



## **MetroGIS Endorsed Regional Geospatial Applications**

### **Introduction**

MetroGIS has endorsed four Internet-based geospatial applications in addition to the general information website at [www.metrogis.org](http://www.metrogis.org). Three of them facilitate data discovery and access and the fourth provides the user with functionality to use geospatial data to accomplish a specific business need.

Until 2002, MetroGIS's central focus was identifying common information needs of its stakeholder community and facilitating long-term support of regional solutions to meet those common information needs. In 2002, during preparation of MetroGIS's 2003-2005 Business Plan, MetroGIS's leadership recognized that effectively addressing a common information need often requires more than just access to data. As such, a priority objective was established to investigate collaborative opportunities related to applications that run on endorsed regional data solutions.

### **Operational Regional Geospatial Applications**

#### **Data Discovery and Access**

- **MetroGIS DataFinder** ([www.datafinder.org](http://www.datafinder.org))

Overview – See the following page.

- **MetroGIS Socioeconomic Web Resources Page**  
([www.datafinder.org/mg/socioeconomic\\_resources/index.asp](http://www.datafinder.org/mg/socioeconomic_resources/index.asp))

Overview – This application is organized around the concept of priority socioeconomic information needs that are organized into the following general categories: crime, demographics, employment locations, housing, K-12 school data, location of services, and transportation issues. Data sources that meet the following general specifications are identified: sub-city resolution, annual updates, and 10-year or longer times series.

- **Emergency Preparedness Website**

Overview – This application is currently designed to educate emergency managers on the value of GIS technology to addressing their data and analysis related needs pertaining to disaster planning, response, and recovery. Access is password-protected. A brochure that provides additional information can be viewed at [http://www.metrogis.org/data/info\\_needs/emergency\\_prep/epbro05.pdf](http://www.metrogis.org/data/info_needs/emergency_prep/epbro05.pdf).

#### **Use for a Specified Business Need**

- **MetroGIS Mailing Label Application** ([www.datafinder.org/labels/login.asp](http://www.datafinder.org/labels/login.asp))

Overview – This application produces labels from the MetroGIS regional parcel and related parcel point datasets. Access is limited to government and academic organizations that are licensed to access the Regional Parcel Dataset. For information on obtaining the required license, see <http://www.metrogis.org/data/datasets/parcels/public/index.shtml>. Three types of addresses are supported – property (situs), property owner, and taxpayer.

The application is particularly useful for people who want to make sets of mailing labels that cross jurisdictional boundaries, especially county boundaries. Users can import mailing label data for use in a local application, or create standard preformatted sheets of mailing labels in a PDF file directly from the MetroGIS application, which can then be printed locally.

The user is guided through an easy step-by-step process. They may search for and select parcels by address or PIN (parcel identification number). The application also includes an option to create a buffer, designated by the user in feet or meters, around a selected parcel. All parcels within the buffer area become part of the label set. The user may also delete any parcels not desired from the buffer area.