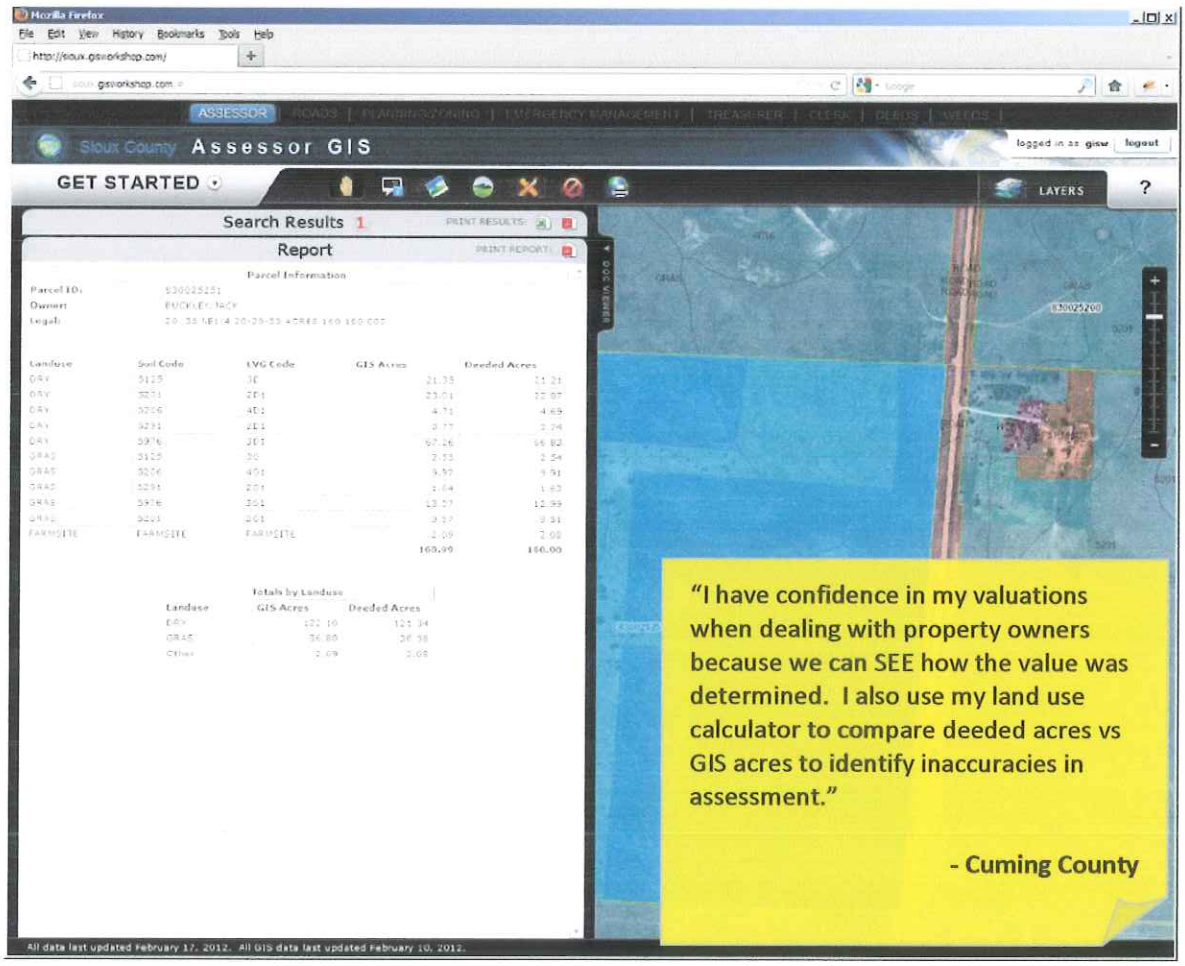


Figure 17: Land Use Calculator Report

SCHEDULE

The GISW team is ready to start the Hitchcock County Assessor GIS project after acceptance and receipt of a signed contract according to the tasks described in this proposal. We anticipate GIS project build-out and WebGIS setup completion before June 30, 2013.

PROJECT COSTS

The following pricing and package is ***FULLY INCLUSIVE,*** providing the Assessor with everything needed for a fully functional assessment GIS. There are no hidden charges or expenses. The cost is based on the size of the County. Variations and/or additions to those tasks/features/service stated within are subject to additional costs. Any change orders must be documented and added as an addendum to this scope with the additional costs for said change order added to the following costs. **GIS WORKSHOP WILL NOT SEND A SINGLE INVOICE UNTIL THE PROJECT IS COMPLETE AND YOU ARE 100% SATISFIED WITH YOUR PRODUCT.**

Services	Cost ($)
GIS Build-out Services and Assessor Tab on WebGIS, with Year One Maintenance	$54,800

Deliverables:

- GIS layers
  - Parcels
  - Sections
  - Town lot/subdivision
  - Land use
  - Ortho-photography (Latest FSA imagery)
  - Soils
- Assessor Tab WebGIS featuring the Land use Calculator tool
- Initial year of GIS data maintenance and support
- Online County staff training on use of WebGIS

Total Costs for above listed Services	**$54,800**

FINANCING OPTIONS

GISW will deliver and install all systems upon completion. Delivery is unrelated to the payment schedule. Support fees are not financed or included in this potential scheme. **Use of our interest free financing options does not delay product delivery in any way.**

NOTE: Any awarded Grant funds will be applied to the total cost and payment schedule will be based upon the remaining balance. **Remaining project balance may be spread over four years.**

ONGOING ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS

GIS Data maintenance by GISW for Assessor **(effective July 2014)**	$4,800 annually
WebGIS maintenance by GISW **(effective July 2014)**	$4,800 annually

OPTIONAL ITEMS

Additional annual maintenance for subscription-based option	$1,500 annually
Subscription-based management tool	included

Nebraska State Records Board

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

ATTACHMENT 2:

LETTERS OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT FROM HITCHCOCK COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Vontz Realty

Specializing in Agricultural Real Estate
www.vontzrealty.com

Vontz Realty
501 South Jeffers
PO Box 2039
North Platte, NE 69103-2039
308-520-3953

March 29, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm a real estate broker specializing in agricultural property in south west and south central Nebraska. Several counties in this area have very good web sites that save many miles and precious time. Those with the GIS system are easy to use and contain information valuable to me, my clients, and customers. Many times the access to tax amounts, soil types and acres, improvements, and recent sales can save me 200 to 350 miles per day. Anything you can do to improve access to computer based information will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely

Ed Vontz
Broker/Owner

Miller & Associates
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, P.C.

109 East 2nd McCook, NE 69001-3719
Tel: 308-345-3710
Fax: 308-345-7370
www.miller-engineers.com

March 29, 2012
McCook, Nebraska

Nebraska State Records Board
440 S 8th Street, Ste 210
Lincoln, NE 68508-2294

RE: Letter of Support
Hitchcock County, NE

Dear Nebraska State Records Board:

We support Hitchcock County in the development of a new GIS Website. Improving access to Public Information is certainly a much-needed and valuable endeavor. A user-friendly GIS Website will certainly be a significant asset for Hitchcock County.

Sincerely Yours,
MILLER & ASSOCIATES
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, P.C.

Gary Dicenta

GHD/sbg

JIM BAIN APPRAISAL ASSOCIATES INC.

James K. Bain
Certified General
Real Estate Appraiser

P.O. Box 459
North Platte, Nebraska 69103
(308) 532-3917
Fax: (308) 532-4202

Jeffrey A. Bain
Certified Residential
Real Estate Appraiser

TO: Nebraska State Records Board

RE: Improved public access to public information

Dear Nebraska State Records Board,

As an appraiser who works several counties in the state of Nebraska to assist lenders, attorneys, Insurance groups as well as home owners in appraisal of real estate it is a time consuming project to work in the rural counties of Nebraska. There has been great improvement in the development of technological advances in the field and the GIS system is a great asset to all who utilize this system. There are some counties that have gone to this system and this advancement has saved time and money for all who use it as well as the general public by lowering fees of the industry. The GIS is a good system that does well for the rural areas of Nebraska and it is hoped that all of the area counties could utilize this kind of program or system as the technology is now available and the rural areas would and do benefit the most from a system like this for knowledge and search. This would be a great advancement for Hitchcock and al of the counties in this Great state of Nebraska and we could let people know we are here and keeping up with the technology of today.

Thank you

Jeffrey A. Bain

Jeffrey A. Bain

Certified General Real Property Appraiser

CG 280008

Luhrs Real Estate and Appraisals®

Thomas M. Luhrs, ARA, MAI, CMEA
Nebraska Real Estate Broker
Certified General Appraiser
Nebraska and Colorado

126 Yucca Drive
P.O. Box 759
Imperial, Nebraska 69033
Ph. 308-882-5917

Gordon O. Luhrs, ARA
1928 - 2008

March 21, 2012

Judy McDonald
Hitchcock County Assessor
PO Box 446
Trenton, NE 69044

REF: GIS System

Dear Judy:

It has come to my attention the Hitchcock County is seeking a grant to assist in the funding of a new GIS system. I would be advantageous for all people who rely on Hitchcock county information to have it readily accessible on-line. With this advanced technology, users could access information 24/7 and provide faster service to customers more efficiently at a reduced cost. In addition, it would save Hitchcock County employees manual labor, time and expense of providing these services.

As a professional real estate appraiser and constant user of Hitchcock County information, I strongly support the efforts of Hitchcock County pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system.

Sincerely,

Thomas Luhrs

Thomas Luhrs, ARA, MAI, CMEA
Nebraska Certified General Appraiser (#CG910149)
Colorado Certified General Appraiser (#CG01313405)
Certified Machinery & Equipment Appraiser

SOLD Gateway Realty of McCook, Inc.
123 West "B" Street | McCook, NE 69001
TELEPHONE (308) 345-5520 | FAX (308) 345-5522

March 23, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

Please find this letter in support of Hitchcock County being awarded the funds to develop a new GIS website. In our form of business we use the public information all the time and it helps us gather the information we need.

Randy D. Bauer, SRA
Certified General Appraiser
Gateway Realty of McCook, Inc./Broker
123 West "B" Street
McCook, NE 69001
308-345-5520

220 Center Ave.
PO Box 81
Curtis, NE 69025

Phone: 800-873-5613 or
308-367-4281
Fax: 308-367-4285
Email: office@mrnrd.org

Middle Republican Natural Resources District

Local Conservation Program

March 12, 2012

To: Nebraska State Records Board

I am writing this letter to support the Hitchcock County WebGIS. I believe this mapping website will be of great benefit to the Middle Republican Natural Resources District. On a daily basis, we greatly rely on parcel information regarding irrigated acres, location, ownership and current contact addresses.

The ability to access to this information on a website will increase our efficiency and effectiveness in serving our constituents. In addition, if the information is available 24/7, it will enable us to make decisions after normal government business hours if needed. This time-saving element results in a cost-saving payoff. Not only will this reduce our cost but it will also reduce the expense to the County as there is always an employee retrieving file(s) and copying information we have requested. If this data is in a visible form at the end of our finger tips, it will not only benefit the District and the confidence in the county government's ability to serve the public with be promoted to a higher level.

At this time, every business is conscious of cost and efficiency. This WebGIS will enable us to reduce our costs of accessing public information and increase our efficiency immediately. We rely on public information and believe the availability of a website will only enhance the retrieval process. For the above reasons, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Hitchcock County.

Sincerely,

Stacie M Owens

Stacie M. Owens
Water Program Manager

To Whom it may concern,

I am in total support of a new website for Hitchcock County - This will save the taxpayer money along with making record keeping more accurate and working with the records more efficient. I believe they are well deserving of a grant from the Nebraska State Records Board.

Thank you,
Sincerely

James K. Bain

James K. Bain
Certified General Real Property Appraiser
CG 920187

PARAMOUNT
Title & Escrow

512 East "B" Street
McCook, NE 69001
Bus. (308)-345-2123
Toll Free (866)-378-2123
Fax (308)-345-4074
pte@alloisp.com

March 26, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

Hitchcock County is needing to improve access to the public but needs the funds to do the updates and receiving help from the state is needed and greatly appreciated.

Improving access to public information would mean we would have to developing a new GIS website. In doing so this would help us as Title Producers and Real Estate Agents do our job more efficiently.

We would like to thank you for your time and hope that you will take it into consideration to help Hitchcock County out to do the improvements that are needed here.

Sincerely,

Val Kircher
Title producer & Real Estate Broker

Hitchcock County Weed Control

To: Nebraska State Record Board

To whom it may concern,

Utilizing the proposed GIS system in our county would not only help a few but rather trickle down to a lot of usage by a lot of departments. Weed control would be one for sure to be on board.

The fact that this system is easily expandable is very interesting. Accessing information state wide is also a very positive idea. 93 counties in Nebraska have Weed control and are willing to share any info they may have to help with a growing problem.

Hitchcock County needs to get on board to help with the every crunching economy and never ending need for more shared information. Saving time and money with a system such as this is a good bet.

Thank you in advance,

Bill Hagemann

Hitchcock County Weed Superintendent

Village of Palisade

122 North Main Street
PO Box 288
Palisade, Nebraska 69040-0288

Phone (308) 285-3320
Fax (308) 285-3327

March 27, 2012

Dear Nebraska State Records Board:

The Village of Palisade would like to offer its support in the Grant Application proposed by Hitchcock County for a new GIS Website. Developing a GIS Website would help to improve access to public information especially since it's not readily available in rural Southwest Nebraska. The Palisade Village Board of Trustees also believes the Website would be cost effective, help with time management and fuel costs with the new technology it would provide for our area.

Thank you for any consideration you can give this project.

Sincerely,

Nicole Wiese, Clerk/Treasurer
Village of Palisade

Village of Stratton
PO Box 332
Stratton, NE 69043
(308) 276-2184

March 23, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to show our support for a GIS Website for Hitchcock County. The Village of Stratton is one of the municipalities within Hitchcock County, and we regularly use their services and their internet site for information and other needs. Please assist Hitchcock County with this project by awarding them the grant.

Thank You,

Lorrinda Cheatham

Lorrinda Cheatham
Village Clerk/Treasurer

Southwest Public Power District

Phone 308-285-3295 Box 289 221 N. Main www.swppd.com
FAX 308-285-3811 Palisade, NE 69040

March 30, 2012

Hitchcock County Assessment Office
P.O. Box 446
Trenton, NE 69044

RE; Letter of Support

To whom it may concern,

We are writing this letter in support of this Grant Application. Southwest Public Power District also recognizes that in today's digital world, access to good electronic information is of the utmost importance because of the fact our agencies serve the same people.

Again, we would fully support this effort as both of our agencies strive to make Southwest Nebraska a better place.

Regards,

Curtis Kayton

Curtis Kayton
General Manager

Farm Credit Services *of* America
AGRICULTURE WORKS HERE...

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
kirk.manker@fcsamerica.com
402-348-3367
402-661-3367 (fax)

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 :** Pierce County NE

2. **Grant amount requested** $12,300.00

3. **Title of project:** County WebGIS

4. **Brief description of project:** The project includes building a WebGIS application that will link to the existing Manatron/TerraScan 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 **N**ebraska **I**nformation **T**echnology **C**ommission 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).**

   Pierce 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, Pierce County's WebGIS will feature the Assessor Tab. The Board wishes to include other departments such as Roads and Emergency Management as subsequent phases in expanding the WebGIS over time and budget years. Immediately after development of the Assessor tab, 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. John Johnson is the Planning/Zoning Administrator for Pierce County and also for Madison County who has WebGIS through GISW. Mr. Johnson has demonstrated to the Pierce Board the functionality and tools available through the Madison County WebGIS and has shared information regarding his experience with the public's use and support of the WebGIS in Madison County. The Board looks forward to providing this type of information to Pierce County. Additionally, the Weeds department will use it for determining property owners and property location for spraying noxious weeds and issuing notices to landowners.

   Installing the WebGIS system in the Assessor's Office will assist Emergency Management with 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 and enhance public safety.

   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 Pierce County Board, Assessor, Clerk/Election Commissioner/Register of Deeds, other departments, cities and villages feel that this WebGIS 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 Pierce, surrounding cities and villages 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.

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. Numerous County department staff have attended Board meetings to express their support.

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

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 Pierce County Assessor, Treasurer, Roads 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. Pierce County Assessor, Clerk and Roads 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. Pierce 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.

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 Pierce County of implementing the GIS. The County fully anticipates being able to fully meet annual maintenance costs of the GIS 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 Manatron/TerraScan database containing tax assessment information. The Property Record Card component of the WebGIS has several customized reports, derived from the Manatron/TerraScan 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 Pierce County community.

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.

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.

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.

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 Manatron/TerraScan (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 Pierce County will be built and designed by GIS Workshop, with adherence to standards established by the State of Nebraska. The digital map database

has been developed using the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System, NAD83 as per State/NITC guidelines. The system will comply with any other applicable NITC items.

4. Agencies submitting grant applications for funding of a Geographic Information System (GIS) project must in addition to the standard grant application complete and submit the ***Supplemental Questionnaire for State Funded Entities on Land Record Information and Mapping-Related Grant Application*** found on the Boards website page "Grant Information" at www.staterecordsboard.ne.gov.

   This supplemental questionnaire has been completed and is attached to this application.

5. **Describe how technical support will be provided.**

   GIS Workshop will maintain the GIS data on our redundant servers. Pierce County maintains their GIS information in the Assessor's office. GIS Workshop will download a copy of the Manatron/TerraScan CAMA data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GIS Workshop server. They have a dedicated technical support staff that is available at any time during business hours to service the County's needs.

Part III. EXPECTATIONS

It is the expectation of the Nebraska State Records Board that the grantee recognize the project as an ongoing effort to make public documents and or transactions more accessible. As this application relates to public documents the goal encompasses not only the availability of current documents as described in this application but the ongoing addition of new and updated documents in a timely manner. This goal recognizes the public's interest in not only historical information but the expectation that current data is obtainable. The Nebraska State Records Board recognizes that this is a long term commitment on the part of the grantee and anticipates the continued financial support of the grantee to maintain these expectations.

Part IV. STATE LAW COMPLIANCE

Nebraska law, sections 4-108 through 4-114 state that no political subdivision of the State shall provide public benefits, to include grants or contracts, to a person not lawfully present in the United States. If this application is awarded in whole or in part, and during the time the grant is in effect, the undersigned, on behalf of the political subdivision grant applicant, by signing this grant application, affirmatively states and acknowledges that the political subdivision will comply with this law.

Part V. CONTACT INFORMATION & SIGNATURE

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

Peggy L Wragge — Pierce County Assessor
Printed Name — Title

Phone # 402-329-4215 **E-mail** assessor@ptcnet.net

Physical Address: 111 W Court St Rm#5
Pierce NE 68767-1224

I, the Authorized Representative of Pierce 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 2nd **day of** April **, 2012**

Peggy L Wragge
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)

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 (Planning and Zoning, Roads, Weeds etc) have expressed interest in collaborating and building upon the existing investment in GIS technology that exists in the Assessor's office to enhance their service provision to the public. The local taxpayers have seen the advantages of the WebGIS in neighboring Madison County and desire to have this tool available to them as well. They believe the advantage of having 24/7 access to critical property data and mapping will save travel costs. The cities, villages and applicable Natural Resource Districts also actively support GIS development for the County to promote collaboration and communication through the sharing of data. Emergency Management and law enforcement believe public safety will be enhanced as a result of having vital property ownership information available to them during critical emergency situations.

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

GIS Workshop

www.gisworkshop.com

Job: 0330-005
Version 1.0

Pierce County, Nebraska

Attachment 1:

Proposal for County-wide WebGIS Site

Prepared for:
Peggy Wragge, Assessor
and the Pierce County Board of Commissioners

March 31, 2012

Trimble Authorized Business Partner

esri Partner Network Gold

402.436.2150
4949 NW 1st Street, Lincoln NE 68521

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Pierce County Assessor currently has a basic text-only site for basic property data. She and the Board of Commissioners see the need to share for advanced GIS property data across all County departments and with the public through a new WebGIS solution. They seek to increase efficiency in the Departments' services by providing property information to the public in an internet mapping context. Pierce 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 to maximize the WebGIS. They will use the Assessor and Planning and Zoning as the building blocks of the WebGIS.

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

Recommended 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 Planning and Zoning 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. Zoning districts (supplied by County)
6. Floodplains (supplied by County)
7. Wellheads (supplied by County)

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

ENTERPRISE WEBGIS

GISW proposes to design and build an enterprise WebGIS for Pierce 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 Pierce 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 sales information, assessment and appraisal data and any other data associated with future tabs. The current text-only site is subscription-based and this same functionality is available for advanced sales data and photo/sketches on the Assessor tab of the new County WebGIS site.

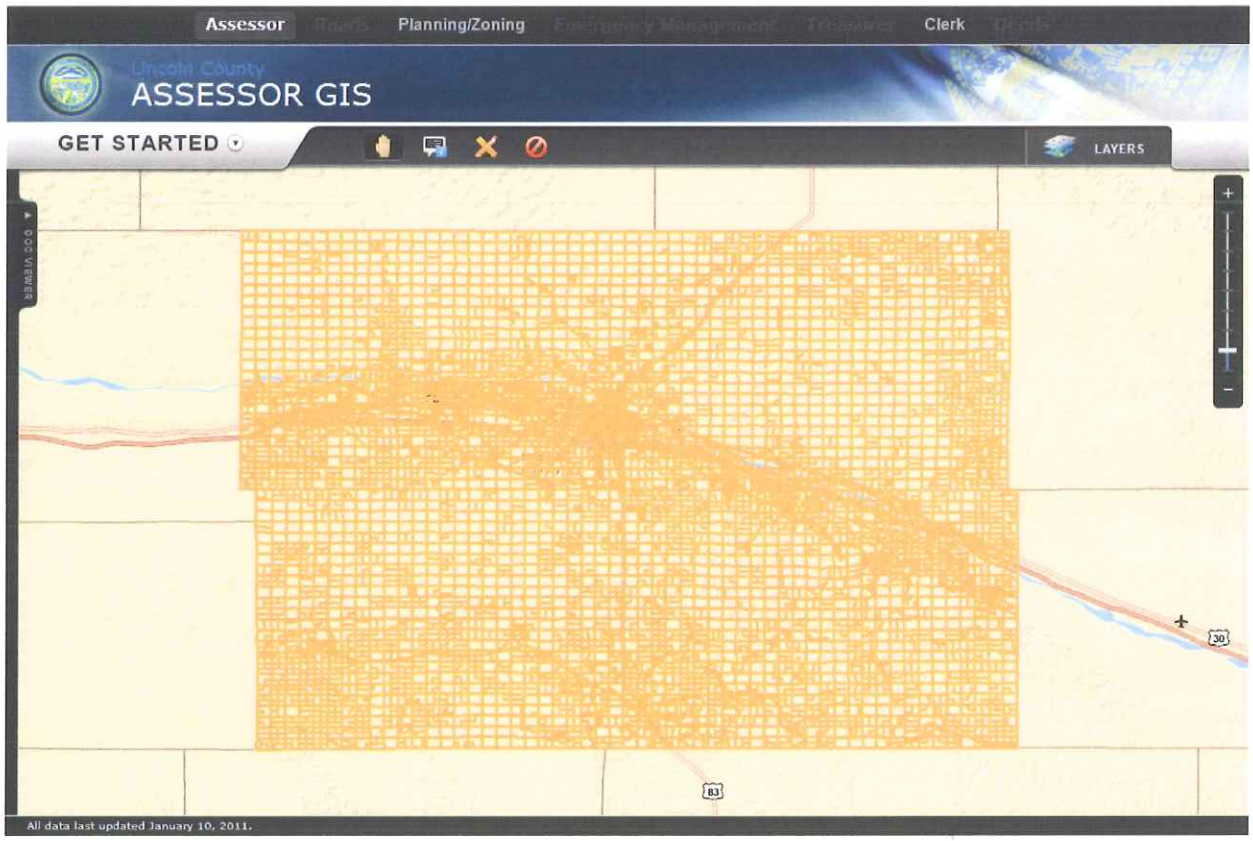


Figure 1: Opening screen (Assessor Tab) of GIS Workshop's Enterprise WebGIS for Lincoln County, NE.

Additional tabs for this WebGIS project in the future may include Clerk, Roads and Emergency Management. This initial budgetary proposal is for an Assessor tab with basic layers that have been identified as useful to each department and requested by the public, along with a Planning and Zoning tab. **These tabs, over time, will be enhanced to meet needs such as asset management and budget forecasting.** For example, the Highway Supervisor may want to start mapping signs, bridges and culverts within the County. When signs are located with

GPS coordinates, future tab enhancements will be able to provide the tools to see sign reflectivity and other important features and attributes for the management of the Roads Department.

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

ASSESSOR 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. 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. An option exists for the County Assessor to provide advanced sales searches to business professionals on a subscription basis. Please refer to the pricing section of this document for option information.

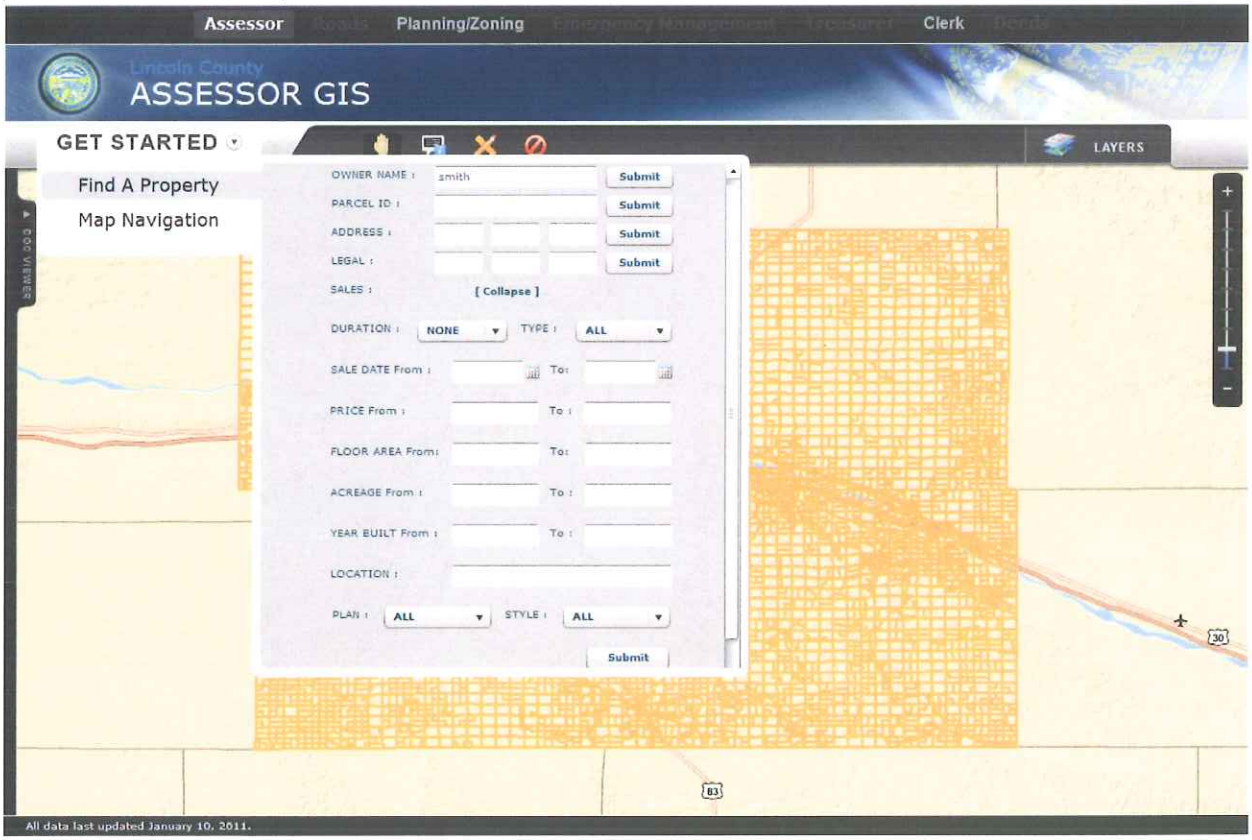


Figure 2: Assessor tab showing property search box

PIERCE COUNTY NE

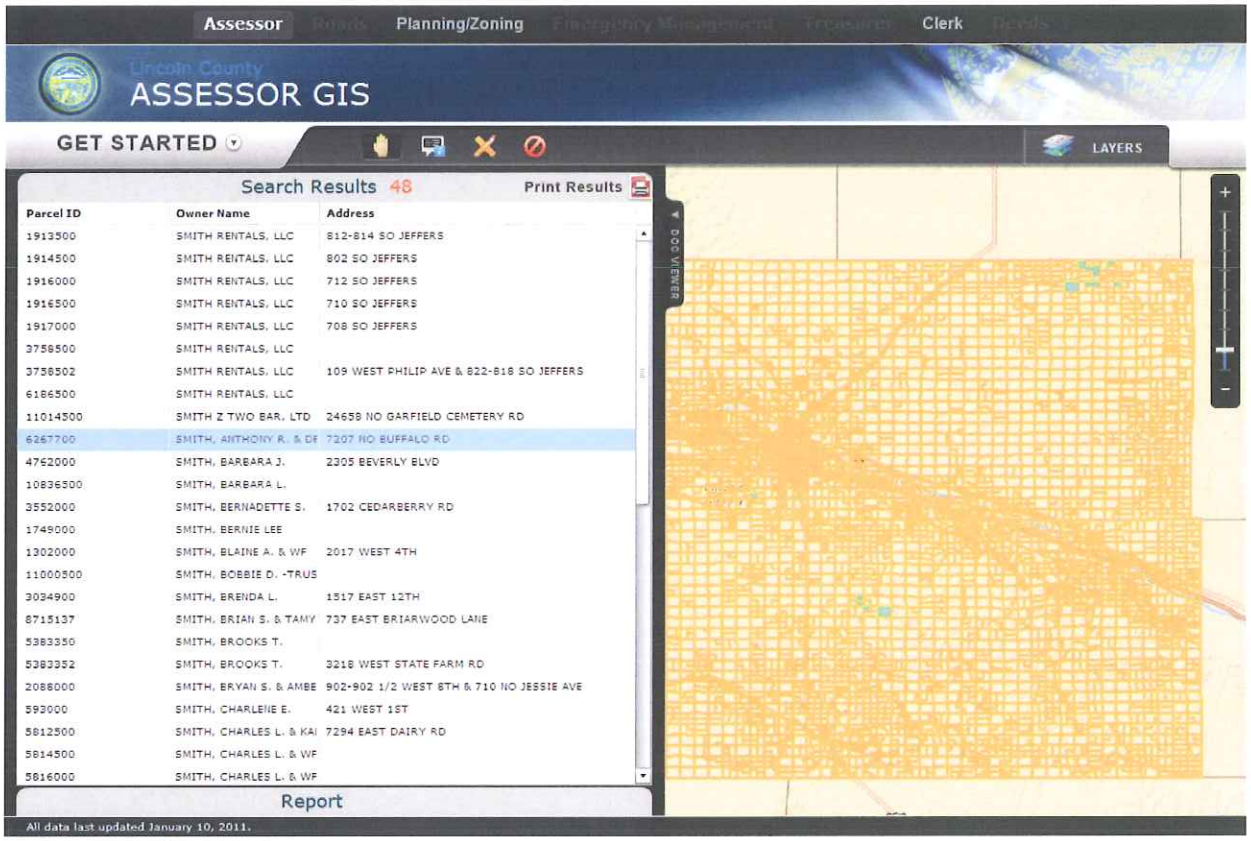


Figure 3: Property search results

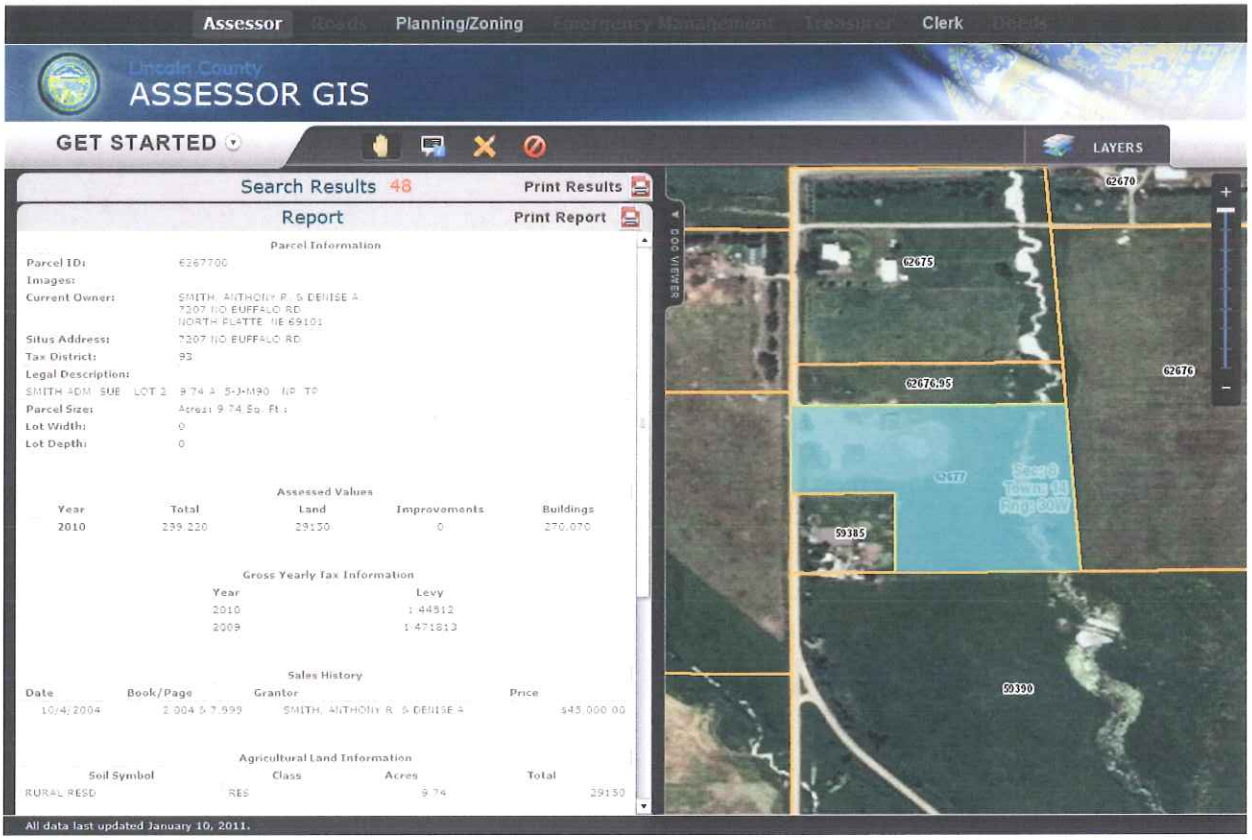


Figure 4: Property Record Card (note the map zoomed in and highlighted the chosen parcel)

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.

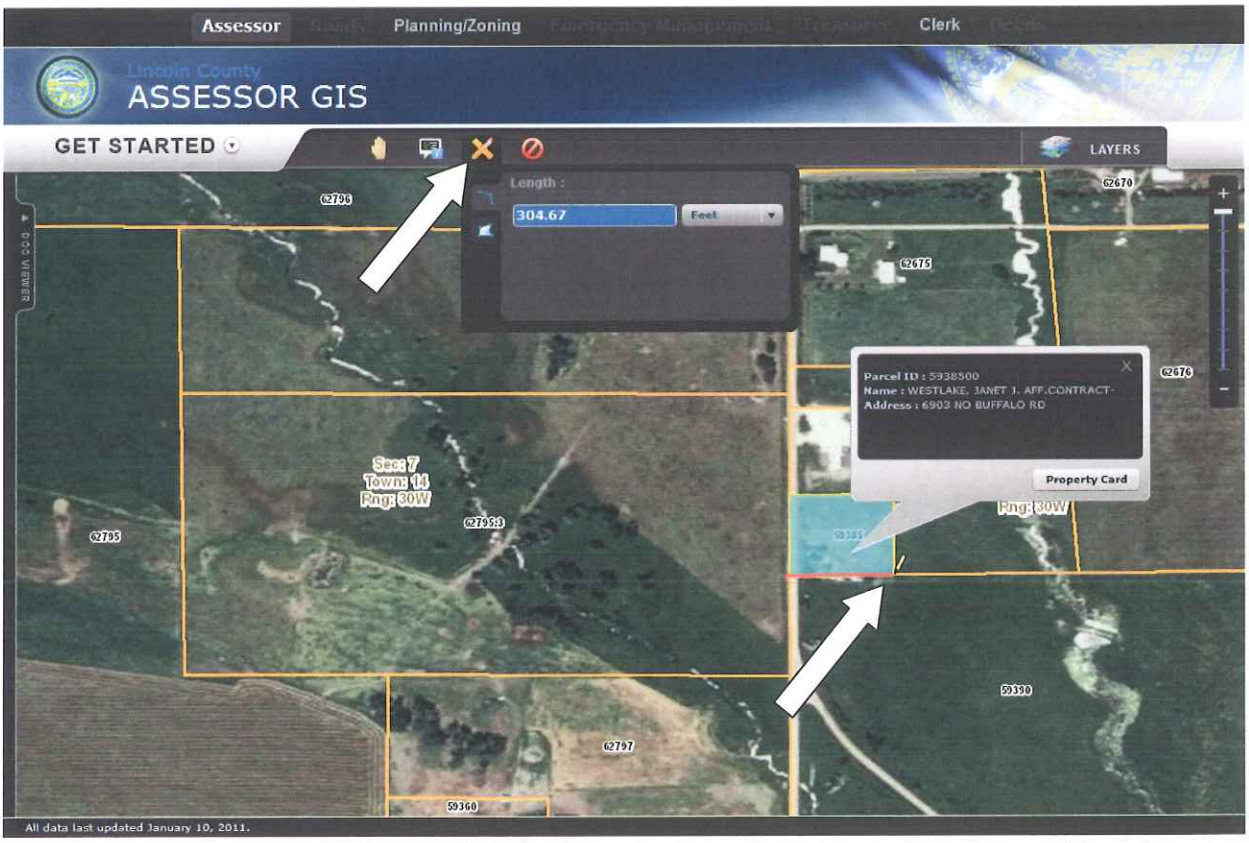


Figure 9: Measurement tool showing total length of the user-drawn line segment along the parcel boundary.

PLANNING AND ZONING TAB ADDITIONAL FEATURE: PARCEL BUFFER TOOL

The Planning and Zoning tab 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.

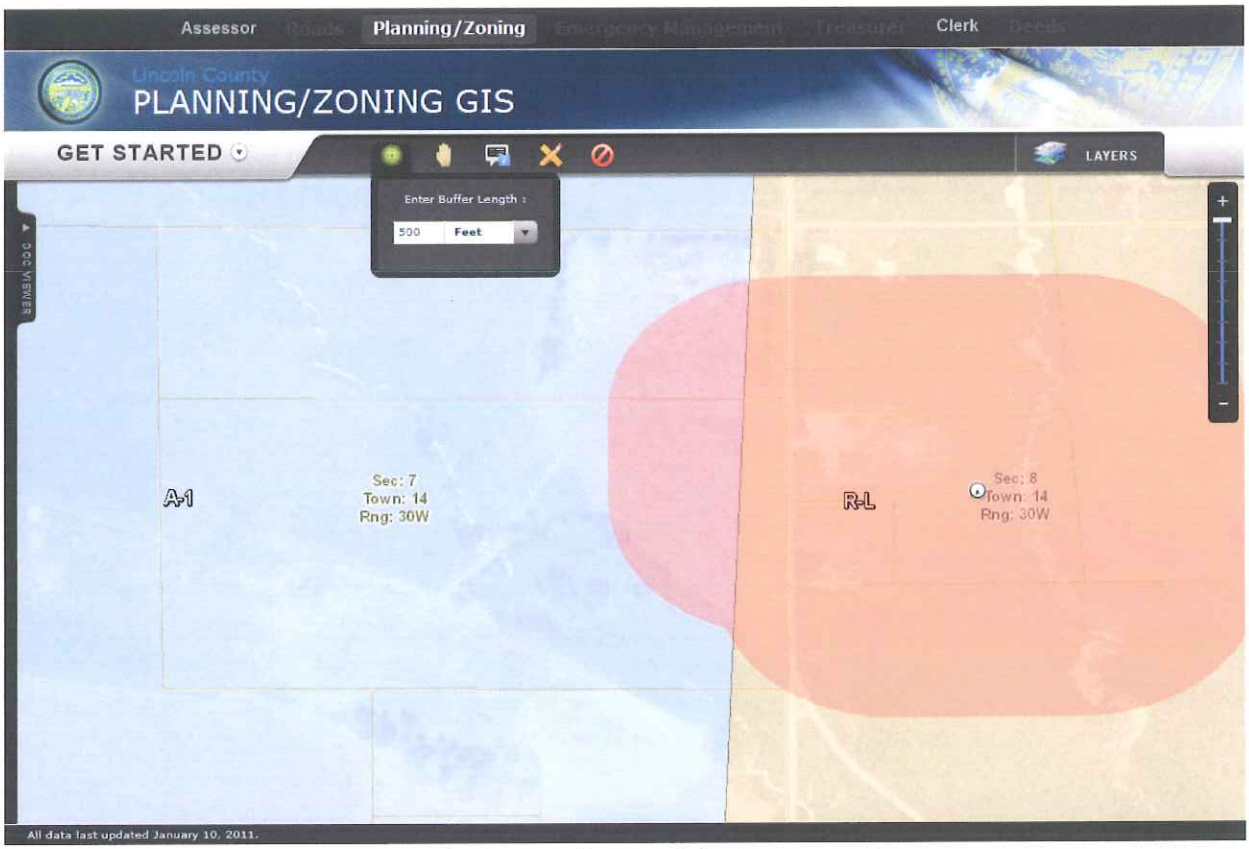


Figure 10: Activated Buffer tool with 500' radius result around the chosen parcel

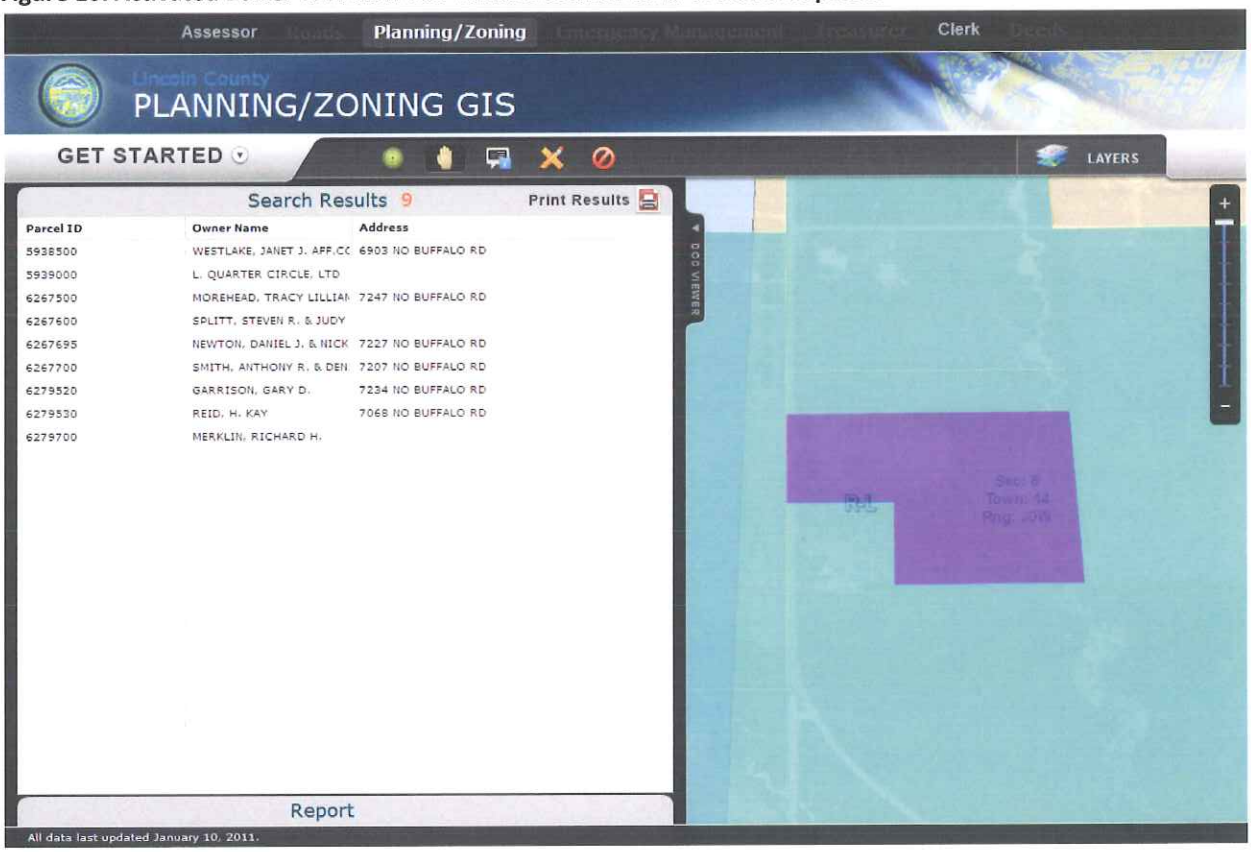


Figure 11: Property owner search results from the buffer analysis

WEBSITE MAINTENANCE

GIS Workshop will house the WebGIS on our redundant servers for Pierce 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. Updates to the layers on the Planning and Zoning will be forwarded to GISW on a to-be-determined basis.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

The GISW team is ready to develop the Pierce 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.

Deliverable	Cost
Pierce County WebGIS – Deliverables:	
Assessor tab set up and year 1 maintenance	$7,300
Planning and Zoning tab set up and year 1 maintenance	$5,000
Total Upfront Costs	**$12,300**

Ongoing Maintenance Costs (billed in January 2014)	Cost
Assessor tab:	
Annual WebGIS tab maintenance	$4,800
Optional:	
Annual subscription option (w/subscription)	*$1,500*
Planning and Zoning tab:	
Annual WebGIS maintenance (Planning and Zoning tab)	$2,500
Total Annual Maintenance Costs *effective January 2014*	$8,800

Nebraska State Records Board

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

ATTACHMENT 2:

LETTERS OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT

FROM PIERCE COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Board of County Commissioners

Home of Willow Creek State Recreation Area

April 2, 2012

TO: Nebraska State Records Board

RE: Grant Application for Pierce County NE

The Pierce County Board of Commissioners is in full support of the WebGIS project through GIS Workshop, Inc. We believe moving from a basic website to the mapping-based WebGIS fits nicely into our comprehensive plan for Pierce County. Our investment that we have made in GIS for the Assessor and Planning/Zoning departments will be able to be shared with the taxpayers via the Internet. We believe the public wants this critical information available to them in a user-friendly format and we believe WebGIS meets that need.

We are discussing setting up a GIS budget for the County to facilitate not only the ongoing maintenance for the two initial tabs as Phase 1, but to allow future departments to be added in subsequent Phases.

Please consider our grant and know that we are *completely committed* to this project and believe it meets your worthy mission of getting Pierce County information in front of the public.

Respectfully,

Jim Maas

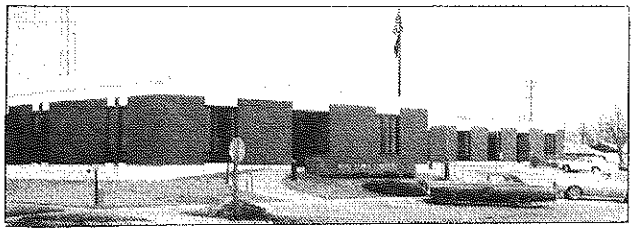
Jim Maas, Chairman

Pierce County Board of Commissioners

Courthouse

111 W Court St

Pierce NE 68767



Pierce County Courthouse

Box 218 Pierce, Nebraska 68767

Phone (402) 329-4474

Madison
County
Bank

Serving Northeast Nebraska Since 1888

March 16, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board,

On behalf of Madison County Bank in Plainview, Nebraska, I would like to express our support for the Pierce County WebGIS Website with mapping capabilities. I think it would greatly serve the public, our customers and staff. Access to this vital public information on a daily basis would increase productivity and efficiency in making reliable and timely decisions for our customers.

The current procedure is to send someone 20 miles to the courthouse to research the information we need and them make copies, disturbing staff and returning 20miles to organize the information we need to make it available to those that need to make decisions. Often we need to review deeds, maps, encumbrances, encroachments and other legal information with regards to not only farm but residential property as well. This would allow us to review the information we need, or get information we possibly forgot, in a timely fashion and even after hours if necessary.

Making public information available to the public at their fingertips without them having to take off of work during courthouse hours is a perfect example of "serving the public well". It will assist business as well as the general population in retrieving this information without incurring additional costs in the meantime. Please consider this project for our county of Pierce, Nebraska. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brian Ickler
Branch Manager
Madison County Bank
Plainview, NE

402 West Locust
P.O. Box 700
Plainview, Nebraska 68769
Telephone 402.582.7878
Toll Free 866.929.7761
Fax 402.582.4954
E-mail mcbank@plvwtelco.net
www.madisoncountybank.com

New Frontier Insurance Agency

Merlyn F. Kuhl – Dennis M. Kuhl
Deb Gutz -- Jodi Timmerman – Pam Johnson
P.O. Box 483 • 400 N. State Street • Osmond, NE 68765
E-Mail address: nfiaosmond@abbnebraska.com
Phone: (402)748-3944 * FAX: (402)748-3146
Toll Free: (800)356-4303

To: Whom it May Concern or Nebraska State Records Board

I am writing this letter to support the Pierce County WebGIS. This website will be an integral part of efficiently doing business in my profession. I rely on public information on a daily basis to quote new insurance policies. If this information were available on a website, it would definitely enhance our workflow and would allow us to better serve our clients.

At this time, we either have to drive to the courthouse or make a phone call to gather information that is needed for routine business transactions. In order to quote property insurance, it is vital to know all of the details of the property in order to receive an accurate quote. The more accessible this information is, the better we can serve our customers.

If we were able to access this information on a website, our time spent accessing public information would decrease. It would also be very helpful to retrieve this information after hours, as we work past normal business hours often. This time-saving element will not only reduce our costs, but will surely reduce the expense to the County as their employees are constantly helping us retrieve this information.

During these economic times, all businesses are looking for ways to cut costs and improve efficiency. The WebGIS will enable us to do both. For those and the other mentioned reasons, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Pierce County.

Sincerely,

Merlyn Kuhl
New Frontier Insurance Agency

Bush & Roe
Financial, Inc.

PROFESSIONAL INSURANCE AGENTS

Independent Insurance Agent

Website: www.bushandroe.us

402 W. Locust -- P.O. Box 549
Plainview, NE 68769-0549

Albion Office: P.O. Box 109
Albion, NE 68620-0109

Norfolk Office: P.O. Box 2099
Norfolk, NE 68702-2099

March 16, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board,

On behalf of Bush & Roe Financial, Inc, (Insurance Agency) in Plainview, NE, I am writing this letter in support of the Pierce County WebGIS project with mapping.

We rely on this public information daily and are located about 20 miles from the courthouse in Pierce, NE. When we need access to this information, it means a trip to the courthouse and back taking up critical time for our employees to gather the information needed. Sometimes we call for the information, however, this takes up valuable time for the county staff to get what we are looking for.

If we were able to access this information 24/7 online it would save much time and wages for our company and for the general public who must likely take time from their jobs to go to the courthouse. Accessing public information in this day and age of technology should be an easy, instant process.

We would greatly appreciate this service in Pierce County. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Dennis E. Johnson, President
Bush & Roe Financial, Inc.
Plainview, NE

Toll Free: 888-408-0546 • Tel: 402-582-4952 • Fax: 402-582-4954 • E-mail: bushandroe@plvwtelco.net

Bush & Roe, Inc.
Real Estate Agency

402 W. Locust - PO Box 549 - Plainview, NE 68769-0549
Website: www.bushandroe.com
Cheryl A. Bailey, Broker Dennis E. Jonson, Broker

Residential, Agricultural & Commercial Real Estate

March 16, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board,

I am writing this letter today to show my support for the Pierce County WebGIS mapping website here in Pierce County. We are a real estate agency located in Plainview, NE. Believe it or not, we probably use this information even more than some larger real estate agencies. Not only do we need to access this information for our listings, but also for Broker Price Opinions, and we also handle our own closings so we also double check all the information needed for closing a sale. Things like parcel information, where the property is actually located by maps, deed info, encumbrances, encroachments and much, much more. Right now not only do we have to drive 20 miles to get to Pierce County for that information, we are located in the corner of 3 counties and would have to go anywhere from 20-35 miles in every direction for the other courthouses. This is a huge burden on our small business. Being able to access this information 24/7 right from our own office is such a huge financial relief for us and for our clients. Public information in this day of technology should be at our fingertips as citizens. So many people do not have the luxury of being able to access this information at the courthouse between 9-4:30 so this would allow them access anytime day or night. Just as we need to accept and be diligent about our government saving time and money with hours and wages our government too needs to be sympathetic and supportive of the private sector's costs and efficiency. It is called teamwork and that really is what we are all here for anyway, to work together. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cheryl A. Bailey

Real Estate Broker/Owner

Bush & Roe, Inc

Real Estate Agency

Plainview, NE

TF-888-408-0546 Tel-402-582-4952 Fax-402-582-4954 Email: bushandroe@plvwtelco.net

City of Pierce
106 S. 1st
Pierce, NE 68767

March 22, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
440 S. 8th St.
Ste. 210
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear State Records Board,

The City of Pierce is in full support of the grant application being submitted by the Pierce County Assessor for the WEBGIS project. The City of Pierce plans on using the new system to primarily identify property owners for utilities and nuisances.

In the future, the City would like to utilize the system to overlay all of the city's electrical, water, and sewer lines, valves, and customer services. This system would eventually save hours each month by not having to search for those types of infrastructure during an emergency, or when doing common maintenance. These types of systems allow our city to run more effectively which results in cost savings for our residents.

I appreciate the opportunity for Pierce County to apply for this grant and I look forward to being able to utilize this resource to better serve the residents of Pierce.

Sincerely,

Chad E. Anderson

Chad E. Anderson,
City Administrator

March 21, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board,

On behalf of Security National Bank, Osmond, Nebraska I would like to go on record as being in full support of the Pierce County WebGIS. I believe a mapped website would be a benefit to Security National Bank, our customers, and the community. Ease of access to public information on a timely basis would increase efficiency and effectiveness to our customers and provide us with reliable information to assist in making informed decisions regarding customer requests.

Currently bank representatives need to drive to the courthouse or contact the courthouse by telephone in order to request and access needed public information. We frequently utilize maps of farm borrowers to review cropping practices, prepare for farm visits, analyze potential land purchases, track land sales to establish comparable valuations, and search for liens or encumbrances on specific parcels.

An effective Pierce County WebGis would stream line the process of retrieving public information in a timely manner and allow after hour access. The time saved in searching public information in Pierce County would serve the best interest of the public and private sectors.

I view this improvement as a positive step, assisting us by eliminating unnecessary costs and time delays.

Sincerely,

Douglas A. Ketelsen, Branch President
Security National Bank

P.O. Box 278 • Laurel, NE 68745 • Phone 402-256-3247 • FAX 402-256-3058
P.O. Box 398 • Osmond, NE 68765 • Phone 402-748-3321 • FAX 402-748-3592
P.O. Box 40 • Allen, NE 68710 • Phone 402-635-2424 • FAX 402-635-2515
P.O. Box 137 • Hartington, NE 68739 • Phone 402-254-2455 • FAX 402-254-2455
P.O. Box 6 • Coleridge, NE 68727 • Phone 402-283-4251 • FAX 402-283-4761

White Realty & Appraisal
508 Main Street
PO Box 133
Neligh, NE 68756
Phone: 402-887-5142 **whiterealty@citlink.net** **FAX: 402-887-4320**

March 19, 2012

Pierce County Commissioners
% Pierce County Assessor
Peggy Wragge
111 W Court Rm 5
Pierce, NE 68767

RE: GIS System in Pierce County

To Whom It May Concern,

White Realty & Appraisal is in full support of the update of the Pierce County Assessor's GIS website to include GIS mapping applications. It would benefit our appraisal office, and many others in the area, as well as the county assessor's office itself, and the general public of Pierce County. Time management, supply costs, fuel costs, and time constraints would be greatly improved by this addition. As we are able to "help ourselves" via the WebGIS, the office staff of the Pierce county Assessor's office would be available to assist the general public without delay. In addition to freeing up office personnel, the county records remain uncompromised without laypeople such as myself shuffling through paper records at the office. Finally, the internet is "open" twenty four seven. There are no office hours, which can really be helpful during a rush situation.

Technology is moving forward, and we must do the same to stay competitive.

Sincerely,

Keith White

Keith White,
White Realty & Appraisal

CHILVERS ABSTRACT & TITLE CO., INC.

KATHY DRAEGER, TITLE AGENT
101 EAST MAIN STREET P.O. BOX 204
PIERCE, NEBRASKA 68767-0204
PHONE: (402) 329-4525 FAX: (402) 329-4845

March 19, 2012

To: Whom It May Concern (Nebraska State Records)

I am writing to support the Pierce County WebGIS on behalf of all of the branches of Northeast Nebraska Title & Escrow, of which Chilvers Abstract is a part. We rely on public information on a daily basis, and the ability to access this information on a website would benefit the efficiency and effectiveness of our companies and therefore, our clients.

The current procedure is to secure the information needed by a visit to the courthouse, take time to reproduce the documents, and then return to the office to assemble the information retrieved. Because I am alone in my office, time away from the office is time away from my clients and my production rate. Anything I can accomplish in my office is a time benefit to me as well as a benefit to my clients. In addition, access to public information all hours of the day will enable us to gather and work on the information after normal government business hours. The availability of this information on a website will only enhance our retrieval process. It will also be an enhancement of the confidence in the County government's ability to efficiently serve the public by offering at our fingertips a higher level of technology.

At this time, every business is conscious of cost and efficiency. This WebGIS will enable us to reduce our costs of accessing public information and increase our efficiency immediately as we will simply be able to access the up-to-date public information electronically in our offices on our timeline. We view this step as a very positive improvement. For these reasons, our offices will support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Pierce County.

Sincerely,

Kathy Draeger

Kathy Draeger
Title Agent/Office Manager

TOWN & COUNTRY AGENCY

PO Box 159

Pierce NE 68767

Phone: 402-329-4991 or 1-800-854-4402

March 28, 2012

Dear Nebraska State Records Board

I am the owner of Town & Country Insurance Agency in Pierce, Nebraska. I have satellite office in 8 other communities. On behalf of all our offices I give our full support for the Pierce County Web GIS project. A mapped web site would benefit our insurance offices, our customers, and the community.

We work daily with customers on their home and farm insurance. Having access to public information would certainly increase the efficiency of all our agents. It would provide us with reliable information that would assist us in underwriting property insurance for our customers, especially in regards to farm layout. Having this information available on a 24 hour basis would be helpful as well.

I never thought I would be one to embrace the technical world but, let's face it, if you don't embrace it you get left behind. I have come to realize that websites, such as the Pierce County Web GIS project, are essential to the success of my agencies and my employees. It is my hope that you will give full financial support to Pierce County in their endeavor to provide our community with this valuable service.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Sirek

Elkhorn Valley BANK & TRUST

Member FDIC

118 EAST MAIN ST.
PIERCE, NE 68767-1344

Phone (402) 329-6953
Fax (402) 329-6905

3-30-12

Nebraska State Records Board

On behalf of Elkhorn Valley Bank & Trust, Pierce, Nebraska, I would like to go on record of being in full support of the Pierce County WebGIS. I believe the WebGIS would be a benefit to the bank, our customers, and the community of Pierce. The access to public information on a daily basis would increase efficiency and effectiveness to our customers and provide us with reliable information to assist in making an informed decision regarding customer's requests.

An effective Pierce County WebGIS of retrieving public information would save me a great deal of time. The time saved would help eliminate my after hours work and more opportunity to spend time with my family.

Sincerely,

Blaine Bockelman

Blaine Bockelman
Vice President

Blaser Appraisal, Inc.

214 North 7th Street, Suite 2
Norfolk, NE 68701

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is being written in support of Pierce County WebGIS. I own Blaser Appraisal, Inc. and conduct business in Pierce County, Nebraska. My office relies on public information for the completion of the reports we complete. Access to the information that will be available on this type of website will increase efficiency in serving our clients. Other counties that I service have this type of website and it is very beneficial to appraisers. I support this program and encourage your financial assistance.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. White
Blaser Appraisal, Inc.

CITY OF PLAINVIEW
205 W Locust
Box 757
Plainview NE 68769

Ph (402) 582-4928
Fx (402) 582-3939

March 26, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board;

On behalf of the city of Plainview, Nebraska, I would like to offer this letter as the community being in full support of the Pierce County application for WebGIS. I firmly believe that a mapped website would be beneficial for all of the residents of Plainview as a community. Ensuring ease of access to public information on a daily basis will increase efficiency and effectiveness in regards to information gathering.

As our economic climate changes and our needs grow, this project will make certain that Pierce County/Plainview will remain in the forefront of gathering information and reliable data for all of our needs.

Thank you for your partnership in this grant program along with Pierce County and its application.

Respectfully yours,

Michael Holton

Michael L. Holton
City of Plainview
City Administrator
Plainview, NE 68769

Midwest Bank Member FDIC

114 West Main Street. • Box 219 • Pierce, NE 68767
402-329-6221 • FAX 402-329-6224
www.midwestbank.com

Service That Builds Relationships

At Midwest Bank, we value our tradition of exceptional personal service:
A tradition respected in the markets we serve and reflected in the relationships we build.

March 23, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

On behalf of Midwest Bank, Pierce, Nebraska I would like to go on record of being in full support of the Pierce County WebGIS, I think a proposed website would be a benefit to Midwest Bank, our customers, and the community. Ease of access to public information on a daily basis would increase efficiency and effectiveness to our customers and provide us with reliable information to assist in making an informed and timely decision regarding custom request.

The current procedure to secure reliable public information is to visit the courthouse, take time to reproduce the documents, and then return to the bank to assemble information in an organized manner. We frequently utilize maps of farm borrowers to review cropping practices, prepare for farm visits, analyze potential land purchases, track land sales to establish comparable valuations, and search for liens of encumbrances on specific parcels.

An effective Pierce County WebGIS would stream line the process of retrieving public information in a timely manner and allow access for after hour access. The time saved in searching public information in Pierce County would serve the best interest of the public and private sectors.

As our economic environment changes, I view this improvement as a positive step in assisting us all in eliminating unnecessary costs and time delays to ultimately gain on efficiency.

Sincerely,

Cameron Shelton, President
Midwest Bank

LOWER ELKHORN
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
Lifelong Learning Center • 601 East Benjamin Avenue • P.O. Box 1204
(402) 371-7313 FAX: (402) 371-0653 www.lenrd.org NORFOLK, NE 68702-1204

March 26, 2012

ATTENTION: Nebraska State Records Board

Staff at the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District (the District) believe the WebGIS mapping website will be of great benefit to all citizens of Pierce County.

The District relies heavily on public information to ensure our databases stay accurate and up to date for projects the District undertakes. The District relies heavily on County Assessors to provide us with information in our Variance Process to add irrigated acres. In the process we require a map of the proposed irrigated ground they would like to irrigate. This information relies on the landowner visiting the County Courthouse and supplying us with copies of the current irrigated acres. With development of WebGIS the landowner would not need to visit the courthouse and will save crucial time for the county assessor.

The District will also be conducting Certification of Irrigated Acres very soon. We will be asking landowners to verify their irrigated acres. If a change is needed, we will easily be able to verify the change by looking at WebGIS and looking at the irrigated layer; without having to e-mail or call the assessor.

Madison County currently has WebGIS and has proven very useful to us. The District receives calls from real estate appraisers asking us questions of what will happen to the ground that is irrigated during the certification process. We can tell appraisers that the land they see on the website shown as irrigated is what we will base our certification efforts on. They then base decisions on the information they can see in front of them.

WebGIS for the assessors could be a stepping stone for other departments in the county to have applications on the web. The Zoning Department could have maps on the web that would assist the District with rules and regulations for Wellhead Protection Programs. The Weed Department would be able to have areas they have sprayed with chemicals readily available for our field staff to know areas to avoid. The County Road Department can have maps showing road closures so our field staff can save time finding a different way to another field site. All county departments would find WebGIS useful.

For the above reasons, I support WebGIS and encourage your financial assistance for Pierce County.

Sincerely,

Michael Murphy

Michael Murphy,
GIS Specialist

Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District

March 26, 2012

Secretary of State's Office
Cathy Danahy, Executive Director, Records Management
440 S. 8th St., Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508-2294

Dear Cathy;

The Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District (NENEDD) supports the Pierce County WEBGIS project. Our staff and programs assist local governments, businesses, and individual homeowners in 17 counties in Northeast Nebraska, including Pierce County. The proposed WEBGIS project will provide up to date information in an efficient and timely manner which will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of our staff which serving our clients.

Our Housing Department serves low-moderate income persons through housing rehabilitation, down payment assistance, and new home construction programs.

The Planning Department assists communities through grant writing, grant administration, conducting environmental reviews, and preparing blight studies.

The Business Loan Department provides technical assistance and loans to businesses for the creation and retention of jobs.

A Nuisance Abatement program is being implemented which will assist communities to identify and abate nuisance properties.

The types of public information utilized on a daily basis include: property ownership, legal description, tax valuation, age and condition of structures, flood plain status, zoning status, and property liens. Satellite maps with the ability to measure distances and calculate buffer areas are also very beneficial when conducting environmental reviews.

The ability to utilize up to date on-line public information resources will enable NENEDD access information without the travel time and expense to go to the Courthouse in Pierce. Each round trip of 30 miles would cost approximately $16.66 plus one hour of staff time. Web access to this information will enable NENEDD to provide the region's individuals, businesses, and local governments with these housing, planning, and business services at a lower cost to our community and county members.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.
Sincerely,

Thomas L. Higginbotham Jr
Executive Director

Building Communities

Empowering Families

Advancing Businesses

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Progress Requires Direction

PIERCE COUNTY ASSESSOR

111 W. Court Street, Rm. #5 ♦ Pierce, NE 68767-1224
Phone: (402) 329-4215 ♦ Fax: (402) 329-6413

April 2, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

440 S 48th St, Suite 210

Lincoln NE 68508

RE: Grant Application for Pierce County NE

Dear Grant Board:

I am in full support of the WebGIS project for Pierce County. We have a basic text site through GIS Workshop but have never made our mapping available to the public or other departments. I believe moving to WebGIS will get our GIS information in front of the public (like realtors, appraisers, etc) and it will be such a convenience for them. By making this information available to these businesspeople, I believe it will allow the Assessor's department to be more efficient . The WebGIS will also be useful to other County departments who now have to come into my office to see maps.

We've had much support for this project from the community and the Lower Elkhorn NRD. Please see the letters of community support that were provided for more details. There was much excitement and appreciation by the public when I told them about this project, available grant funds and explained the benefits to them.

We are discussing setting up a GIS budget for the County to facilitate not only the ongoing maintenance for the two initial tabs as Phase 1, but to allow future departments to be added in subsequent Phases.

Thank you, in advance,

Respectfully,

Peggy Wragge

Peggy Wragge, Assessor

Pierce County NE

Farm Credit Services *of* America
AGRICULTURE WORKS HERE...

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
kirk.manker@fcsamerica.com
402-348-3367
402-661-3367 (fax)

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 :** Saunders County
2. **Grant amount requested** $ 25,000
3. **Title of project:** Assessor GIS and County WebGIS
4. **Brief description of project:** The project includes building a County-wide land records GIS database and WebGIS application that will link to the existing Orion 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).**

Saunders County has chosen to develop a Geographic Information System (GIS) database and web-enabled mapping interface and database query tool (or WebGIS). The WebGIS application will provide an intuitive interface for citizens, businesses, County departments and other local/county/regional/state agencies to easily find public records data. The attached proposal (Attachment 1) illustrates the specific data layers and the WebGIS application features.

The County selected GIS Workshop, Inc (GISW) as the vendor for this project. GISW recently completed a project involving Saunders County parcels and irrigated land use for Lower Platte North Natural Resources District Irrigation Certification. The data development accomplished during the GISW project with LPNNRD will reduce the cost of this project by $15,000.

The project will include data development tasks for parcels, land use and legal land base (lot, block and subdivision) layers. The parcels will be developed from the best available source data (survey plats, legal descriptions, cadastral maps, etc) and assigned a parcel identification number to match the Assessor's Orion database system.

The land use layer will be developed using a combination of available data sources including the Orion database parcel records, air photo interpretation, etc. The land use classes will match those defined by the Nebraska Property Assessment Division. Land use classes will include dryland crop, irrigated crop, grass, CRP (optional), tree (optional), homesite, farmsite, road, exempt and waste. This layer will also be very useful for agencies such as the Natural Resource Districts.

GISW will also assemble other datasets such as SSURGO soils, FSA aerial photography and any available high-resolution photography.

The WebGIS application will provide an intuitive interface for users to search for public records using either the text search menu or the map tools. Users will be able to toggle layers on/off individually, click on a parcel to see its Record Card, click on a parcel to see all available photos/sketches, measures distances/areas, print to PDF or export to Microsoft Excel. The WebGIS will provide 24/7/365 access to public records for citizens, businesses and government employees.

The WebGIS application will also include a highly specialized tool for the Assessor's Office to calculate land value for new parcel splits or verify the land use and soil characteristics of an existing parcel. The Land Use Calculator is very valuable for fast, efficient and equitable tax assessment.

Other County departments will also benefit from the WebGIS application. The Clerk, Treasurer and Register of Deeds Offices will all benefit from easy access to land records

information. The Weeds department will use it for determining property owners and property location for spraying noxious weeds and issuing notices to landowners. The County Election Office will better determine exact voter precinct maps. The WebGIS application will also serve as a valuable resource for County emergency management and law enforcement staff. The Saunders County Board of Commissioners is excited about the opportunity for offices such as Planning/Zoning, Roads, Treasurer and Register of Deeds to build upon the land records foundation to create a one-stop web-enabled interface to County data.

Other GISW clients have cited a 50-75% reduction in phone call volume after implementing the WebGIS application. The application will provide better service to County residents while increasing the efficiency of multiple County departments.

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

   Anyone interested in land records information for Saunders County will benefit from this project. Saunders 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 Lower Platte South and Lower Platte North Natural Resources Districts, the City of Wahoo, the City of Ashland and various State agencies will also benefit from easy access to Saunders County data. Efficiencies realized from 24/7 access will result in increased productivity and cost savings for both public and private entities.

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. Numerous County department staff have attended Board meetings to express their support. LPNNRD attended Board meetings to express their support for this project.

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 June 30, 2013 (06/30/2013).

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 GISW to develop a GIS for Saunders County. Attachment 1 contains an overview of the project in GISW's Proposal document. The Proposal is for development of a GIS for Saunders County, updating of the GIS and development of a WebGIS site for the County, which will make information available 24/7. The total amount of grant money awarded to Saunders County will be used to defray the following initial GIS 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.**

   GISW recently completed a project involving Saunders County parcels and irrigated land use. The project was for the Lower Platte North Natural Resources District Irrigation Certification. LPNNRD specifically requested additional tasks to help develop GIS for Saunders County. The data development accomplished during the LPNNRD project will reduce the cost of this project by $15,000.

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 assist with the initial data development and WebGIS setup costs. The County will be moving from state to county-assessed near the completion of this project and the GIS will help the County get back on pace with surrounding agencies. Saunders County will commit to paying the annual maintenance fees to keep the system thriving after this project is completed.

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 substantial upfront cost to Saunders County of developing the GIS dataset. The County fully anticipates being able to fully meet annual maintenance costs of the GIS 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 Orion database containing tax assessment information. The Property Record Card component of the WebGIS has several customized reports, derived from the Orion 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.

Saunders County has solicited exceptional community support. Attachment 2 contains letters of support from the Saunders County community. The letters include Saunders County citizens, business professionals, County department heads and NRD staff.

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 Saunders 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.

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.

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. Saunders County staff, as well as external users, will access the system using a standard internet browser such as Internet Explorer or Firefox.

   Saunders 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 will interface with the current Tyler Orion (or any other CAMA provider selected in the future) database systems in use in Saunders County today. GISW built the software interface for the Orion system as part of the Keith County project.

   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 and for protecting features such as the Land Use Calculator Tool from unauthorized use.

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 application for Saunders County will be configured by GISW with adherence to standards established by the State of Nebraska. The digital map database has been developed using the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System, NAD83 as per State/NITC guidelines. The system will comply with any other applicable NITC items.

4. Agencies submitting grant applications for funding of a Geographic Information System (GIS) project must in addition to the standard grant application complete and submit the ***Supplemental Questionnaire for State Funded Entities on Land Record Information and Mapping-Related Grant Application*** found on the Boards website page "Grant Information" at www.staterecordsboard.ne.gov.

   The supplemental questionnaire has been completed and is attached to this application.

5. **Describe how technical support will be provided.**

   GISW will edit and maintain the GIS data and provide access to the data using the WebGIS application. Saunders County will be responsible for sending parcel splits and land use changes to GISW. GISW will download a copy of the Tyler Orion data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GISW server.

   GISW have dedicated technical support staff available at any time during business hours to service the County's needs. They will provide training, phone support and online support to help County staff quickly adapt to the new technology.

Part III. EXPECTATIONS

It is the expectation of the Nebraska State Records Board that the grantee recognize the project as an ongoing effort to make public documents and or transactions more accessible. As this application relates to public documents the goal encompasses not only the availability of current documents as described in this application but the ongoing addition of new and updated documents in a timely manner. This goal recognizes the public's interest in not only historical information but the expectation that current data is obtainable. The Nebraska State Records Board recognizes that this is a long term commitment on the part of the grantee and anticipates the continued financial support of the grantee to maintain these expectations.

Part IV. STATE LAW COMPLIANCE

Nebraska law, sections 4-108 through 4-114 state that no political subdivision of the State shall provide public benefits, to include grants or contracts, to a person not lawfully present in the United States. If this application is awarded in whole or in part, and during the time the grant is in effect, the undersigned, on behalf of the political subdivision grant applicant, by signing this grant application, affirmatively states and acknowledges that the political subdivision will comply with this law.

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:

Cathy Gusman
Printed Name

Saunders County Assessment Manager
Title

Phone # 402-443-5703

E-mail cathy.gusman@nebraska.gov

Physical Address:

433 N Chestnut St Rm # 200
Wahoo NE 68066

I, the Authorized Representative of _____, 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 4th **day of** April **, 2012**

Cathy Gusman
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/Election Commissioner, Planning and Zoning, Register of Deeds, Treasurer, etc) have expressed interest in collaborating and building upon this initial investment in GIS technology to enhance their service provision to the public. With a population of over 20,000, close proximity to the Omaha area and a busy highway system, we believe the emergency management and law enforcement staff will find value in having immediate access to County mapping and property data. We believe public safety will be enhanced as a result. In addition, the City of Wahoo and applicable Natural Resources Districts all actively support GIS development for the County to promote collaboration. Taxpayers will benefit from immediate access to critical property information in a web-based environment, which will save them valuable time and fuel costs by eliminating the need for courthouse visits.

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

GIS Workshop

www.gisworkshop.com

VERSION 1.1

Project: 0167-006

SAUNDERS COUNTY, NE

ATTACHMENT 1:

Proposal for

Assessor GIS and County WebGIS

Prepared for Cathy Gusman, Assessor, and the Saunders County Board of Commissioners

March 14, 2012

Trimble Authorized Business Partner

esri Partner Network Gold

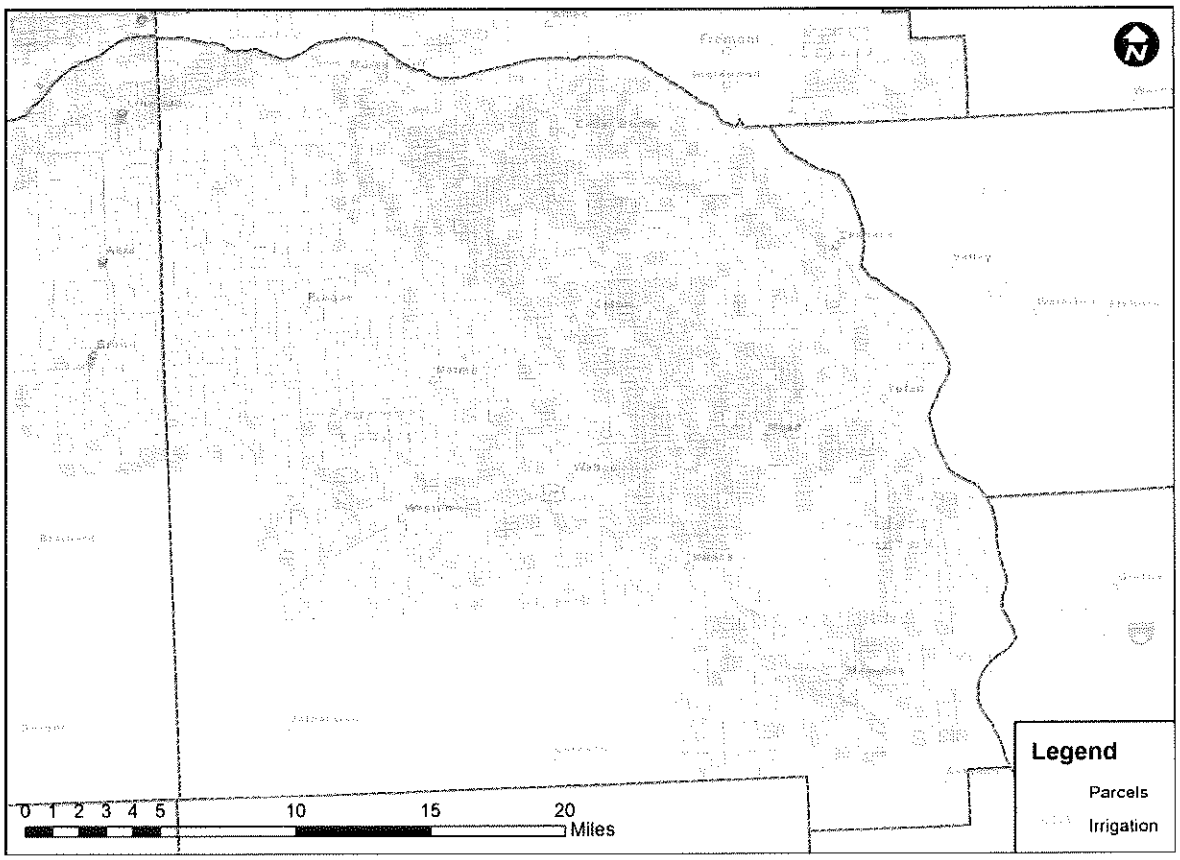
402.436.2150

4949 NW 1st Street, Lincoln NE 68521

CONTENTS

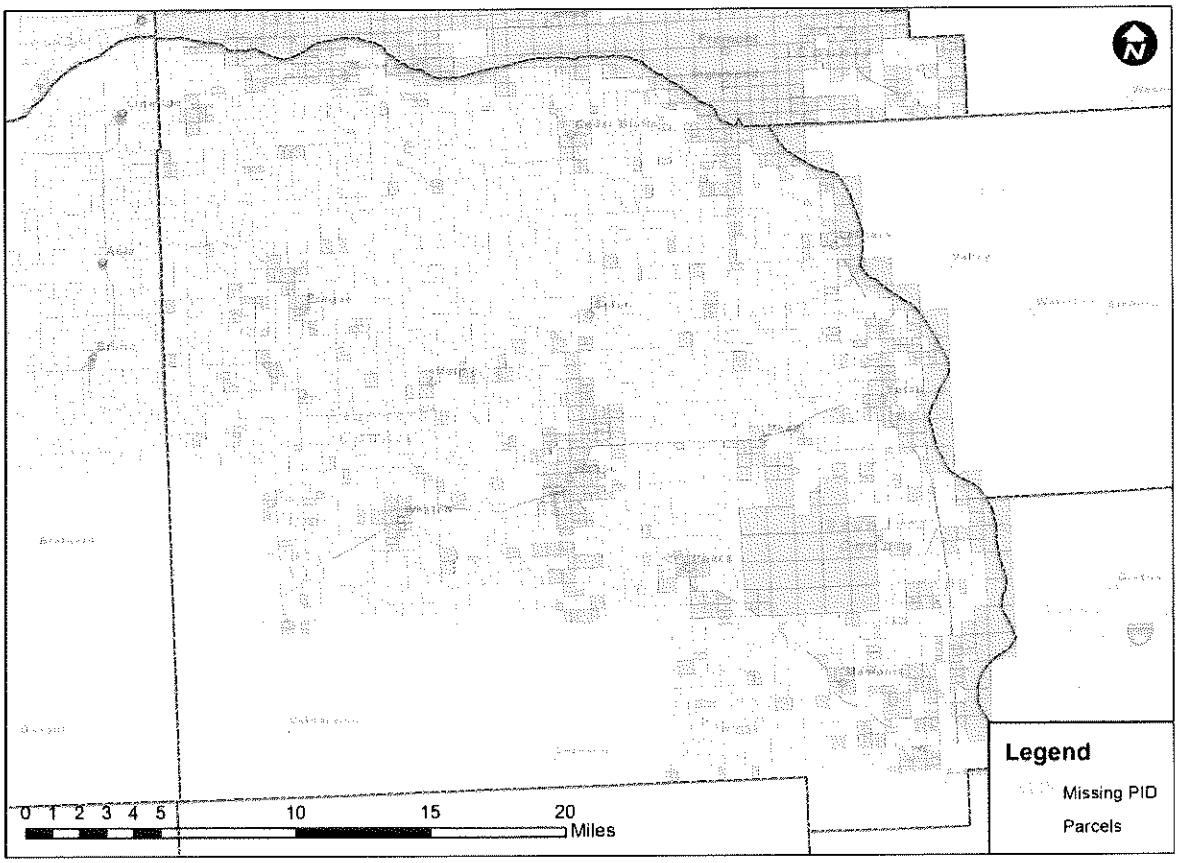
PROJECT BACKGROUND

GIS Workshop, Inc. (GISW) recently completed an Irrigation Certification project for the Lower Platte North Natural Resource District (LPNNRD) involving Saunders County parcels and irrigated land use. **The data development accomplished during GISW's project with LPNNRD will reduce the cost of this project by $15,000.** The figure below illustrates the data already developed as part of related projects. The shaded green areas show irrigated land use and the shaded light gray polygons show areas where more research is necessary to complete the parcel digitizing and parcel ID assignment process. The figure on the next page shows parcels that require further research to assign parcel numbers, the unique link to the Orion database.



Parcel and Irrigation Data Development from LPNNRD project

SAUNDERS COUNTY NE



Parcels needing additional research to assign PIDs

GIS BENEFITS

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are a powerful combination of digital maps and database information. Traditionally, county assessment has used paper maps to track parcel, soil and land use boundaries; in addition, the assessment database was completely disconnected from the mapping making it hard to crosscheck information. This process was very labor intensive and difficult to implement with high precision.

When properly implemented, Assessment GIS seamlessly links the parcel, soil and land use data directly to the appraisal database. GIS can increase efficiency and increase accuracy in many ways:

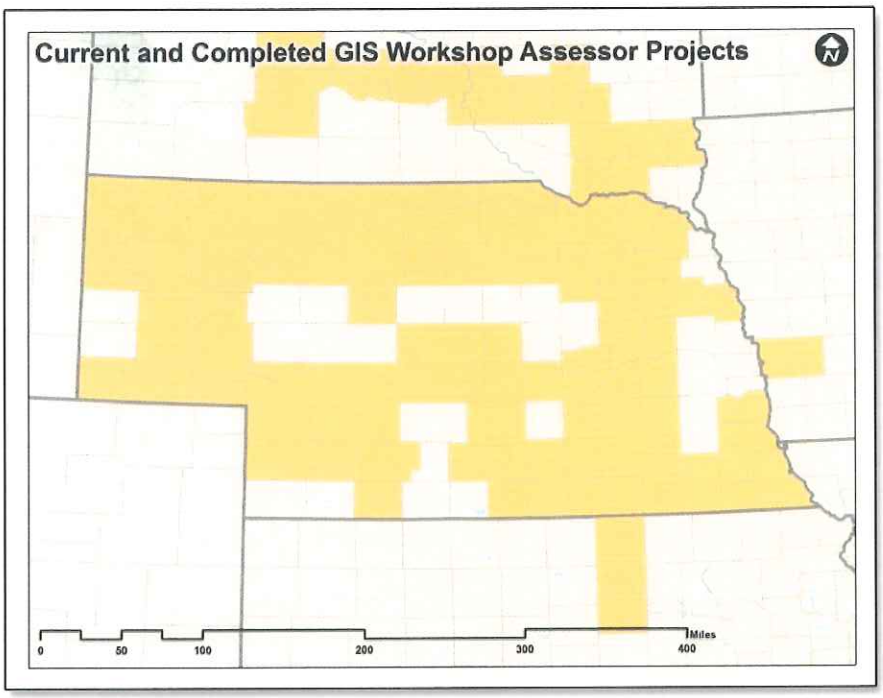
- Enter new parcel splits using specialized tools for survey data and aliquot parts
- Parcel-by-parcel comparison of deeded acres to mapped acres
- Calculate current land value for each parcel and report the breakdown of acres in each unique combination of soil and land use
- Visualize individual parcels to see the soils, land uses and aerial photograph
- Share information with land owners, real estate professionals and potential developers to significantly reduce call volume for County staff and facilitate easy access to public information
- Quickly and uniformly change land value calculations for the entire County if any of the parameters change (soils database, land use classes, etc)

THE GIS WORKSHOP DIFFERENCE

EXPERIENCE WITH NEBRASKA ASSESSMENT GIS

GISW has been providing quality Assessment GIS data and analysis solutions for more than 14 years. Our clients include over 85 counties in Nebraska and surrounding states. GISW staff has over 75 years combined experience in GIS implementation and are exceptionally experienced in Nebraska assessment systems. GISW is the only GIS Company in Nebraska that can provide the automatic database linking and other tools necessary to build a complete assessment GIS for Saunders County to ensure compliance with Property Assessment Division (PAD) mandates. We are the only GIS Company recognized by the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO). As you transition from State-assessed to County-assessed, the GIS will ensure you are providing equal, fair, consistent valuation of property in the most efficient manner possible.

SAUNDERS COUNTY NE



GISW is the most experienced Assessor GIS provider in the State

GISW is a full service GIS provider with a team of technicians ready to build your GIS. We will develop your GIS database, train your staff to use GIS information in their day-to-day workflow, provide unlimited support and develop internet mapping, or WebGIS, sites to make GIS more accessible to all your departments, real estate professionals and your constituents.

GISW specializes in developing GIS datasets and providing easy access to the data. Below is a list of key differentiators:

- **WebGIS– our product gives everyone 'Google-like' access to GIS data. No one else offers web access!**
- Costs – our costs are lower because our experience translates into efficiency
- Training – we provide upfront and ongoing training to ensure clients can make use of their investment
- Support staff – we have a long list of satisfied clients who can attest to our excellent support services. We have a dedicated team of technical support staff ready and waiting on the phone.
- Experience – we are the most experienced GIS company in the State and it shows in the quality of our products and services
- Software tools – we have customized tools we use internally to quickly perform routine operations such as land use calculation, survey data entry, aliquot part splits, etc.
- CAMA integration – we are the only company with tools to link directly into assessment databases such as Tyler, TerraScan, MIPS and County Solutions.
- Complete package – we offer a turnkey solution including data conversion, data development data maintenance and the products to make the data accessible to everyone

GIS Workshop, Inc. is the most experienced Assessment GIS provider in the State. We will become an extension of your staff. Our extensive expertise together with our specialized tools helps us provide superior products and services.

CLIENT SATISFACTION

Please ask our clients about our support staff, training services, how they use GIS on a day-to-day basis, do they use desktop or WebGIS, did GIS help with the recent soil conversion mandate, flexible payment options, oblique photos, etc. We are confident that you will hear our level of service is second-to-none. Here are direct quotes from a sampling of our Assessor clients after implementing GIS in their departments; they are a testimony to the fact that implementing GIS increases revenue through accuracy in land use calculations and decreases costs through enhanced efficiency and time savings:

- **Merrick County:** "We found 13,000 additional irrigated acres by matching up NRD data with GIS."
- **Pierce County:** "Our GIS paid for itself the first year" by identifying pivots, new buildings, etc.
- **Phelps County:** "We increased assessed acres through accuracy in land use calculations."
- **Cuming County:** "I have confidence in my valuations when dealing with property owners because we can SEE how the value was determined. I also use my land use calculator to compare deeded acres vs GIS acres to identify inaccuracies in assessment."
- **Colfax County:** "Our GIS has paid for itself many times over" by using GISW's oblique imagery along with GIS to identify new buildings and to correct land use.
- **Platte County:** "We reduced daily inbound phone call volume by 50-70% by having information available online – this has freed up my staff to work more effectively on critical projects."
- **Madison County:** "We are able to do from our desks things that used to require time in the field. This has resulted in both cost and time savings for my County."
- **Keith County:** "GIS Workshop staff always answers the phone right away. They are great with support and customer service. I have never heard a single bad thing about their service from anyone I have talked to."

DATABASE DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION

GISW will do all the database development for Saunders County. We will rely on the Assessment staff for their local knowledge and our staff will do all the GIS development. GISW has developed a suite of desktop GIS tools that communicate with your assessment database and help us develop databases more efficiently than our competitors. **As an Esri (the leader in GIS technology) Gold Business Partner we know GIS better than anyone in the State.**

Once the GIS database is ready we will integrate the GIS data into your existing system. **We not only build the databases but we help you learn how to make them useful to you.** With our online meeting technology Saunders County staff can visit with our technical staff at any point to provide guidance or to view project progress from the comfort of your own office.

TRAINING AND UNLIMITED SUPPORT

We have a team of experienced and skilled technicians dedicated to keeping your GIS up-to-date. Complete training is provided in process flow of updates to the GIS, such as parcel splits or changes to land use and the use of the WebGIS site and accompanying tools.

WEBGIS

GISW technology greatly increases the value of your GIS investment. We provide true GIS mapping, not just a database of derived information. Our WebGIS product makes your data available throughout the County without the need for expensive training and desktop software. County staff, real estate professionals, banks, insurance agents, potential businesses/residents and Saunders County residents have 24/7 access to assessment information. Easy access to data is great for economic development and reduces phone calls for assessment staff.

PROJECT APPROACH

The power of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) lies in the ability to overlay various datasets and perform complex analysis within a simple user interface. GISWorkshop specializes not only in building systems, but more importantly, helping clients leverage their investment to perform standardized, accurate assessment with limited staffing. Our training and support technicians provide proven results and our WebGIS site gives your constituents access to all their assessment information 24 hours a day.

GIS helps provide equitable and accurate assessment across the entire county. When State statute requires assessment changes, such as the recent NRCS soil conversion, GIS can automate the process of making universal changes to all parcels in the County. A county-wide soil conversion can be accomplished in a day with GIS and would take months to accomplish accurately with paper maps.

GISW will build the Saunders County GIS by:

- Converting the cadastral maps to a GIS layer
- Attributing Parcel Identification Number for each Parcel
- Developing a comprehensive land use layer
- Incorporating soil survey data

DATA DEVELOPMENT – BUILDING THE PARCEL GIS

REFINE PUBLIC LAND SURVEY SYSTEM DATASET

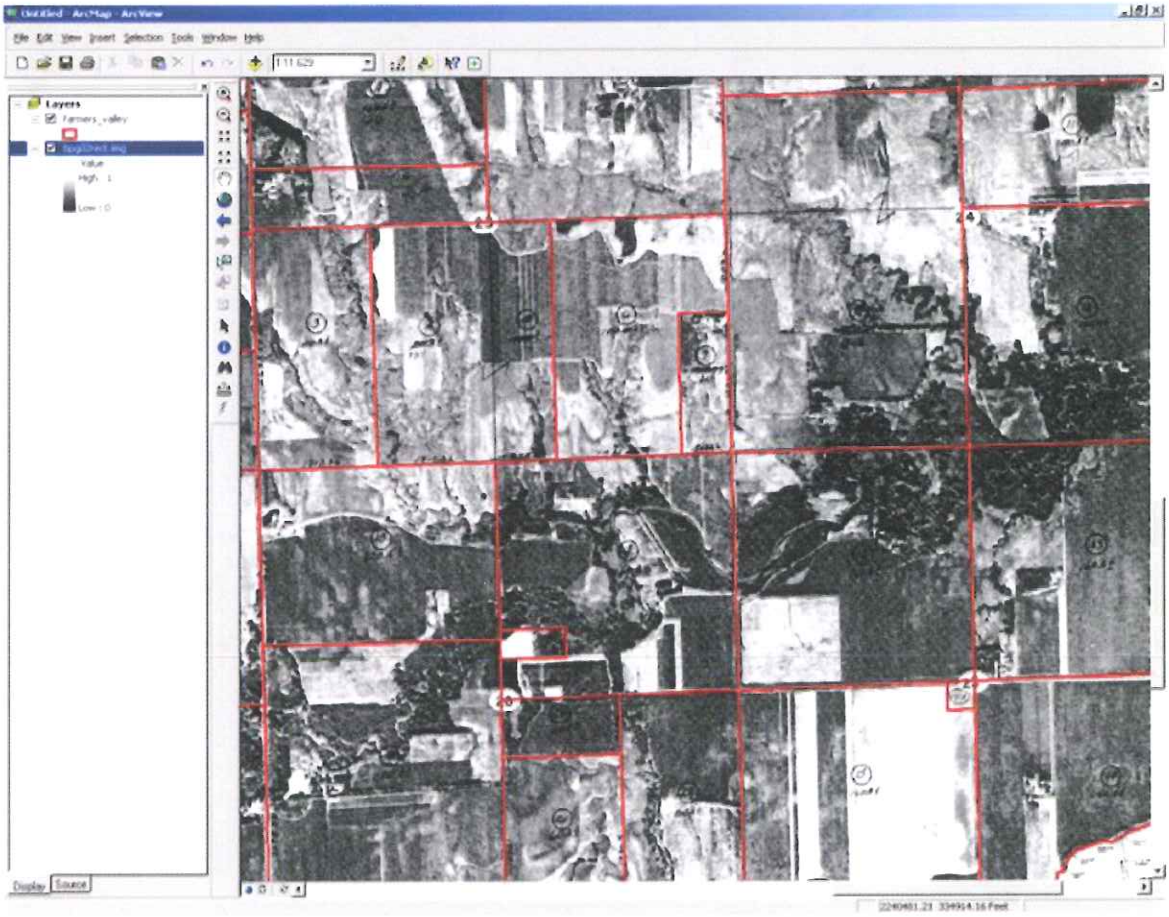
GISW will utilize all GPS corner control that the Surveyor provides. The system is constructed to incorporate new corner and quarter control the Surveyor may collect in the future. Incorporation of new survey control into the GIS over time will gradually "tighten" the accuracy of the GIS. The base dataset will utilize the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System [NESPCS], NAD83 coordinate system (note: the Nebraska GIS Steering Committee and Nebraska State Surveyor recommend that counties use the NESPC system for assessment GIS).

PAPER TO DIGITAL PARCEL BOUNDARY CONVERSION

GISW will collect and scan the rural assessment cadastral maps from Saunders County. The cadastral maps together with CAMA database information will be used to draw the parcel layer based on the data layer described above. An example of this process can be seen in the figure on the next page.

ASSIGN PARCEL IDENTIFICAL NUMBER

After extracting the property boundaries from the scanned cadastral maps to create the digital parcel layer, GISW will populate the Parcel Identification Number for each parcel.



Scanned cadastral map with parcel lines digitized in red

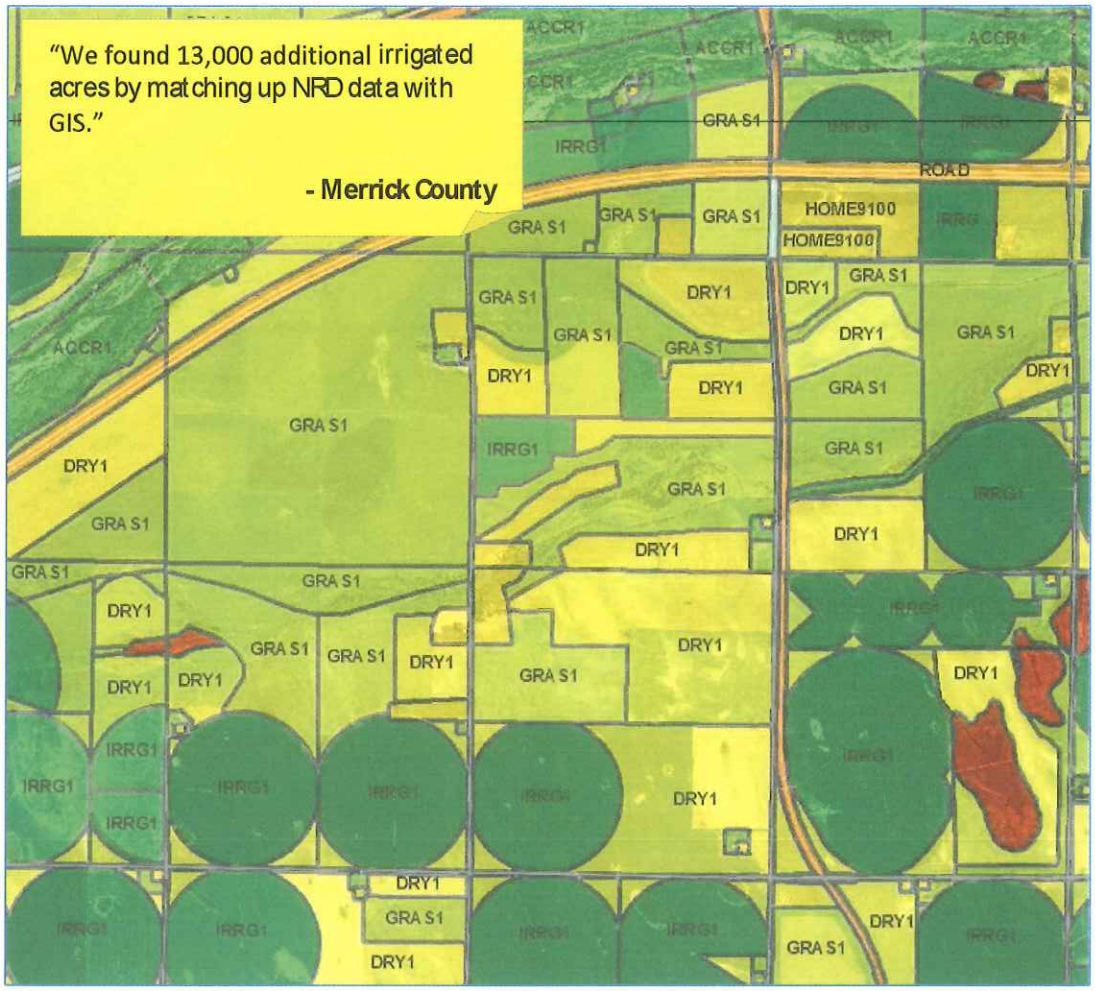
DATA DEVELOPMENT - LAND USE LAYER CREATION

Upon completion of the parcel layer, GISW will create the Land Use layer, which identifies the land use codes for particular areas of a parcel. GISW will identify the various areas of a particular land use, digitize the boundaries of that land use, and incorporate those data into the GIS for analysis and reporting. This layer will also be very useful for agencies such as your local Natural Resource District. The next figure illustrates a typical land use layer.

As part of the scoping process we will identify all the required land use classes to match the Assessor's database. Land use classes typically include the following:

DRY
IRRG
GRASS
HOMESITE
FARMSITE
ROAD
EXEMPT
WASTE
TREE1 (optional)
TREE2 (optional)
SHELTERBELT (optional)
CRP (optional)
WRP (optional)
COMMERCIAL (optional)

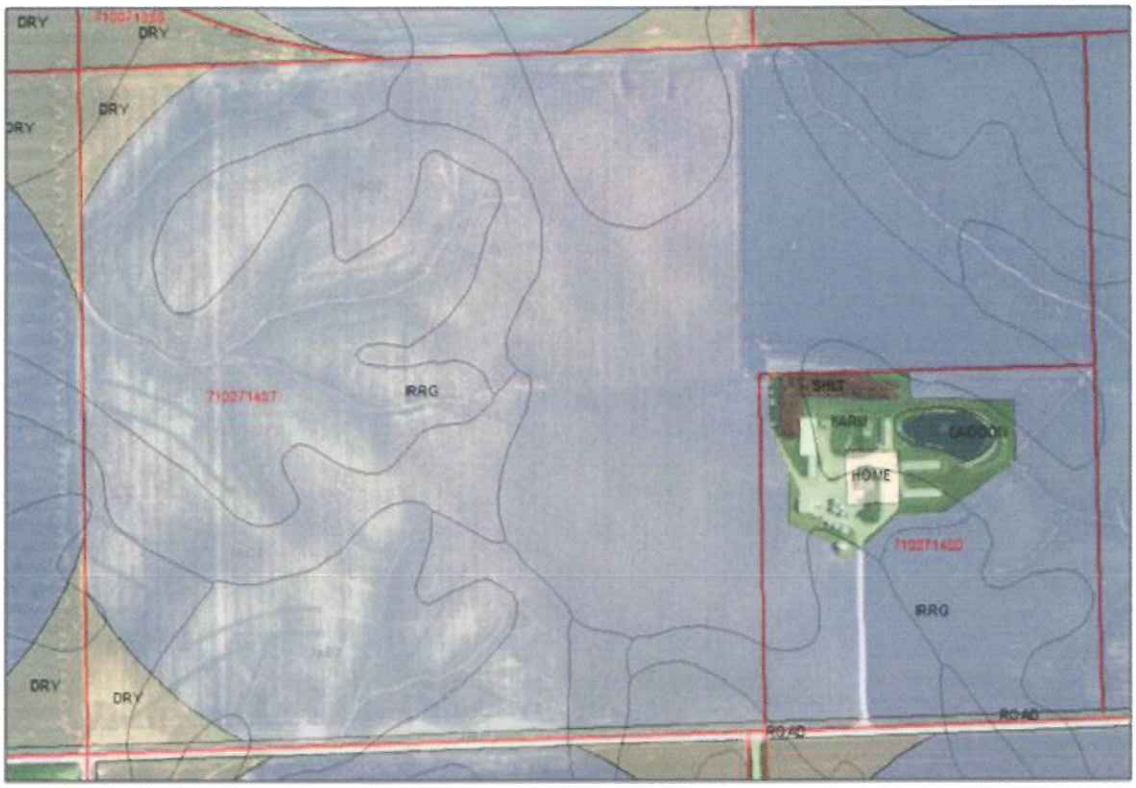
SAUNDERS COUNTY NE



Example Land Use Map

DATA DEVELOPMENT - SOILS LAYER

GISW will acquire the NRCS soils layers to display together with the parcel boundaries, land use layer and aerial photography background. The GISW Land Use Calculator Tool (discussed below) will help evaluate every parcel in the County. **This type of analysis is one of the most powerful benefits of assessment GIS, it would take months to recount all the soils manually!**



An example in Platte County showing the parcel lines (red), land use layer (transparent colors), and the soils (thin black lines), overlaid together for purposes of rural assessment acreage calculation

GIS DATA MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT

GIS Workshop will edit and maintain all GIS data on our redundant servers. This frees up the Assessor Department staff to concentrate on critical projects and issues. **This 100% maintenance web-based approach also eliminates the need for department staff to learn GIS software** – this will be important as the County transitions from State-assessed to County-assessed.

County will be responsible for sending parcel splits and land use changes to GIS Workshop. County staff will be able to use the GISW WebGIS Land Use Calculator to estimate the value of a parcel split for a walk-in customers. GIS Workshop will download a copy of the Orion (or other CAMA system if a change is made) data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GIS Workshop server. After an initial introductory period, an annual data maintenance fee will be due. See the Pricing Information section for more details.

GISW dedicated support staff is waiting to field your support call at all times during regular business hours.

TRAINING

GISW will train Saunders County staff to use the GIS data. We provide a wide variety of training options customized to your needs. We support clients on a daily basis so we know what is important to you and how to make the GIS data useful. We will train staff how to use the WebGIS site via an on-line meeting after the site is operational.

WEBGIS

The WebGIS will make the assessment/appraisal information available to other County departments, city departments, real estate professionals and the general public. **Only GISW offers this type of web access to the GIS database in an easy to use interface that will become the foundation for information access at the County.**

The GISW WebGIS

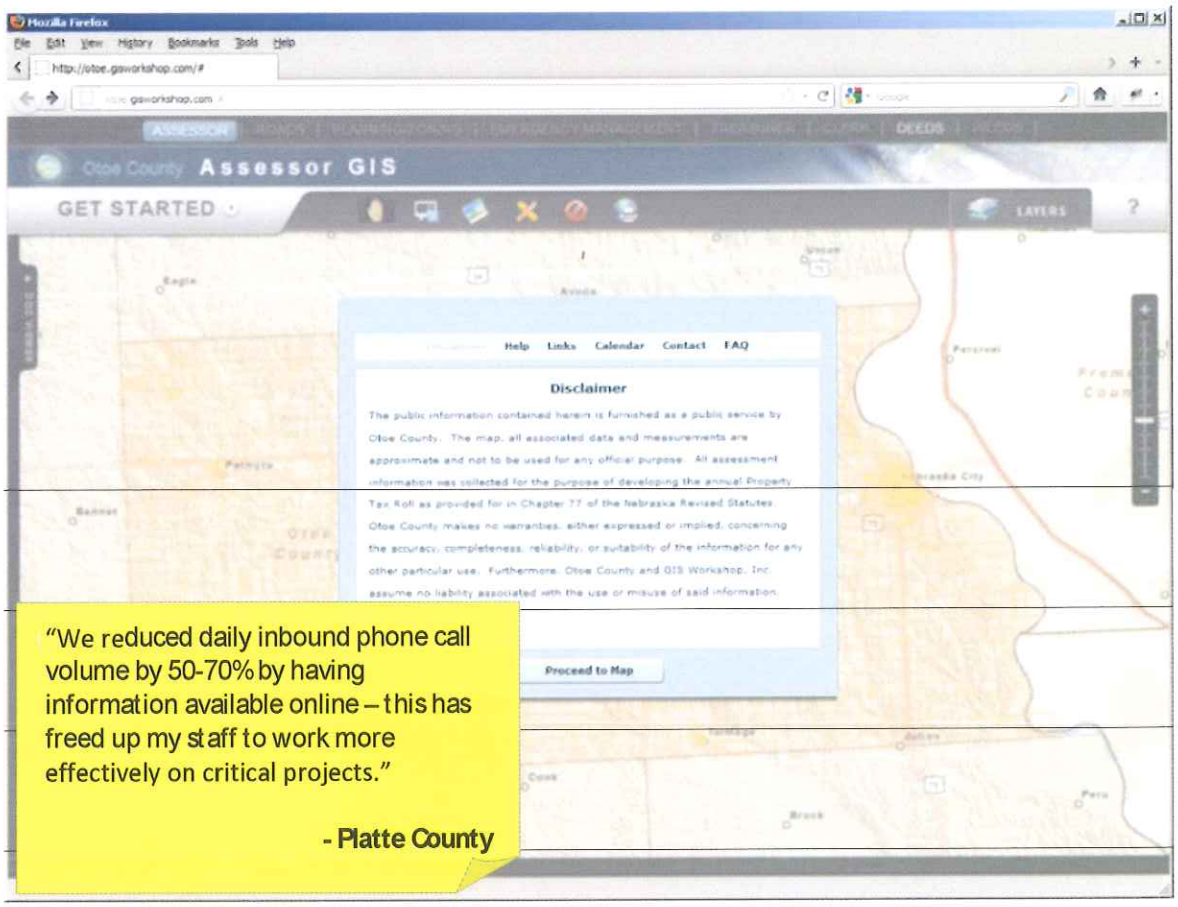
- Provides 24/7 access to public information for real estate professionals, general public and other city/county departments.
- The GISW Web GIS **REDUCES** the number of calls into the Assessor's Office, allowing staff to get on with the business of assessment. Our Assessor clients say it best: **Phelps County experienced a 50%-75% reduction in the daily call volume related to property tax issues. Kearney County estimated a 75% reduction in call volume when they went online!**
- Promotes information sharing amongst city/county departments and **reduces duplications of effort.**
- Provides the Enterprise GIS foundation so **other departments (roads, planning/zoning, etc.) may start using GIS technology more cost effectively.**

SAUNDERS COUNTY'S WEBGIS

GISW proposes to design and build an enterprise WebGIS for Saunders County 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 support contract which is already in place, as is the Assessor tab on the WebGIS.

The Assessor tab was the first step in setting up the enterprise WebGIS for the 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 the next figure 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 sales information, assessment and appraisal

data*, and any other data associated with future tabs. **(NOTE: an optional subscription-based version is also available to provide advanced information on a subscription basis.)**



Opening screen (Assessor Tab) of GIS Workshop's Enterprise WebGIS for **Otoe County, NE**

Additional tabs for this WebGIS project may include Clerk, Treasurer, Roads and Sheriff/Emergency Management. **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 TAB DATA LAYERS

The default data layers include County parcels, public land survey system (PLSS) sections, land use and soils. 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 land use and soils layers help visualize the other elements which influence property value.

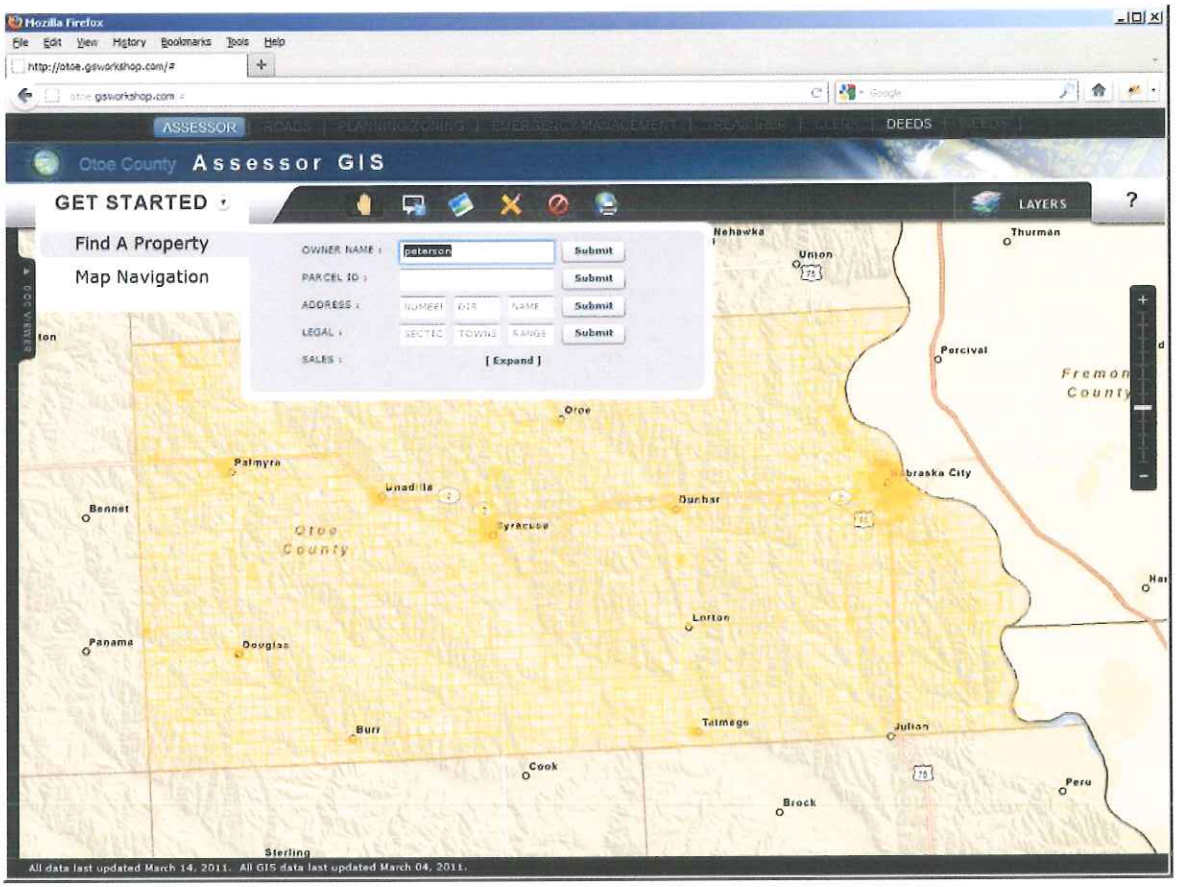
The WebGIS opens to the Assessor tab with parcels and base map (includes road centerlines, political boundaries, and a shaded relief topography background) layers visible. The user can switch to a satellite view that includes 2010 FSA aerial photography.

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.

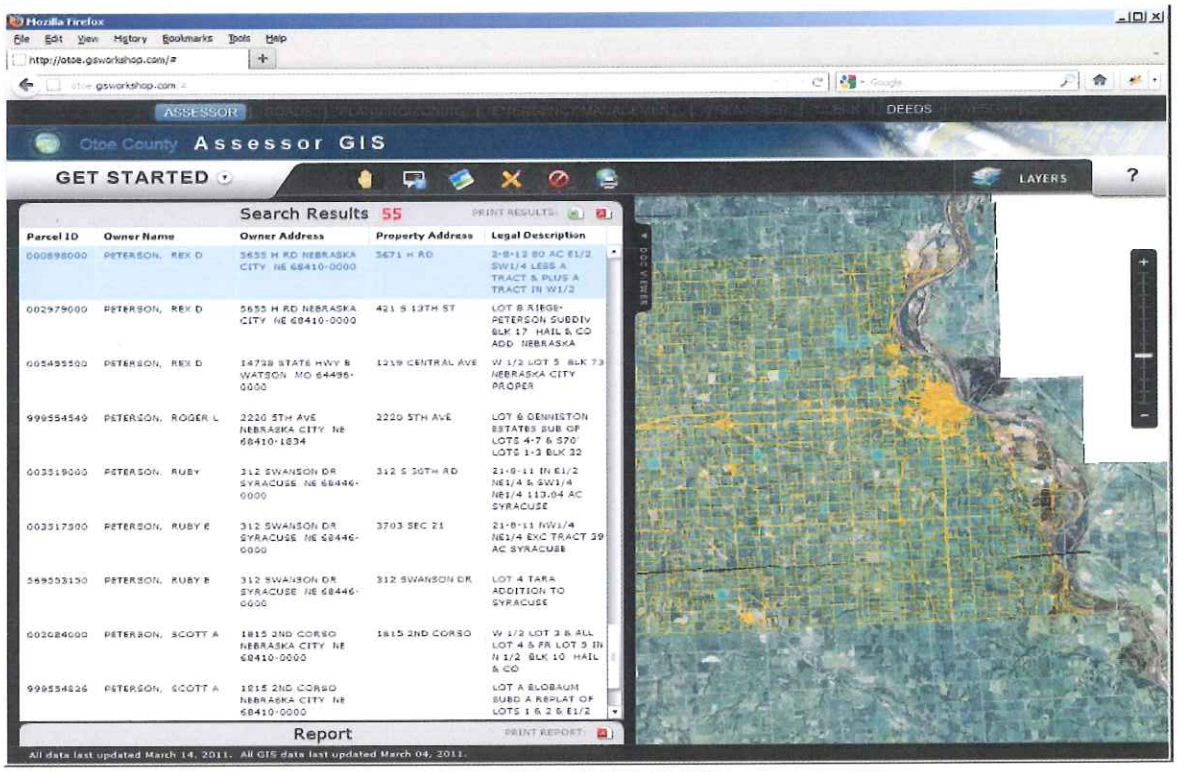
Sales data is available may be filtered by date range, price range, year built, or other pertinent parameters. **For those counties wishing to offer sales data on a subscription basis, GISW offers a subscription-based option (see Optional Items under the Pricing section of this document).** The next three figures illustrate the 'Get Started' options, the results table after searching for "Smith" in the owner name field and the results of selecting a property. The map has zoomed into the chosen parcel and the parcel polygon is highlighted. The last figure in the series shows the full property report card with links to photos, value, sale, building and land information.

SAUNDERS COUNTY NE

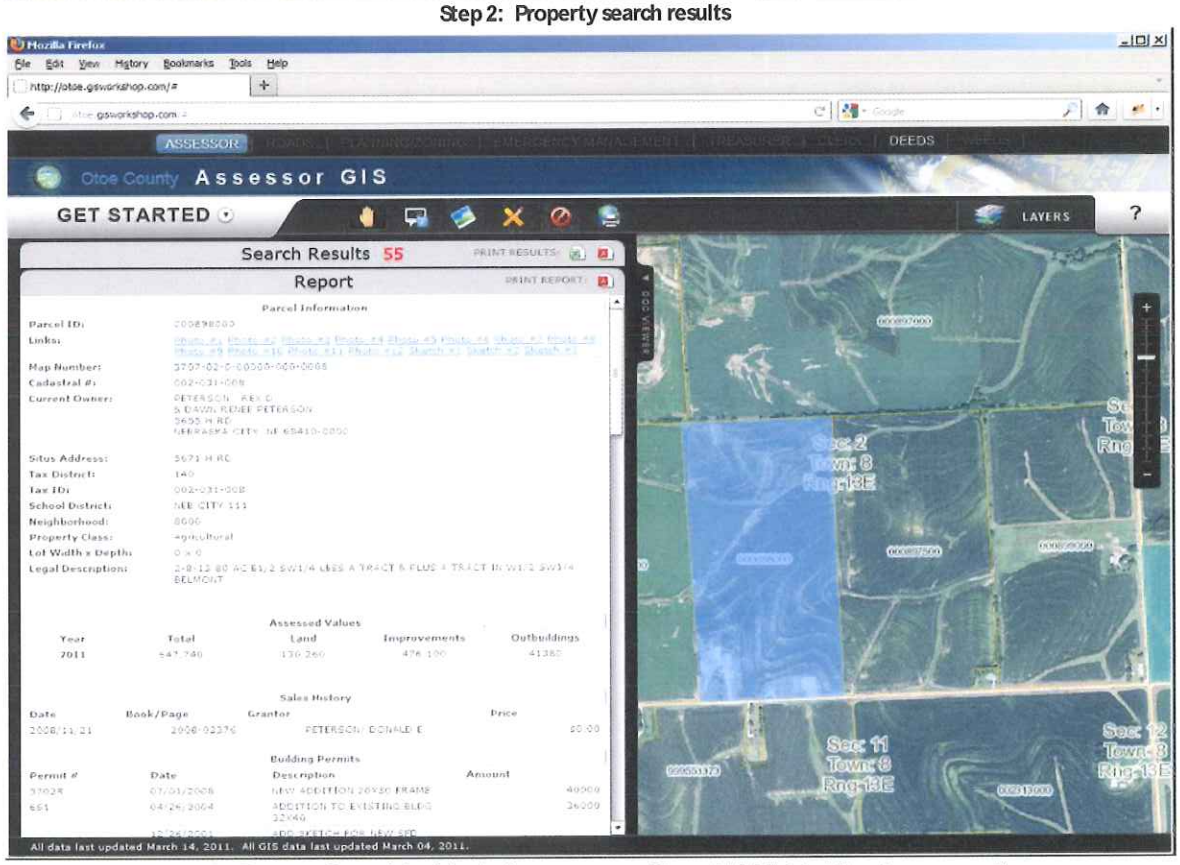


Step 1: Assessor tab showing property search box

SAUNDERS COUNTY NE



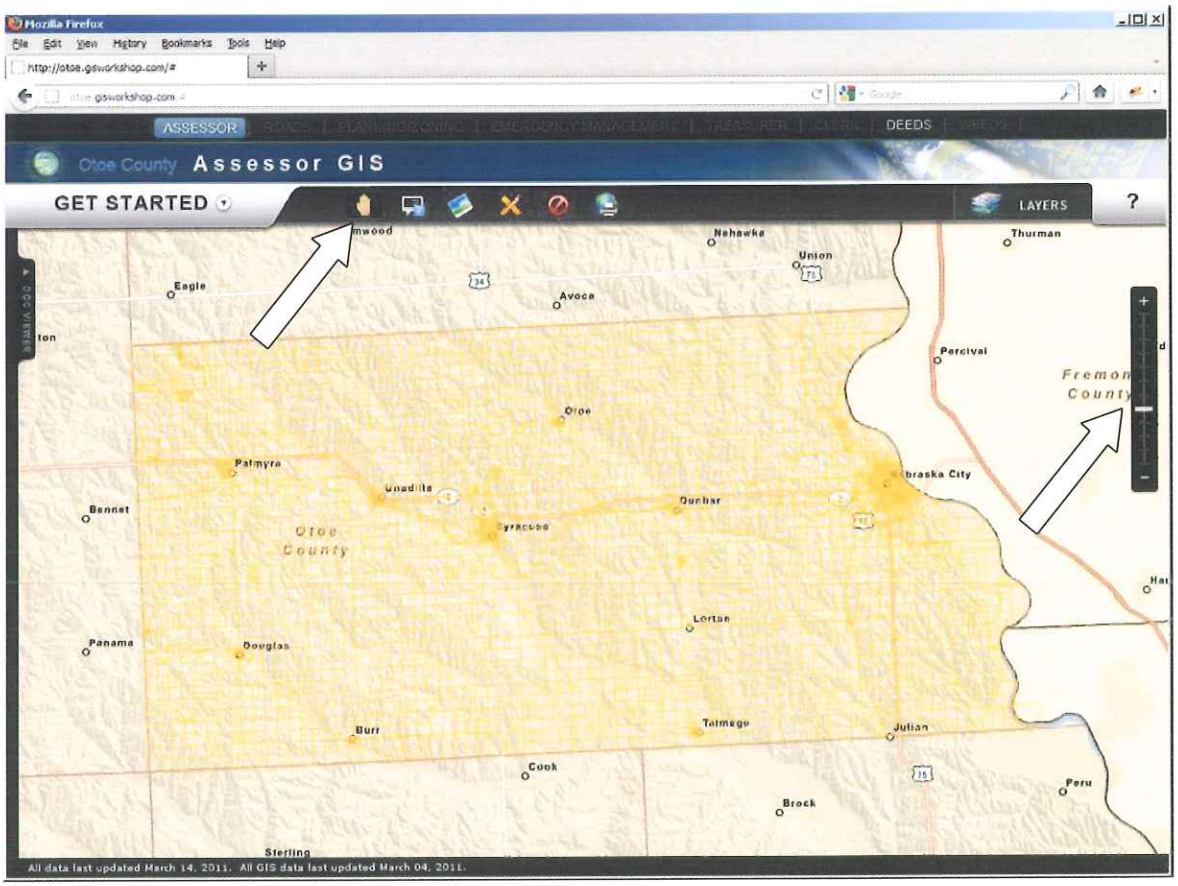
Step 2: Property search results



Step 3: Property Record Card (note the map zoomed in and highlighted the chosen parcel)

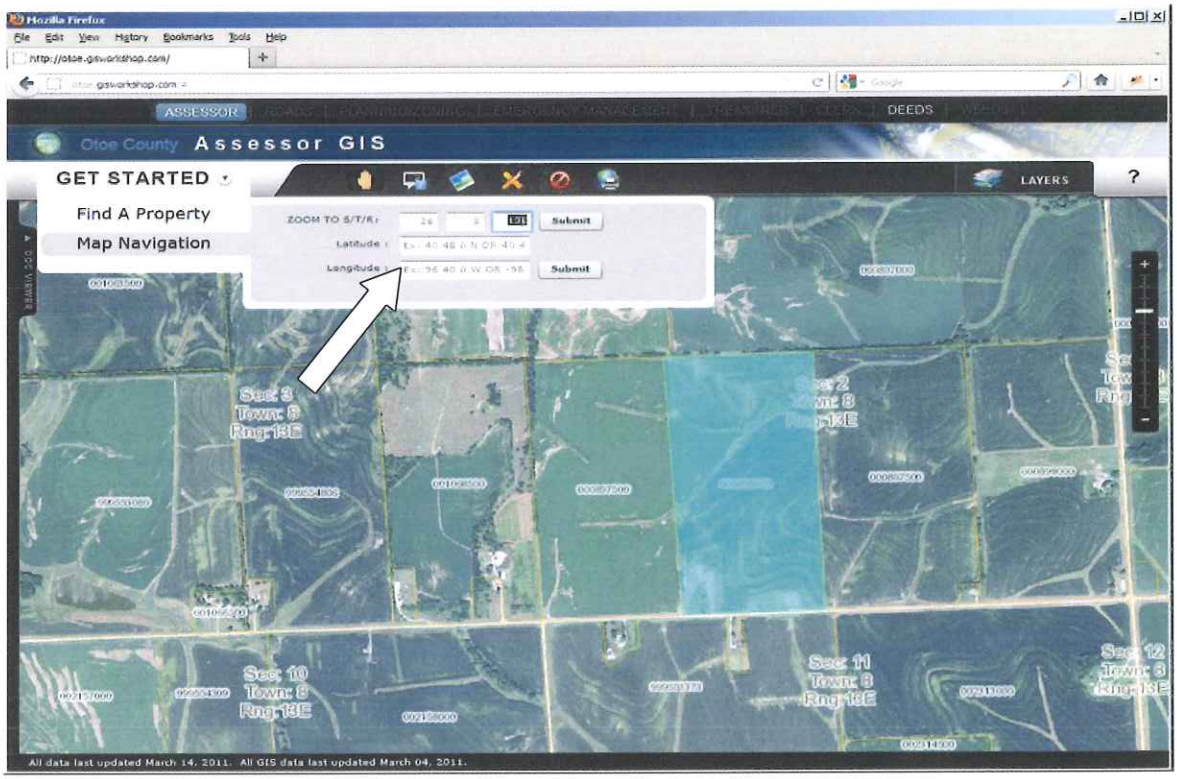
MAP NAVIGATION

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. The next figure illustrates the zoom slider bar and pan tool (hand icon).



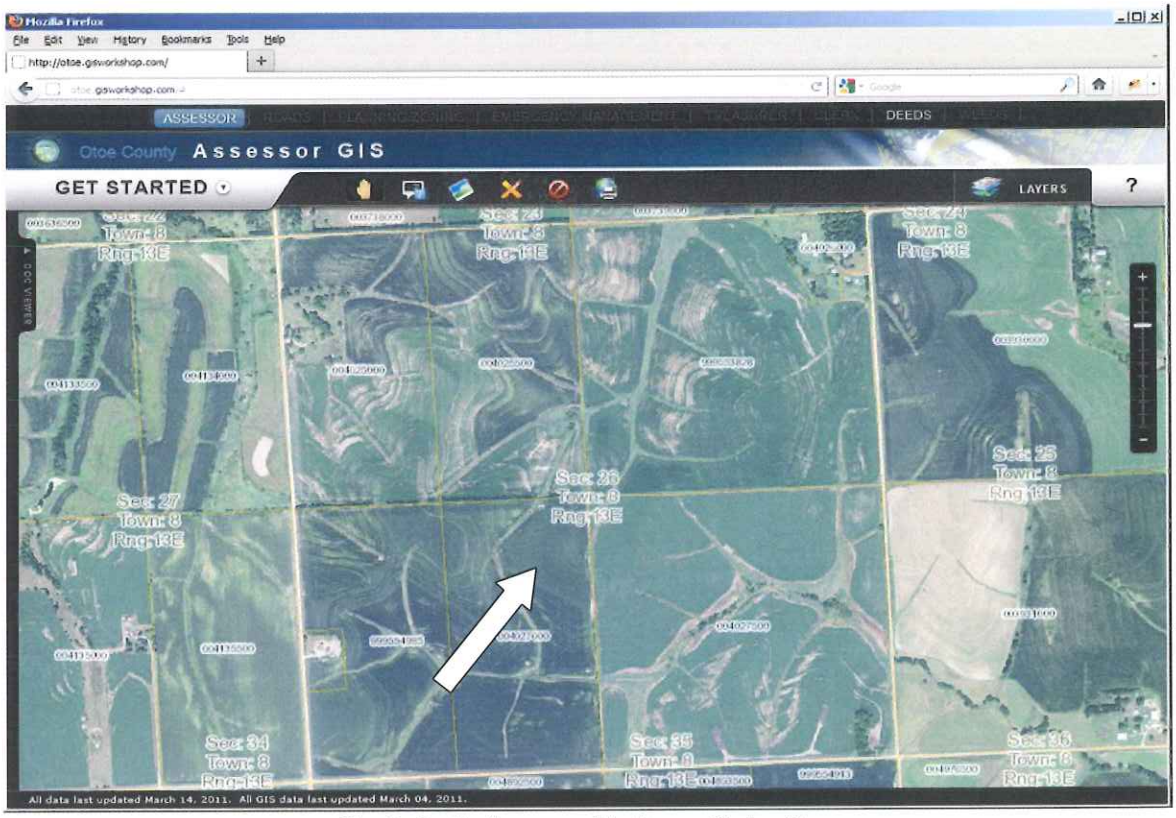
Zoom slider bar (right side) and activated pan tool icon (hand) in horizontal toolbar

The next two figures illustrate the Map Navigation feature. The user enters a specific section/township/range and then the map zooms into the specified section.



Step 1: User enters section/ township/ range

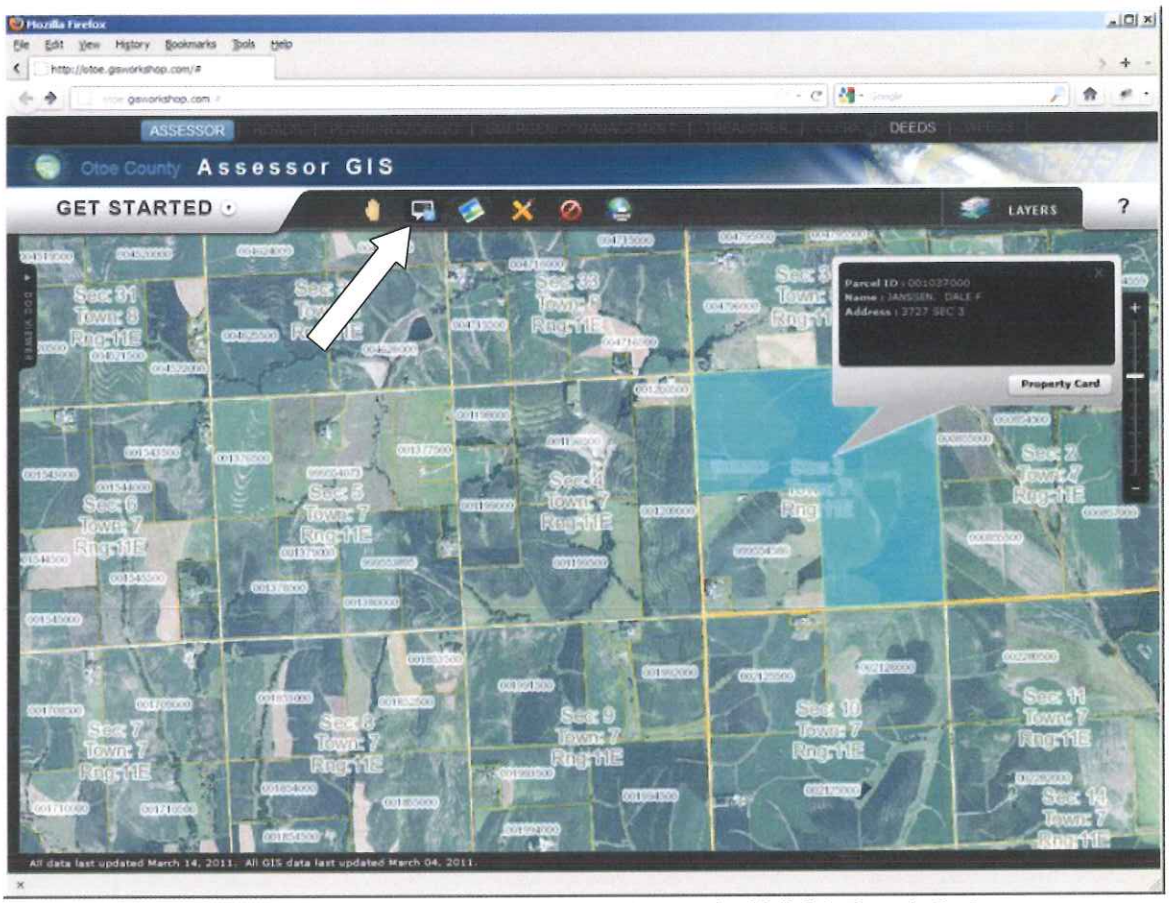
SAUNDERS COUNTY NE



Step 2: 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 the following figure; the property card information is also available through the tool.



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

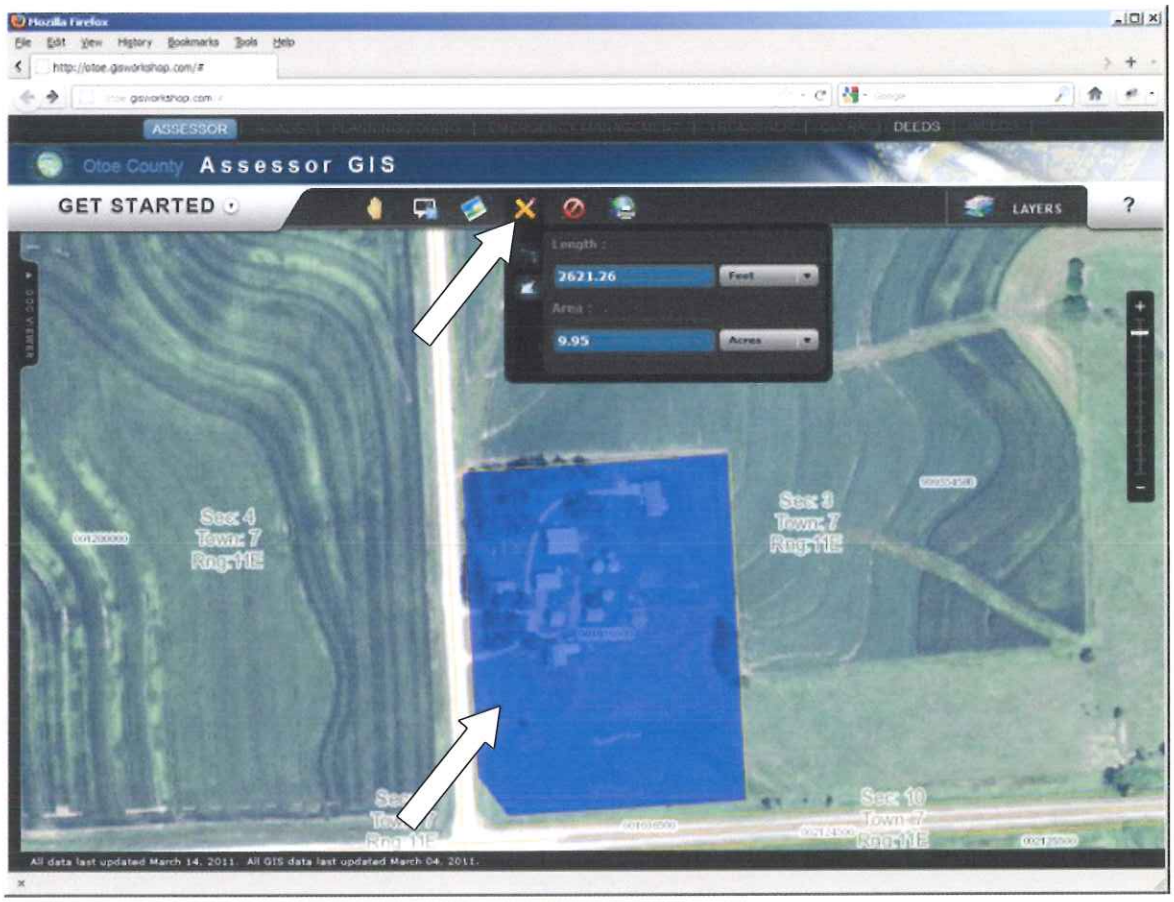
PHOTO TOOL

The Photo Tool is a great way to view individual building improvements. The tool reads the assessment database for all available photos and sketches and displays them in a photo window. If GISW has flown oblique aerial photography for the County those will also be available in the photo tool.

Property Photo Viewer Tool shows all available images from the Assessor's database

MEASUREMENT TOOL

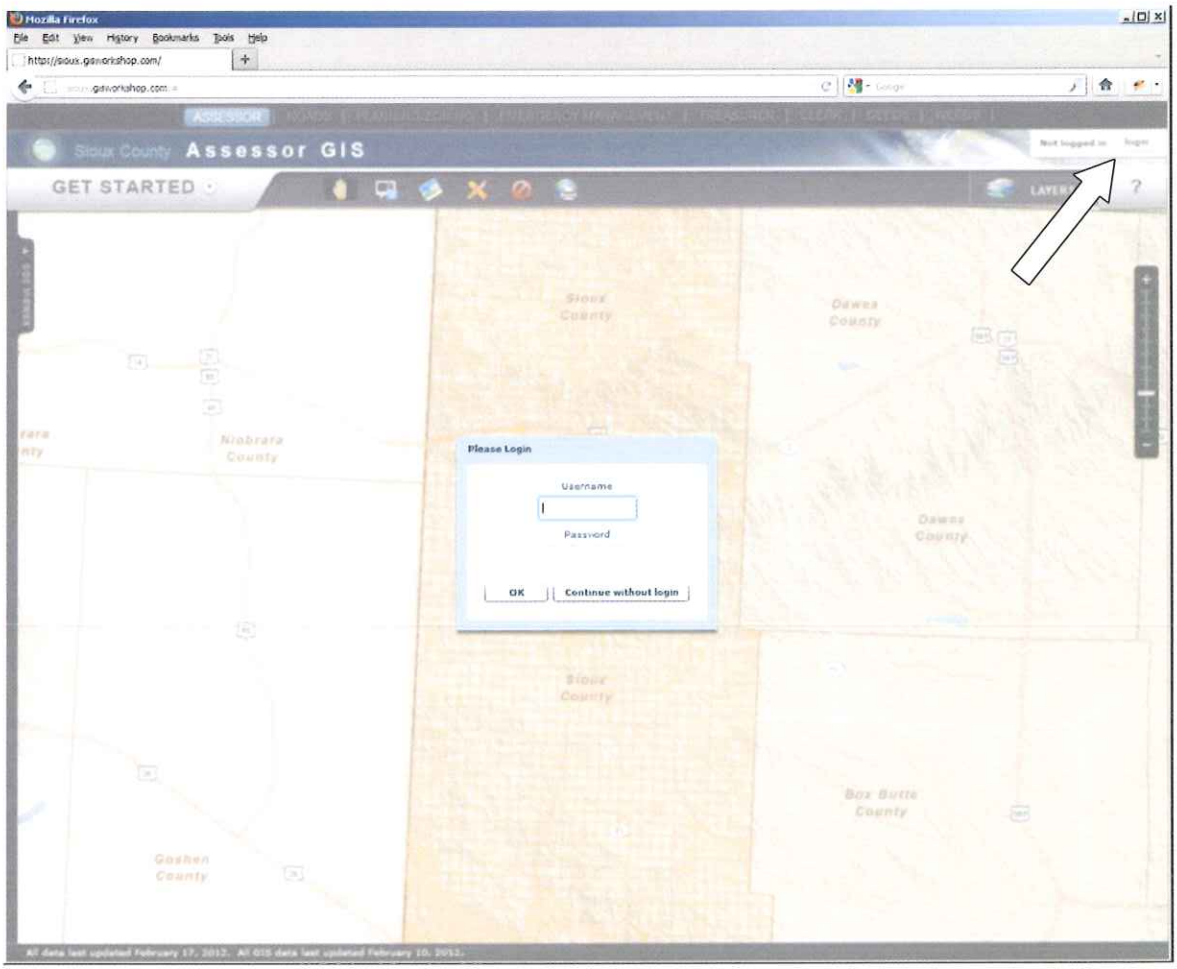
Length (feet, meters, miles, and kilometers) and area (acres, square feet, square meters, square miles, and square kilometers) measurements can be easily performed via the Measurement Tool. Using this tool, simply click at the starting point and double click at the ending point to measure a length or 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 the figure below.



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

LAND USE CALCULATOR

The WebGISLand Use Calculator Tool is a powerful tool for fast and accurate evaluation. The tool is protected by a simple login feature and allows the Assessor's Office to quickly calculate land value and provided a detailed report of the acreage breakdown of each LVG code category.



Login Screen protecting the Land Use Calculator Tool

SAUNDERS COUNTY NE

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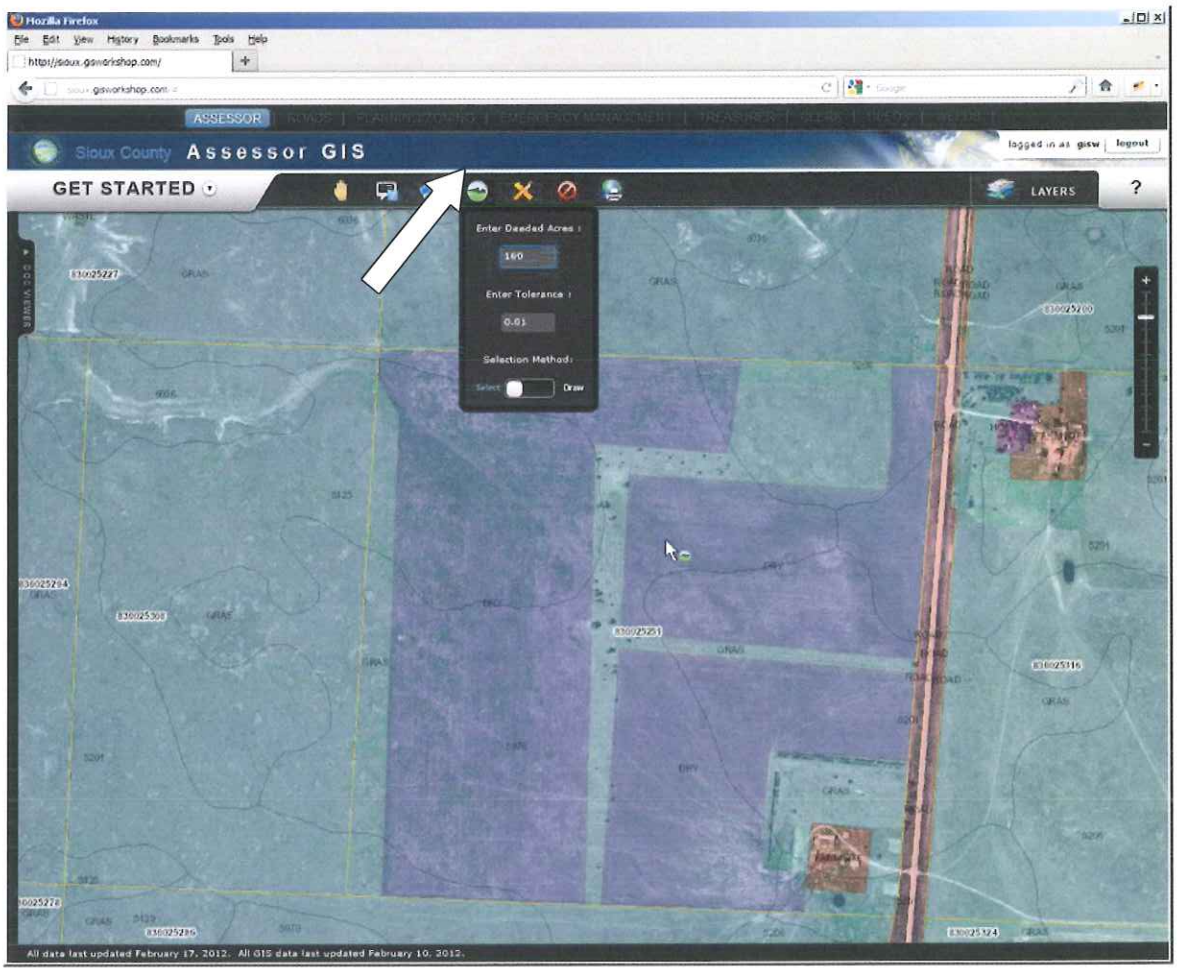
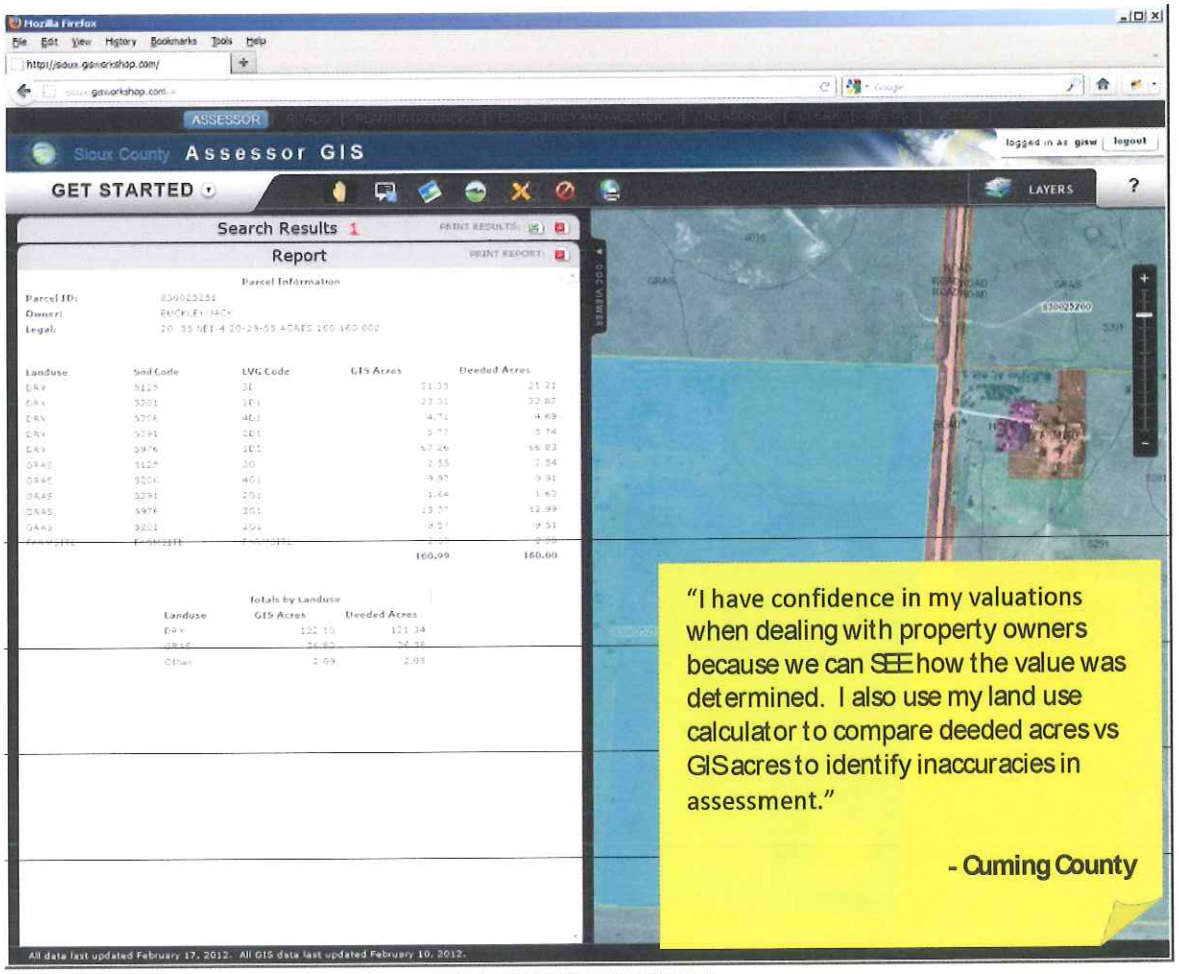


Land Use Calculator Tool options



Land Use Calculator Report

SCHEDULE

The GISW team is ready to start the Saunders County Assessor GIS project after acceptance and receipt of a signed contract according to the tasks described in this proposal. We anticipate GIS project buildout and WebGIS setup completion before June 30, 2013.

PROJECT COSTS

The following pricing and package is CÜ[[ò lb/ [Ü{Lë9ẽ providing the Assessor with everything needed for a fully functional assessment GIS. There are no hidden charges or expenses. The cost is based on the size of the County. Variations and/or additions to those tasks/features/service stated within are subject to additional costs. Any change orders must be documented and added as an addendum to this scope with the additional costs for said change order added to the following costs. **GIS WORKSHOP WILL NOT SEND A SINGLE INVOICE UNTIL THE PROJECT IS COMPLETE AND YOU ARE 100% SATISFIED WITH YOUR PRODUCT.**

Services	Cost ($)
GIS Build-out Services and Assessor Tab on WebGIS, with Year One Maintenance	$84,400
Credit for work accomplished by LPNNRD	-$15,000

Deliverables:

- GIS layers
  - Rural and town parcels
  - Sections
  - Town lot/subdivision
  - Land use
  - Latest FSA aerial photography or integrate County-supplied custom photography
  - Soils
- Assessor Tab WebGIS featuring the Land Use Calculator Tool
- Initial year of GIS data maintenance and support
- Online County staff training on use of WebGIS

Total Costs for above listed Services	**$69,400**

FINANCING OPTIONS

GISW will deliver and install all systems upon completion. Delivery is unrelated to the payment schedule. Support fees are not financed or included in this potential scheme. **Use of our interest free financing options does not delay product delivery in any way.**

NOTE: Any awarded Grant funds will be applied to the total cost and payment schedule will be based upon the remaining balance. Remaining project balance may be spread over four years.

ONGOING ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS

GIS Data maintenance by GISW for Assessor **(effective July 2014)**	$4,800 annually
Assessor Tab WebGIS maintenance by GISW **(effective July 2014)**	$4,800 annually

OPTIONAL ITEMS

Additional annual maintenance for subscription-based option	$1,500 annually
Subscription-based management tool	included

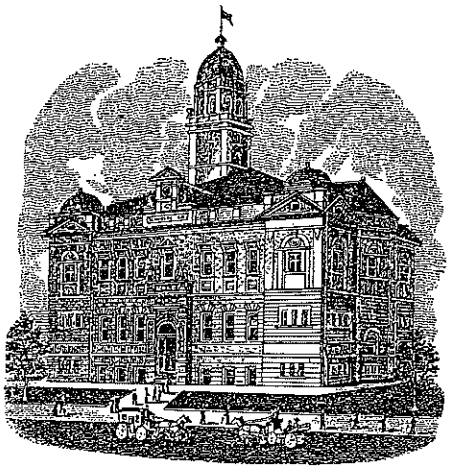
Nebraska State Records Board

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

ATTACHMENT 2:

LETTERS OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT

FROM SAUNDERS COUNTY, NEBRASKA



Saunders County Board of Supervisors
P.O. Box 61
Wahoo, NE 68066
(402) 443-8101
Fax (402) 443-8174

March 29, 2012

Dear Nebraska State Records Board Members,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Saunders County Board of Supervisors. The Saunders County Board is in full support of GIS mapping by GIS Workshop Inc. GIS mapping will free up time in the assessor's office by making it available online to the public. It will also assist the assessor's office with agland use and soil types as well as assisting them in locating buildings that may not currently be on the tax rolls thus increasing our tax base. GIS mapping also will help bring additional resources into our county, which is important during these tough economic times.

The taxpayers of our county, as well as realtors, appraisers, mortgage companies, insurance representative and others with real estate interest have been asking for this technology to be available to them for some time. This technology will align Saunders County with our neighboring counties and become an important asset to us in the future.

We thank you for the opportunity to apply for this grant to help with funding our GIS mapping project. Receipt of this grant would allow us to fund other projects needed in our county.

Sincerely,

Leroy Hanson

Leroy Hanson
Saunders County Board Member

STATE OF NEBRASKA

Dave Heineman
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, PROPERTY ASSESSMENT DIVISION
Ruth Sorensen, Property Tax Administrator
State Assessment Office for Saunders County
433 N. Chestnut, Suite 200 • Wahoo, Nebraska 68066
Phone: (402) 443-5700 • Fax (402) 443-5708
www.saunders.pat.gisworkshop.com

March 21, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board,

I am Assessment Administrative Manager for Saunders County. I would like to take the opportunity to tell you how having GIS mapping in my county would greatly improve the operations of my office. It would save us hours of time when it comes to work on agricultural land use changes, parcel splits, annexations of properties. Other counties have reported 50 to 75% reduction in calls after the GIS system was in place and the Saunders County assessment office would look forward to experiencing the same reduction to free up staff to do other necessary duties required by the office. This system would also enable us to locate buildings that may not currently be on the tax rolls, which would increase the value of the county, and would in turn increase the tax revenues and provide the resources needed in other areas of the budget for Saunders County.

With GIS by GIS Workshop, we would have all the support necessary to use this system without the need to hire additional staff or worry about training them. The system is easy to understand, which will be an asset with staffing changes. The public has been asking for online mapping for several years because it allows them to do their research without making a trip to the courthouse saving them time and money. The taxpayers and other users would greatly benefit by having this at their fingertips 24-7. GIS mapping would put Saunders County to the next higher level of technology needed in this day and age.

Thank you for the opportunity to apply for this grant for GIS mapping by GIS Workshop and I hope you will consider Saunders County when determining the receivers of the grant funds.

Sincerely,

Cathy Gusman

Cathy Gusman
Assessment Administrative Manager for Saunders County

PATTI J. LINDGREN
Saunders County Clerk
P.O. Box 61
Wahoo, NE 68066

DEE ANNE NICE
Deputy County Clerk
Phone (402) 443-8101
Fax (402) 443-~~5010~~ 8174

April 2, 2012

To the Members of the Nebraska State Records Board:

I am writing this letter in support of the grant application that has been submitted by the State Assessment Manager, in and for Saunders County, to help off set the cost of GIS for the Assessment office and the County WebGIS.

GIS has been a subject that has come up several times in past years, with Saunders County officials and the Board of Supervisors – but has never gone very far due to the cost. The County currently has funds available to take the next step into the future – grant funding would help offset some of the expense of the GIS project that the Board of Supervisors has formally taken action on to proceed with GIS by contracting with GIS Workshop, of Lincoln, Nebraska and approving the project "GIS for the Assessment office and County WebGIS", that they have proposed.

By making the Assessment records available through a GIS format is going to be of great value for not only the County as a whole, but also to the vast array of public that could obtain valuable information.

I'm excited that Saunders County is finally going to have GIS and hope to take full advantage of it when it is available for election matters.

I respectfully encourage your financial assistances by awarding the Saunders County Assessment office grant funding for the Saunders County GIS Project.

Sincerely,

Patti J. Lindgren
Saunders County Clerk

cc: Saunders County Board of Supervisors

DON CLARK
REGISTER OF DEEDS
P.O. Box 184
Wahoo, Nebraska 68066
(402) 443-8111
(402) 443-5010 (FAX)

March 27, 2012
SAUNDERS COUNTY

Cathy Gusman
Saunders County Assessment Manager
433 N Chestnut, Suite 200
Wahoo NE 68066

RE: GIS Mapping System

Dear Ms. Gusman,

I was pleased to hear that the Saunders County Board of Supervisors has voted in favor of pursuing GIS Workshop mapping for our county.

As the Register of Deeds for the last 32 years, I have seen the tremendous growth of this county. I have also noticed that most agriculture properties can no longer be so easily described by the original section number system. Many parcels have been split from the original 640 acre sections.

The cadastral books were last redone in 1989. Thousands of real estate transactions have occurred since then, making the books almost obsolete. To have an updated system available on-line to access their information will be a valuable research tool for abstractors, bankers, engineers, attorneys and other public officials.

I strongly support this program and urge the financial assistance for Saunders County.

Sincerely,

Don Clark
Register of Deeds
Saunders County
402-443-8111

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT
SAUNDERS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
433 North Chestnut Ste. 100
Wahoo, NE 68066
(402) 443-8123 Office (402) 443-8149 Fax

George Borreson
Zoning Administrator
Building Inspector
gborreson@co.saunders.ne.us

Sarah Talbert
Office Manager
stalbert@co.saunders.ne.us

March 7, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board:

I am writing this letter to support the acquirement of GIS mapping for Saunders County. The benefits of having a central location for this data would be tremendous. Saunders County Planning and Zoning would utilize the system on a daily basis. It would also help the villages and cities within Saunders County identify their own zoning jurisdictions.

Our office sends out public hearing notices, and researching the property owners takes time away from other tasks. The GIS mapping system would decrease the time it takes for the information retrieval and will give us more accurate information compared to the process we currently have in place.

The GIS mapping system would be a natural fit to Saunders County to help many offices in daily tasks. I support the acquirement of this system also because GIS Workshop has a proven history supporting many counties of Nebraska.

Sincerely,

George Borreson
George Borreson
Zoning Administrator/Building Inspector
Saunders County

Sarah Talbert
Sarah Talbert
Office Manager
Saunders County Planning & Zoning

GB:st

SAUNDERS COUNTY HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

STEVE MIKA

426 North Broadway
Wahoo, Nebraska 68066-1964
Phone (402) 443 - 8124
Fax (402) 443 - 1091

STEVE ZECH
ASS'T HIGHWAY SUPT

STEVE CALLAN
ASS'T HIGHWAY SUPT

March 1, 2012

To: Cathy Gusman

I am writing this letter to support the Saunders County WebGIS. I believe this mapping website will certainly benefit our department. We rely greatly on public information to ensure that we have accurate data regarding ownership records in our county. Access to this information on a website will increase our efficiency and effectiveness in serving the residents of our county.

One of the biggest challenges the County Weed District faces is actual proof of land ownership. Having this Web GIS will make certain of the land owner and speed up this process.

Additionally the different layers of data that could be installed such as bridges, culverts, signs, roads and road types could be overlaid on the ownership layer. This would be a great benefit to the County Highway Department.

As we work on county roads, it is imperative that we have accurate information regarding land ownership along these roads. If we had access to this information on a website, it would definitely decrease our time spent retrieving public information. Additionally, access to public information 24/7 will enable us to make decisions before or after normal government business hours if needed. We rely on public information and believe the availability on a website will only enhance the retrieval process.

During these difficult economic times, the public is asking government to work more efficiently. I believe this improvement would be a positive step in assisting us in eliminating time delays and improve our efficiency.

For the above reasons, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Saunders County.

Sincerely,

Steve Mika
Saunders County Highway Superintendent

SM:ln

Saunders County Sheriff's Office

KEVIN STUKENHOLTZ
SHERIFF

SHERIFF'S OFFICE
387 N. CHESTNUT STREET, STE. 3
WAHOO, NEBRASKA 68066

PHONE 402-443-3718 FAX 402-443-5118

CORRECTIONS
387 N. CHESTNUT STREET, STE. 4
WAHOO, NEBRASKA 68066

March 19, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board:

The Saunders County Sheriff's Office is in full support of the grant application being submitted by the Saunders County Assessor. Access to the GIS Mapping website would be a positive step in supplying public information to government agencies, as well as to the public sector. The additional time saved in searching public information in Saunders County will be beneficial to each and all.

Given that our office is operational around the clock, the data that will be readily available for our personnel on a 24-hour basis will be a huge benefit. The access of public information would easily provide us with reliable information and assist in making informed and timely decisions. The information that can be obtained from this website will become a valuable tool for law enforcement purposes

The Saunders County Sheriff's Office supports this program and encourages your financial assistance for this project. We look forward to utilizing the GIS mapping system within our own department as a tool to aid the citizens of Saunders County.

Sincerely,

Kevin L. Stukenholtz

Kevin L. Stukenholtz
Saunders County Sheriff

LOWER PLATTE NORTH
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
511 Commercial Park Road PO Box 126 Wahoo, NE 68066
PHONE: (402) 443-4675 FAX: (402) 443-5339
WEB SITE: www.lpnnrd.org

April 2, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board,

This is a letter of support for both Dodge and Saunders Counties in their effort to modernize their land records and move into a web-based GIS. Both counties are adjacent to Nebraska's major metropolitan cities and are feeling the pressures of urban growth. On top of these pressures both counties are transitioning from State Assessors back to County Elected Assessors. Now is the time to encourage a positive change that GIS will bring.

The Lower Platte North NRD is in the process of certifying all irrigated acres in our district. As we worked with our seven county assessors those who had a GIS in place were easy to exchange the data we needed. Saunders and Dodge counties did not have a GIS and we spent great time and effort to construct the needed records. Several times each year we send employees to our county courthouse to obtain needed land owner information. This necessity has been eliminated for Butler, Colfax and Platte Counties due to their web based GIS.

Our NRD used to have a steady stream of calls for maps with various information. After implementation of our web based IMS and now Arc Map Servers these requests have all but been eliminated. The same will happen for Dodge and Saunders Counties when their systems are up and running.

My interest and support of this project goes beyond our NRD as I represent all of the NRDs on the Nebraska GIS Council. Land records modernization has been a priority for the council since I began in 1995. From the first time I viewed a GIS land record I have felt Dodge and Saunders Counties needed this system to serve the public, businesses and government

Bringing Dodge and Saunders Counties on line should be a top priority considering their size, number of parcels and future growth potential. These two counties deserve to be at the top of the list when decisions are made for grant funding.

Sincerely,

John R. Miyoshi
General Manager

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

Wahoo ★ Sterling ★ Burchard

ESTABLISHED JULY 15, 1882

March 27, 2012

Cathy Gusmann
Saunders County Assessment Manager
433 N Chestnut
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear Cathy,

First National Bank of Wahoo is in support of your effort to get GIS mapping in Saunders County.

This will be a benefit and a useful service for all of Saunders County residents to access accurate property information. This will be a great benefit for the businesses that use this information on a daily basis.

Sincerely,

Stuart Krejci
Sr. Vice President

www.FNBWAHOO.com

WAHOO
P.O. BOX 68
WAHOO NEBRASKA 68066-0068
402 443-4117
FAX 402 443-5093

STERLING
P.O. BOX 369
STERLING NEBRASKA 68443-0369
402 866-4191
FAX 402 866-4521
MEMBER FDIC

BURCHARD
P.O. BOX 157
BURCHARD NEBRASKA 68323-0157
402-865-5325
FAX 402 865-5405

Brock Appraisal Company, Inc.
569 N. Broadway
Wahoo, NE 68066
402-443-4728 Fax 402-443-3318

March 29, 2012

Cathy Gusman, Assessor
Saunders County Courthouse
433 N. Chestnut, Suite 200
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear Cathy

This letter is written to support the GIS mapping service that will soon become a part of the Saunders County real property website. This service will be a benefit to all who utilize it, from appraisers and real estate agents, to potential buyers of properties and to the property owner.

As a local real estate appraiser, I cover all of Saunders County as well as Butler County, the neighboring county to the west. Butler County does have this service available on their website and it is very beneficial to get the "lay of the land", i.e., to see the shape of the tract, as well as see all of the improvements, prior to arriving on the site for inspection, or to make a determination whether to accept an assignment. It also allows one to see the neighboring properties which also aids in the process.

As our society continues to move forward in this ever changing technological world, this is just another important and expected step that will help everyone have more detailed information at their fingertips. I wholeheartedly support the GIS mapping service as a part of the on line information retrieval system.

Sincerely

Ann Brock
Certified Residential Appraiser
CR290001

NEBRASKA LAND
TITLE & ABSTRACT

www.NebraskaLandTitle.com

March 27, 2012

Cathy Gusman
Saunders County Assessment Manager
433 N Chestnut St., Suite 200
Wahoo, NE 68066

RE: GIS Mapping System

Dear Cathy,

How delighted I was to hear that the Saunders and Dodge County Boards of Supervisors have voted to pursue GIS Workshop mapping for both counties.

In my job as an Abstracter/Title Agent for Nebraska Land Title and Abstract, my research is buoyed by the chance to visualize properties within the county. I often visit the GIS sites in Sarpy, Butler and Lancaster Counties to access information regarding land parcels.

Working in Saunders county for the last 20 years both in the Saunders County Assessor's office as well as in the field of title insurance and abstracting I've seen the growing trend that most agriculture parcels can no longer be so easily described by the original section number system. Most parcels are now portions of many of these original 160 acre parcels. To have the ability to access those maps to determine, ownership, access and other pertinent facts regarding a property is invaluable to me and a cost savings for my clients.

Saunders county's cadastral books were last done in the late 1980s and a whole lot of transactions have run through the register of deeds since that time. To have an updated system available on-line to access information will provide a valuable tool for abstracters, surveyors, civil engineers, realtors, attorneys and auctioneers servicing our area.

Regards

Linda K. Little, Abstracter/Agent

Please respond to:

☐ OMAHA
16949 Lakeside Hills Plaza
Omaha, NE 68130
Ph: 402.778.1000
Fax: 402.778.1020

☐ BELLEVUE
11511 South 42nd St., #106
Bellevue, NE 68123
Ph: 402.778.1000
Fax: 402.778.1020

☐ LINCOLN
3910 South Street
Lincoln, NE 68506
Ph: 402.434.3737
Fax: 402.434.3736

☐ BEATRICE
603 Dorsey Street
Beatrice, NE 68310
Ph: 402.223.2395
Fax: 402.228.3398

☐ SEWARD
P.O. Box 251
Seward, NE 68434
Ph: 402.643.6228
Fax: 402.643.6229

☐ WAHOO
412 North Linden Street
Wahoo, NE 68066
Ph: 402.443.1254
Fax: 402.443.1261

KELLER WILLIAMS.
REALTY

March 20, 2012

To Whom it may Concern,

I am writing this letter to support Saunders County WebGIS. In the real estate profession, I believe the mapping website will enhance our profession. Public information is gathered daily and to have access to it through a web-site allows us to access the information 24/7. Currently we have to call the Assessor's office to obtain this information.

The information we collect allows us to do a market analysis, and access comparable properties, in determining the listing price of a property. Not only will this make our job more sufficient, but the County would save money, as the clerk has to take the time to access the file and make copies.

For the above reasons, I support the program and urge for financial assistance to Saunders County.

Thank You,

Sherie Bussen

Sherie Bussen
Realtor
Keller Williams Realty

Farmers National Company ™

Mar 1, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to support the Saunders and Dodge County WebGIS. I believe this mapping website will certainly benefit my profession. I rely on public information on a daily basis. Access to this information on a website will increase my efficiency and enable me to serve my clients in a timely manner.

At this time, I must leave the office to go to the County Courthouse or make a telephone call to ask specific questions for our decision-making process. This information is essential to me when preparing a market analysis to determine a listing price.

Accessing this information on a website would definitely save me time retrieving public information. In addition, access to public information 24/7 will enable me to make decisions after normal business hours if needed. This time saving element results in cost savings to me and also to the County since there needs to be an employee retrieving a file and then copying the information.

Every business is conscious of cost and efficiency. The WebGIS will enable me to reduce cost and increase my efficiency by electronic access to the up-to-date public information. For the reasons above, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Saunders and Dodge Counties.

Sincerely,

Don Furasek

Don Furasek, Associate Broker
Farmers National Co.

Saunders County Independent Bankers Association

"Dedicated to the Growth and Vitality of Saunders County"

Ceresco Bank, Ceresco
Commercial State Bank, Cedar Bluffs
Bank of Mead, Mead
Bank of Prague, Prague
Farmers and Merchants Bank, Ashland
First National Bank, Wahoo
First State Bank, Yutan
Oak Creek Valley Bank, Valparaiso
Security Home Bank, Malmo
State Bank of Colon, Colon
Wahoo State Bank, Wahoo

March 28, 2012

Kirk P DeCoste
Assessment Assistant
433 N Chestnut, Suite 200
Wahoo, NE 68066

RE: Letter of Support for grant application for GIS mapping

To whom it may concern:

Please accept this letter as a letter of support in favor of the GIS mapping for Saunders County Nebraska. Here are some of the benefits this type of service would offer to our member banks.

- The ability to easily locate where the property is in the county.
- What kinds of buildings are next to the subject property of interest?
- Parcel ownership and other related Assessor information.
- Location of property in relation to other properties of interest.
- I also like that you can view the flood plain on other counties GIS map. This would be especially helpful around those flood plain areas in the county.
- I have seen this same type of mapping for other counties and have used the information and found it to be very helpful.
- If it is farm ground, you can overlay the soil type or types that farm has. You could overlay the parcel boundary. You can also overlay the section boundary, etc.

The Saunders County Bankers would benefit from having this type of information available in Saunders County.

Sincerely,

W. Kevin Hoon
President
Saunders County
Bankers Association

Farm Credit Services *of* America
AGRICULTURE WORKS HERE...

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
kirk.manker@fcsamerica.com
402-348-3367
402-661-3367 (fax)

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 :** Scotts Bluff County
2. **Grant amount requested** $ 25,000
3. **Title of project:** Assessor GIS and County WebGIS
4. **Brief description of project:** The project includes building a County-wide land records GIS database and WebGIS application that will link to the existing Manatron/TerraScan 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).**

   Scotts Bluff County has chosen to develop a Geographic Information System (GIS) database and web-enabled mapping interface and database query tool (or WebGIS). The WebGIS application will provide an intuitive interface for citizens, businesses, County departments and other local/county/regional/state agencies to easily find public records data. The attached proposal (Attachment 1) illustrates the specific data layers and the WebGIS application features.

   The County selected GIS Workshop, Inc (GISW) as the vendor for this project. GISW has extensive experience in developing Geographic Information Systems and we believe that their skill is unparalleled for this project.

   The project will include data development tasks for parcels, land use and legal land base (lot, block and subdivision) layers. The parcels will be developed from the best available source data (survey plats, legal descriptions, cadastral maps, etc) and assigned a parcel identification number to match the Assessor's Manatron/TerraScan database system. The County has invested in a robust GIS system that was developed by the County Surveyor many years ago. This GIS, while extensive, did not include critical layers for the Assessor department such as a parcel identification number-based parcel layer, landuse layer and corresponding soil layer. Scotts Bluff County and the Surveyor will make existing data available to GISW and they are in the process now of evaluating the data for usability in the County-wide GIS, needed Assessor layers and WebGIS projects. As stated in the GISW proposal (see Attachment 1), if GISW is able to reduce initial GIS development costs through the use of this existing Surveyor data, it will be reflected as a discount during the Scope of Work phase.

   The land use layer will be developed using a combination of available data sources including the Manatron/TerraScan database parcel records, air photo interpretation, etc. The land use classes will match those defined by the Nebraska Property Assessment Division. Land use classes will include dryland crop, irrigated crop, grass, CRP (optional), tree (optional), homesite, farmsite, road, exempt and waste. This layer will also be very useful for agencies such as the Natural Resource Districts.

   GISW will also assemble other datasets such as SSURGO soils, FSA aerial photography and any available high-resolution photography.

   The WebGIS application will provide an intuitive interface for users to search for public records using either the text search menu or the map tools. Users will be able to toggle layers on/off individually, click on a parcel to see its Record Card, click on a parcel to see all available photos/sketches, measures distances/areas, print to PDF or export to Microsoft Excel. The WebGIS will provide 24/7/365 access to public records for citizens, businesses and government employees.

The WebGIS application will also include a highly specialized tool for the Assessor's Office to calculate land value for new parcel splits or verify the land use and soil characteristics of an existing parcel. The Land Use Calculator is very valuable for fast, efficient and equitable tax assessment.

Other County departments will also benefit from the WebGIS application. The Clerk, Treasurer and Register of Deeds Offices will all benefit from easy access to land records information. The Weeds department will use it for determining property owners and property location for spraying noxious weeds and issuing notices to landowners. The County Election Office will better determine exact voter precinct maps. The WebGIS application will also serve as a valuable resource for County emergency management and law enforcement staff. The Scotts Bluff County Board of Commissioners is excited about the opportunity for offices such as Planning/Zoning, Roads, Treasurer and Register of Deeds to build upon the land records foundation to create a one-stop web-enabled interface to County data. The Cities of Scottsbluff and Gering have expressed support of the project as they see it as an avenue to increased collaboration and communication through the sharing of data.

Other GISW clients have cited a 50-75% reduction in phone call volume after implementing the WebGIS application. The application will provide better service to County residents while increasing the efficiency of multiple County departments.

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

Anyone interested in land records information for Scotts Bluff County will benefit from this project. Scotts Bluff County offices of Assessor, Clerk/Election Commissioner, Register of Deeds, Treasurer, Emergency Manager, Roads, Sheriff, Planning/Zoning, Health Director, Surveyor, Central Communications Center 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 applicable Natural Resources Districts, the Cities of Scottsbluff and Gering and surrounding villages, along with various State agencies, will also benefit from easy access to Scotts Bluff County data. Efficiencies realized from 24/7 access will result in increased productivity and cost savings for both public and private entities.

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 upon extensive input and support we have received from real estate professionals and other government agencies, we believe the adoption rate of the WebGIS technology will be immediate. Numerous County department staff members have attended Board meetings to express their support.

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 June 30, 2013 (06/30/2013).

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 GISW to develop a GIS for Scotts Bluff County. Attachment 1 contains an overview of the project in GISW's Proposal document. The Proposal is for development of a GIS for Scotts Bluff County, updating of the GIS and development of a WebGIS site for the County, which will make information available 24/7. The total amount of grant money awarded to Scotts Bluff County will be used to defray the following initial GIS development expense. The Board believes the maximum grant amount is critical to funding of this project. 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.**

   As stated in the GISW proposal (see Attachment 1), if GISW is able to reduce project costs through the use of existing Surveyor data in the development of Assessor layers, it will be reflected as a discount during the Scope of Work phase.

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 necessary to assist with the initial data development and WebGIS setup costs. The County will take advantage of GISW's offer to spread the remaining development costs over several years, interest-free which will allow us to budget for the project. The GIS project and WebGIS will help the County get back on pace with surrounding agencies. Scotts Bluff County will commit to paying the annual maintenance fees to keep the system thriving after this project is completed

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 substantial upfront cost to Scotts Bluff County of developing the GIS dataset. The County fully anticipates being able to fully meet annual maintenance costs of the GIS 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 Manatron/TerraScan database containing tax assessment information. The Property Record Card component of the WebGIS has several customized reports, derived from the Manatron/TerraScan 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.

Scotts Bluff County has solicited and received excellent community support. Attachment 2 contains letters of support from the Scotts Bluff County community. The letters include Scotts Bluff County citizens, business professionals, County department heads and associated agencies.

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 Scotts Bluff 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.

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.

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. Scotts Bluff County staff, as well as external users, will access the system using a standard internet browser such as Internet Explorer or Firefox.

   Scotts Bluff 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 will interface with the current Manatron/TerraScan (or any other CAMA provider selected in the future) database systems in use in Scotts Bluff 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 and for protecting features such as the Land Use Calculator Tool from unauthorized use.

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 application for Scotts Bluff County will be configured by GISW with adherence to standards established by the State of Nebraska. The digital map database has been developed using the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System, NAD83 as per State/NITC guidelines. The system will comply with any other applicable NITC items.

4. Agencies submitting grant applications for funding of a Geographic Information System (GIS) project must in addition to the standard grant application complete and submit the ***Supplemental Questionnaire for State Funded Entities on Land Record Information and Mapping-Related Grant Application*** found on the Boards website page "Grant Information" at www.staterecordsboard.ne.gov.

   The supplemental questionnaire has been completed and is attached to this application.

5. **Describe how technical support will be provided.**

   GISW will edit and maintain the GIS data and provide access to the data using the WebGIS application. Scotts Bluff County will be responsible for sending parcel splits and land use changes to GISW. GISW will download a copy of the Manatron/TerraScan data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GISW server.

   GISW have dedicated technical support staff available at any time during business hours to service the County's needs. They will provide training, phone support and online support to help County staff quickly adapt to the new technology.

Part III. EXPECTATIONS

It is the expectation of the Nebraska State Records Board that the grantee recognize the project as an ongoing effort to make public documents and or transactions more accessible. As this application relates to public documents the goal encompasses not only the availability of current documents as described in this application but the ongoing addition of new and updated documents in a timely manner. This goal recognizes the public's interest in not only historical information but the expectation that current data is obtainable. The Nebraska State Records Board recognizes that this is a long term commitment on the part of the grantee and anticipates the continued financial support of the grantee to maintain these expectations.

Part IV. STATE LAW COMPLIANCE

Nebraska law, sections 4-108 through 4-114 state that no political subdivision of the State shall provide public benefits, to include grants or contracts, to a person not lawfully present in the United States. If this application is awarded in whole or in part, and during the time the grant is

in effect, the undersigned, on behalf of the political subdivision grant applicant, by signing this grant application, affirmatively states and acknowledges that the political subdivision will comply with this law.

Part V. CONTACT INFORMATION & SIGNATURE

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

Amy Ramos
Printed Name

Assessor for Scotts Bluff County
Title

Phone # 308-436-6627 ext 5724 **E-mail** aramos@scottsbluffcounty.org

Physical Address: 1825 10th Street Gering Nebraska 69341

I, the Authorized Representative of Amy Ramos, 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 5th **day of** April**, 2012**

Amy Ramos
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..... 1sl 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 (Register of Deeds, Health, etc) have expressed interest in collaborating and building upon the County's existing investment in GIS technology to enhance their service provision to the public. The current County Surveyor's GIS data will be utilized to the greatest extent possible and made available through the WebGIS to benefit both our internal and external customers. For example, our letters of support indicate a strong desire by the area realtors to have the Assessor's information available via the Internet to save much time by eliminating the need for a courthouse visit. The Cities of Gering and Scottsbluff see an opportunity through the development of the WebGIS to share information with the County. This will greatly enhance and facilitate collaboration and communication through the sharing of data. With a population of over 36,000, we believe law enforcement will utilize the mapping and property information available in the web-based environment to maintain and enhance public safety. These agencies have expressed a strong desire for the tools and functionality offered by the WebGIS.

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

GIS Workshop

www.gisworkshop.com

VERSION 1.1
Project: 0429-001

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY, NE

Attachment 1:

Proposal for
Assessor GIS and County WebGIS

Prepared for Amy Ramos, Assessor
And Scotts Bluff County Board of Commissioners

March 31, 2012

Trimble Authorized Business Partner
esri Partner Network Gold

402.436.2150
4949 NW 1st Street, Lincoln NE 68521

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Scotts Bluff County Assessor recognizes the value of expanding the existing GIS housed in the Surveyor's Department for analysis and record keeping in the Assessor's Office. The Board of Commissioners has participated in a demonstration about GISW's County-wide GIS Implementation and WebGIS solutions. As a result, they have requested GISW to provide a proposal (see Attachment 1) on the development of GIS for the Assessor's office and implementation of a County-wide Web-based GIS to provide property information on-line to property owners, the general public and other departments while utilizing existing GIS data as a foundation.

GIS BENEFITS

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are a powerful combination of digital maps and database information. Traditionally, county assessment has used paper maps to track parcel, soil and land use boundaries; in addition, the assessment database was completely disconnected from the mapping making it hard to crosscheck information. This process was very labor intensive and difficult to implement with high precision.

When properly implemented, Assessment GIS seamlessly links the parcel, soil and land use data directly to the appraisal database. GIS can increase efficiency and increase accuracy in many ways:

- Enter new parcel splits using specialized tools for survey data and aliquot parts
- Parcel-by-parcel comparison of deeded acres to mapped acres
- Calculate current land value for each parcel and report the breakdown of acres in each unique combination of soil and land use
- Visualize individual parcels to see the soils, land uses and aerial photograph
- Share information with land owners, real estate professionals and potential developers to significantly reduce call volume for County staff and facilitate easy access to public information
- Quickly and uniformly change land value calculations for the entire County if any of the parameters change (soils database, land use classes, etc)

THE GIS WORKSHOP DIFFERENCE

EXPERIENCE WITH NEBRASKA ASSESSMENT GIS

GISW has been providing quality Assessment GIS data and analysis solutions for more than 14 years. Our clients include over 85 counties in Nebraska and surrounding states. GISW staff has over 75 years combined experience in GIS implementation and are exceptionally experienced in Nebraska assessment systems. GISW is the only GIS Company in Nebraska that can provide the automatic database linking and other tools necessary to build a complete assessment GIS for Scotts Bluff County to ensure compliance with Property Assessment Division (PAD) mandates. We are the only GIS Company recognized by the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO). As you transition from State-assessed to County-assessed, the GIS will ensure you are providing equal, fair, consistent valuation of property in the most efficient manner possible.

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

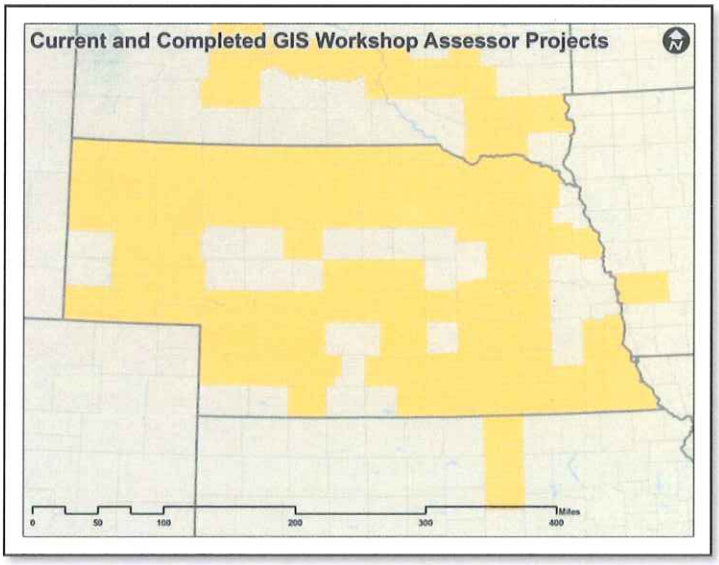


Figure 1: GISW is the most experienced Assessor GIS provider in the State

GISW is a full service GIS provider with a team of technicians ready to build your GIS. We will develop your GIS database, train your staff to use GIS information in their day-to-day workflow, provide unlimited support and develop internet mapping, or WebGIS, sites to make GIS more accessible to all your departments, real estate professionals and your constituents.

GISW specializes in developing GIS datasets and providing easy access to the data. Below is a list of key differentiators:

- **WebGIS – our product gives everyone 'Google-like' access to GIS data. No one else offers web access!**
- Costs – our costs are lower because our experience translates into efficiency
- Training – we provide upfront and ongoing training to ensure clients can make use of their investment
- Support staff – we have a long list of satisfied clients who can attest to our excellent support services. We have a dedicated team of technical support staff ready and waiting on the phone.
- Experience – we are the most experienced GIS company in the State and it shows in the quality of our products and services
- Software tools – we have customized tools we use internally to quickly perform routine operations such as land use calculation, survey data entry, aliquot part splits, etc.
- CAMA integration – we are the only company with tools to link directly into assessment databases such as Tyler, TerraScan, MIPS and County Solutions.
- Complete package – we offer a turnkey solution including data conversion, data development data maintenance and the products to make the data accessible to everyone

GIS Workshop, Inc. is the most experienced Assessment GIS provider in the State. We will become an extension of your staff. Our extensive expertise together with our specialized tools helps us provide superior products and services.

CLIENT SATISFACTION

Please ask our clients about our support staff, training services, how they use GIS on a day-to-day basis, do they use desktop or WebGIS, did GIS help with the recent soil conversion mandate, flexible payment options, oblique photos, etc. We are confident that you will hear our level of service is second-to-none. Here are direct quotes from a sampling of our Assessor clients after implementing GIS in their departments; they are a testimony to the fact that implementing GIS increases revenue through accuracy in land use calculations and decreases costs through enhanced efficiency and time savings:

- **Merrick County:** "We found 13,000 additional irrigated acres by matching up NRD data with GIS."
- **Pierce County:** "Our GIS paid for itself the first year" by identifying pivots, new buildings, etc.
- **Phelps County:** "We increased assessed acres through accuracy in land use calculations."
- **Cuming County:** "I have confidence in my valuations when dealing with property owners because we can SEE how the value was determined. I also use my land use calculator to compare deeded acres vs GIS acres to identify inaccuracies in assessment."
- **Colfax County:** "Our GIS has paid for itself many times over" by using GISW's oblique imagery along with GIS to identify new buildings and to correct land use.
- **Platte County:** "We reduced daily inbound phone call volume by 50-70% by having information available online – this has freed up my staff to work more effectively on critical projects."
- **Madison County:** "We are able to do from our desks things that used to require time in the field. This has resulted in both cost and time savings for my County."
- **Keith County:** "GIS Workshop staff always answers the phone right away. They are great with support and customer service. I have never heard a single bad thing about their service from anyone I have talked to."

DATABASE DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION

GISW will use the best available data from the Mapping Department to start the project. GISW will work with the County to determine the completeness of the existing parcel data for assessment GIS. GISW will perform any extra steps to prepare the parcel data and build a complete land use layer. We will rely on the Assessment staff for their local knowledge and our staff will do all the additional GIS development. GISW has developed a suite of desktop GIS tools that communicate with your assessment database and help us develop databases more efficiently than our competitors. **As an Esri (the leader in GIS technology) Gold Business Partner we know GIS better than anyone in the State.**

Once the GIS database is ready we will integrate the GIS data into your existing system. **We not only build the databases but we help you learn how to make them useful to you.** With our online meeting technology Scotts Bluff County staff can visit with our technical staff at any point to provide guidance or to view project progress from the comfort of your own office.

TRAINING AND UNLIMITED SUPPORT

We have a team of experienced and skilled technicians dedicated to keeping your GIS up-to-date. Complete training is provided in process flow of updates to the GIS, such as parcel splits or changes to land use and the use of the WebGIS site and accompanying tools.

WEBGIS

GISW technology greatly increases the value of your GIS investment. We provide true GIS mapping, not just a database of derived information. Our WebGIS product makes your data available throughout the County without the need for expensive training and desktop software. County staff, real estate professionals, banks, insurance agents, potential businesses/residents and Scotts Bluff County residents have 24/7 access to assessment information. Easy access to data is great for economic development and reduces phone calls for assessment staff.

PROJECT APPROACH

The power of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) lies in the ability to overlay various datasets and perform complex analysis within a simple user interface. GIS Workshop specializes not only in building systems, but more importantly, helping clients leverage their investment to perform standardized, accurate assessment with limited staffing. Our training and support technicians provide proven results and our WebGIS site gives your constituents access to all their assessment information 24 hours a day.

GIS helps provide equitable and accurate assessment across the entire county. When State statute requires assessment changes, such as the recent NRCS soil conversion, GIS can automate the process of making universal changes to all parcels in the County. A county-wide soil conversion can be accomplished in a day with GIS and would take months to accomplish accurately with paper maps.

GISW will build the Scotts Bluff County GIS by:

- Utilizing existing GIS layers supplied by the County Mapping Department to build a County parcel layer
- Utilizing existing land record ID system to parcel ID table to link to the assessment database
- Developing a comprehensive land use layer
- Incorporating SSURGO soil survey data

DATA DEVELOPMENT – BUILDING THE PARCEL GIS

REFINE PUBLIC LAND SURVEY SYSTEM DATASET

GISW will utilize all GPS corner control that the Surveyor provides. The system is constructed to incorporate new corner and quarter control the Surveyor may collect in the future. Incorporation of new survey control into the GIS over time will gradually "tighten" the accuracy of the GIS. The base dataset will utilize the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System [NESPCS], NAD83 coordinate system (note: the Nebraska GIS Steering Committee and Nebraska State Surveyor recommend that counties use the NESPC system for assessment GIS).

PAPER TO DIGITAL PARCEL BOUNDARY CONVERSION

GISW will collect existing GIS layers supplied by the Mapping Department to build a County parcel layer. These layers, together with CAMA database information, will be used to QA/QC the parcel layer and draw any new parcels. An example of this process can be seen in Figure 1 below.

ASSIGN ANY MISSING PARCEL IDENTIFICAL NUMBERS

GISW may use scanned cadastral maps to assist with parcel data and parcel identification number assignment QA/QC.

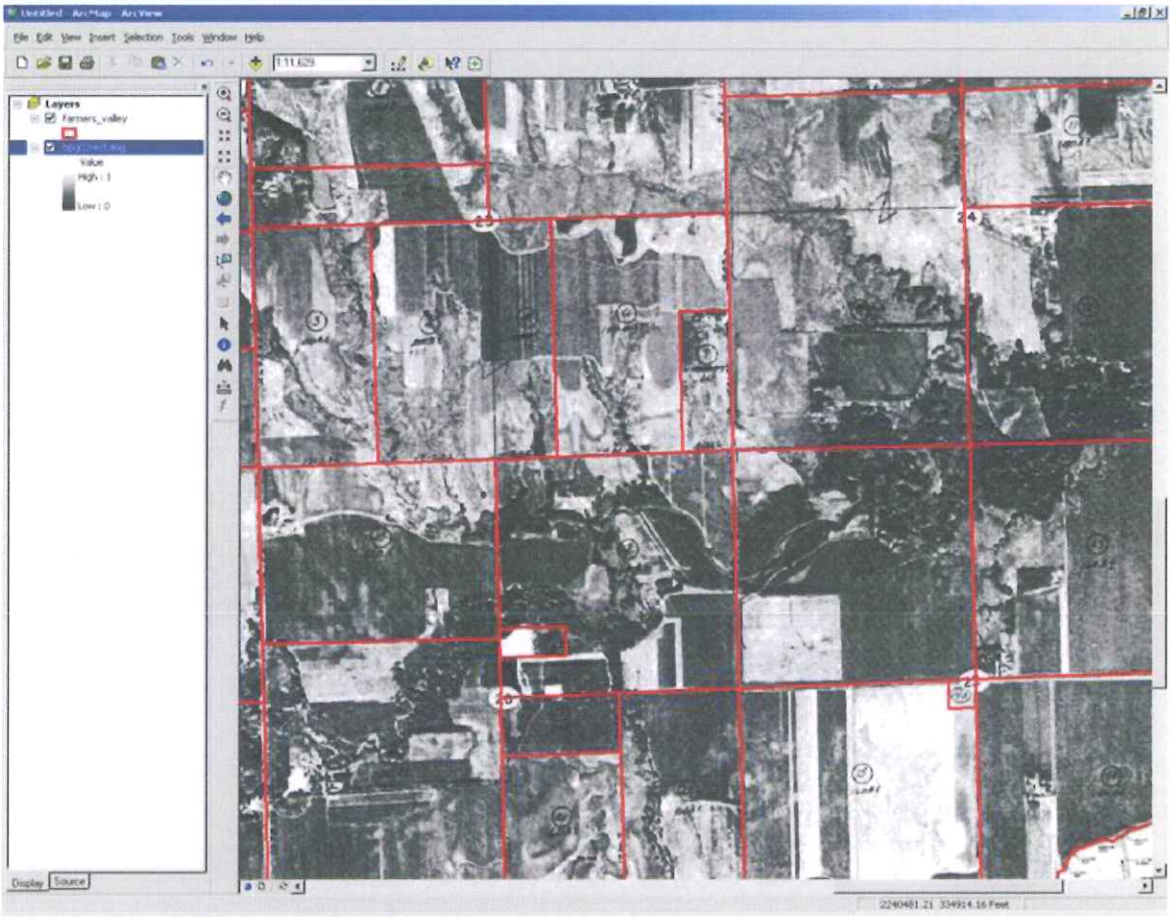


Figure 1: Scanned cadastral map with parcel lines digitized in red

DATA DEVELOPMENT - LAND USE LAYER CREATION

Upon completion of the parcel layer, GISW will create the Land Use layer, which identifies the land use codes for particular areas of a parcel. GISW will identify the various areas of a particular land use, digitize the boundaries of that land use, and incorporate those data into the GIS for analysis and reporting. This layer will also be very useful for agencies such as your local Natural Resource Districts.

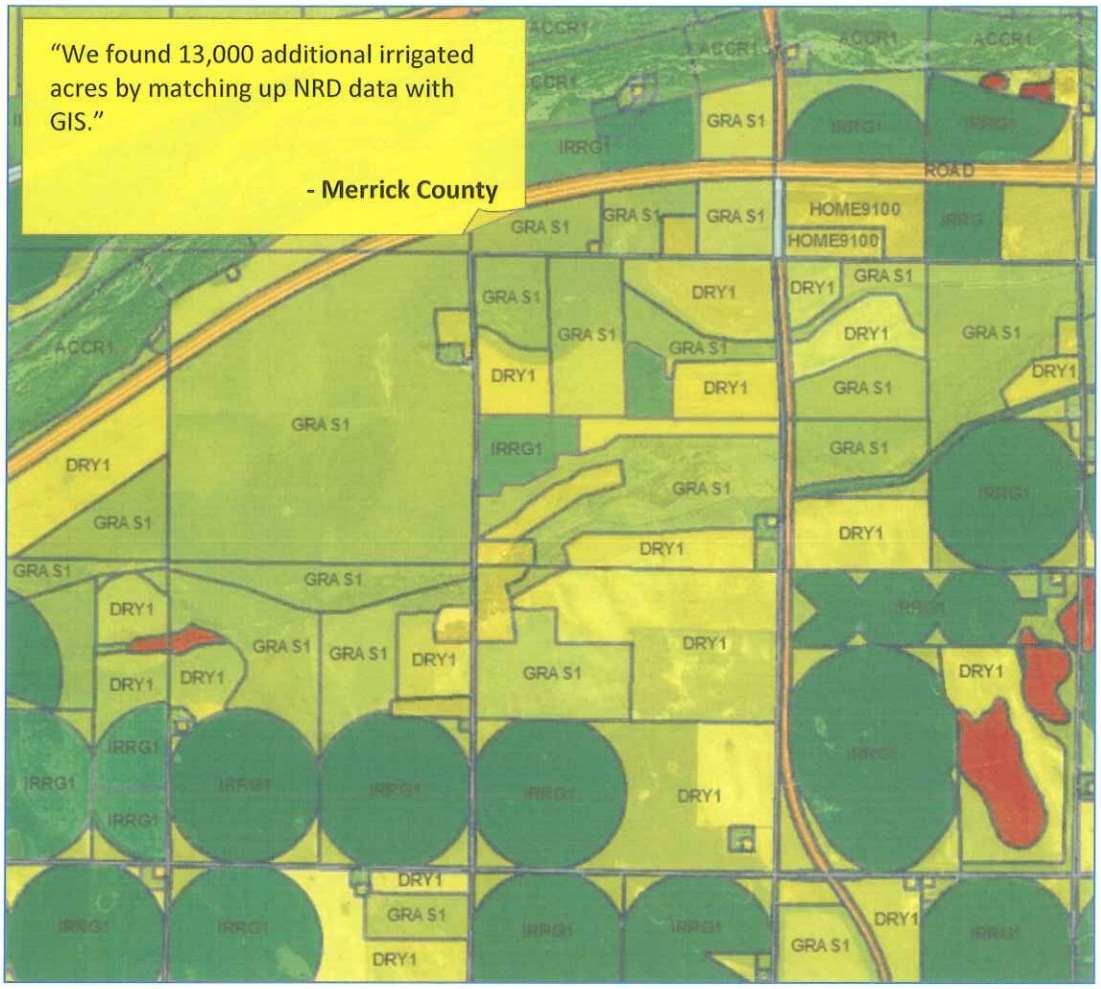


Figure 2: Example Land Use Map

DATA DEVELOPMENT - SOILS LAYER

GISW will acquire the NRCS soils layers to display together with the parcel boundaries, land use layer and aerial photography background. The GISW Land Use Calculator Tool (discussed below) will help evaluate every parcel in the County. **This type of analysis is one of the most powerful benefits of assessment GIS, it would take months to recount all the soils manually!**

Figure 3: An example in Platte County showing the parcel lines (red), land use layer (transparent colors), and the soils (thin black lines), overlaid together for purposes of rural assessment acreage calculation

OPTIONAL GIS DATA MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT

GIS Workshop can provide data maintenance and support for all Assessor GIS data on our redundant servers. Since the Scotts Bluff Mapping Department currently supports the Assessor's Office this is an optional item that the County may choose to do in-house. If the County chooses to have the Mapping Department perform the maintenance then GISW will work with the County to determine a suitable method and frequency for sending GIS data updates to power the WebGIS interface.

County will be responsible for sending parcel splits and land use changes to GIS Workshop. County staff will be able to use the GISW WebGIS Land Use Calculator to estimate the value of a parcel split for a walk-in customers. GIS Workshop will download a copy of the Orion (or other CAMA system if a change is made) data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GIS Workshop server. After an initial introductory period, an annual data maintenance fee will be due. See the Pricing Information section for more details.

GISW dedicated support staff is waiting to field your support call at all times during regular business hours.

TRAINING

GISW will train Scotts Bluff County staff to use the GIS data. We provide a wide variety of training options customized to your needs. We support clients on a daily basis so we know what is important to you and how to make the GIS data useful. We will train staff how to use the WebGIS site via an on-line meeting after the site is operational.

WEBGIS

The WebGIS will make the assessment/appraisal information available to other County departments, city departments, real estate professionals and the general public. **Only GISW offers this type of web access to the GIS database in an easy to use interface that will become the foundation for information access at the County.**

The GISW WebGIS:

- Provides 24/7 access to public information for real estate professionals, general public and other city/county departments.
- The GISW Web GIS **REDUCES** the number of calls into the Assessor's Office, allowing staff to get on with the business of assessment. Our Assessor clients say it best: **Phelps County experienced a 50%-75% reduction in the daily call volume related to property tax issues. Kearney County estimated a 75% reduction in call volume when they went online!**
- Promotes information sharing amongst city/county departments and **reduces duplications of effort.**
- Provides the Enterprise GIS foundation so **other departments (roads, planning/zoning, etc.) may start using GIS technology more cost effectively.**

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY'S WEBGIS

GISW proposes to design and build an enterprise WebGIS for Scotts Bluff County 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.

The Assessor tab was the first step in setting up the enterprise WebGIS for the 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 5 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 sales information, assessment and appraisal data*, and any other data associated with future tabs.

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

(NOTE: an optional subscription-based version is also available to provide advanced information on a subscription basis and the Board feels this would be a valuable asset to assist with maintenance of the WebGIS on an ongoing basis.)

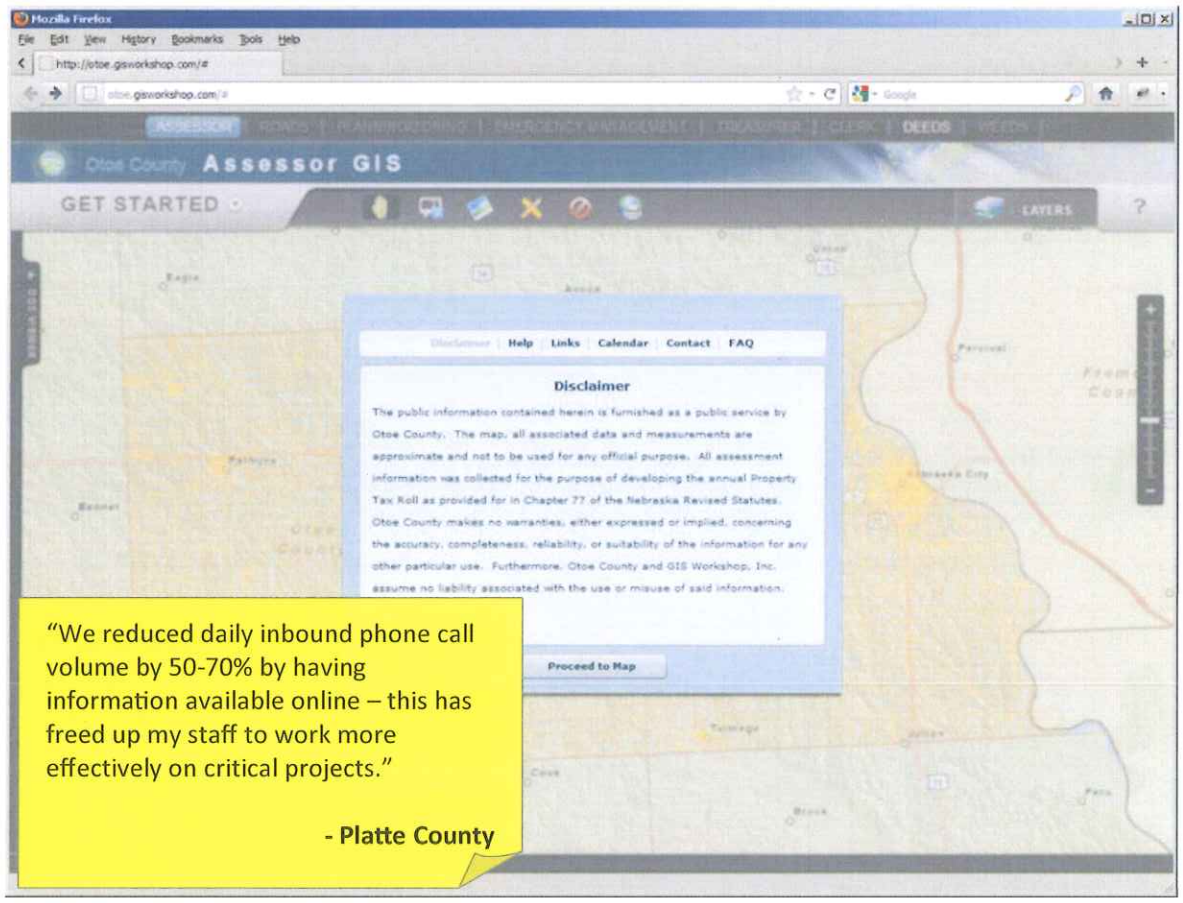


Figure 4: Opening screen (Assessor Tab) of GIS Workshop's Enterprise WebGIS for Otoe County, NE.

Additional tabs for this WebGIS project may include Clerk, Treasurer, Roads and Sheriff/Emergency Management. **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 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. The user can switch to a satellite view that includes 2010 FSA aerial photography.

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 is available may be filtered by date range, price range, year built, or other pertinent parameters. **For those counties wishing to offer sales data on a subscription basis, GISW offers a subscription-based option (see Optional Items under the Pricing section of this document).** Figure 5 illustrates the 'Get Started' options. Figure 6 shows the results table after searching for "Smith" in the owner name field. Figure 7 shows the results of selecting a property. The map has zoomed into the chosen parcel and the parcel polygon is highlighted. The full property report card is displayed with links to photos, value, sale, building and land information.

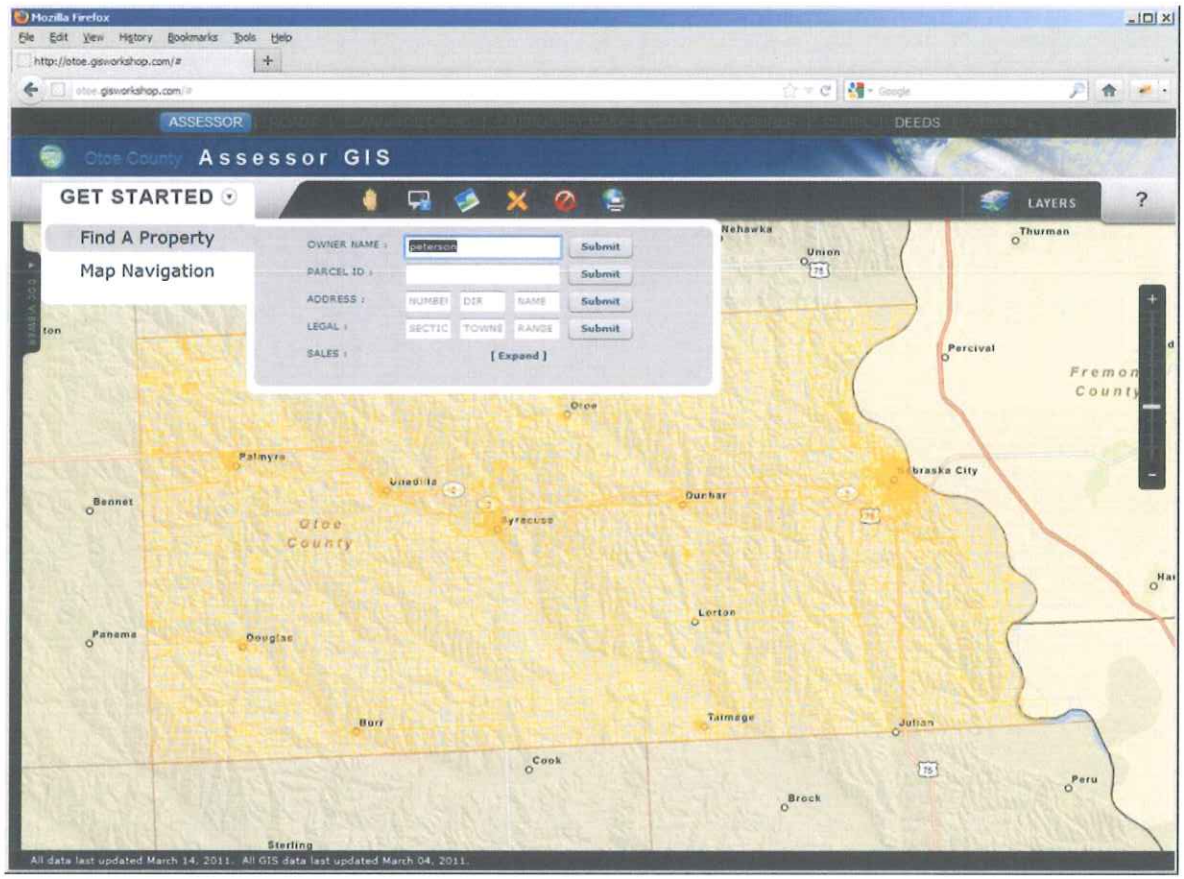


Figure 5: Assessor tab showing property search box

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

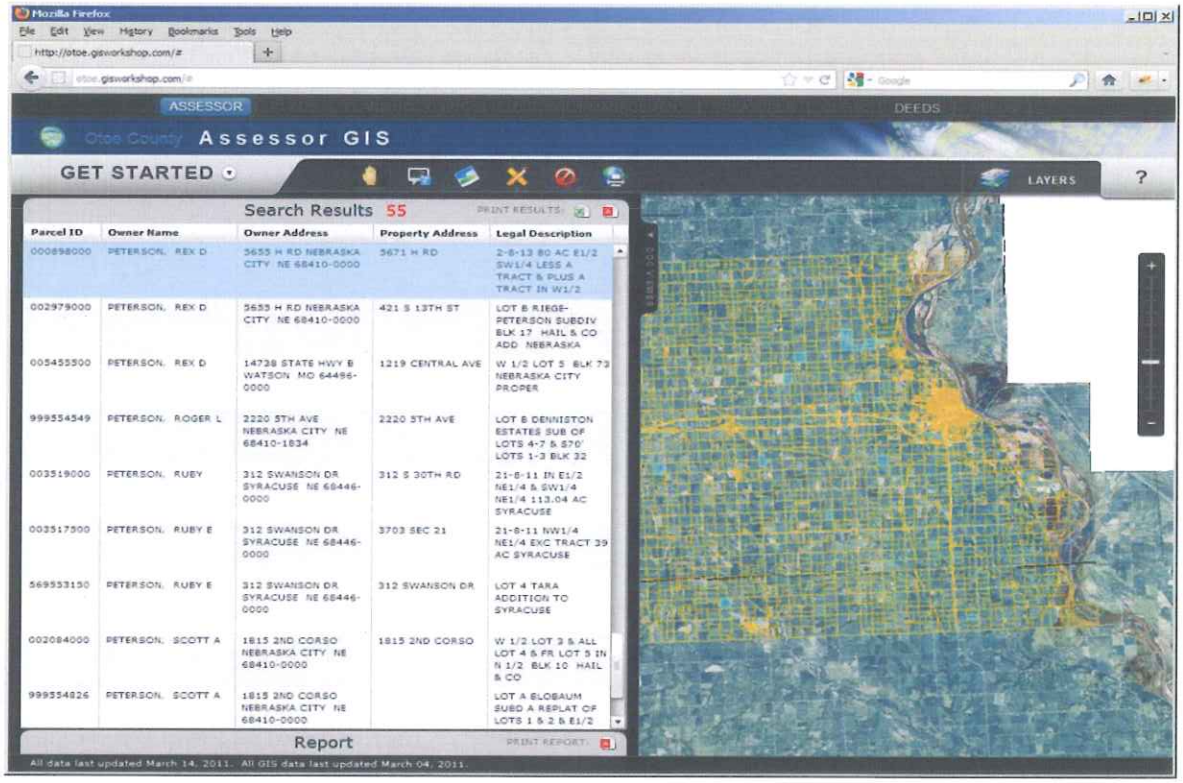


Figure 6: Property search results

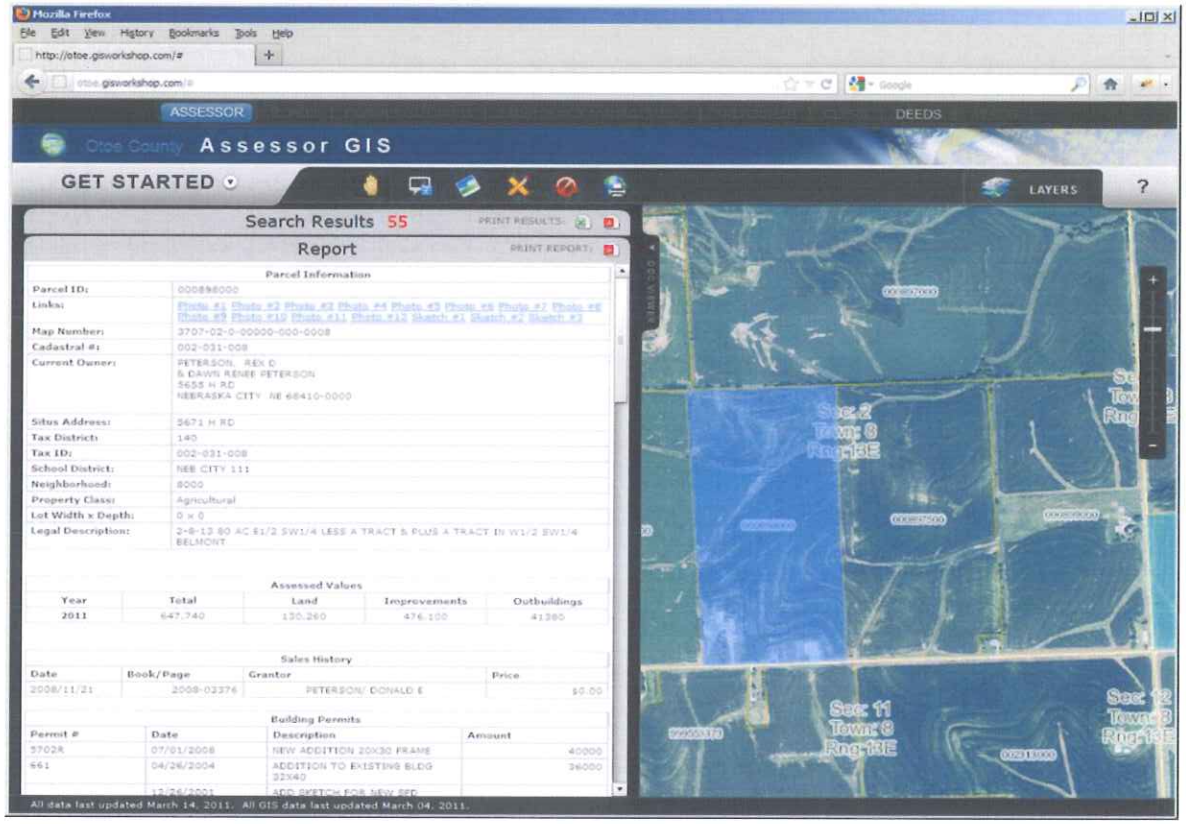


Figure 7: Property Record Card (note the map zoomed in and highlighted the chosen parcel)

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 8 illustrates the zoom slider bar and pan tool (hand icon).

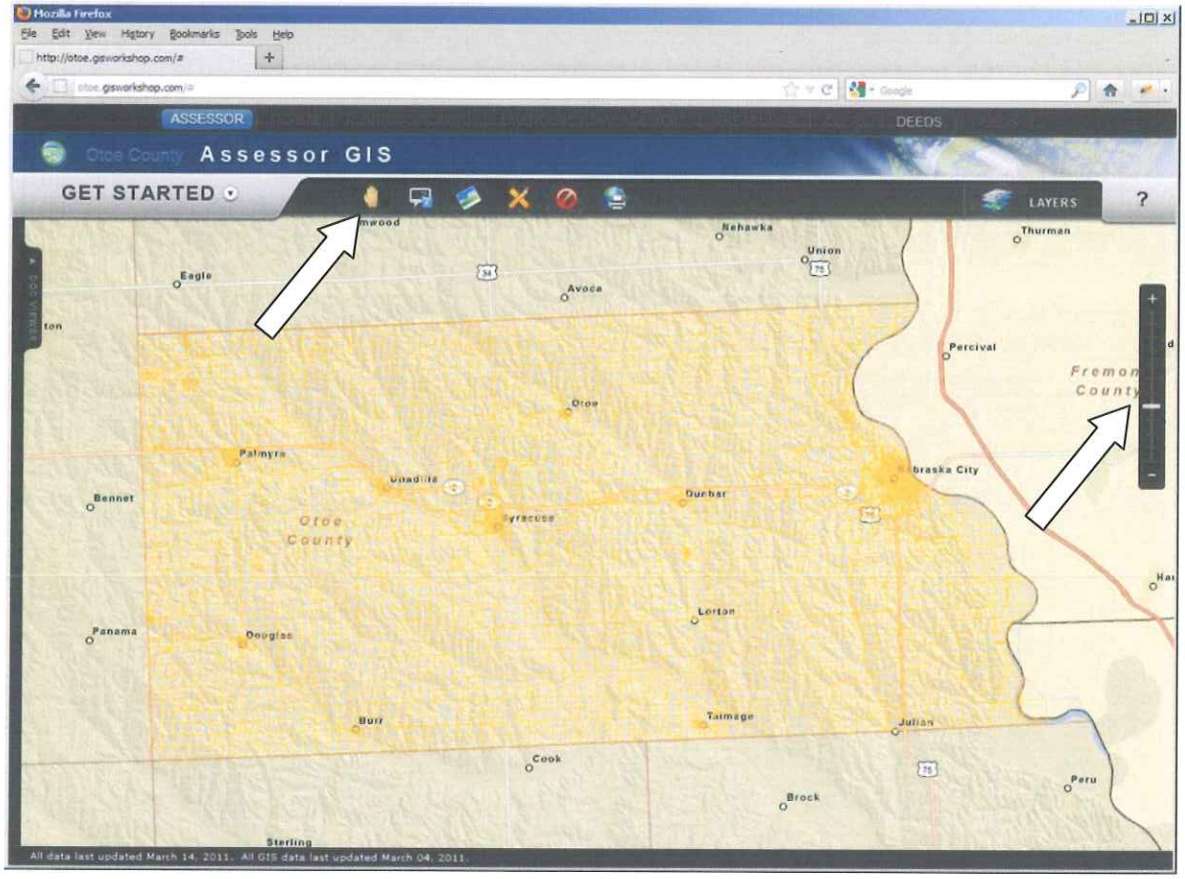


Figure 8: Zoom slider bar (right side) and activated pan tool icon (hand) in horizontal toolbar

Figures 9 and 10 illustrate the Map Navigation feature. The user enters a specific section/township/range and then the map zooms into the specified section.

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

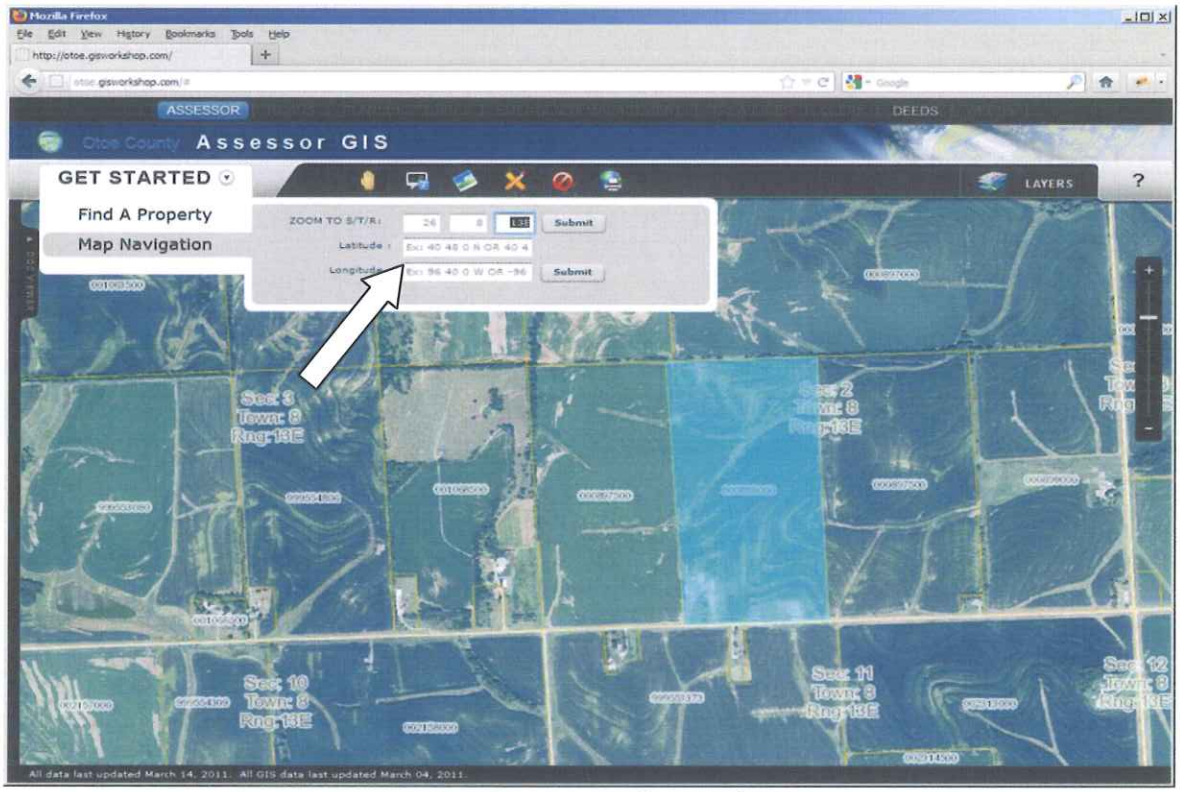


Figure 9: User enters section/township/range

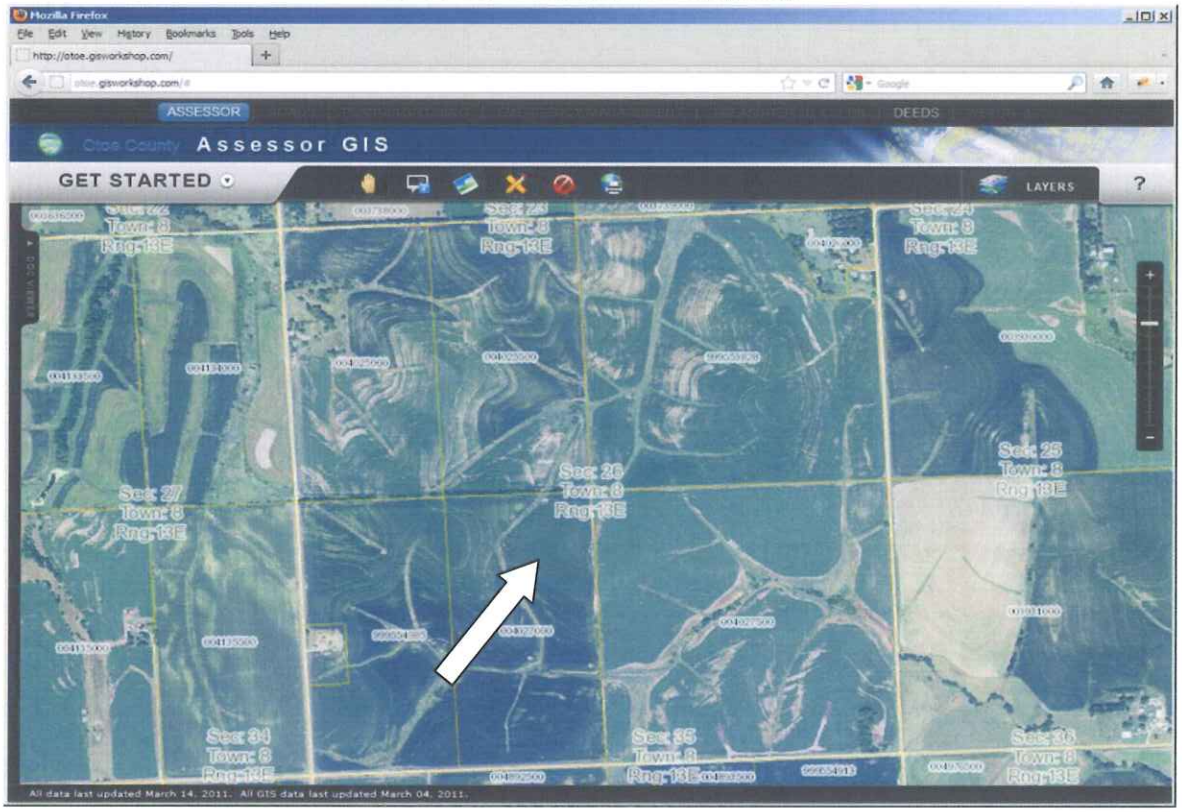


Figure 10: Application zooms into the specified section

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 11 below. Property card information is also available through the tool.

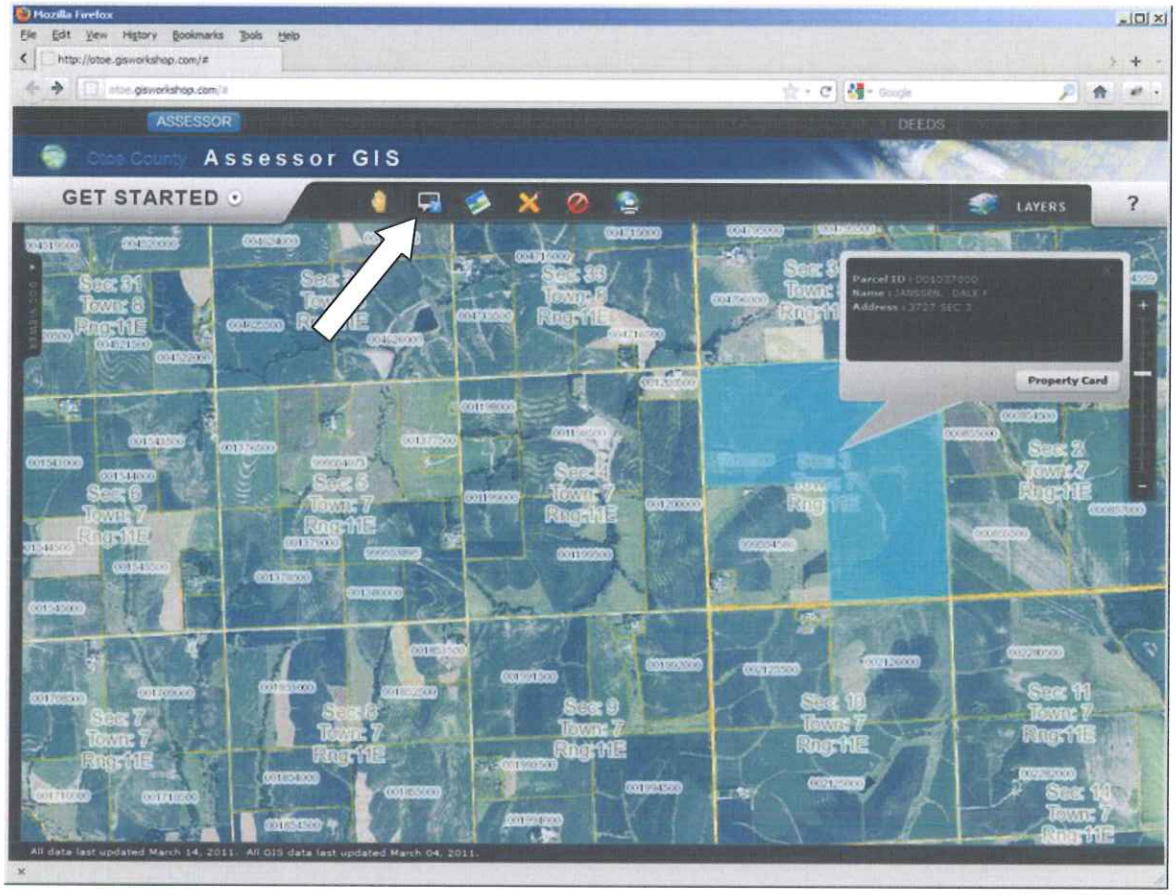


Figure 11: Activated Quick Identifier tool and information box result with link to Property Card

PHOTO TOOL

The Photo Tool is a great way to view individual building improvements. The tool reads the assessment database for all available photos and sketches and displays them in a photo window. If GISW has flown oblique aerial photography for the County those will also be available in the photo tool.

Figure 12: Property Photo Viewer Tool shows all available images from the Assessor's database

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 the figure below.

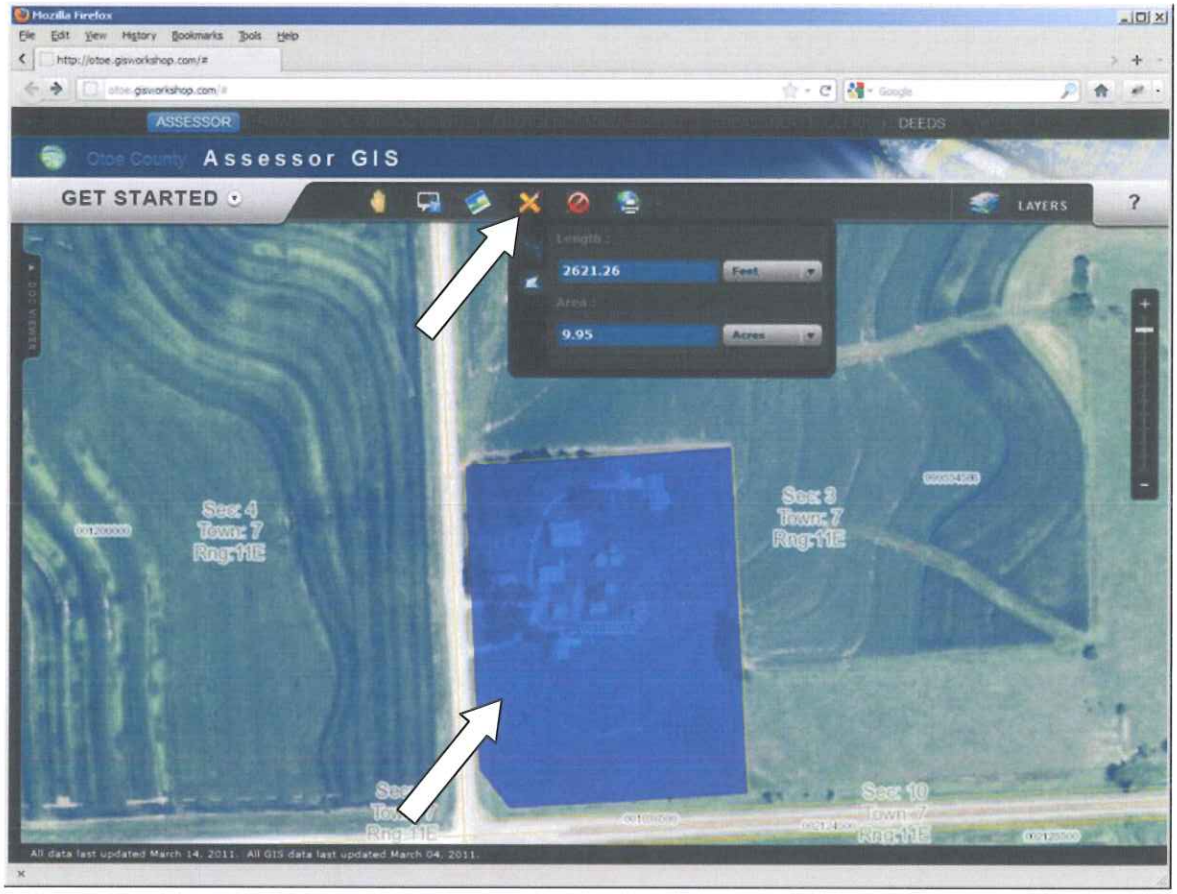


Figure13: Measurement tool showing total length of the user-drawn line segment along the parcel boundary.

LAND USE CALCULATOR

The WebGIS Land Use Calculator Tool is a powerful tool for fast and accurate evaluation. The tool is protected by a simple login feature and allows the Assessor's Office to quickly calculate land value and provided a detailed report of the acreage breakdown of each LVG code category.

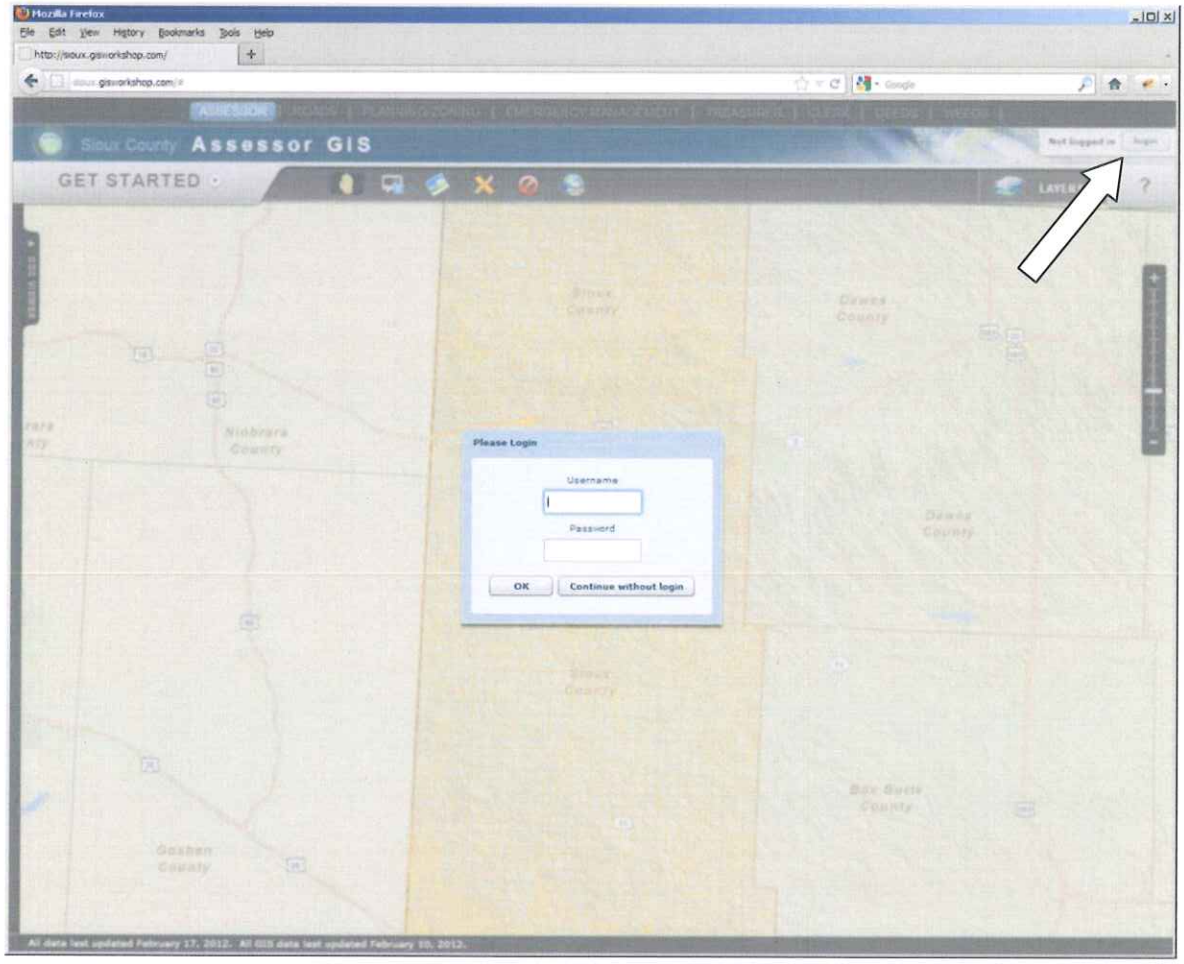


Figure 14: Login Screen protecting the Land Use Calculator Tool

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

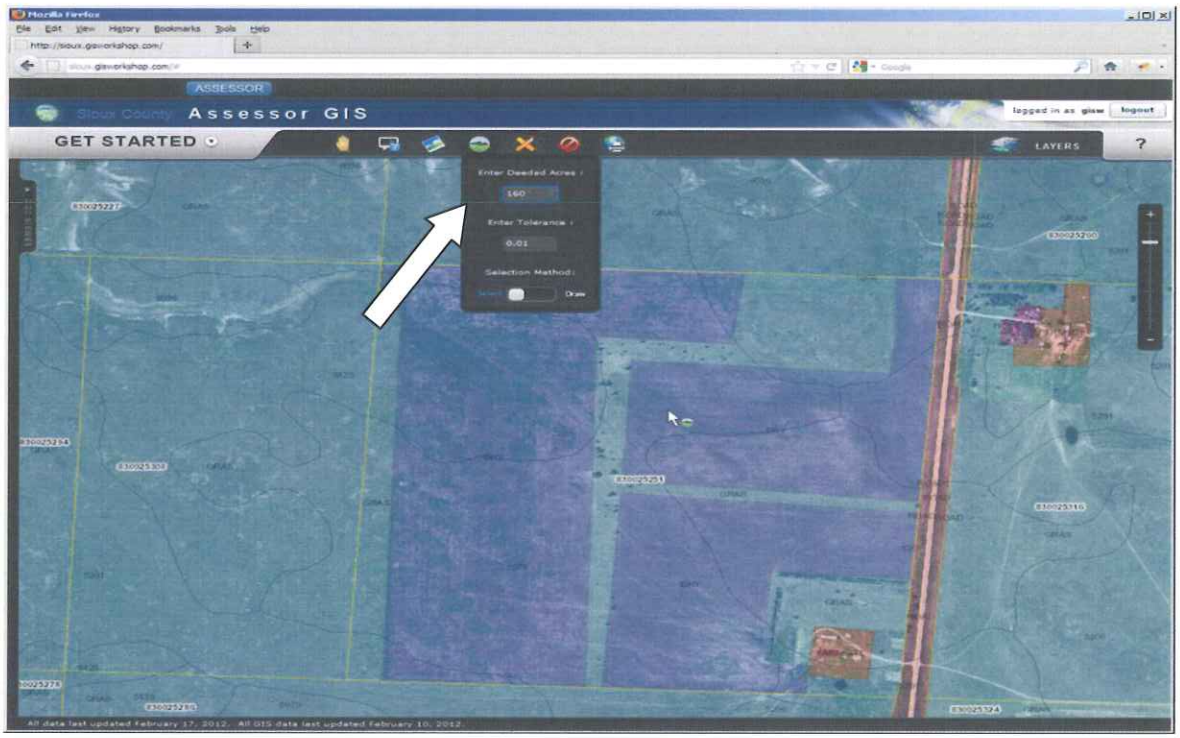


Figure 15: Land Use Calculator Tool options

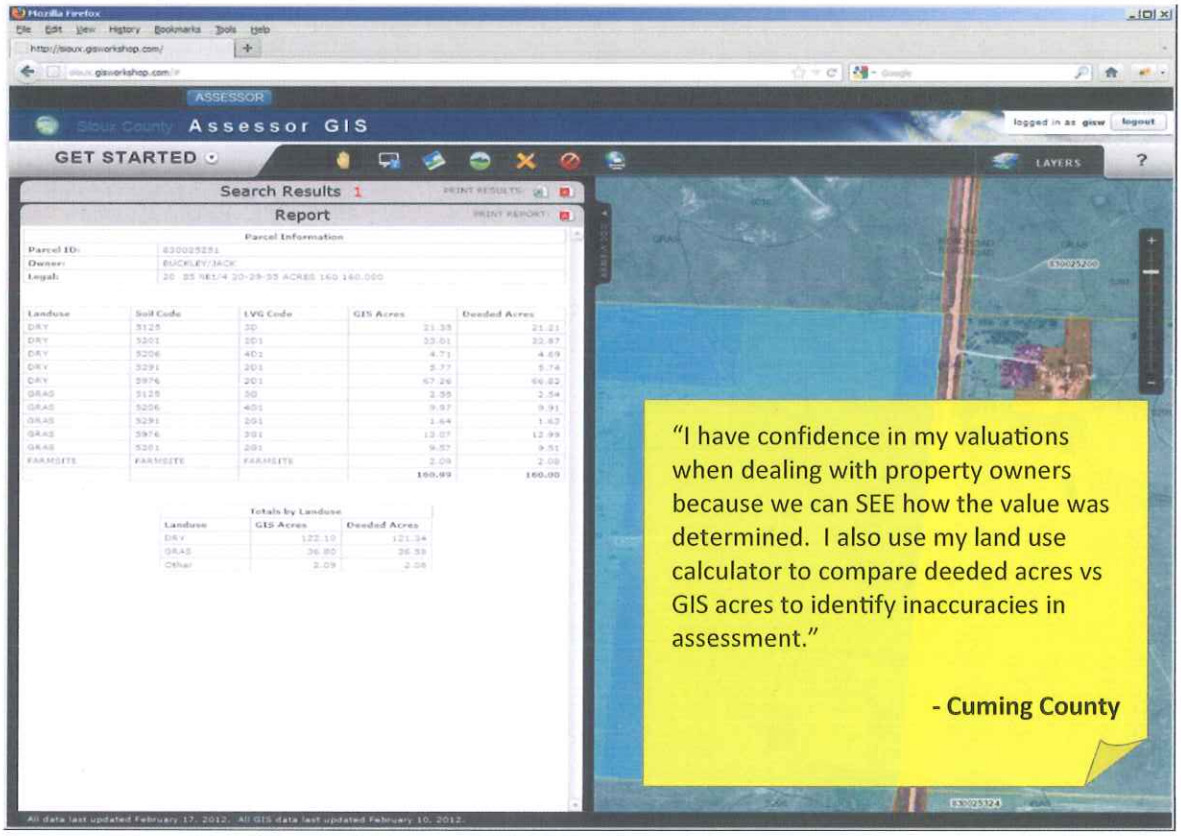


Figure16: Land Use Calculator Report

SCHEDULE

The GISW team is ready to start the Scotts Bluff County Assessor GIS project after acceptance and receipt of a signed contract according to the tasks described in this proposal. We anticipate GIS project build-out and WebGIS setup completion before June 30, 2013.

PROJECT COSTS

The following pricing and package is ***FULLY INCLUSIVE,*** providing the Assessor with everything needed for a fully functional assessment GIS. There are no hidden charges or expenses. The cost is based on the size of the County. Variations and/or additions to those tasks/features/service stated within are subject to additional costs. Any change orders must be documented and added as an addendum to this scope with the additional costs for said change order added to the following costs.

GIS WORKSHOP WILL NOT SEND A SINGLE INVOICE UNTIL THE PROJECT IS COMPLETE AND YOU ARE 100% SATISFIED WITH YOUR PRODUCT.

Services	Cost ($)
GIS Build-out Services and Assessor Tab on WebGIS, with Year One Maintenance	$93,000
Discount for Data Development Accomplished by the County Mapping Department	**$TBD***

Deliverables:

- GIS layers
  - Parcels
  - Sections
  - Town lot/subdivision
  - Land use
  - Ortho-photography (Latest FSA imagery)
  - Soils
- Assessor Tab WebGIS featuring the Land use Calculator tool
- Initial year of GIS data maintenance and support
- Online County staff training on use of WebGIS

Total Costs for above listed Services	**$TBD***

**GISW has seen a small sample of the Mapping Department data but has not seen a complete dataset. Once we are able to evaluate a complete County-wide parcel dataset, we can assess the amount of the discount for work that has already been completed by the Mapping Department. Any determined discount will be reflected and applied during the Scope of Work phase.*

FINANCING OPTIONS

GISW will deliver and install all systems upon completion. Delivery is unrelated to the payment schedule. Support fees are not financed or included in this potential scheme. **Use of our interest free financing options does not delay product delivery in any way.**

NOTE: Any awarded Grant funds will be applied to the total cost and payment schedule will be based upon the remaining balance. **Remaining project balance may be spread over four years.**

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

ONGOING ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS

Assessor Tab WebGIS maintenance by GISW **(effective July 2014)**	$4,800 annually

OPTIONAL ITEMS

GIS Data maintenance by GISW for Assessor **(effective July 2014)**	$5,800 annually
Additional annual maintenance for subscription-based option	$1,500 annually
Subscription-based management tool	included with subscription annual maintenance

Nebraska State Records Board

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

ATTACHMENT 2:

LETTERS OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT

FROM SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY, NEBRASKA

(THIS LETTER WRITTEN BY CAMILLE TAKUSKI CERTIFIED RESIDENTIAL APPRAISER)

DATE 03/21/2012

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant – Scotts Bluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

It has come to my attention that Scotts Bluff County is seeking a grant to assist in funding of a new GIS system. It would be advantageous for all people who rely on Scotts Bluff County information to have it readily accessible online. With this advanced technology, users could access information 24/7 and provide faster service to customers more efficiently at a reduced cost. In addition, it would save Scotts Bluff County employees manual labor, time and expense of providing those services.

As a PROFESSION and a constant user of Scotts Bluff County information, I strongly support the efforts of Scotts Bluff County pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system.

Sincerely,

Camille J. Takuski

Platte Valley Bank
1212 Circle Drive
P. O. Box 2308
Scottsbluff, NE 69363-2308
Phone: 308-632-7004
Fax: 308-635-7405

Website: www.pvbankne.com

Platte Valley Companies

MEMBERS FDIC

NEBRASKA: Scottsbluff • Morrill • Minatare • Bridgeport
WYOMING: Torrington • Wheatland • Casper

Email: info@pvbankne.com

March 16, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant – Scotts Bluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

On behalf of PV Mortgage Company, a part of Platte Valley Financial Services Inc., I'm writing in support of the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS project. In mortgage lending access to information regarding property ownership and other public information is a key element in our decision-making process. Our ability to gather information on a property is essential to our success in serving our customers. The availability of this information through a mapping website will effectively reduce our response time in processing a mortgage loan from application through to closing.

The WebGIS project will allow us to retrieve public information without the aid of a county employee and outside of normal county business hours. The 24/7 availability of the information will effectively save staff time and costs not only benefiting us but also the county. Having data readily available will also help to expedite resolving any problems or questions without delay for our customers. The visible benefit of immediate access to information will promote a higher level of confidence in the county government's ability to serve our mutual customers and the public. There will be no transition period with the WebGIS and the benefits will be realized immediately by simply accessing the up-to-date public information electronically.

As our environment changes, I view this as a positive step toward streamlining access to public information in the future. I would encourage your support of this program through your approval of the grant for financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,

Jim Zitterkopf
Senior Vice President

HOME
REAL ESTATE
1624 2nd Avenue • Scottsbluff, NE 69361

March 16, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

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As A PROFESSION and a constant user of Scotts Bluff County information, I strongly support the efforts of Scotts Bluff County pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Estrada

Broker/HOME Real Estate

Phone: 308-632-4970 Fax: 308-632-7032

HOME
REAL ESTATE
1624 2nd Avenue • Scottsbluff, NE 69361

March 16, 2012

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Sincerely,

Cindi Costa

Cindi Costa

Realtor/HOME Real Estate

Phone: 308-632-4970 Fax: 308-632-7032

March 16, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
440 South 8th Street
Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508

To Whom Concerned:

I have been brought to the attention of Scotts Bluff County applying for a grant from the Nebraska State Records Board and I want to express my support and my company's support for this grant in order to enable our County to fund a GIS website that could be accessed by the public. My Company is in the abstract and title insurance business and such a site would be so beneficial since we deal in surveys, mapping, legal descriptions and all other information that said site could provide.

Our County is now being passed up by smaller counties that are able to provide such information and in order to keep up with progress, such a GIS website is greatly needed. Being in my business, being able to access records which could prevent inaccurate legal descriptions and surveys could prevent major problems in my business and especially helping the offices of the County Assessor and Register of Deeds.

My Company is in full support of such a website and the information provided by such a website would be a benefit to the public and all entities. I have talked with other companies that have access to such a website and they have informed me that the benefits of it can't be compared to anything else they have ever used.

Sincerely,

City Abstract Company,

Lee A. Harder

Lee A. Harder, President

CODE VIOLATION SERVICES, INC.

HOA Department
700 Automation Dr. Unit F
Windsor, CO 80550

Phone: (970) 567-9255
Fax: (866) 484-5104
Email: HOA@cvsinc.net

March 16, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
RE: Scotts Bluff County GIS Workshop Inc. Grant
Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing this letter to support the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. I believe this mapping website will certainly benefit my profession. We rely on public information on a daily basis. Access to this information in electronic format will increase our efficiency and enable us to serve our clients in a timelier manner.

Our company is a nationwide provider of ancillary services for REO and pre-foreclosure properties. Our mission statement is to be the single point, nationwide solution for assisting municipalities, banks and servicers to alleviate neighborhood blight due to abandoned housing. Access available through the WebGIS is essential to us in conducting accurate and professional services to our customers and clients.

To be able to access this information online would save us time spent retrieving public information. In addition, access to public information 24/7 will enable us provide our services to our clients after normal government business hours if needed. We rely on public information and believe the availability of this information on a website will only enhance our ability to both provide a high level of service to our clients, and help the county better provide necessary information to out of state property owners.

Immediate access to this data will not only benefit our profession, but we also feel that with this enhancement the confidence in the county government's ability to serve the public will be promoted to a higher level.

This WebGIS will enable us to reduce our costs by accessing public information remotely and increase our efficiency immediately. We are proficient in WebGIS systems as such a large number of municipalities across the nation already utilize this type of service.

For the above reasons, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Krystal Murphy Holten

Krystal Murphy Holten
Code Violation Services, Inc.

Mission Statement: To be the single point, Nationwide solution for assisting Cities, Banks and Servicers to alleviate neighborhood blight due to abandoned housing.

Patent applied for on processes and proprietary system.

CODE VIOLATION SERVICES, INC.

HOA Department
700 Automation Dr. Unit F
Windsor, CO 80550

Phone: (970) 567-9255
Fax: (866) 484-5104
Email: HOA@cvsinc.net

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KTMurphy

KT Murphy
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As an Appraiser and Real Estate Broker, and a constant user of Scotts Bluff County information, I strongly support the efforts of Scotts Bluff County pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system.

Sincerely,

John D. Molko
Helberg and Nuss Auctions & Realty
Prairie West Appraisal
1145 M Street
Gering, NE 69341

Pierce Appraisal
March 16, 2012

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Sincerely,

Randy Pierce

Randy Pierce

Century 21
HOME TEAM REALTY
1208 Avenue I, PO Box 2425
Scottsbluff, Nebraska 69361
Office 308.632.7141
Fax 308.632.5349
Toll Free 800.998.7921
Web Site www.c21hometeam.net

March 15, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

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Sincerely,

Carol J Vall

REALTOR

Century 21
HOME TEAM REALTY
1208 Avenue I, PO Box 2425
Scottsbluff, Nebraska 69361
Office 308.632.7141
Fax 308.632.5349
Toll Free 800.998.7921
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March 15, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

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Todd Smith
REALTOR

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Linda K Todd

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Cassie Nickens

REALTOR

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Maxine Dietrich

REALTOR

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Vicki Bigley

REALTOR

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Dallene Kwarsik, Broker

REALTOR

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I have used this program in the surrounding counties and have found it very useful, and timesaving for my business as well.

As a Professional and a constant user of Scotts Bluff County information, I strongly support the efforts of Scotts Bluff County pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system. As a taxpayer in this County, I applaud the efforts of these departments, to seek a system that is able to interface these 2 offices and save money for the County.

Sincerely,

Cinda Munoz
R.E. Broker
Buyer's Realty, Inc.
3321 Avenue I
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
(308) 635-7289 Office
(308) 635-7412 Fax
(308) 631-5440 Cell

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Donna Garl
Sales Agent
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Bob Hergenreder, Real Estate Agent
Buyer's Realty, Inc.
3321 Avenue I
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JR Osborn, Real Estate Agent
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Tiffany Elkins
Buyer's Realty, Inc.
3321 Avenue I
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Van Newkirk
REAL ESTATE

3/15/12

Nebraska State Records Board

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Sincerely,

Kathy Birch

Kathy Birch
Real Estate Broker
Van Newkirk Real Estate
Gering, NE

(308) 632-8700

3305 North 10th Street • Gering, Nebraska 69341

Village of Henry

1565 Nichols Ave

Henry, NE 69358

March 13, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant-Scotts Bluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Village of Henry is in full support of the grant application being submitted by Scotts Bluff County. The Village of Henry would use the GIS system to primarily identify owners for reasons of utilities and nuisances.

In the future, we would like to utilize the GIS system to overlay all of our water and sewer lines, valves and customer services. This system would save hours each month by not having to search for these types of infrastructure aspects during an emergency or common maintenance. These types of systems allow our village to be run more efficiently which in turn saves our residents money.

I appreciate the opportunity for Scotts Bluff County to apply for this grant, and I look forward to being able to utilize these tools to better serve the citizens of Henry.

Sincerely,

Mary Haagensen

Mary Haagensen

Village of Henry Chairperson

City of Minatare, Nebraska

309 Main Street, Post Office Box 483
MINATARE, NEBRASKA 69356-0483
Telephone: (308) 783-1414
Fax: (308) 783-1414

March 13, 2012

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RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant – Scotts Bluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

The City of Minatare is in full support of the grant application being submitted by Scotts Bluff County. The Cit of Minatare would use the GIS system to primarily identify property owners for reasons of utilities and nuisances.

In the future, we would like to utilize the GIS system to overlay all of our water and sewer lines , valves and customer services. This system would save hours each month by not having to search for these types of infrastructure aspects during an emergency or common maintenance. These types of systems allow our city to be run more efficiently which in turn saves our residents money.

I appreciate the opportunity for Scotts Bluff County to apply for this grant, and I look forward to being able to utilize these tools to better serve the citizens of Minatare.

Sincerely,

Carolyn

Carolyn Nelson
City Clerk

Western Prairie Title & Escrow, LLC
1925 10th Street, Suite B Gering, NE 69341
308/436-9042 ofc 308/436-9059 fax

March 13, 2012

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Re: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant – Scotts Bluff County

Dear Board Members:

The Scotts Bluff County Register of Deeds and Assessor have discussed their desire to implement a GIS system for their offices. I regularly use the GIS system options that are available in Sioux County and find the county site to be very efficient and informative for my needs.

The majority of my business is derived from Scotts Bluff County land transactions. Having a full GIS system available for Scotts Bluff County would be quite beneficial for my office. I could reduce the amount of information requests that I make with the County staff and be able to access and utilize a large amount of information at any time of the day/night. This information access would certainly make my office more productive and efficient in the processing time for my clients.

I do encourage your office to consider providing financial assistance to Scotts Bluff County for the implementation of this GIS system. The current staffing of the Deeds and Assessors office would benefit greatly from this system and the County Information Technology department would be able to provide invaluable technical assistance for the continued use of this system.

Thank you,

Roger Christensen
President

City of Scottsbluff Nebraska

2525 Circle Drive
308-630-4136

Scottsbluff, NE 69361
FAX 308-630-6294

March 7, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
440 South 8th Street
Suite 230
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Board Members,

The City of Scottsbluff is in full support of the grant application being submitted by the Scotts Bluff County Assessor. The City of Scottsbluff currently uses the GIS system to tract property owners for notification of public hearings. The GIS allows the City to run more efficiently helping other departments and the public to find information on line rather than having to research at the court house or city offices.

The City of Scottsbluff works with the County now and this grant will help us to be more compatible in helping residents within Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,

Rick Kuckkahn
City Manger
City of Scottsbluff

City of Scottsbluff Nebraska

Development Services Department
2525 Circle Drive Scottsbluff, NE 69361
308-630-6243 FAX 308-630-6294

March 7, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

On behalf of the City of Scottsbluff Development Services Department I would like to go on record of being in full support of the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. This website would benefit the community and allow individuals access to public information which at times can be difficult to track with the current records.

I work with the GIS on a daily basis working with customers that ask for zoning of properties, infrastructure locations, and easements. Having this information on line will speed the process for residents in making decisions on what they can do in their zoning district, where they can build on their property, etc. This will allow them to be better prepared when applying for the various permits issued by our department.

Again, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,

Annie Urdiales

Annie Urdiales
Planning Administrator
City of Scottsbluff

CITY OF SCOTTSBLUFF NEBRASKA

308-632-4136
2525 Circle Drive
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

March 15, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

This letter is being written in support of the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS project. The result of this project will be a great benefit to the citizens of Scotts Bluff County by providing them efficient access to information that they require on a regular basis.

As GIS Analyst for the City of Scottsbluff, I experience firsthand the increased efficiency brought by a GIS system. We field questions on a daily basis from property owners and businesses relating to the information that helps them make an informed decision on how to manage their business or property. Most of the important factors affecting those decisions are contained in the GIS; utilities locations, properties, zoning boundaries, etc. Efficiency is increased greatly by not needing to take the time to look up a paper file as the information is available in a visual form at the click of the mouse. If you add to this increased efficiency the convenience of having the information accessible on the internet, the benefits to the public are almost immeasurable.

In conclusion, I strongly believe the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS project will provide a very real and much needed service to the public. Thus, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,

Jon Reiter
GIS Analyst
City of Scottsbluff

City of Gering, Nebraska
1025 P Street • P.O. Box 687 • Gering, NE 69341 • (308) 436-5096

March 12, 2012

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

RE: Letter in support of Nebraska State Records Board Grant Application

To Whom It May Concern:

Scotts Bluff County is in the process of preparing a Grant Application to acquire funds to assist in developing a new GIS Website for public use. Said money will be used to generate an entirely new website that is both user friendly and site specific for the department being searched.

The grant is being offered by Nebraska State Records Board to improve access to public information. A website providing geographic information and data will be a state-of-the-art management tool.

Some of the many benefits will include:

- Having community/county data at your finger tips
- Improved customer service
- Ease of use
- Web based real time access to information - 24/7 availability

As a major user charged with managing and maintaining critical infrastructure and municipal services, the City of Gering, without condition, supports Scotts Bluff County's grant application for a new GIS website offered by the Nebraska State Records Board.

On behalf of the City of Gering,

Edwin L. Mayo

Edwin L. Mayo, Mayor

Gutwein Appraisal Services, Inc.
Phone: 308-632-4074
90691 Sugar Factory Road, Scottsbluff, NE 69361
e-mail: sgutwein@gmail.com

March 7, 2012

To: Whom It May Concern.

I am writing this letter to support the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. I believe this mapping website will positively benefit the area real estate appraisers. I own Gutwein Appraisal Services, Inc. and am located in Scotts Bluff County. My office relies on public information on a routine basis. Access to the information that will be available on this type of website will increase my efficiency in serving clients. This information will allow my work to be more reliable and assist my clients in making competent decisions.

The WebGIS will allow me and those in my office to better assess the market and the properties that we may potentially appraise. Additionally, this website will allow us to better research the market for sales allowing us to provide a better product to our clients. I am routinely called about sales research by fellow appraisers in other counties and states. Having the WebGIS would allow not only the local appraisers but also those that are not located in the county a better tool in researching the area market as compared to the current TerraScan that Scotts Bluff County has in place.

To be able to access this information on a website would definitely decrease our time spent retrieving public information. In addition, access to public information 24/7 will enable us to make decisions after normal government business hours if needed. We rely on public information and believe the availability on a website will only enhance the retrieval process. This time-saving element results in a cost-saving payoff. Not only will this reduce our cost but it will also reduce the expense to the County as there is always an employee retrieving a file(s), copying and re-filing our requested information.

This data - in visible form at the end of our finger tips will not only benefit the real estate professions, but will also increase the confidence in the county government's ability to serve the public will be promoted to a higher level.

I have been able to navigate around this type of website in other counties, and find that it is very user friendly and an efficient use of time in researching information.

At this time, every business is conscious of cost and efficiency. This WebGIS will enable us to reduce our costs of accessing public information and increase our efficiency immediately. There will be no transition period for development of a new program, system, etc. We will be able to electronically access the up-to-date public information. For the above reasons, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County Assessor's Office in pursuing and obtaining the funding for the WebGIS program.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Sandra J. Gutwein

Sandra J. Gutwein
General Certified Real Property Appraiser, Nebraska

REALTOR®

Scotts Bluff County Board of REALTORS®

PO Box 362 • Scottsbluff, Nebraska 69363-0362 • Phone 308-632-7495 • Fax 308-632-7483

March 15, 2012

To: Whom It May Concern or Nebraska State Records Board

We are writing this letter to support the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. We believe this mapping website will positively benefit the Scotts Bluff County Area. Our members rely on public information on a daily basis; and access to this information on a website will increase the efficiency, and effectiveness to serve our clients, and to provide reliable information.

Our members in Scotts Bluff County will benefit greatly with the implementation of this program. This service will only aid to serve the citizens, potential citizens of the area, and the professionals in and around the area with greater ease of information and increased accuracy and efficiency in data retrieval.

To be able to access this information on a website would definitely decrease the time spent retrieving public information. In addition, access to public information 24/7 will enable members to make decisions after normal government business hours if needed. We rely on public information and believe the availability on a website will only enhance the retrieval process. This time-saving element results in a cost-saving payoff. Not only will this reduce our cost but it will also reduce the expense to the County as there is always an employee retrieving a file(s), copying and re-filing our requested information.

This data in visible form at the end of our finger tips will not only benefit our profession but the confidence in the county government's ability to serve the public will be promoted to a higher level.

In these economic times, every business is conscious of cost and their efficiency. This WebGIS will allow us to reduce our costs of accessing public information and increase our efficiency immediately. We will simply electronically access the up-to-date public information. For the above reasons, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,

Steven C. Ruhl

Steve Ruhl, President
Scotts Bluff County Board of REALTORS®

SR:dg

Gateway Realty of Scottsbluff Inc - Real Living
2400 Avenue I • Box 72 • Scottsbluff, NE 69363-0072
Telephone (308) 635-3141 • Fax (308) 632-5200
www.gatewayrealtyscottsbluff.com

Gateway Realty of Scottsbluff Inc. Real Living

March 14, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant – Scotts Bluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing this letter to support Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. This website will be an integral part of efficiently doing business in my profession. I rely on public information on a daily basis to quote new insurance policies. If this information were available on a website, it would definitely enhance our workflow and would allow us to better serve our clients.

At this time, we either have to drive to the courthouse or make a telephone call to gather that information which is needed for routine business transactions. In order to quote property insurance, it is vital to know all of the details of the property in order to receive an accurate quote. The more accessible this information is, the better we can serve our customers.

If we were able to access this information on a website, our time spent accessing public information would decrease. It would also be very helpful to retrieve this information after hours, as we work past normal business hours often. This time-saving element will not only reduce our costs, but will surely reduce the expense to the county, as their employees are constantly helping us retrieve this information.

During these economic times, all businesses are looking for ways to cut costs and improve efficiency. This WebGIS will enable us to do both. For those and the other mentioned reasons, I support his program and encourage your financial assistance to Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,

GATEWAY REALTY OF SCOTTSBLUFF
REAL LIVING

Janice E. Rahmig

Janice E. Rahmig, Broker

PLATTE RIVER REALTY

March 14, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

Re: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant — Scottsbluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

My name is Barbara "Bobi" Beutler. I am a Real Estate Broker and owner of an agency in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. I have been in the real estate business for over 15 years.

I am writing this letter in support of the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. I believe this mapping website will be of great benefit to my profession. We, as REALTORS, rely on public information on a daily basis. To be able to have access to this information through a website such as WebGIS, would increase our efficiency and enable us to serve our clients in a more timely manner. Having access to public information on a 24 hour basis would allow us to make real estate decisions after normal government business hours.

A website of this nature would not only benefit our profession but would promote confidence in the county government's ability to serve the public. Therefore, I support implementing this program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,

Bobi Beutler

Barbara "Bobi" Beutler

Broker/Owner

Phone: 220-3286 · Fax: 220-3289

1422 Broadway · Scottsbluff, NE 69361

March 9, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to support the idea of applying for a grant to obtain the GIS system for Scotts Bluff County. It is my understanding that a successful grant application puts the county in a position to apply these funds to the development of an online mapping, deeds, and assessor information.

A web based GIS system would make public information readily available on a self-help basis. This would make it unnecessary to interrupt county staff and allow them to concentrate on maintaining accurate data. This seems to be a better use of their time and save citizens the time and expense of going to the county offices to get what they need.

So, I recommend that you apply for the grant to obtain the GIS system—a cost effective and multi-departmental information system.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jim Merrigan
Broker/Owner

RE/MAX Sandstone Real Estate
2822 Avenue I, Suite A • Scottsbluff, NE 69361
Office: (308) 632-1032 • Fax (308) 632-5736
www.sandstonehomes • www.sandstoneag.com

Champion
REALTY

615 S. Beltline West ◊ Scottsbluff, NE 69361
Phone: 308-633-4663 ◊ Fax: 308-633-4664
www.championrealtyllc.net

March 8, 2012

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing this letter to support the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. I believe this mapping website will be a positive step in supplying both the local real estate industry and other government agencies with access to local property information. As Realtors, we rely on this public information on a daily basis for comparable sales information and specific property information on real estate listings. The ability to access this information on the website would be extremely beneficial to the entire real estate profession in terms of time management and would assist us in better serving our clients with more accurate, up to date information.

The real estate profession is not a "9-5" profession Approximately 50% of our time spent with clients is outside of traditional business hours and having access to this information any time of the day or night would be a huge benefit to our agents and clients. In addition, our farm & ranch department frequently utilizes maps to locate specific parcels of land, search for liens or easements and to track land sales to establish comparable valuations. An effective Scotts Bluff County WebGIS would streamline the process of retrieving this information.

Our office has used the WebGIS service in neighboring counties and have found it to be extremely easy to use and very useful for researching information necessary to conduct business.

In the current economy, all businesses are looking for ways to cut costs and increase efficiency. The WebGIS will enable us to do both. For these and the other mention reasons, I support the WebGIS program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,

Jerri Allen

Jerri Allen
Managing Broker

REALTOR MLS

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

VALLEY BANK and TRUST COMPANY Member FDIC

March 7, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

This letter is being written to support the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. We think a mapped website would be a benefit to Valley Bank and Trust Co., our customers and the community. Ease of access to public information on a daily basis would increase efficiency and effectiveness to our customers and provide us with reliable information to assist in making an informed and timely decision regarding customer requests.

Our current procedure to secure reliable public information is to visit the courthouse, take time to reproduce the documents and then return to the bank to assemble information in an organized manner. We frequently utilize maps of farm borrowers to review cropping practices, prepare for farm visits, analyze potential land purchases, track land sales to establish comparable valuation and search for liens or encumbrances on specific parcels.

An effective Scotts Bluff County WebGIS would stream line the process of retrieving public information in a timely manner and allow access for after hour access. The time saved in searching public information in Scotts Bluff County would serve the best interest of the public and private sectors.

As our economic environment changes, all businesses are looking for ways to cut costs and improve on efficiency. This WebGIS will enable us to do both. We will simply electronically access the up-to-date public information. For the above reasons, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,

Melanie J Ruzicka

Melanie J Ruzicka
Vice President

1425 10th Street
P.O. Box 538
Gering, NE 69341
308-436-2300

1940 10th Street
P.O. Box 538
Gering, NE 69341
308-436-6043

1701 First Avenue
P.O. Box 1996
Scottsbluff, NE 69363-1996
308-632-7500

502 South Broadway
P.O. Box 1996
Scottsbluff, NE 69363-1996
308-633-5200

302 Main Street
P.O. Box 627
Bayard, NE 69334
308-586-1711

235 Central Avenue
P.O. Box 884
Grant, NE 69140-0884
308-352-4353

605 East 1st Street
P.O. Box 118
Ogallala, NE 69153-0118
308-284-6260

202 North Tecumseh
P.O. Box 219
Wauneta, NE 69045-0219
308-394-5720

VALLEY BANK and TRUST COMPANY Member FDIC

March 12, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

This letter serves as support for the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. A mapped website would be a benefit to Valley Bank and Trust Co., the banks customers and our community. The public information ease of access would increase efficiency and effectiveness in providing quality customer service, along with providing reliable information in making timely and informative decisions regarding customer requests.

To be able to access the information on a website would definitely save time spent retrieving public information. The maps are utilized with farm borrowers in reviewing cropping practices, proposed land purchase analysis, tracking of land sales for comparable valuations and lien searches or encumbrances on a respective parcel of real estate.

An effective Scotts Bluff County WebGIS would stream line the process of retrieving public information in a timely manner and allow after hours access. The time saved in searching public information in the County would serve in the best interest of the public and private sectors.

In the business and economic world of today everyone is conscious of improvements that can be made in the reduction of costs and improved efficiency. This goal can be achieved with electronic access to the up-to-date public information. For the above reasons, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely

Gene Hastings

Gene Hastings
Credit Analyst

1425 10th Street
P.O. Box 538
Gering, NE 69341
308-436-2300

1940 10th Street
P.O. Box 538
Gering, NE 69341
308-436-6043

1701 First Avenue
P.O. Box 1996
Scottsbluff, NE 69363-1996
308-632-7500

502 South Broadway
P.O. Box 1996
Scottsbluff, NE 69363-1996
308-633-5200

302 Main Street
P.O. Box 627
Bayard, NE 69334
308-586-1711

235 Central Avenue
P.O. Box 884
Grant, NE 69140-0884
308-352-4353

605 East 1st Street
P.O. Box 118
Ogallala, NE 69153-0118
308-284-6260

202 North Tecumseh
P.O. Box 219
Wauneta, NE 69045-0219
308-394-5720

March 14, 2012

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant – Scotts Bluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

My name is Kevin Wick, and I am a Banker/Loan Officer in Scottsbluff. Having Scotts Bluff County information available to me online will assist me by allowing me to save time by not having to call/go to the courthouse, and will allow me to provide faster service to my customers by having important information available 24/7.

I lend my full support to this project and feel it will increase collaboration within our county or allow us to be more productive and efficient and save money.

Sincerely,

Kevin Wick
Mortgage Officer for Great Western Bank

Robin E. Loose
Mid America Residential Appraisal
03/19/2012

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant – Scotts Bluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

It has come to my attention that Scotts Bluff County is seeking a grant to assist in funding of a new GIS system. It would be advantageous for all people who rely on Scotts Bluff County information to have it readily accessible online. With this advanced technology, users could access information 24/7 and provide faster service to customers more efficiently at a reduced cost. In addition, it would save Scotts Bluff County employees manual labor, time and expense of providing those services.

As a PROFESSION and a constant user of Scotts Bluff County information, I strongly support the efforts of Scotts Bluff County pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system.

Sincerely,

Robin E. Loose

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
kirk.manker@fcsamerica.com
402-348-3367
402-661-3367 (fax)

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** - *Scotts Bluff County Mapping Department*
2. **Grant amount requested** *$ 25,000*
3. **Title of project** __*Scotts Bluff County Web GIS Initiative*
4. **Brief description of project:** *To develop internet GIS applications using ARCGIS Server software.*

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 **N**ebraska **I**nformation **T**echnology **C**ommission 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).**
   Scotts Bluff County has a well developed GIS in place which was initiated in 1989, but the fairly recent availability of software by ESRI (ARCGIS SERVER) makes it much more feasible to create web services from GIS "Shapefiles". We presently own licenses for Workstation ARC INFO along with ARCGIS SERVER, which is a migration from ARCIMS and has a more robust set of tools for serving GIS data through the use of the Internet. Our vision is to develop in-house, along with some assistance from a WEB development consultant, a variety of web applications accessible to the public, which would include our cadastral map along with the associated attributes and also to incorporate other available data such as soils and land use maps, demographic data, hazardous use area designations and available imagery acquired through our own efforts or freely available imagery from government agencies such as FSA. As more GIS resources become available we would incorporate them into our web presence where appropriate for the use and benefit of the public.

2. **Please describe who the beneficiary or recipient of this service will be.**
   The most obvious beneficiary would be the citizens of Scotts Bluff County. This is a tool that has the potential to make open government much more of a reality. It provides the information for people to make more informed decisions about how to apply geographically based information to their everyday activities. It is also a tool to promote economic development, decision making involving the location and availability of land suitable for a particular type of business. Tourism promotion would also benefit by being able to showcase the area and its attractions. Finally the internal use of easily accessible GIS data provides nearly all offices of county government and state agencies the ability to interact with one another.

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?**
   Initial development of a significant web presence could be accomplished in 1 year. This would include availability of cadastral mapping, roads, school districts, commissioner districts and voting districts. If presently available land use and soils maps created by other agencies were used they could simply be incorporated along with maps such as demographics. If a higher level of sophistication is required such as polygon intersections and dissolving of extraneous boundaries such as roads and other manmade features were required by the Assessor's Office it may require 2 to 3 years and some outside consultant involvement to accomplish the required editing and final product.

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.**
   June 2013

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.

5. **Does the project require additional statutory authority (explain)?**
No, but ultimate acceptance of the grant would need to be approved by our county commissioners.

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 project to do the work in house with the monies used as follows:
$13,000 for hardware and software
$ 7,000 for a part-time employee dedicated to the web application work
$ 5,000 for in house web development

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.**
We will not have financial contributions from other sources but we have collaborated in the past with the local city governments of Scottsbluff, Terrytown and Gering. We also collaborate with many of our internal departments to utilize GIS and can see the value of a web presence to aid the departments. See the attached letters from the different departments.

8. **Why is the grant money needed for the project and how will the service be sustained once the grant money is expended?** *The GIS office presently has only two full time employees and is not able to dedicate the time away from the scope of our primary job requirements to give this the level of attention that it would require to be successful, nor are we able to expand our budget to hire additional qualified temporary employees to accomplish the implementation of this project. When the funds are expended we anticipate that we could at the very least justify hiring an additional part time or possibly full time employee to sustain it.*

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?** *Yes, it has been a project that we have taken steps towards achieving, but will be a longer timeline to the completion.*

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.**
We presently have a well developed computer network and a competent IT department that keeps the network current with available technology. In fact, our county web site has received awards for its outstanding content and usability. A tool like this will provide a graphic interface that text only is difficult to use to convey the many location related types of information that county government must convey to its citizens. It's the old adage," A picture is worth a thousand words".

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.

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

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

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?** *Free to all.*

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

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.*

Part II. Technical Information

1. **Describe the hardware, software, and communications needed for this project and explain why these choices were made.** *We are presently using ESRI software products and have been since 1989. A variety of Windows based computers will be utilized and some additional hardware will need to be purchased with the grant funds as well as additional software seats.*

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).**

    There are no known technical issues.

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.

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.** *It will comply with the State's Technology Access Clause.*

4. Agencies submitting grant applications for funding of a Geographic Information System (GIS) project must in addition to the standard grant application complete and submit the ***Supplemental Questionnaire for State Funded Entities on Land Record Information and Mapping-Related Grant Application*** found on the Boards website page "Grant Information" at www.staterecordsboard.ne.gov.

5. **Describe how technical support will be provided.** *Software support is maintained with ESRI on an annual basis, Web support will be with our in-house technical support.*

Part III. EXPECTATIONS

It is the expectation of the Nebraska State Records Board that the grantee recognize the project as an ongoing effort to make public documents and or transactions more accessible. As this application relates to public documents the goal encompasses not only the availability of current documents as described in this application but the ongoing addition of new and updated documents in a timely manner. This goal recognizes the public's interest in not only historical information but the expectation that current data is obtainable. The Nebraska State Records Board recognizes that this is a long term commitment on the part of the grantee and anticipates the continued financial support of the grantee to maintain these expectations.

Part IV. STATE LAW COMPLIANCE

Nebraska law, sections 4-108 through 4-114 state that no political subdivision of the State shall provide public benefits, to include grants or contracts, to a person not lawfully present in the United States. If this application is awarded in whole or in part, and during the time the grant is in effect, the undersigned, on behalf of the political subdivision grant applicant, by signing this grant application, affirmatively states and acknowledges that the political subdivision will comply with this law.

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:

Duane Stott — GIS Administrator/County Surveyor
Printed Name — Title

Phone # 308 436-6654 **E-mail** dstott@scottsbluffcounty.org

Physical Address: 785 Rundell Road

Gering, NE 69341

I, the Authorized Representative of Scotts Bluff County Board of Commissioners, 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 6th **day of** April, **20** 12

Agency Director
Chairman of the Board

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.
We have all of our data based on NAD 83 in the State Plane Coordinate System.

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.
Our data is in the NAD 83, Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System.

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.
Our control framework is built around approximately 150 GPS observations taken on PLSS corners and over the next year it our plan to GPS all available Section Corners in the county.

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.

Our GIS is built on the PLSS Geodetic Framework.

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.

Our office houses a GPS CORS station which is used to post process our GPS observations. It is planned to observe all available Section Corners in the County using a dual frequency GPS receiver. As mentioned earlier, nearly 150 observations have already been done which include all of the Section and Quarter corners in Scottsbluff and Gering.

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.

I am the County Surveyor for Scotts Bluff County so I am in frequent contact with the State Surveyors Office and have a good working relationship with that office. We would make sure that all of the data is provided to the State 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.

We presently have 6" ortho rectified aerial photography of the entire county that was taken in 2008. We will periodically be attempting to fund new photography as development trends take place.

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.

All of our present GIS data meets these standards.

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.

We use coordinate geometry to enter new parcel data and assign unique cadastral numbers to each parcel according to the Property Assessment Division of the Department of Revenue.

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.

We use a cadastral numbering format that was designated by the Property Assessment Division to provide a unique parcel number, that number is also maintained in the polygon attribute table that provides a unique 1 to1 association for each parcel.

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.

We presently maintain most of our data in ARC Info Coverage format but are converting it to Shapefiles and will subsequently utilize the geo-database format developed by ESRI

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)*

Once the GIS data is placed in a WEB format it will be accessible by anyone, however we are more than willing to share our data with any other governmental agency in whatever format that is acceptable.

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.

Presently we have not developed a program of developing the metadata other than our own in house file system but would be willing to move toward the development of the FGDC standard.

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.

The Assessors office presently maintains a property record database with these attributes and that would be maintained.

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.

It has always been our policy to collaborate and encourage participation by any and all county offices as well as other local government agencies. We have had a good working relationship with the Scottsbluff and Gering GIS departments and well as State and Federal agencies that we have involvement with.

Suzanne Wick

From: Scott Blaha
Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 12:35 PM
To: Suzanne Wick; Duane Stott
Subject: GIS Department

To whom it may concern:

I have found the GIS Department to be of great help in criminal prosecutions. In the last year or so, I have had several cases involving the distribution of controlled substances. Often, a key factor in these prosecutions is whether the drug purchase occurred within 1000' of a school yard, playground, elementary school, or university. If it did, we can "aggravate" or "enhance" the prosecution to a higher felony and thus remove drug dealers from our County for longer periods of time. The GIS Department has helped me demonstrate the relevant locations and distances involved and, no doubt, strengthened my cases in the process.

There is one case in particular where the GIS Department helped me develop and produce an exhibit for trial that was absolutely necessary for conviction. The case was about a high-speed chase ("Flight to Avoid Arrest") where the defendant went all over Scottsbluff, at incredibly dangerous speeds. GIS helped me put together a huge map of the relevant parts of Scottsbluff. The map included great detail. By using the map during trial, the officer and I were able to clearly demonstrate the precise route travelled by the defendant, the distances covered during the pursuit, the estimated speeds involved, the exact number and type of traffic control devices ignored by the defendant, and the different types of roadways used during the pursuit (residential, one-lane, two-lane, alleyways, etc.). I believe that the exhibit had a huge impact on the jury and led to the guilty verdict. That defendant was sentenced to 20 – 60 months in prison.

Having local experts in the GIS Department near the courthouse who are ready, willing, and able to assist in criminal prosecutions is a tremendous asset. One that I would hate to lose.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or to pass this email along as you think necessary.

Thank You,

Scott Blaha
Deputy County Attorney
Scotts Bluff County
3rd Floor Courthouse
1725 10th Street
Gering, NE 69341

Office (308) 436-6674
Fax (308) 436-5496

From: Bill Wineman
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 1:47 PM
To: SBC_Commissioners
Cc: Suzanne Wick; Duane Stott
Subject: GIS/Mapping
Commissioners,

It has come to our attention that mapping and GIS services will be discussed at the March 19 Commissioner's meeting. I would offer the following comments for consideration:

1. The current mapping and GIS department can produce detailed maps relating to any type of emergency response activity we or other agencies may be asked to respond to.
2. Duane and staff represent the Health Department on all GIS calls and projects with State Agencies making it possible for us to provide needed information or complete these activities without needing to develop ARC INFO or other GIS skills for Health Department staff.
3. They keep current lists and locations of all medical ,care facilities and other agencies that we would need to locate and work with in disaster situations .
4. The current department is available 24/7 for immediate action on mapping activities that might be needed for response activities.
5. They can help track disease outbreaks like West Nile Virus or H1N1 flu activity by developing location maps when the need arises.

I have found both Duane and Suzie to be excellent assets in all phases of mapping or GIS related questions or activities. They have also been very cooperative in assisting with any requests our department has made in these areas.

I have seen some of the products that can be made available through contacted mapping services and they appear to offer many valuable features that would make mapping and GIS information more available to the public. The Kimball County web site has good mapping information and would appear to be a good addition for public use of mapping data for our county. It is my understanding that the company that provides Kimball's service will be discussing their services with the Board on the 19th.

Perhaps we could consider developing or purchasing this type of application or service form a vender while maintaining the County's department to assure we have a process to keep the data current and have access to the staff's valuable knowledge and services for emergency response and planning activities. It is my experience that it is not always possible, convenient or timely to have out of area contractors develop maps or find locations, etc. when a disaster has occurred and responders need immediate information or services.

Thank you for your consideration of these issues as we discuss the future of mapping and GIS services for Scotts Bluff County.

Bill Wineman
Scotts Bluff County Health Department

Commissioners –

The Building & Zoning Office works with the Mapping/GIS Office nearly on a daily basis. All new homes and businesses located in the rural areas of the county need to have an address assigned to those structures before we can even issue a building permit.

The search for an exact acreage of a parcel or the ownership of a parcel frequently is necessitated and Duane & Suzie have always been very helpful whenever their assistance was requested.

I believe it would be an impairment to my office and many others if the GIS duties were outsourced to a firm that is not familiar with Scotts Bluff County geographically or familiar with the working relationships that have been built through the past 20 years since the GIS/Mapping Office was established.

I deal with state and other organizations from back east in Lincoln and Omaha, and it is often times a burdensome task to coordinate through correspondence via phone, email, et al.

Please accept this letter as a request to maintain the services of our LOCAL GIS office.

William C. Mabin
Scotts Bluff County
Building & Zoning

From: Jeff Schledewitz
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 11:32 AM
To: Suzanne Wick
Subject: GIS Department

Scotts Bluff County Commissioners,

It has been brought to my attention there is possibility of losing our GIS Department. This letter is to inform you of the importance in keeping this valuable Department in Scotts Bluff County.

Scotts Bluff County Weed Control Authority uses this valuable service on daily basis throughout the noxious weed season. It is essential to get up to date information on landowners address, legal descriptions and proper maps of the properties in question. Duane Stott along with Suzie Wick have been able to provide this valuable information in a timely manner.
I would question the service that a GIS Company out of Lincoln Nebraska could provide to a small Department like Weed Control in Western Nebraska?

I would ask you to consider all Departments in Scotts Bluff County big or small and weigh there actual needs and not let one or two Department sway your decision in keeping this valuable in house service.

Thank you for your consideration.
Jeff Schledewitz
Scotts Bluff County Weed Control Superintendent

From: Robert Bennett
Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2012 3:41 PM
To: Mark Masterton; Mike Marker; Ken Meyer; Sherry Blaha
Cc: Suzanne Wick
Subject: Surveyor

Dear Commissioners, The GIS Dept. has been helpful to us by beginning our sign inventory program and in the future have offered to assist in our retroreflectivity survey, they also have worked out all of our culvert and bridge coordinates. Since they have moved to our building I have only a few steps to take for any answers I might need. Public traffic has increased quite a bit so I realize now just how much the public utilizes this department. I'm wondering what kind of advantage the public will see if they have to call Lincoln or wait on an email for any questions or answers they may be seeking. I think most people would rather deal with someone face to face instead of explaining their questions to someone on the phone or in an email. Duane probably knows every inch of this County and can picture the areas people are talking about. I know Duane is contemplating retirement soon and I don't know what the plan is after his departure. The following is my bias toward Suzie Wick, as you know she was working at the Road Dept when I was appointed. Her attitude and intelligence are highly commendable. Duane recognized that and hired her away from us (still mad at him for that) but it was for her betterment. She would never tell you this but I know she has been taking classes online with the University Wyo for a couple of years on her own dime to further educate herself in this field, she says she knows the budget wouldn't allow for it. She won't ask for reimbursement but I will, would it be possible to increase Duane's budget next fiscal year to cover her expenses? Not many employees would go to that extent to increase their knowledge to serve the public. I hope her position isn't eliminated but if it is I would like to make a position for her. Please consider this new proposal very carefully, I hope this department stays.

Robert Bennett
Scotts Bluff County
Director, Public Works
Phone (308) 436-6700
Fax (308) 436-6708

Platte Valley Bank
1212 Circle Drive
P. O. Box 2308
Scottsbluff, NE 69363-2308
Phone: 308-632-7004
Fax: 308-635-7405

Website: www.pvbankne.com

Platte Valley Companies

MEMBERS FDIC

NEBRASKA: Scottsbluff • Morrill • Minatare • Bridgeport
WYOMING: Torrington • Wheatland • Casper

Email: info@pvbankne.com

April 4, 2012

Scotts Bluff County Surveyor & Mapping Department
In support of: GIS Department/Duane Stott, County Surveyor
785 Rundell Road
Gering, NE 69341

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Robert M. Smith. I am employed by Platte Valley Bank as a Collateral Specialist and also manage 25,000 acres for a local conservation organization.

Mr. Stott informed me that the Scotts Bluff County GIS and Mapping Department is applying for a grant to improve the access and upgrade the services that the surveyor's office furnishes to the general public. The new technology of the GIS system will be a valuable asset for my property valuation position at the bank, will benefit the conservation group and enhance the potential property acquisitions that the group may consider in the future.

I have had the pleasure of working with Duane for many years and have always admired his professional dedication as well as his attention to detail and overall accuracy. To invest in this system will not only enhance and compliment Duane and his department but also the constituents of Scotts Bluff County.

Robert M. Smith
Collateral Specialist
Platte Valley Companies

FERGUSON
TITLE SERVICES, LLC
A Quality Product in a Timely Manner

1720 2nd Ave. ~ P.O. Box 92
Scottsbluff, NE 69363-0092
Ph: 308.635.1300 – Fax: 308.635.1900
Cheryl@fergusontitle.com

April 4, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

For many years, the Scotts Bluff County GIS Mapping Department has been a superior resource of information for many businesses and citizens. The department has been very progressive with technology which allows abstracters and many other professionals to obtain credible mapping information to aide in our work.

Mr. Duane Stott, Surveyor on staff, is a great compliment to this department. His many years of experience have been very helpful to my business. Scotts Bluff County is fortunate to have a sophisticated Mapping Department to provide quality information here in Western Nebraska.

My business along with many others in the community would highly support a web presence for the data to become more available to all.

Sincerely,
FERGUSON TITLE SERVICES, LLC

Cheryl Ferguson

Cheryl Ferguson
Abstracter/Title Agent

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
kirk.manker@fcsamerica.com
402-348-3367
402-661-3367 (fax)

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 :** Seward County NE

2. **Grant amount requested** $7,300.00

3. **Title of project:** County WebGIS

4. **Brief description of project:** The project includes building a WebGIS application that will link to the existing Manatron/TerraScan 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 **N**ebraska **I**nformation **T**echnology **C**ommission 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).**

   Seward 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, Seward County's WebGIS will feature the Assessor Tab. The Board wishes to include other departments such as Roads and Emergency Management as subsequent phases in expanding the WebGIS over time and budget years. Immediately after development of the Assessor tab, 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. The Weeds department will use it for determining property owners and property location for spraying noxious weeds and issuing notices to landowners.

   The Seward County Emergency Management Communications 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 Seward County Board, Assessor, Clerk/Election Commissioner/Register of Deeds, Director of the Emergency Management Communications Center and other departments, cities and villages feel that this WebGIS will be useful by increasing efficiency for numerous 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 Seward, surrounding cities and villages 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.

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 Seward County. Attachment 1 contains an overview of the project in GISW's Proposal document. The Proposal is for development of a WebGIS site for Seward County, which will make information available 24/7. The total amount of grant money awarded to Seward County will be used to defray the following initial GIS 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 Seward County Assessor, Treasurer, Roads 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. Seward County Assessor, Clerk and Roads 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. Seward 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.

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 Seward County of implementing the GIS. The County fully anticipates being able to fully meet annual maintenance costs of the GIS 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 Manatron/TerraScan database containing tax assessment information. The Property Record Card component of the WebGIS has several customized reports, derived from the Manatron/TerraScan 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 Seward County community, such as Farm Service Agency who is very enthusiastic about the WebGIS project.

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.

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.

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 Manatron/TerraScan (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 Seward County will be built and designed by GIS Workshop, with adherence to standards established by the State of Nebraska. The digital map database has been developed using the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System, NAD83 as per

State/NITC guidelines. The system will comply with any other applicable NITC items.

4. Agencies submitting grant applications for funding of a Geographic Information System (GIS) project must in addition to the standard grant application complete and submit the ***Supplemental Questionnaire for State Funded Entities on Land Record Information and Mapping-Related Grant Application*** found on the Boards website page "Grant Information" at www.staterecordsboard.ne.gov.

   This supplemental questionnaire has been completed and is attached to this application.

5. **Describe how technical support will be provided.**

   GIS Workshop will maintain the GIS data on our redundant servers. Seward County maintains their GIS information in the Assessor's office. GIS Workshop will download a copy of the Manatron/TerraScan CAMA data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GIS Workshop server. They have a dedicated technical support staff that is available at any time during business hours to service the County's needs.

Part III. EXPECTATIONS

It is the expectation of the Nebraska State Records Board that the grantee recognize the project as an ongoing effort to make public documents and or transactions more accessible. As this application relates to public documents the goal encompasses not only the availability of current documents as described in this application but the ongoing addition of new and updated documents in a timely manner. This goal recognizes the public's interest in not only historical information but the expectation that current data is obtainable. The Nebraska State Records Board recognizes that this is a long term commitment on the part of the grantee and anticipates the continued financial support of the grantee to maintain these expectations.

Part IV. STATE LAW COMPLIANCE

Nebraska law, sections 4-108 through 4-114 state that no political subdivision of the State shall provide public benefits, to include grants or contracts, to a person not lawfully present in the United States. If this application is awarded in whole or in part, and during the time the grant is in effect, the undersigned, on behalf of the political subdivision grant applicant, by signing this grant application, affirmatively states and acknowledges that the political subdivision will comply with this law.

Part V. CONTACT INFORMATION & SIGNATURE

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

Marilyn Hladky — Seward County Assessor
Printed Name — Title

Phone # 402-643-3311 **E-mail** mhladky@windstream.net

Physical Address:

529 Seward Street, Room 206
Seward, NE 68434

I, the Authorized Representative of Seward 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**

Marilyn Hladky
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.

The Director of the 911 Communications Center and the Emergency Manager have expressed particular interest in the implementation of a WebGIS in Seward County because they believe it will provide them with tools never before available, including the mapping, property identification, measurement, etc. They believe all areas of public safety from 911 dispatching to local law enforcement will benefit from the WebGIS. The County Board of Commissioners and other department heads believe building upon the existing investment in GIS technology that exists in the Assessor's office will enhance their service provision to the public. The City of Seward is very enthused about the opportunity to collaborate with the County offices via WebGIS and share information as they enhance the City's own GIS technology. The applicable Natural Resource Districts and the Farm Service Agency also actively support WebGIS development for the County to promote collaboration, communication and sharing of data between both entities.

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

www.gisworkshop.com

GIS Workshop

Job: 0060-013
Version 1.1

Seward County, Nebraska

Attachment 1:

Proposal for County-wide WebGIS Site

Prepared for:
Marilyn Hladky, Assessor

March 31, 2012

Trimble Authorized Business Partner

esri Partner Network Gold

402.436.2150
4949 NW 1st Street, Lincoln NE 68521

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Seward County Assessor currently has a text-only site for accessing basic property data. She sees the need to share advanced GIS property data across all County departments and with the public through a new WebGIS solution. The 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. Seward 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 to maximize the WebGIS. They will be contracting with GIS Workshop, Inc (GISW) to develop the WebGIS.

The following recommended layers and tools will appear on the new Seward 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

ENTERPRISE WEBGIS

GISW proposes to design and build an enterprise WebGIS for Seward 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 Seward 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.*

SEWARD COUNTY NE

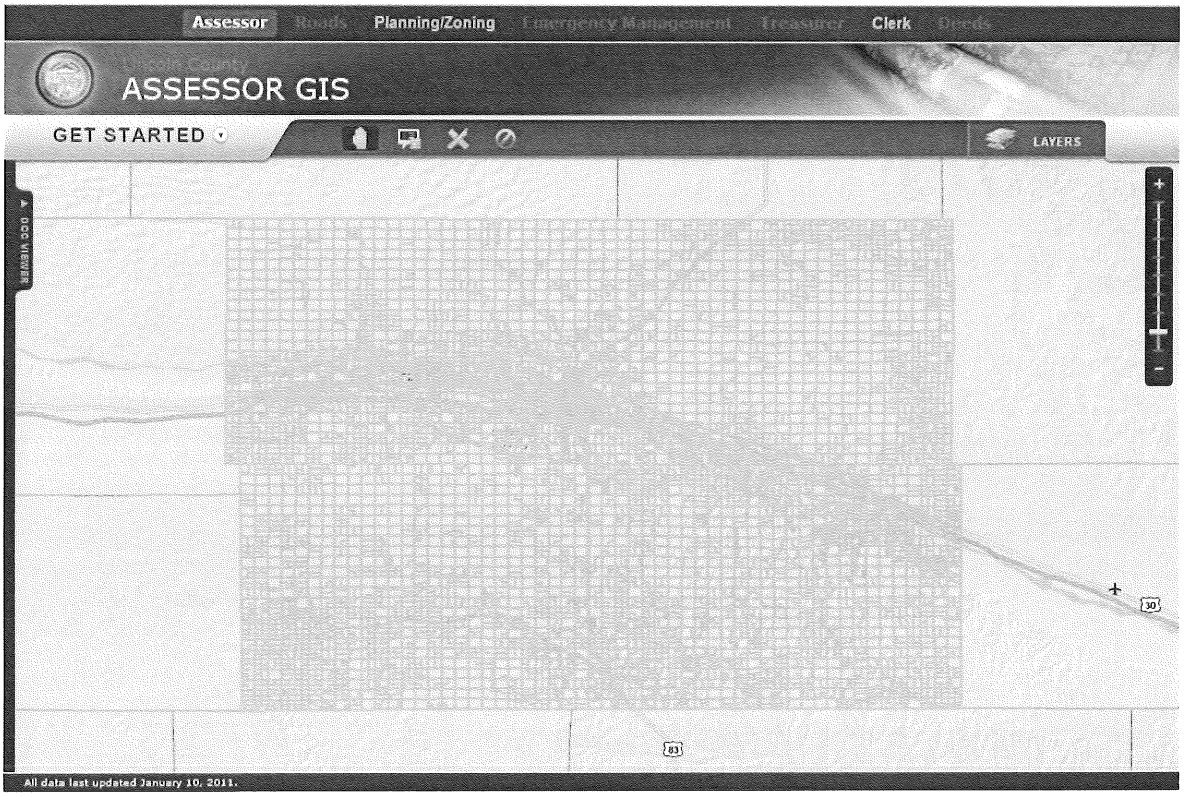

Figure 1: Opening screen (Assessor Tab) of GIS Workshop's Enterprise WebGIS for Lincoln County, NE.

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 a 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 <u>an even greater asset</u> and tool over time.

ASSESSOR 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.

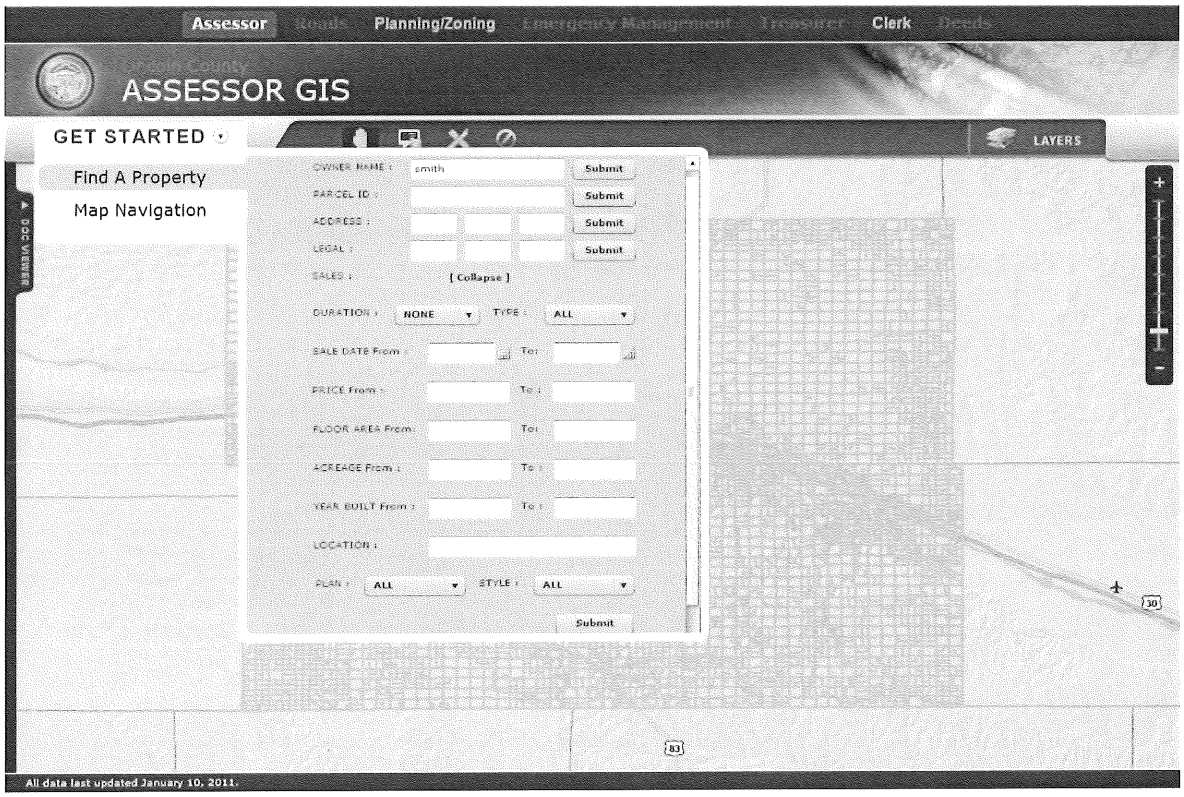

Figure 2: Assessor tab showing property search box

SEWARD COUNTY NE

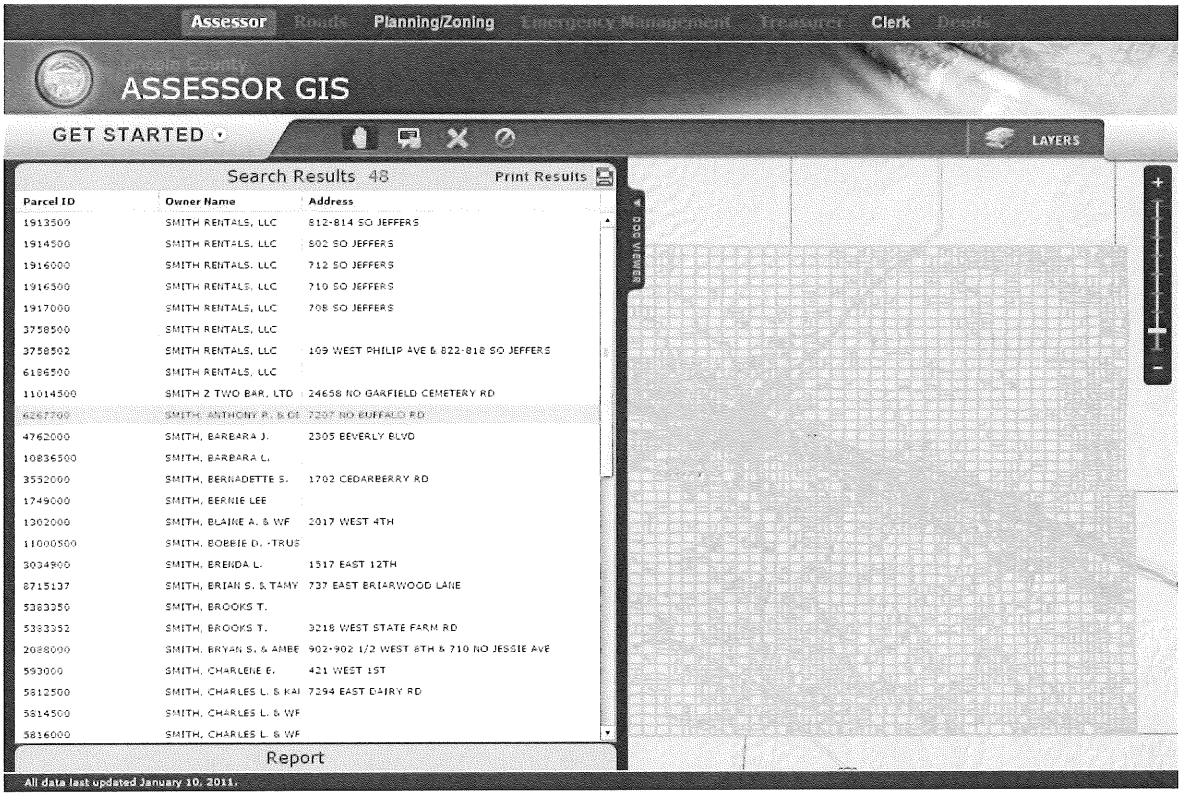

Figure 3: Property search results

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).

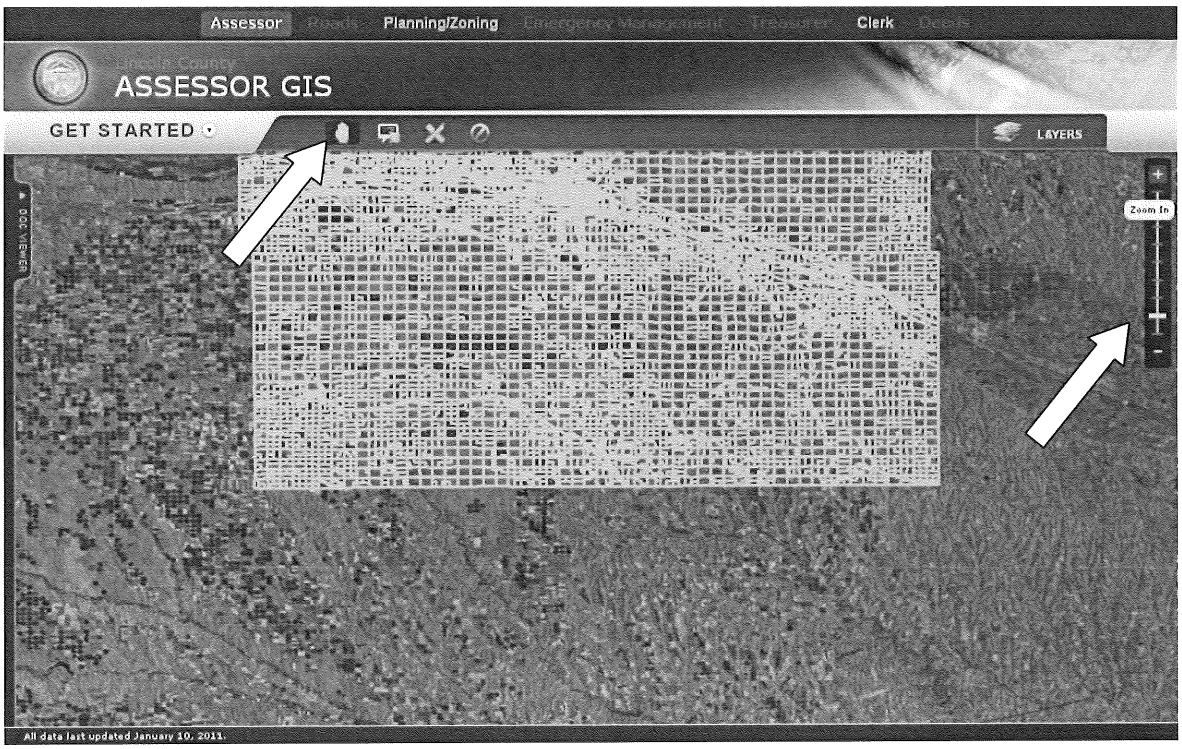

Figure 5: Zoom slider bar (right side) and activated pan tool icon (hand) in horizontal toolbar

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.

SEWARD COUNTY NE

Figure 6: User enters section/township/range

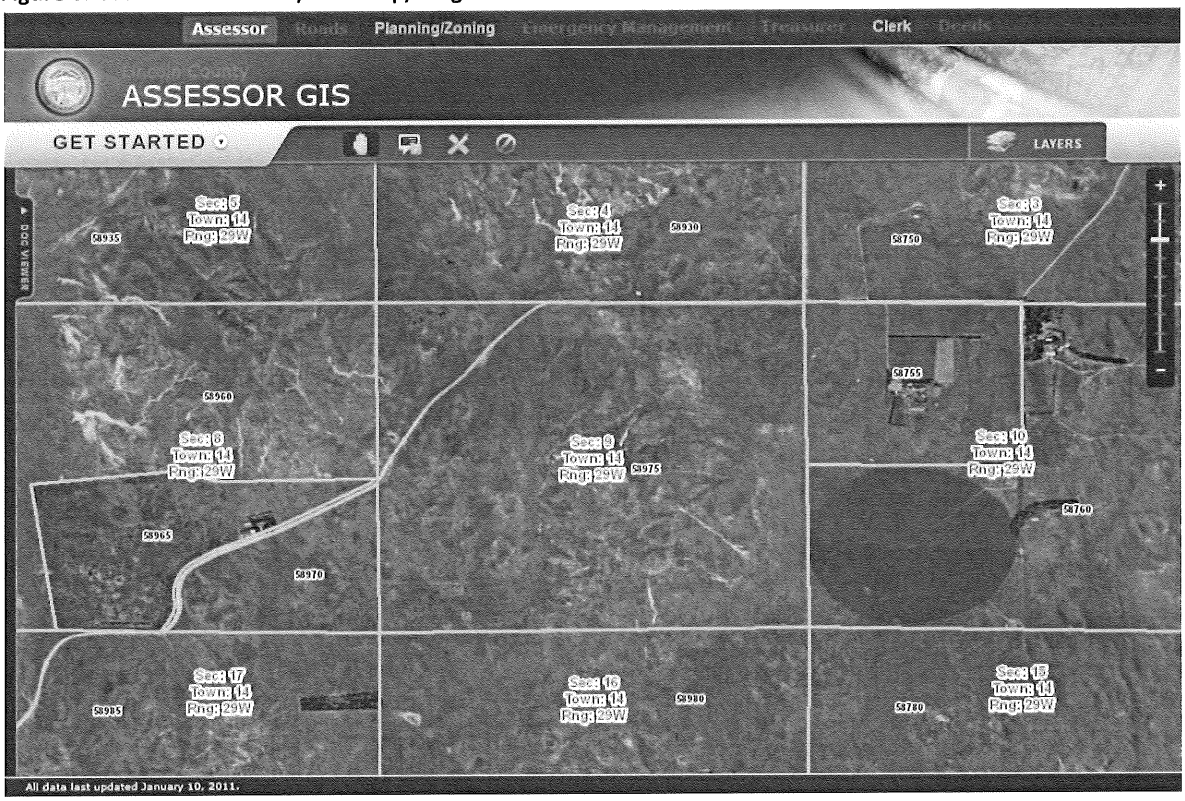

Figure 7: Application zooms into the specified section

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.

WEBSITE MAINTENANCE

GIS Workshop will house the WebGIS on our redundant servers for Seward 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 Seward 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.

Deliverable	Cost
Seward County WebGIS	
Assessor tab set up and year 1 maintenance	$7,300
Total Upfront Costs	**$7,300**

Ongoing Maintenance Costs (billed in January 2014)	Cost
Annual WebGIS maintenance (Assessor tab w/subscription):.....	$4,800
Optional: *Annual subscription option (Assessor tab w/subscription):*	*$1,500*
Total Annual Maintenance Costs *effective July 2014*:	$6,300

Nebraska State Records Board

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

ATTACHMENT 2:

LETTERS OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT

FROM SEWARD COUNTY, NEBRASKA

SEWARD COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS

Dispatching for Seward Sheriff Department * Seward Police Department * Milford Police Department * Seward County Fire and Rescue

Barb Liska, Director
P.O. Box 187
Seward, Nebraska 68434
402-643-6784

Comm. Center 402-643-3002
Emergency Phone 911
FAX 402-643-6604

Marilyn Hladky

Seward County Assessor

April 2, 2012

This letter is a letter of support for the GIS Website grant. I believe that this addition and upgrade to the county mapping will be beneficial in many ways for my department. Seward County E911 has a need for accurate and updated information, this program will provide that.

In addition to the upgrade for the Assessor's office the 911 Center having their own tab will assist the dispatchers to quickly locate properties in the times of an emergency call where a location is needed quickly and accurately.

Because the 911 center is staffed 24 hours a day seven days a week it is impossible for the staff to travel to the court house to ascertain a location or address. Our department works with many other county and city government offices for addressing information. This would be a valuable tool for us.

Therefore I whole heartedly support the application and the possibility of gaining the mapping system.

Sincerely

Barbara Liska

Barbara Liska 911 Director
Seward County 911 Communications

March 29, 2012

Marilyn Hladky
Seward County Assessor
529 Seward Street
Seward, NE 68434

Dear Marilyn,

The County of Seward Zoning Department would like to offer a letter of support in Seward County' s venture in seeking grant funds to assist in developing a new GIS Website for public use.

Having public access to GIS Property Lookup and Map site Web Service has proven to be a valuable asset to the County of Seward governmental operations in the following ways:

1. We are able to obtain access to an address approved by the Postal System of numerous individuals for whom we have no other way of looking up an address.
2. This system has helped the County locate property owners of vacant property to assure compliance with County Zoning Regulations.
3. The County has been able to work with the city to assist in various zoning /property transactions.
4. This system saves a considerable amount of time and money for the County of Seward , it allows instant access to information without having to leave the office, allowing County officials to operate more efficiently.

An updated web site would further enhance the present system and increase each user's efficiency.

Sincerely,

Dan Hansen
Seward County
Zoning Administrator

USDA United States Department of Agriculture | Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services | Farm Service Agency

Seward County FSA Office
1940 N Highway 15
Seward, NE 68434-1093
Off: (402) 643-4586 Fax: (402) 643-2326

March 29, 2012

Marilyn Hladky
Seward County Assessor
529 Seward St., Rm 206
Seward, NE 68434

RE: Letter of Support

Dear Ms. Hladky:

The Seward County USDA-Farm Service Agency would like to offer a letter of support to Seward County's intent to seek grant funds to assist in developing a new GIS Website for public use.

Access to the GIS/Property Lookup & Map Site Web Service has been very helpful to our office in making sure our records are accurate and up-to-date. It is a very valuable tool we can use to double check our ownership records. All of the programs we administer rely the most current ownership data available.

One of the things we count on is that the website will be available 24/7 so that we have no delays in conducting our programs. Having the website available saves us a great deal of time by not having to visit the Courthouse in person. In the past it would take a lot of time out of our day to have to send someone to the Courthouse to check records.

The Farm Service Agency is the federal agency responsible for collecting and making sure farm ownership records are accurate. Several federal agencies rely on the records they get from the Farm Service Agency to conduct their own programs. Accessible information from the Seward County Assessors Office is crucial.

A updated website would only enhance the present system and make sure the information obtained is available well into the future.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey D. Peterson

Jeffrey D Peterson
County Executive Director

FRITZ APPRAISAL COMPANY
6410 SHENANDOAH DRIVE
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA 68510-5158

March 30, 2012

Mrs. Marilyn Hladky
Seward County Assessor
529 Seward St., Room 206
Seward, NE 68434

RE: GIS Website

Dear Marilyn,

It has come to my attention that Seward County is seeking a grant to assist in the funding of a new GIS Website for public use. This would be very advantageous for all people who rely on Seward County's information to have it readily available on-line. The information can be accessed 24/7 providing faster service to customers and for those who are not able to go to the Courthouse to obtain this information. It would additionally save Seward County employees their labor, time and expense of providing these services.

As a professional real estate appraiser and user of Seward County information I strongly support the efforts of Seward County in pursuing this grant for the GIS Website.

Sincerely,

Jon Charles Fritz, IFAS
Fritz Appraisal Company
6410 Shenandoah Drive
Lincoln, NE 68510-5158

THE AUSTIN COMPANY, INC.

Professional Farm Management Service
Irrigation Development *Farm Sales and Appraisals*
Grain Marketing

— MAIN OFFICE —
517 Main Street
Milford, Nebraska 68405
Phone (402) 761-3361
P.O. Box 70

IMPERIAL
Insurance Office
74757 333 Ave.
Imperial, NE 69033-3074
Phone (308) 882-5998

Irrigation and Conservation Specialists

March 30, 2012

Marilyn Hladky
Seward County Assessor
529 Seward ST., Room 206
Seward, NE 68434

Dear Mrs. Hladky:

I would submit this letter as support in your seeking grant funds for the GIS website for public use.

I am a certified appraiser and Nebraska Real Estate Broker. We frequently use these sites in other counties in both appraisal work and real estate sales. We deal only with farmland so these are especially valuable in that area.

Again, I would strongly support the obtaining of a grant to secure this website.

Sincerely,

Bill White
The Austin Company

BW:bb

SEWARD COUNTY WEED CONTROL

P.O. Box 153
Seward, NE 68434
sewardweed@windstream.net
402-643-3525

April 2, 2012

Marilyn Hladky, Seward County Assessor
529 Seward Street
Room 206
Seward, NE 68434

Dear Ms. Hladky:

I would like to offer this letter of support for your efforts in procuring a grant to implement a GIS website for County residents. As the weed superintendent for Seward County, I am responsible by state statute for the inspection of each acre, each year for noxious weeds. Each time a problem area is located I generate a written report to the landowner(s) of record. Last year, there were one hundred and twelve such reports and this year, I have already completed twenty-seven such reports and I'm afraid with the good weather than there are many more to come.

Because of the potential change of ownership from year to year, I have to be absolutely certain that these reports go to the proper landowners. The only way for me to do that is to have a current GIS map with parcel numbers included therein. Currently, that is available only by asking your office to provide the information. This is certainly time consuming and somewhat cumbersome for both offices. If I were able to access it directly, my reports could be sent to landowners in a more timely manner. It would also eliminate your staff's time in assisting me, thusly freeing them up for other tasks.

I strongly support your efforts in this matter.

Sincerely,

Glenn W. Callaway
Seward County Weed Superintendent

UPPER BIG BLUE
Natural Resources District

105 N. Lincoln Avenue
York, Nebraska 68467
(402) 362-6601
Fax (402) 362-1849
www.upperbigblue.org

April 2, 2012

Marilyn Hladky, County Assessor
Seward County Courthouse
Room 206
Seward NE 68434

Dear Ms. Hladky:

The Upper Big Blue Natural Resources District (NRD) would like to offer a letter of support in Seward County's effort in seeking grant funds to assist in developing a new GIS Website for public use.

Having public access to GIS Property Lookup and Map Site Web Service has proven to be a valuable asset to the District in other counties where this service is already available in the following ways:

1. We are able to obtain quick access to an address approved by the Postal System of numerous individuals for whom we have no other way of looking up an address.

2. This system has helped to locate property owners to assure compliance with the NRD's certification of irrigated acres requirements.

3. We have been able to quickly obtain exact legal descriptions and to collaborate between the NRD and county to assist in various property transactions and changes in land use.

4. This system saves a considerable amount of time for the Upper Big Blue Natural Resources District as it allows instant access to the necessary information without having to directly contact the County Assessor's office.

An updated web site would further enhance the present system and increase each user's efficiency.

Sincerely,

Rod DeBuhr
Water Department Manager

Marilyn Hladky
SEWARD COUNTY ASSESSOR
529 Seward St., Room 206
Seward, NE 68434
Phone: (402) 643-3311 Email: *mhladky@windstream.net*

April 2, 2012

RE: Application for State Records Board Grant to Improve Access to Public Information

I would like to submit this letter supporting Seward County's effort in seeking grant funds for the development of a new GIS Website for online access to public records. The new website would be a huge upgrade over the existing site which currently provides basic information in text format.

The availability of having access to the Assessor's office GIS and data 24/7 is a valuable asset to the public who use our data. Taxpayers and property owners can enjoy a user friendly site that includes parcel information data along with maps that have enhanced functionality. They can save time and money by not having to come to the courthouse. For those individuals that do decide to come to the courthouse I have a computer terminal for public use where this site can also be accessed.

Along with sharing with the public on the web, this new website allows me to be able to share GIS with my office staff and collaborate with the other offices and departments within the county. Efficiency in county government saves not only time and taxpayer money but also provides accountability to the public.

This new GIS Website for the Assessor would be a building block for Seward County as many of the other offices utilize this data.

Thank you for your consideration of Seward County's request for this grant to improve access to public information.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Hladky

Marilyn Hladky
Seward County Assessor

WOODS BROS REALTY
Real Estate • Mortgage • Title • Insurance

SEWARD OFFICE
644 Seward Street
Seward, NE 68434

Phone: (402) 643-2541
(800) 574-7556
FAX: (402) 643-6564

March 30, 2012

Marilyn Hladky
Seward County Assessor
529 Seward St., Rm 206
Seward, NE 68434

Ref: GIS System

Dear Marilyn,

It has come to my attention that Seward County is seeking a grant to assist in developing a new GIS Website system for public use. I am a Realtor with Woods Bros Realty here in Seward and having public access to the GIS/Property Look up has proven to be a valuable asset to the Realtors in Seward County.

We are able to locate property owners, addresses and legal descriptions of which is necessary for us to assist a current seller in getting their home listed and sold. We have been using the on-line access in Seward and surrounding Counties for years and it saves us much time in traveling to the County Court House or calling for the information. With this advanced technology, we can access the information 24/7 and provide faster service to our clients more efficiently at a reduced cost.

An updated web site would further enhance the present system and increase each user's efficiency. I lend my full support to this project and feel it will increase collaboration within our County and allow us to be more productive and efficient. It will also save both the County as well as us much time and money.

Sincerely,

Shelly Nitz

Shelly Nitz
Realtor
Woods Bros Realty

WOODS BROS REALTY
Real Estate • Mortgage • Title • Insurance

SEWARD OFFICE
644 Seward Street
Seward, NE 68434

Phone: (402) 643-2541
(800) 574-7556
FAX: (402) 643-6564

April 2, 2012

Marilyn Hladky
Seward County Assessor
529 Seward St., Rm 206
Seward, NE 68434

Ref: GIS System

Dear Marilyn,

It has come to my attention that Seward County is seeking a grant to assist in developing a new GIS Website system for public use. I am a Realtor with Woods Bros Realty here in Seward and having public access to the GIS/Property Look up has proven to be a valuable asset to the Realtors in Seward County.

We rely on information provided to us by the Seward County Assessors office. We have been using the on-line access in Seward and surrounding Counties for years and it has proven to be advantageous to us as it saves time traveling to the County Court House or calling for the information. With this advanced technology, users can access the information 24/7 and provide faster service to our clients more efficiently at a reduced cost.

I lend my full support to this project and feel it will increase collaboration within our County and allow us to be more productive and efficient. It will also save both the County as well as us much time and money.

Sincerely,

Mary Robbins

Mary Robbins
Realtor
Woods Bros Realty

WOODS BROS REALTY
Real Estate • Mortgage • Title • Insurance

SEWARD OFFICE
644 Seward Street
Seward, NE 68434

Phone: (402) 643-2541
(800) 574-7556
FAX: (402) 643-6564

April 2, 2012

Marilyn Hladky
Seward County Assessor
529 Seward St., Rm 206
Seward, NE 68434

Ref: GIS System

Dear Marilyn,

It has come to my attention that Seward County is seeking a grant to assist in the funding of a new GIS system. I am a Realtor with Woods Bros Realty here in Seward and we rely on information provided to us by the Seward County Assessors office. We have been using the on-line access in Seward and surrounding Counties for years and it has proven to be advantageous to us as it saves time traveling to the County Court House or calling for the information. With this advanced technology, users can access the information 24/7 and provide faster service to our clients more efficiently at a reduced cost.

I lend my full support to this project and feel it will increase collaboration within our County and allow us to be more productive and efficient. It will also save both the County as well as us much time and money.

Sincerely,

Chuck Kotera
Realtor
Woods Bros Realty

April 3, 2012

Seward County Assessor Office
Attn: Marilyn Hladky
529 Seward Street
Seward, NE 68434

Seward County
NEBRASKA Economic Development
Where business grows!

Dear Ms. Hladky,

Seward County Economic Development wants to express its full support of the effort to pursue a GIS website grant by the Seward County Assessor's Office. The ability to expand and create a more user friendly Seward County GIS website will directly enhance our economic development efforts to recruit and retain primary job providers. Specifically, it will allow us to more easily identify properties and land that are available for use based on their proximity to businesses specified needs.

This will also benefit employees and community members who are seeking to locate or relocate in Seward County by providing an easier platform for them to research where they want to live and raise their families. Beyond employers and their employees, the updated GIS website will represent Seward County well to outside entities. A state of the art website is a great marketing tool that Seward County Economic Development intends to utilize.

Thank you for your efforts to pursue a GIS website grant on behalf of Seward County.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Jank

Jonathan M. Jank, MBA | Executive Director
Seward County Economic Development

Mail | P.O. Box 258 | Seward, NE 68434
Office | City Hall - 537 Main St. | Seward, NE 68434
Office Ph. | 402 643 0513
Cell Ph. | 402 570 8020
Email | sewardcoecdev@gmail.com

City of
SEWARD

P.O. Box 38 • 537 Main Street
Seward, Nebraska 68434
Phone and TDD 402-643-2928
Fax 402-643-6491
www.cityofsewardne.com

March 31, 2012

Marilyn Hladky – Seward County Assessor
529 Seward St. – Room 206
Seward, NE 68434

Re: Letter of Support

Dear Marilyn,

The City of Seward would offer you this letter of strong support in the Seward County Assessors Office grant application in seeking funds to assist in developing a new GIS Website for immediate Regional and Public Use.

Our City Government Operations are very dependent on the County Assessors Office and data information they provide us through collaboration of public agencies. Immediate access 24/7 to accurate property information is essential for many of our City Departments on a daily basis. Examples of this include:

- The property ownership component of the Assessor's Office allows our Building and Codes Department to identify and locate vacant and compliance violation properties.
- Multiple City Departments can quickly access and retrieve property ownership legal descriptions for multiple TIF and Zoning projects.
- When the City of Seward is creating Special Assessment Districts we have found the Assessors Office information paramount.
- Address and 911 property verifications are performed by the City Staff when required with data that is compiled by the Seward County Assessor's Office.

The City of Seward definitely recognizes the level of importance of the County Assessor's office data and their ability to enhance the information so the City and Citizens can instantly access in a fast, reliable and expected manner. The approval of the County's grant request has our undivided support and we encourage you to strongly consider the Seward County Assessors Request.

For the City,
Brett R Baker

Brett R Baker – City Administator
CityofSewardNE.com
SewardRegional.com

CITY OF SEWARD MISSION STATEMENT
Our City promotes genuine community spirit by providing
friendly, quality services to people who live, work and play in Seward.
"Nebraska's Official 4th of July City"

Farm Credit Services *of* America
AGRICULTURE WORKS HERE...

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
kirk.manker@fcsamerica.com
402-348-3367
402-661-3367 (fax)

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 **N**ebraska **I**nformation **T**echnology **C**ommission 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.

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.

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.

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.

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

Part V. CONTACT INFORMATION & SIGNATURE

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

KARLA JOE — Printed Name

ASSESSOR — 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.

www.gisworkshop.com

GIS Workshop

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

Trimble Authorized Business Partner

esri Partner Network Gold

402.436.2150
4949 NW 1st Street, Lincoln NE 68521

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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 Mangement/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

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.*

THAYER COUNTY NE

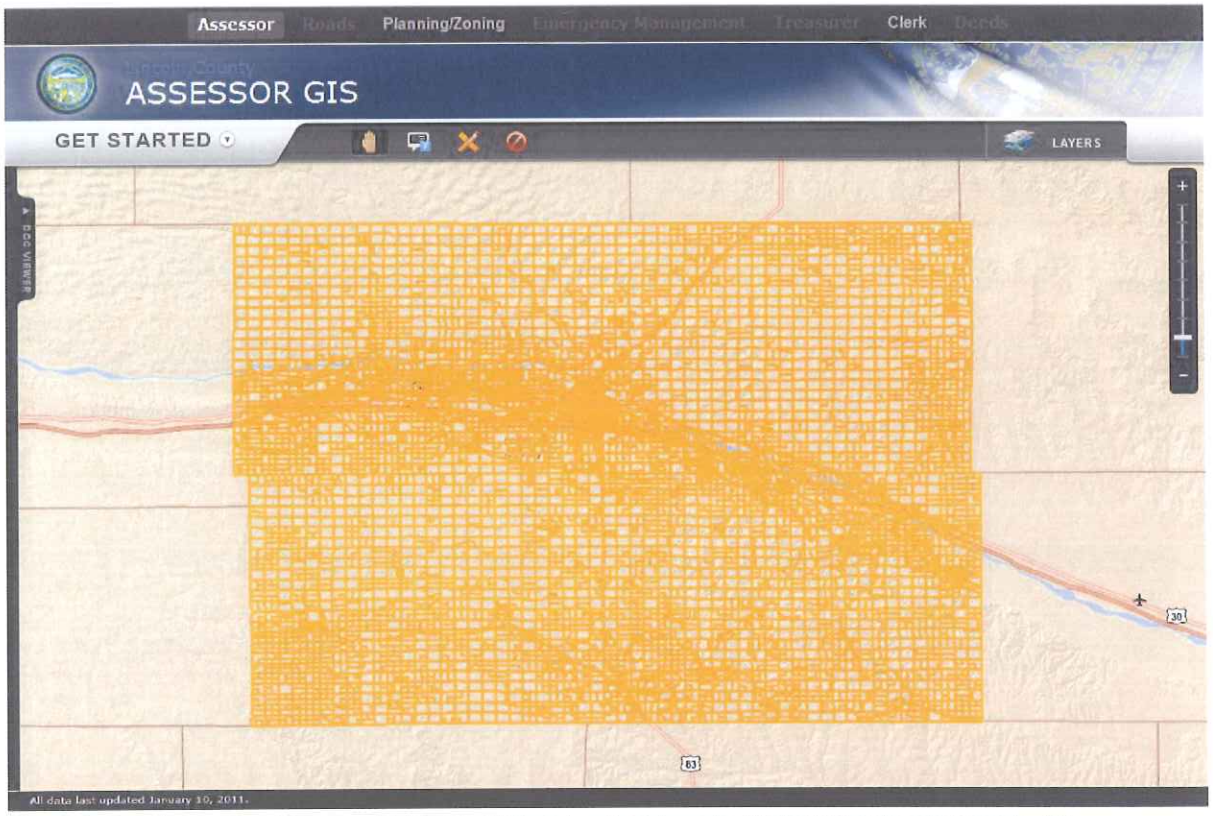


Figure 1: Opening screen (Assessor Tab) of GIS Workshop's Enterprise WebGIS for Lincoln County, NE.

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 <u>an even greater asset</u> 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.

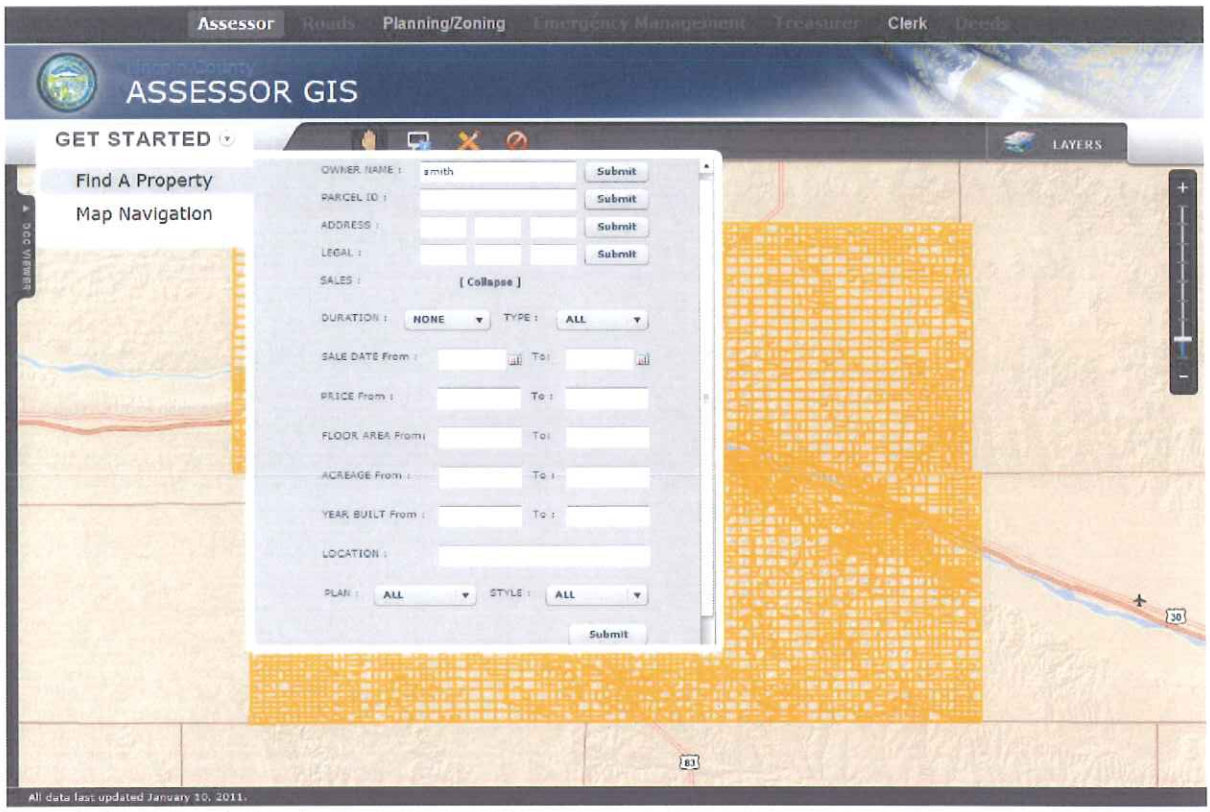


Figure 2: Assessor tab showing property search box

THAYER COUNTY NE

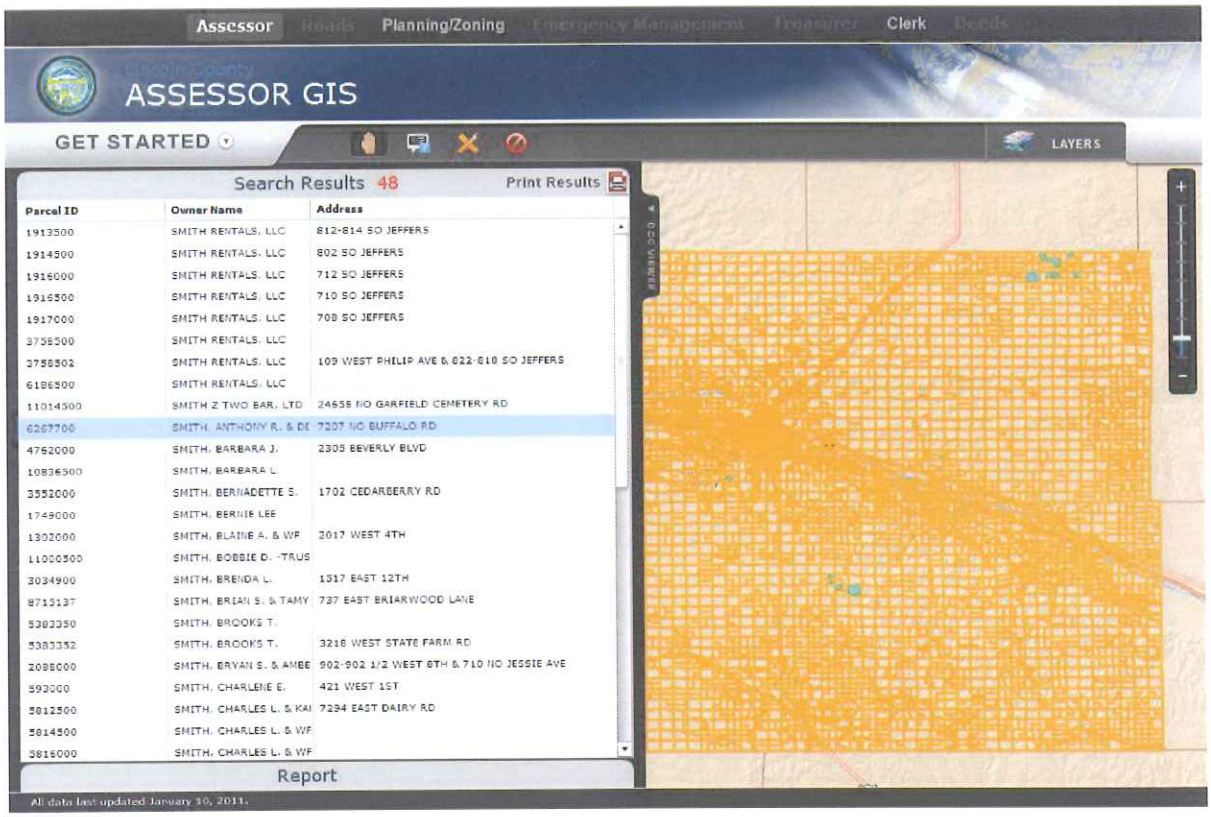


Figure 3: Property search results

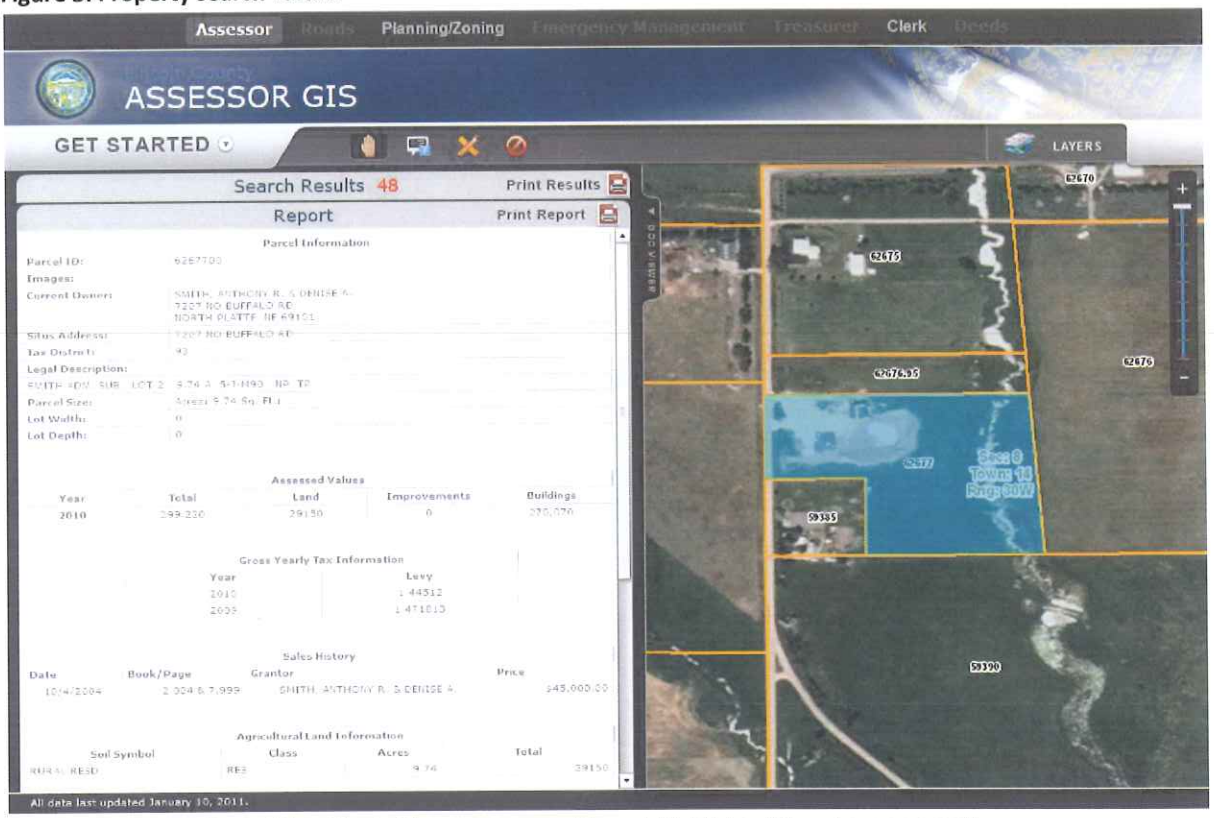


Figure 4: Property Record Card (note the map zoomed in and highlighted the chosen parcel)

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.

THAYER COUNTY NE

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.

THAYER COUNTY NE

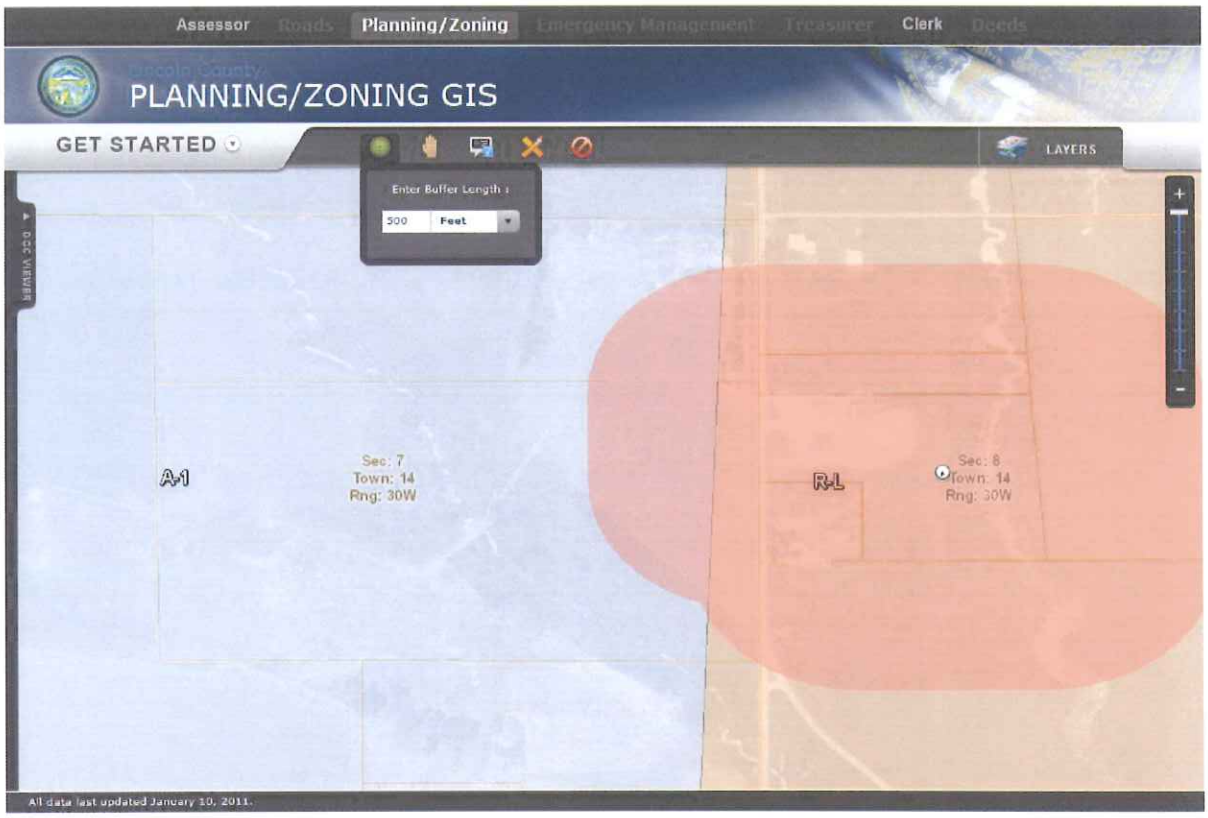


Figure 10: Activated Buffer tool with 500' radius result around the chosen parcel

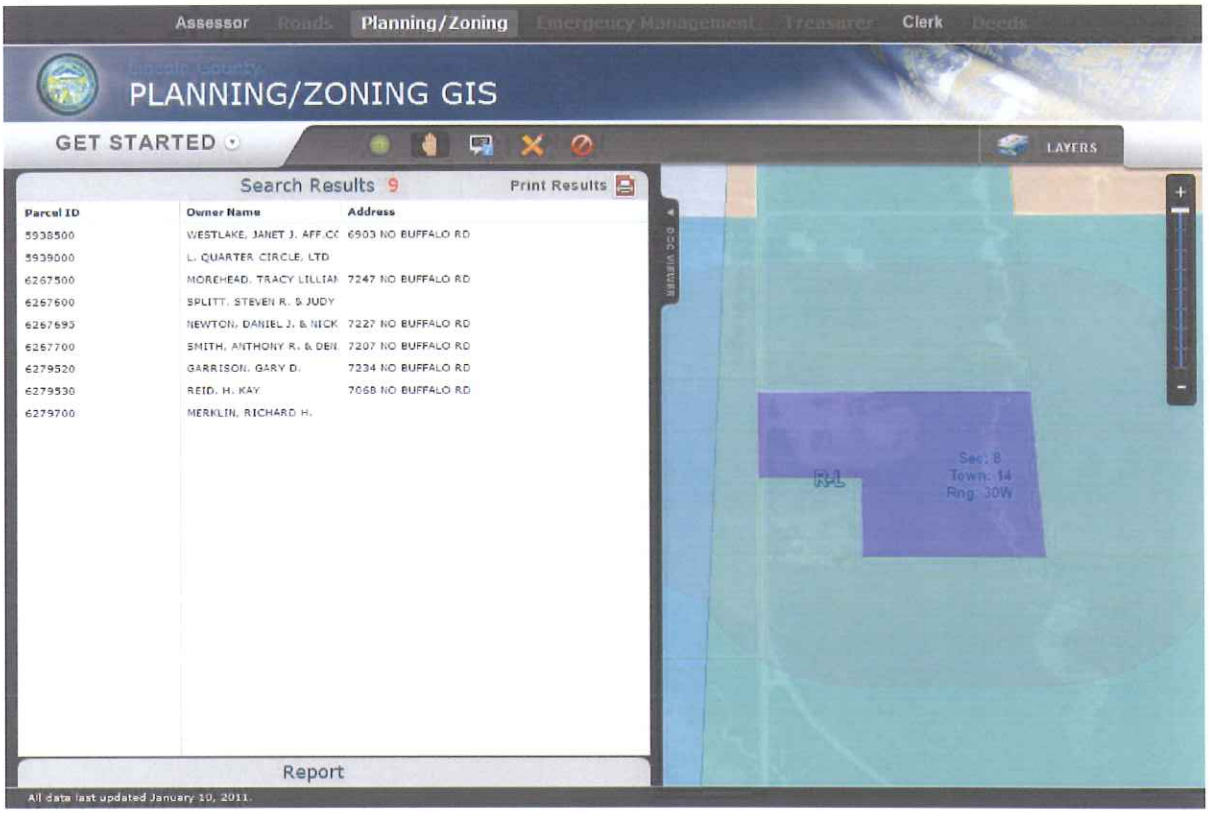


Figure 11: Property owner search results from the buffer analysis

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 (*with subscription option*)....	$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 *effective January 2014*	$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

BRUNING STATE BANK
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 in 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.

Gale Mikkelsen

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, Maintentance

Bruce Ficken, Mainentance

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

P.O. Box 100
Davenport, NE 68335
E-mail: monnen@littlebluenrd.org

"Protecting Lives, Protecting Property, Protecting the Future"

Phone: (402) 364-2145
Fax: (402) 364-2484
http://www.littlebluenrd.org

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

ESTABLISHED 1883

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

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

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

Byron State Bank

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

Central
National Bank

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,

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

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 loosing 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 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

DLW/say

Thayer County Bank
MEMBER FDIC

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

402 Lincoln Ave • PO Box 109 • Hebron, Nebraska 68370
402.768.6027 • Fax: 402.768.6746 • www.thayercountybank.com

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 VanCleef, 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

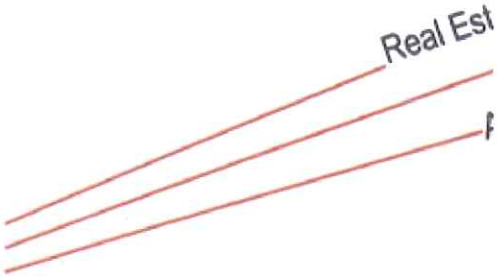
Karla Joe

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
kirk.manker@fcsamerica.com
402-348-3367
402-661-3367 (fax)

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 __Plattsmouth Public Library Foundation____**

2. **Grant amount requested $25,000.00_____**

3. **Title of project ____Digitization of Plattsmouth Newspapers_____**

4. **Brief description of project:**

The Plattsmouth Public Library has 138 reels of Plattsmouth newspapers on microfilm, from 1865-2003. The library has scanned several years of the microfilm into a digitized format, but the end product is often hard to read. At the current rate, the library would need another 31 years to digitize the remaining newspapers, since the scanning is being done by volunteers. The library plans to have its full run of the Plattsmouth newspapers digitized by an outside firm based on standards set by the Library of Congress for its National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) and Chronicling of America. This digitized product will then be made available on the Internet for anyone to search by keyword, and the library will submit the years that fall within the scope of the NDNP and Chronicling of America to the Library of Congress for inclusion in this national database as well as submit the files for inclusion in the Nebraska Digital Newspaper 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.

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 **N**ebraska **I**nformation **T**echnology **C**ommission 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).**

The Plattsmouth Public Library has the following Plattsmouth newspapers on microfilm:

Nebraska Herald – 4/12/1865 – 7/1882
Plattsmouth Weekly Herald – 8/1882 – 7/1892
Plattsmouth Herald – 8/1892 – 12/1894
Semi-Weekly News-Herald – 1/1/1895 – 1/7/1909
The News-Herald – 1/11/1909 – 9/22/1911
The Plattsmouth News-Herald – 9/29/1911 – 11/15/1912
The Plattsmouth Journal – 7/12/1901 – 6/26/2003
Plattsmouth Daily Herald – 2/1883 – 1885, 1887-1892

In 2008, the library received a Library Improvement Grant from the Nebraska Library Commission. The funds allowed the library to purchase a microfilm scanner and Laserfiche software to scan the library's microfilm into tiff images, a recognized preservation format. Library staff trained volunteers to scan the microfilm, and almost 17 years (1983-2000) of microfilm have been scanned to date. However, the quality of the image is low due to poor microfilm and the use of the wrong lens for many years. Even when the lens was replaced, the scanning was such a slow process, that, according to the current rate, the remaining microfilm would take another 31 years to scan by volunteers. Also, the microfilm scanner is not able to work with a newer operating system (Windows 7), so the library is forced to maintain an old computer running Windows XP to work on the project. This limits the amount of time left before either the microfilm scanner or the computer will no longer work for the project, necessitating the purchase of a new scanner (generally, $10-12,000) or having the project completed by an outside firm. The library therefore decided to seek quotes from outside firms which digitize microfilm.

While researching the digitization process and companies which perform this service, the Plattsmouth Public Library director sought guidance from Katherine Walter, the Director of the Nebraska Digital Newspaper Project and Professor and Chair, Digital Initiatives & Special Collections at University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The newspapers digitized as part of the Nebraska project (http://nebnewspapers.unl.edu/) were incorporated into the Chronicling of America project because they used the NDNP standards created by Library of Congress. Ms. Walter was invaluable in helping to explain the standards and the process our library would need to take in order for the Plattsmouth newspapers to be considered for inclusion in the Nebraska project and Chronicling of America.

NDNP standards (http://www.loc.gov/ndnp/guidelines/NDNP_201214TechNotes.pdf) include separate criteria for tiff (the preservation format), pdf (for printing), jpg (for images), OCR (optical character recognition, which converts the words on a microfilmed newspaper page into characters recognizable in a search), and XML metadata (for issue, page, and other key information). The Plattsmouth Library decided to request quotes from outside firms using the NDNP standards as well as quotes using the company's

"traditional" standards. If at all possible financially, the library would use the NDNP standards.

The library has received quotes from three companies to digitize approximately 140,000 pages of microfilm covering 1865-2003. The highest, at $173,950.00, has been removed from consideration. The remaining quotes are:

iArchives - $77,000.00 (NDNP standards) - Attachment One
Northern Micrographics - $74,940.00 ("traditional" standards), $111,241.20 (NDNP standards) – Attachment Two

iArchives has digitized microfilm for the Library of Congress NDNP project for several funding cycles. Northern Micrographics has worked on several state historical society projects using NDNP standards. The Plattsmouth Library is continuing to work with both companies to further refine the quote and to explore options for storing or hosting the digitized microfilm when it is ready.

The library has two options for storing the digitized microfilm. One is to have the company which is doing the digitization host the data on its servers, using the software they provide to search, display, and print the newspaper pages. The second alternative is to host the digitized microfilm on the city server which is currently storing the documents scanned by the library and City Hall. Since the entire 1865-2003 run of Plattsmouth newspapers would probably be completed in batches, the library director has talked to the City of Plattsmouth's Information Technology support to plan for possibly adding another hard drive to accommodate the future growth of the data. The data could be accessed by WebLink, a component of the Laserfiche software currently being used by several city departments to scan documents, or it could use open source software called ResCarta, as suggested by Northern Micrographics. The library will decide whether to host it locally or have it hosted by the chosen digitization company based on continuing negotiations with the two companies over the next few weeks.

Because the NDNP standards require that the digitization be done with negative microfilm (white print on black background) to minimize the effect of scratches and lines, the library will have to purchase all new reels of microfilm from the Nebraska State Historical Society at $85.00 per reel. This would have been necessary for many reels anyway, since some of the microfilm owned by the library is diazo film, a third or fourth generation copy which is not usable for digitizing, and other reels were purchased so long ago that the copies are of low quality.

In the meantime, the Plattsmouth Public Library Foundation has pledged $2,000.00 towards this digitization project and additional grants will be written to regional foundations. In addition, the library and the Library Foundation have begun a fundraising campaign to seek donations from local companies and individuals. The library director has spoken of the project on a radio program she addresses on a weekly basis, and she has spoken with several members of the Cass County Historical Society (CCHS). The director will be meeting with the CCHS at their next meeting to report progress on the project. She will also be asking to address other local organizations such as the Plattsmouth Main Street Association and local service clubs such as the Kiwanis

Club and the Rotary, which supports the library on a regular basis. These meetings will promote awareness of the project and encourage donations. The director has also created a list of the missing issues from the microfilm reels and has published the lists on the library's web page, seeking the assistance of local citizens to fill in the gaps in the newspapers and to make donations toward the project. Additional updates will be published in The Plattsmouth Journal throughout the project.

Since the library does not expect to raise all the funds necessary for the complete project within a short time, the library plans to digitize the microfilm in batches. If the library receives this grant, it will combine the grant funds with funds it has already earmarked for the project and purchase approximately 45 reels of new masters which would be digitized in the first batch. The total number of microfilm reels in the Plattsmouth newspaper archives is 138.

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

The library currently receives requests for copies of newspaper pages from people all across the United States. Many of the requests are for obituaries as genealogists are tracing their family trees. Local historians frequently use the newspaper microfilm in the library. When the library digitizes the microfilm and makes it accessible on the Internet, it will be searchable by anyone on the Internet. People will no longer have to know the date for an event, they can search the paper by keyword to find the information they need.

An added benefit will be to city staff, since City Hall staff is currently scanning old City Council meeting minutes as time permits. Since City Council minutes, as well as notices of public hearings and public meetings, resolutions, ordinances, and minutes of the Board of Adjustment and Equalization have been published in the Plattsmouth Journal for many years as required by state statute, City Hall staff will not need to scan some of the old documents since they will be searchable in the newspaper database being created by the library's project. This will save staff hundreds of hours, with the added benefit of making these documents accessible to anyone.

Since Plattsmouth is also the Cass County seat, the newspaper archives are historically significant to the entire county and surrounding area.

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?

We project the adoption rate to be at least 70% in 1 year, since library staff and local historians account for the majority of use of the newspaper microfilm. We have talked to local historians who are enthusiastic about the project and looking forward to wider access to the archives. Within 3 years, the adoption rate would probably be about 90% as the library educates local citizens and genealogists of the searchability of the newspaper. Within 5 years, the adoption rate should be about 95%; the other 5% would be people who are uncomfortable with computers in general and always want assistance in finding things on the computer or who have no easy access to the Internet.

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.

August 2012	Order new microfilm masters
September – October 2012	Test the film masters per NDNP guidelines
October 2012	Send the film to the company
November 2012 – January 2013	Microfilm is digitized
February 2013	Work out any access issues or technical issues discovered as Internet access is made available

Since, financially, it is unlikely that all 138 reels of the Plattsmouth newspaper archives can be digitized at once, the library will be purchasing and digitizing as many reels as can be processed with the grant funds received and the funds from the Library Foundation and other donations received to date. The library expects to digitize about 45 reels in the first batch, with the remainder to be digitized as additional grant funds and donations are received.

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

No additional statutory authority is required. There are no fees for accessing the data.

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.*

Since new masters will be required for NDNP standards, the library will have to purchase new reels from the Nebraska State Historical Society at the current cost of $85.00 per reel. These masters will also need to undergo NDNP testing for text quality, density, resolution, and similar parameters. The State Historical Society can perform these tests at $10.00 per reel, though the cost could be lower if library staff gathers some of the data, which it has done already.

The library received quotes from three companies to digitize approximately 140,000 pages of microfilm covering 1865-2003 using NDNP standards and, as an alternative, using "traditional" standards. The highest, at $173,950.00, was removed from consideration. The remaining quotes are from iArchives, which has digitized microfilm for the Library of Congress NDNP project for several funding cycles, and Northern Micrographics, which has worked on several state historical society projects using NDNP standards. The Plattsmouth Library is continuing to work with both companies to further refine the quotes and to explore options for storing or hosting the digitized microfilm when it is ready. The library, its employees, the Library Foundation, and the City of Plattsmouth have no prior relationship with these companies.

QUOTES:
iArchives - $77,000.00 (NDNP standards) - Attachment One
Northern Micrographics - $74,940.00 ("traditional" standards), $111,241.20 (NDNP) – Attachment Two

COSTS:

Purchase of negative masters as per NDNP standards (138 reels @ $85.00/reel)	$11,730.00
Test the masters per NDNP standards (138 reels @ $10.00/reel)	$ 1,380.00
Digitization of microfilm, minimum (approximately 140,000 pages)	$77,000.00
External hard drives to deliver data to the library or for storage on city servers	$ 500.00
TOTAL:	$90,610.00

Since the library will not have enough funds to digitize the entire newspaper archive at once, the library will digitize what it can with the funds available, which should include:

REVENUE:

Nebraska State Records Board grant	$25,000.00
Plattsmouth Public Library Foundation	$ 2,000.00
Donations already received by Plattsmouth Public Library	$ 1,100.00
TOTAL:	$28,100.00

If the library receives less than $25,000.00 from this grant or receives more donations by the time the microfilm is ready to mail for digitization, the number of reels to be digitized in the first batch will be adjusted. Based on the revenue above, the library expects to digitize approximately 45 of the 138 reels in the first batch.

The library will also be seeking additional grant funds from regional foundations and from a library-related foundation which has funded a similar library project in the past. All future donations received by the library which have not been earmarked for other purposes will be dedicated to this project until all the microfilm has been digitized. As new microfilm is completed, the library will budget or do fundraising with the Library Foundation to keep the digitized version as current as the microfilm is.

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 Library Foundation has pledged a minimum of $2,000 to this project. The library has received nearly $1,100 in miscellaneous donations since October 2011 that the library has earmarked for this project. Some of these donations were collected during special programs, such as one on the history of Nebraska forts; other donations were minor contributions received on a daily basis from library patrons.

Other grant requests will be submitted to local and regional foundations in the coming months to help us accomplish our goals as soon as possible. In addition, the Plattsmouth

Library and the Library Foundation have begun a fundraising campaign which will include articles in the Plattsmouth Journal, talks on a local radio station (already started), and attending meetings of the Cass County Historical Society, the Plattsmouth Main Street Association, the Chamber of Commerce, and local Rotary and Kiwanis clubs. These meetings will promote awareness of the project and encourage corporate and private donations. The library will also be requesting funds in its budget for this project.

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

With the cost of this project reaching approximately $90,000, which is nearly one third of the library's entire 2011-2012 budget, the library can't afford to digitize the entire collection without outside assistance. This is also why we will be seeking grant money from other agencies such as Midlands Community Foundation, Plattsmouth Community Foundation, and a library-related foundation which has funded a similar project in the past.

The library is committed to this project. The library will be seeking a minimum of $5,000 in its 2012-2013 budget to continue the project, and the library has begun a fundraising campaign through its Library Foundation. The library has compiled a list of issues missing from the microfilm reels and has posted the list to its website. The library's marketing campaign will include a search for missing issues and a request for donations to be made payable to the Library Foundation so the project may continue.

The library director has coordinated with the city's Information Technology support to ensure that the server the data resides on will have space to accommodate the data and to consider increased storage capacity, if needed. We are planning for the future needs of this project, both technologically and financially.

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 project would still be financially feasible, though the process will take longer. A smaller number of reels would be digitized at a time if funds are limited. However, the library is committed to this project because we know this project is supported by local historians and others. The library and the Plattsmouth Public Library Foundation will be seeking additional funds from private donations as well as from Midlands Community Foundation and the Plattsmouth Community Foundation. The library will also be seeking a minimum of $5,000 annually in its budget request to the City of Plattsmouth.

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.

For many years, the City of Plattsmouth has published notices of public hearings and public meetings, the minutes of the City Council and the Board of Adjustment and

Equalization, resolutions, and ordinances in The Plattsmouth Journal. At this time, the City Council minutes from 2009-2012 are available as individual pdf documents on the city's website, but they are not keyword searchable. The city documents mentioned above have been published in the Plattsmouth newspapers for many years, but they are not searchable. By digitizing the newspapers on microfilm, these documents will become more widely available and searchable on the Internet. For the years before the official documents were published in the newspaper, historians will at least have access to the newspaper articles that cover City Council meetings and other official city business. As the county seat, Plattsmouth's newspapers also recorded county meetings and business as well as the history of local communities nearby. This project will make official city and county business and history accessible to anyone on the Internet.

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, the project does not involve the licensing, permitting, or regulation of business.

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

Letters of support attached:

Cass County Historical Society (Attachment Three)
The Plattsmouth Journal (Attachment Four)
Director of the Nebraska Digital Newspaper Project, Katherine Walter (Attachment Five)

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?

Access to the digitized newspapers will be free and open to everyone on the Internet. The library is working with The Plattsmouth Journal to provide access to years which are not yet in the public domain. At the minimum, if copyright prohibits the posting of the material since 1937, and an agreement with the publisher of The Journal cannot be reached to access these years openly online, the library will provide access to these years from computers within the library, thereby making these years searchable and accessible to as many people as possible. Those who can't come into the library to search recent years will continue to be able to email or call the library for assistance, as is done currently.

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

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?

Not applicable.

Part II. Technical Information

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

The specifications needed for this project are determined by the NDNP standards, which are available at http://www.loc.gov/ndnp/guidelines/NDNP_201214TechNotes.pdf. The library chose to use these standards because the library would like the Plattsmouth newspapers to be added to the Nebraska Newspapers site (http://nebnewspapers.unl.edu/) and, eventually, to Chronicling America (http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/). The only way newspapers can be added to these existing databases is to use NDNP standards. By adopting these standards, the Plattsmouth newspapers will be digitized in such a way as to ensure a durable format with greater accessibility due to the formats used and metadata created.

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 library has chosen to follow the NDNP standards as published on the Library of Congress website. This allows the digitized Plattsmouth journals to be added to the Nebraska Newspaper project and, potentially, to Chronicling America.

Since the two companies that the library is still negotiating with have both completed digitization projects using NDNP standards, both companies would be reliable choices to provide this service. Likewise, by using the NDNP standards, the library's project provides a template that could be used by other libraries or agencies wishing to digitize official or historical documents.

The library has already consulted with the city's I.T. support staff to determine that the data could be accommodated by existing city servers, perhaps with the addition of a hard drive if the library chooses to host the data locally. If it is more economical to use the open source software ResCarta or to have the data hosted on servers belonging to the digitizing company, then those alternatives will be pursued. This is still under negotiation with the companies which have provided quotes.

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 library will provide free and open access to the data within the constraints of copyright. The content which is within public domain will be made readily available on the Internet. The library is still pursuing permission from The Plattsmouth Journal to be able to make some of the years that are not within public domain freely accessible on the Internet. If restrictions are necessary, access to copyrighted material would be made available within the library.

   As is currently the case, library staff would be able to help people who enter the building as well as those who call or email the library to access the contents of the newspaper. Library staff is currently providing obituary searches on a weekly basis; the results are mailed or emailed to the requester. Assistance to individuals without access to the Internet and to individuals with hearing or sight impairments will continue to be provided, as usual. Whenever possible, library staff will use alt text and other means to make the content on the library's website as accessible as possible.

4. Agencies submitting grant applications for funding of a Geographic Information System (GIS) project must in addition to the standard grant application complete and submit the ***Supplemental Questionnaire for State Funded Entities on Land Record Information and Mapping-Related Grant Application*** found on the Boards website page "Grant Information" at www.staterecordsboard.ne.gov.

5. **Describe how technical support will be provided.**

   If the data is hosted on the company's servers, technical support will be provided by the company and will be stated in any agreement between the parties. If the data is hosted on the city's servers, support will be provided by the city's I.T. support, as it is currently. The library director has already discussed the project with the city's I.T. support and several concerns, such as possibly expanding the hard drive capacity, have been taken into consideration.

Part III. EXPECTATIONS

It is the expectation of the Nebraska State Records Board that the grantee recognize the project as an ongoing effort to make public documents and or transactions more accessible. As this application relates to public documents the goal encompasses not only the availability of current documents as described in this application but the ongoing addition of new and updated documents in a timely manner. This goal recognizes the public's interest in not only historical information but the expectation that current data is obtainable. The Nebraska State Records Board recognizes that this is a long term commitment on the part of the grantee and anticipates the continued financial support of the grantee to maintain these expectations.

The library will continue to digitize the Plattsmouth Journal microfilm as new reels are filmed and made available by the Nebraska State Historical Society. The most recent reels available today contain issues from 2003 of The Plattsmouth Journal.

Part IV. STATE LAW COMPLIANCE

Nebraska law, sections 4-108 through 4-114 state that no political subdivision of the State shall provide public benefits, to include grants or contracts, to a person not lawfully present in the United States. If this application is awarded in whole or in part, and during the time the grant is in effect, the undersigned, on behalf of the political subdivision grant applicant, by signing this grant application, affirmatively states and acknowledges that the political subdivision will comply with this law.

Part V. CONTACT INFORMATION & SIGNATURE

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

_Karen E. Mier_____ **_Library Director_____**
Printed Name Title

Phone #__402-296-4154_____ E-mail___kmier@plattsmouth.org_____

Physical Address: Plattsmouth Public Library, 401 Avenue A, Plattsmouth, NE 68048

I, the Authorized Representative of Plattsmouth Public Library Foundation, 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 __5th__day of _April___, 2012__

Patricia M Meisinger
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.

Attachment One
iArchives Quote

Date
March 29, 2012

iArchives

iArchives, Inc.
355 S. 520 W. Suite 250
Lindon, UT 84042
(801) 494-6527

iArchives Quote

Customer Name/Address/Phone Number
Karen Mier
Director
Plattsmouth Public Library

Plattsmouth Public Library - Newspaper Digitization 2012

Approx. Quantity	Description of Requested Services	Rate	Total
140,000	Microfilm scanning, Image enhancement, Integration of all required NDNP metadata, OCR in read-order, METS/ALTO production to LC's 2011-2013 standards	$ 0.55	$ 77,000.00
Included	Delivery of NDNP METS/ALTO files	$ -	$ -
	Total	$ 0.55	$ 77,000.00

DISCLAIMER
This quote is provided by iArchives Inc. and is based upon the accuracy of the information provided at the time of the quote. Any alteration or deviation from the specifics therein, will result in this quote being voided and iArchives will provide a new quote based upon the new information. With acceptance of this quote, the project will be processed according to the specifications defined within. All amounts owed shall be due and payable within thirty (30) days after the date of an invoice. Any amounts paid after such due date shall be subject to an interest charge of 18% per annum.

Client Signature

Attachment Two
North. Micrographics (4)

Northern Micrographics

COST PROPOSAL
Conservation/Preservation Services for Plattsmouth Public Library by Northern Micrographics

BASIS

- The Plattsmouth Public Library will provide approximately 142,800 pages of the *Plattsmouth Journal* newspaper on 35mm microfilm for digital imaging services.
- Northern Micrographics will grayscale each frame at 400dpi and save the resulting file as an uncompressed TIFF image.
- The Plattsmouth Public Library will assist in metadata creation by providing appropriate data elements as outlined by the ResCarta specification.
- Northern Micrographics will split, crop and deskew all files as necessary in preparation for text capture.
- Northern Micrographics will OCR each page and save the resulting file according to ResCarta data standards.
- Northern Micrographics will return all digital files on an external hard drive, unless otherwise specified.

PRICING

Grayscale scanning of 35mm microfilm at 400dpi, uncompressed TIFF	$0.16/frame
Splitting	$0.10/frame
Cropping	$0.09/each
Deskewing	$0.18/each
OCR	$0.12/each
External hard drive	at cost
Shipping	at cost

Optional Items

Cropping (auto)	$0.06/each
Deskewing (auto)	$0.06/each

Northern Micrographics

ESTIMATED PRICING – TOTAL

This estimate assumes that the Plattsmouth Public Library will provide approximately 142,800 pages of microfilm for scanning services. Approximately 60,000 frames (120,000 pages) will require splitting.

Item	Qty	Unit	Price	Total
Grayscale scanning of 35mm at 400dpi, TIFF	82,800	Frame	$0.16	$13,248.00
Splitting	60,000	Frame	$0.10	$6,000.00
Cropping	142,800	Page	$0.09	$12,852.00
Deskewing	142,800	Page	$0.18	$25,704.00
OCR, saved as ResCarta data files	142,800	Page	$0.12	$17,136.00
Estimated Project Total				**$74,940.00**

NOTE: Prices are approximate; the actual cost cannot be determined until all items are scanned. The estimated project cost does not include the external hard drive or film return shipping.

TERMS

1. Prices of are firm through June 29, 2012.
2. Prices are FOB La Crosse, WI. Payment terms are Net 30.
3. NMT Corporation accepts no liability and makes no warranty for the suitability, merchantability or use of scanned images furnished by NMT and makes no other warranty, express or implied, except that the scanned images meet the buyer's specifications. Any claims against NMT in violation of this paragraph shall be limited to the cost of replacement of the scanned images and must be filed within 60 days following shipment. In no event shall NMT be liable for direct, indirect, incidental or consequential or punitive damages.

Northern Micrographics

COST PROPOSAL
Conservation/Preservation Services for Plattsmouth Public Library by Northern Micrographics

BASIS

- The Plattsmouth Public Library will provide approximately 142,800 pages of the *Plattsmouth Journal* newspaper on 35mm microfilm for digital imaging services.
- Northern Micrographics will scan each frame of microfilm and develop output according to current National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) specification.
    - Deliverables outlined in LC technical guidelines include:
      Digital images in TIFF, JPEG, and PDF format; OCR text files in ALTO schema; issue/edition, page, and reel metadata; digital assets and metadata in a METS object structure, according to an XML Batch template structure.
    - The Plattsmouth Public Library will assist in metadata creation by providing appropriate data elements as outlined by the NDNP specification.
- Northern Micrographics will return all digital files on an external hard drive, unless otherwise specified.

PRICING

Microfilm scanning according to NDNP specifications $0.779/frame
External hard drive ..... at cost
Shipping ..... at cost

ESTIMATED PRICING – TOTAL

This estimate assumes that the Plattsmouth Public Library will provide approximately 142,800 pages of microfilm for scanning services.

Item	Qty	Unit	Price	Total
Microfilm scanning according to NDNP specifications	142,800	Page	$0.779	$111,241.20
Estimated Project Total				**$111,241.20**

NOTE: Prices are approximate; the actual cost cannot be determined until all items are scanned. The estimated project cost does not include the external hard drive or film return shipping.

Northern Micrographics

TERMS

1. Prices of are firm through June 29, 2012.

2. Prices are FOB La Crosse, WI. Payment terms are Net 30.

3. NMT Corporation accepts no liability and makes no warranty for the suitability, merchantability or use of scanned images furnished by NMT and makes no other warranty, express or implied, except that the scanned images meet the buyer's specifications. Any claims against NMT in violation of this paragraph shall be limited to the cost of replacement of the scanned images and must be filed within 60 days following shipment. In no event shall NMT be liable for direct, indirect, incidental or consequential or punitive damages.

Attachment Three
Support Letter-Duey

CASS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

646 Main Street, Plattsmouth, NE 68048

April 6, 2012

Executive Director
Nebraska State Records Board
440 S. 8th St., Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508-2294

Dear Sir,

As President of the Board of Directors of the Cass County Historical Society, I am delighted to offer my full support of the Plattsmouth Public Library's grant application to digitize their archive of Plattsmouth newspapers. This effort will greatly advance the library's efforts to make the history of Plattsmouth and Cass County readily available to its patrons.

Genealogy is a popular activity, and it will become more so as the baby-boom generation retires. It is worth noting that within the first few hours after it released the 1940 census records, the National Archives website had over 37 million hits.

Digitizing the Plattsmouth newspapers will greatly facilitate searches, allowing interested people to search the newspapers by keyword from any computer on the Internet. Unlike microfilm, digital copies can be accessed by more than one user concurrently online. Furthermore, digital format is considerably more durable than microfilm.

The Plattsmouth Library's digitization project will enhance awareness of and access to the history of Plattsmouth and Cass County. For these reasons, I wholeheartedly back the Plattsmouth Public Library in this effort.

Sincerely,

Douglas V. Duey

Douglas V. Duey
President, Cass County Historical Society

Attachment Four
Support Letter-Journal

The Journal
Bringing you your hometown news since 1881
Keeping you covered Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow...

410 Main Street,
Plattsmouth, NE 68048

April 6, 2012

Executive Director
Nebraska State Records Board
440 S. Eighth St., Suite 210
Lincoln, Neb 68508-2294

Dear Executive Director:

For many years, people have come to The Journal wanting articles and photographs published in the past. We have not been able to fulfill their requests for many reasons.

First, when the newspaper was purchased from the Miller Family, the new owners threw away the Journal's archives including photographs. Although we have bound editions dating back to 1951, they are fragile and we do not allow the public to go through them anymore.

Due to the economic decline over the past few years, we have suffered staff cutbacks and do not have the labor pool available to look up and photocopy information for the public.

Although we have put our pages on CDs over the past nine years, we have changed our computers and programs and cannot open many of them any more.

Knowing these circumstances, you can see Plattsmouth Public Library's project to digitalize The Journal issues, as well as eight other former but now out of print newspaper editions has our whole-hearted support.

Library staff is more than willing to help people with genealogy and other historic research. Newspapers, as you well know, have a wealth of reliable information the public needs to complete its research projects to a professional level.

We at The Journal encourage you to consider the library's grant request for funds to pursue its digitalization project. Geneology and historic research requests are increasing, especially since Plattsmouth is a historic town and is becoming a destination point due to its many historic buildings.

This project would preserve vital and complete historic records now unavailable to the public. Grant funding is esssential for the project to move forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely and respectfully yours,

Patti Jo Peterson
The Journal managing editor and
Plattsmouth Public Library Board member

Attachment Five
Support Letter-UNL

CENTER FOR DIGITAL RESEARCH IN THE HUMANITIES
A joint initiative of the UNL Libraries and
the College of Arts and Sciences

Ms. Karen Mier
Plattsmouth Public Library
Plattsmouth, Nebraska

6 April 2012

Dear Ms. Mier:

Thank you for your recent calls regarding Plattsmouth, Nebraska newspapers and a possible relationship between digitization of your community's pre-1923 newspapers and the aims of the National Digital Newspaper Program (hereafter referred to as NDNP--see http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov) funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The NEH grant for Nebraska is now ending after producing about 265,000 pages of digitized, historically-significant Nebraska newspaper content for *Chronicling America* at the Library of Congress. To host additional content, including some papers out of scope for the NDNP, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Center for Digital Research in the Humanities has developed a site called *Nebraska Newspapers* at http://nebnewspapers.unl.edu. Technologically, any Nebraska newspaper content digitized using the NDNP specifications and which is in the public domain (pre-1923) can be incorporated into our site.

After your first call, I contacted the National Endowment for the Humanities. They indicated that if the pre-1923 papers were digitized according to the NDNP specifications and met the criteria for scope, there is the possibility of inclusion in *Chronicling America* in the future. This seemed a cautious response since the Library of Congress would need to agree and no time frame was specified. In the event it is not possible to host your content at the Library of Congress anytime soon, it may be possible to host it instead on *Nebraska Newspapers*. This would be dependent upon your project meeting the national specifications for the imaging and metadata and also ensuring that the content is in the public domain. I am happy to discuss this with you further when you are ready.

In conclusion, I want to indicate my sincere support for your project since historical content of newspapers is of great interest to students, scholars and the public.

All the best,

Katherine L. Walter

Katherine L. Walter
Director, Nebraska Digital Newspaper Project
Co-director, Center for Digital Research in the Humanities

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