

Summary

Parcel information pertains to the smallest unit or lowest common denominator of land ownership. Parcels in land-oriented systems are roughly analogous to cells in an organism; they represent the basic building blocks of larger units and systems.

This project presents the findings of a reconnaissance study of information about land parcels in New York State. Broadly conceived, this information includes data about parcels that describe their nature, location, use, and association with physical and political geography. The purpose of the study, sponsored by the NYS Office of Real Property Services, was to understand the fundamental characteristics and dimensions of parcel data and provide information to help shape strategies for broader understanding and more effective use of parcel data in New York State. Accordingly, it identifies stakeholders and their interests as well as the needs and issues associated with the uses of parcel data in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

Publications & Results

Reports and Working Papers (1)



Use of Parcel Data in New York State: A Reconnaissance Study

June 2005

This report presents the findings of a reconnaissance study on the use of parcel data in New York State. It documents the current and potential uses of parcel data, its value to many different kinds of organizations, and the typical flow of data across government and non-governmental boundaries.

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Journal Articles and Conference Papers (1)



Challenges of Treating Information as a Public Resource: The Case of Parcel Data

2006

Land parcels are the foundation for many aspects of public and community life. This report presents the findings of a study of information about land parcels in New York State. It identifies stakeholders and their interests as well as the needs and issues associated with the uses of parcel data in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

Land parcels are the foundation for many aspects of public and community life. This report presents the findings of a study of information about land parcels in New York State. It identifies stakeholders and their interests as well as the needs and issues associated with the uses of parcel data in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

We describe the attributes of parcel data, discuss its value to a variety of stakeholders, present typical data flows across organizational boundaries, and illustrate a wide range of uses. We then present the main issues and policy challenges associated with treating parcel data as a collective public resource, and conclude with a set of policy principles for guiding future investments.

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Public Events

NYS Office of Real Property Services Alliance Committee Meeting

December 2004

Presenter: Meghan Cook, Program Manager, CTG

This presentation highlighted the study methodology and preliminary findings of the Reconnaissance Study of the Use of Parcel-Level Data in New York State. In addition, the Alliance Committee was asked to identify ideal characteristics of a parcel data resource and benefits and barriers to creating such a resource.

Real Property Tax Administration Committee (RPTAC) Meeting

March 2005

Presenter: Meghan Cook, Program Manager, CTG

This presentation showed the findings and recommendations that emerged from the Study of the Use of Parcel-Level Data in New York State. Presentation details include the methodology, findings, and a set of principles that might guide a collaborative approach to future discussions about parcel data.

Press Releases & News Stories

News Stories

Award-winning Parcel Data Study available online

The Uniform Standard, Volume 6 Number 3

March 2006

Partners

Government Partners

- New York State Office of Real Property Services

Funding Sources

The project was funded by the New York State Office of Real Property Services.

Original Scope of Work

The Center for Technology in Government (CTG) worked with the New York State Office of Real Property Services (ORPS) to conduct this reconnaissance study of the use of parcel-level data in NYS. The purpose of the study was to understand the fundamental characteristics and dimensions of parcel data and provide information

to help shape strategies for broader understanding and more effective use of parcel data in New York State. The study identified stakeholders and their interests as well as the needs and issues associated with the uses of parcel data in the public, private, and non profit sectors.

The study, conducted from September 2004 to April 2005, consisted of 35 interviews with organizations in NYS that collect, use, or distribute parcel data in county and municipal governments, state agencies, private companies, and non profit organizations. In addition, a current practice review of Web sites and documents associated with parcel data use elsewhere in the United States was completed.

The objective of the study was to learn about parcel data as it relates to the following areas:

- Methods and issues associated with the collection, use, and dissemination of parcel data
- Value of parcel data to interviewees and their programs
- Parcel data sharing methods and policies
- Parcel data management and maintenance practices
- Costs associated with parcel data
- Data flow between the focus organizations and others.

Study deliverables include a report of findings, a model of the typical parcel data flow in NYS, and a set of guiding principles for further discussions about a more effective use of parcel data in New York State.

Related Web Sites

FGDC Cadastral Subcommittee

<http://www.nationalcad.org/>

The FGDC Subcommittee is involved with standards development and partnership coordination related to cadastral information in the United States. This site contains information on national cadastral coordination, standards development, meetings and implementation activities.

Government Accountability Office (2004). Geospatial Information: Better Coordination Needed to Identify and Reduce Duplicative Investments. Report Number GAO-04-703.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d04703.pdf>

Retrieved January 2005.

Oklahoma City Economic Development Information System (OKCEDIS)

<http://www.okcedis.com>

The OKCEDIS is an Internet GIS application that offers immediate access to economic, business, planning, geographic, and demographic information in real time via the web. The Web site application allows users to view, create, and print maps; perform site selection searches; and customize and analyze demographic and business data.

PSOMAS. (2003). California Digital Land Records Information: Requirements and Findings.

<http://www.nationalcad.org/data/documents/CA-land-records-needs.pdf>

Retrieved January 2005.

State of Wisconsin, Department of Administration, Land Modernization and Integration Plan, Final Instructions

http://www.doa.state.wi.us/dir/documents/wlip_limiplans_instructions.pdf

Retrieved in February 2004.

The National Academy of Sciences. (1980). Need for a Multipurpose Cadastre.

<http://books.nap.edu/openbook/NI000560/html/index.html>

Retrieved January 2005.

Walsh, T. (2004). Illinois county puts property data on the Web. Government Computer News. Vol 23, Issue 24.

http://www.gcn.com/23_24/state-local/26981-1.html

Retrieved January 2005.

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