VanMap: Bringing Geographic Data to Desktops

Jonathan Mark
GIS Manager
City of Vancouver

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Solutions Seminar
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What is VanMap?

- VanMap is an easy-to-use viewer of data that has a geographical reference
- Data is organized in layers that can be turned on and off individually or in groups

VanMap's Data Includes

- addresses and property lines
- zoning (and access to the bylaw)
- City and non-City utilities
- public places (schools, libraries, etc.)
- aerial photographs
- business and dog licenses
- ownership and assessed values
- many other layers

VanMap's Functionality

- Zooming in and out and panning
- Reports
- Notifications
- Measure distances
- Zoom to specific address and locations
- Copy and paste maps
- Print maps

VanMap's Business Drivers

- Desire to provide easy access to GIS and other spatial data
- Desire to support staff in their contact with the public because much of the contact is about property-related issues
- Desire to improve communication with the public

VanMap's Business Drivers

- Desire to improve service and facilitate self-service
- Desire to work with and support other City web initiatives such as Community Web Pages and Road Ahead
- Desire to promote enterprise approach to GIS

VanMap Availability

- Staff VanMap
  - v1 in September, 1999
  - v4 in September, 2001
  - several incremental and data releases since
- Public VanMap
  - v1 for Intel in 5/01 and for Macs in 8/01
  - v2 for Intel and Macs in 2/02
  - VanMapLite in 10/02
  - One of the popular parts of the City's site

Issues We Dealt With For Public Release

- Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act limitations
- Usefulness to the public
- Impacts on staff
- Risk considerations
- Data sales implications

Key VanMap Benefits

- VanMap provides a visual map context for viewing data
- VanMap integrates data from a variety of City sources and applications
- VanMap provides access to more current data
- VanMap provides data sharing and encourages cleaner data
- VanMap provides the public with much of the same data that staff use to answer their questions

VanMap Directions

- Staff: continued incremental releases with additional data and functionality
- Staff: specialized versions of VanMap for specific work groups
- Public: incremental releases with additional data
- Continued integration with other City web initiatives
- Continuous improvement of usefulness and usability

What Makes VanMap Different

- VanMap is very rich in data
  - Staff version has over 90 layers of data
- VanMap is available to staff and the public
- Public version works with Internet Explorer, Netscape, and Macs
- VanMap is integrated with other City web initiatives
- VanMapLite is a “plug-in free” version

VanMap

- Give VanMap a click. It's revealing.

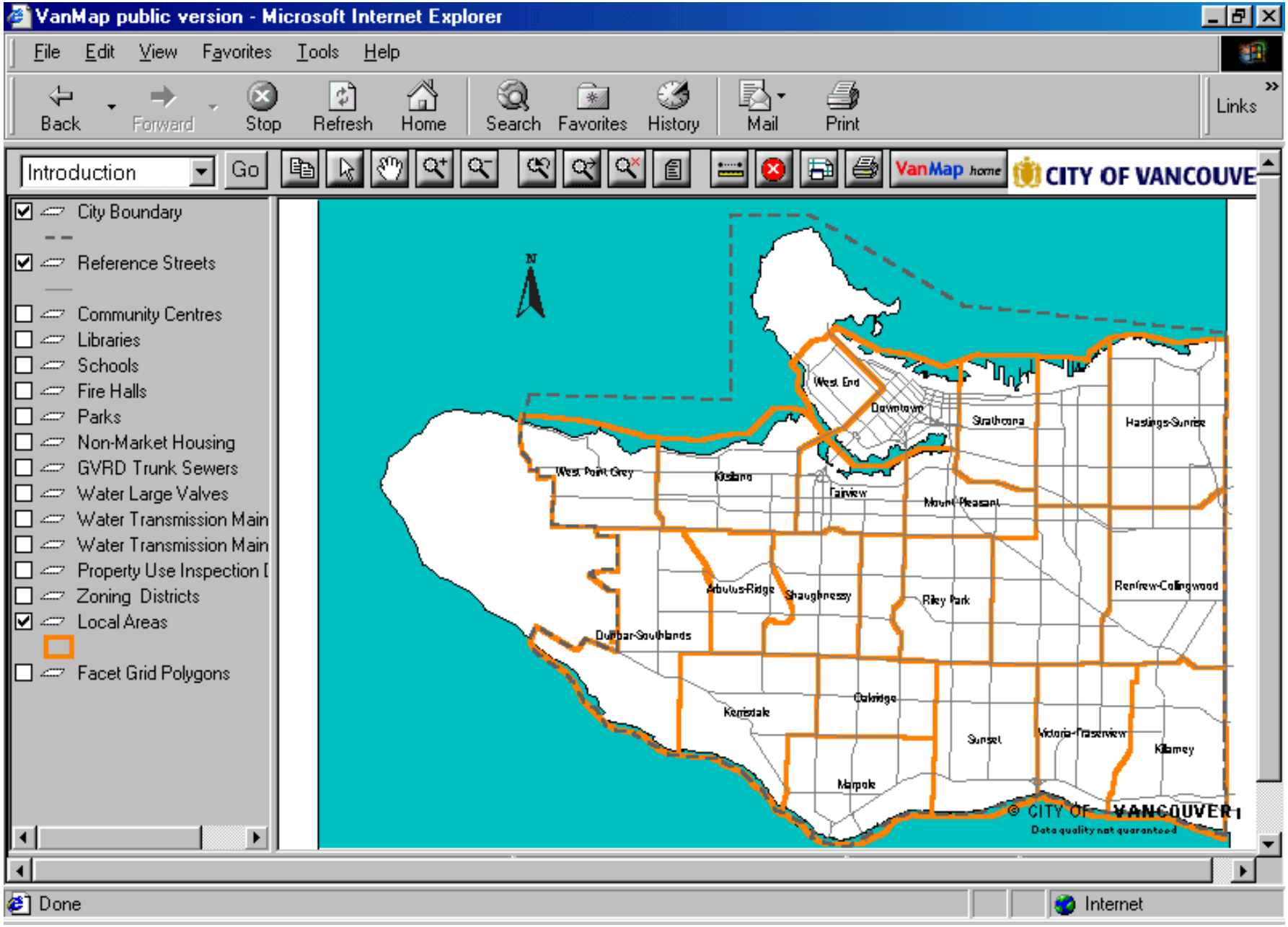
- Information on a new scale.

Contact Information

- Jonathan Mark
- GIS Manager, City of Vancouver

- 604-873-7987
- jonathan_mark@city.vancouver.bc.ca
- www.city.vancouver.bc.ca

Demonstration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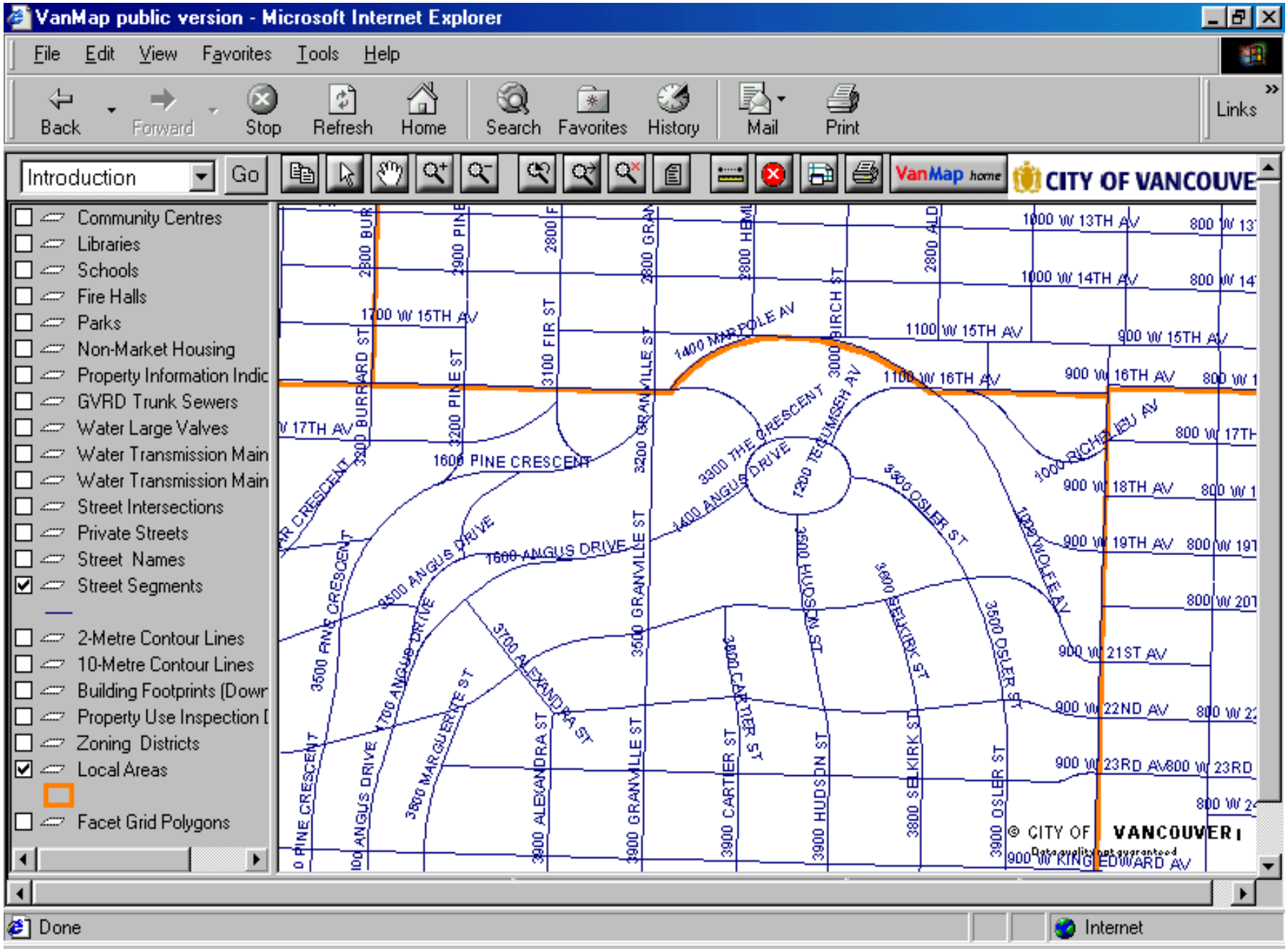
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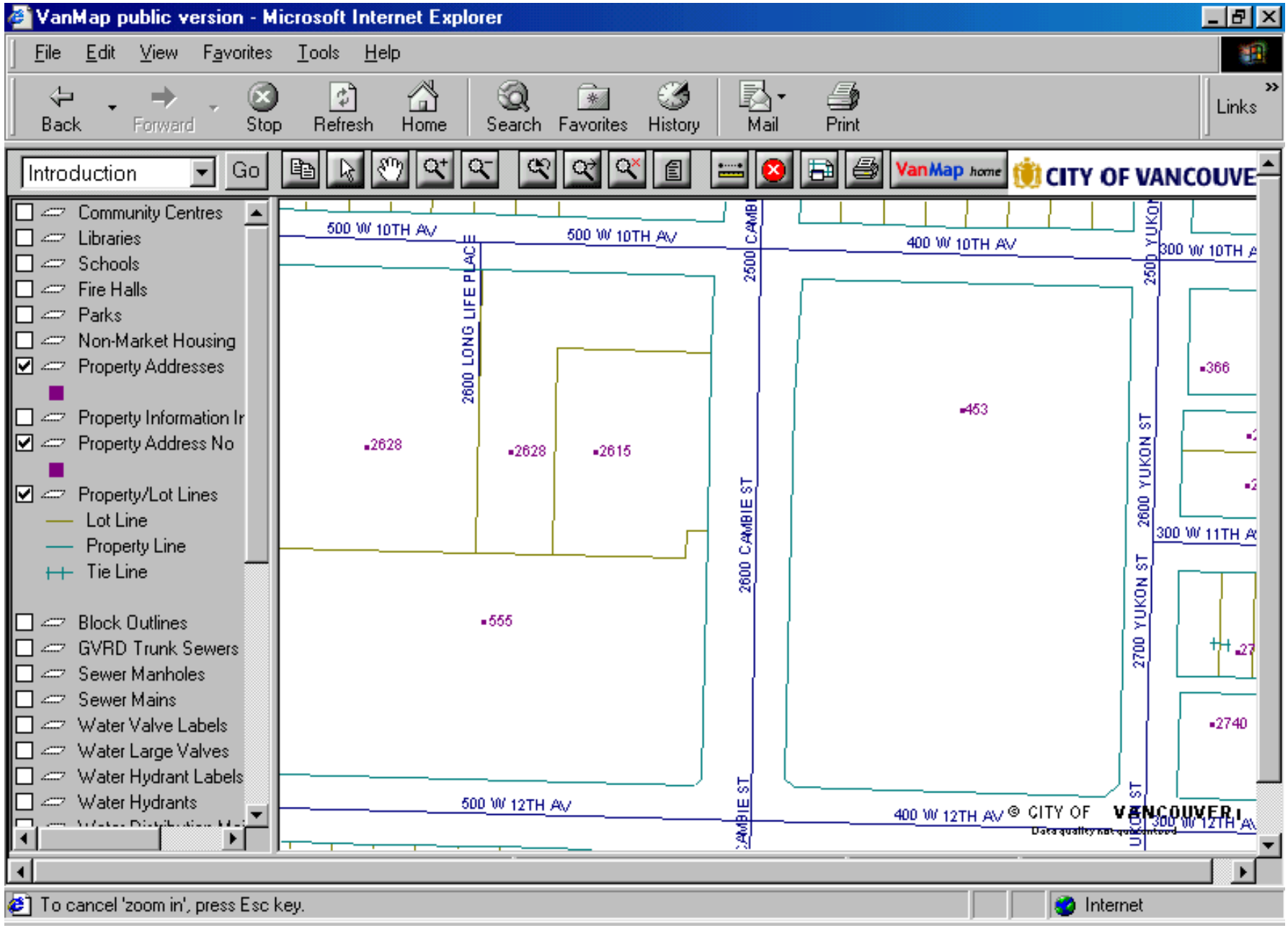
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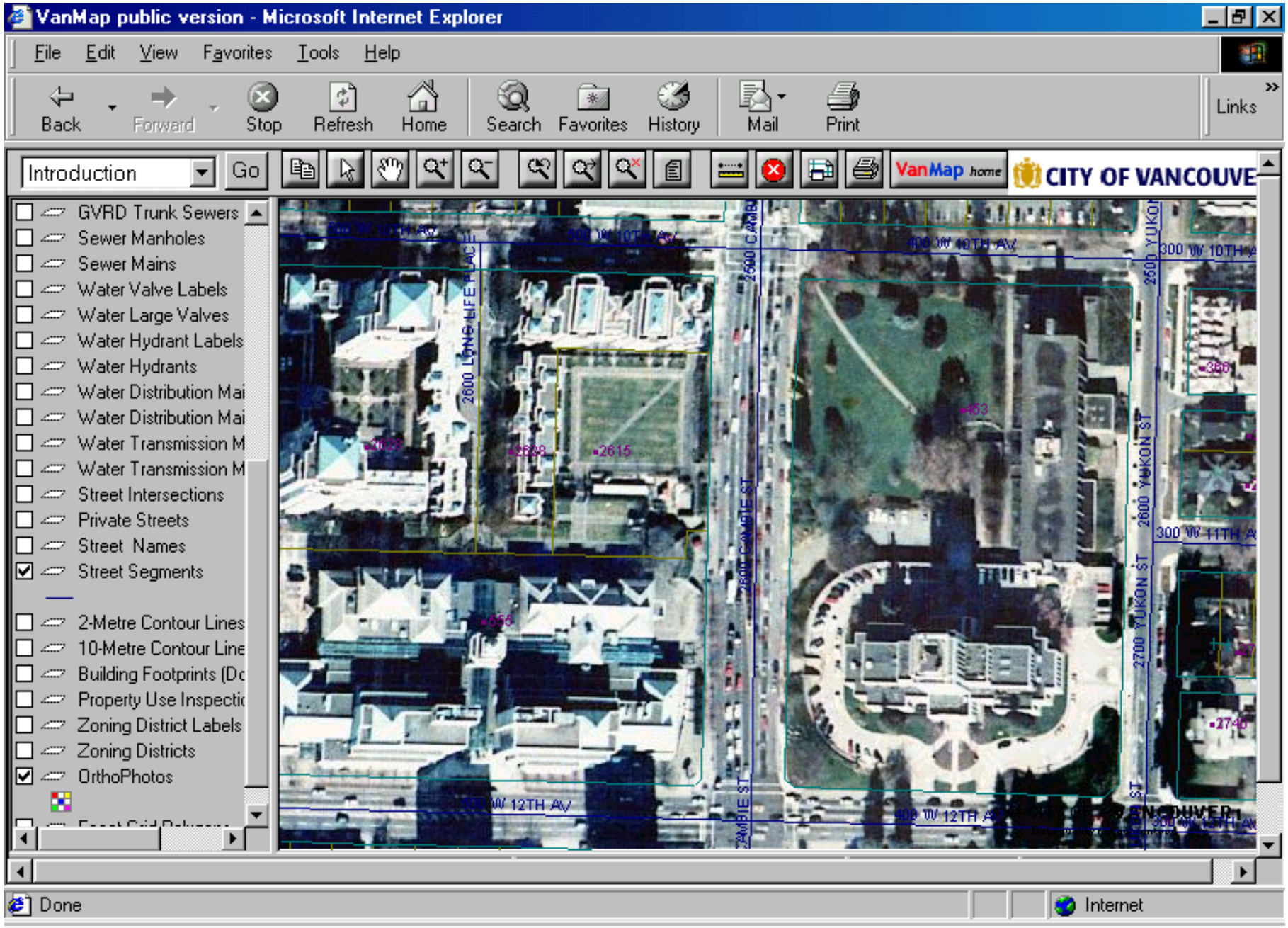
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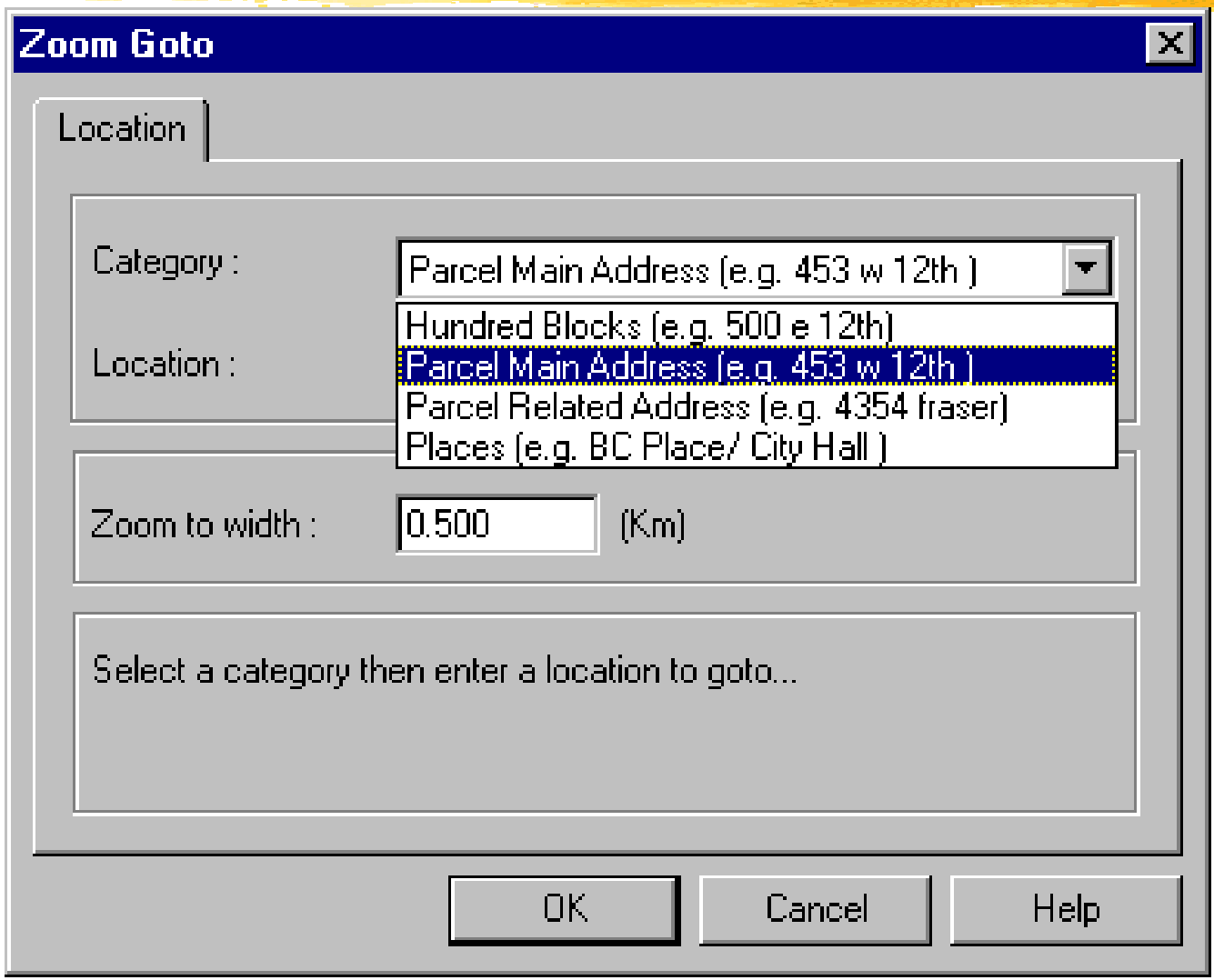

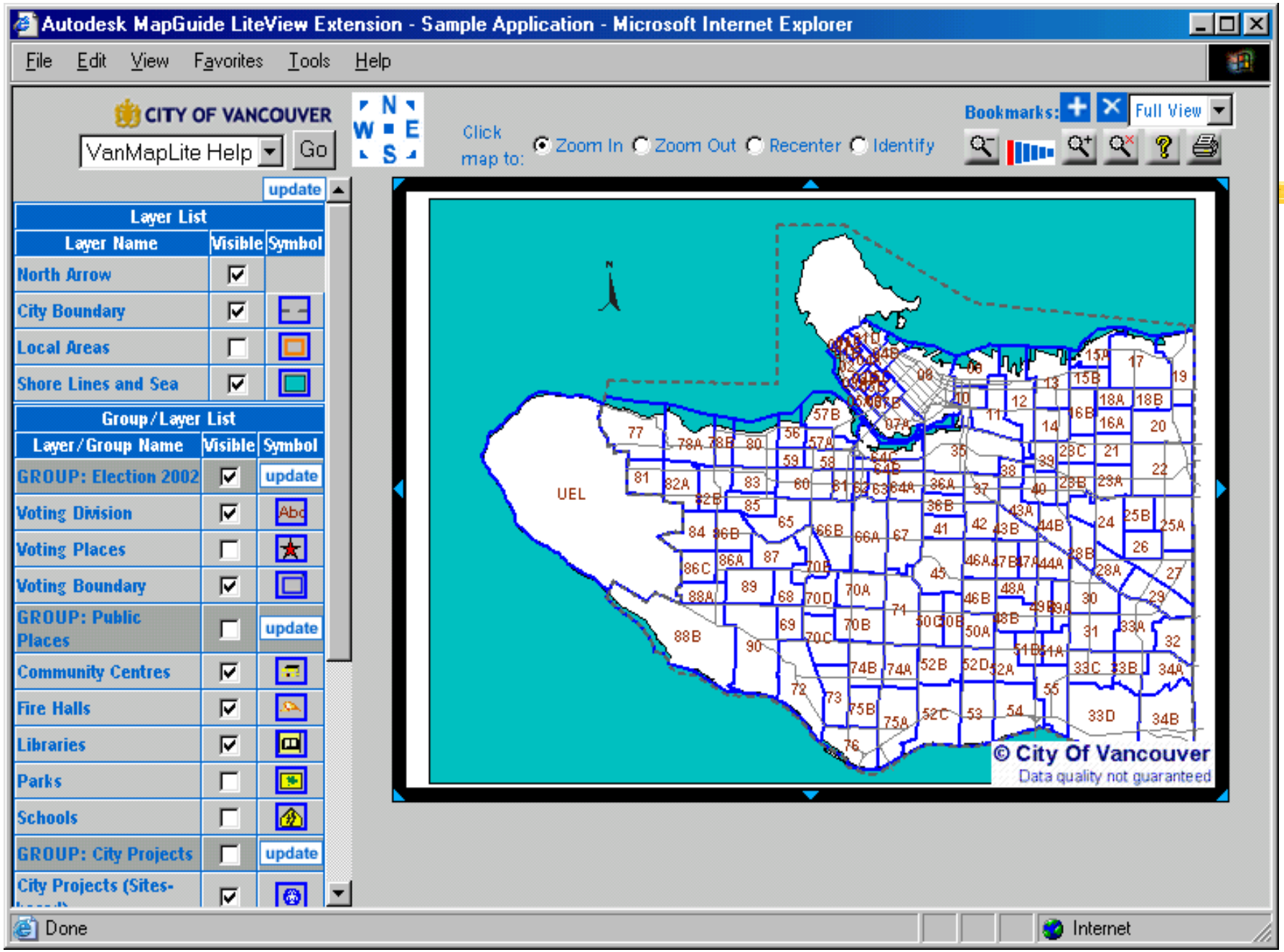
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