

# GOVERNMENT COUNCIL UNCOVERS 3,452 MISSING BUILDINGS

Nearmap AI helped Southeast Michigan Council of Governments identify missing buildings

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The Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) is a regional planning partnership of governmental units serving 4.8 million people in the seven-county region of Southeast Michigan. SEMCOG supports planning in transit, road, water and sewer infrastructure, economic and workforce development.

## CHALLENGE

SEMCOG uses data to plan for the successful future of the region. Long-range planning work revolves around forecasting future changes to individual buildings projecting 30 years into the future — mainly looking for the number of households or job spaces a building contains. An important dataset for that is the buildings inventory. SEMCOG uses Nearmap AI to detect buildings, monitor land use change, and identify where infrastructure improvements are needed.

## SOLUTION

SEMCOG integrated Nearmap high-resolution aerial imagery into its existing inventory and geocoded building permits to parcels, intersecting the Nearmap AI building footprints data layer with building permit locations. The polygons are then attributed from tax assessing records and added to the region buildings inventory. The Nearmap AI building footprints layer helps identify buildings missing from the permit pipeline, keeping the buildings inventory up to date.

## BUSINESS IMPACT

With Nearmap AI building footprints, SEMCOG captured 3,452 previously unknown buildings in two years. Nearmap 3D reality models in ArcGIS Urban show

the present 3D environment to visualize proposed developments. Viewing new building construction data, SEMCOG can compare the size of new buildings to those built in the past. This uncovered a trend towards fewer but larger commercial buildings, helping define the region's future land-use policy.

“This is a very useful feature as we do our forecasting work, as we can show both the present environment in 3D, thanks to Nearmap, and also the future, based on what we are able to do with ArcGIS Urban.”

Jeff Nutting, Forecast Coordinator, SEMCOG



**3,452 BUILDINGS LOCATED**  
MAINTAIN BUILDINGS INVENTORY



**IMPROVE LAND-USE POLICY**  
FORECAST ACCURATELY



**VISUALIZE IN 3D**  
VIEW NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Nearmap Vertical

Nearmap 3D

Nearmap AI

## NEARMAP FOR GOVERNMENT:

To find out more about how Nearmap can provide insights for governments and city councils, visit:  
[www.nearmap.com/government](http://www.nearmap.com/government)

