Ramsey County – Leading the Way

- **Part of a Grant MDH received from the CDC**
  - Directive:
    Perform a statewide assessment and two to three localized assessments.
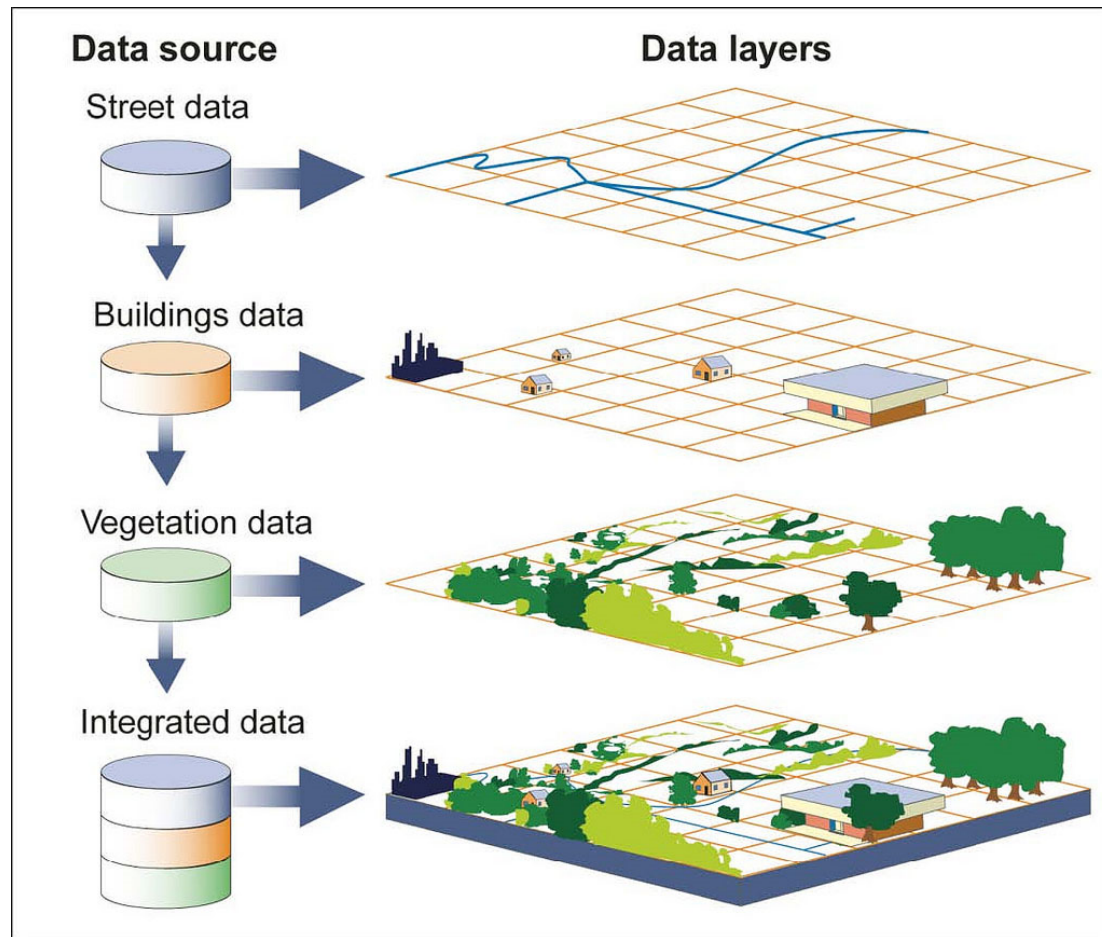
- **Ours is...**
  - *Localized*
  - *Detailed*
  - *Methodical*
  - *The first of its kind*

How Does It Work?

(And What is GIS?)

Source: GAO.

Complex computer software called Geographic Information Systems makes it possible

Building the Dataset – Demography

- **American Communities Survey (ACS) 2012, 5 Year**
  - Block Groups
  - Tracts
  - Data:
    - Income
    - Transportation
    - Employment
    - Age
    - Language / Ethnicity
    - Insurance Coverage
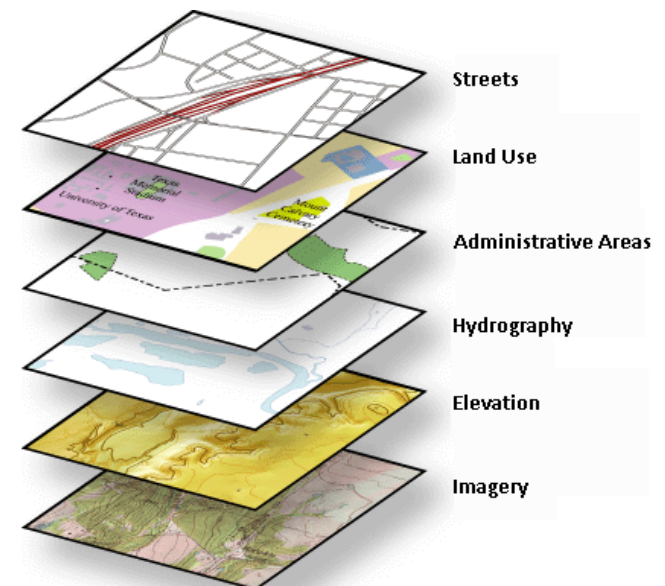   - Housing Characteristics
- **2010 Decennial Census**
  - Blocks
  - Data:
    - Population Density
    - Age

Building the Dataset – Geography

- **Metropolitan Council's Datafinder.org**
  - Land Use
  - Census Geography (TIGER Lines)
    - **TIGER = T**opologically **I**ntegrated **G**eographic **E**ncoding and **R**eferencing
    - Used to make Census data spatial (remember, *GIS!*)

- **Why do we do all this?**
  - Data, taken out of context, has limited value.
  - Adding context means adding value.

Streets

Land Use

Administrative Areas

Hydrography

Elevation

Imagery

Limitations

- Cannot study things like climate projections
  - Study area is too small, not enough variation
  - Based on predictions, not facts

- Limited by the quality of the data
  - Statistical estimates – don't always tell the truth
  - Overlap between indicators causes issues

- Limited Examples to Follow
  - First one on this scale
  - New field of research

Next Steps

- Complete the vulnerability assessment and ensure sustainability (updates expected every 2 years)

- Develop a training module for educating department staff

- Work with MDH to evaluate how the BRACE model can be used at the local level

- Identify the specific adaptation activities we will implement (identify what needs to be done to improve department capacity to build resilience)

Questions?