

## APPENDIX 4

# *MetroGIS*

Cooperation, Coordination, Sharing Geographic Data



**TO:** Strategic Directions Workshop Participants  
**FROM:** MetroGIS “Beyond Government Users” Workgroup  
**SUBJECT:** Beyond Government Users – Partnering Opportunities  
**DATE:** January 18, 2007

### **INTRODUCTION**

Five prospective public-private partnership opportunities are explained herein. These opportunities were identified by the MetroGIS Beyond Government Users Workgroup to means to effectively address common geospatial needs.

The Workgroup respectfully requests that these five opportunities be considered as “Potential New Activities” at the MetroGIS Strategic Directions Workshop on February 8, 2007.

### **PROSPECTIVE PARTNERING OPPORTUNITIES**

The five suggested public-private partnering opportunities are as follows:

- *Foster Statewide Adoption Of Principles that Underpin MetroGIS.*
- *Foster an Open Source Data Model*
- *Implement ApplicationFinder Concept (In progress - pilot project funded December 2006)*
- *Foster a Marketplace For Geospatial Resources*
- *Expand Policy Board Membership To Include Non-Government Interests*

Refer to Attachment A for a brief “opportunity statement” for each of these proposals and to the Reference Section for a summary of the process through which the subject proposals were developed.

### **PARTICIPANTS - BEYOND GOVERNMENT USERS WORKGROUP**

The following individuals participated on the workgroup that developed the subject proposal. Each also participated in the November 2005 “Beyond Government Users” Forum at which the source ideas were identified (see Reference Section for more information about the Forum):

- John Carpenter, Excensus Ltd
- Will Craig, Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, U of M (*MetroGIS Coordinating Committee*)
- Jason Johnson, Welsh Companies
- Sally Wakefield, 1000 Friends of Minnesota (*MetroGIS Coordinating Committee*)

### **METROGIS POLICY BOARD DIRECTION**

At the January 17, 2007 Policy Board meeting, the subject partnering opportunities were shared with the Policy Board to give the members a chance to identify any additional information desired before the community considers to the proposals at the Strategic Directions Workshop. Board members agreed that it would be helpful to know the extent to which counties are currently relying on revenues gained from cost recovery of parcel data development costs. Board members also agreed that it may be time for the Policy Board to revisit philosophy concerning cost recovery. Specifically, the notion was offered that the tax payer might benefit more from value added to the data and economic development resulting from use of the data if the data were more widely available.

Refer to the Reference Section for guidelines adopted by the Board at its January 2006 for pursuit of public-private partnering proposals.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the participants of the Strategic Directions Workshop Policy Board identify the five partnering opportunities identifying herein as priorities for MetroGIS to pursue.

## REFERENCE SECTION

### PREVIOUS METROGIS POLICY BOARD DIRECTION

- 1) April 2005: The Policy Board recognized a need to explore the potential of collaborating with non-profit and for-profit interests to achieve needs common with the government community. In response, MetroGIS hosted a forum in November 2005 entitled “*Beyond Government Users: Future Directions for MetroGIS*”. (See [http://www.metrogis.org/teams/pb/meetings/06\\_0118/forum\\_summary.pdf](http://www.metrogis.org/teams/pb/meetings/06_0118/forum_summary.pdf) for a summary of the forum – who participated and the range of ideas identified.)
- 2) January 2006: The Board adopted the following principles to guide consideration of prospective public-private partnering proposals. Each of the subject proposals has been developed in accordance with these principles.
  - Value added to public sector assets from non-public sources is encouraged provided it does not detract from the public sector objective.
  - Contribution of assets to a collaborative solution assumes all parties view the transaction as equitable and relevant to their needs.
  - Contributions can be comprised of funds, data, equipment and/or people.
  - Equity is defined on an organization-by-organization basis and exists if the collaborative solution is more efficient than pursuing the solution on one's own.

### **Beyond Government Users Initiative - Defining Collaborative Partnering Opportunities**

MetroGIS hosted the “Beyond Government Users” forum and follow-up workgroup efforts as a component of preparing for MetroGIS Strategic Directions Workshop scheduled for February 8, 2007.

- 1) Phase I: On November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005 MetroGIS hosted the “Beyond Government Users: Future Directions for MetroGIS”. The Policy Board asked for this type of forum to be hosted at its April 2005 meeting.

The Forum summary report can be viewed at

[http://www.metrogis.org/teams/pb/meetings/06\\_0118/forum\\_summary.pdf](http://www.metrogis.org/teams/pb/meetings/06_0118/forum_summary.pdf). Twenty-nine individuals attended, representing 27 for-profit and 2 non-profit interests. The attendees concluded that collaborative opportunities with government interests should be investigated in three topical areas:

- How can we work together to reduce costs?
- What innovations can we work together to develop?
- How can we promote a statewide GIS cooperative effort?

Forty-five candidate ideas were identified for consideration within these three topical areas.

- 2) Phase II: A Workgroup comprised of several individuals who attended the November 15, 2006 workshop met three times in August and September 2006 to mature ideas identified at the forum the forum. The group focused its efforts on five opportunity themes and developed detailed proposals for two of the five themes in accordance with the following principles established by the Policy Board at its January 2006 meeting to govern prospective partnerships with non-government interests (see the Prior Policy Board Consideration section).