The Revealing Nature of a GIS HealthCheck

Presented by
Ernie Smith, GISP, CFM Newton County GIS
Kevin Stewart, GISP, Account Manager, GISi
Who We Are

- Newton County, GA is a community of 99,958 (2010 Census) citizens (62,001 2000 Census)
- We have 5 Municipalities
- Home to Film and TV productions
- Home of Channing Cope
- We are part of the Metro Atlanta “ex-urban” fringe
- The County started the Migration to GIS in 1997
- The county had 2 pc’s
Newton County, GA
Newton County GIS

• We are an Enterprise made up of:
  – Newton County Board of Commissioners
  – City of Covington
  – Newton County Water and Sewerage Authority

• Funding is mutually supplied by formula

• We maintain an Enterprise License Agreement with ESRI

• Core staff of 6 with 2 dedicated off-site
Problem

• Do more with less
• Maintain level of service
• Plan to weather the storm and position for future
• Expand our Service Delivery to further reduce cost of operations for other County functions
Why do you want to see the Doctor?

- Our perspective was entirely local
- Feel OK but how much can we take?
- Is the anxiety real?
- What can we do to make us stronger?
- When was the last time you saw the Doctor?
- My thumb hurts when I do this....
- OK open your mouth and say “Ahhhh...”
The Doctor is in!!
What Doctor do you need?

- Dentist?
- Proctologist?
- OB/GYN?
- Psychiatrist?
- Surgeon?
- Podiatrist?
- All of the Above?
What Fit?

- Someone who had a National/International perspective on GIS and GIS Services
- Someone who would take time and ask questions
- Someone who had expertise with hardware
- Someone who knew wider data and software trends
- Someone who could compare our house to other operations
Solution
GIS HealthCheck

GIS HealthCheck
- Technical Diagnostics (tests)
- Business Utilization Assessment
- Suggestion for Improvement

Enterprise Prescription for the Future

GIS HealthCheck

Technical
- Software
- Architecture
- Data

Utilization
- Awareness & Funding
- Integration

General Prescription
- Short-Term Prescription
  - Initializing & Maintaining
  - Building the Quick Win
- Mid-Term Prescription
  - Maintaining & Enabling
- Long-Term Prescription
  - Optimizing
Results

• Surprising
• Justified budget requests
• Roadmap for our Enterprise GIS
  – Modify our Server Architecture
  – Employ GIS Portal protocols
  – Employ Mobile GIS
  – Integrate Engineering and Utilities
  – Public Works
  – Emergency Management (Fire, Law Enforcement, First Responders)
  – Development Services
Questions?

Ernie Smith  
GIS Manager  
Newton County, GA  
Phone: (678) 625-1615  
Email: esmith@co.newton.ga.us

Kevin Stewart  
Account Manager  
Geographic Information Services, Inc.  
Phone: 205.941.0442 x 135  
Email: kstewart@gisinc.com  
www.gisinc.com  
http://blog.gisinc.com