

PLATTRACKER[®]

Houston Plat Tracker Plats Search Using

My City 2 Map Viewer



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Enterprise Geographic Information System

Enterprise GIS, City of Houston

Houston Information Technology Services, 611 Walker Street, 5th Floor, Houston, TX 77002

Questions or problem about **My City** can be directed to our GIS Helpline **832.393.6555**

For technical questions, please contact: MyCityHelpDesk@houstontx.gov



About My City

The 'My City Houston, Version 2' interactive mapping web site provides the citizens of Houston a means to access the most current **geographic information systems** (GIS) data and aerial imagery (current and historical). These data are hosted within the City's enterprise GIS system. Users of the web site are provided with a variety of search and identify tools to assist them in finding information relevant to their needs. Version 2 completes in 2014. However, the City's GIS data are constantly updated to assure that the data in this application are of the highest quality and as current as possible. My City 2 - <http://mycity.houstontx.gov/mycity2>



The interactive mapping web site provides the public, customers (applicants), area agencies, land planners and civil engineers (who represent land owners, developers, and builders) an easy way to locate a submitted plat on 'My City 2 Houston's map. Plats submitted on 'Plat Tracker's plat submittal site (<http://www.HoustonPlatTracker.org>) take part in the subdivision platting of property within Houston's extraterritorial jurisdiction for review and presentation to the **Houston Planning Commission**.

Background

The **My City 2** application is a web-based mapping application that allows its users to interact with over 200 map layers and datasets that are relevant to the City's mission. The sites also include multiple sets of aerial imagery and scanned maps.

Users can select either '**Address Locator Services**', '**Map Layers Menu**', '**City Services Menu**' or '**Identify Tool**' to quickly navigate to specific addresses or features.

The '**Address Locator**' tool function works off a single address string and locates addresses based on a best match. The locator then provides services of **Jurisdiction Info**, **Solid Waste Schedules** and **Police** of that specific address. Other information includes City Council Districts, Super



Neighborhoods, City, County, Harris Voting Precinct, Heavy Trash Pickup, Recycle Pickup, HPD Division, HPD District, HPD Beat, etc.

The '**Map Layers**' tool provides a quick way for users to display high interest map layers. Neighborhood, Government, Recent Crimes, Flood Hazards, Permits, Transportation, Demographics, Cadastral, Planning and Development, Public Utilities, Public Works Engineering, Public Health Safety and Aerials 2012 are just a few of the categories that the public can access in the datasets.

The '**City Services**' tool provides the important services of **Neighborhood, Emergency and Crime Services**. '**City Services**' search tool provides information from an address, point or map center of a specific location, and locates that information onto the map layer. Some of the layers include Schools, Libraries, Museums, Parks, Recycling Centers, Fire Stations, Hydrants, Hospitals, and Crime within the last 30 days, etc.

The site also provides the first map-driven access to the city's ILMS building permit data (ranging back to 1987) with its '**Search Permits**' tool. A "**redlining tool**" is also provided to allow the users to annotate the map. This tool includes the ability to save the graphics to a file. This file can then be transmitted to others so that they can be re-loaded on to **My City** from another location or at another time. The site also includes a print to PDF function.

Getting Started

To view the **My City 2** interactive mapping web site requires that **Adobe Flash Player** version 17.0.0.188 or greater be installed. The site is based on the **Environmental System Research Institute's** (ESRI) Adobe Flex API. The application should be compatible with all of the standard internet browsers: Internet Explorer 8.0 or higher, as well as recent versions of Google Chrome, Firefox, Safari, and Opera. ArcGIS Viewer for Flex version 3.1 is required for implementation of the latest Viewer. The latest version of the Adobe Flash browser plug-ins will likely be required to take advantage of the latest Viewer and required to support printing to PDF.

Help documents can be downloaded using the '**Help Menu**' or the '**Help Tab**' on the splash screen.

As you access the **My City Houston Map Viewer** web page, the '**My City Main Splash Screen**' displays the '**Disclaimer**' screen. **The tabs include information on the following:**





- **Disclaimer**
- **Help**
- **News**
- **About**

Click the "**Agree**" button to accept the terms and conditions for using the site. If you disagree, click the "**Disagree**" button which takes you to the official '**City of Houston eGovernment Center**' site @ <http://www.houstontx.gov> .

Disclaimer – Please take time to read the important '**Disclaimer**' before using the web site.

Help – Documents for download are available in this section in PDF format. Also, you can find a copy of this '**Overview Guide**', the "**My City May Viewer Overview Guide, Version 2**" on the list. Help documents can also be found using the '**Help Menu**'.

If you have any questions, please see the contact person in the list above or the GIS Hotline at **(832) 393-6555**.

News – Click the '**News Tab**' for more details on the "**My City Map Viewer, Version 2**". News is updated on a regular basis and could provide important information on the use of the site. New items include announcement of new datasets, functionalities, and tools, or may alert the user to a problem that has been identified.

About – General information about the "**My City Map Viewer, Version 2**" application, includes who to contact to report problems and to request additions or changes to the application.



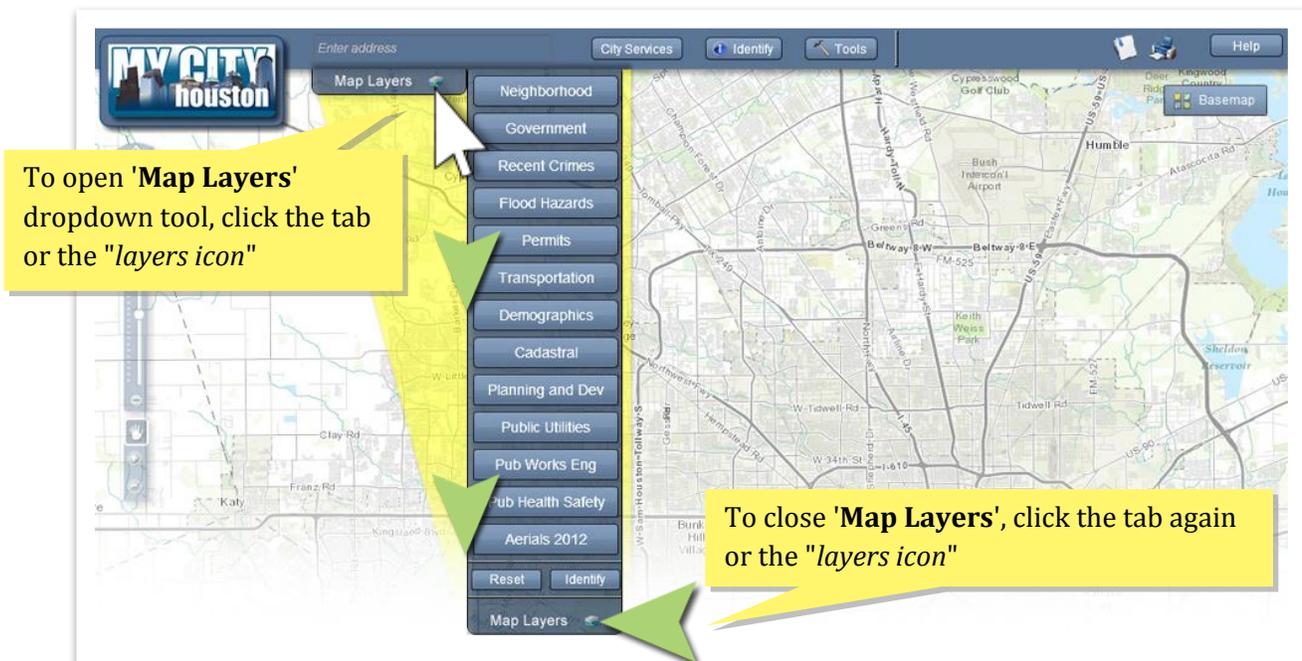
Search for Plat Tracker Plats

Searching for **Plat Tracker** is just one of the many search tools you can find in **My City 2**. Here is an example for getting you familiar with using the mapping application.

To access **Plat Tracker Plats**, first you have to access it from the '**Map Layers**' tool (see below). The '**Map Layers Menu**' is located below the '**Address Locator**' on the **Main Tool Bar**. Click the '**Map Layers Menu**' tab, or the "**layers icon**" to access the dropdown tool for the variety of options.

IMPORTANT:

Other search options that one might be interest in can be found in the **Map Data Layers Guide**. More detailed information in using the '**Map Layers**' tools can also be found in the complete guide. The **My City 2 User Guide** document can be downloaded from the '**Help Menu**' or the '**Help Tab**' on the splash screen. It can also be found on the web at <http://mycity.houstontx.gov/home/documents.html>



*Note: The City's GIS data are constantly updated. The Enterprise GIS team assures that the data in this application will be updated on a regular basis as new datasets from different departments are received. The categories within the '**Map Layers**' are accurate representations of when it was set up.*



Plat Tracker

Clicking on the '**Planning and Development**' button opens the '**Planning and Development Panel**' and the sub-category (or several sub-categories) of the layer visibilities. Scroll down to discover '**PlatTracker Plats**' which are layers hidden within the panel, see "A".

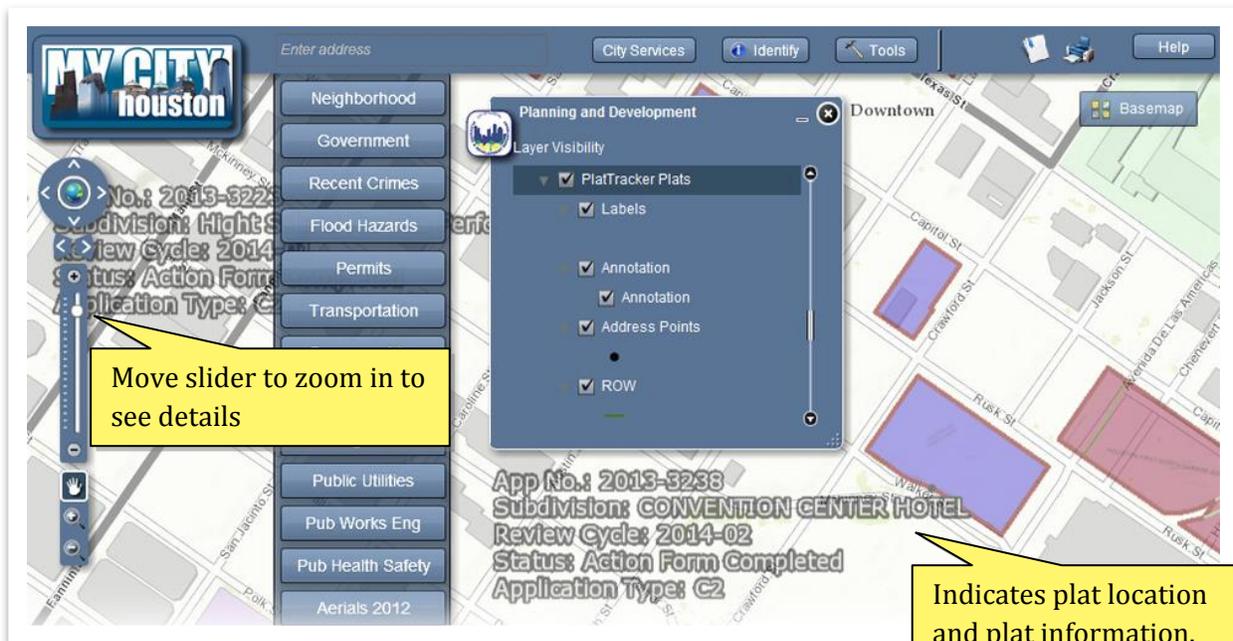
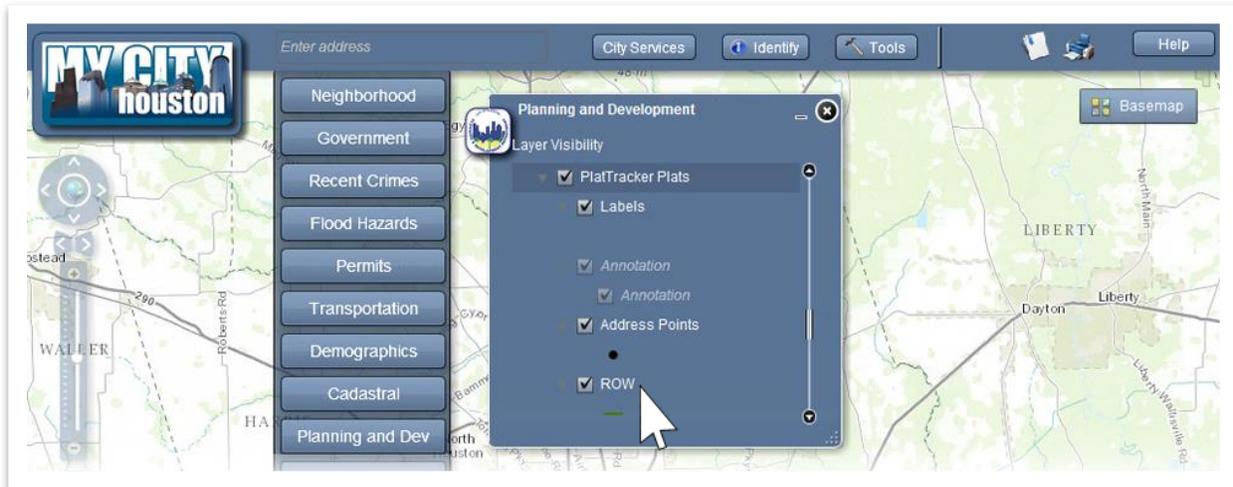
To view data, check the "**boxes**" of the sub-category of '**Plat Tracker Plats**' (if it is checked on default).

Within the '**Plat Tracker Plats Panel**', the sub-category option includes: *Labels, Address Points, ROW, Property Lines, Easements, Boundaries and Application Type*.



The *example* above shows '**Planning and Development Map Layer**' selected with '**Plat Tracker Plats**' – "checked" in the '**Map Layers**'. See below.

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'Plat Tracker Plats' Map Layers Data includes:

- App No.:
- Subdivision Name:
- Review Cycle:
- Status:
- Application Type:



- Boundaries

Each 'Map Layers Data Panel' has a set of dropdown 'Layer Visibilities Description' panels.



Clicking on the 'Layer Visibilities Description' dropdown arrow opens the following options:

- **Zoom to:** The map will be zoomed to the location.
- **Transparency:** To set the transparency of the layer to the desired level, (see, "A")
- **Move up:** The map will be moved up to the location.
- **Move down:** The map will be moved down to the location.
- **Description:** Displays the Map Servers layers, (see, "B")

Layer Transparency

You can set the transparency of the layer to the desired level by dragging the 'Set Layer Transparency Sliders' from **0%** (Opaque) to **100%** (Transparent).



The *example* above shows '**Government Map Layer**' selected with Layer Visibility of **City Council District** displayed for transparency settings.

Map Server Description

Clicking the '**Description**' tab opens a new browser window of the **Map Server Service URL**. In this example we selected the **City Council Districts' Government Map Layer** and the browser displays all the information of the **Government Boundaries'** descriptions, **City Council Districts'** layers and other related layers.

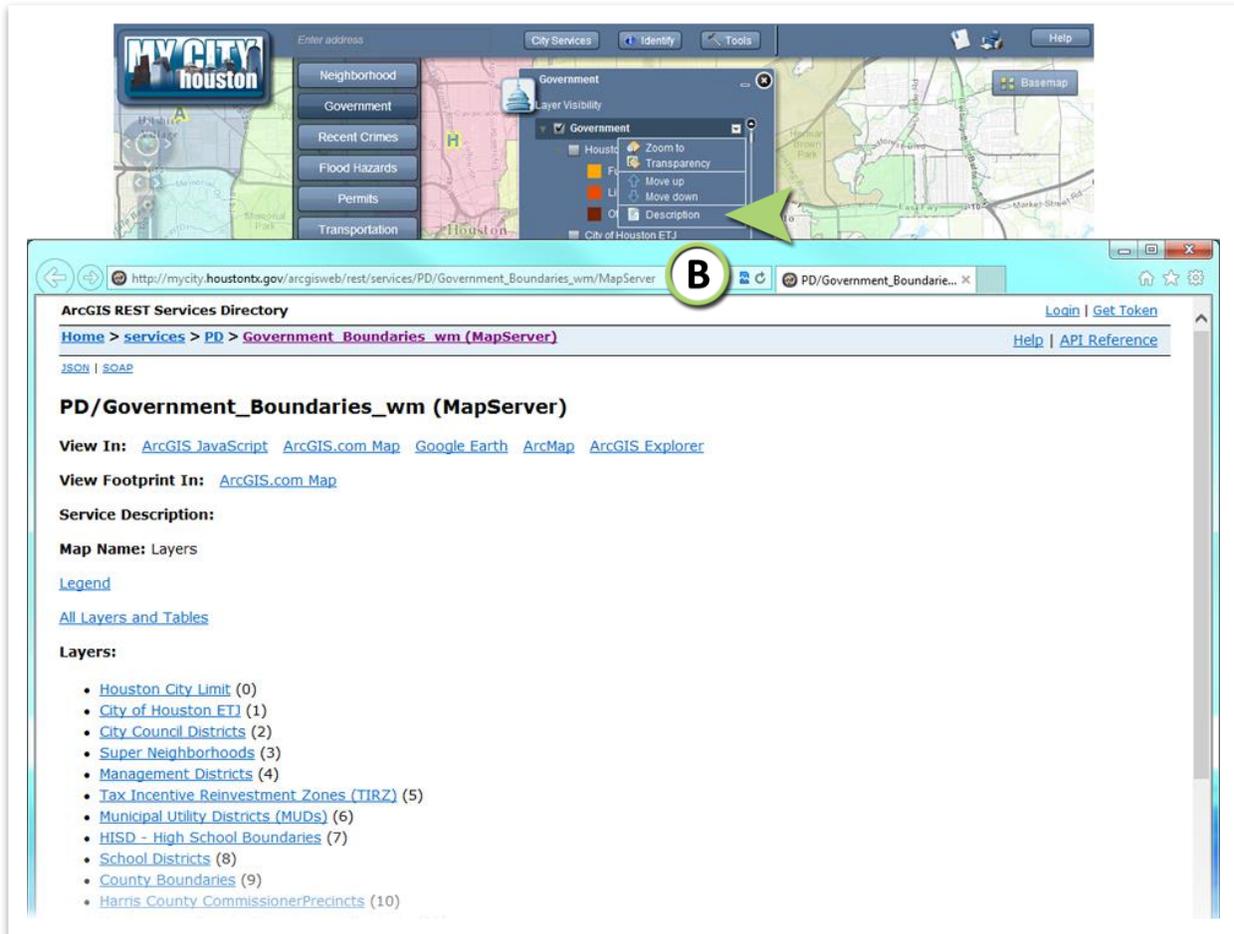
In the address bar of the new browser is the URL of the **Map Service** for the specific dataset. The address can then be entered in another mapping application to view the layers and all the descriptions.

For more information about **Map Server Service URL** and using '**My City 2**', the complete guide -- the **My City 2 User Guide** document can be downloaded from the '**Help Menu**' or the '**Help Tab**' on the splash screen. It can also be found on the web at <http://mycity.houstontx.gov/home/documents.html>

Resource: **Map Server Service URL**

Location: Tools > Add Layer: Adding a **Map Server Service URL**





The **example** above shows 'Government Map Layer' selected with Layer Visibility of City Council District layer displayed with the Map Server information displayed on a new browser window. Note the displayed Layers.

Other Map Layers options include:

- Neighborhood
- Government
- Recent Crimes
- Flood Hazards
- Permits
- Transportation
- Demographics
- Cadastral



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- Planning and Development
- Public Utilities
- Public Works Engineering
- Public Health Safety
- Aerials 2012

It can be minimized by a click on the "**Map Layers Tab**" or the "*layers icon*" again. Click either one to open it again. To access the ***data layers***, click on the categories of interest.

