NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program Strategic and Business Plan Development in Support of the 50 States Initiative

Agreement Number 06HQAG0109 Interim Report

Wisconsin Department of Administration Division of Enterprise Technology

September 28, 2006

Organization:

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Interim Summary for FGDC CAP Grant September 28, 2006, Page 2 of 7

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Project Narrative:

This CAP grant was awarded in September of 2005. Dave Mockert, State of Wisconsin GIO, attended the kickoff workshop in Annapolis, MD on March 19, 2005. At the time of the award of the CAP grant, the statewide strategic effort was beginning. The draft of this strategic plan has been completed and will be published in final form by the end of October, 2006.

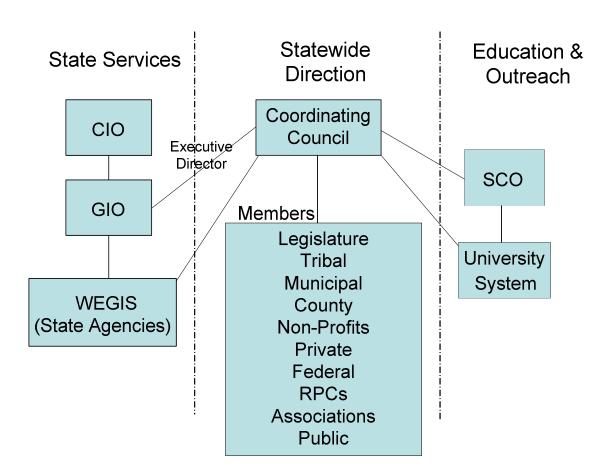
Work on the CAP grant began in June 2006 with the identification of the steps towards development of a GIS Coordination Council in Wisconsin.

- Research and Report on other State's Councils completed
- Create a Draft Charter and Scope of the Council
- Define Composition and Function of Council
- Formalization Creation via Executive Order or Legislative Action
- Formation and meeting

Over the past 20 years, development and coordination of geospatial data and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) across Wisconsin state agencies has been an informal activity. There is a need to formalize and improve the coordination of Wisconsin's spatial data governance and GIS infrastructure. Working towards that goal, this project will create and implement the operation of the Wisconsin GIS Coordination Council.

Many GIS activities require statewide coordination to be effective and efficient: geospatial data infrastructure, geospatial data standards, federal GIS initiatives, federal grants, homeland security, applications development, partnerships among state and local agencies, and data delivery to the public. The State's Chief Information Officer (CIO) hired a Geographic Information Officer (GIO) under whom this project's activities will reside. The GIO functions as a single point of coordination within state government. Including other entities within the GIS community in the decision making process regarding statewide initiatives will require new methods of governance (See Figure 1).

Figure 1. Conceptual Coordinating Council Governance Model



Wisconsin has received two previous CAP grants. The first aimed at coordination efforts and resulted in a workshop that served to educate and network the GIS community,

Interim Summary for FGDC CAP Grant September 28, 2006, Page 4 of 7

identify goals, and obtain volunteers to work on next steps. Workshop presentations and results are posted at the following public website,

http://enterprise.state.wi.us/home/tlc/GIS/home.htm or directly at http://enterprise.state.wi.us/home/tlc/GIS/wk050517.htm.

The second CAP grant administered through the Wisconsin Land Information Association (WLIA) was applied to develop a statewide GIS strategic plan for the State of Wisconsin.

This existing CAP grant is focused on coordination activities that will fulfill the remaining Coordination Criteria for the State of Wisconsin (in bold below).

The National State's Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) advocates that the following nine Coordination Criteria are essential to fully enable statewide geographic information coordination activities:

- 1. A full-time paid coordinator position is designated and has the authority to implement the state's business and strategic plans.
- 2. A clearly defined authority exists for statewide coordination of geospatial information technologies and data production.
- 3. The statewide coordination office has a formal relationship with the states Chief Information Officer (or similar office).
- 4. A champion (politician or executive decision maker) is aware and involved in the process of coordination.
- 5. Responsibilities for developing the National Spatial Data Infrastructure and a State Clearinghouse is assigned.
- 6. The ability exists to work and coordinate with local governments, academia, and the private sector.
- 7. Sustainable funding sources exist to meet projected needs.
- 8. Coordinators have the authority to enter into contracts and become capable of receiving and expending funds.
- **9.** The Federal government works through the statewide coordinating authority. Explanation: It is essential that Federal agencies use statewide GIS Coordination offices and councils. The creation of the GIS Coordination Council will provide a broad based authority to aid in governance of statewide GIS activities.

Next steps:

- Create a Draft Charter and Scope of the Council
- Define Composition and Function of Council
- Formalization Creation via Executive Order or Legislative Action
- Formation and meeting goal by May 2007

The following 3 pages include the cover sheets for the research report that was completed as the first phase of this project. The report is available from the GIO upon request.

WISCONSIN GEGOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OFFICE

State GIS Governance Models

A Report in Support of a Proposal for a

Geographic Information Council and Statewide GIS Coordination Program for the State of Wisconsin



Prepared for the Wisconsin Geographic Information Office and Wisconsin State Cartographer's Office

Prepared by

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The **Land Information & Computer Graphics Facility** (LICGF) of the University of Wisconsin-Madison provides research, training, and outreach in the use of land and geographic information systems while focusing on land records modernization, land and natural resource management applications, and the use of information for land-use decision-making.

The **Wisconsin Geographic Information Office** (GIO) has the responsibility to coordinate Wisconsin's geospatial information activities, to implement standards to facilitate interoperability of information related to homeland security, to make recommendations on awarding grants to fund geospatial data, and to create information sharing agreements with state, local and tribal governments.

The **Wisconsin State Cartographer's Office** (SCO) is a unit within the Department of Geography at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. With an outreach mission, the SCO gathers, maintains and disseminates information about mapping and geo-spatial data in the state.

State GIS Governance Models: A Report in Support of a Proposal for a GIS Coordinating Council and Statewide GIS Coordination Program for the State of Wisconsin was prepared by L. A. Shanley, Land Information & Computer Graphics Facility, University of Wisconsin-Madison, with assistance from David Mockert, Wisconsin Geographic Information Officer, Ted Koch, Wisconsin State Cartographer, and Steve Ventura, Professor, Land Information & Computer Graphics Facility. This report was funded by a "50 States Initiative" grant award through the Federal Geographic Data Committee's (FGDC) 2006 National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Cooperative Agreement Program (CAP).

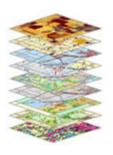
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