

Addressing

In the City of Dallas

Overview

- How we assign addresses
- How we create addresses
- How we use addresses
- Primary pitfalls we face

How we assign addresses

Development

- Request for development activity (Permit, Certificate of Occupancy, new addition, etc) is made
- If address isn't in database already, Subdivision group validates/assigns the new address
- Check addition plats and street centerline datasets to determine appropriate house number
- Street name determined by which street the primary entrance faces
- Multifamily and large commercial are often assigned building numbers but all use same main street address

How we assign addresses

Other

- Our SAP system takes an entirely different approach
- Two addresses: Mailing address and Service Address
- Both addresses are self reported (i.e. customer says mail bill here, or connect water here), though service addresses for new construction takes address assigned by Development
- Both are vetted against postal standards (though Mailing is more complicated with out of country addresses)

How we create addresses

Development

- Permitting system routes the new address request to the GIS group
- GIS group creates address with custom tools
- Permitting system pulls new or updated addresses every half hour and allows development activity to continue

Custom GIS Tools

- Too many data entry errors led to development of tools
- First tool allows staff to pull address information from streets, and get parcel and plat data, by clicking on the appropriate feature
- Other tool allows for storing XY coordinates and other metadata when clicked
- ESRI AddIns written in C#.Net



How we use addresses

- Development addresses are used for all development related activity
- SAP addresses are used for all customer/citizen interaction (e.g. water or library billing, reconnecting service, etc.)

Primary pitfalls we face

- Political interference
 - Fashionable addresses like One Park Ln don't meet requirements and have a house number out of range
 - Street names assigned for a living person or with a name that's too long
- Historical data
 - Conversion of tax parcel addresses in 2005 introduced bad addresses into dataset
 - If development work occurred on an address in past, it remains a valid address even if it doesn't meet current standards
 - Multifamily and large commercial developments didn't have subaddresses converted, so many subaddresses are missing
- Different systems (Development vs SAP)
 - Many different needs have produced many different datasets, and it is critical to remember the purpose and limitations of each dataset.

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