

GIS Users Group – 2017 Summary

Submitted by: Nan Ewald, Everett Root, Ulrika Zay, and Mark Holmes

In an effort to continually improve the experience for everyone involved with the GIS Users Group meetings, please find below a review of the Group's activities over the past year. Based on positive feedback received from participants, the Center for Shared Solutions (CSS) continued with much the same format in 2017, offering 1 offsite meeting. In an effort to touch base with more GIS folks out in the field, the June meeting was held at the Kent County Road Commission, the meeting and tour of the Grand Valley Metro Council PASAR Van was very interesting and was well attended.

- The meetings were held on a bi-monthly basis on even numbered months.
- Meetings were broken into morning and afternoon sessions.
 - The morning session consisted of networking time, organizational updates and a thirty minute special topic.
 - The afternoon session was a two hour education session that usually consisted of a PowerPoint, demonstration, and discussion. (List Below)
- CSS provided coffee, tea, and snacks (e.g. bagels or muffins) during the morning networking time.
- CSS continued its support of the meetings by assigning 2 staff members, each at 10% FTE, to act as a liaison for this meeting to ensure that it was planned, marketed, and run smoothly every other month. The Liaisons for 2017 were Ulrika Zay and Nan Ewald.

The 2017 GIS User Group meetings continued to build on the established success of previous years.

- The average meeting attendance for 2017 was up.
- Continued outreach in offsite meeting.
- Established yearly onsite updates for ESRI in February
- Vendor Presentations
- Meeting attendance continued to be diverse in nature, representing GIS Users from across disciplines – Local, State, and Federal government, academia, private sector, and not-for-profit entities.

Special Topic and Educational Sessions held in 2017

Further information and meeting minutes are available at the GIS Users Group website (http://www.michigan.gov/cgi/0,4548,7-158-52927_53037_12761_15235---,00.html):

February

- Morning – Simple Tools for Understanding & Communicating the Value of GIS was presented by Jennifer Wills, Oakland County IT Supervisor, and Tammi Shepherd, Chief, Application Services, Oakland County.
- Afternoon – What's New with ArcGIS 10.5. What is new from Esri. Presented by Dan Haag, Esri.
-ArcGIS for Local Government Solutions. Presented by Scott Oppmann and Chris Foxx, Esri.

April

- Morning – Poster Viewing and Judging for the IMAGIN Student Paper and Poster Competition.
GIS Education Panel - Discussion on the Status of GIS Education in Michigan.
- Afternoon – “IMAGIN Student Paper Competition” Students will give 20-30 minute paper presentations to be judged by a panel of Michigan University GIS professors.

June

- Meeting held offsite at Kent County Road Commission, Grand Rapids, Michigan.
- Morning – Statewide Asset Management Pilot. Presented by John Weiss, GVMC Executive Director and Steve Warren, Managing Director of KCRC and REGIS Board Chair.
 - eREGIS Utility Finder Web Application. Presented by Jason Moore, REGIS GIS Manager
 - Census Bureau Update. Presented by Ulrika Zay, CSS Outreach Analyst.
 - State of Michigan Updates. Presented by Everett Root, CSS Outreach Specialist.
 - Michigan Geographic Framework (MGF) Upgrade Project. Presented by Mark Holmes, CSS Geospatial Services Manager.
 - Round the Room Discussion.
- Afternoon – Tour of Grand Valley Metro Council(GVMC) PASER Van. Presented by Mike Zonyk and Mike Brameijer.

August

- Morning – Reports for Center for Shared Solutions (CSS) Presented by Everett Root and Ulrika Zay.
 - LiDAR and Contours Partnership Opportunity
 - Imagery for GIS Data Exchange Partnership Opportunity
 - Results of the Recent Survey Regarding the GIS Users Meetings
- Afternoon – LiDAR Workshop. Presented by Joel Nelson, University of Minnesota and Jim Giglierano, Wisconsin GIO.

- Next Generation of the Michigan Geographic Framework. Presented by Mark Holmes.

October

- Morning – Obtaining or Recertification for a GISP(Geographic Information Systems Professional) Certification. Presented by Mike Cousins and Patrick Gross OHM Advisors.
- Afternoon – CARTO, Trends and Developments in Location Intelligence for the Public Sector. Presented by Rod Erickson, CARTO
 - Review of Hands-On-Drone-to-GIS-Workshop. Presented by Bob Goodwin, Senior Spatial Analyst, RS&GIS, MSU.

December

- Morning – Augmented Reality. Presented by Mike Cousins, OHM Advisors.
- Afternoon – NearMap, Cloud Based Imagery Solutions. Presented by Brett Clark, NearMap.
 - MDOT CORS and New NGS Datums. Presented by Shawn E. Roy P.S., MDOT &NGS State Geodetic Coordinator.

Looking Ahead – 2018

- Change in Format of 4 meetings per year at Constitution Hall in Lansing: February 1st, May 3rd, August 2nd and November 1st.

As always, if you have any questions/comments regarding the meetings please forward them to Nan Ewald at the Center for Shared Solutions (517-373-7910) or ewaldn@michigan.gov .
Thanks again for helping to make 2017 such a success.