

Meeting Summary
MetroGIS Technical Advisory Team
Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust Building, St. Paul, MN
1:30-3:30 PM, Room 205
March 8, 2007

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mark Kotz called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

Members Present: Bob Basques (City of St. Paul), Mark Basten (City of St. Paul), Gordon Chinander (Metropolitan Emergency Services Board), Rick Gelbmann (Metropolitan Council), Joshua Gumm (Scott County), Peter Henschel (Carver County), Brad Henry (URS, Inc.), Eero Kilkson (City of Minneapolis), Fred Logman (LOGIS), Todd Losk (Dakota County), Doug Matzek (Washington County), Jim Maxwell (The Lawrence Group), Bob Moulder (Hennepin County), Jim Murphy (City of Minneapolis), Nancy Read (Metropolitan Mosquito Control District), Brad Roman (Hennepin County), Charlie Teff (Anoka County), Rick Gelbmann (Metropolitan Council), Pericles Nacionales (University of Minnesota).

Visitors: Jessica Deegan, Alison Slaats, and Matt McGuire (Metropolitan Council).

Support Staff: Mark Kotz, Randall Johnson, and Chris Kline.

2. ACCEPT AGENDA

The agenda was accepted.

3. ACCEPT MEETING SUMMARY

The summary of the November 16, 2006 meeting was accepted, as submitted.

4. ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION OR DISCUSSION

a) MetroGIS Strategic Directions Workshop Summary

Johnson introduced the topic, explaining that the Strategic Directions Workshop was a day-long retreat on February 8, 2007 to gather information and ideas regarding the future of MetroGIS. The outcome of the Workshop, as analyzed so far, has indicated seven focus areas: Support/Develop Applications, Expand/Diversify Stakeholders, Improve Marketing/Advocacy, Develop/Refine Regional Data Needs, Advancing Infrastructure, and Provide a Forum for Knowledge Sharing. He continued, requesting that persons interested in participating in workgroups focusing on the infrastructure and forum aspects contact him.

A general discussion on the definition of infrastructure and its meaning to MetroGIS and the GIS community ensued, but no definite concept was agreed upon. Johnson then called for volunteers for a workgroup to establish the criteria.

b) MetroGIS Geocoding Services Discussion

Kotz introduced the topic and provided a background regarding web services, stating that the general consensus is that a geocoding service would be valuable to the MetroGIS community and a logical focus for MetroGIS. Maxwell informed the team that The Lawrence Group a preliminary plans for a web service in which applications could submit an address to them, and receive X/Y coordinates and the grid cell based off the King's Atlas.

Read suggested that someone contact David Bitner of the Metropolitan Airports Commission and obtain his geocoding source code. Slaats followed up, suggesting that the TAT investigate applicable standards for a geocoding service. Chinander mentioned that the regional 911 center used a standard. Chair Basques stated that standardization would work well and would be an idea for a regional GIS project.

5. PROJECT AND WORKGROUP REPORTS

b) Occupiable Units Editing Application Viability Assessment Update

McGuire introduced the topic, stating that an assessment is being worked on by URS, Inc. Several workshops are being planned for cities to determine if there is a need/want for the application, and what functionality the cities would desire in the application.

b) Service Broker Regional GIS Project Update – Logman introduced the topic, stating that volunteers are needed for the test phases of the project. Kotz requested that volunteers either verbally or electronically inform Logman of their intent. Slaats offered her assistance in testing the project.

6. TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS & DEMONSTRATIONS

a) Hennepin County Multiple Address Project

Brad Roman of Hennepin County introduced the topic and provided a demonstration of the capabilities of the application he has developed.

b) DataFinder RSS

Jessica Deegan and Matt McGuire of the Metropolitan Council demonstrated that new RSS capability has been added to DataFinder. A brief conversation regarding the nature of RSS and how to access it followed.

c) OSGEO Offerings

Pericles Nacionales explained what OSGEO is and how its open source model is highly popular throughout the world.

d) SketchUp Overview

Mark Basten provided overview of the application and its usage in the City of St. Paul. Chair Basques indicated that the entire sewer and water network of St. Paul had been placed in the program.

7. INFORMATION SHARING

No discussion of this item occurred.

8. ADJOURN

Basques adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Prepared by,
Randall Johnson, Mark Kotz, and Chris Kline
MetroGIS Support Staff Team