

THE JOGIS NEWS

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UPCOMING EVENTS

GIS Day is an annual global event where thousands of users of geographic information system (GIS) technology open their doors to businesses, schools and the general public to showcase real-world applications of this exciting technology.

The City of Johannesburg's Corporate GIS Department is participating in the fifth international **GIS Day on Wednesday, 19 November 2003.**

Displays at the Metro Centre (8th Floor, A Block) in Braamfontein will introduce customers to the products and services of the department. The department's professional staff will be on duty to discuss geographic information requirements and to answer related queries.



Corporate GIS's new **Internet GIS mapping site** will be officially launched early in the new year. More information about the free access facility and the subscription service is published in this newsletter.



Zoning Information

Capture started in July 2003 and zoning information for a total of 162 344 stands, out of an estimated 600000 stands, was captured by the end of October 2003. All the capture and scanning of the related amendment scheme documents is done in house by the Data Administration and Mapping section. The reason for keeping the project in house is to make best use of available knowledge and expertise and to ensure that the information counter continues to operate without inconvenience to clients.

The scanned A and B series Scheme maps on CD will continue to be updated and made available until the full data set is completed on GIS. For more information see the Johannesburg website at www.joburg.org.za or contact rethav@joburg.org.za.

Street Addresses

All existing, formally allocated, street addresses have been captured for 300831 stands and have been available on the GIS Intranet site since July 2003. Data is still outstanding for Midrand due to the large number of corrections and new allocations that must be attended to. Other areas such as Ennerdale, Orange Farm and Soweto where a combination of street numbers, stand numbers and house numbers are currently in use will systematically be captured with the implementation of official addresses and the allocation of street names in conjunction with public participation and information processes undertaken by the various regions. For more information contact pieterd@joburg.org.za.

Cadastral Capture and Maintenance

The Data Cleanup Project resulted in an agreement with Revenue Department that all new records created on the Billing System must be validated by GIS to ensure the systems stay synchronized. This will ultimately result in an improved data set for both departments as well as client departments.

Monthly updates generally average up to 2000 records however in September more than 20 000 records were captured due to large townships and extensions like Bram Fischerville and Tsepisong.

Fax Information Service

The fax information service, which is in operation since February 2002, now has a client base of 260 and is still growing on a monthly basis. The Fax Service currently processes 500 to 600 faxes containing in the region of 1000 to 1200 queries per month.

The Internet site is expected to alleviate some of the workload from the service but queries for zoning and Surveyor General data will not be available electronically in this financial year.

Public Information Counter

The public information counter by now is well known to be a hectic place to visit. The staff put in a hard days work to keep clients happy and do an excellent job taking into account that we are still dealing with 14 Town Planning Schemes.

Being the only information counter that provides property information in the Metro an average of 2000 clients are served per month (excluding the Fax Service). The many diverse and unique requests ensure that the information assistants rely extensively on the information and functionality provided by the GIS intranet site.

For more information contact pieterd@joburg.org.za.

Proposed Township System

As reported in the last newsletter, a separate layer has been created on the GIS for the layout plans of proposed (and not yet approved) townships. The layout plans are scanned when a new township application is received and these images are then placed in the correct position (registered to the cadastre) so that a user can see "what is in the pipeline" in a specific area. More than 200 layout plans have been added in an attempt to address the proposed townships as submitted since September 2001. For more information contact marcelleh@joburg.org.za.

Corporate GIS Projects

During the three-month period of July to September 2003 project requests from 217 clients were dealt with, resulting in the production of 641 maps and 122 aerial prints as well as 64 digital data requests. In total 121 new clients were attended to.

Ongoing Geodatabase Development

The final stage of the SDE project, the migration of the cadastral capture routines and cadastral data (not yet loaded in SDE) to the Geodatabase (SQL Server) and Windows environment, is on track for completion by end December 2003. The cadastral database and capture tools will be redesigned to ensure more efficient capture, maintenance and supply of cadastral data. The Zoning, Street Addressing and Proposed Township Systems will also link to the cadastral and township database to provide a comprehensive digital cadastral and planning information GIS for the City of Johannesburg.

New Aerial Photography

Fortunately the weather cooperated and flying of the new Joburg 2003 digital aerial photography was completed in July 2003 at a scale of 1:12 500 and a spatial resolution of 0.25m. The film has been scanned and triangulation, block adjustment and DEM editing completed. The final stage, which involves rectification and mosaicing to create a seamless orthophoto, is under way with the final dataset due for delivery in December 2003.

A few sample images have been delivered and the image quality is excellent. Corporate GIS has retained the copyright and digital orthophotos, 5m contours and hardcopy prints will be available from January 2004.

Council Intranet IMS Sites

Corporate GIS officially launched its new IMS websites for the City of Johannesburg and UAC's in November 2003. The new improved websites feature better search capabilities as well as greater functionality, and have been available from the 15th October 2003 to allow a transition period from the old to new websites.

The new non-subscription website, <http://cgisims/website/imsf> with basic functionality and data, will be freely available, within the Council. This website will replace <http://cgisims/website/unicity>. The new subscription based website, <http://cgisims/website/ims>, will replace <http://cgisims/website/unicity2000>. New user names and passwords for the new subscriber website ([ims](http://cgisims/website/ims)) have been supplied to contact people at the Departments and UACs, who already subscribe to the website. If your department or UAC is a subscriber to the Corporate GIS Website and you have not received the new user names for your department or UAC, please contact the following representatives:

- Dev. Planning, Transportation and Environment: John Hanekom Economic Development: Vinod Singh or Li Pernegger
- Housing: Joanna Pogulis
- Valuations: Andre Du Bruyn Meyer
- Region 9: Thys Pretorius
- City Parks: Willem van der Merwe
- City Power: Derek Oliver
- Johannesburg Property Company: Thea Kunkel
- Johannesburg Roads Agency: Ron Neeleman

Please note that the new user name and password will only work with <http://cgisims/website/ims>. Your "old" user name and password will ONLY work with <http://cgisims/website/unicity2000>. **Unicity2000** and **Unicity** are not available as from the 3rd November 2003.

If you have any queries, problems or comments with regard to the new websites or require more information on how to subscribe, please email: ims@joburg.org.za.

Internet IMS Sites

There is also a demand for public access to the Council's data through the Internet and for this reason, an Internet Mapping Site (IMS) has recently been developed. Similar to the Intranet free and subscription access within the Council, the IMS site offers two levels of access: the first being a *free access* facility, providing basic information available to everyone; the second, a *subscription service*, with more detailed information and functionality available at a cost to the user. The free access is available on the Corporate GIS IMS website (<http://web.joburg.org.za/cojservices/imsqis.nsf>); however the subscription site is still being developed in conjunction with IBM and will be launched early in 2004. This subscription facility will allow a GIS customer to pay a subscription deposit via the ABSA credit card payment facility on the Internet and then to query GIS maps via the IMS subscription site. Each time a standard GIS action is performed on the site, e.g. zooming, panning or querying the database, a small amount (R0,50) will be deducted from the user's account. When a map is printed, a larger amount will be deducted.