

Notes of the EGIS Steering Committee Meeting

Tuesday, July 17th, 2007

Public Works

Conference Room A

900 South Fremont Avenue

Alhambra, CA 91803

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM
- 2) The committee needs to review the chart of data layers. There are many layers available, with some containing similar types of data. Where possible, data layers need to be consolidated. We also need to evaluate maintenance of the layers, establishing who is responsible for maintaining each layer. There is a need for a discussion between departments regarding the use of existing data layers and the need for new data layers to support GIS objectives. The committee wants to encourage collaboration.
- 3) Mark Greninger indicated that due to Goal 9 of the Strategic Plan, the EGIS Steering Committee will be reporting to the new IT Governance Committee. Jon Fullenwider, of the CIO, is developing a funding model for the EGIS Steering Committee.
- 4) Mark Greninger opened a discussion regarding web services features provided by the new ArcGIS server. As detailed at the ESRI Conference, hundreds of web services will be implemented in the new server software. These web services can easily be implemented in various development environments such as WebSphere, Cold Fusion MX, ASP.net, etc. A central UDDI directory of web services for use by all departments could be developed to provide access to the GIS web services as well as other web services available from the departments. DPSS has been asked to look into implementing a UDDI directory for the GIS committee.
- 5) David Kwan, from Public Health, has been asked to establish a system to allow cooperation between departments for obtaining GIS training. He is working with Public Works and other departments who regularly schedule or offer GIS training. He has asked other departments to estimate their annual need for GIS training. He tentatively plans to have a proposal by the September meeting.

ESRI currently supports classes of 12 individuals and allow up to 3 auditors who do not receive class materials. There is a one day general GIS information class available and a new three day Beginning GIS for Managers class.
- 6) Nick Franchino, of Regional Planning, is responsible for our GIS web site. He was not available to provide an update on the site development. The current site at gis.lacounty.gov is available to the public on the Internet, but we need an intranet based site as well. A new page is needed to post the training information that David Kwan is working on, including a chart of upcoming classes. We would also like to publish a list of URL's for GIS applications used throughout the county.

7) A discussion was started to identify the types of GIS services that are needed. There is an interest in routing services, mostly involving driving directions. Public Works also expressed a need for routing in sewer pipes so that they could anticipate the flow of water through the system when there is a leak. These types of capabilities may be provided by Arc Logistics Routing services.

In addition to the data layers chart, a new chart is needed to list available and needed services. There is one service currently available that provides a web service function for geocoding an address. The UDDI server would provide a repository of available GIS Web Services. The Geosync tool is another GIS service, soon to be available.

8) Mark Grenninger indicated that he was working with ISD and IBM on the new WebSphere portal. GIS services are expected to be available from the LA County Portal home page.

9) The CIO is also working on interagency collaboration to include cities, counties, state and federal agencies. There may be a possibility of obtaining a grant from Homeland Security so that we can update our data layers with the provision that we would then provide the enhanced data back to Homeland Security. Mark Grenninger asked for assistance in grant writing.

10) A demo of the Geosync tool was provided. The tool can geocode large numbers of addresses, connecting to any ODBC accessible database. Geocoding with the tool will create/update that layer in the central GIS data layer repository. Tasks can be created, saved on the system and even scheduled for automated data updates. A demonstration of updates taking place every 5 minutes was provided. Committee members can request a user name and password. Based on logon, tasks and data can remain private or be shared with other users. Peter Fonda, of the CAO, has developed new rules that have improved the geocoding service which will be made available soon.

11) Mark Grenninger continues to work on the Geocortex project. He plans to meet with the ITF committee during a special session to obtain funding to move the project forward. Some of the capabilities of the software were highlighted. The software can produce PDF files of the maps it generates. Data layers used by the application must reside in the central repository, but can be password protected as needed with the additional capability to share as desired. Upon request, Mark will provide a user name and password to the evaluation site so that committee members can work with the software until the project is fully implemented.

12) Miscellaneous items brought up included a desire for the committee to host some sort of event in November during the "GIS Days". Also, more discussion is needed regarding establishing GIS specific job items.

13) The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.