

# DeKalb County, Georgia Evolution of Municipal Wastewater Asset Management Program

From Paper to CAD to ArcGIS and Beyond

Darren S. Eastall  
Sean Kilpatrick

DeKalb County, Georgia  
Brown and Caldwell



**Brown** AND  
**Caldwell**

# Overview slide

- About the County
- Where they started
- Where they are now
- What we see in the future



# DeKalb County Data management at the turn of the century

- Rolls of maps on the wall



# DeKalb County Unique Challenges & Opportunities

- Third largest County in Georgia
- Population of 700 thousand
- Even mix of older urban and new development
- Some sewers more than 100 years old



# DeKalb County's Department of Watershed Management:

- Manages Water Distribution / Wastewater Collections Systems
- Sanitary Sewer
  - 225,000 customers
  - Over 60 sewage lift stations
  - 31 miles of forcemains
  - 2,600 miles of gravity main (b/w 6" & 54")
  - Approx 70K manholes
  - Currently under \$1.2 billion dollar consent decree

# Asset management in the “good old days”

- Microstation SDE
  - Microstation mapping
  - Oracle database backend
- Record drawings on Microfiche
- Crews used large (36x48 in) printouts to work in the field
- Where are those manholes?



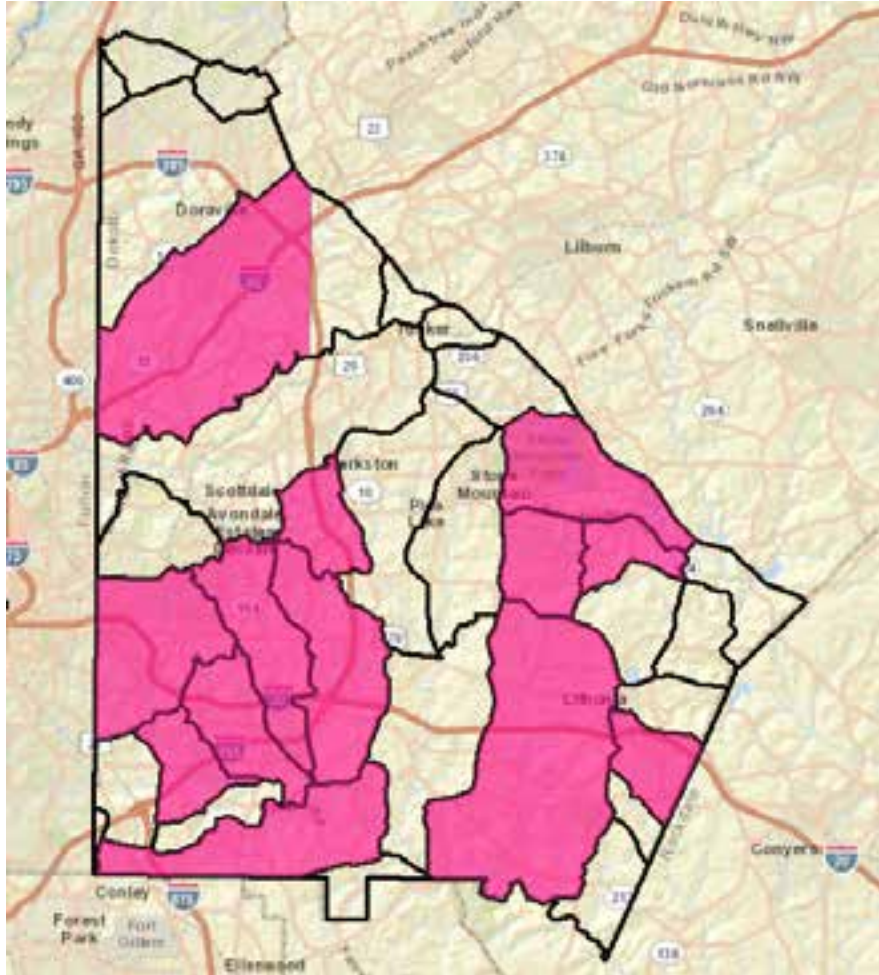
# Mapping of Collection System Scope of Work

BC has been mapping DeKalb since 2006:

- County requires inventory and mapping of all sewer assets
- Consent-driven project
- Cornerstone for management of sewer system



# DeKalb Mapping Phase 1



- 2006-2011
- Brown and Caldwell responsible for:
  - Inventory and condition assessment of 30,000 sewer manholes
  - Inventory and survey of 62 sanitary sewer lift stations
- Covered about half of the County



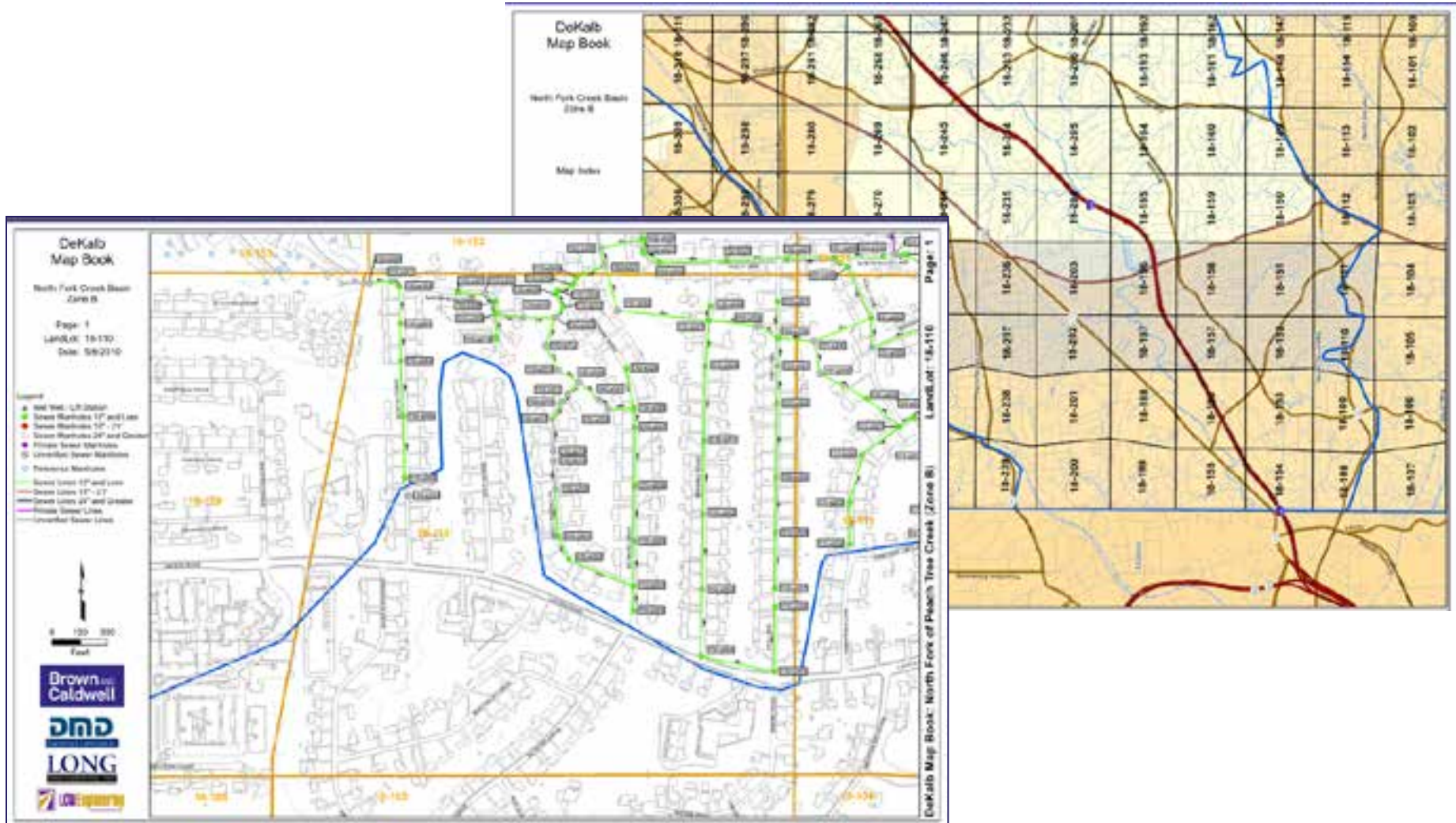
# BC's workflow

## Phase 1 of the mapping project

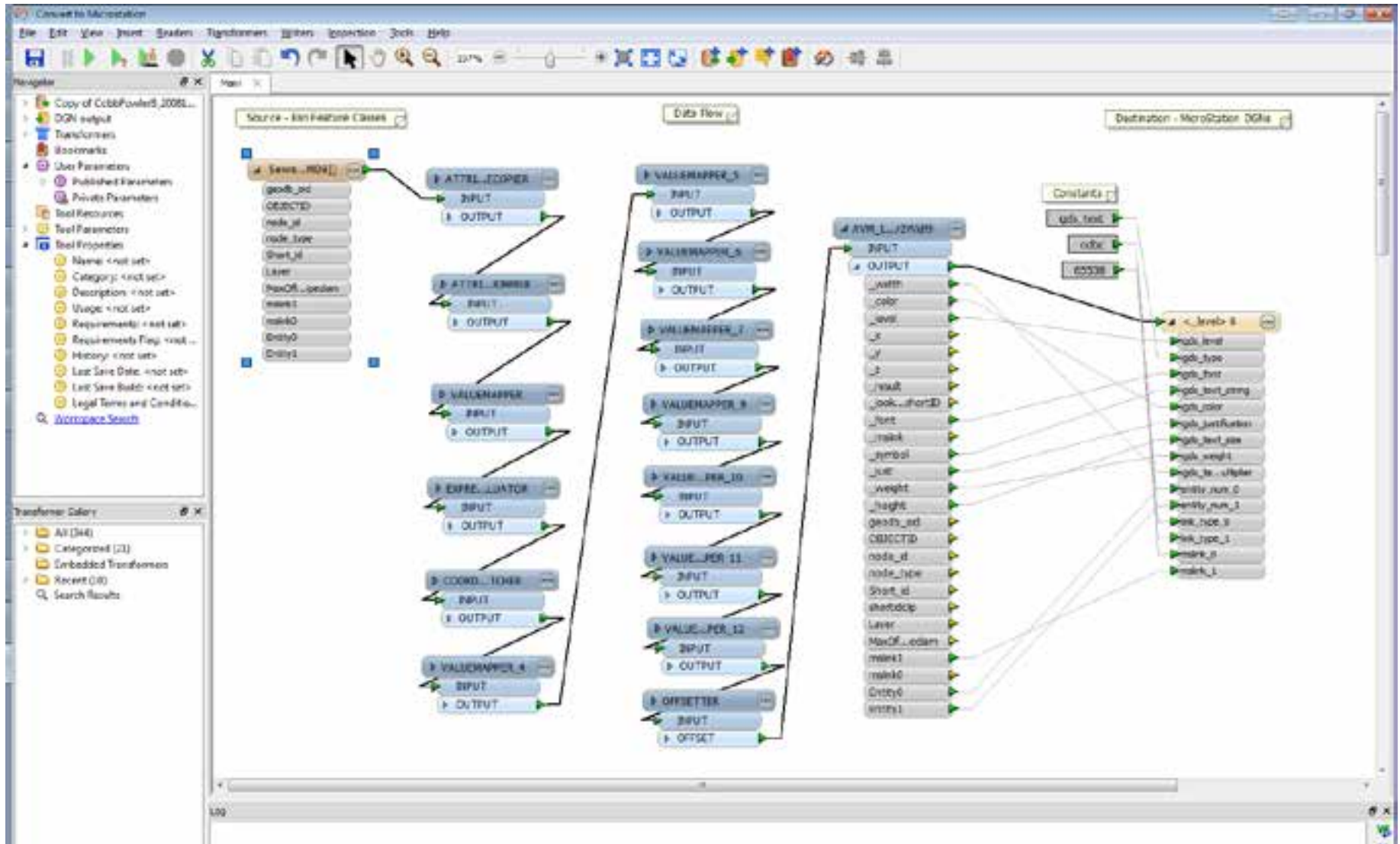
- Received as-built data from DeKalb in DGN
- BC converted data to shapefiles – ArcGIS 9.3
  - Used spatial queries to associate manhole ID's with nodes
  - Manually reviewed each map for correctness
- Used precursor to Data Driven Pages to generate mapbooks for field crews
- Two field crews visited, for condition assessment and survey
- Field crews used paper forms
  - Entered into Access DB
- Data scrubbed in InfoNet, then exported to a GDB
- Data run through Data Interop for export to Microstation DGN files
- County received Access DB and DGN files



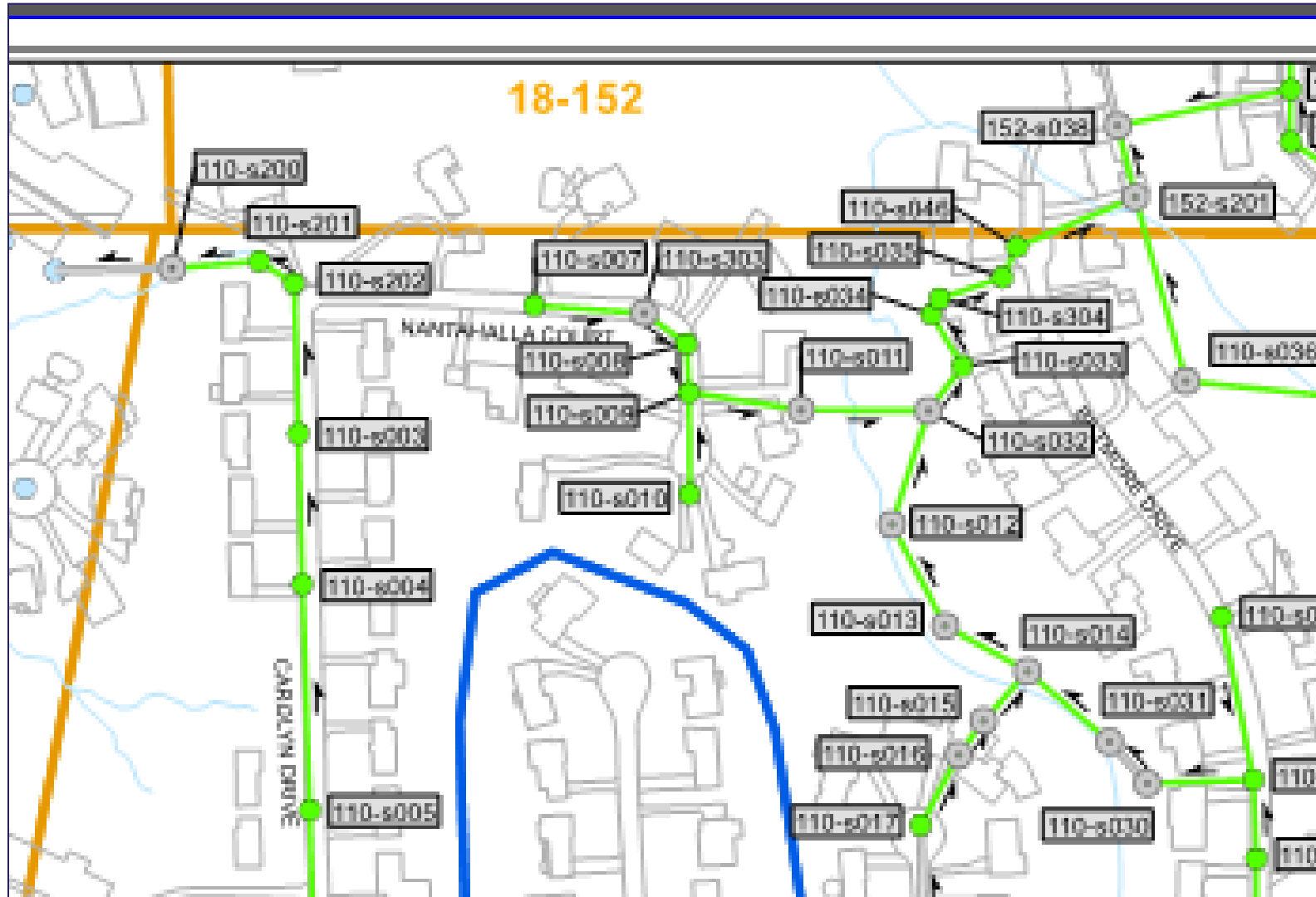
# Field crew mapbooks generated Using third-party Data Driven Pages Extension



# Data Interop Crucial to generation of final product



# Deliverable mapbooks generated using annotation for manhole labeling



# DeKalb mapping: Phase 1

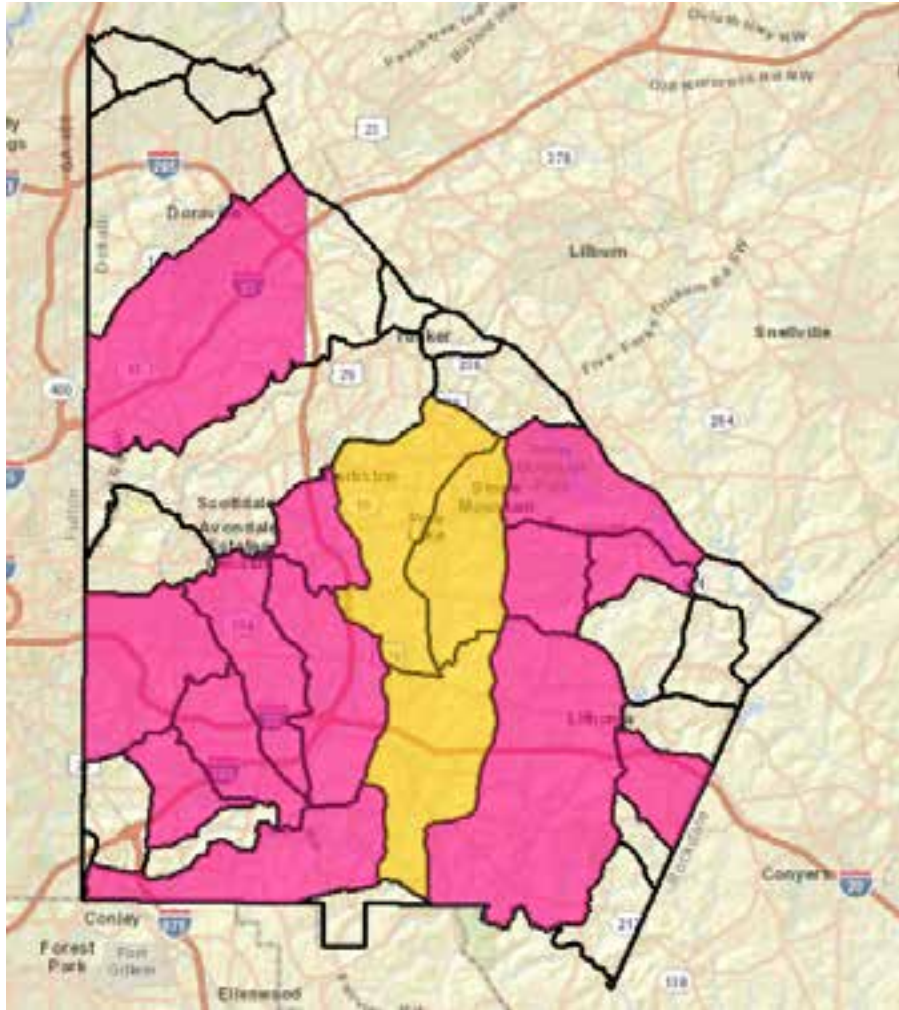
## Final results

- At the end of project the County had:
  - Updated manhole locations and connectivity for 30K manholes
  - DGN file with manhole locations & updated ID's
  - Access database with system info
  - Photos and videos of manhole locations, interiors, and defects
  - Enough information to populate CIP list and make hydraulic models

# Imagine pages of a calendar turning quickly: State of data management at Dekalb in 2014

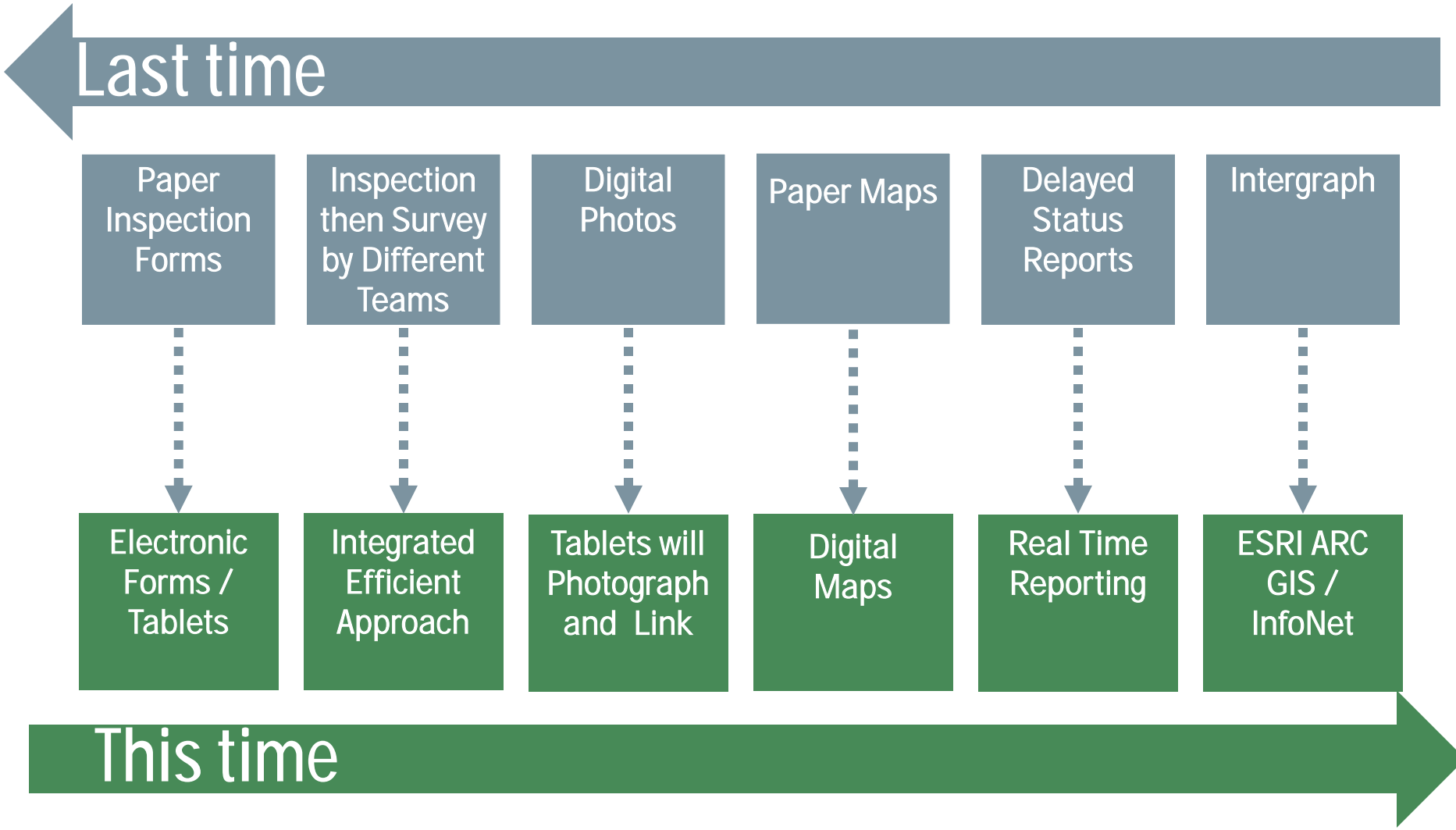
- Desktop and server are 10.1 going to 10.2
- Multiple Flex viewers for different groups and applications.
- GIS now used in all divisions of department
- GIS used in Consent Decree for modeling, capacity, rehabilitation planning, CIP, CMMS, FOG, customer education, overflow prevention.
- ArcOnline account used for damage prevention, and field crews

# DeKalb Mapping Phases 2 & 3



- 2013-2015
- Covered remainder of the County
- Phase 2
  - Contract to locate manholes in priority sewer basins awarded to three prime teams
  - Brown and Caldwell responsible for inventory and survey of around 10,000 manholes
- Phase 3
  - Locate as many of the previously buried or inaccessible structures as possible

# Innovation





# DeKalb Mapping Differences at County between Phases 1 & 2

## Phase 1 - 2006

- County stored asset data in Microstation SDE
  - Provided collections system data to BC in .DGN format
  - Limited access to other planimetric basedata
- Aerial photos provided regularly, with limitations
  - File sizes were unwieldy
  - Resolution not always great
- Consultants needed to provide data in DGN format to import back into system

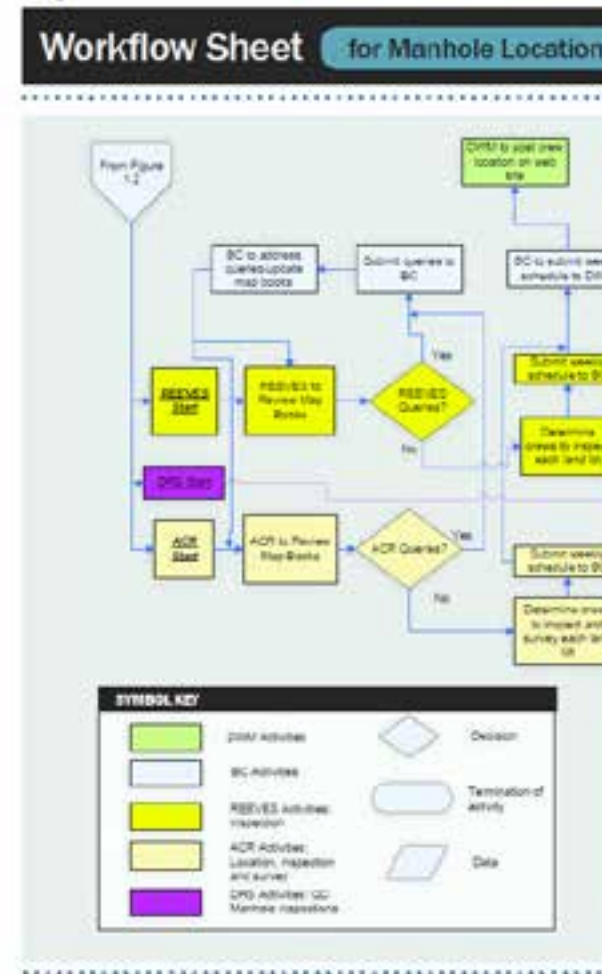
## Phase 2 - 2013

- County had converted to ArcGIS for all mapping data
  - Able to provide all data in ESRI format
- Consultants able to use streaming aerials via ArcGIS online
- Consultants provide ArcGIS geodatabase as final deliverable
  - Much easier to integrate back into main database

# DeKalb Mapping Phase 2 Improvements

Much easier with everything in ArcGIS!

- Data Driven pages built into ArcGIS 10.0 and later –
  - No need for 3<sup>rd</sup> party extensions like DS Mapbook
- Everyone using ArcGIS
  - Easier for Consultants to start work
  - No more need for Data Interop
  - Easier to share work inside County
- Auto-Labeling tools much stronger:
  - No more manual label adjustment



# What does the future hold?

- ArcGIS online
  - Communicating with field crews on tablets
  - Removing extra lines of communication
  - Locating problem areas more easily
  - Looking at integrating with CMM
  - Dashboards and public information
- County has mapping of system substantially complete
  - Locate 5% buried / CNL structures
  - Repair structures identified as defective
  - Hydraulic modeling to be completed 2015



# Questions?

Darren Eastall

Dekalb County Dept of Watershed Management

1580 **Roadhaven** Drive Stone Mountain, GA 30083

[dseast@dekalbcountyga.gov](mailto:dseast@dekalbcountyga.gov)

Sean Kilpatrick

Brown and Caldwell

990 Hammond Drive Suite 400

Atlanta GA 30328

[skilpatrick@brwnncald.com](mailto:skilpatrick@brwnncald.com)