

GISCC July Meeting Transcript

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DCA Building, ATL

Prepared by: Laura Pay

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Danielle: Eric thank you for the last year.

Eric: I still have two weeks!

Danielle: Let's begin with a summary of 2006-2007.

Eric:

- We began the process of adapting GIS standards for the State for data. We have asked local governments and counties for input. There are no federal standards yet finalized for adoption. There are some address and cadastral standards. No road standards at this time (Teague). Several groups are working on this. We need to decide to adopt someone's. Do this while we wait for Federal standards.
- Received proactive GTA support for about 9-months. Two big GTA initiatives this year:
 1. ESRI Enterprise License Agreement (ELA)
 - Internal changes occurred at GTA prior to getting ELA finalized/signed.
 - 10 million in the hole (funding issues)
 - GTA changed to an expense vs. investment model
 - GTA wants to be more of a service provider. GTA 2010 (big initiative) on website.
 - Issues with governor signing the budget
 - Not really a money issue impairing the ELA. We need to focus on how to get back on track. Eric has met with the House and will be meeting with the Senate soon. Telling why it is important to the state to have GIS data. Trying to make through legislature making GIS an enterprise verses agency initiative.
 2. Clearinghouse
 - Working to revamp the clearinghouse. GTA modified last year's contract to 50K less, although it has yet to be signed/paid. Moving toward an ESRI tool for the metadata.

Danielle: Eric can you give the presentation you gave to the House to GISCC?

Eric: He can but most of the GIS promotion comes through improv when they ask questions about what data we currently have. Will work on something for GISCC.

2008 Goals

- Adopt the standards. Put something in writing.
 - Teague - Transportation
 - Danielle- Metadata
 - Carl Anderson-Address/ Cadastral
 - Eric- Virginia Cadastral Standard
- At a minimum Danielle would like 5 standards adopted by Georgia by the end of this fiscal year.
- Best Practices for GIS pricing.
 - Danielle: Has requested student assistance in studying local government price models for GIS data fees. She would like to continue to pursue that this year. For example the New Model in Paulding County.

- Pursue some grants for the state. Not enough GIS recognition from state level. Get Federal recognition. Data development or collaboration based. Not really concerned with what, just get something going. Keith at USGS is working to determine what grants are available. He is the geospatial liaison at USGS. He began 6 weeks ago.
- Get the GISCC officially recognized.
 - Danielle found that the ITPC policy establishing the GISCC was not formally adopted by GTA; i.e., there is no legal commitment from GTA toward the Georgia GIS Clearinghouse. How are we funded? Clearinghouse has 275K budget (recently revised to 225K, see item 1 above). What is the funding source? GTA internal budget, not approved in legislature. No recognition of GISCC in state. Not seen in legislation or with our decision makers. Question posed: Do your agency superiors really know and support what you are doing with GIS?
 - Danielle proposes that we identify what is important to the governor. How GIS makes those issue better. Solid examples of how to use GIS in our organizations. Have your champions/directors send same message to governor and legislators.
 - Write a blurb of how you use GIS in your agency and how it has impacted business, the public and/or the state. Quantify as much as possible .. include dollar amounts and efficiency numbers where you can.
 - Use the blurb of the most important GIS project. How much did you save? How much better was the project than before you incorporated GIS?
 - Note: Show how you used GIS NOT Google Maps. That distinction needs to be made when speaking with legislature.
 - Deadline: next meeting, August 15th
 - Guest from the DOD says that she will look into a contact they have at the governor's office. She believes if we have something like these blurbs together and a contact to present them too we will have a better chance of making a mark.
 - Iclude your methodology and dollar amounts. If you are required to do the project with GIS by legal code, include that in the statement. If it is a statewide contract denote this.
 - We want to make a buzz. Gentleman from Savannah denoted that they had the head of departments attend state contract meetings. They also had the directors of that area like transportation attend. They usually sent a representative, but the word got back to them on how GIS was being used in their contracts. We should do this in GA. Get decision makers involved so the buzz begins.
 - Email Danielle and bring a copy to the next meeting. In the next meeting we will make a plan and strategy from the statements. Eric will define ROI and show examples and missed opportunities. Show how money was saved. Eric denotes that we need to make the point that money was saved but that we need to reinvest savings back into GIS. This document needs to be no more than

two pages. Eric notes that all hurricane states but GA have extra funds. Those with natural disasters have funding. We need to get to that point.

- Teague asked: What is the game plan we would present to the governor's office? The GIO, ELA, state contracts? Danielle comment: We are trying to formalize a plan. Get business people to represent us at legislature. Best example of GIS in agencies and what it costs. Show how sometimes we don't have the money, data, or employees to properly fulfill contracts. Get directors aware. Teague: So the governor gives us recognition but doesn't recognize GIS. Get GIS involved and awareness. Eric: The governor recognizes GIS but sees it as funding it through state agencies. Recently became aware of the BLLIP project. What do we want in funding? Don't want him pulling funds. Umbrell, a not single agency. Want DEM, aerial photography, ELA, GIO to get funding. No single agency should fund enterprise level efforts that all agencies benefit from. Make that clarification to the governor. Teague: So we want recognition of GISCC authority to get these statewide initiatives funded.
- Jane Smith of GDOT, OTD denotes that there is no mandate to provide data in the state but we are voluntarily asked to provide it. Eric states: for example Dams. Federal metadata says free. Homeland Security said they couldn't provide it despite it being free. There is no mandate forcing agencies to freely provide the data to state agencies. Also DOT makes hurricane evac plans but can't get the data to make the plans. Jane state the bottom line is it is my data and I won't allow you to have it is the attitude. We need to see that data created for the state is available to agencies needing it. State data for state use. Don't have all the data needed to do my job. This is something that could be presented in the form of the Forest Fires in South GA to the governor.
- We will formalize goals at the next meeting after all the blurbs are in.
- Eric: Eric and Keith are working on the 10 meter DEM. This is statewide. Eric will be asking for funding soon.
- Funding: if you are getting grant information that you can't use, please forward to Danielle for the GISCC. If these come in at a more regular basis we will look at getting a website created where you can load them yourself.
- ARC: October 31 at 10:30 will be another user group meeting for GIS.
 - They are working on a cooperative effort with 20 counties to get imagery.
 - Carl Anderson gave an addressing standards presentation at the July meeting. This will be available on ARC's website.
 - Ryan gave a presentation on a GDOT project which will also be posted on ARC's website.

- Paul is getting certified as an ArcView/Info trainer to train local governments at a lower cost than ESRI. It will be about \$250 per class. This fee is to help recoup costs.
- Danielle and Laura gave an update on the June Flint Energy data meeting in Houston County.
- Danielle presented GAURISA update.
 - There will be workshops on September 20-21. Thursday will be addressing for LUCA and GPS. Friday is asset management. Go to GAURISA.org for application.
 - There is a demand for more professional GIS support meetings in the state. South GA area URISA will be headed up by Chris Strom. Maybe there will be a NE URISA to cover north GA and part of TN. The goal is to bring it closer to people so they can attend.
- Eric: Southern states of URISA met in NC. USGS spoke on the federal level. All states spoke about stuff in their area. This was a good meeting. They are going to try to meet more frequently like every two years now.
- Danielle: There are not meeting min to approve from the last meeting. Geoff will put them online, if possible to recreate.
- Danielle: As for the Clearinghouse update: Geospatial training is complete.
 - Eric: Have a model in place on how it is going to work. Going forward OPD just lost direction. He is trying to get it on the budget as a line item so it is budgeted upfront.
- Question from the back: How does the local ESRI Company feel about the ELA situation? Eric: Sonny had it ready to sign. We just need to get the new direction and get the funding to move on it.
- In closing: Between now and the next meeting have blurb on how GIS affects your organization positively or negatively noting GA code and dollar amounts where applicable. We will make a formalized plan to proceed this next year. Next meeting is in August. We will meet every month until we have action. Will be meeting upstairs again.

Next meeting: Wed, August 15th 1:30 – 3:30 pm, DCA