



## St Joseph County

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# *Geographic Information Systems Department*

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2/5/20

### *2019 Annual GIS Department Summary*

The GIS Department continues to focus on the day-to-day data updates and maintenance while working on larger, long term projects as time permits. Following are a few of the 2019 accomplishments:

- Remapped nearly 5000 parcels to within +/- 3 foot accuracy. Most are within +/- 1 foot. As of 12/31/19, the GIS Department has remapped 48.8% of the county parcels in the last three years (13,856 of the 28,381 parcels). Included in this effort is remapping numerous subdivision lots and plats. Also, as part of this project, each of the counties 2892 section corners are extensively researched to obtain accurate coordinates of its location. This is an important ongoing project to improve the quality of the GIS parcel data.
- Made many corrections and improvements to the E-911 dispatch database.
- Prototyped E911 Dispatch "Hot Spot" maps analyzing the geographic distribution of over 57,000 E-911 calls.
- Processed over 157 new or re-issued addresses.
- Updated and printed the County Plat Book for 2019.
- Performed regular updates to the Fetch GIS public access system. The Fetch system continues to be used at high rate of approximately 500 queries each work day by people looking for property and tax information.
- Acted as the Remonumentation Grant Administrator. This includes coordinating with the County Surveyor to prepare the initial grant proposal, attending Remonumentation project meetings, compiling and entering Land Corner Recordation Certificate information into the state database, and submitting a final Completion Report. The 2019 grant budget was \$59,727.
- Acquired detailed aerial photos of the entire county from 1955 (to be processed and made available on Fetch in 2020)
- Acquired new 2019 aerial photography for the east ½ of the county through the Michigan Statewide Authoritative Imagery & LiDAR Program.
- Prepared numerous custom maps and data as requested both internally and externally.
- Assisted numerous customers looking for land information.

### Upcoming Projects for 2020:

- Update and print 2020 Tax Maps
- Update 2020 Plat Book
- Finalize new Fee Schedule for the GIS Department.
- Update GIS service contracts with local units.
- Acquire and process 2020 Air Photos for west ½ of the county.
- Publish new layers (Lidar, 2020 photos, 1955 air photos, crime data) to Fetch for public access.
- Continue parcel remapping project.
- Provide tool to access LIDAR data for the Drain Commissioner.
- Continue to explore uses of LIDAR data in support of Parks, Drains, Emergency planning, and other areas.
- Continue to make large scale improvements to the E-9-1-1 Dispatch database.
- Establish a routine/tool for regular E-911 location-based crime and incident maps and analysis.

Given current staffing levels, I am pleased at the volume of work accomplished in 2019. Let me know if you have any questions.

Jerry Happel  
GIS Director/Address Administrator  
St Joseph County, MI