

Meeting Summary
MetroGIS Policy Board
Metropolitan Counties Government Center
2099 University Avenue, St. Paul
October 20, 2010

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Schneider called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Members Present: Terry Schneider (Metro Cities - City of Minnetonka), Jim Kordiak (Anoka County), Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County), Jim Bunning for Joseph Wagner (Scott County), Gary Swenson for Randy Johnson (Hennepin County), Molly O'Rourke for Dennis Hegberg (Washington County), Roger Lake (Metro Watershed Districts), Randy Knippel for Tom Egan (Dakota County),

Members Absent: Steve Elkins (Metro Cities – City of Bloomington), Dan Cook (School Districts - TIES), Randy Maluchnik (Carver County), Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) and Tony Pistilli (Metropolitan Council).

Coordinating Committee Members Present: Sally Wakefield, Nancy Read, Jim Bunning, Peter Henschel, Randy Knippel, Rick Gelbmann, and Mark Vander Schaaf

Support Team: Randall Johnson

Visitors: Dave Hinrichs (Metropolitan Council) and Dave DiSera (EMA and GITA)

2. ACCEPT AGENDA

Member O'Rourke moved and Member Kordiak seconded to approve the agenda, adding a new Item 5a – HUD Grant – Transitway Planning. Motion carried, ayes all.

3. MEETING SUMMARY

Member O'Rourke moved and Member Kordiak seconded to approve the July 21, 2010 meeting summary, as submitted. Motion carried, ayes all.

4. GIS TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION

Randy Knippel, GIS Manager for Dakota County, presented the topic entitled "*Emergency response maps consistent across jurisdictions, based on U.S. National Grid*". He noted that a request from fire chiefs for standardized of city "fire map" books across the communities that serve Dakota County was the impetus for his office to explore and eventually implement the US National Grid as a means to accomplish the request for standardized maps. Knippel cited the benefits of using this solution, which included: consistent means across jurisdictions to locate places, quicker response by GIS professionals when these standardized mapping products are in place, reduced cost for templates, software and hardware, integration into standard training protocol resulting in improved confidence in using the maps and in turn quicker response.

Knippel explained that the state (MnGeo) has produced 10 kilometer maps for the entire state and that 22 communities in the twin Cities (all Dakota County communities and some LOGIS members) have created 1 kilometer maps for their communities. He encouraged the Policy Board to ask the Coordinating Committee to offer a strategy for encouraging the development of 1 kilometer maps for the other cities that serve the Twin Cities. [Click here](#) to view Knippel's presentation slides.

Chairperson Schneider asked if the US Grid can be cross referenced to other established grids such as that used with USGS topos, and Township and Range/Public Land Survey. Knippel explained that these standards are not interoperable across the county and beyond which the case for the US National Grid making it the best option to serve as cartographic display standard. Chairperson Schneider questioned whether MetroGIS was the most effective option to promote use of the US National Grid. After a short

discussion, noting to get attention of the local community leaders, the suggested outreach strategy should include a means to demonstrate that the Emergency Management community understands the value.

Action: The Board accepted Knippel's suggestion to ask that the Coordinating Committee develop a suggested strategy for the Board's consideration to promote use of the US National Grid cartographic mapping standard by the communities that serve the Twin Cities.

5. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

a) **HUD Grant – Transitway Planning**

Mark Vander Schaaf, Metropolitan Council Director of Planning and Growth Management, announced that earlier in the week, a broad consortium of government non-profit and foundations serving this regions region had been awarded a \$5 million grant for transitway planning. \$200,000 of these funds is budgeted for visualization tools for which geospatial technology will be critical component. The deliverable will be a series of implementation plans for five transit corridors. Vander Schaaf commented that governance lessons learned via MetroGIS's operation of a virtual organization will be useable to managing the collaboration that will govern this project.

b) **GECCo Event – Letter of Support**

Staff Coordinator Johnson introduced the topic by noting that he had learned about the GECCo (Geographically Enabling Community Collaboration) initiative in conversation with Dave DiSera while they were attending an NGAC meeting this past March. Johnson stated that he believes that MetroGIS cost-hosting a GECCo initiative would be a cost effective way to act on the Policy Board's priority to seek out public-private partnerships to address shared information needs and, as such, encouraged presentation of the initiative to MetroGIS leadership.

Dave DiSera, representing GITA (Geographic Information Technology Association), the creators of the GECCo imitative explained its genesis – need to get public and private sectors to understand interdependencies and catalyze working better together to protect critical infrastructure following 9/11, provided examples of outcomes accomplished via the six GECCo events held to date, and explained anticipated outcomes for a Twin Cities GECCo, including broadly engaging policy makers which has not occurred in the previous events. See the [presentation slides](#) for more information.

Chairperson Schneider commented that MetroGIS cannot accomplish its goal of catalyzing public – private partnerships by itself and that the investment and effort to host a GECCo event would be a good way to make progress to better frame the issues and foster open dialogue needed to effectively act on those needs.

Motion: Alt. Member Bunning moved and Member Kordiak seconded to that the Policy Board authorize:

- 1) A contribution of up to \$3,000 in the 2011 to co-sponsor a GECCo event in the Twin Cities contingent upon all other financing required for a successful event to be obligated.
- 2) Chairperson Schneider to sign the Letter of Support provided in the agenda report to host a GECCo event in the Twin Cities.

Motion carried, ayes all.

b) **2010 Accomplishments**

Staff Coordinator Johnson summarized the accomplishments thus far in 2011 as presented in the in the agenda report, noting that this information was provided as context for setting the 2011 workplan. There were no questions.

c) 2011 Program Objectives

Staff Coordinator Johnson summarized a preliminary proposal by the Coordinating Committee for a 2011 Work plan and associated budget as presented in the agenda report. No refinements were offered.

Chairman Schneider commented that there remains a need to broaden financial support for MetroGIS's efforts beyond the Metropolitan Council. To this comment, the Staff Coordinator responded that demonstration of value is a key to broadening financial support and that understanding value creation potential is a core objective of three current initiatives – Quantify Public Value Study, Next Generation Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study to Explore a New Collaboration Model for maintaining street centerline data.

No modifications were offered, other than it was noted that the work plan should be modified to include development of an outreach/advocacy strategy to foster broader use of the US National Grid among organizations serving the Twin City metropolitan area as agreed earlier in the meeting.

d) Refine Coordinating Committee E-Vote Process

Due to lack of time, this item was postponed to the January meeting.

e) Set 2011 Meeting Schedule

Chairperson Schneider asked if any of the members had a problem with any of the dates offered in the agenda report for the 2011 meeting (January 19, April 20, July 20, and October 19). No objections were offered. After limited discussion, the current 6:00 p.m. start time was also retained.

6. INFORMATION SHARING

No information was offered.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Policy Board is scheduled for Wednesday, January 19, 2011.

8. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Motion carried, ayes all.

Prepared by:
Randall Johnson, MetroGIS Staff Coordinator