



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICE

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To: All Department Heads
Auditor-Controller

From: Jon W. Fullinwider
Chief Information Officer

Subject: **ENTERPRISE GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS) MEETING**

What is GIS

GIS leverages existing investments in Information Technology (IT) by adding a spatial component, linking information (what things are) to geography (where things are). Geography connects different types of data by their location, and provides tools to analyze, visualize, and understand the connections. In short, it is a strategic resource for decision making that transforms data into knowledge.

Background

In 2001, the Chief Information Office commissioned a "Countywide GIS Assessment Study" which was delivered in January 2002. This assessment reported that:

- All county departments have an interest in GIS;
- Access to data is the single biggest issue facing departments;
- Creating and maintaining a GIS environment and access to good technical resources are other issues that inhibit departments from using GIS;
- Access to data, technical resources and a GIS ready environment could significantly boost productivity within over 75% of the departments.

Recommendations

The Assessment Study recommended the implementation of an enterprise GIS system to establish formal sharing of GIS data and assets throughout the county.

The CIO has acted upon the first recommendation of the assessment and hired Mark Greninger as the Chief Geographic Information Officer (CGIO), who will be responsible for implementing the Assessment Study recommendations.

Enterprise GIS Steering Committee

The next step is to establish an Enterprise GIS Steering Committee, chaired by the CGIO, which will oversee the development of GIS as a ubiquitous county resource.

The kick-off meeting for the Steering Committee will be:

Wednesday, December 13th

9:30 am

Public Works Headquarters, Meeting Room A

This meeting will:

- Introduce the new CGIO;
- Review the 2002 "Countywide GIS Assessment Study" ;
- Discuss the current status of GIS in the County;
- Discuss GIS governance, including:
 - Writing a charter and goals for the Committee; and
 - Developing roles and responsibilities.

Departments who are using or have an interest in using GIS as a tool are asked to designate a representative for the Steering Committee.

The audience for this meeting is department IT Managers, CIOs, and/or their designated representatives, and whose.

Future Meetings

The Enterprise GIS Steering Committee will meet monthly to direct, monitor, and ensure the success of GIS use in the county.

If your have any questions, please contact me at (213) 974-2008 or Mark Greninger, CGIO, at (213) 974-2154.

Sincerely,

JON W. FULLINWIDER
Chief Information Officer

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