

Ortho Imagery Statewide Acquisition Meeting

Meeting Notes

1/9/06

Howard County Tyson Room

Notes prepared by Virginia Peterman

In attendance:

Name	Representing	email
Ken Miller	DNR	kenmiller@dnr.state.md.us
Jeff Edgin	St Mary's County	jeff.edgin@stmarysmd.com
Calvin Strozier	St Mary's County	calvin.strozier@co.saint-marys.md.us
Eliza Weih	BGE	eliza.weih@bge.com
Hal Hagen	BGE	harold.e.hagen@bge.com
Kaushik Dutta	SHA	kdutta@sha.state.md.us
Gregory Slater	SHA	gslator@sha.state.md.us
Marshall Stevenson	Frederick County	mstevenson@fredco-md.net
Mike Lettre	MDP	mlettre@mdp.state.md.us
Mark Cohoon	Talbot County	mcohoon@talbgov.org
Jack Martin	Anne Arundel County	jmartin@aacounty.org
Virginia Peterman	Howard County	vpeterman@co.ho.md.us
Roger Barlow	USGS	rbarlow@usgs.gov
Zadi Rouhani	MAA	mrrouhani@bwairport.org
Caroline Gaulke	Anne Arundel County	pwgaul90@aacounty.org
Dale Hutchinson	Price Georges County/MNCPPC	dale.hutchinson@ppd.mncppc.org
Bill Ballard	City of Baltimore	bill.ballard@baltimorecity.gov
John Contestabile	MDOT	jcontestabile@mdot.state.md.us

Kenny Miller gave some background information on how we got to this point: MSGIC representatives met with the 911 Numbers Board some years ago, but failed to reach an agreement on teaming for ortho flights. In October, Kenny met again with Gordon Deans & Buddy Redman from the Numbers Board. The Board had previously said that they weren't interested in funding maintenance of centerlines via orthophotography. The Board now feels they need to revisit data maintenance in order to protect their investment in original acquisition. They were willing to entertain \$1M to \$2M annually for maintenance, if additional funding can be contributed from other sources. The Board isn't willing to fund the entire orthophotography cost because they recognized that the data is highly valuable for applications other than calltaking.

Roger Barlow announced that NGA (National Geospatial Intelligence Agency) and DHS (Department of Homeland Security) are coming forward with millions of dollars for ortho imagery. The funds will be distributed through USGS. DHS is more interested in rural areas than NGA, but both are interested in urban areas.

USGS has submitted requirements for MD for 2007. They will likely be able to provide \$550,000 for central & eastern MD. If there is a statewide collection

program in place, the funds will be allocated to that program. New Jersey & Delaware are also planning statewide acquisitions for 2007. For Maryland, NGA/DHS want a comprehensive acquisition rather than piecemeal acquisition. Funds will be available in February, but can be carried over.

A “statewide” program is generally defined as a coordinated statewide effort. There are three requirements:

- The imagery must be placed in the public domain.
- Photos will be one foot natural color
- Photos will be delivered as a UTM product, but they could deal with state plane.

Contracting Mechanisms:

USGS is willing to provide contracting mechanisms or it could be done via a State agency. The contract needs to include language that will allow local governments to use it. The WASHCOG GIS Committee is drafting a sharing agreement, but only for emergencies. Some of their language might be useful.

There is some uncertainty as to how to structure the contract so that private sector companies, like BGE can participate.

Funds need to go through whoever lets the contract. Funds will need to be received by a specified time. Funds need to be in place before the notice to proceed is let, but bidding can be done via MOUs.

Based on NSGIC estimates, \$1.5 million is needed to fly the entire State using mixed urban/rural resolutions, 1:1200/6” urban, 1:2400/1’ rural. This is a minimum flight. \$3.1 million would be needed to fly the entire state at 1:1200/6” resolution. This would be optimal. Some areas, such as BWI, need to acquire data at a 1:600/3” pixel resolution.

If the Numbers Board is willing to contribute \$1 million and USGS \$500K, we should be able to do the minimum flight. By wording the contract to allow “buy ups” by the local jurisdictions, BGE and State agencies (SHA, DNR, MAA), we should be able to assemble enough for an optimal flight and any special super high resolution areas.

Kenny Miller iterated that a representative of the State CIO, Bruce Eikenberg, is interested in fostering statewide GIS coordination. The hope is that this will create a formal coordination mechanism for future cooperative efforts. Mr. Eikenberg has been working with State GIS people to formulate a “wish list” for statewide coordination. He also plans to meet with the MSGIC Executive Committee. In the mean time, we’ll try to work within a State agency.

Update frequency

Update needs of NGA & DHS are largely driven by the top 50 cities, which includes the Baltimore/Washington corridor. For these areas, they are interested in new photography every other year. DHS wants to see a 3:1 ROI to make this a sustained program. For Maryland, that shouldn't be a problem.

There was discussion of trying to structure this coalition to continue acquisition beyond 2007. The feeling was that we should resist "scope creep" and focus on the 2007 acquisition. When that task is completed, we'll work on a longer term strategy.

LIDAR – A large amount of recent LIDAR exists that can be used for the 2007 orthophoto acquisition. For future acquisitions, there may be significant benefit to doing statewide LIDAR as well as orthophotography.

Contracting and Project Management – The group agreed that SHA would be best positioned to manage the contract. DNR would provide heavy input. DNR would have some difficulty justifying the need to manage the contract themselves. MOUs also need to be hashed out. We will need MOUs that address all stakeholders:

- Numbers Board
- USGS
- State Agencies
- BGE and possibly other utilities
- Local jurisdictions and possible NGO's like Wash COG or BMC

Final product distribution

This needs to be included in the MOUs. It may be most effective to include a clause saying that the data recipient will provide a USB hard drive to accept their deliveries. Towson is willing to host download sites on top of that. The sheer volume of data, estimated at 2 terabytes, prohibits distribution via DVD for the entire state.

Standards

It won't be possible to come up with a single delivery standard to cover the needs of all the stakeholders. Variations exist in resolution (1' vs 6" vs 3"), projection (UTM vs State Plane) and units of measurement (feet vs meters). The RFP will need to include delivery options that include all variations.

Follow up tasks

- Kenny Miller will provide an example statewide contract from Indiana.
- Matt Felton will look at server/distribution options and costs.
- Greg Slater will look at project management and data receiving options.
- Matt Felton will look at whether CGIS could handle the QA/QC contract.
- Kenny Miller will brief DBM & get preliminary support.
- Matt Felton, John Contestabile and Kenny Miller will meet with Numbers Board representatives January 30. The agenda will include EMMA & an update on centerline project.
- All participants will provide an email to Kenny Miller supporting the project. CCs should go to the entire group. The email should include each participant's current plans for acquisition, funding available and their desired product. This will also be discussed at the MSGIC meeting on the 18th & the Executive Committee meeting Jan 11th. Attach specs to the email if they are available.