

# Project Profile: Merced County GIS Assessment

## Project Overview

**Merced County, CA** and Sidwell entered into an ArcGIS® Enterprise workflow and GIS Needs Assessment project. Sidwell reviewed and analyzed Merced County's existing GIS ecosystem to develop a recommended GIS maintenance workflow. It was determined that the County would be able to take full advantage of the Esri® local government platform by implementing the Local Government Information Model (LGIM), relevant apps, ArcGIS Server, ArcGIS Desktop, and ArcGIS Online.

## Phase I: GIS Needs Assessment and System Review

All County staff and departments were interviewed to establish a strong understanding of the current GIS data, technology, and workflow needs. After all interviews were conducted, Sidwell documented their findings and defined recommended workflows that involved the implementation of Esri platform and solutions. This workflow model retained proven efficiencies, while implementing the new technologies (Local Government Information Model (LGIM), relevant apps, ArcGIS Server, ArcGIS Desktop, and ArcGIS Online).



Sidwell also reviewed and evaluated the existing GIS platform implementation to determine the best practices for deploying GIS solutions across the County. This review and analysis of the County's GIS and data management workflows identified issues, bottlenecks, and inefficiencies that need to be addressed. Sidwell also reviewed GIS datasets at the County (geodatabases, imagery, etc.) to make recommendations for a

fully comprehensive, single source of geographic information from which multiple products and workflows can be created and supported by the County.

## Phase II: Development of a 5-Year GIS Strategic Plan

Phase II of the GIS Needs Assessment project focused on the development of a five-year GIS strategic plan for the County. The analysis was built by formulating a path forward to improve county-wide departmental decision making through GIS analysis. The analysis established a framework to address key elements of the strategic plan including:

- Creating program efficiencies through coordinated funding opportunities
- Defining common solutions and in establishing an analytical work program.
- Establishing the elements necessary to develop a long-term vision
- Define areas of responsibility for plan implementation
- Develop prioritization criteria to be used during implementation phase

Sidwell was then able to develop a five-year strategic plan outline to leverage information from Phase I in formulating a path forward to improve county-wide departmental decision making through GIS analysis.

