

**San Diego Regional GIS Council
Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2006**

1. Welcome and Introductions

Tom McDowell welcomed everyone to the meeting. See Attachment #1 for list of attendees. Our guest speakers were late due to flight delays, so we began with GEONEWS.

2. GEONEWS

A) CGIA Update – Tom McDowell

CGIA adopted six strategic initiatives for 2006/2007. Initiatives include facilitating communication in the geospatial community, coordination with the California GIS Council, and help develop a geospatial data plan for the State of California. The complete list of initiatives with details can be found at <http://www.cgia.org/strategic-directions.htm>.

If you are interested in getting involved with CGIA or would like to receive news about GIS in California go to <http://www.cgia.org/> and consider becoming a member. The CGIA board member elections will be in the spring. Please contact Matt Brown if you are interested in getting involved.

B) DFIRM Update – Tom McDowell (on behalf of Lisa Stapleton)

Local information has been submitted to HDR for FEMA's DFIRM (Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps) data update project. A number of SDRGC's members contributed data to this effort. At this point HDR and FEMA are working on compiling the data and we should learn more at our January meeting.

C) SanGIS News - Tom McDowell (on behalf of Lisa Stapleton)

Special Update on SanGIS – The SanGIS organizational structure and data maintenance procedures are being re-evaluated and may be re-engineered. Meetings are being scheduled to discuss the options. An update since the meeting is that Lisa Stapleton has taken a new position with the City of San Diego as the IT manager for Public Safety and Homeland Security.

The topic of receiving digital data submissions by developers was raised. The group briefly discussed this and details related to it. It was suggested for SDRGC to form a subcommittee to discuss this more in depth.

D) North Zone Update – Dan Hildebrand

The thirteen north county agencies that provide emergency fire services are consolidating GIS data and mapping. To date the group has received draft fire maps. A subgroup has been put together to discuss the data model structure and integrating pre-plan mapping. Please contact Dan (dhildebrand@escondido.org) for more information.

E) Update on Imagery Subcommittee – Sue Carnevale

Two different surveys were distributed to the region's agencies: one to agencies that participated in recent imagery acquisition projects, and another to agencies that have not. There was an 80% response rate from the recent partnership group, and a 51% response rate from the others. The main issue that has come up is the different needs between agencies: large area v. small area, high resolution v. low resolution.

Summary of survey results:

Recent Partnership Participants	Other Agencies
Have a new terrain model	Do not have new terrain model
Have custom-flown orthophotos	Purchase off-the-shelf imagery from vendors
They are not reselling the imagery	
Willing to have 3 rd party QA/QC	Most agreed to 3 rd party QA/QC
2008-2010 timeline to purchase new imagery	2008-2010 timeline to purchase new imagery
41% OK with putting imagery in public domain, but 47% want high resolution imagery licensed	65% OK with putting imagery in public domain
No money currently budgeted for new imagery	No money currently budgeted for new imagery
95% interested in participating in another partnership	Some interest in color infrared imagery, or both true color and CIR products

There are two subgroups to the Imagery Subcommittee. The cost subgroup is looking at cost estimates per square mile. The terrain subgroup is investigating different terrain models, the feasibility of piecing together existing terrain models, and other related topics.

The next meeting is November 16, 2:00-4:00 at SANDAG. Any SDRGC member is welcome to attend. Subcommittee members include: Sue Carnevale, Tom McDowell, Dave Lindsay, Wendy Barto, Clint Garrison, Paul Hardwick, Steve Kunkel, Dan Hildebrand, Lisa Lubeley, and Barbara Kent

3. USGS Coordination and California GIS Council Presentation – Carol Ostergren (USGS, Sacramento) and Michael Byrne (California’s Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development)

The USGS has been tasked by the Office of Management & Budgets to identify geospatial investment across federal agencies. This is a big undertaking that will look at federal geospatial programs to see if geospatial line of business (GLOB) can be established across several federal agencies.

The USGS is moving from data production to building national data by using existing data through the integration of state and local data sets. What this means to our region is a greater potential to develop partnerships with USGS to develop more regional data sets.

The Imagery for the Nation (IFTN) proposal, sponsored by NSGIC, has received endorsement from USGS. The vision of IFTN is to build sustainable and flexible imagery that meets the needs of all agencies. It is composed of three different image data sets:

1. 1-meter imagery, basically an enhancement of the NAIP.
2. 1-foot imagery, launched post-9/11, covering urban areas with population greater than 25,000. It will probably be expanded to smaller cities.
3. 6-inch imagery covering urban areas with population greater than 50,000, and in areas with population greater than 1,000 people/square mile.

IFTN program basics include:

1. Statewide GIS councils specify ortho imagery requirements in business plans.
2. Plans will be filed with NDOP Steering Committee.
3. Imagery will be in the public domain.
4. Use a consistent national approach to address security concerns.
5. Follow national standards.
6. Use federal money for production of base products.
7. Buy-up provisions will allow for acquisition of imagery that meets more specific needs.

More information is at <http://nsgic.org/hottopics/imageryofnation.cfm>

The total cost is \$111 million per three year cycle, which is a \$159 million savings over the way imagery is currently acquired by government agencies. These values seemed low to the SDRGC.

The IFTN could probably fund a 2009 San Diego region imagery partnership. The IFTN proposal generated some group discussion about local, sub-regional, regional data needs. The discussion turned to providing, selling, and trading imagery with Google Earth, and the implications and ramifications of doing so.

The Department of General Services has approved a California Master Services Agreement (MSA) for GIS software, hardware, and services. There are approximately 20 vendors on the list. No RFPs are required. This MSA is available for state, regional, and local governments to use. It will be open for three years only. Michael Byrne encouraged its use so that it will be continued beyond the original three year limit. (Note: this is different than CMAS; CMAS requires three bids, this MSA does not require bids.) An update on this from Tom McDowell: the MSA is not yet available but should be available in early November. Go to <http://www.pd.dgs.ca.gov/masters/default.htm> and then select "Geographic Information Systems" in the IT Master Service Agreements drop-down box.

The Fifty States Initiative outlines the way governments should work together to coordinate the development of a national spatial data infrastructure. The Initiative lists nine criteria for the coordination of GIS at the state level. See http://nsgic.org/hottopics/fifty_states.cfm for more information.

The California Geographic Information Council is developing a strategic plan for California Spatial Data Infrastructure (CSDI) and a accompanying imagery plan. A first draft of the CSDI plan has been completed.

Goals include:

1. The development of a shared data resource, the CSDI.
2. The creation of a state level coordinating entity and Geographic Information Officer to develop and maintain the CSDI. The draft plan will be emailed to SDRGC. We are invited to send comments to Mike or anyone else in the group.

The National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) recently met in Little Rock, Arkansas. There was a strong California presence at the meeting. IFTN is still a top priority for NSGIC; The next initiative will be Transportation for the Nation (TFTN). IFTN is not legislation yet. Legislation is a crucial component to the success of IFTN and 2009 is the earliest it will happen.

Additional miscellaneous information:

1. NSDI CAP (National Spatial Data Infrastructure Cooperative Agreement Program) grants will open in November. See the tentative schedule at http://www.fgdc.gov/grants/2007CAP/Tentative_2007CAPschedule.
2. Funding from USGS for a San Diego regional imagery partnership can be available for 2007/2008.
3. National Hydrography Dataset training from USGS can be scheduled for January or February of 2007.

5. Other

Paul Hardwick will send out a GIS survey to SDRGC members. Similar regional surveys have been completed in the past. The purpose of the survey is to provide GIS managers with information about what other agencies are doing with GIS. As a side note, Paul announced that he has taken a new position as the Regional GIS Manager for the Center of Homeland Security at the SDSU Research Foundation. As part of his new responsibilities he has been

tasked with establishing a baseline of GIS use in the region and will be using the survey to accomplish this task.

Tom McDowell encouraged SDRGC members to send maps to the Mapping California project. This project came out of this year's CalGIS Conference. At this meeting the head cartographer for the State of Arizona presented a map book that they had put together. The book has really helped them garner support for GIS in the State. The Arizona map book can be found at http://agic.az.gov/docs/Mapping_Arizona_2005.pdf. A group is now working on a map book for the State of California and is asking for submissions. If you have a project or data set you would like to submit please contact Gary Darling at gary.darling@ceap.ca.gov or contact him by phone (916) 739-7643.

Attachment 1

Attendees at the October 11, 2006 San Diego Regional GIS Council Meeting

Name	Agency	Email Address
Kent, Barbara	Caltrans	barbara.j.kent@dot.ca.gov
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Silva, George	Sweetwater Authority	gsilva@sweetwater.org
Brouwer, Kimberly	UCSD	kbrouwer@ucsd.edu
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Interested Parties		
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Goff, Eileen	GeomorphIS	egoff@geomorphis.com
Rodgers, Martha	GeomorphIS	mrodgers@geomorphis.com
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Guests		
Michael Byrne	Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development	mbyrne@oshpd.ca.gov
Carol Ostergren	USGS	costergren@usgs.gov