

GIS for Municipalities

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Abstract

GIS technology provides municipalities with extraordinary quantitative and qualitative benefits. The technology (IT and GIS) can be the basis for revolutionizing how government processes are performed. Some of these benefits and changes can be achieved fairly early in the GIS development process; while others take much longer to be realized. A GIS may take several months to develop and the full benefits are experienced after many years. The time requirement is only part of what is required to build a database and procure a Geographic Information System.

The Jeddah Municipality GIS Center was established in June 2005. The GIS center is one of the key departments in the municipality that provide, support, and maintain the e-government systems and solutions. The GIS center is responsible for all geo-spatial projects that belong to Jeddah municipality. Moreover it is responsible for creating a central repository of geographic information and provides spatial data, applications and GIS related services to departments of Jeddah Municipality. It also supports GIS initiatives from other governments' organizations.

The presentation summarizes the GIS center efforts in utilizing the spatial dimension of information to enhance Jeddah Municipality services.