South Bay Cities Council of Governments
GIS Working Group Meeting
City of Redondo Beach
Wednesday, June 13, 2012 at 10:30 am

Minutes

Introductions and Sign-in
Attendees: Bonnie Shrewsbury (Manhattan Beach), Michael McDaniel (El Segundo), Sunny Lai (Torrance), Mike Sumich (Esri), Ryan Tucker (Redondo Beach)

May Meeting Notes
It was moved and seconded to approve, no changes (Bonnie/Sunny)

Discussion Items:

1. **Business Cluster mapping for the COG - carry over**

   The GISWG is not sure if any progress has been made – needs direction from the COG as to how they want to proceed. The group is expected to do mapping, but it needs data from an outside source, as well as SIC/NAIC categorization. GISWG waiting for these to schedule the work.

   There are major data gaps - GIS business data or for cities that don't have GIS – need to look for data sources (Esri or another source).

2. **GIS Case study submissions**

   Mark Greninger was contacted. He doesn't have a form per se, but would like the items addressed like other examples as a Word document that he would then post. The County is especially interested in examples where LAR-IAC proved useful in determining or expediting decision-making, or was the basis for data creation. Purpose: for cities that haven't participated in LAR-IAC, they can see what other cities have accomplished. An example was noted: a lot of cities have many hill streets requiring parked cars to have wheels turned to the curb. One city PD wanted to see where they might need to increase parking enforcement on hills. LIDAR and derived digital elevation models were used to identify sloped areas (though small pixel sizes resulted in a lot of "noise" such as the slope across streets, and the trick was to weed this noise out). Once weeded, it can be given to the PD and they can identify what they want. Another example involved using Pictometry images in a marketing brochure for properties in a City. In closing, it was noted that at the Los Angeles Regional GIS Forum tomorrow, the case study submissions may come up.

3. **Recap of meetings –**

   a. **LAR-IAC 4 Technical Advisory Group.** Mike and Sunny attended and gave a brief recap. The meeting was about identifying vendors to bid on the next LAR-IAC project, and the proposal evaluated was an all-inclusive team, including Eagle Aerial, Blom (a Norwegian company) and Dewberry. The vendor team represents that they are capable of producing very high resolution (3-inch) imagery meeting LAR-IAC QA/QC criteria within three months from image acquisition to delivery. Concerns were expressed, including that there was a lot of shadowing in work examples selected by the vendor – which is great importance to the group. It was suggested that specification might be tightened to eliminate or address some of this issue (for example the daily window for flying and taking the aerials might be shortened earlier in the winter season when shadows are greatest). The importance of when the flight occurs was noted – for example a flight in mid-spring (taking into account the shifting of sunlight seasonally) would result in less shadowing. It was thought this area may need tightening up.

   The product Blom offers is an online program equivalent to Pictometry Online; however it was felt that they would need to work more closely with Esri and Pictometry to be truly equivalent. Not sure it is quite to the level the group feels is needed for oblique imagery. Two concerns: the need to integrate with Geocortex and with an online viewer and the ability to integrate earlier imagery. If they go with another company the question is, would that historical imagery go away? Blom represented that they could integrate with Geocortex and that since the county owns earlier imagery that they would be able to show these as well. Doubts remain, however, about how this might be accomplished – versus a known product from Pictometry. This is an important issue as well as integrating with Geocortex or other programs (e.g. Orion). Although they say they have the ability to integrate with other online programs, it hasn't been tested and might involve additional cost.

   It was questioned as to how many more TAG meetings would involve vendor demonstration and answered there would be no more, and that at the June 28 meeting all submissions would be reviewed. A member of the TAG will send an email to the group if/when vendors are selected for the bid.

   b. **Census workshop.** Sunny attended and gave a brief report. The workshop was pretty informative for entry level people. It covered how to get data (a sample was provided) and was very "hands-on." While geometry and data were downloaded, they didn't show how to join. While producing up-to-date data, it was simply put into a table and was not mapped.

The Census representatives stated that they can be contacted if the working group wants another more advanced workshop.

Further discussion: it was heard that Congress may be cutting back funding for ACS, and if this is the case, the group may need to start a letter writing campaign. This will be investigated because such a cutback would be a real hardship, possibly cutting off a major source of GIS data to local governments.

4. Upcoming meetings

a. LA Regional GIS Forum, June 14

Mike M. reminded everyone that El Segundo would be hosting the forum this time. The forum will be held at the Emergency Operations Center at the Police Department, El Segundo Civic Center. Only street parking is available and a map with parking instructions and and directions to the El Segundo civic center have been sent to Mark for distribution to forum members. The forum will have about an hours worth of El Segundo-specific items and the main focus will be on small cities – offering insights especially targeted to small budget-strapped cities that might appreciate low cost alternatives.

The forum will run from 9:30 a.m. to noon.   There focus of the forum is mobile applications – including a low-cost "portable" alternative using laptops and portable hard drives to use in the field. Some mobile applications to be discussed include i-Water, just approved for purchase by El Segundo. Redondo Beach noted they have had a good experience overall with this program, but had some problems with its license manager. Mike will check into this.

b. 2012 Esri International User Conference, July 23-27

Bonnie showed the map gallery floor plan, indicating where the South Bay display will be located.

 i. Map Gallery Registration. The deadline to register is this Friday. Bonnie will register for Hermosa Beach. Can we register for the Map Gallery at the event? Answer: yes, although you won't be with the South Bay group. Mike M. will take the South Bay's group map and maps for Redondo Beach and anyone else not going down

 ii. South Bay Cities submission "South Bay Cities are on the Community Map." Bonnie made a presentation, noting a map

color issue – pastels used by Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach and El Segundo appeared much more subdued compared to the darker hues used by Carson, Torrance and CSUDH (using Campus template). Grouping the lighter maps and darker maps in separate areas made the difference seem more purposeful. The Inglewood map is not done yet. It was noticed that some cities (e.g. MB) have a city seal, but others don't. It was suggested to delete the star symbols (on the middle and smaller maps) and use text instead if needed. It was noted that it seemed okay for the title to use a different font, making it stand out more. It was agreed that there is a nice sense of balance overall and the map makes a good poster.

Torrance had a question: they registered two maps – can they change the title of one? Answer: Yes. There may be a panel space problem, however, and an adjustment might be necessary since the Port had said they wanted a panel, too.   Bonnie will communicate with all map gallery participants and resolve.

5. **Other Business.**

   a. Redondo Beach noted a few caveats in using iWater: you need to keep on top of the implementation process and work closely with their tech staff.

   b. Question: does anyone know of a vendor for high resolution Street View imagery? Response: Earthmine offers this and appears to be well integrated with ArcGIS. The City of Glendale is currently contracting with them.

No other business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Volunteer for Goodies August 8th Meeting: Pei-San