

MEETING MINUTES

COUNTY-CITY GIS COMMITTEE

Meeting Date and Time:
02-17-2000 @ 1:00 p.m.

Meeting Type: Regular, Full Committee

Meeting Location:
Second Floor Conference Room, City Hall

Members Present:
DeKalb County:
Strong, Mark – County Surveyor
Stump, Brad – County GIS Coordinator

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

City of Butler:
Schweitzer, Amy – City Planner

Others Present:

Meeting Minutes By:
Brad Stump

Items Discussed

- Pilot Project.* The group discussed the status of the pilot project review. The features definitions and database design documents were presented along with the changes that have been forwarded to ASI. Chris gave an overview of the data reviewed to date and of the proposed schedule for the remainder of the review. It is intended to have the review completed and sent to ASI by Thursday the 24th and no later than Monday the 28th. The project work plan and current invoicing schedule will be reviewed immediately thereafter and sent ASAP. Because the pilot project does not relate directly to their completion and acceptance, they are of a lower priority. Chris and Brad have been focusing heavily on the pilot review along with a very strong effort on the part of Chad DePew from the City Engineering Department.
- County Connectivity Status.* Chris noted that two county computers are connected to the City's network. Although there is not currently an agreement in place, it was felt that connecting a machine in the County Surveyor's Office and one for the County GIS Coordinator would benefit the City by allowing for shared responsibilities and joint efforts on this project. The complete connectivity agreement will need to be worked out and accepted by all parties before any significant County deployment/connection takes place. Once the pilot review is completed, the connectivity agreement and the cadastral conversion RFQ will be high priorities for completion. Chris also noted that the network switches at the Courthouse and office building had been installed and Brad noted that, to the best of his knowledge, Bruce had nearly all of the internal cabling in place.
- Butler Agreements.* The County and the City of Butler have drafted these agreements based on the existing County – City of Auburn agreements. Amy Schweitzer presented the signature pages from the DeKalb County – City of Butler GIS Memorandum of Understanding and Inter-local Agreement # 1A. The pages will be taken to the County Commissioners for signature at their next regular meeting.
- Additional feature data capture.* The City of Butler desires to acquire some additional planimetric features within their area of interest. They would like to pick up visible surface utilities, sidewalks and building footprints to capture specifications similar to those established for the Auburn area. The County is also interested in acquiring building footprints. After discussions with ASI, it was determined that we could not expect to do the data capture without expensive software and equipment plus a new employee trained in their use. At the Committee's request, ASI provided quotes that indicate a cost of \$58,000± to the County to capture building footprints countywide. This includes repaying one half of the building footprint capture cost for the Auburn area to the City of Auburn since they have already contracted to capture this feature. Should both Butler and Garrett share in the capture of building footprints then the County's cost would be reduced by approximately \$4500. Brad will discuss this with the Commissioners at their next meeting and, based on their recommendation, may take it to the County Council for discussion at the March 6th meeting. Based on the County Council's wishes, ASI will be told how to proceed with data capture in the first deliverable area and, if appropriate, the formal request for funding will be made to the Council at the April 3rd meeting.
- Hard Copy Maps for County Assessor.* Brad and Chris believe they have found a low cost solution to the Assessor's need for new aerial photography. It will be possible to print maps to proper scale on an inkjet plotter, similar to one in the City of Auburn Engineering Department. The existing Mylar parcel overlays can then be replicated and, by mating them with the photo plots, a new aerial book can be created. Brad has discussed having the Sidwell Company supply maps to the County as they have done in the past. Joyce West of Sidwell has talked to Sidwell's photogrammetry department but because of the flight specifications, creation of Sidwell-type photographs from the existing film would not be possible. The proposed approach appears to be both the best and the cheapest option available.

6. *ArcSDE*. Chris explained briefly how ArcInfo 8 uses a geodatabase to store information instead of simply using coverages as was done with previous version of the program. ArcInfo 8 currently allows a single connection to the geodatabase at a time. The ArcSDE program will allow for multiple concurrent connects and also will allow for versioning (multiple editing sessions on the same database and same data). Each seat of ArcInfo currently ships with an SDE connection and purchase of the SDE license will supply five additional connections for use with ArcView, Arc IMS, etc. Additional numbers of connections available for purchase as needed. Chris noted that the purchase of this license was to go to the City's IT Committee on February 18th and to the Board of Works after IT Committee approval.
7. *Arc IMS*. Chris explained ArcView IMS (Arc IMS) to the Committee. IMS stands for Internet Map Server. This software product will allow our GIS data to be deployed to the desktop in a form that can be viewed by a web browser. Because not all users in City or County government will need the full functionality of ArcInfo (Professional GIS) or ArcView (Desktop GIS), this software allows deployment to all employees at no cost beyond that of purchasing the IMS software. For this reason it is often called "free GIS".
8. *ArcPress*. Chris introduced the ArcPress software product to the Committee. The ArcPress product is software designed to break up large print spool files into smaller, more manageable "bites" which are then fed to the output plotter. This will allow the plotter to more efficiently process large map printings and possibly accelerate the printing process beyond the method currently in use, as well as requiring less hardware resources.
9. *Workflows*. The Committee discussed the need to address workflows, both for data conversion and data maintenance. This topic has been brought up in previous meetings however the Committee has not fully acted on those discussions. It is extremely important that the necessary workflows be examined and implemented before we begin to get data back that will require maintenance. Brad noted that during the conversion process to date, Chris has been instrumental in determining the proper methodology to monitor and implement the County-City end of the conversion process.
10. *Cadastral Conversion*. As mentioned in #2 above, once the pilot review is completed, the connectivity agreement and the cadastral conversion RFQ will be high priorities for completion.

Action Items

- Chris, Brad and Chad to complete work on Pilot review and send to ASI
- Brad to forward Butler agreements to County Commissioners for signature and discuss building footprint capture
- Committee to work on Connectivity Agreement
- Committee to work on Implementation Plan, Cadastral Agreement, and Cadastral RFQ
- City to begin working on Utility Conversion RFQ
- County to prepare timeline and costs for Council

Upcoming Meetings

- March 2, 2000 @ 1:00 - Second Floor Conference Room City Hall
- March 16, 2000 @ 1:00 - Second Floor Conference Room City Hall