A view of a city

Description automatically generated

**GEOS 323 LAB #1 (20pts)**

***Scenario***

You are a local community member for a city that has begun to experience the impacts of increased, unnatural wildfire activity. As part of local organization efforts to become more informed and fire-wise, many fellow citizens have expressed a desire to have a map that shows the locations and delineation of all the fire districts within the county. Each family would then be able to connect with appropriate fire districts in the event of a wildfire event and coordination of evacuations are necessary. Furthermore, emergency and disaster communication apps such as PulsePoint function on a basic understanding of spatial data related to specific fire districts. Given your expertise in geovisualizations, you have been asked to create the map for your community to use in upcoming fire seasons.

***The Data***

The GIS data were acquired via the City of Spokane OpenData portal and basemap imagery provided via ArcGIS Pro. The link to the data are: <https://data-spokane.opendata.arcgis.com/> -- for this lab you will be given the data directly via Canvas so you do not need to worry about acquiring data yourself. However, please still check out the dataset and how you would access it yourself via the link before continuing on with the lab. When you open ArcGIS Pro and add the data into your map, it is also a good idea to explore things like the Attribute Table and the properties (e.g. metadata) before any geoprocessing, symbolizing, or creating any map layouts. We will explore the various capabilities of the program throughout the term.

***Overview of Steps to Complete the Lab***

Before beginning any steps for this lab, create a “Lab1” folder for this lab that you keep within a “GEOG323” master folder for this class. Strong folder organization will save you lots of headache later, and always refer back to the rules of data storage in the Week 1 lecture slides if you need a refresher! Here is a general list of steps, but the lab will also be demoed during the regular lab period as well.

1. Download and unzip the fire district data from the Lab 1 folder on Canvas and transition it to your Lab 1 folder, THEN open the program and begin.
2. Click the Add Data button in ArcGIS Pro to add the fire district data (navigate via to the folder your data are stored within).
3. Turn on a basemap of your choosing (a great option is the Imagery) and build your map.
4. Insert a map layout and the commonly used map elements – title, map frame, scale bar, north arrow, legend. Remember, not all maps will require all of these items, but they are commonly used.
5. Export your map as a PDF and store the PDF in the same folder with all your other GIS files for this lab project. Email yourself the PDF as well, because saving in multiple places is always a good idea!
6. Submit your ***PDF*** to the Canvas Lab #1 assignment portal.

***Grading***

You will be graded on the following criteria (1-5 pts each for 20 total pts each lab):

* Use of logical symbology (e.g. shades of red for wildfire rather than something like neon green)
* Inclusion of all essential map elements (i.e. items from step #4 above)
* The full map layout space is utilized (e.g. no floating items or wasted white space)
* Map is free from typos, grammar errors, and effectively conveys a message