



Operational Visioning Components of the National Alliance for Public Safety GIS

Updated February 2009

A Memorandum of Understanding establishing the National Alliance for Public Safety GIS (NA-PSG) was ratified in November 2006, and calls for the NA-PSG Steering Committee to develop a definitive written document to govern the activities of the Alliance. The Steering Committee developed and approved the NA-PSG 2007 business plan in September of 2006 to fulfill this requirement. The plan was updated and approved by the NA-PSG Steering Committee in February of 2009 as the “Charter Agreement of the National Alliance for Public Safety GIS”.

The “Operational Visioning Components” document complements that agreement and will serve as a living document to guide ongoing NAPSG activities. This document consists of the following sections:

1. Strategies and Actions for current period of operations
2. Schedule for upcoming Steering Committee meetings
3. Actions for future consideration

1. Strategies and Actions for 2009-2010

Strategies

- Embrace a multi-disciplinary element within the alliance. We will achieve that by having the current steering committee members convey the vision of the alliance to other potential members of the alliance.
- Identify and promote Model Practices which provide strong support for priority business process requirements. We will achieve this through the activities of the Model Practices Task Force, chaired by XXXX.
- Create guidelines for standardized inputs and outputs to GIS systems to facilitate broader use among partner member clientele. We will achieve this through the activities of the Standards Task Force, chaired by XXXX.

- Develop Public Safety specific GIS training to encourage the development of public safety GIS professionals. We will achieve this through the activities of the Workshops and Training Task force, chaired by XXXX
- Develop Guidance Resources: Provide a framework/template for using GIS as a decision support tool for local HLS functions. Provide resources to help respective clientele implement these tools. We will achieve this through the activities of the Outreach Task force, chaired by XXXX

Actions

The steering committee has agreed to pursue the following activities:

- CPSE expressed interest in assuming leadership of the training task force, and seeks guidance on continued discussions regarding more direct engagement
- The NFPA and NASFM have expressed interest in joining NAPSG. The Steering Committee expressed unanimous support and Jennifer will seek application letters for formal approval.
- Outreach to other public safety associations (NEMA; IAEM; IACP; etc.)
 - It was agreed that individual meetings would be the best next step for seeking the active participation of other public safety disciplines in NAPSG.
 - Ed and Jennifer will schedule a meeting to develop a specific proposal for followup

2. Schedule for upcoming Steering Committee meetings

- March 2009: Steering committee conference call:
 - Review and approve update to the Charter Agreement
 - Review and consider framework of activities in the draft National Plan for Fire GIS
 - Review and consider task force leadership and additional actions for 2009-2010
 - schedule next meetings

3. Activities for future consideration

- Develop preparedness guidelines and response guide handbook for state and local governments in the following target areas:
 - Adopting standard SOPs for data sharing during incident response
 - Adopting guidelines for standard map products
 - Establishing regional networks of emergency GIS professionals
 - Including GIS resources in Mutual Aid agreements
 - Understanding relevant data models, filing and naming conventions

- Promote understanding of the application of GIS to HLS mission
 - Awareness materials (e.g. general information, interviews, best practices, etc)
 - Media outreach (e.g. articles in trade publications, interviews, showcase of best practices, etc.)
 - Joint partner participation at conference venues:
 - Association conferences
 - ESRI-UC Exec Seminar
 - ESRI's Homeland Security Summit
 - GISPCE Conference

- Development of IRMP/SOC training resources. In particular focusing on specific tasks utilizing the concepts of CAST or Critical Attendance Standards (or Critical Assignment Standards) and including development of a document to accompany the self assessment manual: GIS techniques and map products.

- Policy: to encourage realistic and appropriate use of GIS and the coordination of federal, state and local response.

- Data model: provide subject matter expertise in the development of the USGS Emergency Operations data model being developed under the GIS for the Nation program

- Analyze and discuss the cost / benefits of the development of a commission for the purpose of credentialing public safety GIS professionals

- Training: Develop Public Safety specific GIS training to encourage the development of public safety GIS professionals
 - Address both technical and management
 - Use existing curriculum sponsored by NSA
 - Conduct workshops (IAFC Fire GIS workshop model: Management/technical tracks)
 - Role of US Fire Academy, etc.
 - Webinars

- Coordinate input for development of tools and capabilities
 - Conduct requirements and gap analysis for applications, data and services development
 - Technical advisory council/working group for input to and coordination of application/data services development
 - Encourage the development of integrated risk management approach to disaster preparedness in order to create excellence at the local level utilizing data and systems technology that is readily available. Central to this technology is the use of GIS for data management and compilation.

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