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FMTF GIS Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date: Tuesday, December 9, 2008**

**Time: 1:30 – 2:30 P.M. EST**

**Where: Web conference**

**Attendees List:**

**Lina Kulikowski Broward MPO**

**Tom Hill FDOT District 2**

**Terry Corkery FDOT Systems Planning**

**Vidya Mysore FDOT Systems Planning**

**Wally Blain Hillsborough County MPO**

**Nellie Fernandez Palm Beach MPO**

**Vinod Sandanasamy Palm Beach MPO**

**Albert Gan Florida International University**

**Illir Bejleri University of Florida**

**Capton Siluvairajan Cambridge Systematics**

**Colby Brown Citilabs**

**Minhua Wang Citilabs**

**Mary Stallings Grimail Crawford**

**Santanu Roy HDR**

**Thuha Nguyen Lyew Kittelson & Associates**

**Welcome and Introduction**

* Lina Kulikowski, GIS Committee Chair, made introductory remarks. She mentioned the

upcoming MTF leadship meeting in Orlando on December 15th and 16th and the need to

present the priority task list at the meeting. She solicited ranking inputs on the proposed

task items.

**Discussion on GIS Committee Priorities**

* Mary Stallings said that we have to get GIS-TM (functionalities) up and running again.

Lina answered that, in the task list, GIS-TM part 1 matched very well with the Citilabs

Geodatabase framework work and therefore that will be ranked with high priority. GISTM part 2 focuses on any additional tools that will be of benefit.

* Illir and Santanu, who have sent in rankings, gave their perspective on the task list; Illir

stated that since any applications depend on the database to function, he thought that the database work should be given highest priority. He said, the GIS One map should also be considered in parallel since it will be the source of the network in the future when we use the dual-line coded GIS model. He added that GIS training should be an ongoing process.

* Santanu Roy mentioned that the old Tranplan had nice reporting functionalities and he is aware that the Central Office is involved with some Template development for reporting. He said the third item in the task list “Model Visualization/Reporting” can be a good extension to this effort. He raised a question as to why we need a separate training program for GIS personnel, Lina answered that this is not a separate training program but just an attempt to evaluate the need for training which will be later incorporated into the modelers training program. Santanu inquired about the PCWALK file item in the list. He said that PC walk file is done in ArcGIS which is easy to use, Lina answered that PC walk file functionality is very important in transit modeling and we need a better tool than the one we have now. Vidya added that as a result of New Starts applications and transit becoming more prominent in LRTPs, we need to improve the functionality of the PCWALK file. He explained the PCWALK file concept for non-modelers and suggested we can have it as an item in the task list but maybe not with very high priority.
* Lina then asked other members if they had any inputs for the ranking and suggested the

 ranking order for the tasks (see final task list below).

* Lina asked Citilabs, based on Illir’s suggestion on using TeleAtlas for modeling, how

feasible it is to use TeleAtlas for the model network. Colby answered that he has been

involved with some trials using Navteq data and the results are good. Minhua added that

the results should be comparable for TeleAtlas. Lina asked how would centroid

connectors be addressed in such a case. Colby answered that there are essentially 2

ways: 1) Use the auto centroid generator feature, or 2) Use a geo-processing script to

generate centroids.

* Mary Stallings asked Vidya what the status was of the TeleAtlas contract. Vidya answered that the current contract is for three years plus one optional extension year totaling 4 years. It currently has one year left. The data is updated every 3 months. He added that TeleAtlas data has perpetual usage license and the data will be available for use even after the license agreement comes to an end but we will not have any updates. He also mentioned that there should be some way of giving feedback to the data providers on data discrepancy issues so that local agencies can update and use their local knowledge. He solicited inputs from everyone on using these kinds of networks.
* Lina asked for the group’s suggestion on Visual Tools for modelers. Colby replied that

Citilabs has a separate product called Accession that will be later repackaged as an

extension to ArcGIS. Lina mentioned that we have to look at what is already available

before we invest in developing new tools. Tom mentioned that TransCAD had a prism

mapping functionality that illustrates the data in 3D. Illir replied that the same effect can

be achieved using ArcObjects scripting in ArcScene. Colby mentioned that if this is a

potential feature that modelers want, Citilabs may consider addressing this request.

Minhua added that technically it is quite possible to do since Cube GIS already has

ArcScene as part of the ArcGIS Engine package.

* Lina mentioned that the GeoDatabase will be the priority number 1 and FIU has a contract with FDOT central office that will address this task. The GIS committee will have a chance to review the scope of services once it’s finalized.
* A vote was taken on the task priorities and everyone agreed that the priority list is correct (see final list below).

**Final GIS Committee Priorities List**

As agreed upon by the GIS Committee, below is a list of committee tasks ranked in order of priority. This list will be discussed at the MTF Leadership meeting on December 15th and 16th, 2009.

1. GIS-TM Part 1

a. Adopt GIS-TM Geodatabase framework for Cube GIS

b. Develop metadata standards for the new Cube Geodatabase

2. Model Visualization Tools/Reports

a. Develop better tools to review the model input and output data

b. Evaluate Cube Reports extension

c. Evaluate Desire Line tool inside Cube

d. Incorporate TransCAD 'PRISM' feature inside Cube

e. Evaluate Cube Accession tool (to be part of ArcGIS extension)

3. GIS-TM Part 2

a. Evaluate how model projection methods in GIS-TM can be applied to Cube

GIS environment

b. Develop LOS calculator and network comparison feature inside Cube GIS

environment

4. Train Modelers in effective use of GIS tools

a. Develop GIS training curriculum to be incorporated into the comprehensive

modeling training program

5. GIS One Map concept

a. Follow up on the current GIS One Map effort from FDOT Safety Office

b. Follow up on the current contractual agreement between FDOT and

TeleAtlas

c. Evaluate how Cube uses Navteq or TeleAtlas data as the model network and

customization tools available for adding model specific features such as

centroid connectors

6. Develop a PCWALK file creation feature inside Cube GIS