

Executive Summary
MONTANA LAND INFORMATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (MLIAC)
December 1, 2009

Members or Designees

Robin Trenbeath—Department of Administration; Mike Bousliman – Department of Transportation; Ed Madej – Tetra-Tech; Mike Birtles – Bureau of Land Management; Annette Cabrera – Yellowstone County; Lance Clampitt – USGS; Art Pembroke – Lewis and Clark County; Alex Philp – GCS Research LLC; Janet Hess-Herbert – Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks; Erin Geraghty – Base Map Service Center; Don Patterson via video from Missoula – USDA Forest Service; Lorin Peterson – Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes; Jon Sesso via video from Butte – House District 76; Darlene Staffeldt – Montana State Library; Christiana Von Riechert via video from Missoula – University of Montana-Department of Geography; Kris Larson – CDM; Alan Peura – Department of Revenue; and Nat Carter (for Dan Chelini) – Department of Environmental Quality.

Guests

Stewart Kirkpatrick – DOA/ITSD/BMSC; Kyle Hilmer – DOA/ITSD; Lonnie Robinson – DOA/ITSD Video Conferencing; Michael Fashoway – DOA/ITSD/BMCS; Evan Hammer – MSL/NRIS; Jennie Stapp – MSL; RJ Zimmer – DJ&A and Stephanie Tecca – DOA/ITSD.

Approval of September Executive Summary **Action Item******

Motion to approve was made by Darlene Staffeldt, second by Art Pembroke and unanimously approved.

2011 Land Plan Subcommittee

Review of 2009/2010 Land Plan Progress – Stu Kirkpatrick

A progress report entitled, “Status of 2009/2010 Land Plan Goals, Objectives and Milestones” was provided by the BMSC to the Council. The report outlined progress and status on the goals of the current land plan.

2010/2011 Land Plan Report – Art Pembroke

The Montana Land Information plan for the coming year, January 15, 2010 to January 14, 2011 was presented. A brief explanation of the plan included noting that Goal 1 is the same as last year, and Goal 2 is now more focused on funding issues. Council discussion surrounded the question of whether Council’s approval of the plan constituted approval for funding the Department’s budget included in the plan. It was clarified that the inclusion of the Department’s budget was statutorily required and Council approval of the plan did not constitute approval of funds; budget line items are dependent on approval of MLIA grant applications.

Report Approval **Action Item******

A motion was made for acceptance and support of the Montana Land Information plan as presented, recognizing that acceptance did not constitute approval of a final budget, was made by Darlene Staffeldt, second by Annette Cabrera. The motion was unanimously approved as written.

Stewardship Review Process (Council Policy Review of Stewards' Reports) – Robin Trenbeath

This effort has not been completed and the review will be postponed until next meeting. It was noted that a MSDI framework theme stewards/leads workshop is scheduled for February 4, 2010 in Helena. The agenda will be posted on the website for council members.

Council Code of Ethics (draft) – Robin Trenbeath

Robin provided a “Draft Grant Review Code of Ethics” for Council review. The code pertains to actions of the MLIAC Grants Subcommittee. If a MLIA grant application is received from the organization of a Subcommittee member then that member will declare a conflict of interest and not be allowed to score that grant. This will be an action item for next Council meeting. If the Council chooses to put off meeting until the Intermountain Conference an email vote may be necessary to not interfere with grant decisions.

Grants Subcommittee

2008/2009/2010 Grant Status – Stu Kirkpatrick

A brief report on the status of the FY 2008, 2009 and 2010 grants was provided. A question on what happens to extra funds on grants that are completed under budget was posed. Any extra funds roll back into the grant fund and becomes part of new grant cycle.

Local Government Financial Analysis of MLIA Funds – Robin Trenbeath/Art Pembroke

This survey was completed by MACO to local government agencies to determine they are using their 25% funds. 30 of the 56 counties responded to the survey. It appears that many local governments are using these funds to try to improve their GIS program. However, some of the smaller jurisdictions haven't saved enough to make an impact. Many are rolling over these funds in order to save these dollars to leverage additional funds.

GIS Funding Subcommittee Report

Cadastral ROI Report – Kyle Hilmer

A final draft of the return on investment study “Montana’s Cadastral Layer Business Impact” was presented by Kyle Hilmer. This report focuses on the value and costs associated with Montana’s cadastral framework layer. The four primary objectives of the report are:

- Evaluation of the IT investment in the cadastral layer.
- Identification of business processes, users, and beneficiaries that depend on the cadastral layer.
- Identification of the linkages between the cadastral framework and the other 12 framework layers.
- Develop a financial analysis that documents the current and ongoing costs and benefits of the cadastral layer
- Establish a potential frame work for analyzing non-cadastral layers

In summary the cumulative, minimal, economic value of cadastral data since its inception is estimated at almost \$40 million dollars with an annual return on investment of approximately \$9 million per year. The private sector is a major benefactor. However, most users look beyond just cadastral layer and use many MSDI layers simultaneously. Financial benefits far outweigh the cost, while basing integration and enhancement of these statewide databases on MLIA grant funding is not a permanent long-term solution.

Council discussion followed, primarily focused on whether certain factors such as the costs of GCDB, DOR appraisal data were factored in. The Council also debated if and how this should/could be presented to the Legislature and what portions of the report might be most effective. It was recommended any Legislative presentation emphasize the benefit of the state

investment and return on that investment as it relates to private sector use. The question was posed as whether this would be an effective model to apply to other framework layers. Kyle felt that would be difficult because the cadastral layer is more mature than some other framework and its use easier to document.

MSDI Funding Proposal – Jennie Stapp

Jennie provided the Council a draft of the MLIAC Funding Subcommittee's document "The Interdependence of Geographic Phenomena – a Case for the Holistic Funding for the Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure". In May 2009 the Subcommittee began to look at MSDI as a whole and develop a picture of whether the funding sources are adequate and appropriate. The general conclusion was that funding MSDI, which should be considered State infrastructure, through one time state and federal grants does not provide stability. MSDI stewards are reliant on annual MLIA grant funds to continue their efforts and therefore those funds are not available to encourage growth in any other area. The Subcommittee's conclusion was that the state's digital geographic infrastructure is as important to core state business processes as the Interstate System is to moving commercial goods across the county. A state's ability to compete with other states for development, tourism, safety and citizen amenities depends on these data. While Montana has been a leader in spatial data development, it has done so without the stable funding needed to maintain and improve the infrastructure. Applications are being developed on the data that depend upon the stability of the databases over time. Yet many MSDI efforts rely on year-to-year grant funding to survive. This house of cards scenario puts Montana at risk. The Subcommittee's report provided three recommendations:

1. Provide stable funding for Imagery with an annual appropriation of \$200,000.
2. Fund all other MSDI layers through a \$600,000 appropriation coming from ITSD active directory rates or other ITSD rates.
3. Revise the MLIA altering the state/county split to 50/50.

A lengthy discussion followed that produced the following general recommendations:

1. The Council agreed on the need to proceed with an altered version of the recommendations including the following changes.
 - Remove recommendation 3 – many Council members were strongly opposed to the 50/50 split and putting the MLIA up for legislative change in general.
 - Leave the concept of recommendation 1 (Imagery).
 - Make adjustments to recommendation 2 to realistically reflect the state budget situation.
2. The Council agreed that continued MLIA funding for some MSDI layers was a likely reality and a proper use of the funds.
3. The Council would like to see ITSD make their long term strategy for rates and what those funds are used for more readily available to agencies.
4. Robin and the Subcommittee should make changes to the document, distribute those changes for Council for review, and schedule this as the primary action item of a January meeting.

Report(s) Approval **Action Item******

Approval was withheld until edits can be completed and additional Council discussion takes place in January.

Lunch (Provided for Council and Invited Guests)

MLIA 2010 Grant Report/Status

Tribal Education Grant Re-write – Robin Trenbeath/Lorin Peterson

- There is currently no funding for the tribal councils to attend a grant writing workshop. We are trying to make this happen before the next grant process. The preliminary cost estimate is approximately \$10,000 (this has since been refined to \$7,000). An effort will be made to have Janet Cornish teach the class and 1-2 members per tribe will be invited to attend.
- This grant needs to be reviewed by the previous grants committee or the current grant committee. Also we need to determine who is going to be the parent organization to write the grant.
- Parent organization will be either a tribe or DOA.
- The current grants committee will review the submission.
- Do we really need to go through the grant process?
 - The Council agreed that the fastest way to do this is best.
 - There has to be some type proposal written, but based on the Council's clear consensus at the meeting, Robin will move the approval of funding forward as quickly as possible, and without review of the draft proposal by the Grants Subcommittee.
 - **Unanimous approval by the Council.**
- There is interest in having MSDI steward participation in the workshop.

MAGIP Report

President's Report – Erin Geraghty

MAGIP has decided to start funding user group meeting in 2010. A policy and model have been written and will be published in the next two weeks. A new logo will be presented soon and a new website is in development, available in January. A successful MAGIP technical session was held in October in Kalispell. MAGIP has agreed to assist with stewardship meeting on February 4, the technical committee chair and one committee members will be attending. Everything is still on track for the Intermountain Conference hosted in Bozeman on April 19-23.

GISP Certification Presentation– Kris Larsen

Discussions with a broad spectrum of GIS groups concerning a professional GIS certification (GISP) program began in 1993 and lasted for 4 years. The GIS Certification Institute became the non-profit organization to provide this GIS certification for professionals.

The certification process is based on three components:

- Educational achievements
- Professional contributions
- Additional contributions

A Code of ethics and rules of conduct also apply. An MLIAC endorsement is not an endorsement of any kind to require certification for employment or as a single point of certification.

Council Endorsement ** Action Item **

A motion to endorse the GISP and its certification as follows, “The MLIA Council endorses the GISP certification as well as the GISCI organization which offers a positive method of developing value for professionals and employers in the GIS profession” was made by Alex Philp with a second by Lance Clampitt. The motion was unanimously approved.

Updates and New Business

BMSC Outreach – Stu Kirkpatrick

Two BMSC staff travelled to eastern Montana to visit with McCone County's new GIS coordinator and also visited Dawson County, Richland County, Roosevelt County and Fort Peck Reservation. BMSC now has data sharing MOU's with Roosevelt, Mineral and Lewis & Clark Counties and similar agreements are under consideration by other counties. BMSC provided two half-day GIS presentations at the DES Fall Planning Conference in Lewistown and conducted three MSDI stewardship working group meetings (imagery in conjunction with MSL) at the fall MAGIP Technical session in Kalispell. Cadastral Database Administrator, Keith Blount, spent time in Yellowstone, Flathead and Silverbow counties to assist in county cadastral improvements.

Broadband Mapping – Stu Kirkpatrick

As originally reported in September, 380 million dollars in AARA funding was provided to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to distribute via competitive grants for broadband mapping. The Montana Department of Commerce submitted a grant application and in anticipation of funding, an RFP was issued. Nine responses were received and Tetra-Tech was chosen as the preferred and approved contractor. However, Montana still has not received grant approval. States that have approved grants are receiving approximately \$1.5 million for two years. If this follows form in Montana, there will be money to create, but it is unlikely there will be any maintenance funding for the broadband database.

GNIS as MSDI Layer – Robin Trenbeath

There has been previous discussion surrounding GNIS becoming a MSDI layer. There are some questions surrounding this that need to be discussed; stewardship, theme lead, funding, etc. Robin recommended a vetting process be completed on this topic and it be brought before the Council for action at the June meeting. Volunteers, Lance Clampitt, Lee Macholtz, Mike Sweet, and Michael Fashoway will put a draft together and make it available to the Council before the next meeting.

NAIP Status – Robin Trenbeath

Montana received initial delivery of MRSID, 3 band data in compressed county mosaics. The State Library has been working on tiling and re-projecting that data and hopes to have it available by the end of December. When the uncompressed imagery is received, BMSC will process it into a map service using ImageServer.

Portal Presentation – Evan Hammer

Portal updates went into production on October 1, with the move to the ARC GIS 9.3 platform. There are still some modifications to be made as the Portal attempts to highlight MSDI framework data.

MSDI and Lincoln County EPA Clean-up – Ed Madej

Postponed to April meeting.

Montana Control Point Database Demonstration – Stu Kirkpatrick, R.J. Zimmer

Postponed to April meeting.

Open Forum and Public Comment – None

Next Meeting Date, Location and Agenda Items – Robin Trenbeath

A discussion took place on whether to hold the next meeting March 4, 2010 (normal schedule) or at the Intermountain GIS Conference. The Intermountain Conference will be held on April 19-

23, 2010 in Bozeman and provides a great opportunity for the Council to have interaction with the GIS community. A recommendation was made that there be two meetings – a short meeting in Jan/Feb (since scheduled for January 28th) to deal with funding issues and another meeting at the conference. There was general consensus by the Council.

- Potential topics:
 - MSDI and Lincoln County EPA Clean-up – Ed Madej
 - Montana Control Point Database Demonstration – Stu Kirkpatrick, R.J. Zimmer
 - MSDI Funding Proposal – Jennie Stapp
 - GNIS Proposal – Lance Clampitt
 - Policy Implications of Stewardship Report
 - Code of Ethics - action item

In other comments Alex Philp provided an update of the Rocky Mountain Super Computer Center in Butte and indicated they are looking for projects.

Adjourn

DRAFT