

# NGA Liaison Committee Meeting Notes

Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill

Washington, D.C.

October 2004

Ken Peterman – MAPPS Liaison

John Williams- Account Manager Americas / Contractor Interface

1. NGA Update - They are in the process of reorganization. They are forming 4 offices and assigning an Associate Deputy Director each. NGA is going to focus on Data Generation and Data Quality. They feel they are losing control of the data and will add more capability in-house to provide better integration across the four regions. They are going to focus on imagery, elevation and feature extraction. Where they have had internal people take ownership of the data they have had better quality of data sets. Outlook for agency spending is flat in FY06 but expect a big increase in FY07. These are projections so don't bet the ranch.
2. For FY05, NGA is repositioning their task orders so they can send out the task orders as soon as they get their FY05 funding (should happen by late Oct. or early Nov.). NGA is no longer sharing GGI prime contractor information as to how much funding each is receiving.
3. There are currently three contract vehicles NGA has active.
  - a. GGI – Third year of the contract is the option year. They are evaluating the current vendors to determine who will be awarded contracts for the option year. They expect to have these evaluations complete by the end of this calendar year.
  - b. Clearview – Three vendors and the spending will be steady into the future.
  - c. Nextview – Orbimage won Nextview II. Digital Globe and Orbimage will generate more imagery that will require better processes and more analysis resources beginning in FY'07. DG launch to happen in late 2005 with imagery delivery in early 2006; Orbimage launch to happen in 2007, with imagery delivery in 2008.
4. Other items discussed
  - a. Ken is working integration issues for commercial imagery to be shared with other agencies. NGA is trying to push other agencies to use Clearview as a contract vehicle to obtain commercial imagery. An initial commercial imagery production plan should be ready in November.
  - b. The 133 city project is 50% complete. 85 cities have been flown with 55 cities delivered completed ortho's. They are using USGS data where available and NGA will control the balance of the task orders. Due to budget constraints this project will be on a three-year update cycle versus the two-year originally projected. The requirements are Airborne Specification with < 1-meter accuracy and 6-12 in resolution. If data is off the shelf and meets the specification they will buy. All data sources for LIDAR and Imagery are being provided by outside contractors (i.e., no

work is being done by government assets). The data is being used for the critical infrastructure mapping projects. This 1 m data is restricted to Federal uses but will be shared with State and Local in the case of an emergency or other incident. USGS source data will also be used for the National Map. The USGS can resample NGA data to a less accurate specification and provide the data to the public. NGA data may be shared back to State and Local via the USGS. NGA is working with DHS to provide funding and DHS funds are being used for the program today. Local First Responders requesting NGA data should submit request from the individual State Homeland Security Directors. NGA internal staff is providing the QA/QC for this data set.

- c. SRTM elevation data program at NGA is a high priority. They are looking to LIDAR, Radar and other sources of data to fill in the blanks. They are also looking at foreign sources of data such as Spot. DTED L1 and resampled DTED L2 data of the US is available for use outside the DOD. DTED L2 data will be DOD use only. Ken was not sure if the SRTM Void fill data would be released. Key program NGA staff is located in St. Louis.
- d. FY06 budget will remain flat. FY07 budget is expected to increase significantly. MAPPS offered to help promote NGA's needs on the Hill. Ken Peterman said they could not directly support this effort but suggested we contact Kevin Cichetti, (301-227-4269) Chief of the Congressional Affairs office.
- e. MAPPS provided a sample letter that could be used by NGA to ask TSA for relief to our member firms flying projects on NGA's behalf. NGA will review this letter.

5. Action items (as of 8 Nov)

- a. NGA to get us the updated Org Chart for the Agency. (still not available)
- b. Agency will provide CIA and NGA contacts for the CIA projects.
- c. NGA will provide contacts for SRTM project in St. Louis. (Barry Heady, 1-314-263-4826, X133)
- d. NGA will provide contact information for Congressional Liaison Office. (see above)
- e. MAPPS members will provide vendor accolade letters to NGA for current GGI vendors they have worked with during the partner process. (Received and forwarded to the CORs)
- f. NGA to provide contact list for staff working GGI vendor evaluation.
- g. NGA to provide list of contacts for work performed outside the US (not sure what this means? Our PFO, Federated Operations office works agreements with foreign partners. Contact Division Chief Mike Thomas 202-264-5515 or Deputy Jill Kieswetter 301-227-4029 for information).

March 2004

NGA Representative – Ken Peterman

Meeting Agenda

Overview

NGA update

FY 04/05 budget

Production programs

LIDAR

133 cities

Q&A

Meeting Notes:

-Organizational changes

Ken now part of “Federated Operations”. Includes more work with foreign partners.

Jack Hill – covers foreign aspects and works with MCGP and JJIG

They want foreign partners producing data we can't get to, i.e. Africa (this is an area they France, Germany and GB doing work)

5-25 nations can be included on the list depending on what they are doing

Need to integrate those operations with Ken's activities

Commercial Imagery piece has not been well integrated, but are now working closer with them on their data requirements in order to better integrate.

Moving commercial imagery source to Office of Geospatial Management under the director

Meeting with Director on 6 April

Director may want more control

No one event seems to have triggered this move

Geospatial Management is a new organization

Not sure what it does

Commercial imagery day showed that regional groups are not well integrated

This may be part of reason for move to control under director

-Current efforts have been on GGI and commercial imagery

Some NGA money going to partner based production

Effort with partners is an acceleration of work that has been done by them in the past

-Looking to cover the earth with data in the various layers, EO, CSM, SRTM....

SRTM should be finished this year

Will take another couple of years to work on the voids (1-2% of the data)

Question asked – why not fill all of the voids?

Some areas NGA doesn't think they need

Those can be collected as the need arises

Cost is key

The earth reference model is a focus of POM this time

Funds are shifting to it and away from TLM's

-No information on CIB compression and related Tiger Team looking at orthos

-Funds

90% of available dollars are going to pixels

After NextView, that pot is smaller

10% is for value add, etc. (\$8-\$9 million)

Although Sandy sees a direction, production does not see a difference on CIB v. ortho

CIB is the standard across all customers

CI dollars for orthos (SI, DG and OrbImage only)

GGI dollars used to take up to CIB

-Newly been allowed to build mixed source product

Iran is an example of expected mixed source product in 04

Old CIB with NTM and commercial data, etc. have been kicked around as possible ideas, but for now mixed source is the way to go

-NGA web site has a “How to do White papers” section

-Discussion re: source

Dee had issues with the delivered CIB, believes it was national (NTM)

The imagery was bad – tonal balance

That information needs to be fed back to NGA

Gene has seen the same thing

Natural color was discussed

NGA still looking at color

MSI & EO both provided in the deliverable

-NextView

Value add demarcation on GGI, NextView, ClearView

Product is value add and GGI dollars pay for it

Processing up to ortho can be done via CI dollars

NextView should be able to deliver the same product as GGI

New RFP coming with award toward the end of the fiscal year

Kens group should be more involved

This new NextView RFP may be very similar to what all ready came out

Airborne piece

Part of CI (\$15 mil) is for airborne commercial again this year

\$7.5 allocated to EarthData, International for GeoSAR

\$7.5 is available for other airborne and value add

Total is for \$16.5 on CI side

Meeting to discuss how to split up

Most airborne is Radar

OCONUS

Americas

PAC

- Some is in support of Presidential travel through Secret Service

-133 cities is through USGS

NGA has no requirement for this (LIDAR)

Not sure there will be any of the \$7.5 mil used for this

NGA is receiving data (LIDAR) from the 133 cities

Office of the Americas gave the impression it was a national source

Ken did not believe it was a national source

Last year a NOAA aircraft was flying an ACE instrument

NGA is not doing direct collects for the 133 cities

Limited work is being done with LIDAR through SAIC

Ken said he would look into it and get us some more info

Ann will look into it as well

She does not believe there is a link to NGA though

Not sure where the data resides

-Budget

Staying stable

03 supplementals were an anomaly, and we shouldn't expect a repeat

Therefore this year may look like a reduction

Have 500 FTE's

Trying to balance FTE's with data needs

07 analysts (geospatial) will be increased with 600 new billets

Employees, and not FTE's

Current FTE's may be the ones getting hired though

They expect to maintain their level of FTE's

JMIP part of the budget is not classified, and pretty much everything else is at the secret level.

MAPPS needs to work with NGA earlier in the year so that we can be on the same page when we and the NGA go to the Hill

Try to sync our stories a little better

Mark Shoals (not sure of spelling) is the person to work with on this

-GGI work continuity

Everyone is working around the clock to get things out, and essentially working themselves out of a job

Want to make sure the small businesses don't get left out

Expect about \$40 mil in taskings this year with the remainder in the next quarter

ESRI pointed out that industry capacity is down 25%

NGA should consider looking at moving to task order (without the order to proceed)

while negotiating pricing, etc. so that once the money is there vendors are ready to start

Looking at vendors managing the country databases

There is still a challenge in getting the work to the vendors and offers to help have been rejected

-NorthCom has a requirement for a 1m map of the US  
May want to look at using that requirement for separate funding  
May be an area for potential growth  
Ken had no idea about what the NorthCom requirement could mean  
Gene may be able to get a copy of the NorthCom requirement  
At this time it is unfunded

-General discussion  
Synergy between I, A and P  
How do we influence I and A

-GeoScout  
Impact of GeoScout on GGI  
What does NGA get from GeoScout?  
Still lots of questions re what and when GeoScout will deliver  
Not sure what they want to do beyond 2 years out  
How can we participate and plan long-term

-Lloyd Rowland is the Business Executive for NGA  
Came from the production side  
Former AF Colonel

-Next Liaison meeting in 11 October at the Hyatt Regency