Alaska Smart Communities Forum
February 25, 2020   8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.   BP Energy Center, Anchorage
Meeting Notes

Slide presentations (*) and links from presenters are posted on the Alaska Smart Communities Forum (https://akscf.matsugov.us).

Introductions (*)   Doug Miller

- Contact Doug if your organization/business can sponsor a future Forum. Sponsorship can be all or a portion of the cost.

Applying Data Analytics to Property Taxes (*)   Ben Matheson
                                                                                          Municipality of Anchorage

- Municipality has an agreement with PFD Administration to share dataset which assists verifying property ownership data and flag properties for follow-up.
- Every exemption cleaned up is an exemption that has a better chance of being proper for the future – not just removing exemptions from those who are not eligible, but also identifying property owners that should be receiving exemptions.

Questions:
- Any talk within team or teams about online form instead of paper form? Any way to check online to see whether exemptions have been approved?
  Through property tax bill pay online a citizen can see what exemptions have been approved. There is also an open data platform where citizens can see the exemptions. The Muni is currently digitizing the paper forms that have been received; they would like to make the forms available to be completed in the future, but will not look to planning this until the Muni has completed their CAMA system upgrade.

Deploying FirstNet Cellular Network (*)   Jim Dennis, Battalion Chief / Heather Wilson
                                                                                          Anchorage Fire Department

- Allows for better decision making and situational awareness – organizes the chaos.
- Allows for real-time data transfer to tablets in the response vehicles.
- Allows for transfer of information for patients ahead of arrival to the hospital.
- MOA has been building this implementation in their environment since Spring 2018.

Questions:
- Timeline for Band14 in Alaska?
  No firm timeline.
- Will all the infrastructure be compatible when Band 14 comes in?
  Cradlepoints are Band 14 compatible, will just need SIM cards swapped out.
- Are you using MOA Street Data or other data?
  They work closely with the MOA's GIS team to get address point data. FME script runs every night that pulls authoritative GIS data. They don't use turn-by-turn directions to get to incident – they use general information. When responding to a call, they don't need to hear the GPS voice telling them the turn, they need to hear information about location and response needs when they

Slide presentations (*) and links from presenters are posted on the Alaska Smart Communities Forum (https://akscf.matsugov.us).

> arrive from Dispatch. Cradlepoint modems get a lock on satellites better than their previous modems, which has given a huge increase in accuracy.

- Are applications being used to pass data back & forth?
- Two applications in unit provide mapping data; in the process of replacing these with a mobile CAD application.
- How far along are other depts. with FirstNet & how much do you interact with them?
  AFD provides all medical support Knik Bridge to Girdwood; fire is Anchorage is just fire response since Girdwood/Chugiak has volunteer fire. Chugiak is migrating to FirstNet; Girdwood will be next.
- Are Windows 10 devices being managed by AirWatch?
- Not at this time, being evaluated. They use Altiris Ghost for those devices. First priority was for phones and iPads.
- Is the AirWatch Content management system being used as well?
  Not at this time, just user profiles.

Updating the "State Plane Coordinate System" in Alaska (*)   Gwen Gervelis / Vailferree Brechtel
Alaska Dept of Natural Resources

- Current NGS Layer 2 Draft Map being proposed was been based on Boroughs and Census areas. It is expected, as the process moves forward, that this map will change some.

Questions:
- Has the Team considered talking to utility companies for input with Zone areas?
  No, but there will be less distortion than there is now across zones; utilities can also use the Zone 1 Layer that will cover the entire state.
- Is this change known by those who work within GIS or is there outreach needed?
  There have been communication within the GIS community and presentations to user groups like this one to help get the information out.

Smart Cities Roadmap (*)   Emily Yates, Smart Cities Director
City of Philadelphia

- Intent was to use RFI to develop RFP; lesson learned was need for broader view for their Smart Cities process. Process enabled silos within the city to begin working together for strategy.
- Spent two years developing strategy; wanted it to be flexibility and responsive, therefore no mission statement was written. Used lessons learned by other cities who had already developed a plan to help develop Roadmap.
- Collaboration/partnerships for projects with local universities (professors/grad students/researchers).
- Survey sent internally and externally to find ways to encourage/market use of more of the OpenData datasets.

Slide presentations (*) and links from presenters are posted on the Alaska Smart Communities Forum (https://akscf.matsugov.us).

Questions:
- You showed how you're using sensors. Are you doing any crowdsourcing where residents can feed info into data you're looking for?
  Not currently, but something they are hoping will come through the pilot on tap water; would like to pull in data to make informed data.
- Initiative to educate, which is why we do these forums. What are you doing to educate both your employees and the residents?
  Have not formally thought out and engaged the community in this at this time; trust building is important when asking for feedback. Subcommittee on Communication/Marketing is responsible for developing this. There is a Community Council member on the Advisory Committee.
- Can you tell us more about Azavea and why you are not working with your own platform?
  She has only been with the City for 5 months. Her understanding was Azavea saw the opportunity to provide this platform of OpenData Philly for the City and the City accepted. At this time there is no reason to build a second OpenData site for the City.
- Are the working groups functioning?
  A lot of time has been spent so far managing the start and functioning. First quarterly meeting will be soon.
- Do you find it challenging to make the department heads to give as much attention as their 'day job' – how is this buy-in functioning?
  There are varying levels of expectations for the time for those serving on the Advisory Committee and Working Groups; she has worked really hard to balance their capacity ability with the realistic expectations for what she is expecting; overall   Timeline/deliverables being developed with this balance in mind. Working hard not to add additional work onto plates that are already very full. She has had some that are consistent, some that has had inconsistent involvement; always reviewing group members and be creative to the challenges.

Data Rich "Smart" Communities: Examples, Challenges, Success Factors (*)   Doug Miller
Wostmann & Associates

- Biggest ROI for local government—citizens can be more informed.
  - If you have successes that you can share with others, please consider sharing at one of the upcoming Forums.
  - How have those present tried to address those?
    - Ryan/ARR: When he joined ARR there was no GIS program. He has overcome with little one-off pilot programs that showed savings without a full-blown investment. Now there are 5-7 departments that rely on what he has developed, which gives purpose for additional funding.
    - Kenny/MSB: Ability to provide cost savings. With the increase of work but no additional positions, important to show how it is helping staff work more efficiently. Assembly wants to hear with flat budget we did more.

Slide presentations (*) and links from presenters are posted on the Alaska Smart Communities Forum (https://akscf.matsugov.us).

- Partnerships allow for sharing and leveraging skill sets/platforms with each other.
- When you come to the next Forum, invite and bring a friend.
- Need to find a way to better get public input/engagement to meet their "always on" expectations.
- Desire to see executive involvement.

Announcements   Doug Miller

- If your organization can sponsor a Forum, please contact Doug.
- Invite a friend to the next Forum!