

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH GIS DATA ON DVD (readme_DVD.doc)

DISCLAIMER

The maps and data contained on this disc are compilations from several different sources, with several different levels of precision, prepared over a period of several years. The data, particularly the tax roll, base map, and zoning information, is a snapshot of one point in time of information that is constantly changing hence may not be up to date or accurate. The maps and data on this disc are intended to be used solely for informational purposes, and are not replacements for legal documents, title reports, or survey plats. If you need legal documentation of any information on this disc, contact the appropriate agency or department (see metadata document for responsible department/agency). The maps and data may contain errors, omissions, or outdated information. The maps and data contained on this disc are made available on the condition that users agree that the FNSB will not be held liable for any loss, injury, or damage of any kind resulting from any errors or omissions in the maps, data, or disc. The maps and data on this DVD may not be reproduced, republished, or resold in any form, including the internet, without the express written permission or prior agreement of the Fairbanks North Star Borough.

VIEWING THE DATA

The data on this DVD includes most of the data available on the FNSB Geographic Information System. Some data is not included because of incompleteness, difficulty in interpreting the data, or licensing or distribution restrictions from the source agency or company. Some images are not included due to licensing and copyright restrictions. The shapefile data can be best viewed using ESRI's ArcView software (version 3.0 or higher). The file geodatabase data can best be viewed in ESRI's ArcGIS software, version 9.3 or higher. If you have versions 10.0 or higher, a starter map document (mxd) is available in the \GIS directory.

GIS Drawings and data

If you do not have ArcView, this DVD contains the installation file for ArcGIS Explorer, build 1750. This is a free GIS viewers from ESRI. ArcGIS Explorer is installed by running ArcGISExplorerDownload.exe in the directory, Software\ArcGIS_Explorer\Build_1750. ArcGIS Explorer can connect to map services over the internet. ArcGIS Explorer can also open file geodatabase layers. Please do not contact the Borough for technical support for ArcGIS Explorer. A good on-line help is included with the software.

Also included is the installation file for Quantum GIS located in the folder: Software\Quantum_GIS. Quantum GIS is a free, full-featured Open Source GIS

software, available for Windows and Mac. Quantum GIS can view shapefiles, but cannot view file geodatabases.

CAD Drawings

If you have AutoCAD or AutoCAD LT from AutoDesk, you can view the .dwg files in the CAD_Drawings directory. If you do not have AutoCAD or another .dwg viewer, this DVD includes the installation file for eDrawings, a free file viewer from SolidWorks Corp. This program allows you to view .dwg, and .dxf files. It has great functionality for a free program. You can find the installation file eDrawingsFullEnglish.exe in the Software\edrawings subdirectory. Please do not contact the Borough for technical support for eDrawings. A nice read-me file and on-line help are included with the software.

You will be able to view the data and run the sample projects directly from the DVD, but the performance will be much better if you copy the data to your local hard drive. If you do copy the DVD to your hard drive, you should maintain the existing directory structure for the data, because the sample projects are pointing to specific directories looking for specific files.

OBTAINING UPDATED DATA

Updates to much of the data on this DVD is available for download from <ftp://co.fairbanks.ak.us/>. The GIS data is available at <ftp://co.fairbanks.ak.us/GIS/> and the CAD data is available at <ftp://co.fairbanks.ak.us/Basemaps/>.

DATA STRUCTURE AND DEFINITION

For specific information on the directory structure and data contained in the FNSB GIS System, read the file metadata_DVD.doc.

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- US Geological Survey (USGS topographic maps);
- Eielson Geobase (elevation data, vector data)
- US Dept. of Agriculture - Natural Resource Conservation Service (aerial photography, soils survey maps);
- US Army Corps of Engineers (elevation data, wetlands data)
- Tanana Chiefs Conference (GIS advice);
- Alaska Fire Service;
- Bureau of Land Management;
- Alaska Division of Geologic and Geophysical Surveys (Elevation and DEM data)
- Alaska Division of Forestry, Northern Region (Forest Vegetation maps, USGS composite topographic maps, satellite imagery)