

MetroGIS Data Access Advisory Team

Cooperation, Coordination, Sharing Geographic Data



Meeting Summary

Data Access Advisory Team

November 19, 1997

1. Call to Order

Jim Sydow called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. The meeting was held at Metropolitan Council.

Members Present: Chris Cialek, LMIC; Lt. Gary Gary, Ramsey County Sheriff Department; *Rick Gelbmann, Metropolitan Council; Jim Sydow, TIES;* Jan Vanderwall, Roseville Area Schools (ISD 623)

Members Absent: *David Arbeit*, LMIC and Chair of the MetroGIS Coordinating Committee; Tom Bisch, Heritage Development; Gina Buss, BRW Inc.; Pat Cook, North Suburban Cable Commission; Ben Ferguson, Coon Rapids; Lisa Freese, Eagan; Allen Hoffman, Anoka County; Carol Kaszynski, Richfield; Susanne Maeder, LMIC; Mark Steward, Resource Strategies; Tim Morehead; Ben Verbick, LOGIS;

Support Staff: Tanya Mayer

2. Acceptance of the Agenda

The agenda was accepted by consensus.

3. December Meeting Summary

The May 8, 1997 meeting summary was accepted by consensus.

4. MetroGIS Updates

a) Coordinating Committee Meeting Summary

Gelbmann explained that the last Coordinating Committee focused on Content Team action items, including the municipal boundaries work group and the new address work group. Gelbmann also gave a brief update about The Lawrence Group (TLG) centerline data set, its availability and licensing requirements. Jan Vanderwall suggested that school districts need to be more involved to make the address information on TLG more accurate. Jim Sydow stated that there is a real need for a correspondence table of 1990 Census tract and block to TLG addresses, so that participants who use address coded information can generalize to a larger unit.

Lt. Gary talked about a lot of the problems with addressing, especially with Ramsey County. He cited the differences city by city and the 911 standard, problems with directional indicators, and problems with multiple occupancy at 1 address (like trailer home parks). He suggested that there needs to be one format for government agencies. Jan Vanderwall recommended that time be spent on figuring out a way to use the data the way it is rather than recommending one standard. Chris Cialek noted that there seems to be two issues about addresses: 1) what the scheme looks like and 2) how do you encode what you have. The latter being what the standards committee has focused on. Jan Vanderwall recommended that the Post Office be involved with the addressing standards working group.

b) MN Governor's Council

Chris Cialek handed out the MN Governor's Council on Geographic Information Data Clearinghouse Committee new publication titled "Laying the Foundation for a Geographic Data Clearinghouse". The Governor's Council Annual Report is also available from LMIC, (612) 296-1211.

5. WEB Index Update

Tanya Mayer and Rick Gelbmann updated the team on the status of the MetroGIS Web Index project. Rick briefly described the scope of work contained in the contract. Rick Gelbmann highlighted that the Web Index will be a tool to find MetroGIS geographic data sets, a search tool for information about data with the option to link to data, but not a tool to integrate data or be a repository for data transfer. Chris Cialek pointed out that each participant decides how distribution is done and that is reflected in the metadata record. Chris Cialek gave a brief update on the MN NSDI Clearinghouse node and recommended the team review the site at: <http://www.fgdc.gov/GEOgateway.html>. Chris talked about the template for metadata and the software tool for entering metadata (DataLogr), which will be released in January, 1998. This is the metadata template and the tool that the Web Index developers are using and recommending so that the Web Index maintains compatibility with the Federal NSDI Clearinghouse and the MN Governor's Council Clearinghouse node.

The Access Team discussed it's future role with the MetroGIS Web Index and other items. They plan to review and react to a presentation from staff. They want to meet to review any concrete products and prototypes as they become available. They are interested in a summary of the scope of services before the next meeting, and possibly a one-page status graphic on the MetroGIS Web Index project.

Rick Gelbmann handed out a list of summarized business questions developed by the Content Team. The staff worked with this document to develop a list of themes to be used in indexing metadata records on the Web Index.

6. Next Meeting

None scheduled. The recommendation was made to meet when there is something to review and react to or when a concrete product becomes available. Rick suggested a meeting before the Web Index consensus building session(s) for Team input. Jim Sydow and others offered a computer lab for the consensus building sessions.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Prepared by,

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