

Meeting Description: Michigan Geographic Framework Users Meeting

Date: July 1, 2004

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: Michigan Center for Geographic Information, George W. Romney Building, 10th Floor, Conference Room

I Approval of Meeting Minutes

II. Geographic Framework Program

A. Version 4b

Rob Surber, CGI, reported framework Version 4b is done and out. It is not as shape files on the web site, but CGI has a list of those asking for files and CGI is distributing them to all who would like them. Version 4a has a complete review of bridges and refinement and cleanup of the framework classification codes. Now CGI is working on metadata. If you need metadata right away, let Everett Root, CGI, know and he will get it out to you. Probably will not put shape files on web site until metadata is done. Version 4 will go into Map Michigan.

B. Version 5

Rob Surber, CGI, reported CGI starts editing Version 5. There are a number of new internal change control procedures for data management. End-users won't see this. It will make delivery quicker. It is being written in Visual Basic and some programs that will port easily into the geodatabase. CGI is mainly documenting the rules. When the framework was in a mad dash to add everything, it was harder to do that. Now things are settling into a maintenance mode and can do it. At one time, CGI didn't want to say no to anybody but it cause problems when trying to write programs when things were constantly changing. One benefit is when a local unit of government asks when something was made it will be documented. Rob had a discussion with Alden Leatherman, CGI, about incorporate 2000 census block attributes into framework, but there is not a statewide file. If CGI has SEMCOG data, they will make use of that and put as layer. Then create framework automatic block coding layer and try to relate the two to see if there is some sort of a match between census blocks to framework blocks

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, commented that she gave Everett Root, CGI, Livingston County data to see if the file looks clean and whether can have attributes put in there. SEMCOG can still use the polygons they pulled from the attributes Version 2 but would not be a bad thing to pull from current version. SEMCOG has also changed some block group and track attributes – have it all documented.

Rob Surber, CGI, stated SEMCOG staff needs to work with CGI staff. There are uses for block data. Rob will follow up on block plan. It would be a layer to Version 4 shape files that will post release of Version 4 but will not constitute a new version.

C. Act 51 Process

Rob Surber, CGI, reported CGI is starting to put in changes in for the next cycle. Last year CGI didn't get started until fall. This year CGI is getting an earlier start.

D. Digital Ortho Update

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, reported SEMCOG selected vendor for the spring 2005 flight after 7 weeks of trying to come to a decision. They chose Earth Data. It came down to budget and what product they could get for their money. They needed a little more money and the state came up with it. SEMCOG touched base with partners and they are moving forward. SEMCOG is coordinating a 7-county digital ortho flight for spring 2005. The partners include 7 counties in the SEMCOG region, SEMCOG, the state of Michigan, and Detroit Water and Sewer. The products are 6-inch color digital ortho photography and 6-inch black and white, and a reflective digital surface model for entire region.

Trevor Floyd, St. Clair County, added the surface model is in one projection – one seamless product.

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, added they will be reprojecting to match counties' data. Ultimately the state will want one seamless.

Rob Surber, CGI, commented there will be a 6-inch, 1-foot, and a 2-foot product. All state agencies will have access and use all products. They will be able to distribute to the general public the 2-foot on the data library.

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, added the ownership distribution is a 3-tier ownership. The counties and every partner will have 6-inch to use and the counties can sell or redistribute it. SEMCOG can sell 1-foot and the state can sell 2-foot.

Rob Surber, CGI, commented that 2-foot is better than what is on the site now. From the state's perspective, the turn around timing is good. Fly and turn around in less than a year.

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, added the deadline is the end of the year. Now have to go through SEMCOG's procurement process.

Rob Surber, CGI, said this sets the region for future - this can demonstrated how it can be done. Technology costs will go down as digital becomes mainstream.

Trevor Floyd, St. Clair County, commented that he is surprised at the vendor's price for contour.

Rob Surber, CGI, stated that for the state's perspective, they are getting a lot for their money. The counties may have questions whether this is better, but a partnership standpoint this is a lot more.

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, commented they are getting a good product. They need to sit down and go through the timeline of what to do when. It was a tough decision for committee to select a vendor. Everybody has legitimate issues.

Trevor Floyd, St. Clair County, added that digital technology is new and on the cutting edge and it needs the accurate surface model that Earth Data is providing. Two of the seven counties don't the degree of accuracy that is required. When Trevor connects to the currant ones on Map Michigan, it claims that the projections are not defined. Can force the data frame. There should be a way to put a projection file into that dataset so that IMS can see it. When drop data down national sites, but says that it doesn't understand the projection.

E. Rail Update

Rob Surber, CGI, reported the National Inventory of rail crossing work will be done this week. CGI has been doing quality control. Have gotten all the inventory numbers posted on framework. Have integrated complete SEMCOG work and it meshed nicely. Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will do review as well. Have been receiving rail maps from rail companies – there have been some consolidations since the official rail map CGI produced. CGI will make those changes as well.

F. National Hydro Dataset (NHD)

Rob Surber, CGI, reported does not have update on NHD. This is will be Wayne, Oakland, Macomb watersheds. CGI will be looking for local hydro if better than framework hydro if is out there to complete those watersheds. They will be starting with Oakland County. In Version 4b, CGI has done cleanup of the hydro polygons for Map Michigan fills and the lake polygon fills including wider rivers.

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

Lynn Boyd, MDNR, reported CGI is involved in MDNR's land review process to look at boundaries and properties outside the boundaries. There are thousands of parcels to review. CGI is working on updating the mineral lease classification system. MDNR manages all state-

owned minerals. When there is a lease, there must be a determination of what activity will be allowed. This used to be a paper system and MDNR is trying to update.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that they are also migrating the applications to CITRIX. For the people in the field, this will be a huge benefit.

Lynn Boyd, MDNR, commented that the Trespass System has been rolled out but there are a few problems, which were corrected and it is up and running again. Forest Mineral and Fire Management (FMFM) is the lead. MDNR manages 3.1 million acres.

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that there is memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and MDNR to collect data on the road assets in the state parks and boat launches. They will begin work this summer. There are several hundred roads and boat launches to inventory and there will be a team of 2-3 people doing it. MDOT is the sub-contractor to MDNR. This is a governor initiative to look at assets of the parks. The work will be done in Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

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

Joyce Newell, MDOT, reported MDOT is trying to get Version 4b in Caliper format.

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that the Physical Reference (PR) Finder is in Version 4 now and being tested.

Joyce Newell, MDOT, added this is an intranet rough version of the PR Finder. They plan to get it out as soon as possible on the internet.

Rob Surber, CGI, added the MDNR will have their roads linked into this data. Can query by name, intersection, can point on map to find mile point, or find a route number. There will be aerial photography behind it. There will be topographic maps. This will be handy for anybody looking for road information.

Rob Surber, CGI, reported the Transportation Asset Mapping System (TRAMS) kick-off meeting is scheduled for next week. It will have internet map capabilities. There are 2,000+ map products that will be refreshed regularly and will be available in PDF. It will be handy not only for transportation needs but anyone who needs a map or information about the roads.

V. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Products and Activities Nobody present.

VI. Michigan States Police (MSP) Projects and Activities

A. Michigan Homeland Security Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Advisory Committee

Rob Surber, CGI, reported the Homeland Security GIS Advisory Committee that MSP chairs for the governor. This is a GIS group to develop recommendations on a number of issues. GIS can be useful in time of an emergency. The committee is looking at where the current state of GIS readiness is amongst 111 communities that have emergency operation center responsibilities. This assessment is the first part of the task of looking at tools, data issues, and staffing issues. Also looking at not just if they have it but is it available in time of an emergency. Is there good communication between the GIS office and the emergency operation center? Are staff-sharing relationships in place? The committee will administer this in July. The committee has contact lists from various groups and will synchronize so there is a clean list of emergency management directors and lead GIS organizations. There are about 200 key contacts. This list will be divided amongst the committee members so there is follow-up to ensure 100% participation. Then the committee will identify gaps and at-risk areas look at-risk infrastructure facilities. The goal is to come up with mix of fixes. A goal is to develop a GIS minimum

standards data layers list in a format that all can use. The committee has applied for a grant with the Department of Homeland. The committee's goal is to pass money to areas where there are gaps. An umbrella is a sustainability factor. In the grant applicant, they are looking at a 60% data, 20% tools/technology, and 20% sustainability. The committee is taking the approach of using existing data where possible and put more money in sustainability – training, potential for scholarships at conferences, and a staff-sharing MOU. SEMCOG may help local communities that don't have resources in case of emergency. The committee is hoping to fund situations like that. CGI has staff people to backup MSP. The goal is to have a minimum of GIS readiness. They are trying to reuse and coordinate to maximum dollars.

Mike Hass, Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH), asked if there is a formula to fill gaps.

Rob Surber, CGI, responded that there will be a sub-group to formulate ideas. They are waiting to see readiness results. It probably will not be an exact science as one would like, but will try to make it as fair as possible around the state. It will be a combination of people, demographic characteristics, at-risk infrastructures, and current readiness. The committee will firm up this summer and will be provided in the final report. They are looking at some minimum coverage everywhere. The SEMCOG area is half of population but Baraga should have same capabilities. The Public Service Commission collects information but it is not in a GIS form and it could be. Oil and gas feeder line locations would be useful information for private management and homeland security. That could be a recommendation to present to the governor since we are at-risk for some the infrastructures and that it would be useful to have these put in GIS form.

Mike Hass, MDCH, added there is an internal use agreement on the ortho photos might assist the electric company in sharing information.

Rob Surber, CGI, added the local firefighters can get some information because they have a call-them-up type of relationship. It is difficult to get this data because the data-owners are not ready to hand it over. The state has internal-only use for business processes that need it. There is decision of minimum standards, where the gaps are, and in some cases there will probably be a need for a data sharing agreement to protect the interest of a company or local unit of government who may not want to share with state but will in times of an emergency. By the end of the fiscal year (September) the committee wants to have a report to deliver to the governor. Then the committee will evaluate whether to continue in current form – they want to be focused and not just drag on. The homeland security experts will evaluate how they want to continue. This bigger than all and need to work together. Rob distributed draft of survey for the group to review. Tuesday the final form will be decided.

Trevor Floyd, St. Clair County, stated that Info Graphics developed the web app that runs off Microsoft Access. He may be willing to share that for this effort.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that they are looking for private donations as well.

Mike Hass, MDCH, commented that MDCH with Michigan State University (MSU) are developing Blank Slate, which close to being released. It is epi survey but it is a form. It is software that can be created on the fly.

Trevor Floyd, St. Clair County, stated that for this survey the contacts will each get a personal phone call.

VII. Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) Projects and Activities

Mike Hass, MDCH, reported the Michigan Disease Surveillance System is now live. It is a web application used by local health to report 70 reportable diseases in the state. They report patient information. The relevant part is that every patient is geocoded and goes back to an application for MDCH to map. Anyone in the local jurisdiction can look at not only case they

report but other similar cases. It is a way to track. It has been a great way to test issues like framework addressing.

Rob Surber, CGI, stated that CGI is working on a plan to try to address the problem.

Mike Hass, MDCH, commented when an address is entered, the address is used for geocoding to identify the local health care jurisdiction the person should be assigned to. When there is an addressing problem, MDCH tells the jurisdictions to work through local GIS shops.

VIII. Michigan State Industries (MSI) Projects and Activities

Chuck Bender, MSI, reported they have completed a pilot for a Clinton County drain. They are waiting to see how the information will be of use. If there is interest, then MSI will proceed with the additional drains. They got the Version 9 software, it is installed, they got the updates for it and can work with other entities that need that level as well. MSI developed a database to track the As Built information and several fields were identified - there were 30-40,000 records to go back through. MSI is in the process of seeing if they can merge data without corrupting it in the process. It will be used as a crutch until MDOT's intranet applicant is available. It covers a lot of information that their online site will gather in a point-and-click manner.

Joyce Newell, MDOT, added the As Built plans go back to 1914 and they have all been scanned. There are JPGs images for all plans. They are stored by control section which change over the years. MDNR looks at some of the road plans because of land issues. MSI pulled a date from each plan, but they don't know if it is the end date, plan date, completion date. Now they are starting with 1960 and forward to find more information - like the PR mile point ranges of where the road actually is so they can fix even though the control section may be moved also the type of work and when it was done. The plan is that when you go into the TRAMS Project will be able to tell what work has been done on the road. Then they will pick up the older data for historic information.

Chuck Bender, MSI, added MSI picked up a \$2,500 blanket order for MDNR, Fisheries. They have an additional 42 lakes they want MSI to digitize. MSI has streamlined the process by automating many functions. Initially Fisheries was concerned with the existing protocol and whether they could get 42 lakes out of the money they have available. With the streamlining MSI has done, there is a good change there now may be money left over. MSI gave MDNR 17 counties with 32 lakes the first time for \$1,500.

IX. CGI Projects and Activities

Rob Surber, CGI, reported there was a server meeting yesterday and haven't heard about it. There is an air conditioning problem in the server room. May move it to the basement of this building - hope not to another building. Can't have sprinkler system go off because of overheating.

Chuck Bender, MSI, stated they Haylon Systems has two systems. One system is the tank mounted which is not lethal and there is a hand unit, which is lethal. He has worked with them in the past and if it discharges, it costs about \$50,000 dollars to get replaced. Haylon comes out in a force that will blow floor tiles into the ceiling. There is a deadman switch that must be hit within 60 seconds of the alarm going off or it will discharge.

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

Nobody present.

XI. County/Local Projects and Activities

Trevor Floyd, St. Clair County, reporting the planning for MICAMP conference is going well. The notifications went out and the flier is posted on the web site. The conference will be at

Boyne Mountain again this year. FEMA paid for 60 people to go to Alabama to go through training exercises. The scenarios went well. Oakland County representatives are going later this year.

XII. Regional Projects and Activities

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, reported they recently took delivery of aerial imagery from Detroit Edison dated back until 1949. It is not for the entire region. Some are contact prints and some are scanned images. The scanned images are JPG files without spatial reference. SEMCOG does not have the resources now to do much with it. Detroit Edison wants to get out of the business of selling them. When SEMCOG does find time to put spatial information with them may partner with MSU or the state or MSI.

Rob Surber, CGI, commented that the attorney general is looking for older photos.

Trevor Floyd, St. Clair County, added that the Corp has nice photos also.

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, stated they are also working with federal imagery. They are almost done reprojecting it and can be used internally for forecasting. They are working with Version 4b and pulling of layers and migrating data. They are also working on a wetland indicator layer.

Rob Surber, SEMCOG, asked if this is comparable to the MDEQ's work to identify the types of soils and the combination of hydro soils, etc.

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, responded that it is a general indicator. They are also working on their geodatabase migration. Oracle DBA did sign up for an SDE class. SEMCOG has SDE and the hardware, just needed training. SEMCOG is trying to consolidate internally. They want to make large equivalency tables for people to use. They went to Toledo Metro Area Council of Governments (TMACOG) to talk about linear referencing systems and transportation applications. They are envious of what Michigan has. Ohio Department of Transportation has a street centerline file with a linear referencing on it but it does not have all the roads on it.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that most states have some sort of linear referencing system but it usually doesn't match the rest of the world.

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, commented that TMACOG has been researching what they want to do for about a year. SEMCOG explained what they do as far as coding crash data into projects. Someone from Monroe County attended the meeting because they are a member of TMACOG and SEMCOG because they affect Michigan and Ohio. It is good to understand what they are doing.

Rob Surber, CGI, stated somebody needs to worry about seaming the state line and the watersheds.

Ann Burns, SEMCOG, added that on the historical watershed boundary file, the Maumee is not there. Their office is in an operating AMTRAX station.

XIII. Federal Projects and Activities

Nobody present.

XIV. Other Issues

XV. Next Meeting Date

August 5, 2004, 10 a.m. until 12 p.m., Michigan Center for Geographic Information, George W. Romney Building, 111 S. Capitol, 10th Floor, Lansing, MI 48933