

---

**From:** Max Stier  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 27, 2023 9:56 PM EDT  
**To:** Meghan Blair  
**Subject:** Ongoing Project Summary (4/24/2023 - 4/28/2023)

## Progress on Active Projects

- Internal Web Applications
  - **Park Amenities Edit App**
    - This week we worked on a few more troubleshooting methods for dealing with the CV editing bug. Meghan got feedback from ESRI that seems to be that it is indeed a bug. Some of the work around tests were switching from numeric code values to text string code values. The theory was since the codes wouldn't be shared between the feature types, the edit widget wouldn't mix them up. I did an initial test with a small data set which seemed to still be broken, but I wasn't confident it was a big enough sample of the data to really tell (plus I was holding out hope that we could get around the bug), so I ended up recreating the entire dataset with the text string code values. The bottom line is that it still didn't work. The widget wasn't pulling in the wrong CV value, but it completely broke the CV relationships so the entire domain lists would be presented to the user. Though this process wasn't a total loss because in order to make that new test feature, I went through the workflow of dumping all the domain tables to CSV files, and dumped the CV tables in a similar fashion, so we have archives of those things. I also went through the process of creating new domains and CV tables from those CSV files which we may need to do sometime in the future.
    - Additionally for Park Asset editing, after the bug defeated our best efforts, I went ahead and created three separate editing apps for Parks that are specific to the different feature types, points, lines and polygons. Those were all essentially the desktop edit app I'd created before, though I did make some changes to make it clear to the user which app they were in, things like adding the geometry type iconography I came up with to the splash screen and app title bar, as well as created thumbnails that are very explicit.
    - Lastly I added labels to each asset type based on the MapLabel field, they only come on when the user is very close in order to reduce the clutter but I'll get feedback from Parks about what they feel is most usable for them (and that may get tweaked after some experience in the field). I was able to take advantage of the new map viewer's features in this case as it has Label Classes in the web interface so I could try these ideas.
    - I also deprecated all the services we'd messed with as we were troubleshooting these issues.
    - Meghan and I had our 1 on 1 this week and part of that was discussing immediate and down the road steps for the Park Asset project, she created a BaseCamp project to track it.
  - App Reviews
    - On Tuesday morning I reviewed the Parking Mobile app and sent Richard some feedback regarding the interface and some of the widget choices.



- Public Historic Resources App
  - Gloria mentioned that myBloomington wasn't displaying an address's historic rating anymore, I'll have to raise that issue with Cliff but in the meantime I updated the public viewer to display those ratings by default when zoomed in a few clicks, as well as added labels to those points, so Gloria can send folks to the map in lieu of myBloomington as that gets sorted out (or maybe that solution is fine and we can leave the functionality off myBloomington since its getting an overhaul soonish, and Gloria was very happy with the updates to the public app).
- CKAN Migration
  - This week the GIS team had a good meeting about Socrata data organization and our goals for the data we have on the platform. I started on some of the simpler changes i.e. title changes of the *Map* assets as well as checking the asset's description and adding the relevant public map viewer's URL where I could. At the Ent Apps meeting on Wednesday I explained a bit about what we've observed from other cities' data portals, which Jeremy was very interested in. I explained how we don't think tags are going to end up being a particularly valuable or functional organization method and that multiple 'category' distinctions might be the best tactic. Jeremy mentioned that he did reach out to Data and Insights about changing those category elements and apparently that's only something they can do on their end, its not in any admin interface. So it sounds like we'll need to have a strategy pretty well thought through before we ask them to make the changes. This project got back-burnered a little as we get through Park Asset tasks.

#### **Data Creation/Maintenance**

- Park POI/Amenities
  - Nothing for this.
- Annexation Waivers
  - Nothing this week.

#### **Projects with no updates**

- On Street Bike Facilities
  - Nothing this week.
- City Owned Properties
  - Nothing this week.

#### **Ongoing Work Notes**

- This week it came up that Parks folks might want to see parcel/property boundaries for things besides just the city parks, we also gave some thought to the ParkAreas data and decided now would be the time to overhaul it, prior to the launch of these edit applications. This took the form of updating the schema to fit our current standards, and Meghan solicited feedback from Tim Street about a bunch of parcels owned by the board of parks, which I integrated into the new ParkAreas feature. This all went pretty smoothly and I think will give parks a more complete view of their areas in the city.
- This week I completed a few common place updates for Eli, one update and two new places, I got those exported to the shared file geodatabase.

- On Thursday I had a meeting with Mike Rouker in legal, this ended up being very interesting (not necessarily in a good way). We'll go through it in much more detail in person on Wednesday but basically at this stage in the annexation the city is involved in remonstrance litigation, and part of that litigation will involve expert witness testimony from GIS regarding some of the GIS analysis the city used to determine whether a couple of the annexation areas met a few different thresholds (things like population density per acre, percentage of subdivided parcels, and zoning coverage in the area). Laura did all these initial analyses in 2021 but it seems to be the case that Legal would want us to re-run these numbers with the current parcel and zoning data. Since we'd be re-running the numbers, I don't think Laura would be a candidate to be a witness at this stage, though Legal is leaving determination to us. The trial will be in mid-November, there will likely be a handful of pre-trial meetings with the city's council as it approaches. Mike is going to be in touch about another meeting with more details on the analysis we'll be doing, in the meantime I'll probably go through the work Laura had done so I can have a plan to just re-run her methods so I'd be comfortable answering questions about them as a witness, I will also reach out to her if I feel like I need to, but I doubt that'll be necessary. Like I said, an interesting meeting!

#### **Focus for Upcoming Week and Remainder of the week**

- I need to get clarification from Parks about the labeling method I implemented, make changes if necessary.
- I believe the ParkAreas update is done but I'll go through it one last time so its ready to republish, I can also compile a list of affected apps so we'll know what needs to be restarted/tested once its replaced.
- On Friday next week we have the field Park Asset demo, I think we're pretty set for that (save for the labeling).
- I really need to get back to the Parcel Lot size project, I've yet to meet with Ash about it, it might be a good idea just to get things moving again and see what they need at this stage without so much emailing back and forth.
- I'll continue with the Socrata updates, titles and start on the thumbnail design ideas.

#### **Upcoming Planned PTO:**

--

**Max Stier**

GIS Specialist - City of Bloomington, IN

Information & Technology Services

Email: [stierm@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:stierm@bloomington.in.gov)

Phone: (812) 349-3595