

**Use of Web-Based Mapping Tools
for Public Access to Information
on Institutional Controls and
Contaminated Sites...**

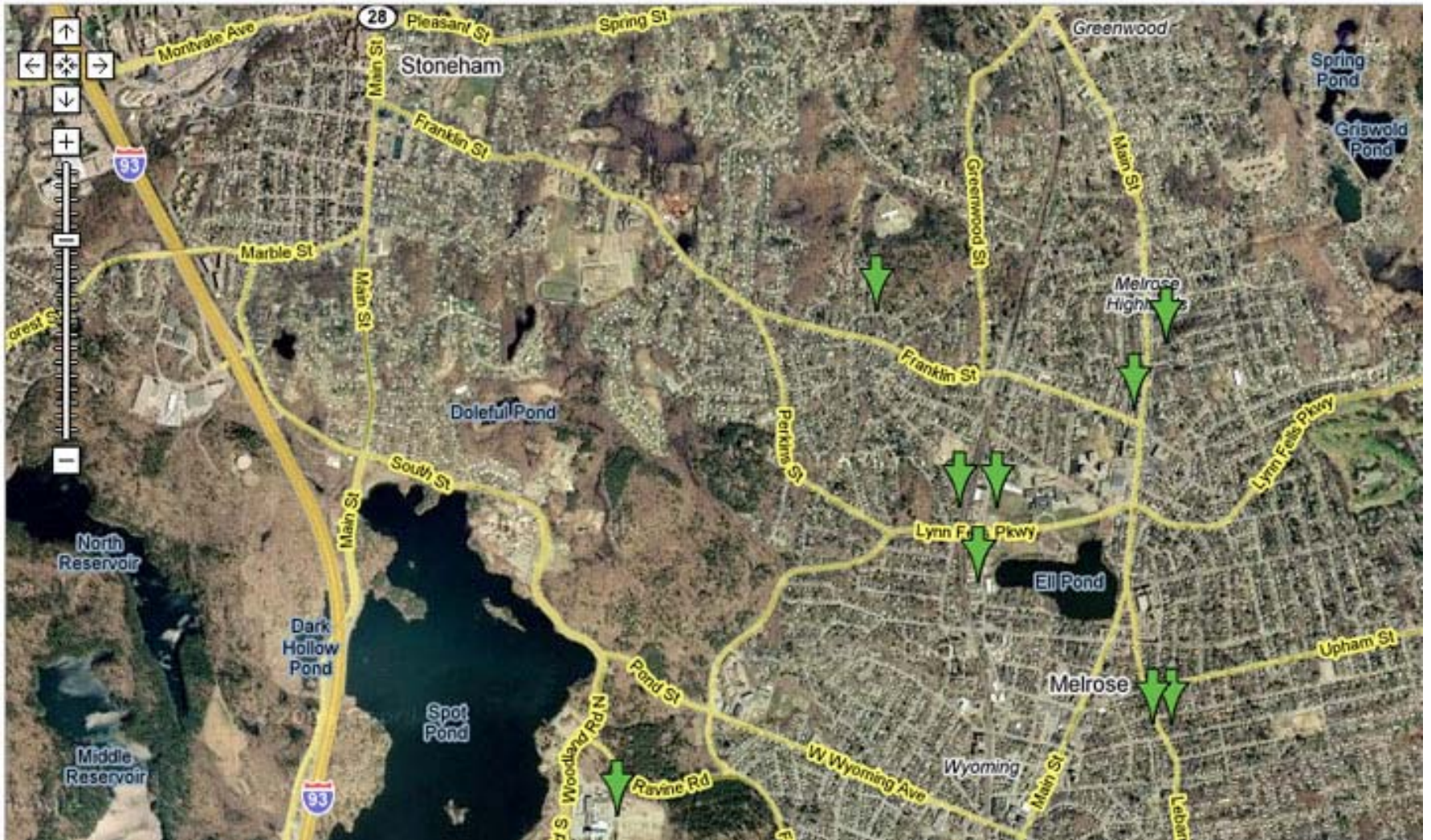
...a State Perspective

Take as Given

- Current technology allows mapping of sites with links to more detailed site information
- Cost is the primary barrier and costs are dropping
- Web-based mapping increases accessibility
- Increased accessibility is good

Conclusion: It is your destiny

Maps



Status of MassDEP Mapping

- Maps of sites on web as downloadable data layers (requires GIS tool, available free)
- Maps of sites with Activity & Use Limitations (“AULs”) also available as data layer
- Format makes maps inaccessible
- Lists of sites/AULs readily accessible

Status of MassDEP Mapping

- Rethinking Previous Policy Decisions:
 - Only “Tier 1” sites are mapped
 - Closed sites removed from map
 - Homeland Security Issues (Water Supply locations not publicly mapped, even if a site)
- On-line file review and mandatory electronic formats/submittals proposed for January, 2008

MASSDEP

Consider 3 Issues

- Appropriateness the Data
- Quality of the Data
- Understanding of the Data

Appropriateness of Data

The image is a screenshot of the Google Maps web interface. At the top left is the Google logo. To its right are navigation links for "Web", "Images", "Video", "News", "Maps", and "more...". Below these is a search bar containing the text "17 Pearl St, Melrose, Massachusetts". To the right of the search bar is a "Search Maps" button. Below the search bar are three buttons: "Search the map", "Find businesses", and "Get directions".

The main area of the image is a map of the United States, centered on the Great Lakes region. The map shows major cities, state boundaries, and a network of roads. A green pin is placed on the map near Boston, Massachusetts. In the top right corner of the map area, there are three buttons: "Map", "Satellite", and "Hybrid".

On the right side of the map, there is a white information box. It contains the following text:
Address:
17 Pearl St
Melrose, MA 02176
[Make this my default location](#)
Get directions: [To here](#) - [From here](#)

At the bottom left of the map, there is a scale bar showing 100 miles and 200 kilometers. At the bottom right, there is a small inset map of North America with a red box indicating the current map's location. The copyright notice at the bottom right reads "©2006 Google - Map data ©2006 NAVTEQ™ - Terms of Use".

Closer...



[Web](#) [Images](#) [Video](#) ^{New!} [News](#) [Maps](#) [more »](#)

17 Pearl St Melrose Massachusetts

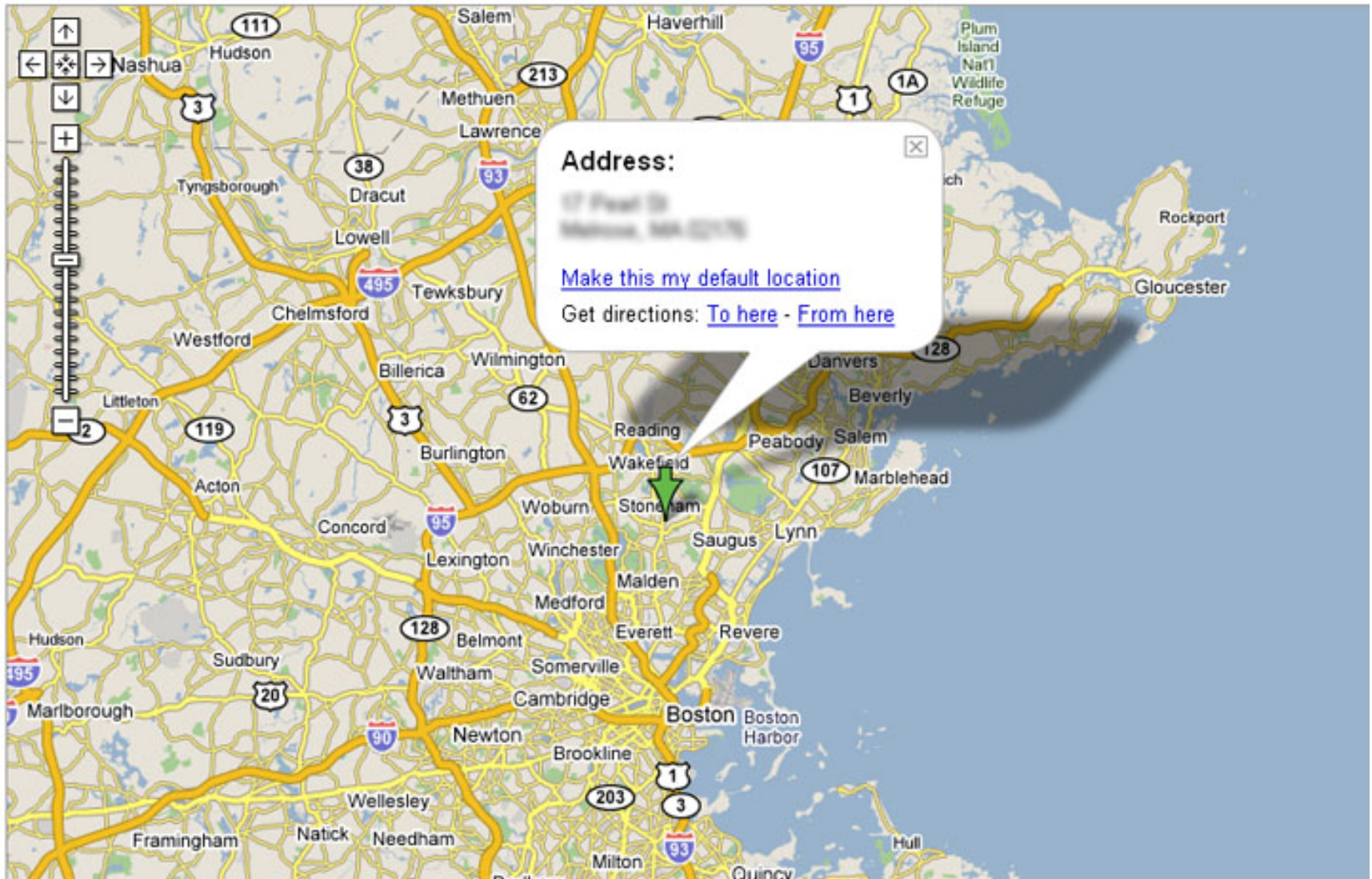
Search Maps

Search the map

[Find businesses](#)

[Get directions](#)

Maps



Still Closer...



[Web](#) [Images](#) [Video](#) [News](#) [Maps](#) [more »](#)

Melrose massachusetts

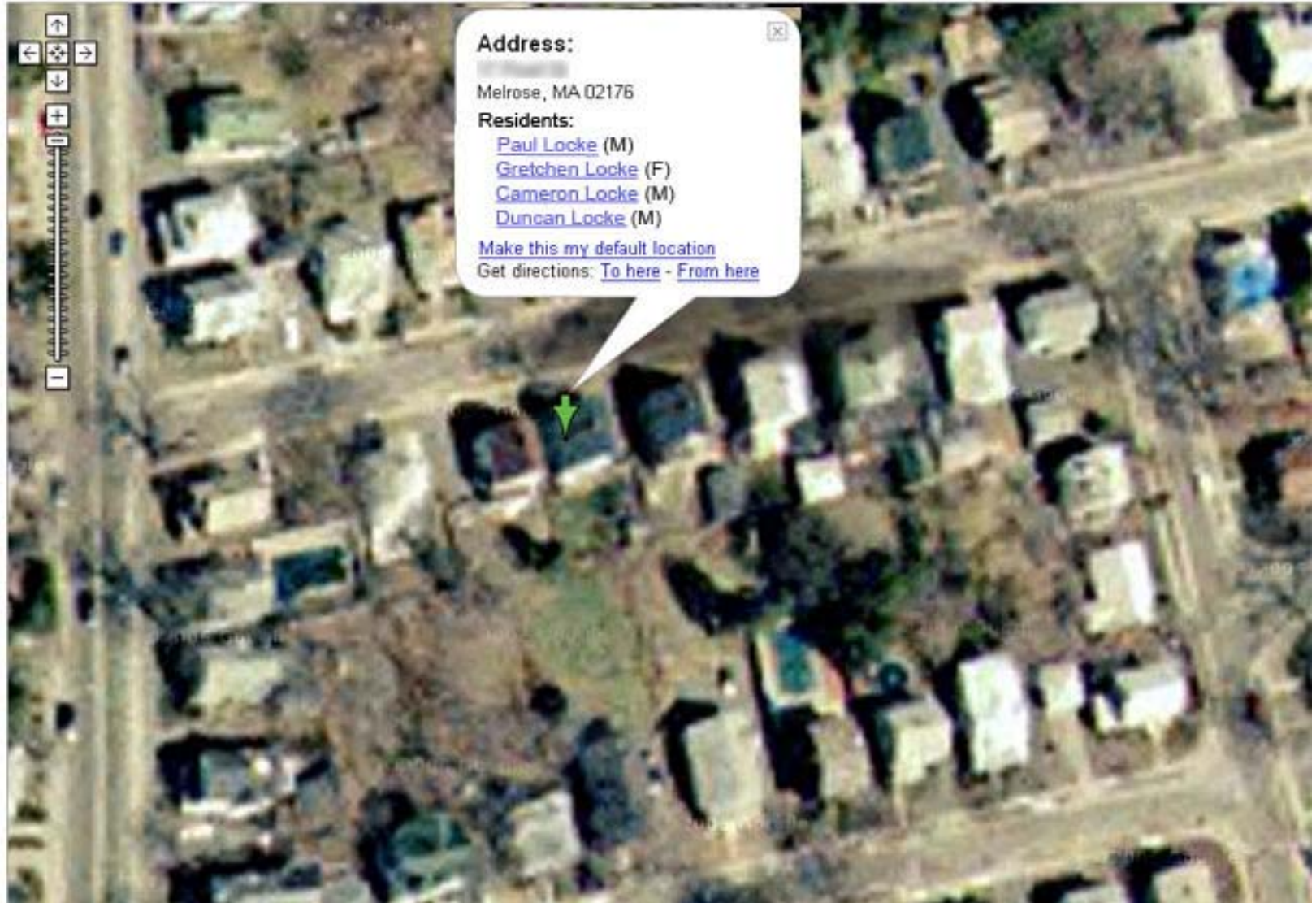
Search Maps

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Melrose massachusetts

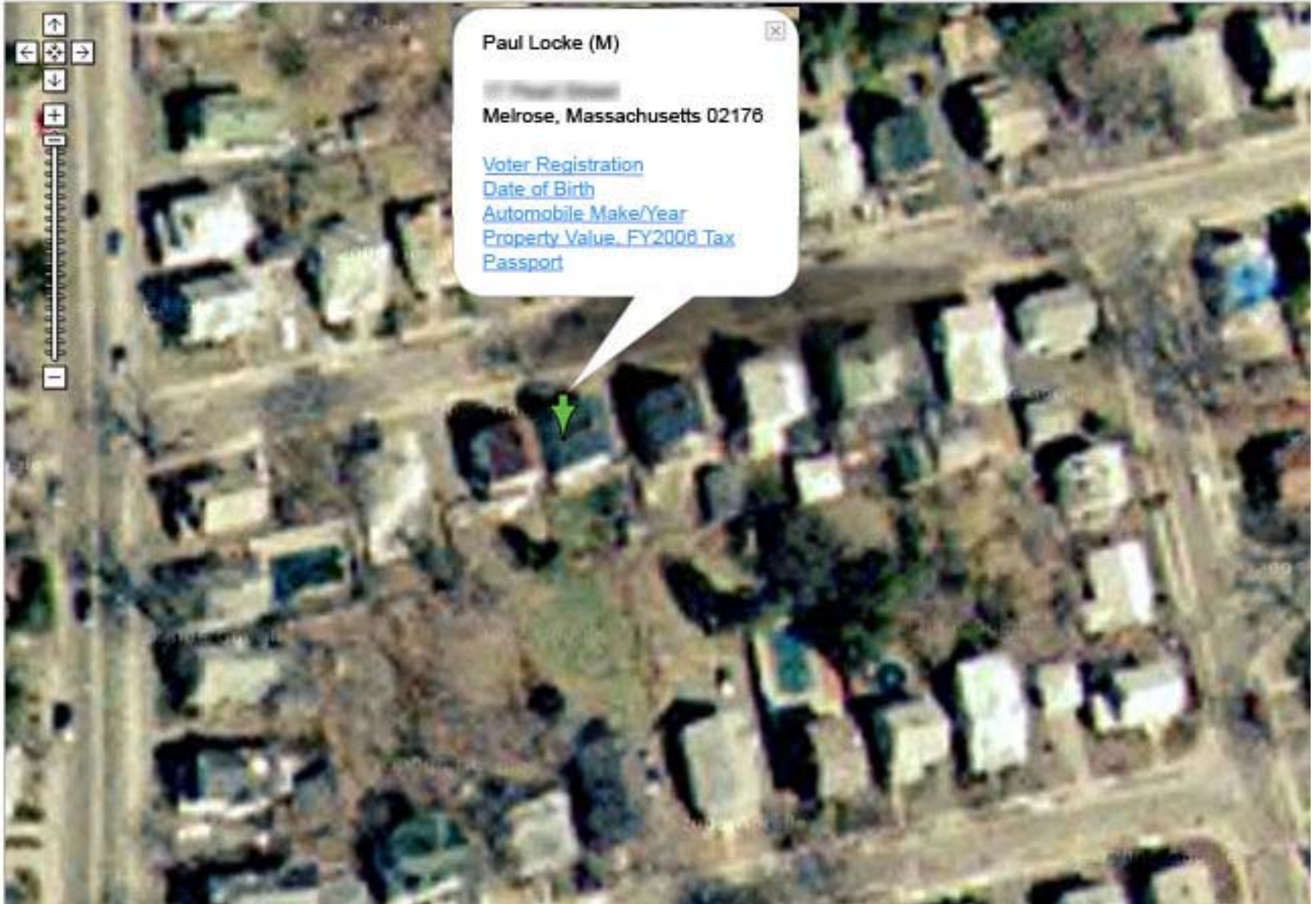
Search Maps

Search the map

Find businesses

Get directions

Maps



Paul Locke (M)

Melrose, Massachusetts 02176

[Voter Registration](#)

[Date of Birth](#)

[Automobile Make/Year](#)

[Property Value, FY2008 Tax](#)

[Passport](#)



Web Images Video News Maps more

Melrose massachusetts

Search Maps

Search the map Find businesses Get directions

Maps

Print Email Link to this page

Map Satellite Hybrid



WARNING: ALTERATION, ADDITION OR MUTILATION OF ENTRIES IS PROHIBITED. ANY UNOFFICIAL CHANGE WILL RENDER THIS PASSPORT INVALID.

NAME—NOM PAUL WARREN LOGHE		SEX—SEXE M		BIRTHPLACE—LIEU DE NAISSANCE MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.	
BIRTH DATE—DATE DE NAISSANCE NOV. 13, 1960		ISSUE DATE—DATE DE DELIVRANCE MARCH 12, 1986		EXPIRES MARCH 11, 1996	
NATIONALITY—NATIONALITE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA		CLASSIFICATION NEW APPLICATION PPT/BN REG. X NE REG. OFF			

SIGNATURE OF BEARER—SIGNATURE DU TITULAIRE
NOT VALID UNTIL SIGNED



PHOTOGRAPHIQUE
DATE DE DELIVRANCE
DATE D'EXPIRATION

50 ft
20 m



Appropriateness

Data must be evaluated and screened, possibly including,

- “Financial Inability” statements
- Billing & Payment records
- Proprietary chemicals/processes
- “Enforcement Sensitive” material

What do you want to make public, and why?

Data Quality

- Not a new issue
- Linking from maps to databases may hide data quality issues (vs staff-generated web sites)
- “Publishing” data online (vs maintaining paper files) may imply “ownership” – state is vouching for the quality

Table 1:
**Number of Public Schools and Students Attending Classes Within a
Half-Mile of a Superfund or State-Identified Contaminated Site**

State	Number of Schools	Number of Counties	Estimated Number of Students	Lists Used to Identify Toxic Sites
California	43	11	32,865	Superfund only
Massachusetts	818	13	407,229	Superfund & State
Michigan	64	27	20,999	Superfund & State
New Jersey	36	11	18,200	Superfund only
New York	235	39	142,738	Superfund & State
Total	1,195	100	622,031	

from CREATING SAFE LEARNING ZONES: INVISIBLE THREATS, VISIBLE ACTIONS (2002)
by The Child Proofing Our Communities Campaign

Promoting Understanding

- Appropriate, high quality data is not enough
- Maps & associated data must be presented in a larger context

What is the program goal you want to achieve?

Summary

- Web-based maps with links to site data are an inevitability
- Accessibility of data will raise issues of appropriateness, quality and understanding
- Managers should not be seduced by the technology or view the project as an IT issue



MassDEP

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