Managing Change and Setting Governance Goals in a Growing County
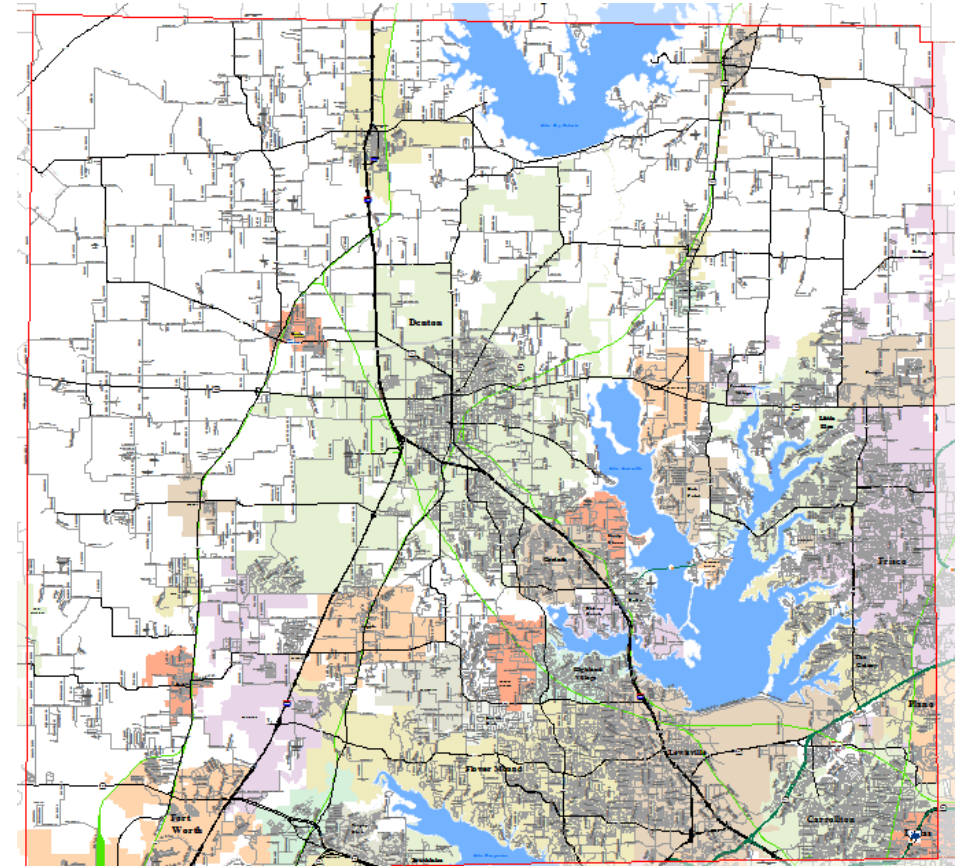
Aliza Etkind

GIS Analyst

Denton County GIS

Objectives

- Define Governance

- Denton County GIS Governance

- Future DCGIS Governance

- Challenges in Governance

- How you can benefit from your own governance model

Denton County

- 836,210 people (2018 est.)

- 45 cities

- >900 square miles
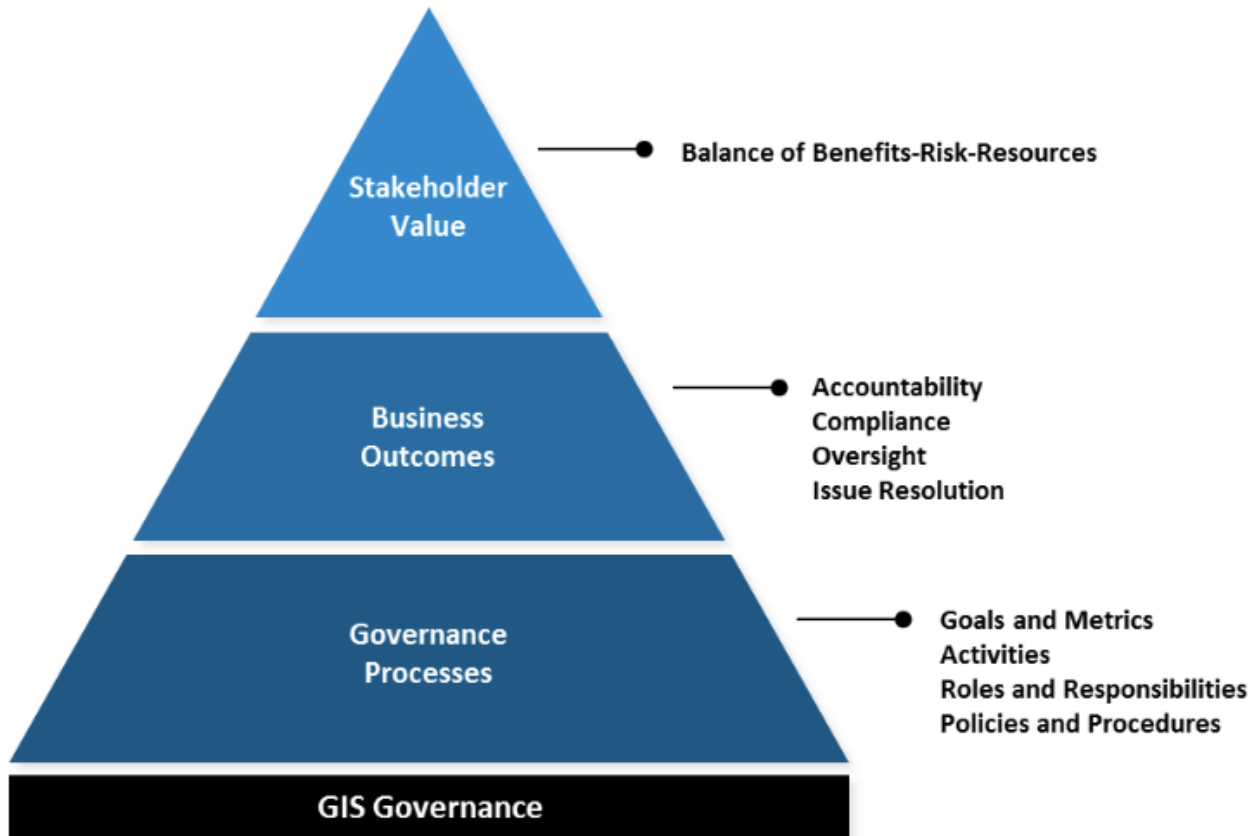

Overview Map

What is Governance?

- What are the important decisions?

- Who makes these important decisions?

- Who are the stakeholders?

- What outcomes do we want to achieve?

- "Done right, governance creates a system of accountability that defines and enforces the rights of stakeholders."

  -Matthew Lewin, Practice Manager for ESRI Canada

https://resources.esri.ca/news-and-updates/governance-for-gis-decisions-and-decision-making

Denton County GIS Governance

Balance of Benefits-Risk-Resources

Accountability
Compliance
Oversight
Issue Resolution

Goals and Metrics
Activities
Roles and Responsibilities
Policies and Procedures

Stakeholder Value

Business Outcomes

Governance Processes

GIS Governance

Utility Permits Driveway Permits

Denton County Development Permit Management

View / Edit Existing Permit | **Add New Permit**

Select a Permit

RNumber:

Permit Number:

Property Address:

Owner Name:

Applicant Name:

Legal Description:

Select Permits

Search Permits

Who Are Our Stakeholders?

Residents of Denton County

Elected Officials

Denton County Departments

Denton County Civil Servants

Municipalities, School Districts, Law and Fire Departments, Special Districts, Non-Profits, Other Public Entities

Why Do We Need Governance?

- Denton County has 45 municipalities, 28 fire departments, 41 police departments, and 136 special districts.

- All of these entities rely in some way on data and mapping products that Denton County GIS provides

Departments That Heavily Rely on GIS

- Road and Bridge Departments

- Sheriff's Office

- Planning and Zoning
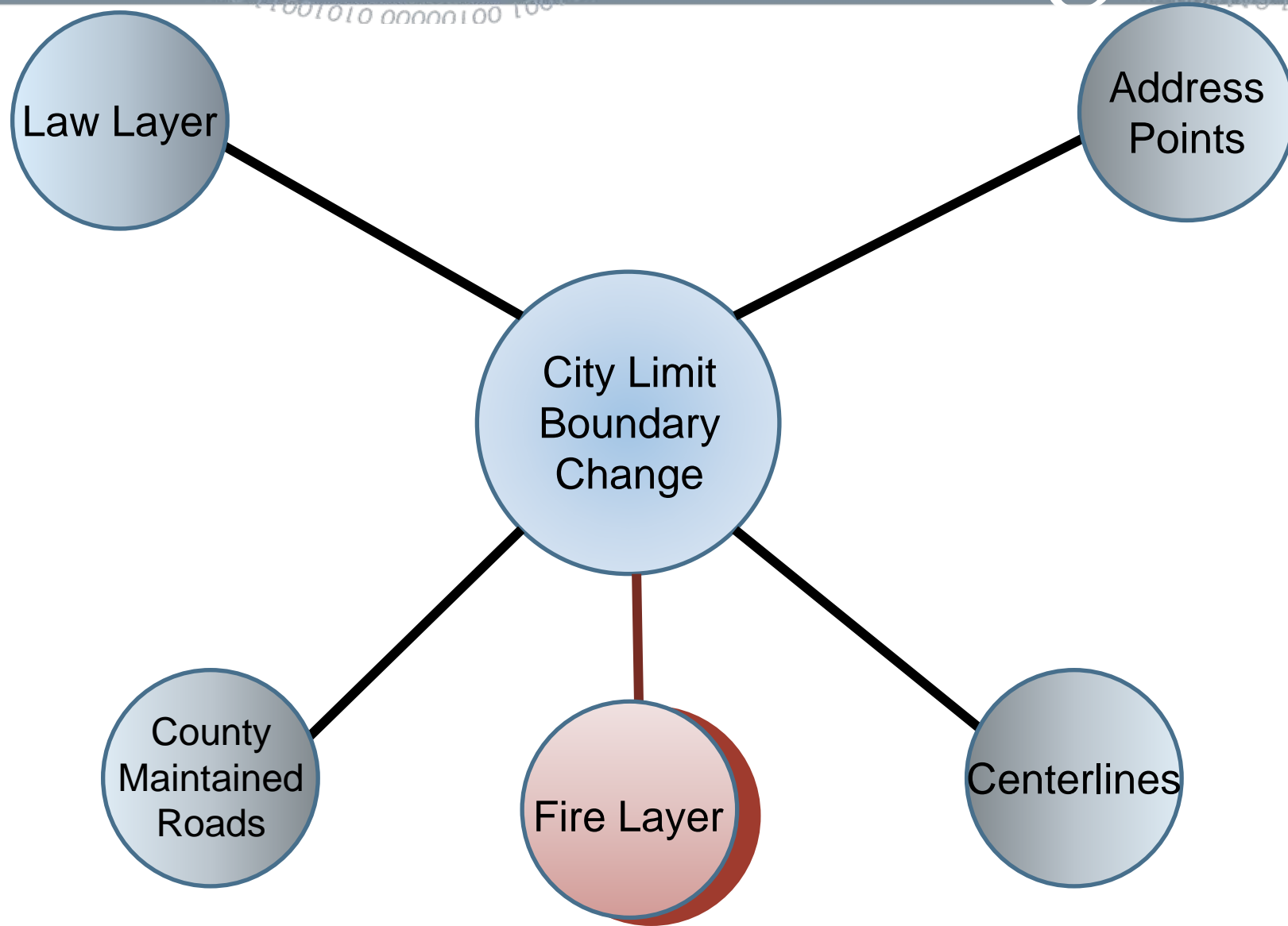
- Elections

- Public and Environmental Health

Layers

- Fire Layer
- Law Layer
- Address Points
- Road centerlines
- City Limits
- Address Points
- School Districts

- Special taxing and utility districts
- Voter precincts
- City Limits
- County Maintained Roads

City Limits

Annexation Changes

When an Annexation happened is important

Texas Local Government Code

Sec. 43.106

Annexation of County Roads
Required in Certain Circumstances

(a) A municipality that proposes to annex any portion of a county road or territory that abuts a county road must also annex the entire width of the county road and the adjacent right-of-way on both sides of the county road.

(b) If a road annexed under Subsection (a) is a gravel road, the county retains control of granting access to the road and its right-of-way from property that:

    (1) is not located in the boundaries of the annexing municipality; and

    (2) is adjacent to the road and right-of-way.

When an Annexation happened is important

This law went into effect on August 12, 2017. Any annexation that happened after that date are subject to this law.

https://legiscan.com/TX/text/SB6/2017/X1

SUBCHAPTER C-5. ANNEXATION OF AREAS WITH POPULATION OF AT LEAST

200: TIER 2 MUNICIPALITIES

Sec. 43.069. APPLICABILITY. This subchapter applies only

to a tier 2 municipality.

Sec. 43.0691. AUTHORITY TO ANNEX. A municipality may annex

an area with a population of 200 or more only if the following

conditions are met, as applicable:

(1) the municipality holds an election in the area

proposed to be annexed at which the qualified voters of the area may

vote on the question of the annexation and a majority of the votes

received at the election approve the annexation; and

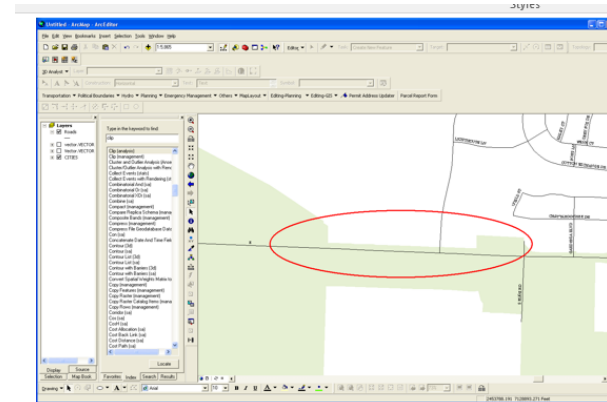(2) if the registered voters of the area do not own

more than 50 percent of the land in the area, the municipality

obtains consent to annex the area through a petition signed by more

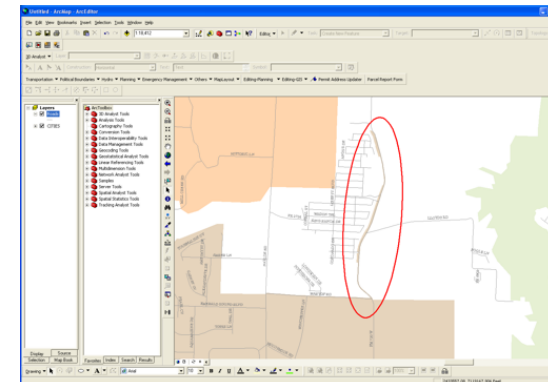than 50 percent of the owners of land in the area.

Current Record Keeping

- Low tech right now.

- Word Document

- Hard copies filed

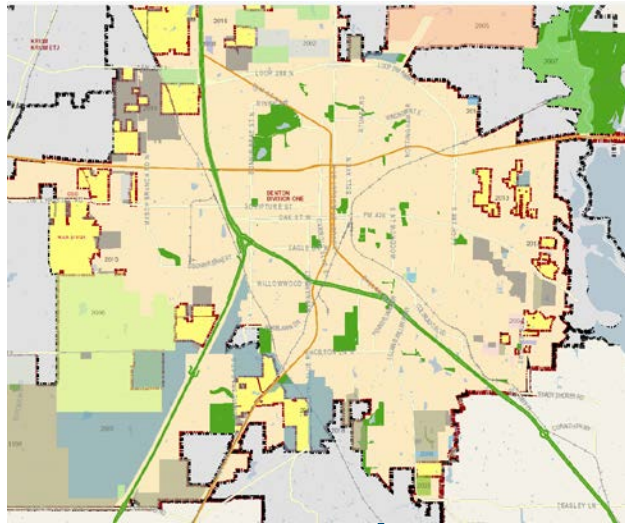Location: HWY 380 (Section between Navo Rd. and Elm Ridge Rd.)

Oak point City Limit Edits:

Location: FM 720 (Section between Martop Rd. and Qual Meadows Ln.)

New Record Keeping

- We are in the process right now of creating a layer and an application showing shapes of municipal boundary changes.

City of Denton:

https://gis.cityofdenton.com/mapviewer/?GroupID=1&MapID=3417

More Challenges with Annexations

shutterstock.com • 429327106

Challenges with Creating Policies

- Needs are changing every day.

- Some things need to be an official policy, but we can't control the implementation

What Would a Formal Governance Model Look Like?

- Formalize Responsibilities
- Change Procedures
- Job titles and departments instead of individual names
- Expectations
- Dispersion
- All duties and responsibilities clearly laid out
- Different Departments, One Governance

The Takeaway

- Many entities use GIS

- GIS is a tool

- Compliance

- Correct Documentation

- Everyone can benefit from a governance model

Questions?

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