AIMS Coordinators Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2009
Host: AIMS
Location: Administration Building (111 S. Cherry St, Olathe)

Announcements
- Plani (Jason Hrabe) – Countywide updates of building and edge are kicking off in-house at a relatively fast past. Final publication is not expected till summer.
- Census
  - LUCA (Paul Brandt) – Local update of census addresses
    - The census bureau is currently address canvassing and will be back in touch with us in the August/September timeframe.
  - PSAP (Shannon Porter) – Participant statistical area program
    - David Peel has organized a meeting with cities to identify changes in tracts and block groups. These changes will be coordinated for the county and reported to MARC and the census bureau by April.
- Floodplains (Shannon Porter) – 2009 Preliminary FEMA floodplains have been released in all applications and as free data. The data is expected to be final in August. The new links to firms are in pdf format.
- Recent News (Jay Heermann) – Be sure to check the recent news on our website or subscribe to the RSS feed. Recent data updates that have either been announced or will be soon include: Floodplains, CIP, Traffic Counts, Building permits.
- SQL 2008 upgrade (Keith Shaw) – AIMS recently completed the upgrade to SQL server 2008. We are still working through some editing issues with ESRI technical support. Jim Bills has been helping with the testing. Topology and 2008 appear to have issues. Another issue is that Microsoft and ESRI define spatial references differently.

Group Goals & Accomplishments

Wastewater (Jim Bills)

Wastewater has 4 primary focuses for 2009.

1) Mobile mapping – in 2008 they tested using about 14 sprint cards, vpn, and the IMS in the field. This worked fairly well but the monthly cost was about $40/month and was prohibitive. They have scaled back to 6 cards for now and have 15 crews using an ArcReader application that allows them to use a highlighter tool. They are replicating nightly but are have some issues with slow connections. If they are to get the sprint cards back there will have to be a cost savings shown.
2) Failure impact analysis – determining where a failure would have the largest impact. Taking into consideration railroad lines, trees, restaurants, etc.

3) PDF mapbooks with notes – The pdf mapbooks have greatly helped with communication. The users place notes on the pdf that others can see. Approximately every 90 days the notes are converted into the shapefile and the process starts over.
4) GBA mobile manager – implementing this to allow filling out forms once digitally in the field instead of filling out paper forms and transferring it once they are back in the office.

Shawnee (Doug Hemsath)

Shawnee has completed the network of their stormwater. This allows tracing and modeling however it is limited to their city limits. Doug asked if others are working on their stormwater network and if AIMS could help push the countywide effort along. It was suggested that if this is important have your cities SMAC representative bring it up to SMAC. It was mentioned that OP was working on their network. Now that some of the cities are working on it the timing may be right to work toward a countywide dataset. Shawnee will be trying to determine how to maintain theirs.

Shawnee will also be working with their Public Works department on some database designs. The department is mostly on paper now and would benefit from some databases.

They also plan to work on some ArcServer applications. Mostly small, quick applications like ROW work, CIP, etc. They will probably be embedded in a web page rather than a standalone application.

External training budget has been slashed. Employees may have the time and desire to take internally taught GIS classes. Shawnee would like to take advantage of this.

They are also looking into what possibilities exist to work with Perceptive software. Lenexa also has this software.

Olathe (Chris Welchhans)

Olathe upgraded SDE to 9.3 last weekend. Their clients are still at 9.2. No current plan to upgrade to SQL 2008.

Because of budgeting they are even more multitasked than they had been. They have not really done any development in the last 18 months, mostly just maintenance. They have one that plans to retire and the position will probably be frozen.

The Public Works department is 80% complete with a building inventory of city buildings including floor plans. They have also been working on traffic counts and looking at using ArcLogistics for routing.

Olathe Municipal Services have been busy with the water and sewer modeling.

Development services main goal for 2009 will be to get ArcServer up and running and to make a plan for which API to use. Public applications may not be out for a while. They anticipate more context/content specific maps embedded into web pages. They have explored some open source software and have decided on some content management software that will help departments make changes and updates easily.

As far as mobile products go they have some users on citrix servers that are probably connected with broadband cards.

Transit (Travis Smith)

Transit recently submitted an aggressive 5-year plan to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). The board approved it. It would essentially double many of their services.

They recently received additional money from the BOCC and from KDOT. The K10 route has been exceptionally successful.

They plan to get gps on the buses. As part of this contract they purchased data from TeleAtlas for the neighboring counties. They are also planning on software that will allow real-time route planning and passenger counts. They have ordered a new server to support this and should see it soon. The project should be rolling out in April. This server will also have Google format export capabilities. They have been waiting since June for Google to integrate the data that was provided.

Late summer will probably bring an upgrade to their para-transit software. The upgrade will allow logistics planning.

Also working with Sprint to get broadband on buses (at minimum the K10 service).

Working with Twitter.com to provide bus statuses at bus stops.

Working to create rapid transit lines possibly along Metcalf or Shawnee Mission Parkway.

One goals of the 5 year plan is to work to create/improve the intra-county services.

Gardner (Jennifer Dady)

In 2008 they were successful with several items including completing an annexation layer and animating it, use of obliques, and a pedestrian easement map, metadata.

Some goals for 2009 include:

Autocad drawings of plats.

Gardner has made some progress on completion of a rental inventory. Gardner does not have a licensing requirement (several cities do), but the utility department may be able to help.

Direct connectivity to the county

3D models of buildings using obliques to use with city meetings.

Basic maps on website to answer questions.

The training and tools budget has been cut due to budget constraints.

Parks and Recreation (Cliff Middleton)

Recently improved the recreation point feature class from about 300 features to more than 1,000. Working with Mark Whelan to name the points for dispatching. New points also include school locations.

Working with Lenexa and MARC on a project for 911 trail signs that will help with dispatching during an emergency. The county plans to join Lenexa's pilot project later this spring. The sign points have already been published.

Cliff has also been serving on a national taskforce with the NRPA. The "Attributes and Values committee" has put together a draft document with a final presentation in October 2009 and adoption hopefully in 2010.

Records and Tax Administration (Tom Audley)

The office is still looking at an OASIS replacement. They are now looking at the possibility of rolling in the motor vehicle department as well. They are currently developing the specifications for the RFP.

Basic document search is now available in the IMS by parcel. Few places in the country have the capability of getting to documents from a map interface.

The plats have all been georeferenced. There is some cleanup that is required. The application will probably be opened to plat subscribers soon. The application also has a tool to help report areas needing corrections.

The office is continuing to clean up incorrect situs addresses in the OASIS system. They estimate that 6,000-7,000 have an address point but no address in the system. The situs address upkeep is now a part of their workflow. They continue to make

changes to take advantage of the consolidated offices and eliminate multiple points of data entry.

Special assessment data may be available for viewing soon. Eventually they would like to get to the point of maintenance online as well.

The tax unit data is now available. In the future they plan to only produce it electronically. This will be a time and cost saver.

eRecording is another big project you should see in the next few months. This will probably be accomplished with a module for submitters to install locally. In addition to the existing charges the user will be charged a per upload charge by the software vendor. For now the existing charges will probably be through the use of an escrow account but hopefully in the future credit cards might be accepted.

Since there is so much happening in the RTA office Jay suggested they might want to have 30 minutes at the April meeting.

WaterOne (Steve Voelker)

WaterOne has begun using ArcGIS Engine to replace a valve isolation tool. This tool will identify the valves that are necessary to contain a leak. It will replace an existing Arcview application that they have and should help decrease some costs (45 AV licenses).

Because of their ERP/SAP integration they have found it difficult to upgrade. Each time they must upgrade their integration system. Their IMS and Server are at 9.3 but the SDE is still at 9.2.

They plan to integrate work orders with assets. This will allow the work orders to be plotted live onto ArcServer. This should help see where problems are occurring and help with faster responses.

GPS equipment was purchased in 2009. It was used to capture commercial meter pits (they are easy to lose since the readings are received remotely) and valves (where vegetation is often overgrown).

They are designing a geodatabase and collecting data for their treatment plant facilities. Previously they only had data on their distribution system. This will include buildings, lines, etc and will be used mainly for viewing. A new plant is coming online soon. The data will also be used for SCADA system integration.

They have matched up the customer information system with the GIS and have reduced the mismatches from over 7,000 to less than 500. With a better match more analysis is possible.

Due to budget they will be without a summer intern this year.

Planning (David Peel)

The Planning department is currently notifying those affected by the new floodplains in the unincorporated area.

An update to their building codes software is also underway.

The department is using more AIMS data in reports and studies including an airport plan.

Merriam (Elliot Lahn)

Merriam has been dealing with large turnover. Some departments have had as much as 60-100% turnover. They are now working to train many people new to the Johnson County area.

Working with Prairie Village to upgrade their city database.

Their new website will hopefully help assist with the decrease in staff.

Fairway (Kim Young)

Fairway has also been dealing with a large turnover this year.

Their city hall has moved to 4210 Shawnee Mission Pkwy.

The police department has moved into the renovated old city hall.

Overland Park (Doug Johnson)

The budget will be a big issue for Overland Park. They are not filling Burt's old position and may need to narrow their focus. Training and travel budget has been cut and would like to work with group to be creative on training.

Overland Park has upgraded to 9.3. They have been using ArcServer and envision smaller, more embedded applications. They have decided to go with flex instead of javascript.

The AVL pilot project is complete with partial implementation in Public Works.

OP recently implemented a rental licensing program. So far participation has been on a volunteer basis.

The stormwater network in their area has been started but will likely take a while to complete. They have also begun to track creation and maintenance of rain gardens, swells, etc because of EPA regulation.

Lenexa (Tony Perkins)

Lenexa has begun replacing their ArcIMS applications with ArcServer applications. They have decided on the flex api.

They will be looking to create a dashboard or business intelligence system for the city.

Working on a GIS strategic plan.

Asset Management is an area that Lenexa GIS works a lot with. The public works department uses GBA work orders and mobile data capture. Other modules they expect to work with in the future include: Traffic, Parks, Fiber inventory, Right-of-way management, Stormwater inventory. Tony mentioned the "Grey" and "Green" stormwater inventories that OP previously mentioned. This sounded like a potential common theme.

Working with Fire department and firehouse software used for inspection and danger scoring. The inspections cause a lot of overtime so if they can make it more efficient then they can save a lot of money.

Working on the trail marking for EOC/911 dispatch project. Planning to write a white paper to describe the project.

Website overhaul.

Due to budget constraints and because of the enterprise agreement they have they hope to utilize online web training.

Other announcements

- AIMS will review what they heard today and come back with their 2009 plans at the next meeting.
- AIMS has a Heritage Trust Fund grant funded part-time "intern" like position that will be opening soon. This position will be registering, clipping and mosaicing the historic aerials from Public Works.
- AIMS had 2 positions open but with the hiring freeze has had to prove the need to open even one of them. This position will likely be advertised in the next month.

- Jim Bills mentioned that the Olathe school district sometimes has students interested in technical internships to learn about a career. Several groups expressed how well the students have worked out in the past.
- March's meeting will be hosted by ESRI. Contact Traci Robinson (AIMS) or Brian Hiller (ESRI) to provide input as to what you would like to see covered.
- April's meeting will be hosted by MARC at the Sunset building and May's meeting will be at Overland Park again with golf tournament to follow.