



Under Construction - [Patrick, VA7FI](#) 2022/12/31 08:25

OpenStreetMap

OpenStreetMap (OSM) is like Wikipedia for maps. It's built by the community using aerial imagery, GPS devices, or existing public domain maps. The maps can be viewed or edited online in a browser, or using various apps.

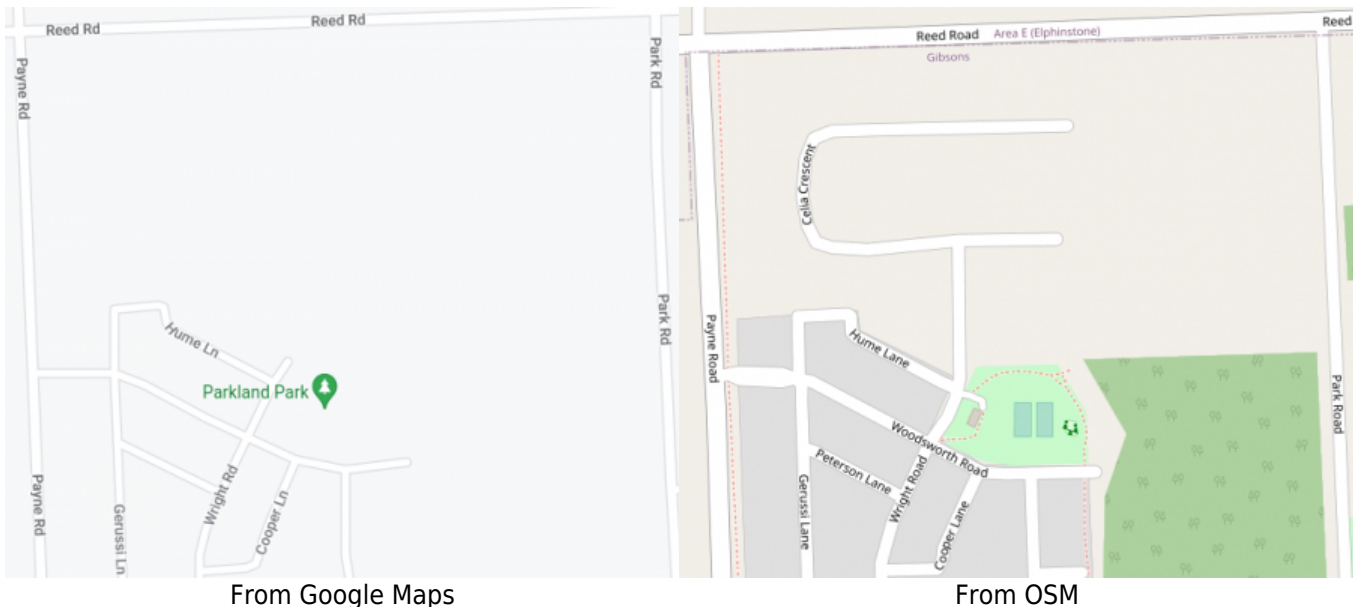
Some links

- Viewing the Maps: osm.org or openstreetmap.org
- App for Android, iPhone, Linux: <https://organicmaps.app>
- Editing Info: <https://wiki.openstreetmap.org>

Advantages

Up-To-Date

One advantage of OSM (on the right) is that maps get updated more quickly than Google Maps (on the left). For example, here's a new street that I added in Gibsons over a month ago:



More Trails

There are also a lot more trails in OSM than Google Maps. Here's the golf course and Cliff Gilker park in Roberts

Creek:



Different Layers

OSM also has different layers, which highlight different information. For example, the CycleOSM and Cycle Map add topographical information, and public GPS traces uploaded by the community can be added to any layer.

The screenshot shows the OpenStreetMap web interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for GPS Traces, User Diaries, Communities, Copyright, Help, and About, along with Log In and Sign Up buttons. Below this is a search bar with the text 'Where is this?' and a 'Go' button. The main map area shows a coastal region with labels for Sechart, Roberts Creek, Gibsons, and Port Mellon. A scale bar in the bottom left indicates 2 km and 1 mi. On the right, the 'Map Layers' panel is open, showing various map styles: Standard, CyclOSM, Cycle Map, Transport Map, ÖPNVKarte, and Humanitarian. Below the map layers, there's a section for 'Enable overlays for troubleshooting the map' with checkboxes for Map Notes, Map Data, and Public GPS Traces.

Offline

The biggest advantage (from an emergency preparedness perspective) is that OSM can be used offline using various apps.