

**MetroGIS**  
**RESOLUTION OF ENDORSEMENT**

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for public and private sector organizations to minimize duplication of effort and to implement technology which improves organizational efficiency and which minimizes the costs of carrying out their missions.

WHEREAS, Geographic Information System technology (hereafter referred to as "GIS") is a tool that all government organizations can utilize to improve organizational efficiency and to minimize costs regarding management, query, analysis, and dissemination of geographically-referenced data. (Refer to Exhibit A for a definition of terms.)

WHEREAS, sharing of geographically-referenced data among governmental organizations that serve the Metro Area would result in a number of intangible benefits that can not be accurately measured in dollars but nevertheless pay dividends for participation. These intangible benefits of participation in a multi-participant Metro Wide GIS include:

- 1) Improved cost-efficiency through reduced redundancy in data development and maintenance and through cost-sharing opportunities,
- 2) Improved decision making support and improved methods of analysis and presentation,
- 3) Access to data from other jurisdictions in a compatible format for analysis and query,
- 4) Improved communication with the public,
- 5) Improved management and retrieval of data,
- 6) Enhanced revenue opportunities from private sector for data consistent from county to county throughout the region,
- 7) Enhanced academic research capability,
- 8) Stronger bargaining position with vendors for purchases and support.

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Council and the Minnesota Land Management Information Center (LMIC) co-hosted two GIS Forums on October 23 and 26, 1995, at which the concept of a Metro-Wide GIS (hereafter referred to as MetroGIS) and the Metropolitan Council's offer to facilitate its development were presented for discussion.

WHEREAS, over 150 persons, representing 88 different organizations (including all levels of government and some private sector interests), attended said GIS Forums and expressed strong support for: 1) the concept of developing a MetroGIS and 2) the Metropolitan Council's proposed role as project facilitator.

WHEREAS, a team of persons representing: 1) all governmental organizations and selected private sector interests serving the Metro Area and 2) diverse professional expertise was assembled in December 1995 to develop a shared vision for the MetroGIS initiative.

Resolution of Endorsement

Page 2

WHEREAS, said team of persons has come to be known as the MetroGIS Coordinating Committee.

WHEREAS, \_\_\_\_\_ County/Organization is represented on the MetroGIS Coordinating Committee by \_\_\_\_\_.

WHEREAS, the MetroGIS Coordinating Committee unanimously approved a Statement of Intent and a Decision Support Structure for the MetroGIS initiative that are attached as Exhibits B and C, respectfully.

WHEREAS, said Statement of Intent and said Decision Support Structure are the foundation philosophies from which MetroGIS is to evolve.

WHEREAS, an underlining principle of the MetroGIS Decision Support Structure is that participation in the decision making and eventual data sharing agreements by each of the seven Metro Area counties and the Metropolitan Council is essential to the creation and operation of a regional GIS, as described in the MetroGIS Statement of Intent.

WHEREAS, the MetroGIS Decision Support Structure recognizes the importance of cities, school districts, and watershed districts to be effectively represented in the decision making to move said regional GIS from concept to reality.

WHEREAS, the MetroGIS Coordinating Committee is hereby respectfully requesting \_\_\_\_\_ County/Organization to approve said Statement of Intent and Decision Support Structure, appoint a representative to the MetroGIS Policy Board, and affirm its representative to the MetroGIS Coordinating Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the \_\_\_\_\_ County/Organizations Board hereby concurs with and approves said Statement of Intent and with the Decision Support Structure for the MetroGIS as approved by the MetroGIS Coordinating Committee and as attached in Exhibits B and C.

AND NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the \_\_\_\_\_ County/Organization Board hereby appoints Commissioner/Boardmember \_\_\_\_\_ to represent its interests on the *MetroGIS Policy Board*.

AND NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the \_\_\_\_\_ County/Organization Board hereby affirms/appoints \_\_\_\_\_ to represent its interests on the *MetroGIS Coordinating Committee*.

Approved by the \_\_\_\_\_ County/Organization Board on \_\_\_\_\_, 1996.



# **EXHIBIT A**

## **Definition of Terms.**

- 1) Geographic Information System (GIS) means a computer-based technology that consists of hardware, software, data, and personnel designed to efficiently capture, store, update, analyze, and display all forms of geographically-referenced electronic information.
- 2) Geographically-referenced electronic data exist in three forms: graphic (parcel boundaries, street centerlines, planimetric [data captured from aerial imagery such as building foot prints, curb lines, and contour elevations]; non-graphic (tabular records that can be associated with graphic data-typical); and digital imagery.
- 3) The term “MetroGIS” refers to a stakeholder-governed entity that is in the process of being defined. Definition of this entity is intended to evolve through the implementation of the MetroGIS Decision Support Structure and as the participants come to understand the organizational and data needs of the other stakeholders.

## **EXHIBIT B**

### **Statement of Intent for a Regional GIS (*MetroGIS*)**

(On March 22, 1996, the MetroGIS Coordinating Team unanimously endorsed the following statement to guide the creation and operation of the MetroGIS.)

“Provide an ongoing, stakeholder-governed, metro-wide mechanism through which participants easily and equitably share geographically-referenced graphic and associated attribute data that are accurate, current, secure, of common benefit, and readily usable.

The desired outcomes of a regional GIS include:

- < Improve the effectiveness, equitability, responsiveness, and efficiency of participant operations.
- < Improve understanding of the dynamics of the seven county Metro Area and cooperatively chart courses to improve the quality of life and competitiveness for economic development.
- < Reduce the cost of data acquisition, management, and maintenance.
- < Increase credibility of data utilized in cross-jurisdictional decision making; minimize data redundancy.”

# **EXHIBIT C**

## **MetroGIS Decision Support Structure**