

In response to questions regarding our GIS system.

1. Number of trained GIS staff.

The production group is composed of seven people in Public Works and one in the Fire Department. There are a number of people across the city who use the GIS data for reporting, etc. and over two hundred users who use the maps for general purpose use.

2. Annual budget for GIS - estimates broken down by start-up and maintenance. (If you are still getting your system up and running or if you are maintaining and updating the information now)

The initial start-up and conversion cost was about \$2 million. The annual maintenance cost is \$80,000. This does not include payroll for the eight production people. We have been in maintenance mode since 1989.

3. Information regarding the department that oversees and maintains the GIS program in your city or town - Community Development, Engineering, Technology, etc. or does each department control its own "layer"?

The Public Works Department, specifically the Engineering Division, maintains the base dataset and standards. Currently, only the Fire Department and Planning & Zoning develop additional datasets.

4. Year your town or city started working with a GIS.

The actual City Project start date was in 1982. Data conversion started in 1985 and continued through 1989.

5. The departments that are currently using GIS and have access to the information. All departments have the ability to access the data.

6. Information on how you obtained your base maps - did the city or town do it themselves or was it contracted out, if so, to whom? And at what cost?

The base maps were created by the City with the data collection and organization done by City staff and the digital conversion done by two consultants, Mid-States Engineering and Mapping Automation. The initial conversion and the equipment cost was roughly \$2 million.

Other specific conversion information:

City of Tempe's GIS system datum basis is survey control. The City did quarter section control before the data conversion started and all maps are built to this control. In our system, we do no 'digitizing' of data but use survey and legal property descriptions for the property maps which gives us, in many cases, sub-inch accuracy.

The production platform we use is Bentley's MicroStation CADD with Intergraph's MGE. While there are a number of production platforms available, CADD-based platforms allow better accuracy control.

Both these differences can add to the costs of maintaining the dataset.

The City covers 46,000 parcels and 45 sections.

Thank you for your inquiry,

Michael C. Gatewood, Engineering Systems Supervisor
Public Works Department
Engineering Division
City of Tempe
P.O. Box 5002
31 E 5th St
Tempe AZ 85280
E-Mail: mailto:mike_gatewood@tempe.gov
(480) 350-8430
(480) 350-8591 (fax)