



Office of the City Manager

January 31, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: *DWR* Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
Subject: Launching Community Portal for Geographical Information Services (GIS)

The City has launched a new online portal to help the public, businesses and staff more easily see a variety of City data presented in clear, interactive maps that can be layered on top of each other.

Anyone can look up Planning information, such as zoning maps or parcel conditions. There are layers for Transportation, such as bike boulevards and bike ways. People can research environmental features, such as earthquake faults and creeks.

Visit cityofberkeley.info/gisportal.

This consolidated set of interactive maps allows the public to research topics that previously required a phone call, email, or even a visit to City offices. Other documents were previously only visible as PDFs – which didn't allow the public to see how different data sets related to each other.

The GIS portal is part of the Department of Information Technology's efforts to improve customer service as well as to advance environmental sustainability by providing more information online. This significant project was completed in collaboration between the departments of Information Technology, Planning & Development, and Public Works. The new interactive map portal contains five configurations:

- Planning and Property
- Transportation
- Recreation
- Environment
- Other City Services.

The default set of maps can be turned off, with any set able to be displayed with another.

One frequently sought set of data is now found in the portal's parcel conditions tool, which allows users to easily look up information by Address, APN, or the owner's name. In addition, the tool allows the users to:

- see all the regulations and other layers that correspond with that address;
- zoom to the location and show the creek buffer if applicable;
- use hyperlinks to see descriptions of each category;
- use hyperlinks to see the type of creek buffer regulation and ordinance description;
- see all the addresses connected to a particular parcel under the “Addresses on Parcel” header;
- export the information as a text .csv file.

Please experiment with GIS Portal and encourage community members to use it as well. We are also announcing the tool to the community via a news release, which is then distributed on our home page and social media.

The GIS portal is a Strategic Plan Priority Project, advancing our goal be a customer-focused organization that provides excellent, timely, easily-accessible service and information to the community.

For questions about the tool, please contact Savita Chaudhary, IT Director, at 510-981-6541, schaudhary@cityofberkeley.info and Cristi Delgado, Application Programmer Analyst, Department of Information Technology, 510-981-6545, cdelgado@cityofberkeley.info.

cc: Paul Buddenhagen, Interim Deputy City Manager
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