



# Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date April 20, 2009

Agenda Item No. 36  
Roll Call No. 09-  
Communication No. 09-230  
Submitted by: Michael Matthes, Assistant City  
Manager & CIO

## AGENDA HEADING:

To approve the Des Moines Area Regional Geographic Information System (GIS) Partnership Business Plan and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and authorize the City Manager or designee to seek final adoption of the Business Plan and MOU by Regional GIS Partners.

## SYNOPSIS:

The Des Moines Area Regional GIS is a managed repository of mapping equipment, geographic data and digital maps that are maintained collaboratively by the Regional GIS Partners to support public safety response and emergency management throughout the Des Moines area. The City of Des Moines Information Technology (IT) Department hosts the Regional GIS. Current Regional GIS Partners include: Ankeny, Clive, Johnston, Pleasant Hill, Polk County, Urbandale and West Des Moines. The Business Plan and MOU outline the partnership required to continue collaborative maintenance of the Regional GIS beyond the initial implementation.

The Business Plan and MOU do not supersede the existing 28E agreement between the City of Des Moines and Polk County for a shared Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD)/Records Management System (RMS) or any similar agreements. Rather, the Business Plan and MOU are technical documents clarifying how maps utilized in regional CAD/RMS systems will be stored, maintained and distributed through the Regional GIS.

The City of Des Moines developed the Business Plan and MOU with input from technical coordinators representing each of the Regional GIS partner agencies.

Recommend approval for the City of Des Moines' participation in the Regional GIS Partnership.

## FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

Amount: \$12,800

Funding Source: 2003 Department of Justice Assistance Congressionally Mandated Award 2003DDBXII1132. 2009 Capital Improvements Program, Municipal Improvements, Page 21, Fund CP034, IFT990000, Project BLD114. (The \$12,800 is a part of the \$52,200 expense in Council Communication 09-231).

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Regional GIS began in 2003 when the City of Des Moines received a Byrne Justice Assistance (BJA) Grant to develop a GIS covering the Des Moines metropolitan area. The implementation of the Regional GIS is scheduled to be complete by May 31, 2009, after which the GIS Division of the City of Des Moines' IT Department will continue to manage the Regional GIS.

The objectives of the Regional GIS Partnership are to:

- Develop quality regional GIS maps and databases critical to public safety and emergency management
- Create regional GIS data and map standards
- Provide equipment, tools and training for the maintenance of regional GIS maps and databases
- Disseminate GIS maps and databases to public safety answering points (PSAPs) serving the Des Moines metro area
- Deliver online regional GIS maps to the public

Supporting the use of GIS to quickly and accurately dispatch 911 emergency services is the primary purpose of the Regional GIS. There are three PSAPs serving the communities in the Des Moines metropolitan area – City of Des Moines, Polk County and Westcom. For daily dispatch operations and special circumstances like mutual aid calls, each PSAP requires standardized GIS data and maps for the entire Des Moines metropolitan area.

In addition, the Regional GIS data and web applications are designed for broad use and will benefit any municipal or county service requiring metro-wide maps. For example, the data and web applications may be widely used on a daily basis by public safety, public works and human services or in special circumstances by Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs), Hazmat teams and state or federal emergency management agencies.

The Business Plan and MOU define the roles and responsibilities of the Regional GIS Partners, the scope of the partnership and the governance of the partnership. The City of Des Moines' primary responsibility is to host the Regional GIS database repository, including maintaining necessary server infrastructure and software. The other partners are primarily responsible for maintaining data in the repository for their respective jurisdictions and maintaining necessary desktop computers and software.

None of the hardware or software utilized in the Regional GIS is jointly owned. The City of Des Moines owns the desktop and server software necessary for hosting the Regional GIS repository and will pay \$24,200 annually to maintain that software. This cost is a \$12,800 increase over the amount the City would have paid annually to license GIS server software for City purposes alone. In other words, hosting the Regional GIS will cost the City an additional \$12,800 annually in software maintenance. The cost of hosting the Regional GIS does not increase if additional agencies join the partnership.

The other partners each own the desktop software necessary for contributing data to the Regional GIS repository and will each pay \$1,500 annually to maintain that software. The combined annual cost for the current seven partner agencies to participate in the Regional GIS is \$10,500. If additional agencies join the partnership, the cost of participating in the Regional GIS does not increase for existing partners.

All software maintenance fees will be paid directly to the software vendor. No funds will be exchanged among the City of Des Moines and partners for Regional GIS services.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: May 2, 2005

Roll Call Number: 05-1085

Action: Joint resolution between the City of Des Moines and the County of Polk approving 28E Agreement for Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD)/Records Management System (RMS)/Jail Management System (JMS). Moved by Vlassis to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: October 6, 2003

Roll Call Number: 03-2313

Action: Application for Federal Assistance to access grant funds for development of the Des Moines Regional Geographic Information System (GIS). (Council Communication No. 03-498). Moved by Brooks to approve. Motion Carried 5-2.

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE**

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