



**Health Informatics Council
Intra-agency Data Sharing & Software Access & Warehousing Subcommittee**

**GIS Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

March 5th, 2008

Present: Nduta Ahmad, Sheryll Brown, Jeff Carlisle, Carmen Clarke, Kristen Eberly, Amy Fletcher, Connie Hall-Jones, Bonnie Hartzell, Michael Jordan, Crystal Johnson, Jo Lynn Johnson, Elizabeth Kruger, Miriam McGaugh, Becki Moore, Joyce Morris, Imad Mrani, Derek Pate, Katy Rich, Larry Weatherford, Carrie Zeman

Absent: Anne Bliss, Susan Boyd, Sam Cannella, Mary Beth Cox, Brittney Foy, James Joslin, Vicki Kirtley, Susan Mendus, Paul Patrick, Cari Thompson

Call to Order

Katy Rich called the meeting to order at approximately 2:00 p.m.

Minutes

Katy had distributed copies of the minutes from the January 2008 meeting via email. No one had changes or problems to report.

MPI Subcommittee Update

Becki Moore gave a report on the activities of the Master Person Index (MPI) Subcommittee, which is also a subcommittee of the Health Informatics Council. Some of this subcommittee's activities will involve GIS. Becki reported the following information:

- The MPI Subcommittee has met twice with good turnout from members
- MPI has been defined
- The subcommittee is going to be developing workgroups
 - One of the workgroups will be working on developing standards, including address standards
 - One of the services that will be offered to MPI participants will be geocoding; when programs put their data into the MPI; if that data includes an address or other locational information, then the MPI could return the lat long coordinates for the data

Katy said that she hopes that the GIS Standards and Policies subcommittee can work closely with the MPI standards workgroup. This should be feasible since Becki is chairing the GIS Standards and Policies subcommittee and the MPI Subcommittee Chair.

GIS Needs Assessment Report

Katy was not able to deliver the final draft of the report to the committee members prior to this meeting because other urgent matters came up. However, she made progress on the DPS section as well as on another chapter of the report.

Katy proposed a new timeline that would include getting the draft to the GAC members by March 19th, discussing the report on April 2nd and then presenting the needs assessment to the April 30th Health Informatics Council.

Katy has had difficulties with completing the GIS data inventory. She has not had good response from the GIS data users that she contacted via email about giving Jeff Carlisle the location of their GIS data to do an automated inventory.

Katy prefers to send the final, completed draft at one time, rather than sending small bits.

GIS Software Purchase Update

Katy reported that there was a bid placed on the GIS software upgrade purchase. The bid closed on January 30th and Procurement was negotiating with the bidder on the terms. Ashley needs to send something to DCS and then the bid will be officially awarded.

Geocoding Roads Data Testing

Katy reported that she is working on testing roads data for geocoding. There is some urgency in OSDH regarding geocoding. The new Vital Records system will include a geocoding component, and the vendors for that system have been trying to determine how the geocoding will work and what setup will be required. Katy is trying to test the roads data quickly in order to identify the best dataset to use for agency-wide geocoding and to support various systems, including the Vital Records system, PHIDDO (that system was using Tele Atlas data for geocoding but they did not renew the maintenance for that data and can no longer use it), and the MPI. We can geocode at this time with TIGER line files but they are not very accurate and we have not gotten very good geocoding results with that data.

Currently, Katy is testing the NAVTEQ roads data. She is using a 30-day evaluation of the data for Tulsa County. She will also test the TIGER roads and the ESRI StreetMap data (comes with the ArcView software). She will compare the results from all three datasets. Katy is also working on obtaining evaluation copies of Tele Atlas roads data and the Centrus Geocoder for ESRI ArcGIS to test. Centrus uses USPS data and TIGER roads to standardize and then geocode the data. Legal has the evaluation agreements to review, and when they are done, Katy will test those datasets.

Miriam asked if the test roads dataset included problem areas that we have encountered in the past. Imad said that Tulsa County has been very problematic in the past for Health Care Information geocoding.

The NAVTEQ dataset also comes with Points of Interest (POI) geocoded data.

We can purchase updates at varying levels – semiannual or quarterly. Miriam asked how the companies update the data. These companies have field staff that drive the roads to collect data.

The data that Katy is using for the geocoding testing comes from the Hospital Outpatient/Inpatient/ASC Discharge dataset (about 100,000 records for Tulsa). Carmen asked about Katy's strategy for the geocoding testing. Katy described it as:

- Geocode the discharge dataset with the NAVTEQ roads (80% or better match) for Tulsa
- Geocode the discharge dataset with the TIGER roads data and ESRI StreetMap data for Tulsa
- Compare the results from the three geocoding processes (# unmatched at varying levels vs. # unmatched)
- Eventually, test the other roads datasets with a statewide dataset

Carmen wondered if the sample is representative enough or if there would be anything systematically different about hospitalized people from other OSDH populations. Maybe it would be beneficial to test more than one dataset. There was some agreement that Katy could also test a PHOCIS dataset, since many programs use it.

Katy has gotten a quote from NAVTEQ, which would allow for a total of 5-10 individual users. She has not gotten a good answer from the NAVTEQ vendor yet about whether or not a geocoding service on ArcGIS Server would be counted as 1 user or more than 1 user. Katy will verify the pricing issues and check on if users are single users or concurrent users.

GAC Subcommittee Updates

- Software Access Subcommittee
 - Met on Feb 7th and 14th
 - Went over guidelines for software monitoring
 - Drafted software installation procedure, copy was distributed
 - Katy needs to meet with the Helpdesk supervisors to go over the procedure with them
 - Joyce suggested that there should be a list of what is comparable to ArcGIS I and II – make the syllabus available (Katy can do that)
 - Jeff developed a software usage monitoring webpage where someone can see who is using the software and how many licenses are available; Jeff will improve the monitoring page by:
 - Parsing the information to a table view that will be easier to read
 - Adding a remove button for use by license administrators, to be used as a last resort (the system would generate multiple warning messages before the license connection would terminate)
 - Adding a comments section where users could make a note about what they're working on and how long it might take (some functions, such as Identify and Cluster Analysis can take many hours to process)
 - Setting it up to export data to a database for usage monitoring
 - Discussed adding some free GIS software (ArcReader, ArcGIS Explorer) to the standard computer image for new computers
- Strategic Planning Subcommittee

- Has not had a meeting yet but one will be held in late March or early April
 - Waiting for the Needs Assessment to be completed
- Standards and Policies Subcommittee
 - Metadata standard has been narrowed down to two choices – FGDC and ISO; committee will find out what the differences are and see what our federal partners are using (Miriam pointed out that we should check on what “The National Map” uses since we may at some point make data available on that website)
 - Will identify required metadata elements
 - Determined that if OSDH staff creates the data, that person should create the metadata to accompany it
 - Discussed map templates – we should offer 3-4 templates (portrait, landscape, etc); if someone wants to depart from the templates, then their map should go through some kind of a map review process
 - The templates would only provide guidelines for map elements and placement but not for exact representation of data
 - Group will look at if other agencies have map review/approval processes (check with CDC, NCHS, etc)
- Hardware Design Subcommittee
 - Reviewed minimum ArcGIS Server specs
 - Will work on designing the optimal hardware architecture; waiting for geodatabase design to determine how much disk space will be required for data storage
 - Contacting other agencies about their hardware resources
- Geodatabase Design Subcommittee
 - Has not had a meeting yet but one is scheduled for late March

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on April 2nd at 2:00 pm in room 328.

Meeting Closing

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:15 p.m.