

San Diego Regional GIS Council

Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2004

1. Welcome and Introductions

Matt Brown (San Diego County Water Authority) welcomed everyone to the fall quarterly meeting. Please see Attachment #1 for list of attendees.

2. GEONEWS

a) SDRGC Matters

Matt Brown announced that Barbara Kent is the new Secretary.

b) CGIA Update

Steve Kunkel (SANDAG) reported that he, Matt Brown, and Tom McDowell (City of Chula Vista) attended the most recent CGIA teleconference. It is membership renewal time. CGIA is currently redoing their Web site. When completed, Pay Pal will be available for renewal payments. CGIA will be asking for GIS award nominations for the 2005 CalGIS conference, which will be in March. Matt completed a survey intended to help CGIA better understand the operations of the regional GIS Councils. If you are interested, contact Matt for a copy of the survey.

c) California GIS Council Update

Matt Brown reported that the most recent meeting was held in San Jose; he's not sure when the next meeting will be. Currently, there is not much happening due, at least in part, to the state budget situation. He explained that the council is similar to an inverted pyramid, with most of the power residing with the local agencies.

d) Web Design Subcommittee

Paul Hardwick (SANDAG) reported on behalf of Harry Johnson (SDSU), who could not attend the meeting. The SDRGC Web site is up and running. The Web address is <http://www.sdrgc.org>.

We have a new membership list. Before posting it on the Internet site, Harry wants to know if members have any objections to their phone numbers being listed. The overall opinion is to list phone numbers. Anyone who does **not** want their phone number listed should contact Harry at hjohnson@typhoon.sdsu.edu.

e) GIS Management Subcommittee

Bob Canepa (County of San Diego) said that the subcommittee has completed an extensive outline of a document that will provide information and guidelines to assist agencies in setting up and maintaining a GIS. It will be a step-by-step framework with lessons learned from the experience of others. Bob will put it into a draft report format and bring it to the next meeting for review.

f) Mesa College GIS Certificate Program

SDRGC supported their successful request for a \$750,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to set up a GIS training curriculum and certificate program. Margie Fritch, the Interim Dean of School of Business, Computer Studies and Technologies at Mesa College, came to the SDRGC to ask for help in developing a curriculum for the GIS Certificate Program. Mesa's goal is to train students to be employable GIS technicians. To accomplish this, they need information on things such as critical knowledge, skills, and education required to successfully gain employment. They also need to know what types of career ladders exist in different organizations. Margie asked the SDRGC to identify 6 to 12 individuals to participate in a local two-day workshop/interview, which will be facilitated by San Francisco State University. It was suggested that the interview group include GIS users from various levels (technicians to managers).

The level of interest from council was favorable, and several people stated they had staff that could participate. Margie will send Matt Brown an e-mail with the details of Mesa's request and Matt will forward it onto the SDRGC and other groups, such as URISA, for response.

3. *VOTE* Whether to Recommend that CERES be Adopted as the Official State Metadata Node

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously agreed to recommend that CERES be adopted as the official state metadata node. The metadata catalog is located at www.gis.ca.gov/catalog.

4. City of San Diego's Upcoming Image Acquisition

Lisa Lubeley (City of San Diego) provided an overview of the City's 2005 DEM and image acquisition project. The orthophotographs will be 3-inch resolution, true color, with 9 to 12-inch positional accuracy. The LIDAR DEM will have 5-foot postings. Both first return and bald earth surfaces will be obtained.

The City is currently writing the RFP and expects to be finished with it in two to three weeks. The vendor will be selected in January 2005. Other agencies are invited to join the City's effort to obtain updated digital imagery and/or a LIDAR DEM and use the City's RFP process; but each agency will have to negotiate its own contracts and costs with the selected vendor, and QA/QC its own products. Sue Carnevale is the point of contact for agencies interested in joining the City's project. Contact Sue at sca@sandag.org or (619) 699-1981.

5. Regional Image Acquisition Plan

Sue Carnevale presented the DRAFT Regional Image Acquisition Plan. She acknowledged and thanked those who worked on the Plan. The main purpose of the Plan is to provide a timeframe and per-agency costs for future coordinated acquisitions of digital imagery. The cost estimates in the plan are based upon 2003 prices, are for digital image acquisition only, and do not include costs for a DEM or QA/QC of final products. The idea of the plan is to have interested agencies sign a letter of intent or support (not commitment) to participate in and implement the image acquisition plan. Agencies will then work together on the specs for each project and sign a formal letter of commitment for each project. There are questions whether or not there is a need for regional imagery acquisition projects/partnerships given

that many of the 'off-the-shelf' image products prepared annually by local vendors have improved in accuracy and resolution and have expanded in area of coverage.

Sue then explained that the City's 2005 image/DEM acquisition project will be the region's first multi-agency, multi-resolution partnership and will provide a pilot or test of the Image Acquisition Plan and help to validate the budgetary cost figures contained in the Plan. It was suggested that regional agencies (SANDAG, Caltrans, the County) could partner to "fill in the holes" between the participating local agencies' areas of coverage in order to expand the coverage area for the project and obtain very high resolution imagery for the western portion of the region.

Sue will post the draft plan and a letter of intent on the SDRGC Web site for comments by council members.

Questions were raised on how the City plans to accommodate agencies within the City of San Diego (e.g., the Port Authority, Airport Authority, etc.). The City will need to determine how they want to handle this.

6. Other

a) Update on Current Imagery Projects

Lisa Stapleton (SanGIS) presented a summary of various imagery/DEM products that are currently available for the San Diego area. Please see Attachment #2 for details.

b) SDRGC PowerPoint Presentation

Matt Brown told the group that he has drafted a PowerPoint presentation on the SDRGC. The purpose of the presentation is to get broader recognition of the SDRGC and to promote our successes. Matt will post a copy of the presentation to the SDRGC Web site. Please provide Matt with any comments or to let him know of a group that would like to have the SDRGC make a presentation.

c) Update on South Bay/Escondido Imagery Project and Geodatabase Inquiry

Tom McDowell informed the group that the photography for the South Bay/Escondido imagery acquisition project/partnership was flown on September 24 and 25, 2004.

Chula Vista is migrating their GIS information to the ArcGIS geodatabase format and they are interested in the experiences of other agencies. They also are interested in determining if a parcel data model can be developed that will fit other agencies in the region. It was suggested that this be an agenda item for our next meeting, and possibly a subcommittee or group be formed to explore if a parcel model can be developed for the region.

d) URISA 2004 Conference

Lisa Lubeley reminded everyone that the national URISA conference is November 7-10 in Reno.

ATTACHMENT 1

Attendees at the October 13, 2004, San Diego Regional GIS Council meeting:

Name	Agency	Email Address
Rolwing, Jerry	Borrego Water District	jerry@borregowd.org
Kent, Barbara	Caltrans	barbara.j.kent@dot.ca.gov
McDowell, Thomas	City of Chula Vista	tmcdowell@ci.chula-vista.ca.us
Barto, Wendy	City of Encinitas	wbarto@ci.encinitas.ca.us
Carey, Talli	City of Oceanside	tcarey@ci.oceanside.ca.us
O'Grady, Glenn	City of Poway	gogrady@ci.poway.ca.us
Lubeley, Lisa	City of San Diego	llubeley@sandiego.gov
Canepa, Bob	County of San Diego	Bob.Canepa@sdcounty.ca.gov
Fritch, Margie	Mesa College	mfritch@sdccd.net
Carnevale, Sue	San Diego Association of Governments	sca@sandag.org
Hardwick, Paul	San Diego Association of Governments	pha@sandag.org
Kunkel, Steve	San Diego Association of Governments	sku@sandag.org
Brown, Matthew	San Diego County Water Authority	mbrown@sdcwa.org
Stapleton, Lisa	SanGIS	lstapleton@sangis.org
Silva, George	Sweetwater Authority	gsilva@sweetwater.org
Stein, Debby	Sweetwater Authority	dstein@sweetwater.org
Toney, David	USMRC Camp Pendleton	toneyds@pendleton.usmc.mil
Garcia, Patricia	Valley Center Water District	trish@lvcuwd.org
Interested Parties		
Henderson, Dan	Mooney & Associates	dhenderson@bfma.com
Baron, Kurtis	WEST Consultants, Inc.	kbaron@westconsultants.com

ATTACHMENT 2

Imagery Update

San Diego Regional GIS Council

October 13, 2004

1. 2002 USGS 3 Foot Countywide Color Infrared

SanGIS contracted with USGS to deliver this public domain imagery in a format usable for the County and City of San Diego. USGS staff created a countywide mosaic, and performed color balancing and conversion to NAD83 state plane coordinates. The imagery was delivered to SanGIS as one countywide MrSID file. SanGIS paid \$34,000 for this delivery. The countywide DVD is available to external agencies for \$500. If you want the raw imagery, please contact Carol Ostergren at USGS (916-278-9510). The metadata is attached.

2. 2004 USGS 1 Foot True Color for Urban Area

This imagery was created in the spring of 2004 and is available now from USGS. The imagery is delivered on 1500x1500 meter tiles. There are 730 tiles for San Diego County. Each tile is 72mb. You can fit about 52 tiles on one DVD so it would take 15 DVDs for the full area. The imagery has not been color balanced but USGS reports that the tiles "look great together" so this processing probably is not necessary. USGS expects to make this imagery available from their seamless server in the near future. Individual tiles may be downloaded or you can connect to their ArcIMS service and use the imagery directly from the server. SanGIS is sending a hard drive to USGS to take delivery of this imagery this month (October). After we evaluate the product, we will determine if we will play a role in its distribution beyond the County and City of San Diego. The USGS contact is Carol Ostergren (916-278-9510). Attachment #3 shows the footprint of this imagery.

3. 2005 FSA 1 Meter Statewide Color Infrared

The Farm Services Agency (FSA) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture is planning a project to acquire statewide true color or color infrared imagery for California as part of their National Aerial Imagery Program (NAIP). This is a \$3 million project and \$2 million already has been committed by federal agencies. They are looking for state agencies, counties, and cities to help fund the remaining \$1 million. For more information visit their Web site at www.apfo.usda.gov.

4. DigitalGlobe QuickBird Imagery

DigitalGlobe announced new licensing for state and local government clients, effective September 2004. Basically, any QuickBird imagery licensed from the company by these users will come with no distribution restrictions. That means a county might share the data horizontally (to other counties, say) or vertically (to towns or cities). It means data can be shared with the public in print format or online. It means that imagery can be shared with consultants working on projects for a licensed agency and non-governmental organizations. It even extends to products the government or DigitalGlobe might create with non-

DigitalGlobe data (say a county's own DEM or control data). If a governmental entity, by law, has to "sell" imagery or created products for a fee, that's okay, too. DigitalGlobe has prepared USGS DOQQ type products (CIR or True Color images with a 1:12,000 scale accuracy) for San Diego. The cost per quarter quad (DOQQ) is \$500. Visit www.digitalglobe.com for more information on their imagery products and licensing agreements.

5. 2003 NOAA Countywide Digital Elevation Model (DEM)

The 3-meter DEM data was delivered to the County Department of Planning and Land Use this summer. This DEM is a first return surface; meaning building tops, tree canopies, etc., are included in the elevation surface. The NOAA IfSAR DEM is not a bald earth elevation model. DPLU has evaluated the DEM, created a countywide mosaic of the DEM, and also created a hillshade product from the DEM. These products have been distributed to the City of San Diego, SanGIS, and SANDAG for review. According to the National Standard for Spatial Data Accuracy, the NOAA DEM data is compiled to meet 4.3 meter horizontal accuracy at 95 percent confidence level, and vertical accuracy for this data is 2.2 meters at a 95 percent in mixed land covers. NOAA plans to make the raw data available from their Web site at http://ekman.csc.noaa.gov/socal_ifsar_2002/.

More general information on these products can be found at: <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/tcm> and <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/lcr/text/scream.html>.

Plans for local distribution of the mosaicked products have not yet been developed. The mosaicked products are rather large: 1.1 gig for the DEM (elevation) data and 1.3 gig for the hillshade product.