



CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

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City Rolls Out New Public Access Mapping Tool

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, April 7, 2010 – City staff today announced the rollout of a new, online customer service tool. The interactive, GIS-based mapping system allows the public to access a broad range of information about the island’s geographic characteristics and property data through the internet.

“By going to the map on our website, the public can explore many data layers, including parcels, streets, zoning, parks, and even high quality aerial imagery,” said Gretchen Robinson, the city’s Engineering Technician for GIS/Mapping. “Citizens and businesses alike will benefit from being able to access specific information about a parcel or area without having to make a trip to City Hall,” she added.

The program is a result of an initiative begun last year by the City’s IT Department to upgrade the city’s GIS infrastructure to improve business processes. The program can be used to search for specific information by tax account number, street number or street name. By providing the public with “self serve” access to information, it is expected to improve customer service and staff efficiency.

“This program is only the beginning,” Robinson said. “Other applications we’re considering include a public safety map that would support emergency planning and response, and a map that would provide public access to details about current development projects.”

The program is available online at <http://www.ci.bainbridge-isl.wa.us>. It was developed using software from Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI), an internationally respected leader in GIS modeling tools and mapping software.

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