NEWS RELEASE

Distributed August 29, 2017

City of Nanaimo GIS - an indispensable tool with a new plan

Summary

The City of Nanaimo's Geographic Information System (GIS) took a notable step forward Monday following a presentation to Council detailing the future development of this important City service.

GIS technology has been used by the City since the 1990s to visualize, analyze and interpret data involving relationships, patterns and trends from geographic information collected over the course of a day, week, month or year. City services and projects, including critical functions like dispatch of emergency services, the approval of development applications and the evaluation of infrastructure, all benefit from the operation of and investment in effective GIS.

Strategic Link: Asset Management: Renewal and expansion of critical infrastructure.

Key Points

- The implementation of the new GIS Technology Plan recommendations including the appointment of an enterprise-wide GIS program leader, establishing a GIS training, education and knowledge transfer program as well as upgrading the City GIS spatial data infrastructure will result in improved usage and management of geographic information at the City.
- The plan was created using a phased approach that included a needs assessment across all departments, recommendations on how to improve the current service and the creation of five-year business and strategic plans.

Quotes

"By following the roadmap laid out in the City of Nanaimo GIS Technology Plan, residents of our community and visitors alike can expect to enjoy improved access to a wide variety of geographic information pertaining to our environment, community services, cultural features, community development, recreation opportunities, transportation and asset management."

Mark Willoughby
Senior GIS Specialist
City of Nanaimo

"The expanded use of GIS technology at the City of Nanaimo will lead to enhanced public safety together with the improved management of the assets and infrastructure that form the basis for the delivery of community services."

Brad McRae
Chief Operating Officer
City of Nanaimo

Quick Facts

- The City GIS currently stores and manages the geographic information for more than 600,000 objects and new objects are added on a daily basis.

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