

FINAL REPORT

Date: September 24, 2010

Agreement Number: 08HQPA0011

Project Title: *Development of a Strategic Plan for Building the Virgin Islands Spatial Data Infrastructure*

Organization: Virgin Islands Geospatial Information Council (VIGIC)

Collaborating organizations: Office of the Lieutenant Governor
Office of Homeland Security
Department of Planning and Natural Resources
University of the Virgin Islands

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Executive Summary

The Virgin Islands Geospatial Strategic Plan was finalized on July 8th based on the last round of input received during the public comment period. The final plan outlines the comprehensive uses and applications of Geospatial Information Systems (GIS) data and makes several recommendations for advancing the U.S. Virgin Island's GIS program. The goal of the plan is to develop a territory-wide spatial data infrastructure that can be shared by all units of the government and makes the territory's geospatial data assets readily available to the territory's partners. The Strategic Plan identifies strategies for strengthening coordination of GIS data development, maintenance and sharing.

Project Narrative

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor and the Virgin Islands Geospatial Information Council coordinated the VI Geospatial Strategic Planning project in consultation with Applied Geographics, Inc.. The project was funded by a Cooperative Assistance Program (CAP) grant from the USGS/FGDC's Fifty States Initiative.

The initial meeting between the VI Spatial Data Infrastructure strategic planning steering committee and Applied Geographics, Inc. approved the planning process and the current status of GIS in the Virgin Islands. The first Geospatial Strategic Planning stakeholder session was held at the 5th Annual Virgin Islands GIS Conference on November 19, 2009. The session provided a description of the strategic planning process and a summary of the current geospatial status in the USVI. The slides from this session are available using the link [USVI VIGIC Strategic Planning Session Slides \(PDF\)](#). The participants at this session included persons from the public sector (local and federal) and the private sector. The participants gave feedback and advocated for another session to be held with the Governor's cabinet.

In January 2010, Applied Geographics presented the strategic plan findings and draft recommendations to the Governor's cabinet. The presentation included an overview of geospatial status and details on the proposed vision and strategic goal for the USVI. The slides from this presentation are available using the link [USVI Geospatial Strategic Plan Findings and Recommendations Slides \(PDF\)](#).

A draft of the final document was posted to the project's webpage. Stakeholders were given over two weeks to review. Local as well as Federal stakeholders provided input and feedback. The final document was posted and comment

Next Steps

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor and the Virgin Islands Geospatial Information Council are working on implementing the following priorities:

1. Create a position and hire a Territorial Geospatial Information Officer (GIO).

Action: Job description has been secured. Funding is being sought.

2. Implement Territory-wide Street Addressing Project

Action: A legislative advocate has secured appropriation of \$50,000 for funding planning for the implementation of the Street Addressing Project (see news article related to this project).

3. Complete parcel layer improvement.

Action: Pending

4. Pursue implementation of the USVI Enterprise GIS

Action: Discussions are ongoing with the NSF Virgin Islands EPScOR project to expand their existing GIS data clearing house to include parcels.

Attachments

Applied Geographics Inc. (2010). *U.S. Virgin Islands Geospatial Strategic Plan*.

CONSTANCE COOPER. (2010, 9/April). V.I. to develop street address system. *Virgin Islands Daily News (St. Thomas, VI)*. www.virginislandsdailynews.com/04092010.

VI Source. (2010, 25/August). Project Asks Community to Submit Names for Streets. *V.I. Source Publications, Inc. (St. Thomas, VI)*. <http://stthomassource.com>.

VI Source. (2010, 07/April). Modern Address System Could Be Ready in Two Years, Senators Told. *V.I. Source Publications, Inc. (St. Thomas, VI)*. <http://stthomassource.com>.

Feedback on Cooperative Agreements Program

The FGDC CAP Program in collaboration with our partners in the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) contributed significantly to the progress the U.S. Virgin Islands has made in a short time with GIS coordination. The templates provided us the opportunity to explore and compare coordination practices in our jurisdiction to practices in other jurisdictions. The funding provided by the CAP Program provided the impetus to receive other financial and in-kind contributions.