

10 years of MapRoulette

Looking back, and ahead

Martijn van Exel
SOTM 2022, Firenze

Thanks

to all who made it possible
for us to be here today.

Celebrate connections.

Celebrate OSM.

Let's turn the clock back 14 years...

[Talk-us] TIGER Map Updates

Ian Dees ian.dees@gmail.com

Sun Dec 30 02:26:31 GMT 2007

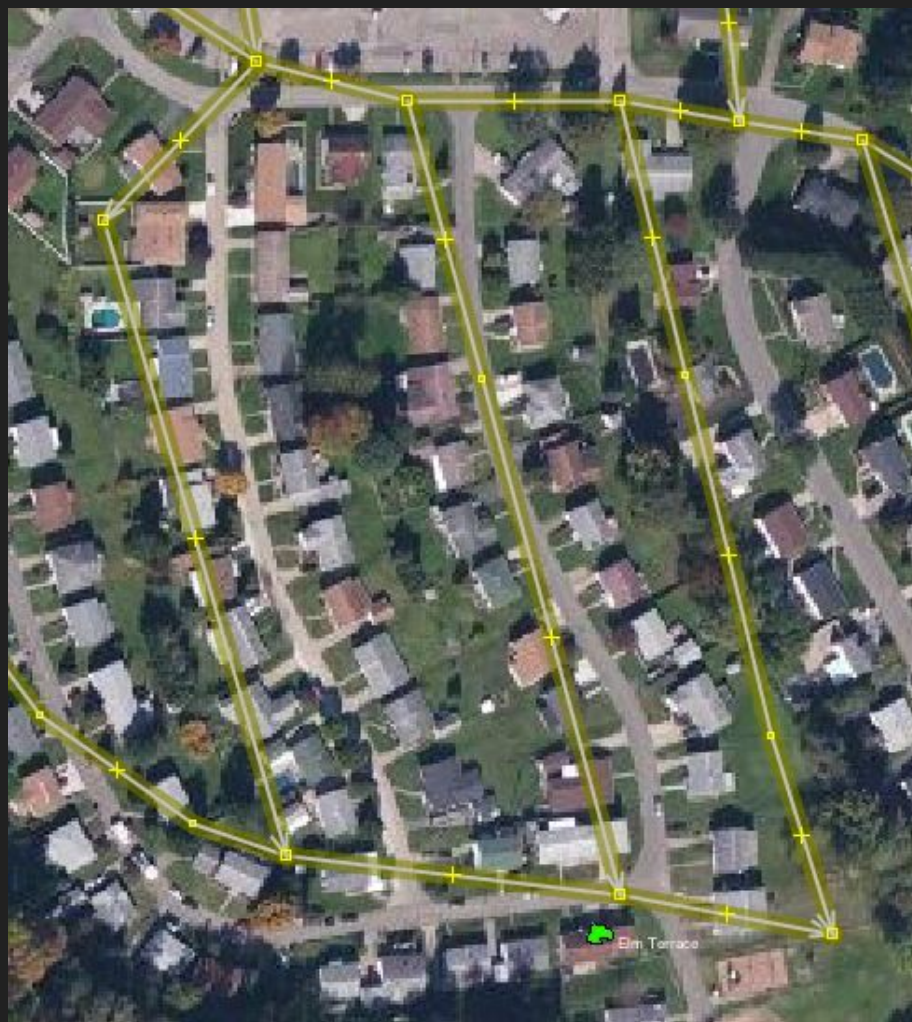
- Previous message: [\[Talk-us\]](#) [\[OSM-talk\]](#) [\[Talk-GB\]](#) "Unsurfaced road" and "Byway"?
 - Next message: [\[Talk-us\]](#) [TIGER Map Updates](#)
 - **Messages sorted by:** [\[date\]](#) [\[thread\]](#) [\[subject\]](#) [\[author\]](#)
-

Hi there,

I just spent a few hours working on Milwaukee, WI and started browsing the wiki. I noticed that someone is importing TIGER line data. I didn't get the impression that anyone was positive about whether pre-existing OSM data would be merged with TIGER data or if one or the other would get erased or duplicated.

Should I keep making changes to the map or should I wait for the TIGER data to show up?

-Ian







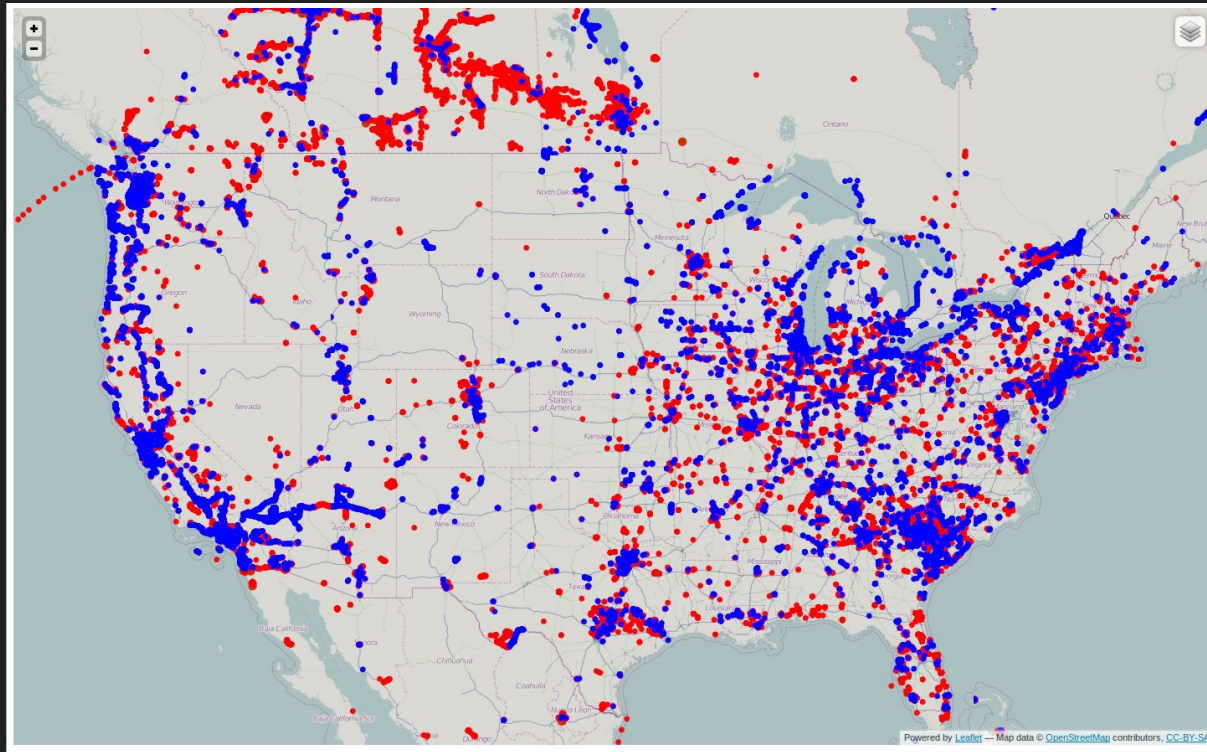
Then the **License Change** happened (2012)

OSM changed the license of the map data from Creative Commons to ODbL in 2012. All mappers who had contributed needed to agree to keep their data in the map.

This made the situation in the United
States worse

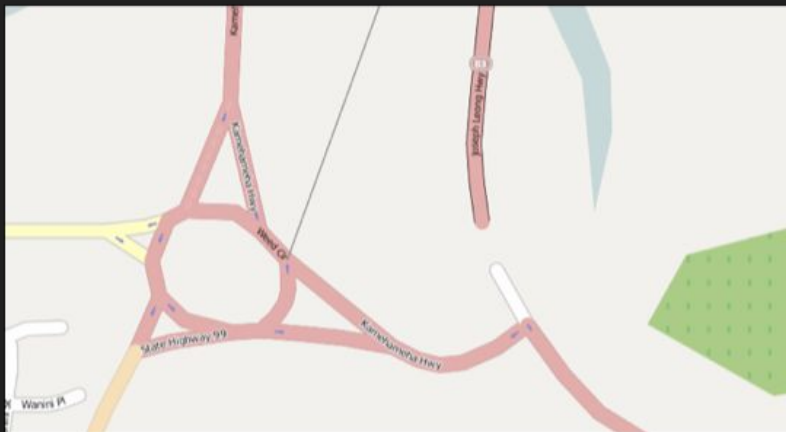
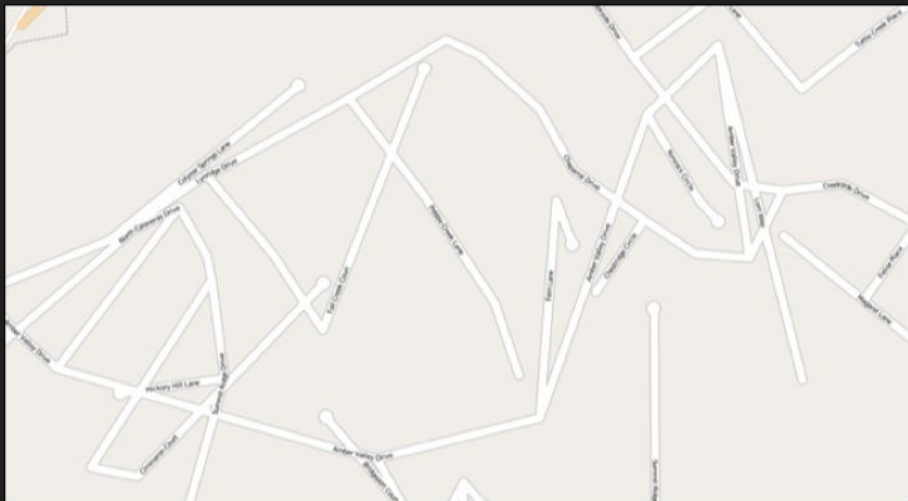
Map Data from mappers who could not
be reached or didn't agree **was deleted**

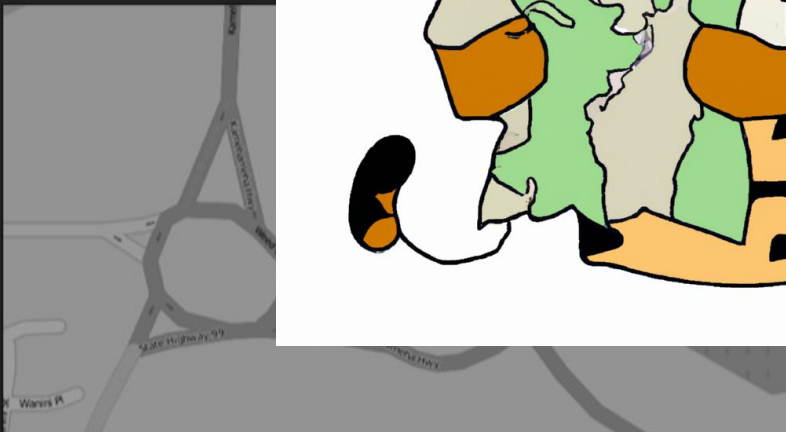
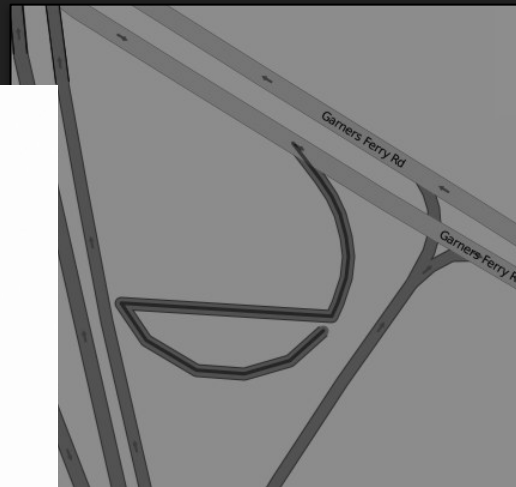
2012 - License Change Redaction



Modified
Deleted

Great blog post about the effort to contact mappers about the license change here
<http://ksmapper.blogspot.com/2012/10/licensed-to-map-what-happened-to-la.html.html>





“a tiger holding a map screaming, sad”, DALL-E 2

**An enormous clean up and
improvement effort was needed**

**The community was still quite small in
2012**

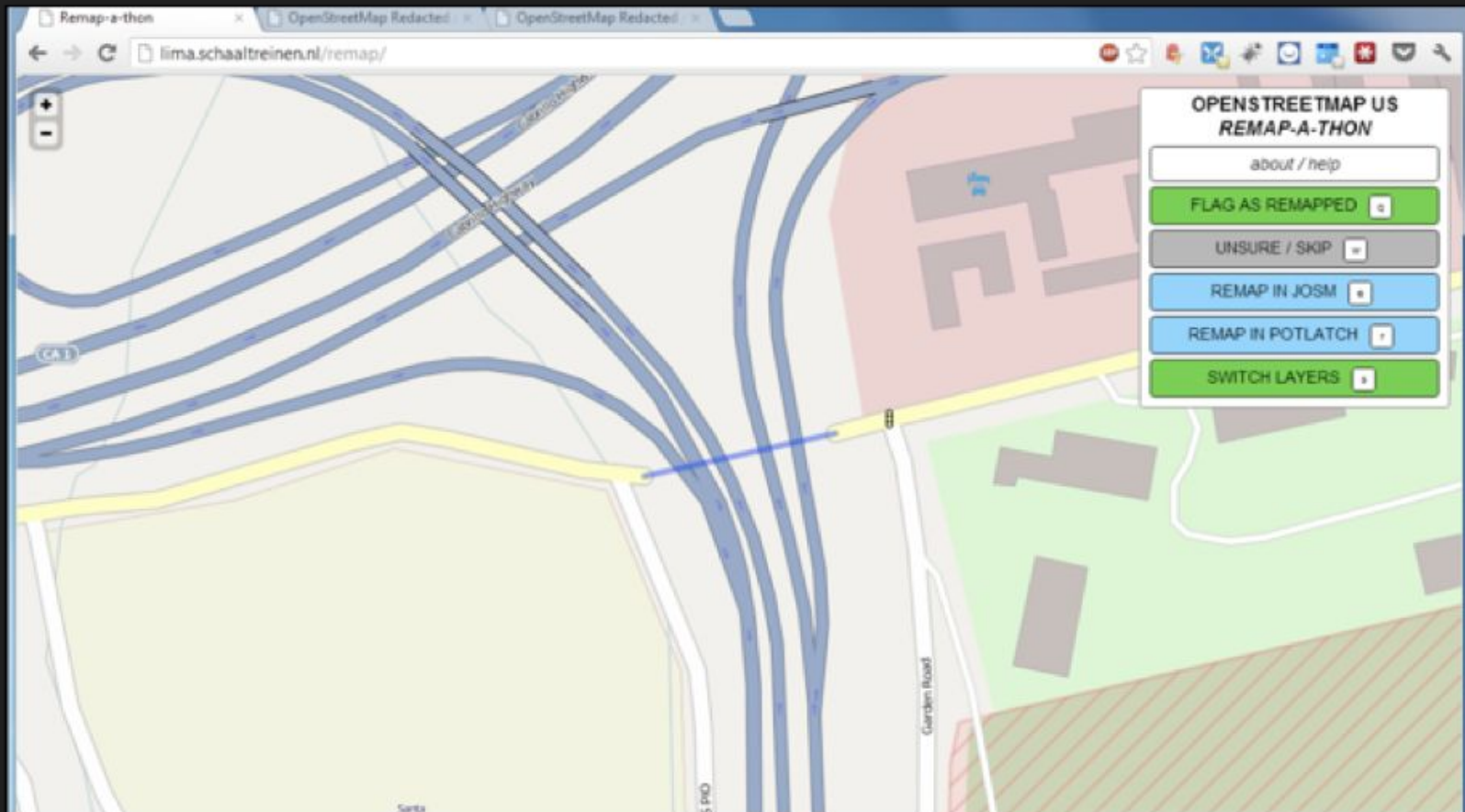
<100 daily active mappers

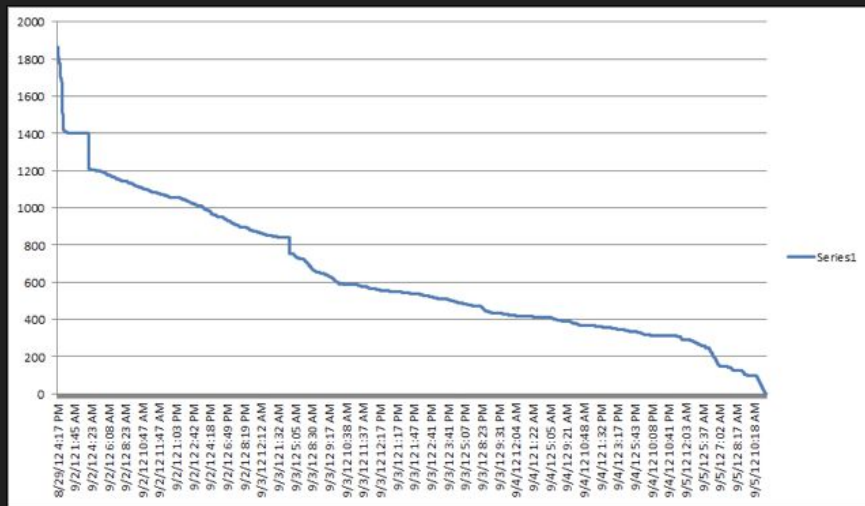
**Something was needed to organize the
work**

So the idea of MapRoulette was born: A tool to work on small, randomly assigned tasks

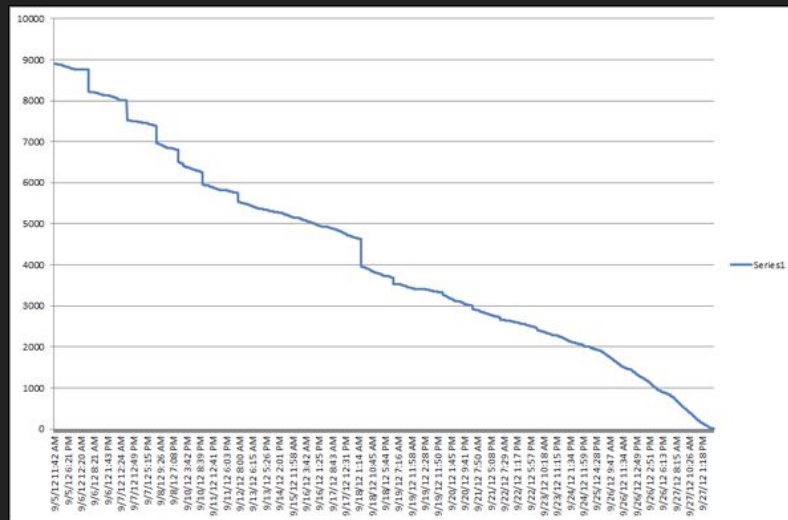
The aims were:

1. To make a huge mapping effort feel **more doable by breaking it up in small tasks**
2. Make repetitive mapping **more fun**





Remapping all motorways / trunks in 1 week

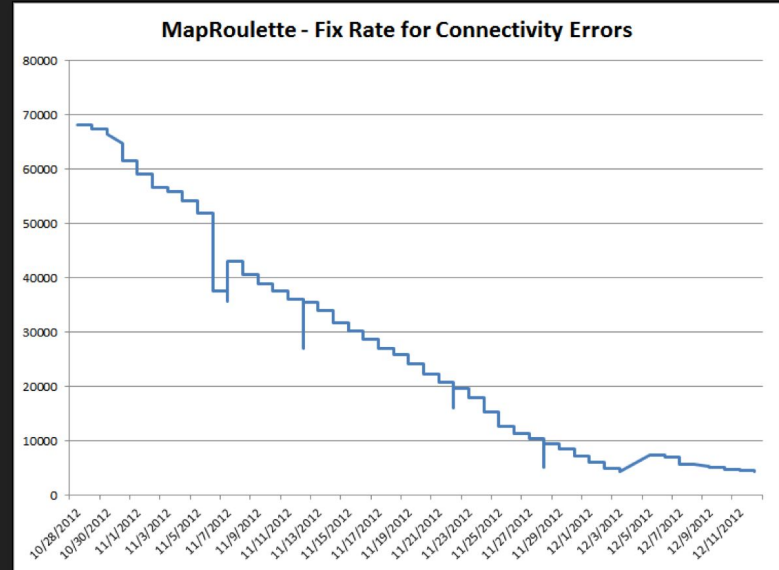


Remapping all other roads in 3 more weeks

11,000 total fixes in 4 weeks
(with <200 daily active mappers in the US)

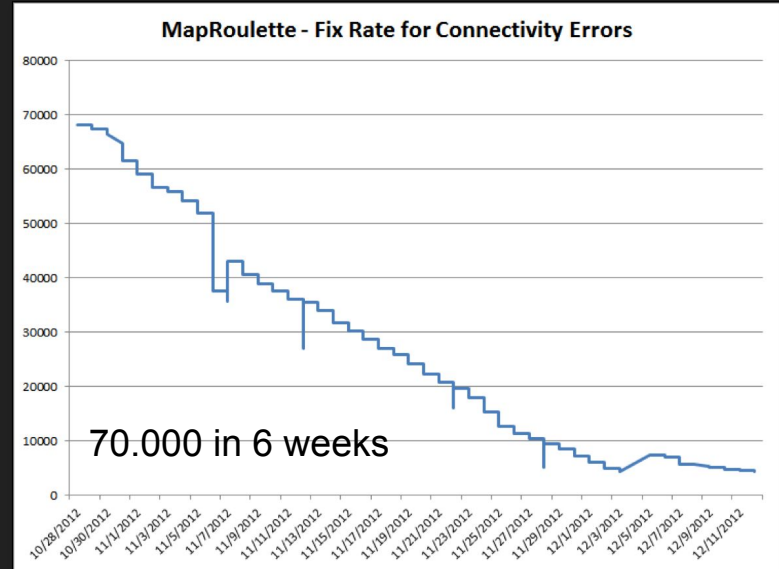
MapRoulette proved to be a great way to focus the community on a mapping goal

So I decided to try other projects!



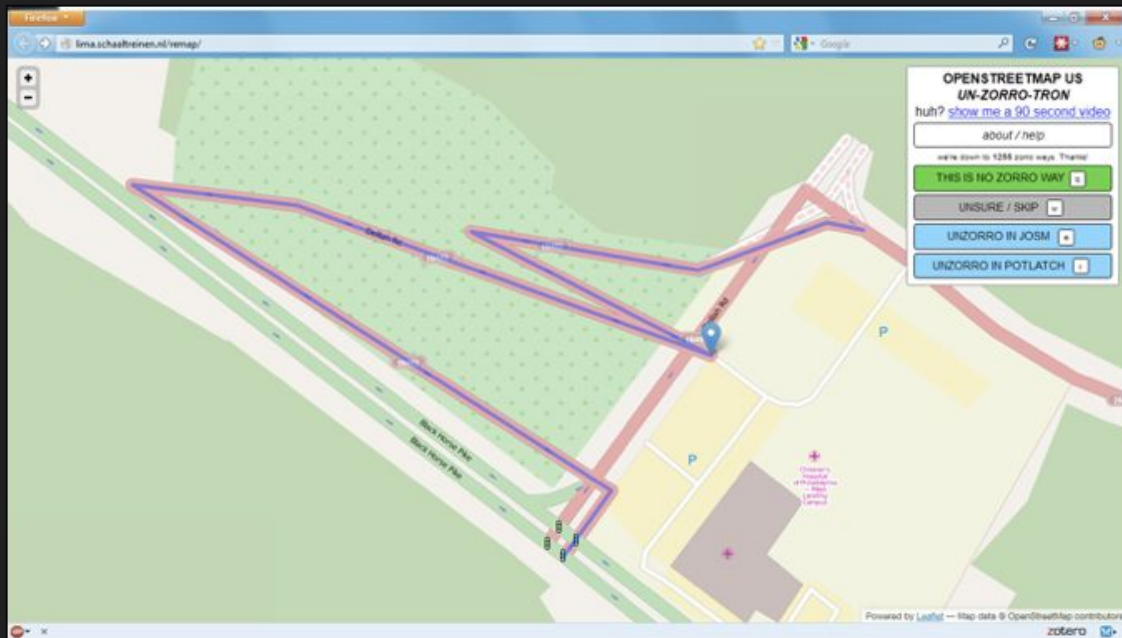
MapRoulette proved to be a great way to focus the community on a mapping goal

So I decided to try other projects!



Zorro Ways

(ways that have unusual sharp angles)



Finally, I decided to give the tool a name

MapRoulette

and make it more useful by

letting **anyone create their own tasks**

Most Requested Features

“I want to work on my local area only”



Built in, needs user interface

“I want to submit my own challenges”



There's an API for submitting & maintaining challenges

“I want non-US challenges”

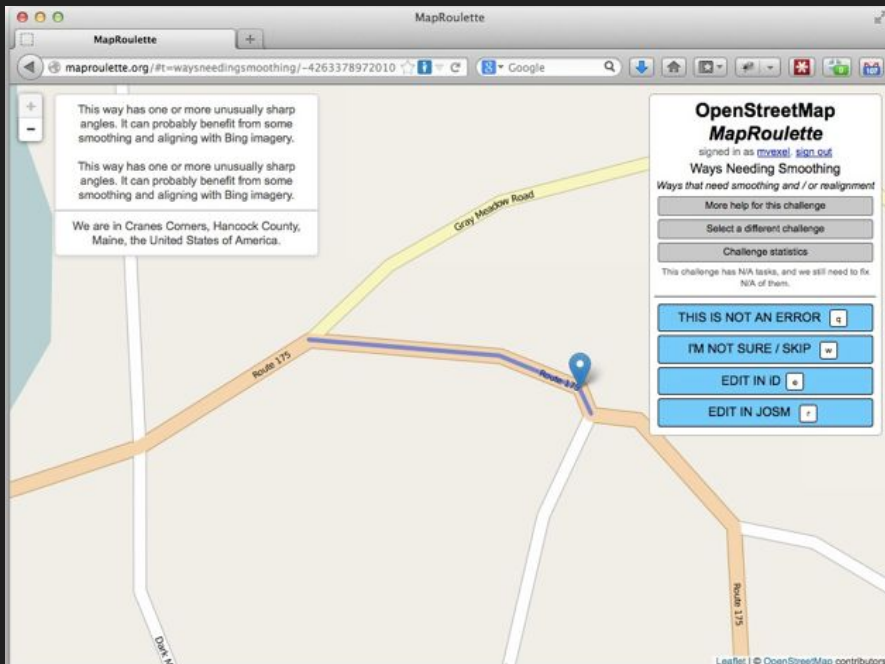
“I want more different things to work on”



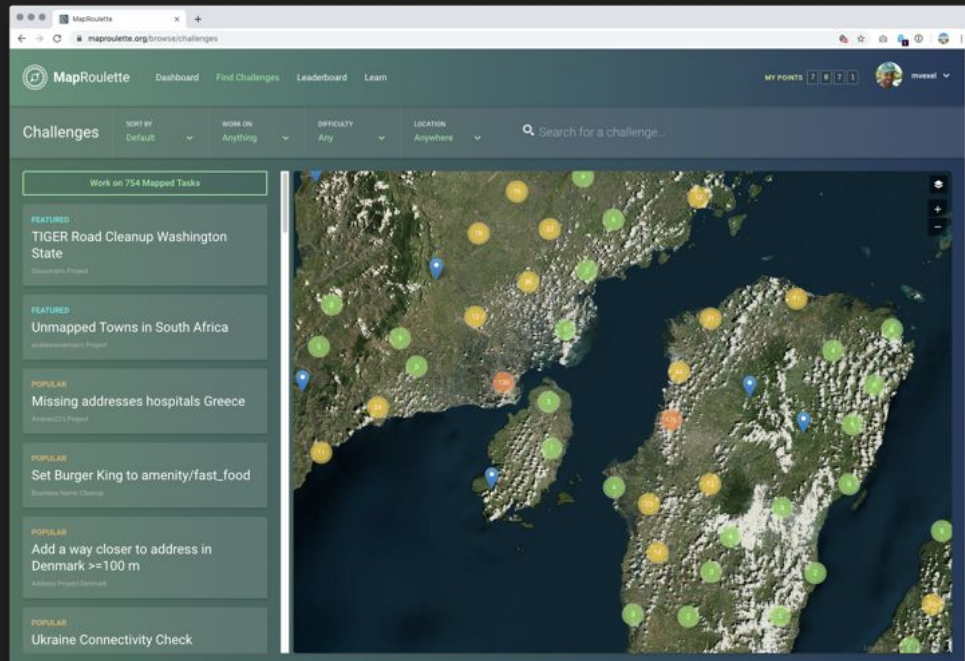
We have multiple parallel challenges



Fast forward to today

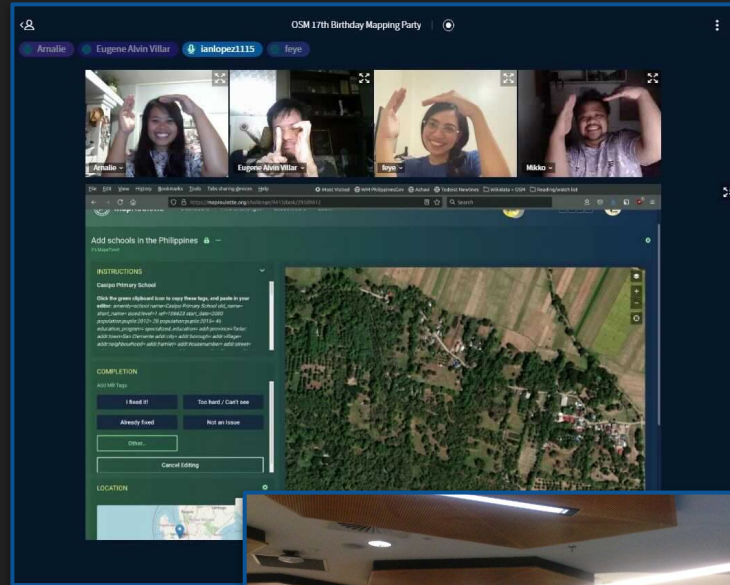


2012



2022

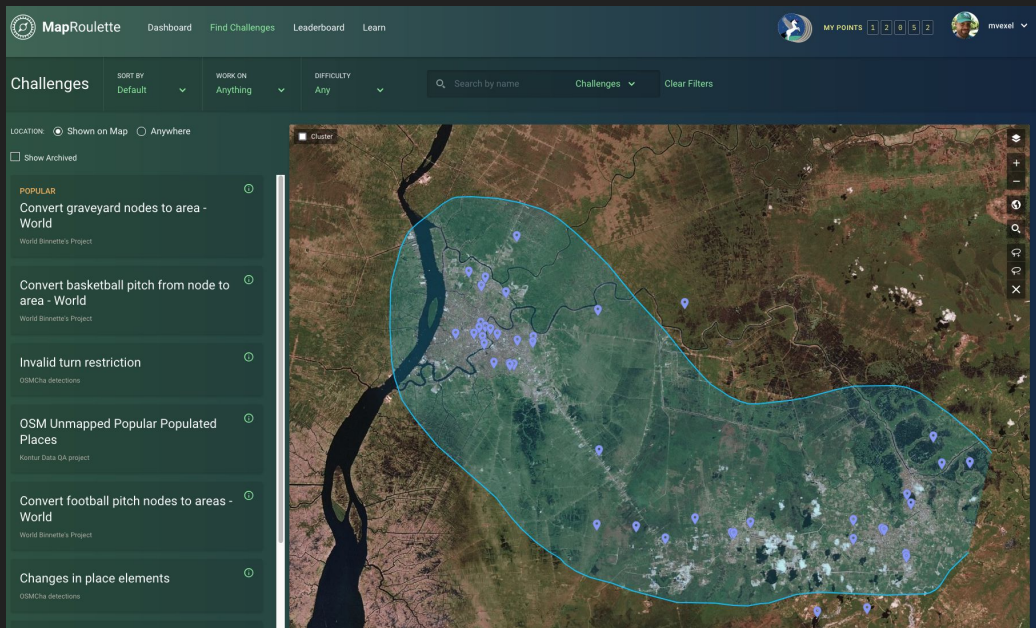
**MapRoulette is
still a great tool
to make repetitive
mapping fun and
work together on
large mapping
tasks**



What can MapRoulette do today?

- anyone can create challenges
 - available in 17 languages
 - teams and task review
 - a free and open API
- documentation + learning resources
- **different challenge types: virtual, tag fix, and cooperative challenges**

Virtual Challenge



- Create your own challenges from already existing tasks
- Use search / filter tools and draw polygon on map
- Useful for mapping parties where you want a smaller goal

Quick Fix Challenge

MapRoulette Dashboard: Find Challenges, Leaderboard, Learn

MY POINTS: 1 2 0 5 2 | mveisel

tunnel=yes (zamiast building_passage) wewnątrz budynków

Poprawki Tagowania

INSTRUCTIONS

Tagu `tunnel=building_passage` używa się do przejeżdżania pod budynkami (np. blokami), przejazdów drogi pod fragmentami budynków itp. Nie jest to tag właściwy do tuneli pod ziemią, jaskiń i innych. Szczegółowy opis można znaleźć na Wiki.

Fragment drogi w przejściu w budynku powinien mieć dodatkowo tag `tunnel=building_passage`. Początek i koniec tego fragmentu powinien rozpoczynać się z obrysem budynku. W tym zadaniu starajemy się wybrać także przejścia które są dobrze narysowane, ale źle etykietowane. Jeśli gdzieś się to nie udało można od razu poprawić korzystając z zewnętrznego edytora.



COMPLETION

Add MR Tags

Are the proposed OSM tag

Yes

Skip

Current Editor: Edit in Rapid

PROPOSED OSM TAG CHANGES

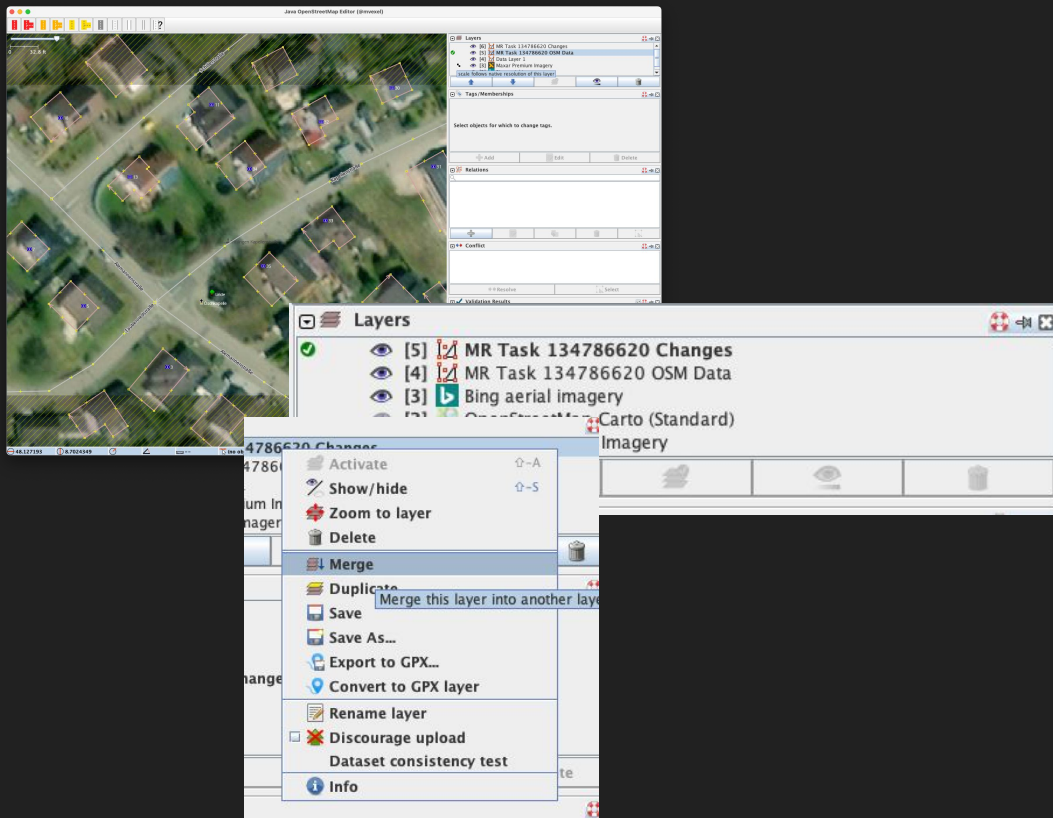
Show all Tags Edit Tags

	Current	Proposed
tunnel	yes	building_passage



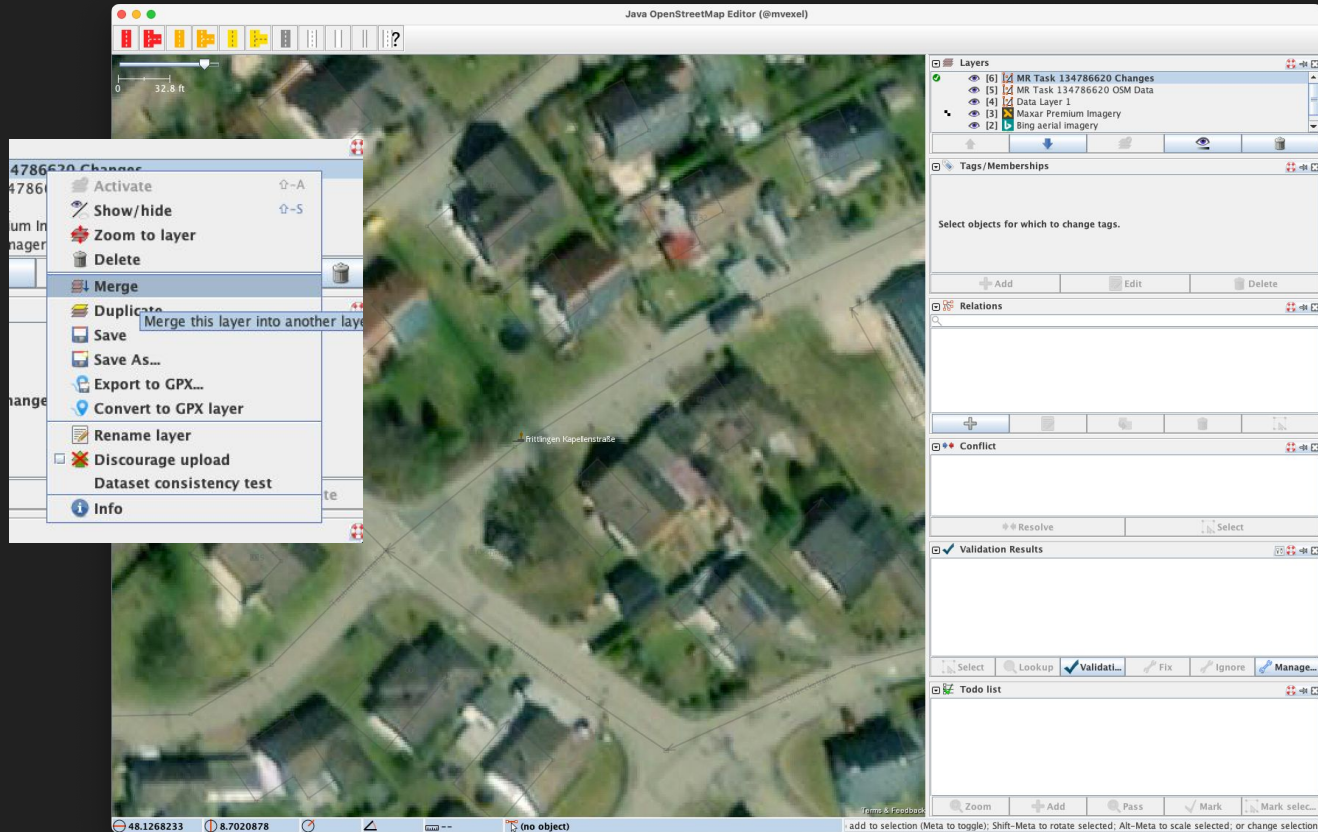
- Tag changes pre-defined
- No editing in iD or JOSM needed
- Useful for manual cleanup of deprecated tagging

Cooperative Challenge



- Tasks have built-in changesets
- Appear as separate data layer in JOSM
- Useful for manual review and adding of external data

A cooperative Challenge



2:00 - 5:00 pm CAT
3rd JUN, 2022

 Youth Mappers
 Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team
 Map Lesotho
 OSM Africa

OSM AFRICA MONTHLY MAPATHON
MAPPING LESOTHO

This mapathon will be hosted on Zoom and coordinated by OSM Africa with support from the HOT team in Africa.

REGISTER ON EVENTBRITE:
OSM Africa Monthly Mapathon: Mapping Lesotho

 OSM AFRICA
 OPENSTREETMAP AFRICA
 HOT OPENSTREETMAP AFRICA

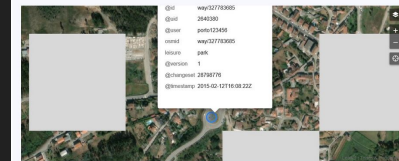
Validating Parks from Pokemon Go users (well mostly...)

Posted by HumCarta on 27 October 2019 in English (English).

Recently at the Portuguese OpenStreetMap Telegram group we have been discussing the issue of the Pokémon Go Players that become OSM contributors with bad intentions, by adding fake parks or wrongly to their in-game interest.

We decided to check how many parks existed in Portugal by using [overpass turbo](#) back in August (thanks to Luis Fortes for the help). To our surprise there was over 7000 parks. We decided to create a Maproulette mission to validate the parks. Some are indeed hard to validate by arm chair mapping, some are not. Up to now we have validated 20% of the parks on OSM and acknowledged that more than 12 percent were indeed badly tagged and only 7% were correctly tagged.

As example, gardens of private property or grass in roundabouts.



<https://maproulette.org/challenge/5003/area/24888572>



What have mappers accomplished with MapRoulette?

Add schools in the Philippines
It's MapaTime!

DIFFICULTY: Normal
TASKS FROM: December 30, 2012
[View Leaderboard](#)

Public schools in the Philippines are more than just a place for learning, they play important secondary roles as:

- de facto *community centers* in the neighborhood;
- designated *polling precincts* during elections; and
- essential *temporary shelters* during emergencies.

69% FIXED (27612/39966) 2% SKIPPED (776/39966)
 1% ALREADY FIXED (250/39966) 3% TOO HARD (1234/39966)
 0% NOT AN ISSUE (1/39966)

Tasks Remaining: 10,014 (25%) of 39,966

[Sign in to get started](#)

OSM FIJI SEPTEMBER EVENTS

28 Tuesday 2-5pm FJT

Open Data Socialisation Workshop

- Industry Experts Talk
- QGIS Tips I
- Giveaways

29 Wednesday 2-4pm FJT

Mapathon

- Mapping and Validation
- Maproulette Challenge
- Giveaways

OSM Fiji is supported by:

 Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team

Philippines/OSMaPaaralan

Of course, there are challenges when managing large-scale MapRoulette challenges. According to Erwin Elario, "The main challenge for this project is getting OSM license-compatible data, and the data clean-up that had to be done before getting it to the tasking manager... With the on-going review, mapping and validation, we are confident that public school data we now have in OSM are better than the official DepEd data, albeit still incomplete."

Map Completion in Belgium

OSM Belgium have their own tasking tool called **MapComplete** (check it out). They are also using **MapRoulette** to check OSM against official data.

The screenshot shows the MapRoulette web interface for a challenge titled "Ontbrekende hoptuinen" (Missing hop gardens) in the "Landbouwgebruikspcelen (Vlaanderen)" project. The interface is divided into several sections:

- Create & Manage**: Includes buttons for "Edit Challenge", "Move Challenge", "Rebuild Tasks", "Clone Challenge", "Delete Challenge", and "Unarchive Challenge".
- Overview**: Shows the challenge status as "Finished", with a "Discoverable" toggle. A red warning icon indicates "PROJECT NOT DISCOVERABLE". Keywords "landuse" and "boundary" are listed. The challenge was created on December 07, 2021, and last updated on December 07, 2021.
- Completion Progress**: A bar chart showing the progress of the challenge. The progress is 93% fixed (81/87), 0% skipped (0/87), 0% already fixed (0/87), 3% too hard (3/87), and 3% not an issue (3/87).
- Tasks**: A map view showing the location of the challenge in Belgium. The map is filtered by "Cluster" and shows 64 tasks. A sidebar on the right shows filters for "STATUS", "REVIEW STATUS", "PRIORITY", and "PROPERTY".
- Leaderboard**: A table showing the top performers in the challenge, with a date range of "8/14/2021 - 8/14/2022".

There are road and sign related challenges, and more recently challenges to add / improve vineyards and hop fields



Seppe Santens

@seppe_santens

Replying to @lalonde and @PlantNetProject

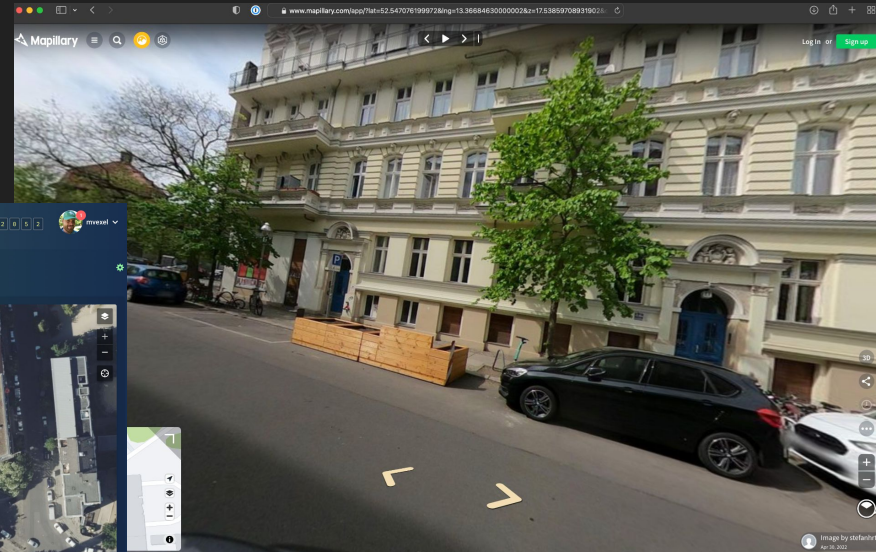
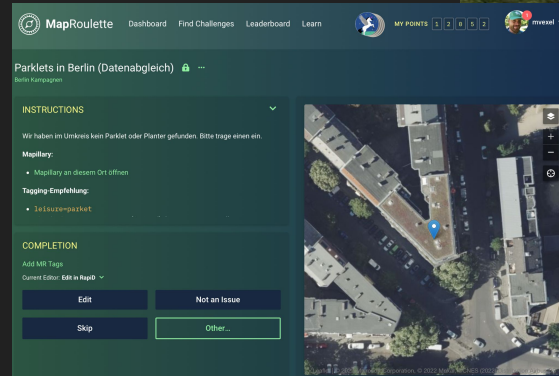
In Flanders, vineyards and hop fields are mapped very well. A while ago, [@osm_be](#) compared OSM data with government data (from [@DepartementLV](#)) and mapped missing parcels using [@maproulette](#)

“Parklets” in Berlin

Berlin has an initiative to **create parklets throughout the city**. The [OpenStreetMap Parkraum Project](#) aims to **add these to OSM**.

They use a **MapRoulette challenge** to do this.

Each task is **linked to a recent Mapillary image** to verify the parklet exists.



What's next for MapRoulette?

More **Integrations** with other apps

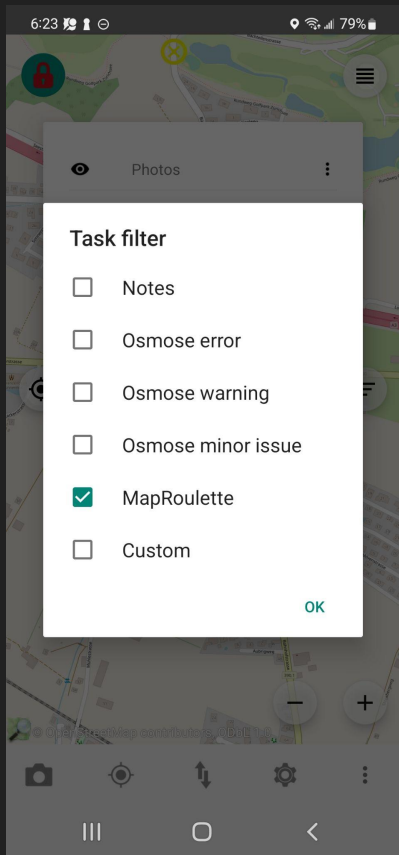
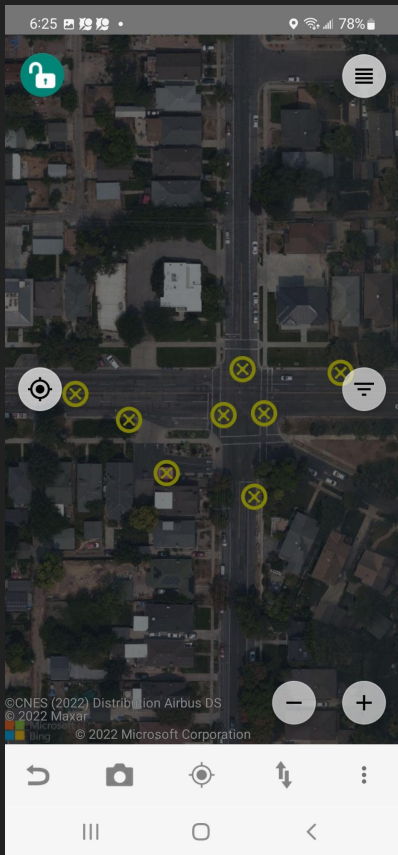
StreetComplete / GoMap!! / MapComplete / Vespucci / OSMAnd / (Rap)iD

- make the API easier to access
- encourage 'local knowledge required' challenges

There are **plenty of good mobile apps**

I don't think we need a *MapRoulette Mobile*, but perhaps make maproulette.org mobile friendly?

MapRoulette - Vespucci integration



Improved **communication** between challenge makers and mappers

The tools are there but sometimes too hidden away. It needs to be very easy to
communicate

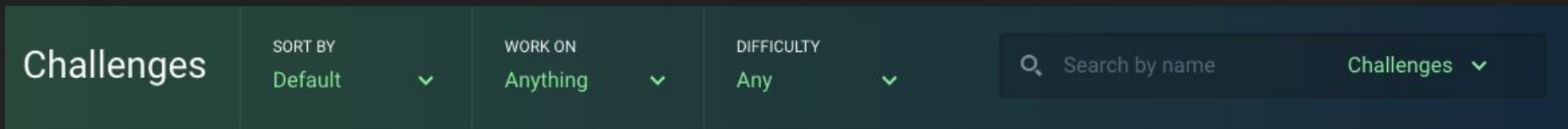
More **accountability** for challenge makers



We already have auto-archiving and improved notifications to challenge makers when their challenges are completed. This can be further improved.

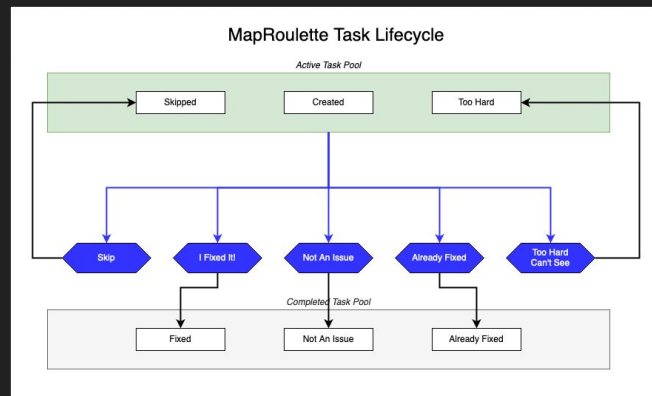
Better discovery

More ways to search and filter. Make it easier to split a challenge into smaller areas. Making sure that challenges are current and relevant.



Reconsider the Task Lifecycle

“Too Hard”, “Can’t Fix” “Skip”, “Already Fixed” confusing too many mappers. Make these actions clearer? Add more options? Perhaps “Request Help From Local Mapper”?



Thank you!

Let me know your ideas for MapRoulette

Martijn van Exel

@mvexel / @maproulette

learn.maproulette.org

Thank you!

Let me know your ideas for MapRoulette

Martijn van Exel
@mvexel / @maproulette
learn.maproulette.org

