Implementation of the Model Data Distribution Policy
Agreement No.:**04HQAG0182**
Final Report

NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program

NSDI Cooperative Agreement Program Grant - Category 3

Promote Implementation of the Model Data Distribution Policy

Agreement Number: 04HQAG0182

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Project Narrative

In order to make local-government geodata more accessible to NSDI-based initiatives
(such as The National Map and the Geospatial One Stop portal), the data distribution

policy of many local agencies needs to be modified to conform more closely with the model data distribution policy guidelines. The goal of this project, therefore, is to promote and facilitate the understanding and implementation of the model data distribution policy for local government.

CGIA, the California Resources Agency, and GIS Consultants propose to work together to outreach and encourage local governments to examine their data policies in light of NSDI initiatives and homeland security demands for open and efficient data sharing. We will develop and conduct educational workshops designed to prepare local government data managers with the information necessary to formulate or modify their agency's data distribution policy. The workshop will give them the conceptual tools to address local data distribution issues, such as legal requirements, copyright, licensing, liability, security restrictions, privacy considerations, metadata maintenance, data recipients and distribution methods, as well as the controversial issue of data sales.

Our collaborative team is well-suited to capture the interest and engender the confidence of local government data policy decision makers. The CGIA has been a forum for multi-agency advocacy and coordination of geospatial information issues since its inception eleven years ago. The California Resources Agency is the state's largest creator and integrator of geospatial information; it enjoys high credibility with regional and local governments that use its data stores and its NSDI-compliant metadata catalog. GIS Consultants has been assisting local governments with geospatial development and policy for 27 years; its founder organized the Open Data Consortium project and was a co-founder and past Chair of the CGIA.

Summary of Project Activities

Project Tasks

Task 1 -   Prepare workshop materials and workbooks.
    100% Completed
Task 2 -   Organize workshops. Contact potential participants in each regional area.
    Secure meeting space and logistic support. <u>Three</u> workshops are budgeted for.
    100% Completed
Task 3 -   Conduct workshops.   Travel to each regional site to conduct a ½ day
    workshop with local government data managers. Workshops will be conducted by
    principals from each of the three collaborating organizations. We will spend the time
    necessary to answer participants' questions and encourage them to undertake review
    and modification of their respective agencies' data distribution policy.
    200% Completed (We had adequate resources to conduct three additional
workshops.)

Task 4 -   Prepare conference presentations. The substance and result of these
    workshops will be presented at GIS conferences to outreach to other interested local
    government data managers. Three likely professional conferences include ESRI User

> Conference (San Diego), California GIS Conference (Bakersfield), and URISA (Reno).
> **100% Completed**

Task 4 -   Attend CCAP orientation. Per request of the FGDC proposal, we will send one representative to Denver for a CCAP orientation.
100% Completed

Task 5 -   Project Administration and Reporting. Four reports will be prepared, per proposal requirements: Interim Report, Final Report, SF-272 Quarterly Federal Cash Transactions Report, and SF-269 Financial Status Report. Materials developed for the workshops will be included in the reports. In addition, the Open Data Consortium website, previously developed in collaboration with the California Resources Agency Spatial Information Library (CaSIL) will be updated and made available to workshop participants and Final Report readers.
100% Completed

CHRONOLOGY:

Oct 19, 05   **Additional Workshop** conducted at California Geographic Coordinating Council's Digital Land Records Information workshop, entitled "Benefits of a Statewide DLRI" and "Potential Solutions".

Oct 12   Co-Organizer, Summit II: National NSDI Vision ... Local Implementation." URISA conference, October, 2005

Oct 11   **Additional Workshop** entitled "Open Data Consortium Progress Report: Making Public Records Publicly Accessible," conducted at URISA conference, October, 2005.

Oct 10   Panelist on "Public Interest Benefits of Broad Use of Digital Parcel Map Layers," URISA conference, October, 2005.

Sept 15   **Additional Workshop** conducted at Los Angeles County Assessor's Office, entitled "Distribution of Public Geodata: current impediments and strategies for resolution". Also attended by representatives of several cities.

Aug 4   Participated in teleconference to plan a statewide workshop on Digital Land Records Information, to be conducted October 19.

July 28   **Workshop III** conducted at ESRI user conference, San Diego, CA, entitled "Preparing a Data Distribution Policy for Local Government." Also made a presentation on State Office of Attorney General's request for opinions on the California Open Records Act.

June 2   Prepared handout materials for third CCAP workshop.

Apr 26   **Workshop II** conducted at GeoSpatial World conference, San Francisco, CA, entitled "Open Data Consortium Achievement: Requirements for Automating Geospatial Transactions"

Apr 8   Prepared handout materials for second CCAP workshop.

Mar 18   **Workshop I** conducted at CalGIS'05 conference, Bakersfield, CA, entitled "Data Distribution Policies for Local Governments."

Mar 17   **Presentation** to CalGIS conference, as moderator and panel member on "Broad Use of Parcel Boundary Significantly Increases Local Sales & Property Tax Revenues," organized by Dennis Klein.

Mar 15   Prepared and distributed handout materials for first CCAP workshop.

Jan 31   **Article** published in URISA Journal, Vol 16, No. 2, 2005, "Ten Ways to Support GIS Without Selling Data."

Jan 25, '05 **Article** published in GeoReporter Newsletter, "Open Data Consortium Proposes Geodata Portal Transaction Requirements." at www.geoplace.com/uploads/OnlineExclusives/GeoData/geodata.asp

Nov 30, '04 **Article** published in ArcNews, Fall / 2004, "Open Data Consortium Proposes Geodata Portal Requirements."

Nov 18   **Presentation** to GIS Day at U.C.Berkeley, "Benefits from Broad Sharing of Spatial Data"

Nov 8   **Presentation** to URISA Conference, "Open Data Consortium project Phase 2 Progress Report"

Next Steps
        (Identify any action items that should be considered as next steps based on the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the CAP grant.)

Work is continuing by GIS Consultants. The following activities are being conducted on a *pro bono* basis. Additional support from the FGDC would enable us to devote more time to their successful completion:

*   Continuing to explain the Model Data Policy, and promote its usage.

*   Campaigning to convince counties that sell their geospatial parcel data at more than the cost of duplication to change their policies. (Seven counties have changed policy in 2005-06).

*   Working with allied organizations to promote enforcement of the California Public Records Act for counties that sell their data at a high price.

*   Working with the California GIS Council to formulate legislation that would provide some State subsidy to counties for maintaining their geospatial parcel data, thereby relieving them of the need to sell the data in violation of the Public Records Act.

*   Working with a self-selected committee to formulate recommendations for tracking the value of public agency usage of geospatial data, in order to allocate some of the financial benefits toward ongoing data maintenance, thereby relieving agencies of the need to sell their data in violation of the Public Records Act.

Feedback on Cooperative Agreements Program

What are the program strengths and weaknesses?
Strength - provides support to NSDI-cooperative efforts and activities.
Weakness - limited funds, one-time-only support

Where does the program make a difference?
Where there are interested people who are willing to donate time and effort.

Was the assistance you received sufficient or effective?
It was sufficient for the task proposed. It was efficient (three additional workshops were conducted.) It would have been more effective if the full scope of work could have been funded (a $ 66,000 proposal, previously submitted).

What would you recommend doing differently?
Enabling successful projects to be continued over several years. And of course, providing more funds for the purpose.

Are there factors that are missing or need to consider that were missed?
No.
Are there program management concerns that need to be addressed? Time frame?
The on-line grant application and registration method is difficult, time-consuming, frustrating, and unproductive.

If you were to do this again, what would you do differently?