**Governor's Council on Geographic Information** 

# End of Year 2005-06

Committee Reports –Accomplishments

-Future Plans

## Committees

- Emergency Preparedness
- Geospatial Architecture
- Hydrography
- Land Records Modernization
- Outreach
- Strategic Plan

**Purpose:** Organize the GIS community to help minimize impact of, recover from, and avoid natural and human caused emergencies in Minnesota.

Co-Chairs: Dan Johnson, Nexus Advantage Corporation

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- 1. Established a steering committee to help set EP committee goals and objectives as well as monitor and support the activities of the Outreach, Education and Data sub-committees.
- 2. Merged many of the goals, activities and membership of MetroGIS's Emergency Preparedness Committee with the GCGI Emergency Preparedness Committee thereby avoiding a duplication of effort.
- Committee members promoted the integration of GIS in emergency preparedness and public safety activities through presentations at the 2005 AMEM conference, Minnesota GIS/LIS, the Minnesota Department of Health - Emergency Management Committee and in meetings with county and city officials.
- 4. In cooperation with the State's Office of Geographic and Demographic Analysis, EP steering committee members participated in the crafting of GeoCOP - a proposal that sought U.S. Department of Homeland Security funding to develop a Common Operating Picture for emergency planning, response, and mitigation in Minnesota using GIS data maintained by local, regional, state, and federal agencies.

- A. Outreach to Emergency Management Professionals
  - Survey members of the emergency management community to determine their understanding of GIS technology and its application in the emergency response / public safety environment.
  - Cultivate relationships with statewide professional organizations such as AMEM and AMFC through presentations. GCGI EP members hope to again present at this year's AMEM conference.
  - Organize and promote GIS workshops geared for the emergency management and public safety community including those in Greater Minnesota.
  - Promote and educate emergency managers/public safety officials on the use of the MetroGIS Emergency Preparedness web application.

- B. Education for GIS Professionals
  - Help organize emergency management resources for GIS professionals (links to data, applications, education, etc.) via the GCGI or MetroGIS EP web sites.
  - Seek opportunities for GIS professionals to observe emergency management exercises (city, county or state).
  - Organize and promote workshops for GIS professionals that will enhance their understanding of how emergency managers respond to situations.
  - Identify skill enhancement / certification opportunities to help ensure that Minnesota's GIS community will be ready to respond to varying types and scales of emergencies.
  - Promote and support the inventorying of GIS state, county and local government personnel who are willing to help out in emergencies a GIS "call tree".

- C. Data for Emergency Preparedness
  - Review existing / proposed federal and state standards/best practices for GIS datasets needed for effective emergency preparedness.
  - Identify federal, state and locally held critical data sets and possible contributors / custodians.
  - Promote the MetroGIS EP and GeoCOP initiatives of working closely with federal, state and local entities to create and keep critical data upto-date.
  - Identify and seek funding opportunities to help promote the identification, collection, organization and dissemination of GIS data for emergency preparedness.
  - Organize and/or participate in a forum where emergency preparedness/public safety data access and data security issues are debated.

### **Geospatial Architecture Committee**

**Purpose:** Promote the development of common technological approaches to spatial data sharing and business integration through integrated system design, and support for geospatial standards.

**Co-Chairs: Robert Maki**, MN Department of Natural Resources 651-259-5476

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Chris Cialek, Land Management Information Center

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- Actively promoted Governor's Council geospatial architecture concepts.
  - Conferences and working groups
  - Developed the paper "The Case for a Minnesota GIS Enterprise"

- Re-established a formal GIS standards review process, and processed the existing backlog of standards, including two hydrography coding standards
- Stepped up review and monitoring of important Federal standards, and provided critical input into the Federal place name standard

- Monitor the progress of emerging international metadata standards, and recommend revisions to Minnesota Geographic Metadata Guidelines to ensure compliance.
- Update Geospatial Architecture portion of Council's website, in support of the State's Enterprise Information Architecture

### **Future Initiatives (continued):**

- Begin detailed logical design work on major geospatial architectural components
- Continue monitoring and review of Federal data standards, particularly as the pertain to framework data publishing

# Hydrography

**Purpose:** Promote consistent development of hydrography data and enable data exchange through coordination, cooperation and standards development.

**Co-Chairs:** Mark Olsen, MN Pollution Control Agency 651-296-3412

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Susanne Maeder, Land Mgt Information Center 651-201-2488 susanne.maeder@state.mn.us

# Hydrography

- Continued implementation of MN hydrography framework
  - Final design of database to store hydrography and related events
  - Developed draft update and maintenance technical procedures for MN NHD to USGS' central database
  - Completed draft stewardship agreement between MN and USGS
  - Successfully demonstrated cross reference of Kittle system with NHD
  - Fostered development and sharing of applications:
    - Sponsored 'Using NHD' Sessions at 2005 GIS/LIS conference
    - Sponsored NHD update training May 2006
- Standards
  - Reach/watercourse standard approved by Council and forwarded to OET
  - Final watershed standard presented to Council for approval
- Watersheds
  - DNR continuing delineation/aggregation procedures consistent with Federal guidelines
    - 35 MN Hydrologic Units completed and distributable; 24 near completion
  - Delivered DNR data for federal review and determination of WBD compliance

# Hydrography

- Complete definition of *Events* (formerly known as *hydrologic point of interest*) framework element
- Develop implementation plan for use and maintenance of the framework (EPA Grant)
  - o Clearly define roles and responsibilities
  - o Focus on data access and maintenance (MnRAD)
  - o Encourage data enhancements and updates
  - o Foster development and sharing of applications and tools
- FGDC Compliance of MN Watershed Boundaries
- Promote wetlands mapping and maintenance strategy

### Land Records Committee

**Purpose:** Work to research and develop support for statewide Land Records Modernization for local governments.

**Chair:** 

Charles Kost, Southwest Minnesota State University 507-537-6371

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### Land Records Committee

- Developing a document of the uses and benefits of digital parcel data in Minnesota county governments as an educational and promotional tool.
- Started to locate links for the content of a guide developed to assist counties create and maintain a digital cadastral layer. The final guide will be a webbased application.
- Assisted in the planning for the formation of a Minnesota County GIS Association

## Land Records Committee

- Complete and distribute the document of the uses and benefits of digital parcel data in Minnesota county governments.
- Make the guide to assist counties create and maintain a digital cadastral layer available on the web.
- Begin developing a process for the aggregation of existing county parcel data into a statewide dataset.

**Purpose:** Works to connect the Council with its constituencies and to publicize its work to the broader community.

**Chair:** 

Larry Charboneau, The Lawrence Group 612-676-3950

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- Updated website
  - Appearance and attractiveness
  - Operating Policies and Accomplishments
- Published 14 articles in GIS/LIS News
- Held outstate meeting in Grand Rapids; all but one local meeting available via videoconference
- Maintained Communication Plan
- Prepared 1-page overview of Strategic Plans: organization, technology, and data

### Accomplishments (continued):

- Published articles in *MN Surveyor* and *MNCITLA News*
- Conferences/Forums
  - 2 panels and 6 papers at GIS/LIS conference
  - Session at 24th Annual MN Government IT Symposium
  - Cosponsor June 1 Futures Forum with MetroGIS
- Facilitated Governor's Commendation for MapServer
- Created Brochure design
- Drafted Annual Report to the Governor

- Finish website update
  - FAQs
- Complete and print new *Brochure*
- Participate in 2006 AMC Conference
- Discuss Speaker's Bureau with Consortium
- Write GIS/LIS News articles
- Respond to Council & Committee needs
- Draft Annual Report

**Purpose:** Guides development of a strategic plan to support the common needs of Minnesota organizations that use geospatial technology to meet their business goals.

Chair: David Arbeit, Office of Geographic and Demographic Analysis 651-201-2460 david.arbeit@state.mn.us

**Co-Chair:** Fred Logman, Land Management Information Center 651-201-2495

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- Sponsored GIS/LIS conference session to discuss MSDI Strategic Plan and state's Drive to Excellence initiative.
- Developed Web shared services survey for summer 2006.
- Received FGDC grant to address organizational and operational issues of state geospatial strategy.
- Began discussions with Office of Enterprise Technology (OET) and State CIO about state geospatial functions.
- Guided continued development of MSDI data plans.
- Maintained relationships with national programs that support the National Spatial Data Infrastructure.

- Work with OET to integrate geospatial technology with state's enterprise technology environment.
- Conduct shared services survey, review results and identify opportunities for increased collaboration.
- Recommend functions, organization and funding for a state geospatial authority.
- Guide strategic implementation of an enterprise technical architecture for GIS.

- Monitor Minnesota's data and infrastructure needs and make strategic recommendations to address them.
- Maintain relationships with programs that support the NSDI.
- Complete second generation strategic plan for the MSDI.
- Sponsor geospatial strategic plan sessions at MN GIS/LIS Consortium and MN Government IT conferences.