

DHS Liaison Meeting

Date: October 11, 2005

DHS Representative: David Ridley Dave.Ridley@dhs.gov 202-281-9651

MAPPS Committee Chair: Marvin Miller & Brant Howard

Meeting Participants:

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Dave gave us an overview of the Geospatial Management Office (GMO) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The GMO with it's \$13.2 mil budget for fy'06 is evolving to an advisory role for policy for geospatial issues for the DHS. This office will not have operational responsibility. Part of this responsibility will be to bridge the gap on geospatial issues between DOD and the DHS. Dan Cotter is the lead for the organization and is deployed to the Baton Rouge Joint Field Office until first of November and Dave is on a one year detail from NGA (July – July) as they stand up this group. There are 15 other NGA staffers deployed within departments of DHS for support. They have open requisitions for two additional staff and SAIC is providing staff on contract. Dan Cotter is serving as the Director of the GMO as well as the Geospatial Information Officer. Dan Cotter can be reached at daniel.cotter@dhs.gov or by phone at 202-772-9673. Other items discussed are as follows:

- **FEMA** –For hurricane Katrina and related activities, FEMA is meeting mapping, GIS and data requirements through mission assignment letters and utilizing existing contracts through USACE in St. Louis. FEMA will be doing a geospatial lessons learned within their department.
- **Data Licensing** – NGA is procuring off the shelf data such as NavTech, Dunn and Bradstreet, Utility Data sets, Oil & Gas as well as other critical infrastructure available, with federal use licenses. The GMO is supporting efforts to license this data for State and Local discovery. GMO is supportive of licensing of aerial and satellite imagery. GMO is working with DHS components to identify requirements for GIS related software and data to facilitate leveraged data buys. GIS related data includes commercial imagery. NGA is not able to by law, to license data for sharing with State and Locals. DHS is working to make it easier to have access to data for State and Locals. The USGS has deployed staff to the field to support Emergency Management Managers as they work to pull their data needs together. They are working with these state and local folks to develop requirements for the State & Local Government Coordination & Preparedness

(SLGCP) grant program that was formally the Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP) grant program.

- **Data Security** - GMO is pushing for increased data sharing.. They are supporting the effort for Data Fusion centers in each state as started by OPD. GMO is supportive of Open Standards data that will encourage data sharing.
- **Flight Clearance for Aerial Contractors** - The GMO office has contacts within the FAA and other agencies that can expedite the flight clearance related to disasters, national security and presidential travel issues. GMO will work with MAPPS to support stream lined processes to automate the clearance process.
- Program updates-
 - The eGIS procurement program was cancelled.

Action items from the meeting:

1. Contact Dan Cotter first week of November to set meeting with MAPPS middle of November.
2. MAPPS will continue to be proactive with GMO to promote IDIQ environment for data collection in support of DHS departments to simplify and expedite contracting.
3. Work with GMO to support automated flight registration to cut through red tape for flight approval.
4. MAPPS to establish with GMO quarterly meetings to ensure continued communications
5. Support USGS as they work with State and Locals requirements for the next round of SLGCP grants.

Brant Howard
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