Meeting Description: Michigan Geographic Framework Users Meeting
Date: March 4, 2004 **Time:** 10:00 a.m.
Location: Michigan Center for Geographic Information, George W. Romney Building, 10th Floor, Large Conference Room

I. Approval of meeting minutes

II. Geographic Framework Program

A. Act 51 Mapping

Everett Root, Center for Geographic Information (CGI), reported CGI has completed the paper products for the 533 cities and villages and they went out in the mail. CGI is creating county map sets that the county road commissions will receive which are mapped by townships. They are created and converted to PDFs and put on viewable auto-run CD. Forty-five of the 83 counties are done. The rest will be done next week except for a couple of stragglers because of their complexity. Getting positive feedback about paper maps. The county maps will go out soon.

B. Digital Ortho Update

Everett Root, CGI, reported that CGI will start putting a notice on the CGI web site when a county's worth of digital ortho quarter quads DOQQs are processed. There is a list of 3-4 counties that have been completed. That is the conversion of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) 1998-1999 DOQQs to Michigan georef and then converted to MrSID.

Sherm Hollander, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), reiterated that the statewide coverage of the color infrared DOQ products is nearing completion. The state contract is completed by a contractor and has been submitted to USGS go through their review process. The United States Forest Service (USFS) is doing the Manistee/Huron forest areas. The Manistee portion is complete and available through USGS and the state is in the process of acquiring. The Huron/Manistee National Forest area is still in the validation process and is expected to roll out within the next couple of months.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that Charlie Hickman, USGS, will be at the March 11 SEMCOG meeting. This summer the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) will fly a 2-meter resolution of Michigan as a part of the National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) pending no budget problems. Most of the time they do color. It will be available through the CGI web site.

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, stated that SEMCOG is doing regional flight of 7 counties and the request for purchase (RFP) is on their web site www.semcog.org. They are hoping to get full digital color 6-inch pixel for spring of 2005. There is a 30-day deadline for vendors to fax 1 page stating that they plan to submit a proposal.

Bill Enslin, MSU Remote Sensing and GIS Research and Outreach Services, added that the flights this summer will have a quicker turn around than in the past – possibly within 3 months. There is onboard GPS - probably for agricultural assessment purposes.

C. Framework Network Pilot Partnerships Update

- Qualified Voter File (QVF) Street Index to the Map Project

Everett Root, CGI, reported that CGI has been invited to clerk meetings regarding the Qualified Voter File (QVF) street index to map. CGI is going to Kent County next week. They are starting to work with Livingston County as well as ongoing county pilots. There is interest in the clerk community because of their need to update their street indexes. A lot of data is coming from the Upper Peninsula now - centerlines all addressed and named for 9-1-1 dispatch

applications. CGI is also communicating with clerks from those communities to let them know what CGI has.

- United States Postal Service (USPS) Partnership Update

Everett Root, CGI, reported that CGI brought together USPS representatives from Grand Rapids, Detroit, Royal Oak, Green Bay district offices. Met to put together standards and communication methods to resolve naming issues, addressing issues and zip code boundary issues. CGI wants to get information cleaned up for use by the state. The most recent meeting dealt with road-naming rules. CGI will put together a web application that will allow a community to type in a road name to see if it meets USPS standards and check for conflicting name in the same zip code but outside of their jurisdiction. These meetings will take place every couple months. Livingston County will be at the next meeting, as they will also work with USPS. All 3 postal districts of Michigan overlap in Livingston County. They will meet and start with the city of Howell to discuss addressing issues and branch out to Hartland and Brighton. This will be the first chance for a local data steward to sit down with USPS and resolve things and clean their data. CGI's role is that of a facilitator and to provide a communication channel. In Schoolcraft County a 9-1-1 consultant readdressed the county and put an alpha/numeric character at the end of the number – for example: 100N East Baker Rd. The alpha/numeric character at the end of the address will not work with QVF system or the framework system. The USPS doesn't like it but will accept it and their system will drop it off. CGI has been in communication with Schoolcraft County to see how they are going to manage to get this data into the QVF file. Rayan Ray, CGI, checked and out of 400,000 records 4,000 have an alpha/numeric character in there. Rayan is communicating with the 9-1-1 groups about how to build grids. In the numbering system this creates duplication within the county – may have two 5,000 with the same road name with the character to delineate east or west of some meridian rather than use a prefix.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that the standards driver is the Help America Vote Act, which is the new national initiative to streamline the voter registration process and make sure people are on the list when they go to vote. This is not unique to Michigan. Livingston County is just one of the stakeholders at the local level that CGI will focus on early in the project.

Rosemary Anger, Barry County, asked what is the delay between a QVF sheets going in and it making it into framework.

Everett Root, CGI, responded that it depends on what CGI is doing on the framework at the time.

Rosemary Anger, Barry County, commented that they have sheets that are 3-years old that have not been added yet. It has been fixed in QVF but not in framework.

Everett Root, CGI, commented that the focus has been on the certified roads through the Act 51 process. The roads are in, the certification is on and CGI has not had the opportunity to go over the other data. Barry County has a clean QVF and a lot of counties do not and CGI will start with those other counties to get them to clean up their street index.

Rosemary Anger, Barry County, stated that she cannot tell if the QVF is clean or not because she does not have access to QVF, only has access to framework. Version 3c does not indicate changes. Afraid that sheets will get stuck in a QVF file and not make it into framework.

Rob Surber, CGI, commented that CGI will work with Barry County directly to be sure that what they expect gets into framework. CGI has not been able to focus on that because of standards and other issues of the whole migration of what is in that system into the framework. CGI definitely intends to get it data in there. Barry County will be ahead of the game.

Valdis Kalnins, Allegan County GIS, asked if there is action being taken on the annotation layers for road names.

Rob Surber, CGI, responded that they have been creating labels for the road names. The labels are in an annotation layer for the Act 51 road maps. They are in a geodatabase. CGI is still finalizing the maps, just need to do it. It will be at a density that will be community-by-community as opposed to region by region. There will be templates by community.

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, asked how the migration to the geodatabase is going.

Rob Surber, CGI, responded that CGI is working on it. CGI has not rolled over the production environment yet. Michigan Accident Location Index (MALI) is a big issue.

Everett Root, CGI, added that CGI looked at making edits in the geodatabase and taking it back to a coverage so they can do a MALI transaction work.

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, asked when Version 5 or Version 6 will come out in a geodatabase.

Rob Surber, CGI, stated that CGI will advise. There have been discussions that it would be nice to have Version 5 in a geodatabase.

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, added that it also probably depends on Version 9 of ARC GIS.

Pat Cummens, ESRI, commented that it is more tied up to MALI.

Rob Surber, CGI, agreed. Version 4 coming out May-June and that will be an important delivery for a number of programs that are waiting for it, including the asset management data collection process which will go out this summer. The geodatabase has not progressed as liked. Will continue to certified versions as CGI feels comfortable with migration to the geodatabase. The version of framework that will be used as input to the data collection process will be out May-June. The data that is collected will be available through local agencies as they see fit or as the council determines what can be made available. That will be a council decision or a local decision – not a CGI decision. Some data will be aggregated to a statewide report that will go to the legislature, but as far as individual road segments and data on those, that will be a decision that CGI will not make.

D. National Hydro Dataset (NHD) Project Update

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that CGI had heard from USGS and they are getting ready to cut CGI a check to begin NHD work in southeast Michigan. CGI has not received yet but are starting to gear up for that. It would include 7 watersheds in Wayne/Oakland/Macomb county areas. CGI will work with the local agencies as much as possible to begin with their line work as opposed to what is on framework and will then replace framework with local line work. CGI will work with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Institute of Fisheries Research (IFR) to expand this work and add the Saginaw/Bay area. The MDNR IFR is looking to pursue funding to work in watersheds in the Saginaw Bay area and butt up against CGI work in southeast Michigan. Work will probably begin summer/fall if the money goes through. The IFR has been working on United States Forest Service (USFS) areas in the state. National high-resolution watershed data has been created for the following: Manistee, Ausable, Pierre Marquette, White, Carp/Pine, Waiska, Fish Dam Sturgeon, Tacoosh/Whitefish, Betsy/Chocolay, Brule, Sturgeon. Currently they are working on Ontonagon and Black/Presque Isle. They will begin work in the Saginaw Bay area when this is completed. This will not cover whole state. There are other areas in the southwestern part of the state still needs to be covered. CGI will continue to work with USGS to acquire additional funding. Would like to get the whole state complete within the next couple of years. CGI has been doing framework cleanup work and prep work.

Everett Root, CGI, added the CGI is closing off river polygons to generate centerlines, which will be a critical piece to 2-bank rivers. River Reach coding will go on centerlines through lakes and through the two dimensional river systems.

III. Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Projects and Activities

Sherm Hollander, MDNR, nothing to report.

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that CGI has been working on a web-mapping project for MDNR – the Michigan Natural Features Inventory (NFI) project that has a web map verification system. If applying to work on land that requires a check for endangered species, there is a 30-day turn around approval system. The new system will allow instantaneous turn around for those that are not near an endangered species. This goes back to the Internet map service and provides a check. It is based on tier range section information. The application is done but needs to be unveiled – probably be available within the next few weeks. MDNR NFI group will administer it.

IV. Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Projects and Activities

Joyce Newell, MDOT, reported they have been working with CGI on a pilot physical referencing (PR) finder web site. They are now providing comments on how they would like it updated and changed.

Rob Surber, CGI, reported the Asset Management Council met yesterday. This is a group established by the legislature to report to the Transportation Commission. The purpose is to come up with a better way to manage road assets – a depreciation model to categorize routine maintenance, preventative maintenance, and structural improvements. One of the components is the condition of roads. It is a cooperative effort to rate roads – county, city, state. The partnership cannot be understated. The data collection is only one part of the equation. Need 3 - years worth of data to get a curve because things might look fine but underneath there may be structural problems. The other side of the equation is what are the investments and future investments. CGI is the central data agency for the process and the key behind the process is the georeferencing of the data so there is a way to know where everything is and to be able to make decisions. The framework is the base referencing for all the data collected from an investment and a condition standpoint. The report for first year is going to the legislature in April. They are hopeful that this will improve over time. One benefit is that the local units of government will have a GIS file to use for analysis. There will be statewide reports but also local and regional groups will want to look at the data and tie into other asset management data that is not being collected. The next round of data collection will be this summer.

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that the Transportation Asset Mapping System (TRAMS) project was presented to the ITOP group. This is the technical advisory group for MDOT that recommends everything for final approval. The TRAMS project was approved by ITOP and March 16 it will go to MDOT executives for final approval and authorization. TRAMS is a GIS for dummies product to tie in 10 different data stores (safety, condition, right-of-way) of information on assets in one mapping system. It will be delivered through a common interface using Arc IMS. The data will be managed by MDOT and various agencies and will be pulled in for read-only access. As data changes it will be seen through this application. It is similar to SEMCOG's Crash site. Once approved it will be made available in phases on the web site. It will be a dynamic web map tool and can query different attributes at one time. It is a place that stores and allows printing of static maps. CGI will generate cartographic products with legends and standard titles as often as they change if folks want to see general condition of the roads or general functional class maps – will have the capability of both. CGI anticipates over 2,000 map products will be refreshed on a regular basis and available on CGI's server. They will be at statewide level, regional level, and the Transportation Service Centers (TSC) level. It will start as an intranet site but eventually will be Internet site. One component is to make sure that data is ready for mapping prime time. Some are and some aren't. The quick wins will be there early. CGI will give them an assessment of how ready the data is based on referencing. MDOT will be responsible for cleaning up and maintaining their data. There will be a feedback loop for

agencies to have and say if data is wrong. CGI will fix mapping related issues. If a data quality issue, it will go back to data owner and they will fix it. It will show warts in MDOT data but have to go backwards to go forward. This is a simple way to look at transportation data. It will not be GIS but will help answer questions about using geographic information technology (GIT).

V. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Projects and Activities

Rob Surber, CGI, reported all of MDEQ's Internet map services have been migrated to CGI's central Internet map service center and CGI will manage the services from CGI. MDEQ has had up time problems because maps were not on a separate server. CGI will manage those applications. There is talk of improving them, but wanted to get them migrated first.

VI. Michigan State Police (MSP) Projects and Activities

Eric Nischan, MSP, nothing new to report.

VII. Michigan State Industries (MSI) Projects and Activities

Nobody in attendance.

VIII. CGI Projects and Activities

Rob Surber, CGI, reported grant money for remote sensing is available. It is not a lot of money, but it may help if there is a project that needs current imagery.

Rosemary Anger, Barry County, asked if they can get light detection and ranging system (LIDAR) for a specific project.

Rob Surber, CGI, responded that may be possible. Digital Globe is the vendor that has been selected for this project. It is National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) money but it is through the Institute of Applied Geospatial Technology at Cuyahoga County Community College. May have to place a phone call to get clarification. Traditional products are available. Turnaround time will be quick. Need the application in by the end of April. There are X amount of money – can have two projects that add up to that or one project depending on the application criteria. Looking for partnership – perhaps with another office in community or the state but not a requirement.

IX. MSU Remote Sensing and GIS Research and Outreach Services Projects and Activities

Bill Enslin, MSU, reported the visual basic program ca1led the CGI update utility that hits the CGI web site to pull down mainly the water well records. Just press a button and in 10 seconds it pulls down the whole state. There are a series of processes that it goes through to automatically unzip and put them in the structure for the Map Image Viewer. There is a clipping routine to clip the wells outside the county. MSU has been modifying the program for a Ground Water Mapping Project for MDEQ and United States Geological Survey (USGS) to do processing on the related lithology (lith) file for those wells statewide. It adds elevation from digital elevation model (DEM) 30-meter elevation because all the well records in the state do not have elevation values. Then it creates fields for the difference in elevation between what is recorded on the well log and the DEM and creates a new field that has either of the two values. Then there is a field to map by. MSU has also processed the lith files to identify the rock and drift wells for each well and to also identify the interface between rock and drift, which is important for their analysis purposes. It also creates flag fields for problems with the lith records so that during the eventual analysis they can be filtered out. It essentially puts those new fields in the shape file for the DBF. It does that by county and merges them together and then that file is the one that USGS, MSU, and MDEQ people doing ground water assessment will use. This was done not only for that project but also for the Map Image Viewer as a way to get update out

promptly. There are new fields that are in the well records that go out with the viewer for the DEM stuff. The bedrock well information is going to USGS now for their evaluation. The ground water study is a 1-½ year project and will probably be ongoing. Eventually it may be there will be GIS analysis, and output products, training efforts the second year. It is going to be creating a depth to ground water map and looking for areas of withdrawal of water.

Bill Enslin, MSU, commented that Act 148 that requires the state to do an inventory mandates it.

X. County / Local Projects and Activities

Scott Ambs, Jackson County, reported that they are cleaning up parcels.

Valdis Kalnins, Allegan County GIS, reported that they displayed an infrared image of Allegan County that they received from MSU and converted to true color. They installed the Map Image Viewer in 4 local units of government and more are interested. They charge $45 for a paper copy. They finished their plat book - published and printed in-house.

Jane Allen, Monroe County, reported they are waiting for approval of GIS. That would mean funding to get software and separate name from engineering department for next fiscal year.

Trevor Floyd, St. Clair County MPC, reported that their emergency management is moving on school mapping. They recently got control of the animal control database and trying to figure out something to map for dog licenses. Threw the data against framework and dog licenses hit around a 79-83% match. An explanation for some of the misses is the use of Post Office Boxes. They did a tax bill check and caught 300 more. That put in figure in to the high 80s for a match rate. There are some local road names that are not in framework that get thrown out. They were able to pull over the breed information and the date of the last rabies shot. Animal Control plans to use this in April to assess fines for not having your dogs licensed. Before it was a cumbersome process. Now they can draw a box around a neighborhood that will list all the breeds, colors, and names of the dogs. They are looking at how to model for the costs of delivering services. They are also looking for additional information on Link Michigan besides what is in the report.

Rob Surber, CGI, commented that CGI has meetings coming up with Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) - when there is more information will make it available. Link Michigan is a high-speed project for high-speed access for around the state. There is grant money available. There is a geographic component to it. There have been a number of hands in this pot. It is a loose group of folks working on this and one issue is that the leading group has not worked with GIS and mapping technology. They are contract managers. CGI has been in a couple meetings and there has been discussion about tightening up the GIT component.

XI. Regional Projects and Activities

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, reported they are wrapping up the 2000 census block attribution on Version 2 of framework. Also working on geodatabase migration with SDE and Oracle. They purchased new hardware, SDE and still need to purchase Oracle. Need to send folks for training. The goal is to have it up and running by 2005 flight deliverable to load data into SDE. They have the National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA) imagery and hope to do something with that. They are awaiting approval for software. Once they get approval and begin processing, will need to reproject it and then will make available.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that Oakland County has put in for part of the Ryder Cup in hopes of getting additional imagery for security purposes.

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, reported their next regional meeting is March 11 at 1:30 at SEMCOG. It will have a slant to federal initiatives. It is open to all. They had a Transportation Data and GIS workshop on February 26. The Data Development and Application Sub-Committee of the Regional GIS Committee put this on.

XII. Federal Projects and Activities

Gordon Rector, United States Census Bureau, reported that annual boundary and annexation survey packages were sent out in February from the processing facility in Jefferson, IN. The package contains paper maps from TIGER that show boundaries of municipalities, townships, or counties. In counties that have gone through the repositioning process, the boundaries for the most part were taken from the same file – in Michigan it was mostly framework files. In other counties, it is the unrepositioned TIGER with the old boundaries that were collected in 2000 or 2001. There probably will not be a lot of boundary changes. For the counties that have been repositioned it is more of a checking by local government to be sure that the boundary is correct.

Rob Surber. CGI, asked for feedback to come back to CGI if there is a question. CGI doesn't do anything apart from the Great Seal.

Gordon Rector, Census Bureau, said that if there has been a change from an annexation or a detachment, they have to confirm. Gordon's office is out of the loop but will keep ears open. There is an 800 number to call and check the status. Will pass along any information that he may come upon.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that it would be helpful to know if they have missed something through the whole process. And CGI will also share with Gordon as being the point person for the Great Seal for the state.

Gordon Rector, Census Bureau, commented that they hope to get to the point where they don't have to bother local governments and to directly hold changes down through the Great Seal and the Act 51 maps. It goes to every county even though Michigan county boundaries are stable. Local governments, cities, townships, and villages have to meet size criteria. If over a certain size, they get sampled. As we get closer to the decennial census then everybody gets sampled.

XIII. Other Issues

Mike Hass, Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH), reported that through CGI they got ARC IMS application and this is how reporting will happen from local health jurisdictions to the state. It is migrating to a web based system. They are still using the old system of mailing updates through a PC. MDCH has migrated to a web based system that will map the cases on the fly using CGI. They also have other projects.

Rob Surber, CGI, stated that CGI is doing a statewide school district update that will go to the Census Bureau. CGI has received school district boundary files from many in attendance. And CGI wants to thank you. It will drive some funding for schools. The data will be incorporated back into framework. Tools are being developed. The GIS community does a great job of partnering. It would not be a success without help from GIS offices taking the lead in their areas.

Kathleen Weessies, MSU Libraries, stated that she is interested in acquiring examples of what locals, state, and regions are outputting in paper or digital format. Would like to document what is going on in the state. She accepts gifts but also has a budget. If you have something, she might acquire it. Contact Kathleen to see if it is something she would be interested in.

Pat Cummens, ESRI, asked how involved are Michigan local governments in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) multi-hazard assessment package.

Jeroen Wagendorp, Allegan County GIS, responded that there is breakdown in communication. They are up against home rule. It is a credibility factor. If the county is somewhat successful is getting the attention of the locals to provide information, they might get some. But for the most part, won't get a whole lot. Either township resources are not capable or they are too overwhelmed. They are barely meeting basic needs and anything else is extra.

Mike Hass, MDCH, added that his experience is that in California there is a lot of interest but as he came east there is not much interest.

Pat Cummens, ESRI, commented that how much interaction there is from the FEMA representative makes a difference. It is starting to pop up that South Dakota is jumping on board and doing some training sessions. Also asked if there are any new activities on Homeland Securities.

Eric Nischan, Michigan State Police Emergency Management, commented that there are no new activities.

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, reported that their Standards Committee put together a list of critical data layers with the minimum attributes. Basically it is the 7 counties' GIS folks and the state. They are now deciding if they are going to create the files.

Pat Cummens, ESRI, asked if any one in the state has taken an interest in the Homeland Security Information Program (HSIP) group's recommended standards symbology for critical infrastructure.

Rob Surber, CGI, responded that CGI had received that and passed it around and suggested that it be sent through CGI. Has not heard anything more about it.

Jeroen Wagendorp, Allegan County GIS, added that the needs are more rudimentary rather than critical symbology.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that CGI has received some and the state is moving in some directions. But there is no formal announcement to be made at this time. The state understands the issues and is working with SEMCOG.

XIV. Next Meeting Date

April 1, 2004, 10 a.m. until 12 p.m., Michigan Center for Geographic Information, George W. Romney Building, 111 S. Capitol, 10th Floor, Lansing, MI 48913