

Interim Report for Arkansas' Fifty States Initiative Project

Category 3: 2009

Date: August 14, 2009

Agreement Number: G09AC00062

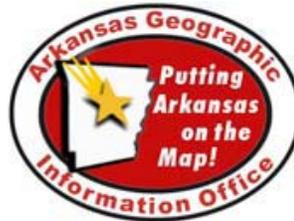
Project Title: Framework Data Development Sustainable Funding Plan

Organization: Arkansas Geographic Information Office
1 Capitol Mall Suite 2B900, Little Rock, AR 72201
<http://www.gis.arkansas.gov>

Principal Investigator: name, telephone, email

Collaborating Organizations:

Arkansas GIS Users Forum, Alan Price Chair, <http://www.argisusers.org/>
Arkansas Geographic Information Systems Board, Tracy Moy Chair,
http://www.gis.arkansas.gov/ASLIB_index.htm



Arkansas GIS Board

Project Narrative

The purpose of this project is to develop a strategic business plan for the development and maintenance of statewide framework GIS data in Arkansas. The project will involve stakeholder input from all corners of the state. The final deliverable will be a written business plan to assist the Arkansas Geographic Information Systems Board and the Arkansas Geographic Information Office (AGIO) in meeting its legislative mandate to develop a coordinated GIS for the State.

Summary of Project Activities

Arkansas is in the very midst of the key element of this project. Workshops are about to convene statewide and the project momentum appears strong. The following summarizes the highlight activities to date:

Request for Qualifications to select a qualified consulting firm were received on May 26th.

The project evaluation team consisting of the Chairs of the Board and Forum, and a representative from the AGIO completed evaluations on June 3rd, 2009, and Applied Geographics was notified.

A professional services contract approval is required by the State Legislature. The approval was completed by the state legislature on July 2, 2009.

A project kickoff meeting with the leadership team was convened on July 21st & 22nd to outline details, plan tasks, and begin drafting the plan.

A project website was created at <http://www.gis.arkansas.gov/BusinessPlan.html>

The original project plan called for five regional workshops to convene in Hope, Monticello, Jonesboro, and Little Rock, with a final meeting to run concurrently with the Arkansas GIS Users Forum Conference at Eureka Springs in October where the draft plan would be unveiled. However, team members agreed this would not allow an opportunity for western Arkansas stakeholders to inform the plan. As a result an additional workshop was added in Fort Smith. To offset the expense, the Arkansas GIS Users Forum agreed to sponsor the Little Rock workshop where the team anticipated the highest attendance.

Project Kickoff Team Members at right: Michael Turner, Applied Geographics (foreground), Bill Sneed, Arkansas' USGS Liaison, Alan Price, Chair of Arkansas GIS Users Forum, Tracy Moy, Chair, Arkansas GIS Board



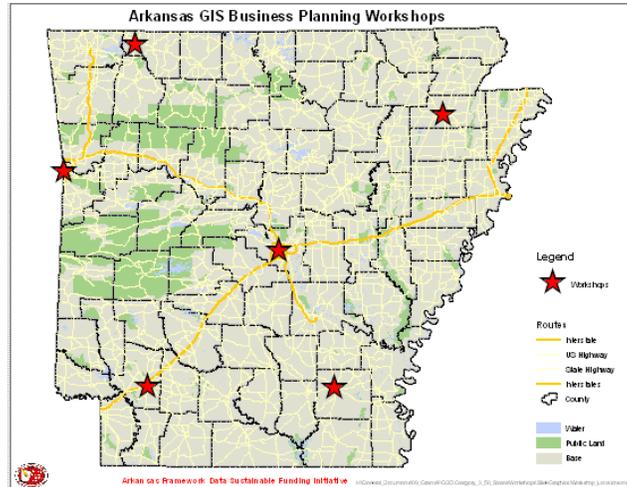
Bill Sneed and Tracy Moy give Michael Turner a lesson on the Geography of Arkansas during the project kickoff meeting.

A welcome reception was hosted at a local restaurant to welcome Michael Turner to Arkansas and discuss strategy. Pictured from left: David Poyter, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality; Tom Scott, Arkansas CAMA Technologies; Jonathan Ayres, ActGeoSpatial; Michael Turner, Applied Geographics; Randy Everett, GIS Board Member; Shelby Johnson, Arkansas Geographic Information Office; Alan Price, Arkansas GIS Users Forum; and Dana Venhaus, Arkansas Extended Learning Center.



Workshops were scheduled:

- August 17th – Jonesboro, Allen Park Community Center 3609 Race St
- August 19th – Little Rock, Arkansas Electric Cooperative Board Room, 1 Cooperative Way
- August 31st – Monticello, UAM School of Forest Resources, 110 University Court
- September 1st – Fort Smith, Fort Smith River Park, 121 Clayton Expressway (Located at North B Street & Clayton Expressway)
- September 2nd – Hope, UACC Student Center, 2500 South Main
- October 28th – Eureka Springs, Best Western Inn of the Ozarks



The workshop agendas were established:

Time	Topic
9:30-10:00	Registration and sign-in
10:00-10:30	Overview & Project Background
10:30-12:00	Discussion of "Local-to-State" Framework Data Layers <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transportation (roads and addresses)• Parcels• Administrative boundaries
Open Microphone: What else is on your mind?	
12:00-1:00	L U N C H - Guest Speaker: SEE LISTING BELOW
1:00-2:00	Discussion of "State-to-Local" Framework Data Layers <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Orthoimagery• Elevation• Hydrography• Geodetic control/PLSS

Key Statewide Leaders were scheduled as Guest Lunch Speakers for each workshop. The guest speakers are:

- Hope – Jon Chadwell, Director, Newport Arkansas Economic Development Commission
- Little Rock – Honorable Shane Broadway, State Senator
- Monticello – Honorable Jimmy Jeffress, State Senator
- Fort Smith – Honorable Stephanie Malone, State House of Representatives
- Hope – Honorable Steve Harrelson, State House of Representatives

Workshop Registration Statistics as of 10 a.m. August 14, 2009.

Event	Percentage of Total	Count
Jonesboro	21.7%	38
Little Rock	40.0%	70
Monticello	12.6%	22
Fort Smith	14.3%	25
Hope	11.4%	20
TOTAL		175 Registrants to Date

Communication Strategies

In an effort to reach a large number of stakeholders for this initiative the project team has taken advantage of a variety of communication strategies. The following summarizes our efforts to communicate the workshop invitations to over **3,000** members /subscribers representing a broad cross section of stakeholders.

- Arkansas GIS Users Forum List Serve – Over 500 members
- Arkansas Society of Professional Surveyors List – Over 300 members
- Arkansas Forestry Association Tree Mail – Over 800 members
- Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce Business Week – 1,900 readers
- Arkansas Municipal League Email List – unknown number of members
- Arkansas Water and Waste Water Board and Committees – 25 members
- Arkansas NENA/APCO List – 35 Members
- Arkansas Assessor Association – 75 Members
- County Assessor Mapping Program – 102 Members
- Arkansas AGIO Facebook – 42 Fans
- Twitter @Arkansas_AGIO – 25 Followers

Next Steps

Our next steps in the project include holding the workshops, interviewing key leaders and beginning the process of drafting the business plan. At this time the project is slightly behind its original schedule due to the legislative review process. However the team expects to complete the project on the original timeline.