

# The Simplification of VanMap: A New Generation

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On behalf of the GIS Sustainment Team



# Agenda

- Context
- Forces of change
- Six examples of simplified VanMap
- Future plans

# The Context for VanMap

- Staff VanMap went live in 1999, public in 2001
- Initial focus was on viewing data, revised focus was applications and data
- VanMap rich in data and functionality
- Some find it cumbersome to use, particularly for the casual user

# Drivers for Change

- Some users wanted focus and simplicity
- Corporate Communications wanted familiarity and ease of use
- We wanted to keep people happy

# How VanMap Became Simpler

- Have not abandoned traditional VanMap
- Have introduced multiple versions
  - Sometimes single purpose
  - Sometimes just easier to use
  - Sometimes with a more familiar interface

# Public VanMap Web Site: Starting Place


The screenshot displays the VanMap Public ActiveX Viewer interface within a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <http://vanmappub.vancouver.ca>. The interface includes a navigation toolbar with icons for pan, zoom, and other map functions. A search bar is located at the top left, with the text "Address Search" and fields for "Number" and "Street". Below the search bar, there is a "Legend Options" dropdown menu and a "Go" button. The main map area shows a street grid of Vancouver, with various neighborhood names labeled, including West End, Downtown, Strathcona, Hastings-Sunrise, West Point Grey, Kitsilano, Fairview, Mount Pleasant, Arbutus-Ridge, Shaughnessy, Riley Park, Renfrew-Collingwood, Dunbar-Southlands, Kerrisdale, Oakridge, Marpole, Sunset, Victoria-Fraserview, and Killamey. A legend on the left side of the map lists various data layers, such as "City Boundary", "City Olympic Sites", "Public Art", "Homeless Shelters", "Public Places", "The Road Ahead", "City Projects", "Child Care Facilities", "Web Cameras", "Non-Market Housing", "City-owned Properties", "Cemetery", "Urban Agriculture", "Contour Lines", "Poster Cylinders", "Truck Routes", "Railways", "Canada Lines and Sk", "Traffic Related", "Sewer", "Water", "City Streets Network", "Bridges and Related", "View Cones", "Subdivision Categor", "DCL Areas", "Zoning Districts Types", "Zoning Districts", "Business Improvemen", "False Creek Navigabl", "Youth", "Property Information", "Facet Grids", "Garbage Schedule Zc", "Administrative & Servi", "Shore Lines (2002)", and "Shore Lines (1993) ar". The status bar at the bottom of the map area indicates "0 feature(s) selected", a scale of "1: 94,052", and a map size of "13.1 x 9.93 (mi)". The City of Vancouver logo and the text "© CITY OF VANCOUVER Data quality not guaranteed" are visible in the bottom right corner of the map area.

## Example 1: VanMapLite


- VanMapLite was implemented in 2002
  - Focus on simplicity
  - Immediate rationale was for the election
- PNG-based and browser independent
- No plug-in required
- Much less data and functionality


























# VanMapLite Web Site

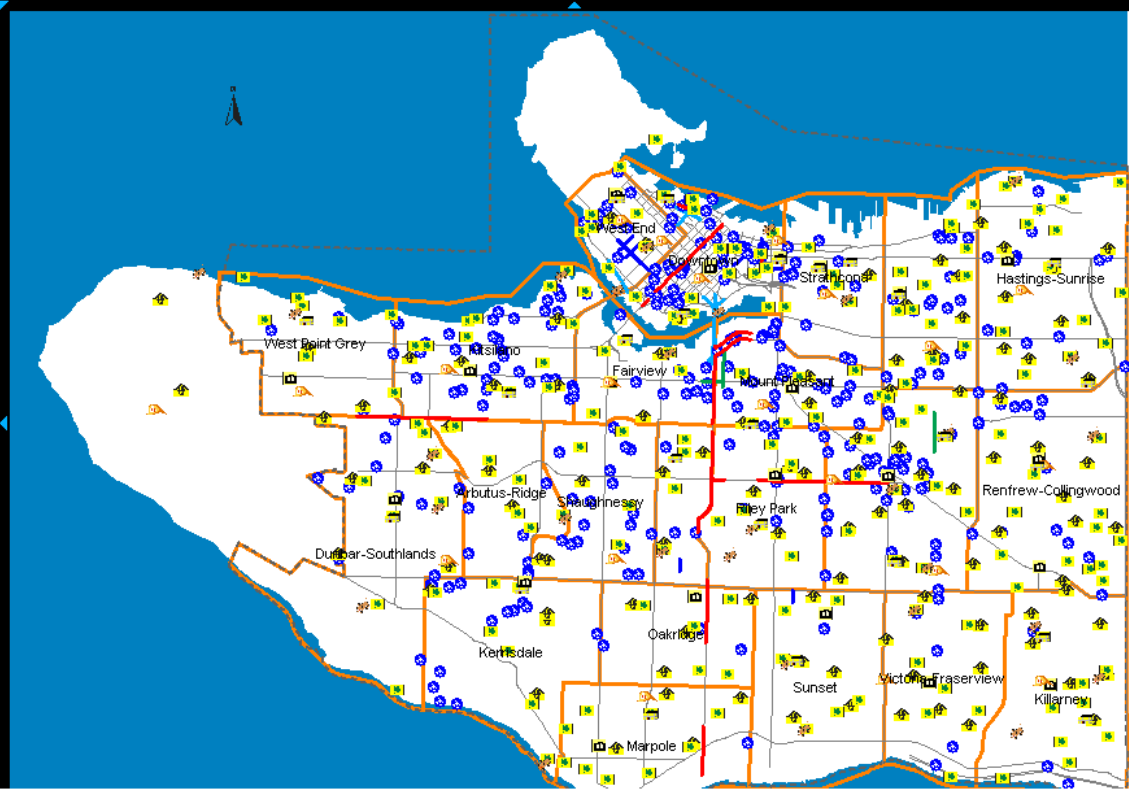
http://vanmappub.vancouver.ca - VanMapLite, Public VanMap No-Plug-in Version - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by the City

VanMapLite Help Go 


Click map to:  Zoom In  Zoom Out  Recenter  Identify

Bookmarks + X Full View 

Layer List	
Catch Basins	
City Boundary	
City Projects (Sites-based)	
City Projects (Streets-based)	
Community Centres	
Dog off-leash Areas	
Fire Halls	
Heritage Sites	
Libraries	
Local Areas	
North Arrow	
One Way Streets	
Parks	
Parcel Boundaries	
Property Address Number	
Property Dimensions	
Public Streets	
Reference Streets	
Road Closures	
Roadwork-Under Construction	
Roadwork-Upcoming Projects	
Schools	
Shore Lines and Sea	
Water Bodies	
Orthophotos 2008 <input type="radio"/> On <input checked="" type="radio"/> Off	



Done Local intranet



## Example 2: Property Information Report

- Standard way to get property info was to zoom to parcel and double click
- Can get property info report without the map, but driven by GIS
- Faster and easier if map not required
- Internal version only at this point

# Property Information Report Sample

Reportal for VanMap Staff Edition - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by the City of Vancouver

Address: http://vanmap.vancouver.ca/reportal/vmse\_parcelindex2\_cas.cfm?&parcelID=\_\_FIYOCA&address=123st&c=456&s=abc

Print date: 05-Oct-09, 10:27 AM

### Available Information

453 W 12TH AV

**Report Name** Links

- Business Licenses
- SAP Real Estate
- Address Relationships and CSG Information
- Owner Notification
- Tax Attributes
- Fire Hall
- Prism Permits
- Districts & Polygons

### VanMap staff edition

## Tax Attributes Report

For internal staff use only [Disclaimer](#)  
 Source: from Tempest Tax System. (see [About Data](#) for the latest update.) [Printer Friendly Version](#)

Record	PID Number	Folio Number	From Address Number	To Address Number	Street Name	Owner 1	Owner 2	Mail Address 1	Mail Address 2	Mail Address 3	Owner Postcode	Property Postcode	Year Built As of May 2007	In Y
1	014-570-505	670170070000		453	12TH AVE W	VANCOUVER CITY OF		C/O CITY OF VANCOUVER REAL EST	453 12TH AVE W	VANCOUVER BC V5Y 1V4	V5Y 1V4	V5Y 1V4		

City of Vancouver

Done Local intranet

## Example 3: The Road Ahead

- The Road Ahead focuses on street construction and projects in the City
- Engineering developed wrapper; GIS developed embedded VanMap
- One of the most popular components of the City's web site
- Plan is to “beautify” VanMap component

# Road Ahead Web Site

- [Road Ahead](#)

## Example 4: Disability Parking

- Single purpose map to show where reserved spots exist for disabled people
- Also shows parking meter rate areas
- Motivation is simplicity and focus

# Disability Parking Web Site

- [Disability Parking](#)

## Example 5: Host City VanMap

- Host City web site is designed to help people cope with life during the Games
- Primary driver for maps was simplicity and familiarity (i.e., like Google)
- Includes maps and other helpful info

# Host City Web Site

- [Host City](#)

## Example 6: Community Resource Mapping

- Focuses on community resources in the Downtown Eastside
- Driver was simplicity and ease of use
- Push came from community consultants and Social Planning
- Iconology was particularly important

# Community Resource Mapping Web Site

- Community Resource Mapping

## Example 7: OpenData

- OpenData is an alternative approach to simplification as it makes data available at no cost with virtually no restrictions on use
- Flows from Open Data, Open Standards, Open Source (Open3) Council motion passed in May
- OpenData splits data from viewer to allow public to do what they want with City data

# OpenData Web Site

- OpenData

# Future Directions and Plans

- Have already been approached for two more simplified versions
- Will continue to simplify interface and move to familiar look and feel where possible
- Will continue to add more data to OpenData web site

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- <http://vancouver.ca/data>
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# Disability Parking Screen Capture

Park Smart - Parking Enforcement, Engineering Services - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by the City of Vancouver

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Address <http://vancouver.ca/engsvcs/parking/enf/parksmart/disabled.htm>

Google Search

## Parking Spaces For People With Disabilities

SPARC placard holders are also able to park in the following zones designated for people with disabilities. Hover mouse cursor over disabled park a window box will appear with the location address.

- SCHOOL ZONES
- PARK vs. STOP
- Time limit zones
- Tour bus zone
- Unsigned streets & lanes

Quick Links

- Parking Management

Disability Parking Parking Meter Rates & Time Limits

X: 494869.0 0 feature selected 1: 119447 21.93 x 13.40 (km) Powered by VanMap

Internet

# Host City Screen Capture

2010 Host City - Bike Route Network - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by the City of Vancouver

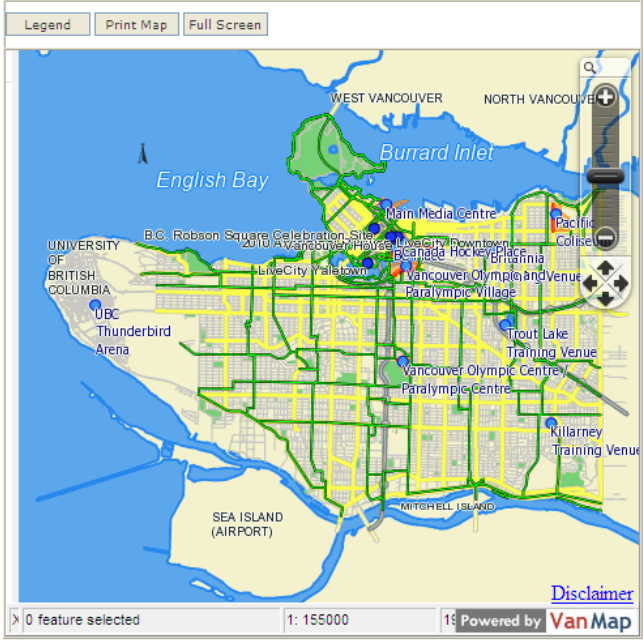
File Edit View Favorites Tools Address <http://olympichostcity.vancouver.ca/gettingaround/biking/bikeroutenetwork.htm#1> Go

Back Search Favorites

This [map](#) (PDF 2.32mb) shows the bike network during the 2010 Winter Games, including closures and temporary bike routes.

A regional bicycle route planning tool, which will help you to identify a cycling route between two locations in Greater Vancouver, has recently been launched by researchers at UBC. As the 2010 Winter Games approach, this planner will be updated to include all of the route network changes. Click [here](#) to access the route planner. Visit [vancouver.ca](http://vancouver.ca) to learn more about cycling in Vancouver.

View the City's bike network during the 2010 Winter Games online, including closures and temporary bike routes.



Legend Print Map Full Screen

WEST VANCOUVER NORTH VANCOUVER  
English Bay Burrard Inlet  
Main Media Centre Pacific Coliseum  
B.C. Robson Square Celebration Site  
2010 Vancouver Home Canada Hockey Place  
University of British Columbia  
UBC Thunderbird Arena  
Vancouver City Centre  
Vancouver Olympic and Paralympic Village  
Trout Lake Training Venue  
Vancouver Olympic Centre/Paralympic Centre  
Kilgarney Training Venue  
SEA ISLAND (AIRPORT) MITCHELL ISLAND

0 feature selected 1: 155000 15 Powered by VanMap

Done Internet

CITY OF VANCOUVER



# Community Resource Mapping Screen Capture

Inner-City Community Resources Mapping Using MGE 2010 - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by the City of Vancouver

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites Refresh Print

Address [http://vanmapp3.vancouver.ca/strathcona\\_map/](http://vanmapp3.vancouver.ca/strathcona_map/) Go Links >>

## Inner-City Community Resources

VanMap public edition

Zoom

Layers

- Health
  - Addiction Treatment - Adult
  - Addiction Treatment - Youth
  - Community Health
  - Detox - Adult
  - Detox - Youth
  - Long Term Care
  - Mental Health
- Education & Training
  - Schools
  - Job Training
  - Libraries
  - School Boundaries
- Community Centres
  - Community Centres (VanMap)
  - Community Centres
  - Family Place
  - Neighbourhood House
- Recreation
  - Parks
  - Swimming Pools
- Child & Youth
  - Group Child Care Centres
  - Out Of School Care

X: 495852.101592, Y: 5459563.644868 (METER) 0 feature selected 1: 19924.40 4.54 x 2.62 (km) Powered by VanMap

Done Internet

# Open Data Screen Capture

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying <http://data.vancouver.ca/>. The page title is "Vancouver's Open Data Catalogue - Beta version - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by the City of Vancouver". The browser's menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Favorites, Tools, and Help. The address bar contains icons for Back, Forward, Home, Search, Favorites, and Print. The website header features the City of Vancouver logo and the title "Open Data Catalogue - Beta version". A navigation menu includes links for Residents, Business, Visitors, Jobs with the City, Services, Departments, City Projects, and Pay & Purchase Online. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar with links for "Open data home", "Get the data" (Data catalogue), and "About the data" (Data formats, Data updates, Terms of use, Feedback). The central content area features a large image of a glowing green data tunnel and a heading "Vancouver's Open Data Catalogue - Beta Version". Below the heading, the text explains the City's commitment to digital innovation and service delivery, mentioning City Council's motion on Open Data, Open Standards and Open Source (read the full Council resolution PDF, 22 KB). It also discusses the City's approach to sharing data in accessible formats while respecting privacy and security concerns, and mentions the City's focus on providing geospatial data used to build VanMap. The text concludes with a call to action: "You can help. Give your input on our data catalogue." The right sidebar contains sections for "Announcements" (City Council Motion: Open Data, Open Standards and Open Source PDF, 22 KB), "Take our Survey" (Help decide which VanMap layers should be made available first), "Data updates" (Receive updates on developments related to this site; Subscribe to the RSS feed; Subscribe to the mailing list), and "Connect with the Community" (Community developers have created a wiki and discussion group to share application ideas and discuss datasets; Vancouver Open Data Wiki Discussion Group). A note at the bottom of the right sidebar states: "Please note: These community sites are not affiliated with the City of Vancouver."

# Open Data Screen Capture

Data Catalogue: City of Vancouver Open Data Catalogue - Beta version - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by the City of Vanco

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites Refresh Print

Address <http://data.vancouver.ca/datacatalogue/index.htm>

Open Data Catalogue - *Beta version*

 City of Vancouver  
 Search  
 Help

[Residents](#) [Business](#) [Visitors](#) [Jobs with the City](#) [Services](#) [Departments](#) [City Projects](#) [Pay & Purchase Online](#)

[Open data home](#)

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**Get the data**

[Data catalogue](#)

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**About the data**

[Data formats](#)

[Data updates](#)

[Terms of use](#)

[Feedback](#)

## Data catalogue

Name	CSV/ XLS	DWG	KML	SHP	ECW	Mr SID
<b>C</b>						
<a href="#">Community Centres</a>	✓		✓			
<a href="#">Contour</a>				✓		
<b>D</b>						
<a href="#">Drinking fountains</a>	✓					
<b>F</b>						
<a href="#">Facet grid boundaries</a>			✓	✓		
<a href="#">Fire Halls</a>	✓		✓			
<b>G</b>						
<a href="#">Garbage collection schedule zones</a>				✓		
<b>L</b>						
<a href="#">Land (cadastral)</a>				✓		
<a href="#">Libraries</a>	✓		✓			
<a href="#">Local area boundary data</a>			✓	✓		
<b>M</b>						
<a href="#">Municipal Election Results</a>	✓					
<b>O</b>						
<a href="#">Orthophoto imagery</a>					✓	✓
<b>P</b>						
<a href="#">Parks</a>	✓					
<b>S</b>						
<a href="#">Schools</a>	✓					

**Data updates**

Receive updates on developments related to this site:

[Subscribe to the RSS feed](#)

[Join the email listserv](#)

**Connect with the Community**

Community developers have created a wiki and discussion group to share application ideas and discuss datasets.

[Vancouver Open Data Wiki](#)

[Discussion Group](#)

Please note: These community sites are not affiliated with the City of Vancouver.