Opening Our Data

Leveraging OpenStreetMap for Insights into the Built and Natural Environment

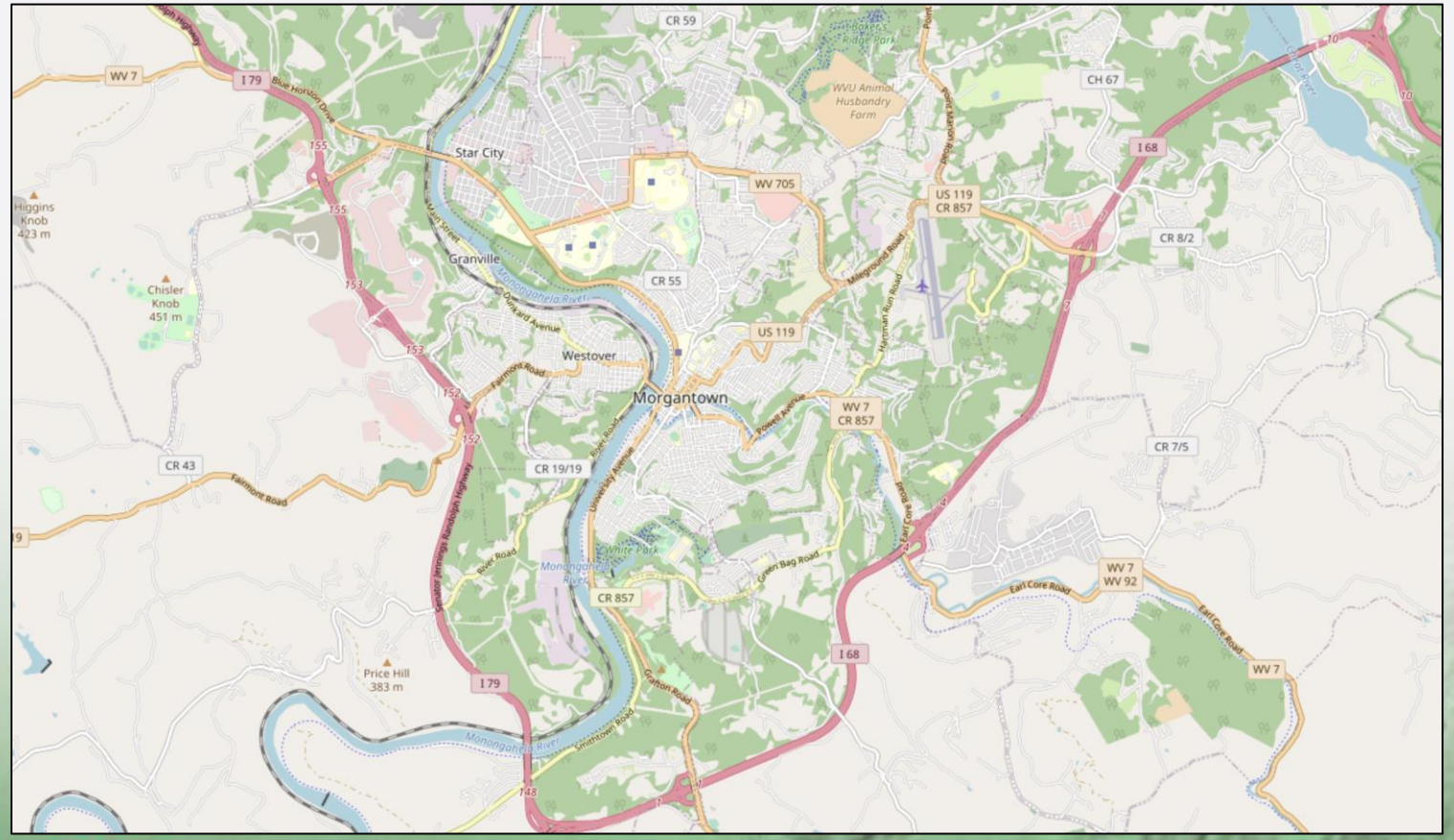
J. Drew Gatlin

Staff Engineer – City of Morgantown, WV

WV GIS CONFERENCE
MAY 23-26, 2022

WVAGP.ORG

OpenStreetMap is Volunteered Geographic Information!

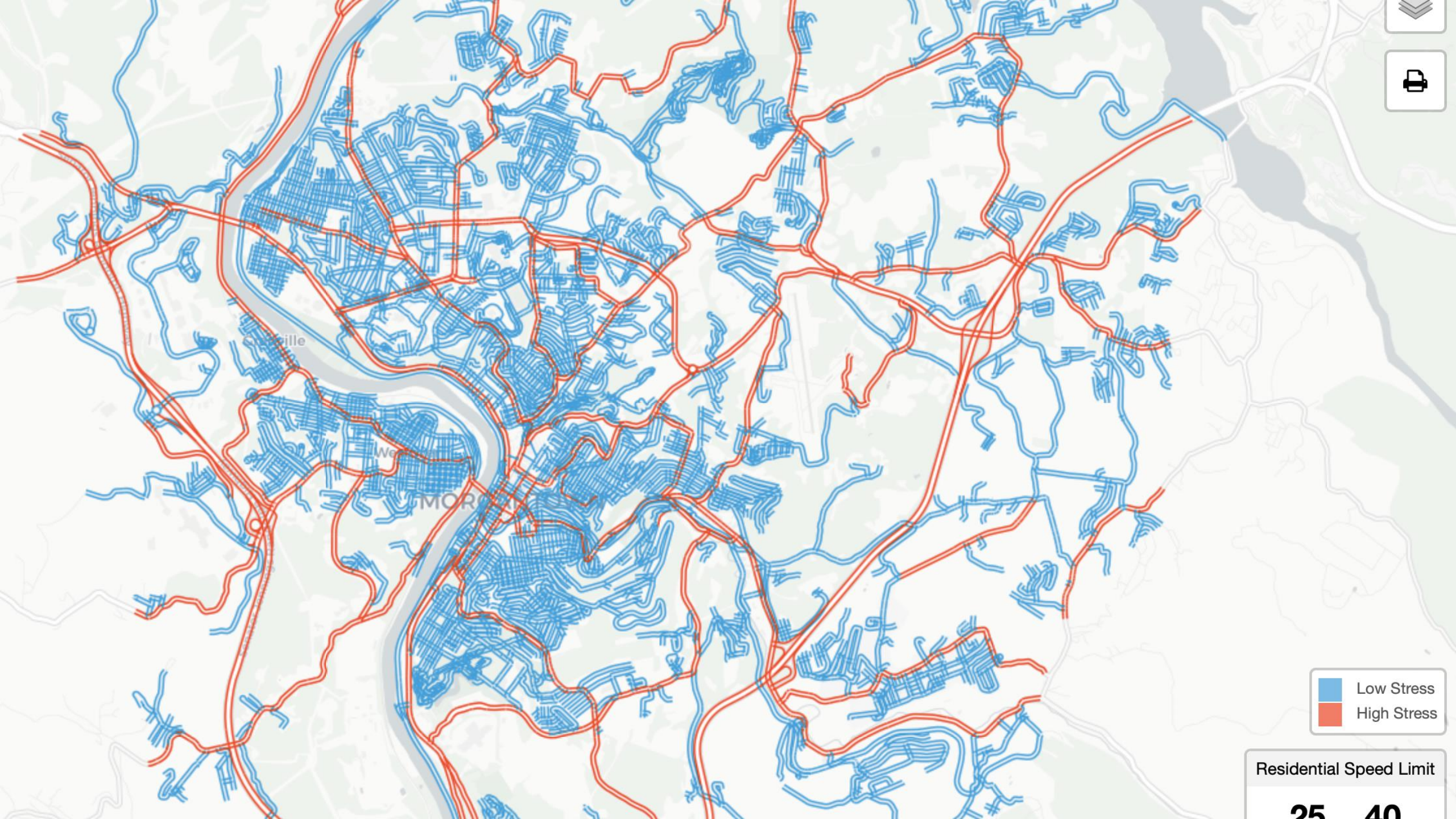


WV GIS CONFERENCE
MAY 23-26, 2022

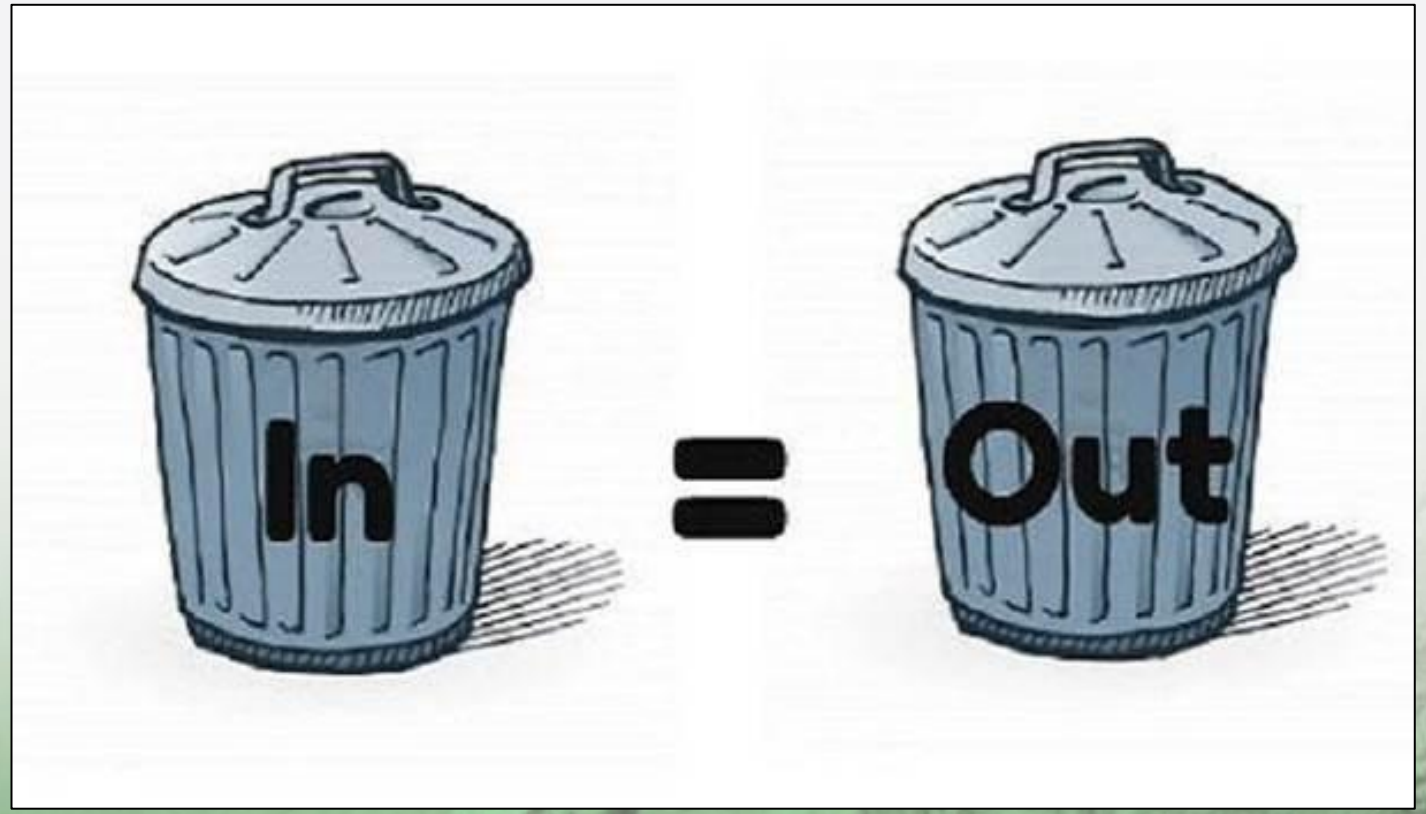
WVAGP.ORG

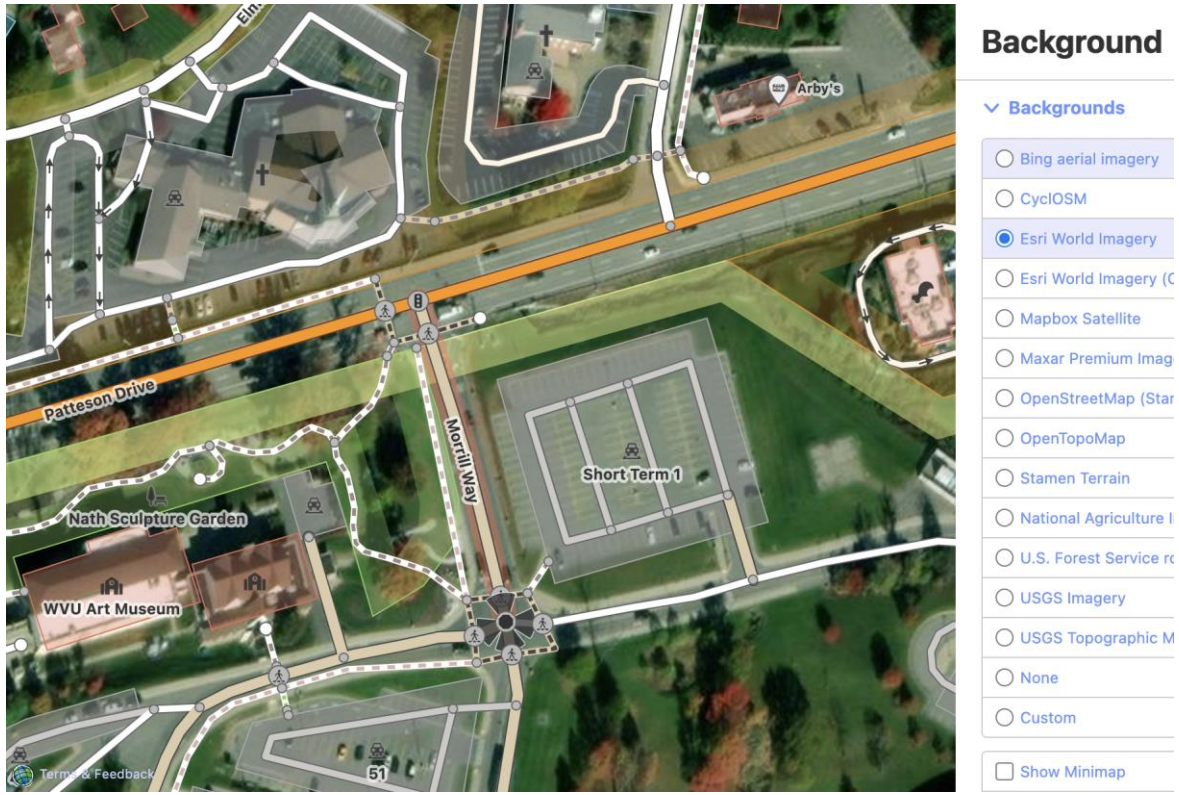
The strength of OSM is the robust, nearly unrestricted, and entirely free use of its database.

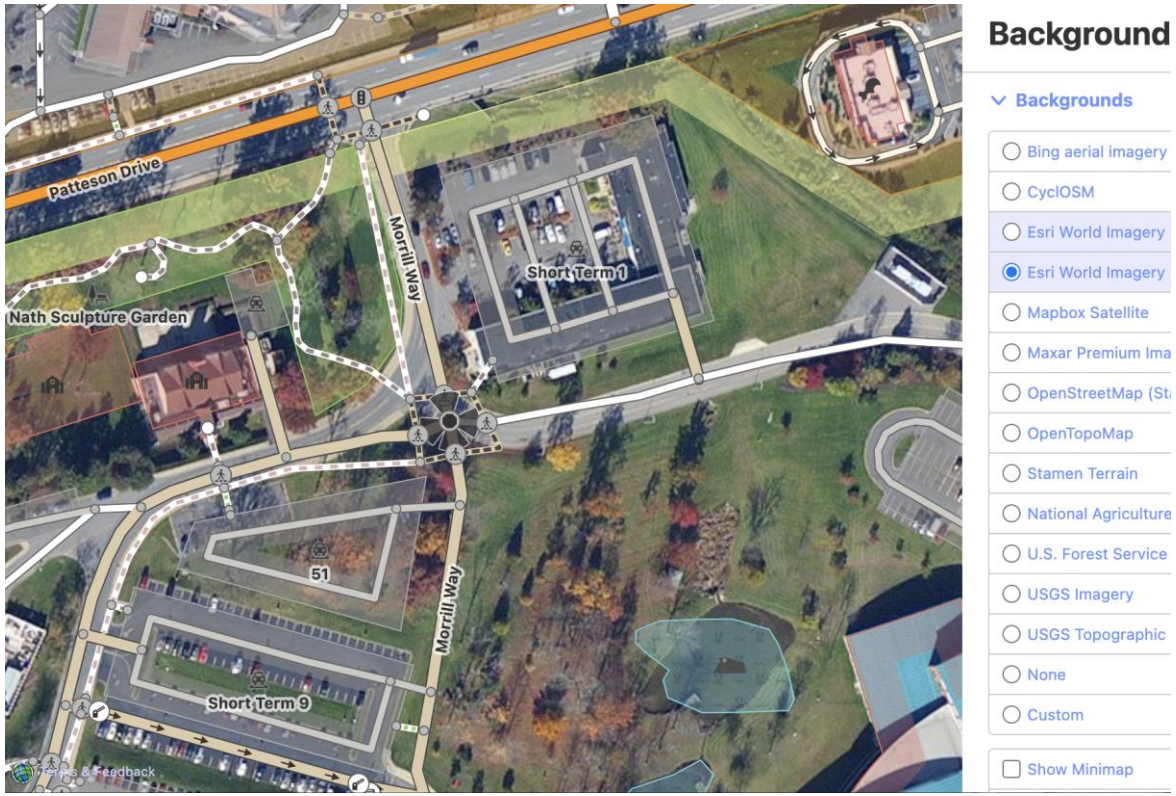
- Amazon Delivery
- Apple Maps
- Flicker, Craigslist, Facebook, Wikimedia/Wikipedia, Foursquare, Geotab, Geocaching, Mapbox, Mapquest,
- Gaming: Niantic (Pokemon Go!)
- Tableau
- Strava
- Snapchat
- Tesla smart summon


Low Stress
High Stress
Residential Speed Limit
25
40

GIGO: Ain’t just for computer inputs







OSM's Imagery Layers for West Virginia are Lacking.

- Leaf-on
- Low resolution
- Outdated

How can we improve the quality of OSM data, and therefore the quality of OSM derivatives?

Do it ourselves?

- Create and build from GPS tracks
- Collect/measure features in the field
- Correctly interpret fuzzy features with our local knowledge
- **A lot of work**

Encourage others to do it?

- Host/support mapathons
- Provide incentives for people to collect and update
- **Still a lot of work**

Our datasets can do (most) of the work for us.

Proper licensing can help us leverage the OSM community (8M+ registered users!)

- [Insert imagery owner here] is pleased to provide its high-resolution aerial imagery to OpenStreetMap in support of its mapping initiatives. By using our imagery in the OSM editor, you understand and agree that you may **only use our imagery to trace and validate edits** that must be contributed back to OSM. You cannot download our imagery or use our imagery for any other purpose. We retain all right, title, and interest in and to our imagery. **We provide our imagery "as is," with all faults and as available**; we disclaim all warranties, express or implied, to the extent permitted by applicable law. You can recover from us only direct damages up to an amount equal to the fees you have paid to us to use our imagery on OSM, if any. We are not liable for any other damages, including consequential, lost profits, special, indirect, incidental or punitive damages.

Thank you!
Questions/Comments?

J. Drew Gatlin

jgatlin@morgantownwv.gov

(304) 284-7411

WV GIS CONFERENCE
MAY 23-26, 2022

WVAGP.ORG