March 3, 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT’S MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

FROM:  Clay Johnson III
Deputy Director for Management

SUBJECT:  Launch of Information Technology (IT) Infrastructure Optimization, Geospatial, and Budget Formulation and Execution Lines of Business and Task Force Formations

With this memorandum, I am announcing the launch of three Lines of Business (LoBs): Information Technology (IT) Infrastructure Optimization, Geospatial, and Budget Formulation and Execution. Building upon the successes of the other LoBs, these new LoBs will enable us to move to the next level of electronic government by examining opportunities to share common IT infrastructure, geospatial data and capabilities, and budgeting processes and functions across government. Our analysis for the fiscal year (FY) 2007 budget process shows significant opportunities for improvement in these three areas. Consistent with the process we adopted five years ago, I am announcing the establishment of a taskforce for each of the LoBs to achieve a common solution to better serve the citizen. These new task forces require a sustained effort over the rest of this fiscal year with final products due in September 2006. To assist in this effort, we ask you to appoint agency representatives to participate in each of these task forces established to support each LoB. The taskforces will specifically address the following:

1. **IT Infrastructure Optimization:** to further refine the opportunities for IT infrastructure consolidation and optimization, and develop government-wide common solutions. This LoB will define specific common performance measures for service levels and costs, identify best practices, and develop guidance for transition plans within agencies and/or across agencies. Consolidation and optimization of IT infrastructure represents a significant opportunity to realize future cost savings by taking a more coordinated approach to spending on commodity IT infrastructure. IT infrastructure consolidation and optimization case studies also demonstrate agencies could improve IT service levels and, when relieved of the burden of managing these non-core functions, can concentrate more on mission priorities and results;

2. **Geospatial:** to identify opportunities for optimizing and consolidating Federal geospatial-related investments to reduce the cost of government and improve services to citizens. Increased cross-agency coordination of geospatial activities is still lacking and is needed to help identify, consolidate, and/or eliminate redundant investments. The establishment of the Geospatial LoB will result in a more coordinated approach to producing, maintaining, and using geospatial data, and will ensure sustainable participation from Federal partners to establish a collaborative model for geospatial-related activities and investments; and
3. **Budget Formulation and Execution:** to focus building toward a ‘budget of the future,’ employing standards and technologies for electronic information exchange to link budget, execution, performance, and financial information throughout all phases of the annual budget formulation and execution cycle. This LoB will identify opportunities for common solutions and automated tools to enhance agency and central budget processes; provide government with enhanced capabilities for analyzing budget, performance, and financial information; and promote integration and standardize information exchange between budget formulation, execution, financial management, and performance measurement systems and activities across Government.

We are planning a kick off meeting on March 16, 2006 at 2:00 p.m., at the Department of Interior auditorium located at 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC. I have asked Karen Evans, Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government and Information Technology, to ensure adequate collaboration among various interested parties such as the Chief Information Officers, Chief Financial Officers, Chief Acquisition Officers and Senior Agency Officials for Geospatial Information.

We request your help in providing subject matter experts to identify high payoff opportunities in the new LoB task forces. Please have your staff provide the names and contact information for your attendees to the meeting and the name, email address and telephone number of your task force representatives to Von Harrison at von.harrison@gsa.gov by March 14, 2006. If you have any questions, please contact Von Harrison at 202-273-0721 or Karen S. Evans at 202-395-1181.