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Project title: Statewide Cadastral Layer Business Plan for West Virginia

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Project Narrative

Summary of project activities

1. Workshops Statewide workshops were held to discuss and reach agreement on the WV Cadastral Data Business Plan. Each workshop was planned with a focused topic of discussion. Results of each workshop was posted on the website as well as schedules and announcements: <https://sites.google.com/site/wvgisbusinessplan/courses>

Workshop 1 - The Kick Off 3/24/2011, Charleston, WV. Topic: Inform participants on the overall purpose of this project i.e., to reach agreement among WV GIS stakeholders on a Business Plan. Participants: 49

Workshop 2 - Data Collection 4/21/2011, South Charleston, WV. Topic: Cadastral data collection and the collection issues the business plan will need to address. Participants: 39

Workshop 3 - Data Conversion 5/20/11, Flatwoods, WV. Topic: Cadastral data conversion and the conversion issues the business plan will need to address. Participants: 24

Workshop 4 - Data Maintenance 6/13/2011, Held in conjunction with the WV GIS Conference, Shepherdstown, West Virginia. Topic: Cadastral data maintenance and the maintenance issues the business plan will need to address. Participants: 24

Workshop 5 - Data Publishing 7/14/2011, Institute, WV. Topic: Cadastral data publishing and the publishing issues the business plan will need to address. Participants: 24

Workshop 6 - Data Integration 8/11/2011, Institute, WV, and Topic: Cadastral data integration and the integration issues the business plan will need to address. Participants: 17

2. Attended NSGIC meeting, Maryland

Key accomplishments to date

1. Establishment of website <https://sites.google.com/site/wvgisbusinessplan/home>
2. Completion of workshops as proposed.
3. Compilation of contact information of attendees.

Inclusive efforts

Announcements and invitations were sent to over 150 individuals and organizations. 177 individuals total attended one or more workshops. The number of participants at each workshop ranged from a high of 49 and a low of 17. The majority of the participants were County Assessors or their representatives. 11 of the participants were from private industry. Participants were urged to spread the word and invite other stakeholders.

Assessors, State agencies and surveyors showed the most interest in being involved in the process of developing the business plan. Special efforts were made to include realtors, railroads and oil and gas companies. The realtors were not sure why they should have an interest in the data; the railroads believed they had all the information they needed. Oil and gas representatives attended the first session and expressed support, but did not feel they needed to be involved in the process of deciding on the business plan. Plain speaking, they seemed to say, “Let us know when you are done”.

Practices or activities which lead to success

1. The format of the workshops was to include as much interaction as possible. Typically, concepts would be presented and then teams would generate ideas and report out. The results are posted on the web site. Flip chart team results and outcomes may be found at <https://sites.google.com/site/wvgisbusinessplan/results>
2. All ideas were welcome. Issues were discussed from a variety of perspectives. Participants were engaged and produced results.
3. The State Office of the GIS Coordinator provided lunch. That was an incentive to attend.

Practices that did not lead to success

1. Recruitment efforts did not attract planners or clerks. This may be due to restricted travel budgets. Workshop 4 was held in Shepherdstown, WV, a location that is remote, requiring intensive drive time for most participants.
2. There was a downward trend in participation. This could have been because of the summer vacation season, or people felt safe and/or supportive of what the group was accomplishing.
3. The Discussion site on the website was not utilized as hoped. <https://sites.google.com/site/wvgisbusinessplan/discussion-group> Most follow up conversations and inputs were given at workshops.

Next Steps

Next steps

Our next steps are to find support for the business plan beyond the participating workshop attendees. This includes key legislators and County officials.

Share plan

- 9/9 – on website for review & comment
- 9/15 – during week give first presentation
- 9/22 – feedback & 2nd presentation of biz plan
- 9/23 – feedback & 3rd presentation of biz plan
- 9/26 – Final Draft complete
- 9/29 – deliver plan at national conference
- October – get counties’ endorsements. During the month of October, the Office of the GIS Coordinator is going to visit assessors and ask for letters of support for the plan and for the proposal to implement the plan. Specifically, visits will be made to Hampshire, Jefferson, Marion, Monongalia, Ohio, Taylor, and Wood Counties.
- Move draft plan from the Google site and place it on the website of the GIS Coordinator and accept public comments.

Get funding

- November – others (legislature, governor, ?)
- Nov. – talk to legislature (1)
- Dec. – talk to Feds, write proposal
- Dec. – talk to legislature (2)
- Jan. – Federal proposal due
- Jan. – legislative session (3)

Where we need assistance?

We would like for someone to review the plan while it is still in draft form.

Revised Timeline

The project is proceeding on its original timeline and we expect to complete the project ahead of the scheduled completion date.