MetroGIS Benefits Study

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MetroGIS Benefits Study

- Funded by FGDC
- Two Part Study
  - Interviews
  - Survey
Interviews

Sources for names
- TLG Centerline users list
- County data logs

Total Interviewed - 45
- City - 12
- County - 7
- Regional - 23
- Private - 3
Interview Results

- Major Recognized Benefits
  - Working Relationships
  - Regional Datasets
  - DataFinder/Metadata
Improved Working Relationships

- Better Sharing of Data and Processes
  - Increased trust
- Increased Coordination
  - Adjacent jurisdictions
  - Overlapping jurisdictions
Improved Working Relationships

- Benefits From MetroGIS
  - Support of Users Groups
  - Creating Forums for Discussion
Regional Datasets

- Street Centerlines
- Orthophotography
- Jurisdictional Boundaries
Regional Datasets

- Best as Simple Layers
  - Backdrops, address matching, common boundaries
- Many Attributes Difficult
  - Land Use
Metadata Standards

- DataFinder as Repository
- Need for Standards for Shared Data
MetroGIS Benefits Study

Preliminary Survey Results
Survey Results

Do you feel that your participation in MetroGIS has been an effective use of your time?

- Yes, very effective                      20.7%
- Yes, moderately effective               57.5%
- No, not very effective                 12.6%
- No, not at all effective               2.3%
Ratings of MetroGIS Functions

Importance (1=none, 5=extreme)

Percent who MetroGIS should invest resources here
Highest Rated Functions of MetroGIS
(Importance $\geq 4.0$ and invest $\geq 90\%$)

- Promote voluntary policies which foster coordination
- Facilitate data sharing agreements and licensing
Middling Rated Functions of MetroGIS
(Importance > 3.5 and invest > 70%)

- Maintain MetroGIS web site <www.metrogis.org>
- Support DataFinder
- Identify unmet GIS needs and act on these needs
- Develop master contracts for regional GIS projects
- Promote collaborative funding of projects
- Create and/or maintain priority datasets

(continued)
Middling Rated Functions of MetroGIS (continued)

- Promote forums for MetroGIS stakeholders
- Require standards for regional datasets
- Development of endorsed standards
- Guidelines for getting electronic access
- Help development and exchange of GIS applications
- Maintain relationships with other organizations
- Advocate for MetroGIS
Lowest Rated Functions of MetroGIS

(Importance < 3.5 and invest <75%)

- Promote filling gaps in metadata
- Conduct research to meet common regional needs
- Provide technical assistance to participants
- Publish MetroGIS newsletter
- Identify GIS and education needs
- Market MetroGIS data and products
- Provide a repository of GIS job information
DataFinder

Have you ever used DataFinder?
- Yes        46%
- No         54%
DataFinder Users

Were you able to find what you were looking for?

- Yes 82%
- No 18%

Any obstacles obtaining the data?

- Yes 45%
- No 55%
DataFinder Users

Did the problems prevent you from using the data?

- Yes  16%
- No    84%
Other Data

Has MetroGIS ever helped you to obtain any data either free or at reduced rates?

- No, did not seek help or need any help 41%
- No, the system does not work well 1%
- No, but MetroGIS helped find the data at full cost 2%
- Yes, but the data has not been used much 16%
- Yes, and the data has been very useful 41%
Other Data

Are there any other data sets you need from others but can’t get?

- Yes  
  25%

- No  
  75%
Other Data

What keeps you from getting this data?

- Cost of acquisition 45%
- Data does not exist 41%
- Licensing problems 32%
- Cannot find the data 9%
- Cost of internal production 5%
- Other 14%
Other Data

- Do you share or use data from others that is NOT among the top 13 information needs?
  - Yes 40%
  - No 60%
Subscription Fee

If a subscription fee was developed that was consistent with perceived benefit received, would you be able to pay for regional data sets?

- Yes, definitely 14%
- Yes, probably 51%
- No, probably not 30%
- No, definitely not 5%
Other Benefits

Other than delivering data to you, has MetroGIS made a positive impact on your work in any of these other areas?

- Attitude about sharing throughout the region 45%
- Communication about GIS 40%
- Data standards 24%
- Learning opportunities 24%
- Support of users groups 18%
- Funding of projects 18%
Other Benefits

- Technical support 11%
- Shared computer programs or applications 7%
- Shared processing procedures or best practices 6%
- None of the above 25%
- Other 2%
Issues to Address

- Funding / Structure
- Access to more data
Summary of Benefits

- More data sharing
- More communication
- Better attitude about sharing
Problems to Address

- Need more data/ cheaper data
- How to pay for MetroGIS?