

Meeting Description: Michigan Geographic Framework Users Meeting

Date: August 5, 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

Everett Root, Center for Geographic Information (CGI), reported CGI completed Version 4b, the products were delivered in June, and the shape files have been processed. In August CGI plans to finish the Metadata files so they can package the zip files to go on the geographic data library. This does not represent the school district survey information. That will be added to Version 5 and if someone wants to see a cut of it, CGI can provide it. CGI can pull the data out of the geodatabase but it is not topologically correct now. It is an independent layer now.

B. Version 5

Everett Root, CGI, displayed maps of Version 3 for TIGER Realignment Program. Fourteen counties did not pass the Census Bureau accuracy standards. Almost 100% of the areas were counties that had a majority of black and white photography. Repositioning is necessary.

Gordon Rector, U.S. Census Bureau, commented that the Bureau can check line work quickly because they have already collected the points that were used for the intersections.

C. Act 51

Everett Root, CGI, reported that Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is flowing new roads, deleted roads, jurisdictional transfers and reclassifications to CGI. CGI will focus on cities and villages first and county roads will be put in after that. These are the first steps of what is going into Version 5 as well as boundary and annexation changes. Implementing a tracking process of source materials with a task number assigned to every change so that MDOT can review every change that CGI makes and verify that it meets MDOT standards.

Rob Surber, CGI, added you can also find out where a change came from – local/county/regional data supplier.

Everett Root, CGI, displayed a nation-wide status map for the TIGER improvement project and Michigan was mostly blue in color and that indicates that it is through production.

Gordon Rector, Census Bureau, reported that the Census Bureau has an annual survey that collects change to boundaries. They send something out every year and ask communities if they had a change to their boundaries in the last year. Recently they considered going to one place at the state level to check with. CGI is willing to give list of Michigan communities that have boundary change this year and the Census Bureau will send the survey to those communities early in 2005. For the first round the Census Bureau will send the standard survey that asks them to draw the new boundary on a map on the Census Bureau will digitize it in. Eventually they want to get away from that because that is duplicating what has already been done. This pilot project is being discussed. There is a list of 5-8 states that are capable of helping. Michigan is at top of the list. The Census Bureau will save money with this method.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that one of CGI's goals is to pass along less work to local units of government and provide support to them.

Mike Hass, Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH), asked if the Census Bureau give CGI what they are expecting or does CGI reposition and guess at what is right.

Everett Root, CGI, answered that CGI repositions to the photo.

Gordon Rector, Census Bureau, added that they require that a local file (Michigan framework) shows roads to be within 7.6 meters of where they actually are on the ground. Then

the Census Bureau will put them into TIGER and then into the national map. All but 14 of the Michigan counties met this standard and most of them were much better than that. The Census Bureau has a contractor collect 110 Global Position System (GPS) points at known intersections for each county and that is used to evaluate files to be sure they meet the standard.

Rob Surber, CGI, asked if the Census Bureau stores the absolute average difference between the two documents. If so, can you share that information?

Gordon Rector, Census Bureau, responded that they have it and it is called the CE95 value. They have it for every county. They are trying to decide conference call what they can share with the file provider. The Census Bureau is getting ready to send out an official correspondence that lists that value and other values. There is a conference call scheduled about the system that is being to generate the file. Most of the Michigan counties were well within 7.6 meters.

D. Digital Ortho Update

Sherm Hollander, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), reported that they still have a couple of blocks they are waiting delivery on. They anticipate delivery next week.

E. Rail Update

Everett Root, CGI, displayed a map of the rail process. Every rail crossing in the state has national inventory (NI) number. CGI populated all at grade rail/road crossings based on a database from MDOT that indicates the NI number, name of the rail, company that owns the rail, and the road name. CGI's work is ready for review. There are a few they couldn't find or didn't match the geography and they were flagged. CGI will produce maps. The State of Michigan has 4 rail grade crossing inspectors and MDOT staff felt those 4 people are the most appropriate people to review the maps. There is a 7-character code associated with each of these. There is a lot of data linked to the NI numbers. The CGI role was to get number on there for the active rail. The rail group will set the release date.

Rob Surber, CGI, stated this is a cooperative thing where they will get a new updated map product.

F. Partnership Update

Rob Surber, CGI, reported CGI continues to work with local providers of framework information. A map was displayed. The Keweenaw County's consultant, Chuck Lockwood, provided the centerline file that he created and addressed to CGI. This was compared to framework and transferred address ranges to the centerline, captured roads that CGI didn't have, and coordinated the two. CGI flagged all the roads that had name discrepancies. A map was made and sent for review of name discrepancies and roads with a name and a Physical Reference (PR) number that was in the CGI file but not in the source file. Need to know if the roads do not exist or if they were not driven.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that this data will be put in Version 5 of framework.

Joyce Newell, MDOT, asked if they identified whether roads in the framework are Act 51 roads.

Everett Root, CGI, responded that after verification, CGI will check on that.

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

Sherm Hollander, MDNR, had nothing to report.

Rob Surber, CGI, stated that CGI is working with MDNR on a couple projects and will demonstrate one later in meeting.

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

Joyce Newell, MDOT, reported MDOT is close to having everything in the right format for users to use Version 4. The PR Finder users are really pleased.

Everett Root, MDOT, stated that CGI has received the GIS file of federal forest roads and comparing it to framework. All roads in framework that are owned by the forest or that they designated federal forest highways, which are locally owned roads that run through the federal lands. CGI is coding those to framework for review and mileage calculations.

Rob Surber, CGI, commented that CGI will be adding a complete inventory and condition of MDNR state park roads, boat launches, and parking lots. This is a MDNR project in cooperation with MDOT. Global position system (GPS) drivelines will be collected this fall. One of the tasks is to integrate this data into the base map for routing, etc. This will be a significant data capture exercise, not only in xy data but in position data. The goal is for MDNR to do a review of the road conditions every 5 years. They are doing this in addition to capturing all the building footprints and other information for the Asset Management program. Most of what is in framework now is in topographic maps from the 1970-80s.

V. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Projects and Activities
Nobody in attendance.

VI. Michigan State Police (MSP) Projects and Activities

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that the Michigan Homeland Security GIS Advisory Committee submitted a grant application. One component is to look at risk (population centers, infrastructure) versus need (tools, data needs, human resources and ways to sustain that). A way to identify need was to produce survey that was sent to 111 communities that have stand-up responsibility in the case of an emergency or disaster. They are the business lead and have information requirements. The survey was sent to GIS or comparable individuals for all communities and also to regional planning commissions and state agencies that provide support to the local emergency operation centers. The goal is to identify data issues that might be out there, what access they have to human resources (GIS personnel), hardware/software limitations or advantages. The committee will do follow up. In addition to the survey, the committee looks at how they collaborate now (procedural standpoint, share data, share applications, standards, financial). Trying to get a picture of where the needs might be. There is a list of data layer that aligns with the Federal Homeland Security list with a Michigan twist. On that list, asked questions whether this critical layer for your needs in your community. From this, will look at the gap analysis. The goal is to have basic minimum standards statewide and a mechanism to get to them in the time of an emergency. The committee meets this Friday to evaluate the formula risk versus need.

Rosemary Anger, Barry County, commented that they fill would like to see the survey online.

Rob Surber, CGI, responded that the timing and staff was limited. The survey went to GIS and Emergency Operation Centers. The goal is to connect the two. The 9-11 results were useful but often this not what people think about prior to an emergency. CGI has been getting quite a few responses back with suggestions and comments. CGI will make maps that show disconnects between GIS offices and Emergency Operation Centers. The committee has representation from all levels of government and hopefully the word will get out throughout the state.

VII. Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) Projects and Activities
Mike Hass, MDCH, nothing to report.

VIII. Michigan State Industries (MSI) Projects and Activities

Chuck Bender, MSI, reported they received a CD from MDOT with 10 counties for the Right of Way Project. There are another 17 or so available that they can work to work on as well. They continue work on the 'As Built', identifying data MDOT was looking for in addition to

what MSI initially provided. There 6-8 other fields that MSI identified that MDOT wanted to collect data on. MSI is working with roads 1960 and newer and then 1959 and older. MDNR Fisheries identified 60 lakes for MSI to work on. Fisheries are waiting to go through data for 600 lakes. MSI continues to try to streamline process and cut time down to less than half by creating AMLs. It will not cost nearly as much as original estimate.

IX. CGI Projects and Activities

Rob Surber, CGI, reported there is a project of converting old rail Right-of-Way as part of the Rail-to-Trail effort.

Everett Root, CGI, added there are paper maps of rail Right-of-Way that have already been converted to trails. These are being scanned and creating a database. Will collect information that is on the paper – town, range, section, and name of rail associated with. They get requests for the maps and because of age, they getting more difficult to copy so they are being scanned and creating a database with an application that will allow lookup of the map remotely. CGI staff is generating the scan and populating the database.

Rob Surber, CGI, commented that it will then go back to MDNR. There may be other uses around the state. One dates back to 1917.

Chuck Bender, MSI, stated they provided MDNR Fisheries with a database in Microsoft Access that provides a web link to TIFF images. CGI may consider looking at this process.

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

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that Bill Enslin has new position and don't know if there will be a new representative.

Kathleen Weessies, MSU GIS Library, reported she is buying the statewide Map Image Viewer (MIV). It is 70 gigabytes. It cannot be network out – it is a stand-alone situation. Cannot offer campus-wide. The money has been approved – it is just the mechanics of getting it.

XI. County/Local Projects and Activities

Rosemary Anger, Barry County, reported they took delivery of the 3-county area (Allegan, Ottawa, Barry) 6-inch photo set on Tuesday. Now they are trying to figure out how to use it. Her system will only let her display a quarter at a time. Did scan and archive the 1961 and 1974 sets before they took delivery of the 2004. Now they have additional archive covering 5 different years. MSU is in the process of doing the same thing as part of the Vision 10 group (consortium of couple townships), which is buying in to some computer-planning program and converting the data into this program and bringing in an aerial layer. Barry County said they could not support it because there had not successful implementations of this program in the entire county. Barry County did not want to get in at the experimental stage. Therefore, MSU is supporting it instead. The county got a 40-foot grid digital elevation modules (DEM) delivered with photos, which are beautiful and crisp. It is leaf-off on the big trees and leaf-on on the little trees.

Mike Hass, MDCH, reminded the group that of the annual MiCAMP conference, September 9-10 at Boyne Mountain, MI.

Rosemary Anger, Barry County, asked if CGI came up with a funding scheme for air photo purchase plan.

Rob Surber, CGI, said that they are working on it now. It will depend on state resources. There is a lot of interest. Homeland Security, Asset Management, and Land Use are driving some of it. It is still brewing but nothing new to report.

XII. Regional Projects and Activities

Nobody present.

XIII. Federal Projects and Activities

Gordon Rector, Census Bureau, nothing to report.

XIV. Other Issues

Kathleen Weessies, MSU Library, stated they are trying to find highway exit numbers.

Everett Root, CGI, stated they created node for each interchange and assigned a number to it. Now will review it.

XV. Next Meeting Date

September 2, 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