

**GIS&T Users Group Meeting Notes, 4.17.15**  
**NMSU Department of Geography**

**Joint data acquisition**

CLC and DAC are in discussions for sharing data with some potential to explore, but firewall issues exist at CLC. These may be resolved by changes that are likely to happen with ArcGIS, and Tim notes that of late, the problems seem to have gone away. This was also happening with our DAC portal trying to pull data from Tim's shop, and Hugo and I will need to poke around the site to see what is what.

Tim took Raed's advice and convinced the City to purchase and use Google Images, and this is the path that they are pursuing. Price is \$33k per year, and this meets their needs. Tambri and DAC are on a three year cycle for LIDAR acquisition, with 2014 being latest date, and they pick up new areas as funds allow. Delbert asks if people have issues getting imagery at the border due to Mexican limits, and Lee notes that WSMR is a very tough area to cover.

Tim suggests that we start discussion on joint acquisition early enough to get buy in from people that can provide funds in time to develop a formal cost share. Chris suggests a very brief survey effort to obtain data on what and when various entities are doing. Folks liked this a lot, and Chris will do this.

**GIS&T Advisory Committee idea**

Chris pitched this idea to the group and asked for input. Paul likes the idea, sees it is consistent with what Central is doing, and supports us doing this. Sharon with MVMPO is keen to do this and would like to see this happen. Bob notes that this is self-serving. If we do well at our job, our majors do well with finding good jobs and doing good work, they earn more money, and all benefit. We are to a degree borrowing this idea from ENG who HAS to do this, and we would all benefit from this. All supported this idea, folks seem to be willing to play, and I will follow up on this with the group via specific invites to likely people (CLC, DAC, BLM, IBWC, MPO). Tambri's recent work on flood mngt. is a good example of the value.

**Ongoing projects**

Carol presented our past work on trees, this being background for the new tree inventory project that the CLC and NMSU is starting to do. She covered this work in detail, which generated a good deal of discussion for the group, with specific interest in IDing species of interest. Tim Pitts noted the joint project allows the CLC to broaden its reach and area of interest, and urban forestry is one area that cities need to document to earn various recognitions. Their advisory committee noted this as an area in which they should be working, and the joint project is a step in this direction. This builds on work that Alma Pacheco did on shadescapes and the value of trees in

urban areas. Heather notes that the NM Dept. of Forestry has an urban forester that we should be connecting to on this project.

### **BLM activities**

Chris ran Ray's slides on neat things BLM is doing, and folks were quite interested in this. Chris will share slides with the group after checking with Ray.

### **GIS&T bulletin board idea**

Chris shared this with the group, folks thought it would be of use and interest, but shared some concerns related to who will do it and keep it up and also risk of improper use of data. Tim suggested we just have a part of our meeting dedicated to this, and Lee notes that Gar Clarke has a list serve that he uses to share meeting notices to which we can belong. Best ideas are to follow up on Tim's idea for the "show and tell" and also get and share the scoop on Gar Clarke's list.

### **South County players**

Chris shared with the group what we tried to do in the past with this group, noting we had some interesting discussions that went nowhere. Paul notes that Gilbert Mesa would be interested, and Chris should revisit this.

### **Next meeting**

Chris notes summer meetings are easier than in the term, and he will set something up for late July or early August. Tim noted they can host as well if this will help with planning. Chris sends thanks to all for coming.

### **Action items**

- Chris Brown will work up a very brief survey effort to obtain data on what and various entities are doing on data and imagery acquisition and when these activities are in play.
- Chris Brown will follow up with members of the group via specific invites to join the NMSU GIS&T Technical Advisory Council.
- Chris Brown will share the slides that Ray Hewitt sent along detailing what BLM is doing on public data access with the group after checking with Ray.
- Chris Brown will follow up on South County stakeholders to promote greater participation in the UG.

Meeting adjourned at 5pm.