AIMS Coordinator meeting minutes
June 14, 2007
Hosted by MARC (Mid America Regional Council)
11811 S Sunset Dr
Olathe, KS 66061

Announcements
Next month will be the annual ESRI Conference wrap up meeting.

ESRI Response Voice Mail to AIMS' Letter – Jerry Swingle
Jerry played the voice mail Steve received from Jack Dangermond in response to the letter AIMS sent to ESRI. He wanted to show everyone that ESRI is responsive to constructive criticism and is taking our views seriously.

MARC GIS Overview – Brian Parr
Brian presented a quick overview of MARC's structure and mission. They are a regional planning agency tasked with building a stronger region. The GIS folks are housed under the Research Services arm of MARC.

MARC encompasses 2 states, 9 counties (Miami Co KS recently joined) and 120 cities. The GIS group has a manager, a planner and three technicians.

MARC functions in much the same way as AIMS. They are a collector and manipulator of data and not a large production factory for data.

Brian listed the following areas as most important to MARC:
- Aerials
- Centerline
- Census
- Jurisdiction
- Business (mostly from Info USA)
- Parcels
- Landuse
- Future Landuse

Brian discussed the hardware MARC has available for GIS, one data server and one web server.

Brian gave a few examples of work efforts at MARC:
- Crash Mapping
  - MARC has collected all of the crash data from KDOT and MODOT and has geocoded this to the 911 centerline.
  - One of their planners is using the data to help emergency services and transportation planners in the region develop a better understanding of the accidents occurring in the region.
  - This data may be released to the counties and other entities in the region.

- TIP and LRTP
  - Transportation planning is a big investment at MARC. They are incorporating the recent push for light rail into their planning efforts.
- SWARM
  - This is a web application developed by an outside consultant that shows critical facilities locations against weather data. They can show where the severe storm warnings are located and map which critical facilities are affected by these.

Brian listed the following as his biggest challenges at MARC:
- Where to go for data
- Centralizing the data MARC uses and is charged with
- Creating regional mosaics of data
- Data currency
- Defining workflows
- Producing web applications

911 Mapping – SaraLynn Hayes
SaraLynn gave an overview of the development of the 911 system at MARC. They can landline and both Phase I and Phase II wireless emergency calls. They use GeoLynx software developed by GeoComm in each of the PSAP (Public Service Access Points) in the region. There are 45 PSAPs in the region that either take direct emergency calls, get transferred emergency calls or provide backup to active sites.

MARC had to develop datasets showing the cell tower facings in the region. They estimated there would be 2200 cell sites they would have to consider, but the actual value is closer to 4500 and is constantly changing. The cell companies provide MARC with the cell tower locations and their facings, but are protective of this data so MARC can not share this outside their organization. SaraLynn explained that only one PSAP can be assigned to each cell facing and she has to decide with PSAP that will be. There is often more than one within the coverage area of the cell facing, but only one can take the call.

SaraLynn explained that as people are adopting more wireless phones the 911 revenues are continually shrinking. The 911 monies are based off of tariffs on the landlines and as more people do away with landlines in favor of cell phones the money MARC receives dwindles. She estimates that the calls coming in now are pretty evenly split between conventional landline and cell phones.

Paint the Town – Andrea Repinsky
Andrea explained that MARC has been working with local planners in the region to put together estimated population and household numbers by decade out to the year 2030. They used the region wide parcel fabric as their starting point in the analysis and generalized this to relatively small homogenous square representations to perform the actual model calculations. MARC has an in-house application that automates producing the probability of development for the area based on the current development and the

population trends previously discussed. They are trying to develop sensible landuse policy for the region.

Andrea also discussed MARC's Metro Green project that is attempting to outline the location and a protection policy for the region's natural areas. They take into consideration the type of data produced by Paint the Town as well as important natural areas provided by the Kansas Biological Survey and their counterpart in Missouri. The project began with the goal of conserving 1000 miles of natural trails in the region, but they have fallen short of their goal. Johnson County itself only has 100 miles of conserved natural trails.

MARC Committee Overview – Brian Parr
Brian gave a quick rundown of the two GIS centric committees that MARC is sponsoring for the region.

- KCMetro GIS
  - This is focused at the public sector in the region and is designed to bring the local GIS leaders together to discuss how best to cooperate within the regional setting.
  - It is focused on:
    - 2008 Imagery
    - Data Sharing Agreement
    - Quarterly Meetings
- RHSCC GIS Subcommittee
  - This is focused on providing data coverage for the region to allow homeland security projects access to the regions' data.
  - It is focused on:
    - Data Sharing Agreement
    - Loading data onto the regional data sharing server
    - Providing ways for the region to consume the loaded data

Brian also informed the group that he will be having ESRI certified training sessions this summer. MARC is offering:

- Learning ArcGIS Desktop
- Introduction to ArcGIS I
- Introduction to ArcGIS II

Brian suggested sending people that have no GIS experience to Learning ArcGIS Desktop to get a preliminary overview before taking more advanced training.