



# FE/Kimball 9-1-1 GIS Addressing Experts Meet Important Deadline for Client

## THE SITUATION

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) incorporates 230 member governments in a 16-county region, including metropolitan Dallas and Fort Worth, and provides GIS mapping and 9-1-1 assistance. In 2008 and 2009, NCTCOG planned to map the 27 cities within its region to update the 9-1-1 system and help move toward next-generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1). After a year of attempting to launch this project, the organization realized it lacked the available staff to carry out the project by the December 2009 deadline. Because of the urgency of the project, NCTCOG turned to FE/Kimball, a firm that had previously played a major role in assisting the council in obtaining funding for a NG9-1-1 network.

just 60 days. Typically, a project of this scope would require nine to 12 months to complete. The experienced in-house staff of FE/Kimball geared up to complete the assignment within two months, with as many as a dozen people moving the project forward at any given time.

An additional challenge for the team was to gather and incorporate data from the various cities. In most cases, 9-1-1 mapping is carried out at a county level. But in north central Texas, FE/Kimball needed to work with data from the individual cities, information that varied greatly in its stage of completion and accuracy from community to community.

A final challenge required FE/Kimball to align the completed data with unincorporated data from surrounding areas and connect it together.

## THE CHALLENGES

FE/Kimball's assignment was a seemingly impossible one: complete the compilation and validation of road centerline data and verify all building structure addresses in the 27 cities within

## Project Overview

### CLIENT

North Central Texas Council of Governments

### GOAL

Complete mapping of 27 cities within the region to update it's 9-1-1 system and move towards Next Generation 9-1-1 in an extremely tight timeframe.

### FE/Kimball SERVICES

- Data points validation
- Building structure verification



**THE SOLUTION**

As an initial step, FE/Kimball staff worked on-site in Texas, meeting with city officials to gather as much original source information as possible, such as tax records and existing 9-1-1 data. The team asked questions of local officials and began organizing assignments.

Each team member gathered data from two or three of the cities so that he or she would become an expert on data representative of particular municipalities.

Next, at FE/Kimball headquarters, the team made spatial accuracy adjustments in the GIS data. Existing road centerline data and building point information was overlaid on the latest aerial photography and then the data was adjusted to match the photos. Staff used the source information gathered in Texas to populate the correct address ranges and house numbers.

When executing projects, especially those with short timelines, FE/Kimball works closely with the client throughout the process to accomplish the tasks at hand. By establishing early goals and through regular communication and feedback with NCTCOG, FE/Kimball was able to ensure the data was meeting the organization’s system requirements. One accomplishment of the project was establishing relationships for future data sharing and addressing updates between NCTCOG and the cities to ensure long-term sustainability of the datasets.

**THE RESULTS**

FE/Kimball delivered NCTCOG an accurate map with an updated, database on schedule. Additionally, the team highlighted problem areas, flagging building addresses that needed to be changed, so that NCTCOG could address those issues.

FE/Kimball’s work for NCTCOG generated:

- Updated GIS data files for each of the 27 cities.
- Updated road centerline and address points in the database.
- Updated emergency service zone boundaries for police, fire and EMS services.

Upon reviewing the data, NCTCOG indicated to FE/Kimball that organization representatives were exceedingly happy with the information the team had produced and with the firm’s performance on the extremely tight project schedule.

