Early Voting Wait Times: 2016 Election Mobile & Web GIS Mapping

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OUTLINE

- Cobb County GIS Program
- Elections Web Map
  - Early Voting, Wait Times
  - ESRI Collector & Story Map
Cobb County GIS Program

Overview
Cobb County

- Northwest Georgia (USA), Atlanta Metro
- Population: ~ 750,000
- 340 square miles
- IT: County GIS Manager & 3 Staff
- Departments: 35 Professional Full-time, GIS staff
- Average 25,000/monthly public users of web maps
- Support 5000 internal staff with data & web-maps
Cobb GIS Software and Applications

- ESRI: data development, maps, analysis, ArcGIS Online.
- Latitude Geographics Geocortex Essentials: web & mobile mapping
- Pictometry: Imagery (ortho & oblique) and integration software
- Numerous enterprise software that GIS supports including: Cartegraph, Maximo, Accela, Pistol RMS, OnBase and Motorola
Elections GIS Project

Early Voting Wait Times
Georgia Started Early Voting (Advanced Voting) in 2003
  - Postal
  - In Person

- 2008 in Cobb County, 149,164 people who voted early
- 2012 in Cobb county, 126,208 people who voted early
- County historically posted wait times on web-page... manual update of times
- 2016 Voter participation expected to exceed 2008
Development of Elections & GIS Partnership

2006
• Precinct & Polling locations added to enterprise GIS system/database and web maps.

2012-2016
• Elections staff not ready for change from state system for web GIS. We keep in contact.
Development of Elections & GIS Partnership

Summer 2016

• Elections staff watched an ESRI video about elections & GIS.

Friday Aug 5th

• We LOVE GIS!
• Make us an app & story maps to be ready for fall election.
Development Schedule:

- Friday Aug 5\textsuperscript{th} 2016 – First meeting with Elections
  1. Instantaneous wait times on a web-map
  2. No more manual content web-page updates
  3. Story Map: links, voter information, requirements etc..
  4. Needs to be completed and ready by 1\textsuperscript{st} week in October

- ESRI came on-site to assist with project in Mid September
  - Collector App & Story Map Site completed by Cobb
  - Ready for staff testing on Sept 21\textsuperscript{st} – WOOHOO!!!
MURPHY’S LAW....

Friday Sept 23rd, Data Center “FLOOD”... 8 GIS servers destroyed
GIS TEAM, System Rebuild: Sept 23 through Mid October.

- Order, Install & Configure new servers
- Rebuild all SQL databases, scripts & security settings from Backups
- Dealt with Crypto Virus on servers
- FTP server & Data Sales rebuilt
- Work arounds for: *Elections*, Public Safety, GIS Editors & others

**NOVEMBER 9th:**
implemented the FINAL piece of our system to get it back to 100%
Work Around Recovery Efforts (because the world didn’t stop)

- Elections:
  - All data moved to AGO cloud
  - Reconfigured sites and editors
  - Various login profiles (custom)

Other Actions:
- Moved data (that we could find) to ESRI Open Data
- Set up virtual server for temporary data warehouse
- Repointed story-maps to cloud based data
- Used Laptops for basic maps and analysis
Elections: Collector App to update wait times

Conducted 2 training sessions, for poll workers & provided written instructions.
ESRI Story Map: Smartphone, Tablet & Desktop

Early Voting
Oct 17th: 2 locations Open
Oct 31st: 11 total locations
November 4th: Last Day
Early Voting for Cobb County, 2016

- 38 percent of Cobb County voters participated in Early Voting
- Election numbers show 161,112 ballots had been cast in the county as of the last day of early voting.

(2012 in Cobb county, 126,208 people who voted early)
Word Of Mouth: Last Day of Early voting 28,061 users!

- AJC
- Local News Stations
- LinkedIn
- ESRI Communications Dept
- Facebook:
  - Various Cobb County Groups
  - County web-page
Benefits of using Collector & Story Map for Elections

- Collector is a FREE app
- Set up generic AGO user names & password. Can disable them until next election
- Real time updates: Set a 1 minute refresh schedule on all maps.
- Story Map tabs can be turned on & off when election is over.

** If you go to the link now, you will see information for the current US Congressional District 6 runoff.**
QUESTIONS

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