

**MetroGIS Emergency Preparedness Workgroup
Steering Committee Meeting
December 17, 2004
1:30 - 4:30 pm
Room 310, Dakota County Northern Service Center**

Attendees: Randy Knippel, Tim Zimmerman, Keith Anderson, Rick Gelbmann, Gordon Chinander, and Carla Coates.

General discussion notes:

The EPW discussed the how the data refinement process is coming along. So far, we've had good responses from the various counties. Details continue to be worked out as we go through the process.

MDH has submitted a request for Mass Dispensing/Triage site identification data development and analysis. It was decided that Dakota County will be the custodian of the data. GIS contacts and Public Health contacts will be notified of the project, however, it will be up to each individual county to determine who within their organization will complete their portion of the analysis. Common format and symbology will be decided upon for consistency across the metro area.

The fact that federal and state governments spend a lot of money developing and collecting data that is often readily available (and more accurate) from local sources. There is a need for more coordination amongst the various levels of government. Ideally, Minnesota should have a GIO (Geographic Information Officer).

The Governors Council on Geographic Information Emergency Preparedness Committee is working to contact people to encourage them to sign up on the GIS Contacts Web Page.

Regarding Kim Ketterhagen's monthly newsletter, Carla has lined up people to write articles for inclusion in the newsletter from now through May 2005. Topics will include the use of GIS in a county's dispatch office, Gordon Chinander's new role at the Metro911 Board, and the activities of the Governor's Council on Geographic Information's Emergency Preparedness Committee.

The EPW is planning to host a workshop on emergency management for GIS people. Speakers from the emergency management community (such as MDH, fire, police, duty officer, dispatch etc) will be invited to speak about their roles in emergency management and public safety. The idea is for GIS people to learn about emergency management. This workshop will also provide a venue for building relationships between GIS and emergency management.

The suggestion was made that the GCGIEPC discuss mutual aid agreements and how GIS might be able to be tacked on to existing statewide agreements.

The next MetroGIS EPW meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 12th from 2:00-4:00pm. Location TBD.