LOCAL AGENCY GIS GROUP
MINUTES
April 2, 1997

1.   Welcome and Introductions

Introductions were conducted. A list of members that attended is attached. The cities of Chula Vista, El Cajon, Escondido, Lemon Grove, San Diego, Solana Beach, Vista, the County of San Diego, RUIS, San Diego Data Processing, United States Fish & Wildlife Service and SANDAG were present.

Fred Wong, as chairperson for 1997, welcomed everyone and explained that this was the second quarterly meeting of the Local Agency GIS Group for 1997.

2.   GEONEWS

Bob Parrott (SANDAG) provided an update of local plans for the ESR Conference, CGIA initiatives and data partnerships in the region.

ESRI Conference
Bob explained that the San Diego GIS Community was going to put on a welcome booth at the Map Gallery (formerly known as the Poster Social), as well as an ongoing booth in the Exhibit Hall the rest of the week. The Map Gallery booth would have general GIS information, videos of San Diego, a well known restaurant critic, and lists/maps of popular restaurants and tourist site locations. ESRI has agreed to organize San Diego submitted posters to their Map Gallery in one section. A PC with web browsing capabilities, and pre-set bookmarks to local GIS sites will also be setup. After the Tuesday night Poster Social, the booth will move to the main Exhibit Hall.

Bob is also requesting input from local GIS agencies to create a Timeline of GIS Activity in the San Diego region. Events of interest include dates of the first GIS software installation, product developments, use of new technologies and other major milestones for agencies. We would like to have input from all of our local agencies, so please contact Bob Parrott with information.

Volunteers are being sought to staff the booths and set up the displays. If you have an ARCVIEW application to demo, please contact Gabriela Coverdale of RUIS at 533-4753. There are several GIS professionals helping to coordinate these activities with ESRI which include Eric Culp (URISA), Richard Wright (SDSU), Lisa Stapleton (RUIS), Bill Bamberger (SDDPC), Fred Wong (Local Agency GIS Group) and Bob Parrott (SANDAG). If you would like to volunteer booth staffing time, please contact Bob Parrott (595-5328) for information.

Lisa Stapleton is putting together a map of local attractions and restaurants. She would like to include some narrative information about why people should visit the attractions or

eat at a particular restaurant. If you have you favorites, contact Lisa Stapleton (RUIS) at 533-5947.

CGIA Initiatives
Bob provided an overview of CGIA, how it got started, and some of its current initiatives. CGIA has been awarded an Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) grant for approximately $35,000 to establish the California Geo-Spatial Metadata Catalog on the Internet. This catalog will provide information on GIS data throughout California and will have search engines to query by topic and geographic areas. CGIA's project is being coordinated with the Alexandria project from UCSB, which currently provides an on-line catalog of imagery. A future workshop on how to use the California Geo-Spatial Metadata Catalog will be held at one of our next few meetings. More information can be found on the website: http://www.cgia.org.

The Education Committee has developed a GIS Educational Opportunities Catalog on the web. The catalog allows institutions and agencies to advertise their training courses and workshops. The web site also provides a new button for legislative watch issues. A new Assembly Bill (AB1293) has been proposed related to funding the development and maintenance of framework databases. Bob indicated that SANDAG supports this bill and others should send their comments to their assembly person and assembly woman Bowen who is sponsoring AB1293..

San Diego Data Partnerships
Two partnerships for the creation of regional digital geographic information are being completed, Digital Orthophoto Quads (DOQs) and elevation contours. The County of San Diego provided assistance to the USGS in obtaining geodetic control for the DOQs. This DOQ project appears to be ahead of schedule. SANDAG and SDSU are working together to do postprocessing of the DOQ data. When postprocessing has been completed for all quarter quads, they will be distributed to the partners first. The data then becomes public domain and will be available to anyone. The data comes in a raw, unenhanced file format by quarter quads with a 100 meter overlap between quads. This data is 1 meter black/white DOQ's for the entire San Diego region. Additional value added imagery products will also be developed for the partners..

Partners are still needed to develop the 1996 color DOQs from the USGS US/Mexico Border Aerial Photo Project for the San Diego region. Please contact Bob Parrott if you are interested.

The elevation contour project has been recently completed. Quad level coverages for the entire region and a regional coverage have been created. The data has been delivered to the partners. Bob stated that all local agencies can have access to the data through SANDAG or other partners. If a private company would like access to the data, please direct them to the USGS for the data. For local agency distribution to non-partners, a letter would be attached to remind the requester that the data was made available through

a partnership and that opportunities to contribute to other joint development efforts will present themselves in the near future.

The 3rd Annual California GIS Conference
The 3rd Annual GIS conference was held at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles on February 26 - 28, 1997. Several comments were made about the lower attendance than last year's conference. Some attributed the low attendance to the location and poor availability of information on alternative transit possibilities. It was suggested that for next year's conference that will be held in Visalia, California, that better transportation access plans be made and publicized. Lower than usual attendance in many sessions prompted the suggestion that the most popular topic presentations (i.e. internet/web) be held with only a few competing sessions at the same time. If you have suggestions to help improve next year's conference, contact Rob Ball, 1998 Co-Chair at (805)861-2191 or kerncog@lightspeed.net.

3.   Other General Announcements

The City of Escondido announced that they will be hosting the San Diego ARCVIEW User Group meetings for the rest of the year. They will be held monthly and the next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 23rd at 3:30 PM.

Clark Roberts of the United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) announced that he is new to our group and is working in the Carlsbad office. He would like to become more involved in the GIS community, particularly for data sharing.

Lisa Stapleton, the RUIS Coordinator, announced that RUIS has a new web site available. They are now implementing Phase II, which will include interactive mapping of approximately 30 themes of data. She also mentioned that the City of Ontario has a great web site as well, with various ways to query the geographic information. The URL for the City of Ontario is http://www.ci.ontario.ca.us.

4.   Report From the Standard Land Use Code Subcommittee

Lisa Lubeley (SANDAG) and Joey Perry (City of San Diego) gave a presentation from the Standard Land Use Code (SLUC) Subcommittee. The past few months the subcommittee has been working on integrating all the existing land use coding schemes that were collected. It was decided to base the new SLUC on the old SLUC from 1968 and establish crosswalks to the Standard Industrial Code (SIC), SANDAG, the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) and other jurisdictional coding schemes. The draft review packet was distributed to all jurisdictions at the meeting. Jurisdictions are asked to look at the code and comment on its crosswalk categories. Please return comments to Lisa Lubeley (SANDAG) by Friday, May 2nd.

Joey Perry (City of San Diego) is the SLUC subcommittee representative to the American Planning Association's (APA) Land-Based Classification Standards (LBCS) Project that is headed by Sanjay Jeer. This is a national movement to develop national standards to classify land-based data. They are interested in potential test sites and will heavily consider San Diego. Fortunately, the APA national conference is being held here in San Diego, the week of April 7. We are very fortunate to have a meeting planned with Sanjay at SANDAG on Wednesday, April 9th. He is very interested in our SLUC program and would like to use our effort to write a case study paper. He will also discuss the efforts of other regions around the U.S., including those that have completed similar efforts.

Joey also presented a slide show discussion of the major issues that complicate the formation of a standard land use code. A handout was included that lists web pages related to land use coding schemes. Please find this handout attached to the meeting minutes.

4. Presentation of TYDAC's OrthoEngine Software Package

Michelle Sands of TYDAC gave a presentation on their product called the OrthoEngine. This package allows users to build orthos from scanned air photos. Fred Wong currently uses this software for his orthophotography project. This was a prime example of having powerful tools for GIS technology on the desktop. You can reach Michelle at (431-5132) or by e-mail: sands@tydac.com.