

EDUCATION & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
OF THE
SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE
MINUTES

A meeting of the Education & Information Technology Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York on January 30, 2015.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leg. Sarah S. Anker, Chairperson
Leg. Monica Martinez, Vice Chair
Leg. Thomas Cilmi
Leg. Lou D'Amaro
Leg. Robert Trotta
Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Sarah Simpson, Assistant Counsel/Legislature
Jason Richberg, Chief Deputy Clerk/Legislature
Doug Miller, Acting Commissioner/Information Technology
Jim Daly, Director/GIS
Pat Connolly, Director/Telecommunications
Ben Zwirn, Suffolk Community College
Benny Pernice, Budget Review Office
Michael Pitcher, Aide to Presiding Officer
Amy Ellis, Aide to Leg. Anker
Maria Barbara, Aide to Leg. Cilmi
Justin Littell, Aide to Leg. D'Amaro
Greg Moran, Aide to Leg. Trotta
And all other interested parties

MINUTES TAKEN BY:

Diana Flesher, Court Stenographer

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 12:30 PM

CHAIRPERSON ANKER:

Welcome to the Education, Information Technology meeting. Please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Legislator D'Amaro.

SALUTATION

Please remain standing for a moment of silent meditation and prayer as we think of those protecting our Country.

MOMENT OF SILENCE OBSERVED

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Thank you. Okay, we have a very short agenda this afternoon. We do not have correspondence or public comment. But we do have a presentation. We have Doug Miller, the Director of Management Information Services. And he's going to provide us with an overview of recent developments in the Information and Technology Department. Welcome, Mr. Miller.

ACTING COMMISSIONER MILLER:

Thank you. I also have with me Jim Daly, our Director of GIS and Pat Connolly, Director of Telecommunications. So just a brief presentation that'll lead us into a more detailed presentation of what we offer in the world of GIS services. So I'll start off with a little history of our Department here.

This Department -- the Department of Information Technology was originally formed to support the County's mainframe in the early '70s. It's located in this complex, the North County Complex. We also have a Data Center in Riverhead, which we use for disaster recovery. In 2006 the Division of Data Processing was renamed to Department of Information Technology and made its own department. Used to be a Division of Civil Service.

So what we do, we have several divisions. We have the applications division, the payroll division, GIS. We do the security for the County, the servers, the mainframe. We do the web services. We provide desktop support for the departments that we are involved with. We do mobile device support. We run a little help desk. We do some -- the licensing for the County software; training and disposal of surplus equipment; telecommunications; division does the telephones for the County. We do cell sites and the Countywide area network and local area networks.

So what we do is we manage about 200 plus buildings with 340 network devices. We do telecommunications supports 12,000 plus telephone lines. We have about 176 servers with -- it changes everyday but 170 terabytes of storage right now. And we run 104 custom applications. We provide support for the departments. We provide the track and help desks either by phone or you can e-mail us to get that support.

Some of the things else we do, we do all the network connectivity to all the department locations, as I said, payroll, integrated financial system, the e-mail system. We protect the County from viruses and security threats, custom app -- applications to website and GIS.

So I just want to give you -- this is a little chart of how we're broken down by our staff. We have 33 staff supporting departmental functions. We have about 21 programmers, 26 technicians. There's six staff in the telecommunications unit. We have six people supporting payroll, four people

supporting the County website and the GIS Division has five. It's 114 total people in the Department with 19 vacant.

And now I'm going to give it to Jim to give you the actual kind of "wow" presentation of GIS. Okay.

MR. DALY:

Good afternoon. My name is Jim Daly. I'm the GIS Coordinator for Suffolk County. GIS, it's everywhere. I'd ask you to take a look at your phone, your tablets, your laptops, your TVs, your cars. If you think GIS isn't in your life, it's in your life everyday. All you have to do is look in the newspaper today even. And what you can see is two good examples of GIS that doesn't actually say GIS but this is a pretty good indication of how it's in our lives.

The first article has to do with shotspotter. You may have seen it today. It had to do with the Village of Hempstead and how they're using shotspotter. Shotspotter is a location-based technology. It uses GIS. The other article -- and that's a good use of GIS. And then the other article goes on to show about how big, corporate America is using data that they're collecting from you through your mobile devices on an everyday basis and how that's not so good for you at times. So GIS can be used in a good way and it can be used in a not-so-good way.

But the emphasis here is that I'd like for you guys to understand how powerful this technology is. It's so powerful, in fact, that I would assume that most of you, if not all of you, have used it in your political campaigns to understand information about your constituents in your Districts.

So that's the basis here. But GIS has come a long way in Suffolk County in the last 20 years. We used to be very siloed with it. And it's been my mission over the last 20 years to try and bring it into a more enterprise fashion so that, not just a few scientists or environmentalists or just a few with the know-how in the back rooms with a powerful computer could use it, but we wanted to also make sure that everyone could take part and use it. What we realized is that many people need to use GIS technology just to see and view certain data that's been spatially enabled. How do we take those spreadsheets, those tons and tons of spreadsheets we have buried throughout our County departments and how do we spatially enable those spreadsheets, how do we make those look like pictures on a map so that we can get a better view of what's going on with this data that we have? And the bottom line is how do we become more data-driven with spatial analysis.

So what we've done over the last few years is build upon what the Department of Information Technology has been doing with their extreme powerful network platform. And the beauty of GIS lately has been its ability to integrate itself throughout the whole IT infrastructure. And that wasn't the case a few years ago. So now we've brought it forth and we've been building on this ever since. And it's been -- you know, it's been a labor of love for me. I'm passionate about GIS but I've been fortunate to work with a lot of good County employees in my department who are also passionate to see it be a success. And these people are people like Pat Connolly and Telecom and Vin Cordiale and Network. And these guys are building this robust network that I'm able to sit my GIS platform on so that I can now put it out there in the hands of so many people. And these people are not just County employees, they're also the public.

See when we have people out there that want to design and build applications for County benefit or our use or the public's use, these people can go to a website, like our GIS portal that I'll demonstrate in a minute, and they can go there and they can look for data, they can search for ideas, search for data and then download it, use in their coding and build applications and then push these applications out.

So that's what we're about with GIS. We're about -- we're facilitators with geographic information. And we keep an eye on things like all the departments' needs and how their requirements for

imagery, for instance, 911 FRES, how they need to have their pictometry updated every few years because their responders in the field are listening to the CAD operators who are telling them -- giving them the lay of the land, the picture, if you will. And they're actually looking at a picture as they're talking to these responders in the field. So if they have a responder that's perhaps putting out a fire in the backyard, this CAD operator can look at a 360 degree view of that property and tell them, "hey, we know there's three feet of snow out there but be careful, there's an inground pool back there you might be walking on." This information is critical to these types of personnel that are responding throughout the County. And that's just one instance. So, again, that's what we do with GIS. We're facilitators throughout all the departments.

Basically with the portal -- it's a discovery tool. You can go to our GIS portal. It's on line. The public can access it. It can be used internally, securely or it can be used publicly. We set the rules on that, so to speak, so we can secure it, lock it down. And then we can create groups. For instance, we've created a street address management group. New York State has put together a program where they work with all the counties. And what they want to do is make sure that we're all on the same sheet of music with the same street information; want to make sure that we're all working together in a time of crisis with the same street and address information so that there's no mishaps. That's important.

But how do we do that? Well, it's being developed as we speak. We've got a group that we've assembled that consists of village people -- village (laughter) -- village employees, county employees and town employees as well as the Water Authority. And we brought these people together and we're using this site as a collaborative area to work from so that we can share the information. There's no rules that tell the towns to share street and address information with us. But we've taken it upon ourselves to realize that if we want these applications and the technology to work, we have to start putting together some kind of process that's going to pull this together and that we can ensure ourselves that it will work the next time a Sandy comes and hits and we can all, you know, play music from the same sheet as far as street information is concerned. And that's critical. And that's just another one instance of a fundamental data layer set.

So I can go into the portal and give you a quick demonstration if you'd like; or I can go on and talk about -- I've talked about collaboration and efficiencies. Well, I have examples of employees who are using the portal to put out their information as far as their analysis work. So, for instance, if one of the Suffolk County health employees has to share water quality analysis work, that person can upload that information and make it available to anybody in the Peconic Estuary System that needs that type of information and they can download that data and analysis work there, too. So it makes a good use of people's times in the County as well as -- it doesn't belabor us with a lot of data requests. These people know where to go to get this information. They don't have to, you know, encumber us with a lot of data requests. So the portal helps in that fashion as well.

This is an example of the GIS viewer I mentioned earlier. And you can get at this from our IT website. You see down here there's an icon for I-maps. So if you're a County employee, you come into the website, you click on I-map and you're taken to our viewing site. Now this is a site where you can go in and look at the latest aerials that we have and zoom in and zoom out and then click on all the various data layer sets that might be pertinent to what you need to find out. And, again, this is one of those applications that pretty much takes care of 90% of a lot of people's needs. They can go in and they can view -- get an idea of the lay of the land, ask, you know -- see what's there, what's not there and get a good indication of what they need to know and then move on from there. And that we see, we've got a lot of requests for that. So it's important that this application be up and running not only for internal use but also for public use. Because when -- if it should go down or it's down for maintenance, I get calls right away from real estate agents, lawyer -- law firms, you know, "what's up? I need to look at aerials. I need to, you know, see what's going on there." So it has a great deal of use internally and externally.

But this is the portal. You can go to Google and just Google Suffolk GIS portal. Up comes this site. This is the home page. These are the main applications that we support inside that. We support things like the drug mapping index, which IT Department works with the Police Department. And what we do is they provide us with heroin arrest records and then we again spatially enable that -- those records, and put them into a map, which was mandated by this Legislature to have up online. So basically the public can go in here and look at recent arrests related to heroin. That's just one example of one of the applications inside the portal.

Also what we do is we support the Planning Department with the Shellfish Aquaculture Program. And what we can do here is we can go in or our baymen can go in and look at what underwater lands are available and what the status is as far as if they'd like to cultivate those pieces of underwater land. And it goes on.

We also support the storm shelters, emergency shelters. So in the case of a storm and shelters start to open, we work with FRES and 911 to make sure that, you know, the website's being constantly updated for what shelters are open and what shelters are closing and also how to get there.

And a particular interest might be the Legislature website, which has now been upgraded to -- well, we kind of call it the voter information website. So we can click on perhaps some of these districts, go in there and maybe want to type an address. Let's see. Type in an address, hopefully we'll find it. We've got people in FRES updating the street address information, as I said earlier. It goes to that address point. And down below it gives you some information about that, where to go to vote. So it actually gives you directions as well. So you can click on more information about your elected official. And then that would go to the elected official's page. Again, just another example of the applications inside a portal. And it goes on.

We can -- again, like I said, we can use it internally with secure log on's up here. We would log in with our user ID and then we can go in and work securely and collaboratively with groups inside the County; or allow or invite other users outside the County to come in and collaborate with us as well. And that's sharing all types of data, not just GIS. So it's a very valuable tool. It's really what we call like a data discovery tool. Specifically it's been geared around GIS, but it really promotes the open use and sharing of information, specifically geographic information. And that's a quick overview of GIS and what we're doing with it in IT. Thank you.

ACTING COMMISSIONER MILLER:

That was our presentation. The GIS thing was probably, you know, the more interesting part of that. Do you have any -- anybody have any questions for us or Jim on the GIS?

CHAIRPERSON ANKER:

Yeah, I just want to thank you, you know, your Department. I think GIS is very important, especially keeping up with the new technology, and especially with public safety like you had mentioned, how we can coordinate that. I also want to thank you for your assistance with the websites, stopbullying.org, some of these other websites that the -- the Legislators are working on to provide resources for our community and putting taxpayer dollars to use. This is your job. You're doing what you need to do to get that information out there.

I have a question concerning GIS. Now do we charge when these real estate people or these attorneys call up and they need to use the maps?

MR. DALY:

No, we don't charge for that particular information. What we've done is set it up such that certain information is free. It's freedom of information. They could call up and request it. And what

we've experienced was, you know, if they file a Freedom Of Information Request, then what happens is it just takes us more time to fill that request. And we're ultimately going to have to do that anyway. So it just -- it makes more sense, literally sense to just go ahead and make it available to them seeing how it's free anyway. And a lot of it is just data that we have gathered from other agencies as well. So it's not always our data. So for us to charge for all data would be kind of unfair because there are, like I said, other agencies that are giving data to us to put up there on the viewers.

CHAIRPERSON ANKER:

Do we have to pay for some of that data available?

MR. DALY:

Well, we pay for data such as imagery. And imagery is data. And, yes, we do pay for that -- for the pictometry imagery that I spoke of earlier. Yes, it's an expensive but highly map intelligent imagery data set that the 911 operators depend on. And I think that needs to be improved and it should be updated.

We also have to pay for improved resolution when we work with the State. The County doesn't do the auto imagery flies every other year. The State does that for us and we work cooperatively with them but we supplement the resolution with more funding. So, yes, we do pay for some data.

CHAIRPERSON ANKER:

Again, I'm just thinking of ways that the County can, you know, create a revenue source to help with this technology that's going to keep, you know, it's going to increase as far as expenses as we, you know, develop it more and more in the future.

MR. DALY:

Well, we have seen certain towns developed what they call GIS professional services websites where they pay a prescription fee. We'd like to get to that area. But the fact is, is that with a small skeleton crew, it's hard to get programmers to develop such an application and pull that altogether. The possibility is there, yes. But then again with the growing trend that -- open data is the way to go, that it actually pays dividends in more intrinsic ways than just selling it, you know, piece by piece. You know, I'm open for open data. That's my thing. I think data should be open and shared freely. Like I said earlier, when you've got people out there who can download these data sets and create applications that benefit all the public, why not open the data? Why hold it back? Because if you're going to charge \$5,000 for a piece of data set that, you know, a college student can't afford to create a bus app that the residents of Suffolk County could benefit with, it doesn't make sense.

CHAIRPERSON ANKER:

No, what I'm thinking, again, if it's professional, like an attorney or real estate, you know, person, if they're charging their clients for using, you know, our free data, that was the thought that was going through my mind. But, again, whatever we can do to benefit the public, that's what's most important.

MR. DALY:

Yes, I agree. And professional services website would be that answer. So, yes. We could give them more and charge them something for that, that's true.

CHAIRPERSON ANKER:

Legislator Cilmi has a question.

LEG. CILMI:

Thanks for the presentation. You shared a couple of examples of why a Legislator's office might use this technology that we have to serve our constituents. Do you have any other examples? And it might be cool to send us like a weekly or -- maybe not weekly, maybe monthly heads-up "did you know that you could do this with our GIS system?" You know, we're often times looking for ways that we can better serve our constituents. And when somebody calls us with a question about something, you know, those of us who have been here longer might know where to go to get the answers or who to ask for answers when -- the reality of it is it may be right at our fingertips, on our computer screens. So the more information that you can share with us in terms of the potential of this system, from our point of view, the better it will be for us and for our residents.

MR. DALY:

Yes, we can send out like a newsletter or a bulletin. I do have a distribution list. We can certainly add all the Legislature members on that; no problem. And we'll do that. We'll send out -- there's more coming. We expect some new things in 2015, some new applications. We're working with DPW and transportation. And we hope to see, you know, more bus applications coming out and helping the public. So we'd like to keep you abreast of that as well.

LEG. CILMI:

So if I wanted to see, for example, every parcel in Suffolk County that's designated as parkland, could I do that through this system?

MR. DALY:

Could you? Yes. Would you be able to do it today? Maybe not entirely. The reason is, is that there are other, I guess, potential issues in the background, that being siloed information, are we all making sure that we're putting -- you know, like I mentioned, those spread sheets that we have in the back room on our computers, are they being pushed up into a centralized area where their system could take advantage of that information? And is that information being formatted in the requirements that I need to make that happen? That's all not happening a hundred percent yet, but that's -- like I said, that's been my mission, is to try to get everybody to kind of come together and agree that this is the way your data needs to be formatted and replicated to a point where we can centralize that and make, you know, enterprise use of it. I heard enterprise is not a very popular term these days, but in my world it's what is making all the convenience and the leveraging of this data and information possible.

So it's necessary if you want to be able to do that. We just have to make sure that those -- those primary custodians of those data sets are working cooperatively with our department. And sometimes they're not always easily identifiable. So we need to make sure, okay -- and then even amongst ourselves, we're not sure, well, you've got that part of the data set and I've got part of the data set, but who's got the whole data set? These are answers that we're not always sure of.

LEG. CILMI:

What if I wanted to see where we have sewer lines or sewage treatment plants and the extent to which they serve residents in any given area?

MR. DALY:

I can send you the link to that website.

LEG. CILMI:

Okay, so we have that.

MR. DALY:

I have a map on the portal that you can go to. Do you want me to give it a shot right now?

LEG. CILMI:

Sure, why not.

MR. DALY:

If you go into portal and just type in a question about a -- if you got a question about sewers, just go in there and type sewers, sometimes you get -- we've got static maps that the Planning Department has put up there. And I've taken them and posted those. And then we've got applications. So this is the sewer infrastructure. Now the Planning Department in conjunction with DPW and a few others, they did this wastewater study or the sewer infrastructure. And then what I did was I've taken a lot of the data that Planning and DPW had all pulled together and I took those files and then I put them, you know, working cooperatively again with those departments. And they were ensuring that the data was made -- the way that I need it, I was able to go in and then put this up. So this is available to the public right here. Anyone can go in and look at this information and zoom in on it and look at the sewer data. These are sewer districts. You can go down use the legend, if it's public, private, County, State and get that information. And you can click on it and then you can get information about that particular sewage treatment plant or district or pipes, I guess, whatever -- whatever infrastructure is there for sewer. So, yes, we have examples that we've been doing this, but we need to do more of it evidently.

LEG. CILMI:

What about affordable housing?

MR. DALY:

We've touched that. We prototyped a couple of those applications. There has been some concerns as to whether or not certain data that's used for the criteria of that selection, you know, to put it out there in full public use, there's been some concerns there. So we're kind of in progress and on hold on that.

LEG. CILMI:

Okay. So I guess to sort of wrap up, you can see my wheels spinning in terms of where, you know, where we could use this. And so the more that you can share with us, and I'll certainly go back to my office and now I'm going to be thinking about this more and more, the more you could share with us, the better off I think it'll be for -- again, for our residents and the more appreciation we'll have of the resource that you've created over the length of time you've been here with the County. Thank you.

MR. DALY:

One of the constraints that I'm aware of right now is it's programming. You know, we've knocked down barriers for collecting data. And we've gotten cooperation for the data to come out of the silos and re-format the way we need them. So, we've made great strides in that regard. But where we're at a sticking point right now is how do you take that data in a web environment using GIS technology with remote databases and you assemble all that together? You need -- I've said it here before, you know, if you could find people that have those three skill sets, they're very valuable to me. But the other thing is you have to pay them. There's a couple of ways we can do that. You know, we can outsource it, which is not something I'm comfortable with because it doesn't always seem to have a long lasting relationship. So I prefer to develop talent inhouse. I mean I could go down the road with the problems with that, how do you -- how do you update Civil Service titles so that I can bring in these types of talented technology people that are young and willing to work? But they know what they're worth. And if you're going to pay them, you know, at a basic computer programmer's pay that we have at Civil Service, it's not going to work. So, it's just -- and the onion, you can just keep peeling back here.

But data programming, programming, codeamerica.org, you know, I'm telling my kids,

programming -- there's going to be so many demands for jobs for programming in the near future that we're not going to be able to fill them. And I need programmers that can take the data that we've started to accumulate and to process it and put it into the applications that are going to be pertinent to these strategic solutions directly related to these missions.

LEG. CILMI:

One more question, Madam Chair. So what about -- you mentioned heroin. What about crime in general? Could we get on here and --

MR. DALY:

Yes. The Police Department are using the portal right now. As I said, the portal can be used securely. So the Suffolk County Police Department -- I work with Detective Shulder and he puts in that information where these crimes happen and the attribute information associated with those crimes. And he makes sort of like a pin map. Now that's secured data. And I can't pull that up, but the Police Department, you should know, use the portal to provide the Department of Justice, I believe, that crime map for, I believe, racial incidents or racial profiling, whatever that issue is. So that's how they -- and, again, that's another good use of how IT is using portal to support the Police Department to fulfill a mandate to the Federal level. So -- and they're using portal to do that. So that's crime mapping inside of GIS.

CHAIRPERSON ANKER:

I just want to mention we have -- our next committee starts in less than five minutes. I don't want -- you guys can continue but --

LEG. CILMI:

Yeah, we'll have a longer conversation, I guess, afterwards.

CHAIRPERSON ANKER:

Okay. Presiding Gregory has a question for you. Officer.

P.O. GREGORY:

Presiding Gregory, really? (Laughter) They told me I got paid by the letter so you just cut my salary (Laughter).

Just quickly, you know, with the recent snowstorm, you know, traveling the roads, you see people standing out in the street who are taking the -- taking our busses or utilizing our bus service, do we have information that pinpoints where the shelters are throughout the County?

MR. DALY:

The emergency shelters or the bus shelters?

P.O. GREGORY:

No, the bus shelters. Sorry.

MR. DALY:

We have bus stops information. And I can't say for sure whether or not each bus stop would give me that attribute information as to whether or not it has a shelter associated with it. But I can check with DPW and I would think that they do, but I can't say for sure.

P.O. GREGORY:

Okay. And a little off topic, I was at an event just earlier today in Farmingdale. And Rob Walker, the Deputy County Executive for Nassau was there. And he had referenced that they have an app where someone can just hold up their cell phone and it tells them what available jobs there are. I

don't know how that happens technology-wise, but I thought that was kind of amazing. Do we have that ability? Obviously we could do something similar, I would imagine, but have we thought along those lines of making something like that available for Suffolk County residents? And what would be involved in that?

ACTING COMMISSIONER MILLER:

So a Civil Service application that I guess shows them what tests are being offered type of an application? We have -- we do a Civil Service application. We don't have a mobile --

P.O. GREGORY:

Right.

ACTING COMMISSIONER MILLER:

-- right now, but it could be converted to that if that made sense to do.

P.O. GREGORY:

Okay, okay, that's pretty cool. All right.

CHAIRPERSON ANKER:

You're welcome. I also want to mention how the situation sparks the balance between security, cost, accessibility. It gets -- it would seem it would be a little bit complicated, especially if it's public, you know, knowledge of public accessibility. How do you -- how do you judge -- are there federal regulations as far as what data you can release and what not to release?

MR. DALY:

Regarding GIS?

CHAIRPERSON ANKER:

(Nodding head yes)

MR. DALY:

Yeah, there are -- you know, we -- when we share data with somebody, we ask them, you know, is this available to be shared with the public or not? And then, you know, if they say no, this is sensitive data -- we like to put in the metadata, that's the data about that data, that that's the case with it. So if it is -- if it needs to be securely maintained, then that's what we'll do. But we don't always -- you know, when you're trying to look for data, you don't always know where it's coming from. And you want to be careful just to put it out there and -- because there's no metadata attached to it, it doesn't mean you should just put it out there because you have it.

CHAIRPERSON ANKER:

Right.

MR. DALY:

So we have to be careful of that.

CHAIRPERSON ANKER:

Right. And also, you know, data changes by the second. So, again, it's got to be a somewhat complicated situation. But, again, it seems like you guys are doing a great job. Legislator Trotta has a question.

LEG. TROTТА:

Quick question. Did you ever think of partnering with someone like, you know, if you type your address in, it'll tell you what fire district you're in, who your Supervisor is, who the Town Board is,

what Police precinct you're in, what sector you're in; like a general -- *hey, this is my address, this is everything about my address: What school district, what plow thing, what garbage company, what -- everything.* So -- and I'm not saying, you know, look into partnering with like Google or someone like that and say -- you know, you're all doing the same thing which is doing things based upon your address.

MR. DALY:

Yeah, and that's something that we've looked at with a viewer. I can go back and pull up the viewer again. I know we don't have time, but I can talk to you about that on the side. If you go to the viewer and you find your address, you can then go down on the table of contents. And all that data that you just spoke of is on the left-hand side. You can click it on and click it off. By that -- by viewing, that's becoming spatially aware of that information. There's a couple ways you can do it: Attribute-wise or you can do it spatially.

We'd like to do it the way you just spoke of. However, a lot of those data sets, they change all the time and they're not ours. They're at the local level. They're at the Town level; they're at the Village level. And we don't always have those data-sharing agreements with these entities. And that's one of the issues that I'm still working on, is how do we share that information? You know, Towns do zoning. That's their thing. We don't. But we'd like to have that zoning information on a regular basis. How do we get that updated all the time? Streets is another issue. Addresses change. Towns make the addresses. How do we coordinate XY coordinates with the street address information? These are the things that I work -- that we're working on on an ad hoc basis. We're trying to make this happen and no one's really telling us that the law is to make it happen.

But in certain cases, I think, if you ask me right now should we have some sort of resolution that has the Towns work together with the County to ensure that we have the most up-to-date street information as they are the authoritative source on setting the addresses, I think that should be in place because we're struggling with that right now. We've got all these town boards and village boards that each one of the people that I work with, they have to put forth these resolutions to try and get it so that they can work with me and work with the State representatives that are doing it at the State level. You know, these types of underlying technology data sets are key to making the big applications working when the big time crisis comes. So -- I mean not to say that the sky is falling, but this should be happening on an everyday basis just for picking up garbage even.

CHAIRPERSON ANKER:

Okay. Legislator Martinez.

LEG. MARTINEZ:

Good afternoon. Just a quick question. In terms of the updating and the putting out the information, how long is the process from when something takes place to the time it goes up onto this portal?

MR. DALY:

That varies by the data set. So if a particular data set has a cycle that's noted inside the metadata, that's the information about that particular data set, we look to update it on that cycle. And sometimes it's relied upon. The trigger is usually with the primary custodian of that data set. So if it's us and we can get it from another department, you know, we'll set an automatic trigger, take time to update this data set. If not, you know, we rely on the person, perhaps the agent outside of our County, and maybe one of the towns to update their particular data set that they've helped us put in the portal. So it varies by data set.

LEG. MARTINEZ:

So let's take, for example, the -- right now I'm on the drug mapping. Okay. How long would that

take?

MR. DALY:

Well, there we have a -- sometimes one to two months, I guess you call latency. Because the issues with that is the arrest data that comes in from the Police Department has to be geo-coded to a level that doesn't, I guess, pinpoint it too close to someone's address. For instance, if the address (sic) should happen in front of someone's house and that's the address they use for the arrest, one might presume that that address is where the heroin was inside. And that's not the case. So we have to -- we need a little bit of time to make sure that we can geo-code that to a hamlet level such that we just say *it happened inside this community*. We're not saying where exactly it happened because that would be unfair to the person where the arrest happened outside their door. So sometimes it takes a little bit longer so, therefore, the latency with data. And, again, every data set has those type of, you know, unique issues to it. Sometimes it's a day-by-day, data-set-by-data-set, move along, you know, one-brick-at-a-time process.

LEG. MARTINEZ:

Thank you. And just one more question. For example, same mapping that I'm on, the date is 20140703. I don't --

MR. DALY:

Some communities don't have arrests, you know, for a few months. You might see -- one community there doesn't -- hasn't had arrests in almost a year. And then some have it up until like -- I think the most -- the latest we can have it in that particular arrest situation might be two months ago. So we might have -- we might be wrapping up November of last year.

LEG. MARTINEZ:

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON ANKER:

Okay. If our Legislators have no further questions, you have no further business, this Committee meeting is adjourned. Thank you.

**THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:02 PM
{ } DENOTES SPELLED PHONETICALLY**