

Phillips Neighborhood Environmental Inventory

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Outline

- Background
- Project Steps
- Results
- Conclusions
- Questions



Background

- GreenSpace Partners of the Phillips neighborhood in Minneapolis
 - Non-profit organization
 - Goal: Ensure that community development projects respect the community's need for greenspace
- Revive the Phillips Neighborhood Environmental Inventory
- Use as a neighborhood planning tool



Background (cont.)

- Five Categories of Data:
 - Sources of Pollution
 - Urban Greenspace
 - Transportation and the Built Environment
 - People
 - Social Infrastructure

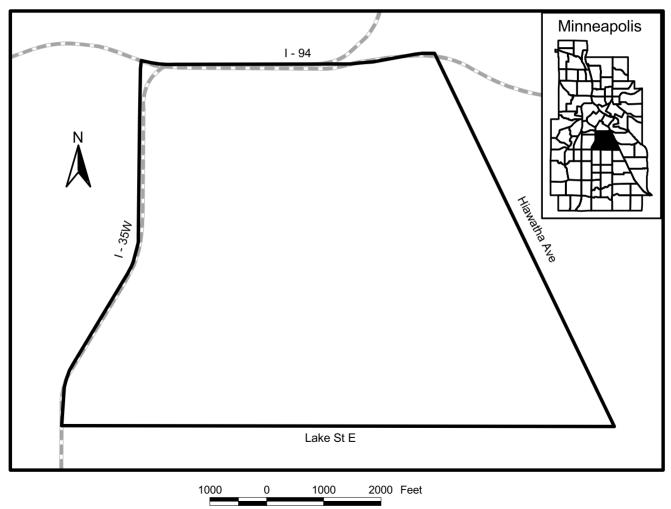


Background (cont.)

- Capstone project for MGIS program
 - "GIS and the Internet: Tools for Neighborhood Access to Information"
- Research question
 - "Which type of website is more effective in the display of geographic information at the neighborhood level: a website that shows preconstructed static maps or one that contains an interactive map server?"



Project Area





Project Steps

- Data Collection
- Website Construction
- User Survey



Data Collection

- Salvage data from previous PNEI project
- Collect new layers
 - Online sources
 - Neighborhood contacts
 - Field collection
 - GreenSpace Partners



Website Construction

- Create Internet Map Server
 - Mapserver
 - Map file
 - Template file
 - Query Results pages
 - Help page
 - Metadata



Website Construction (cont.)

- Create Static Maps
 - PDF files
 - Eight maps
 - Greenspace
 - Pollution Sites & Greenspace
 - Neighborhood Facilities & Greenspace
 - Land Use
 - Property Values
 - Census 2000: Percent Non-White
 - Census 2000: Percent Less Than 21 Years Old
 - Census 2000: Population Density (per Square Mile)



User Survey

- Formulate questions
 - General Information
 - Quantitative and Qualitative
 - Appearance
 - Difficulty of Use
 - Content
 - Usefulness
 - Overall
- Distribute survey after website launch



Results

- 20 survey respondents
- General Information
 - Varied Internet connections
 - 68.4% High speed connection
 - 31.6% Dial-up modem



Results (cont.)

- Appearance
 - Positive reactions for both the Internet Map Server and Static Maps
- Difficulty of Use
 - Positive reaction for Static Maps
 - Mixed reaction for the Internet Map Server



Results (cont.)

- Content
 - Satisfaction with the data content of the Internet Map Server
 - Less satisfaction with the content of Static Maps
- Usefulness
 - Both the Internet Map Server and Static Maps were deemed useful



Results (cont.)

Overall

- Respondents would use the two sections of the website equally
- They indicated that the website is useful
- A majority of them estimated they would use the website less than 30 minutes a week



Conclusions

- Answer to research question
 - Internet Map Server and Static Maps are equally effective
 - Complementary
- Each useful in different scenarios
 - Internet Map Server better for site-specific data
 - Static Maps better for neighborhood-scale data



Conclusions (cont.)

- Know your audience
 - Non-technical audience
 - Simple is better
 - Unnecessary additional features can hinder users from obtaining the full benefits of an Internet Map Server
 - More complicated websites and lengthy instructions can overwhelm users and discourage them from using an Internet Map Server



Questions?

PNEI Website

http://www.socsci.umn.edu/~pitt0031