

# MuniMall – A Review

MuniMall Staff

October 6, 2000

# A Review – Colour Scheme

- Black – indicates elements of the Comprehensive Proposal
- Dark Green – indicates work completed
- Light Green – indicates planned activities

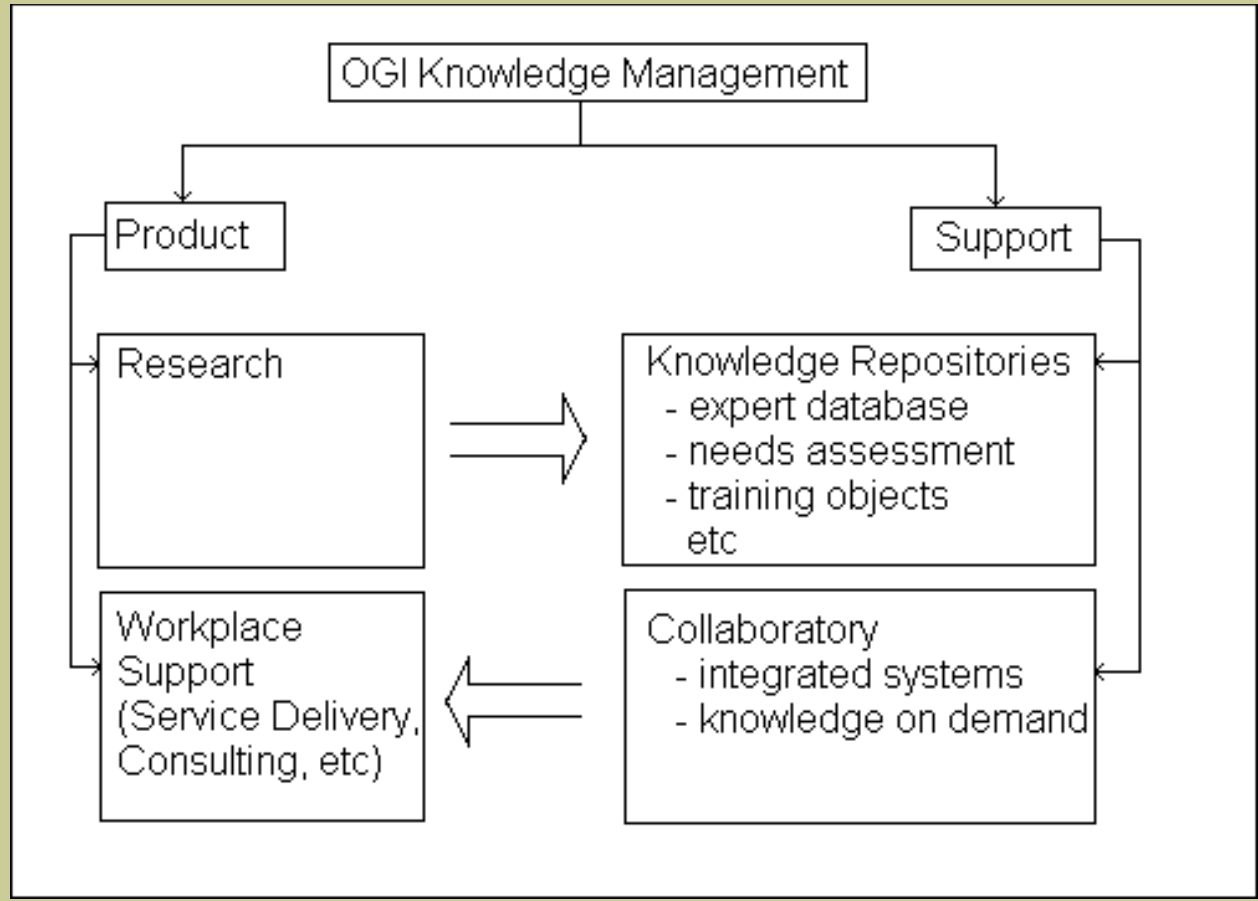
# MuniMall Services

- Objective
- Model
- Research
- Knowledge Repository
- Collaboratory
- Workplace Support

# MuniMall Services - Objectives

- It will analyze municipal services.
- It will identify new and existing resources.  
It will design and test knowledge-based and collaborative online applications.
- And it will assist communities as they implement these services on their own sites.

# MuniMall Services – Model



# MuniMall Services – Research

- Community Specific – locations and sources of community information
- Process / Generic – common types of information used in many communities
- Support / Resource – online courses, manuals, resources

*Comprehensive Proposal, p. 5*

# Research – Community Specific

- Generated a comprehensive list of municipal email addresses
- Examined every community website in Alberta <http://www.munimall.net/municipalities.cfm>
- Included media and other local sites <http://www.munimall.net/scripts/links/user trolls.cgi?keyword=newsmedia>
- Reviewed compilation sites, eg. Alberta First, Statistics Canada

# Research - Generic

- Comprehensive research study analyzing existing practices
- Survey of government and media resources  
<http://www.munimall.net/scripts/links/user trolls.cgi?keyword=govermed>
- Survey of common tools and resources  
<http://www.munimall.net/scripts/links/user trolls.cgi?keyword=foundry>



# Research - Resources

- Listing of online courses  
[http://www.munimall.net/government\\_studies/](http://www.munimall.net/government_studies/)
- Study and analysis of Municipal Administrator's Handbook Supporting Document
- Work with Best Practices initiative (Terry Brown)
- Election training information and other learning materials
- Conference websites, presentations and resources

# MuniMall Services - Repository

- In-house – methodologies for collecting local resources
- Common Elements or Templates
- External Communications
- External Resources

# Repository – In-House

- Research into Knowledge Management Two  
supporting documents
- Development of link / resource submission  
system

<http://www.munimall.net/scripts/links/usertrolls.cgi?list=main&action=add-url>

# Repository – Common Elements

- Analysis and categorization of common elements of municipal information, Eg. By-Laws  
<http://www.munimall.net/scripts/links/usertrolls.cgi?keyword=bylaws>
- Development of automatic categorization categorization
- Best Practices again – possible tie-in

# Repository - External

- Planning and Development of MuniMall Newsletter as a communications tool and demonstration <http://www.munimall.net/newsletter/concept.cfm>
- Adoption of Newsletter – almost 400 subscriptions, submissions, feedback
- Research results regarding the Newsletter
- Closer tie-in between Newsletter and Knowledge Base

# MuniMall Services - Collaboratory

- Identification of Existing Tools
- Development of New Tools
- Map or Architecture integrating a Suite of Tools

*Comprehensive Proposal, p. 6*

# Collaboratory - Tools

- Survey of Collaboration Tools

[http://www.munimall.net/scripts/links/usertrolls.cgi?keyword=a\\_community](http://www.munimall.net/scripts/links/usertrolls.cgi?keyword=a_community)

- Articles describing and assessing these tools

Eg. Nine Rules for Good Technology

<http://www.munimall.net/newsletter/article.cfm?id=114> , Aspects of E-

Commerce <http://www.munimall.net/newsletter/990929/ecommerce.cfm> ,

New Web Page Standard Announced

<http://www.munimall.net/newsletter/article.cfm?id=59>

# Collaboratory – New Tools

- MuniMall Discussion Board  
<http://www.munimall.net/scripts/clist/publiclist.cgi> and  
<http://www.munimall.net/scripts/downes/clist/topiclist.cgi?topicid=967228429>
- MuniMall Live Chat <http://www.munimall.net/chat/chat1.html>
- MuniMall Newsletter Software  
<http://www.munimall.net/newsletter/>



# Collaboratory - Architecture

- Research papers - Resource Descriptions  
<http://www.munimall.net/scripts/downes/clist/topiclist.cgi?topicid=964371049>  
Learning Objects  
[http://www.atl.ualberta.ca/downes/naweb/Learning\\_Objects.htm](http://www.atl.ualberta.ca/downes/naweb/Learning_Objects.htm) and RSS  
Models
- Overall description a future project

# MuniMall Services - Support

- Demonstration – introduction of tools and their application
- Facilitation – one-stop resource
- Research – ongoing appraisal of tools and services

# Support - Demonstration

- In-house support for, eg., CLGM, AMHSA, Tri-Smart Bid
- Demonstration via Newsletter and MuniMall website
- **Numerous Articles** Eg Future Issues for Urban-Rural Regions  
<http://www.munimall.net/scripts/downes/clist/topiclist.cgi?topicid=967215229> Linking Legally  
<http://www.munimall.net/scripts/downes/clist/topiclist.cgi?topicid=964816064> Community Calendars Online  
<http://www.munimall.net/scripts/downes/clist/topiclist.cgi?topicid=964813663>
- **Learning Outreach** Supporting Document

# Support – One-Stop Resource

- Construction of MuniMall Website (NAWeb Award Finalist) <http://www.munimall.net/>
- Support for online research and surveys  
<http://www.datanation.com/fallaciescgi/elist/admin.cgi?elist=967153100>  
(login as foipp / foipp )
- Consultation / planning for services support,  
eg., Land Use Supporting Document (Bill Elliott)

# Support - Research

- MuniMall Links Database – 1200+ links

<http://www.munimall.net/scripts/links/user trolls.cgi> plus editing system, search / drill

- Numerous articles Eg. Spruce Grove Relaunches Website

<http://www.munimall.net/newsletter/article.cfm?id=541> Canadian .CA Domain Name Owners Must Re-Register

<http://www.munimall.net/newsletter/article.cfm?id=508>

# MuniMall Website

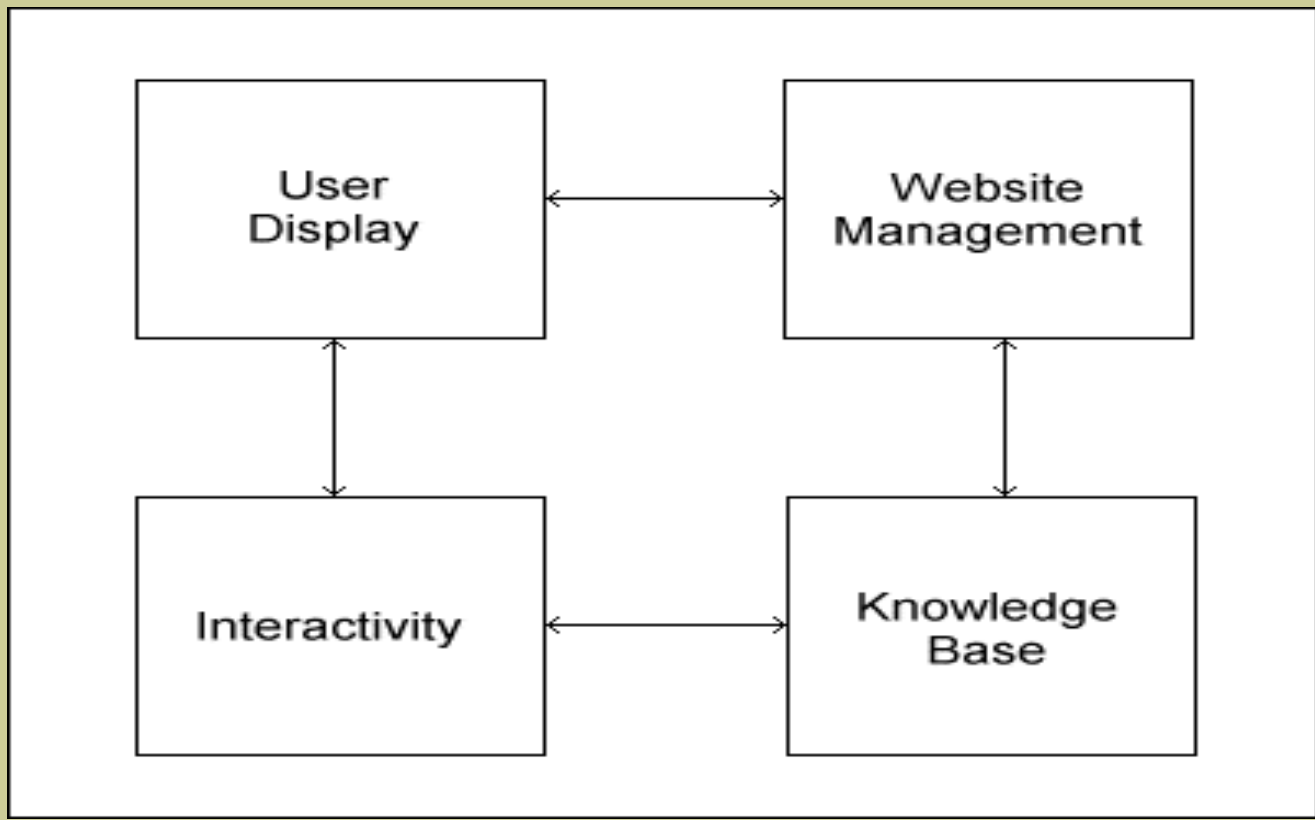
- Objective
- Model
- User Display
- Website Management
- Knowledge Base
- Interactivity

# Website - Objectives

- To develop the University's understandings and capacities to develop virtual communities and support systems
- The development of a model online community, experimenting with new technology and illustrating best practices.

*Comprehensive Proposal, p. 7*

# Website - Model





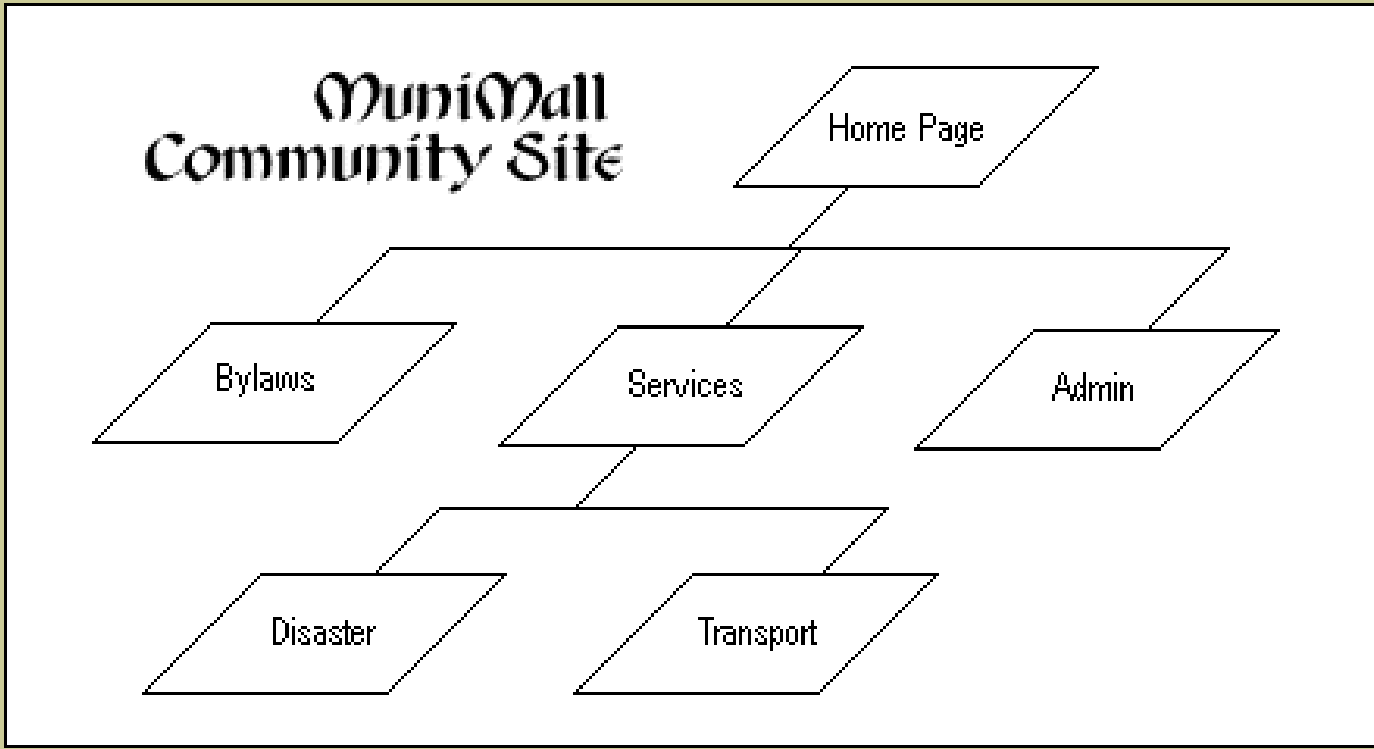
# Website – Model - Purposes

Each of these four components serves the following three purposes:

- *Simulation* of an online community website
- *Research and Development* of community website tools
- *Service Provision* for community and other municipal websites

Think of the simulation as an ‘experimental farm’ for community online services development.

# Website – User Display

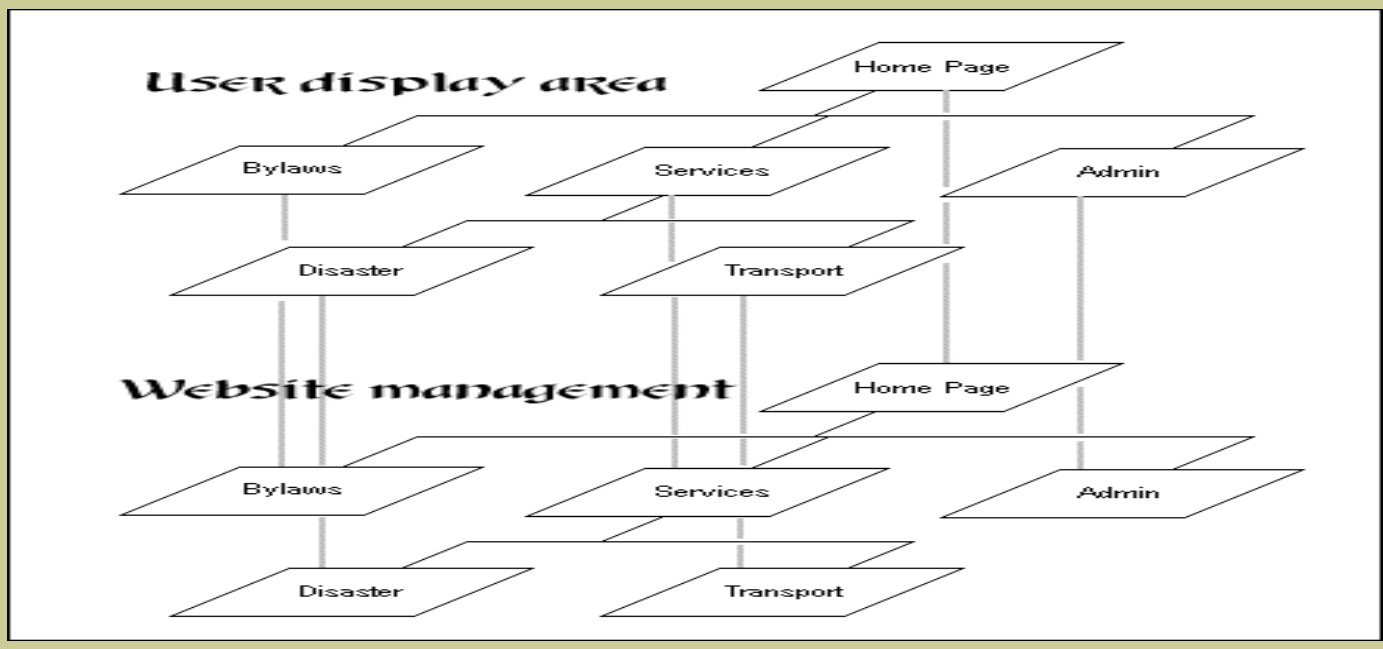


# MuniVille – User Display

- Access through main MuniMall Site  
<http://www.munimall.net/>
- MuniVille starting page <http://www.munimall.net/muniville>
- MuniVille Main Menu  
<http://www.munimall.net/muniville/start.html>
- MuniVille Content Pages eg. Community Services

# Website - Management

- A series of tools that generate or manage the user display area



# MuniVille - Management

- Development of a content management system for MuniVille pages

[http://www.munimall.net/scripts/content/edit\\_content.cgi?keyword=muniville](http://www.munimall.net/scripts/content/edit_content.cgi?keyword=muniville)

# Website - Interactivity

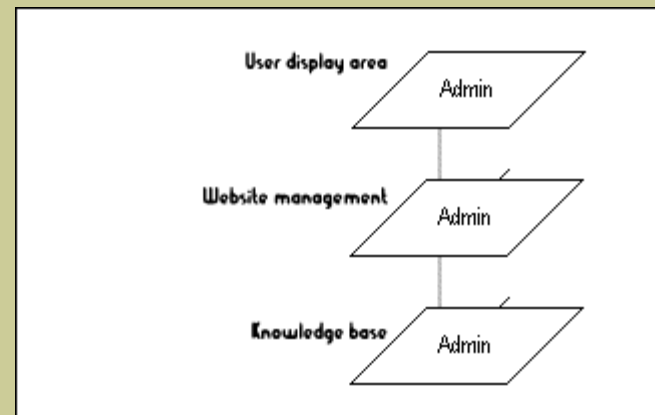
- User Display – Day to day communication
- Website Management – Discussion for Practitioners
- Tools for Maintenance and Updates
- Interaction with other services

# MuniVille - Interactivity

- Discussion Boards and Chat to be added
- Interactive simulations., eg. voting and polling, to be added
- Moderation and/or facilitation for projected target groups

# Website – Knowledge Base

- Store of information about the municipal sector.
- XML-RDF record of the resources
- Structured parallel to the user display area





# MuniVille – Knowledge Base

- Links, sorted into categories, tied into MuniVille
- Link maintenance and updating system
- RDF / JS integration of resources into other sites Document: RSS Essay

Examples: <http://www.munimall.net/amademo3.htm>

<http://www.munimall.net/amademo2.htm>

<http://www.munimall.net/amademo1.htm>