ABSTRACT(S) IN THIS SESSION

Automation Increases Planning, Civic Engagement and Transparency
Michael Shean, GISP, GIS Supervisor, M-NCPPC, Upper Marlboro, MD
Jason Samus, Program Manager, EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., Hunt Valley, MD

ABSTRACT TEXT: Increasing civic engagement on local government land development decisions was historically a challenge however, recently an automated GIS solution was developed that addressed these challenges.

By leveraging PGAtlas.com, existing map services an automated email notification application was develop which significantly changed everything. This presentation will discuss the user requirements, development challenges, lessons learned, and will conclude with a demonstration.

Leveraging Mobile GIS to Enrich Citizen Engagement in Making Healthy Communities
Yunwoo Nam, Associate Professor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE

ABSTRACT TEXT: Healthy community environment is an important issue for local governments. The physical condition of a neighborhood environment significantly affects quality of life and physical activities for residents. This work develops a community assessment framework and tool to collect crucial and otherwise unavailable information on residential conditions and other environmental characteristics for use in improving and strengthening neighborhoods in Lincoln, Nebraska. This work provides pro-active tools to address the neighbourhood conditions.

This work also enhances community engagement by leveraging mobile GIS technology. The ultimate success of community planning is heavily dependent upon public support. The work includes involvement of local experts, stakeholders, and neighborhood residents in the healthy environment assessment and community improvement planning process. In doing so, it utilize PPGIS (Public Participatory Geographic Information System) to enhance public involvement in planning and decision making process. It also utilizes mobile GIS technology to empower local citizens and enrich citizen science. As a case study, neighborhoods in Lincoln, Nebraska are examined. Using collected information and geostatistics, this study empirically examines the interconnectedness among built environment, walkability and social elements.