

VESTA Map Local External Resource Link Requirements

The following information provides details about the requirements needed for external resource links to function properly in VESTA Map Local. External resource links need to be included in GIS data layers in the external resource link (extResrce) field and must match the file path exactly to where the files are located.

External resource links must include the path to the file or URL. Local file and network file paths must be enclosed in double quotes. Avoid spaces in folder and file names (e.g. Use "MyFile" instead of "My File"). Following are samples of links that are supported that must be included in the map data layers' External Resource Links (extResrce) field:

- URLs (e.g. <http://www.vestapublicsafety.com>)
- Local file paths (e.g. "C:\Path\To\File")
- Local network file paths (e.g. "\\NetworkShare\Path\To\MyFile")

"Markdown" style links use a format similar to those used in the popular markdown format. This style allows you to specify the text that will be shown to users along with the path to the external resource. When using this style, best practice is to separate links with non-reserved characters (e.g. spaces, commas, pipes, etc.), though such separation is optional. The recommendation is to use whitespace as a separator.

The following are examples of links that are supported and where those could be located. Proper links must be included in the map data layers' External Resource Links field:

- Sample Internet Links
 - [Yahoo!] <<http://www.yahoo.com>>
 - [Click here to go to Google!] <<http://www.google.com>>
- Sample File Links
 - [A Text File] <C:\My Documents\Path\To\File.txt>
- Sample Multiple Links
 - [Click here to go to Google!] <<http://www.google.com>> [A Text File] <C:\My Documents\Path\To\File.txt>

Examples of files that can be linked include:

- PDF files
- Text or Microsoft Word files
- Image / Photo files (e.g. JPEG, PNG)
- Website URLs

Linked files should be stored on each workstation or a network location accessible by each workstation. Network rules and infrastructure must be in place for the workstation to reach the locations of the files or the URLs.

Locations where these can be stored include:

- Local hard drive
- Local attached drive
- Internal network shared drive
- Internal network web server

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- External internet web server