

MEETING MINUTES

DEKALB COUNTY/CITY OF AUBURN GIS COMMITTEE

Meeting Date and Time:
09-29-99 @ 1:00 p.m.

Meeting Type: Special, Product/Service Presentation

Meeting Location:
Lower Level of County Office Building

Members Present:

DeKalb County:
Damerall, Bruce – Technical Resource Coordinator, Data Processing
Appleman, Chad – Soil and Water Conservation Service
Strong, Mark – County Surveyor
Stump, Brad – Building Commissioner

City of Auburn:
Schweitzer, Chris – GIS/MIS Manager
Bruns, Steve - City Engineer

Others Present:

DeKalb County Deputy Assessor
DeKalb County Assessor
????? USDA, etc (Chad, Please fill in!!!!)

Meeting Minutes By:

Chris Schweitzer with Chad Appleman

Items Discussed

- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Presentation and Discussion - Digital Soils Survey.* The Committee and numerous external agencies met and discussed opportunities for the procurement of a digital soils survey. A presentation was made by the USDA. The presentation included the following poignant items:
 - Purpose.* Together with the United States Geological Society (USGS), the USDA is making available digital soil surveys to all counties in the United States. Digital soil surveys are intended to replace existing hardcopy "soils manuals" with digital spatial and attribute soils data usable in a GIS environment. By bringing the soils data into the realm of GIS, the access, usability, and benefits of soils data is increased immensely, and stands to benefit all users of soils data.
 - Process and Standards.* The USDA is digitizing (digitizing is the process of converting hard copy spatial data into digital format for use in a computer) existing soils surveys as defined and provided by the USDA in and around the early 1980's. The source data (soils sampling) is not being enhanced or altered in any way. However, the USDA is digitizing the soils polygons onto 1:12000 scale, 1 m resolution digital orthophotos quads (DOQ) captured at National Map Accuracy Standard (NMAS). The original soil surveys were gathered at a map scale of 1:15,840 (therefore the data will never be better than at the original accuracy). The photography was taken in the spring of 1998 by Woolpert, LLC (a finalist in our Landbase Conversion project). By referencing the soils polygons to the DOQ, the soils data is now able to be used in any GIS with any geodetically reference data.

The USDA is certifying their data as Assessor Certified, and therefore conforms to the laws of the State of Indiana and can be used in performing Assessor functions. This data is the best data available, and while at not better accuracy than the current soils data, it is in MUCH more usable format.

Metadata (data about the data) is also being provided according to Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) standards. These standards are the same as those adhered to by the City and County GIS Committee.

The USDA has also developed a data viewing application (Soils Explorer) that can be delivered with the soils survey data.
- Indiana GIS Initiative.* The USDA has formed the Indiana GIS Initiative as a GIS knowledge base for Indiana GIS users. Intended to be multi-disciplinary.

Action Items

- Committee to discuss soils conversion options and issues
 - Committee to work on Connectivity Agreement
 - Committee to continue working on Implementation Plan and Cadastral Agreement
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- Committee to work on GIS Day events
- County and City to receive and review final database design from ASI for Landbase Contract

Upcoming Meetings

- October 7, 1999 @ 1:00 in Commissioners Court, Court House
- October 21, 1999 @ 1:00 in Commissioners Court, Court House
- November 4, 1999 @ 1:00 in Commissioner Court, Court House
- November 18, 1999 @ 1:00 in Commissioners Court, Court House
- November 19, 1999 8 am to 4 pm in City Council Chambers and Courthouse – GIS Day Open House