

CALL FOR PAPERS

MORE THAN A MAP: HOW GOVERNMENT AGENCIES ARE COLLABORATING ON GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION FOR BETTER PUBLIC SERVICES

We are seeking presenters to help make the business case for GIS to Government Executives and Policy Makers during an event scheduled for June 19, 2008 in Sacramento, California.

Concurrent sessions in the morning will address the promise of GIS (e.g., actual and proposed solutions) in the following areas of public policy:

1. **A Safer California** – GIS enables public safety and homeland security by helping government agencies safeguard our citizens, borders, and critical infrastructure as well as reduce crime, and prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters.
2. **A Growing California** – GIS helps local government and citizens understand how to plan land use, the construction of critical infrastructure to accommodate growing populations while balancing quality of life, economic opportunities, preserving natural resources, farm lands, and open space, avoiding disproportionate impacts to disadvantaged communities (e.g., environmental justice) and minimizing our carbon foot print.
3. **A Healthy California** – GIS promotes public health by helping to identify and respond to disease outbreaks, food borne contamination, properly locating and delivering health services, and understanding the link between sources of pollution and threats to public health.
4. **A Well Mobilized California** – GIS is used to plan transportation, utilities, broadband and other communication infrastructure to connect us for the future.
5. **An Open California** – GIS can be used to shine a light on government expenditures and investment of public resources, enable broader public participation in government decisions, ensure fair and equitable representation through redistricting, and generally promote participatory democracy.
6. **A Greener California** – GIS can help us understand the consequences of our activities on global warming, identify and mitigate sources of greenhouse gases, find, plan, build and exploit alternate energy sources, and monitor the effectiveness of our efforts.

The afternoon presentations will address the same previously listed public policy areas but will focus on the more technical “how to” aspects and help illustrate the following capabilities of GIS:

- Interactions and collaboration within and between government agencies, their partners, disparate stakeholders and the general public (vertical, horizontal and intra-jurisdictional interactions)
- Visualizing complex systems and interactions, and better identifying and comprehending alternatives (e.g., better understanding potential consequences *before* we act)
- Adaptive decision making that leads to effective results
- Creating effective public/private partnerships
- Using geography to integrate disparate data for more powerful analysis.

Participants will have 30 minutes for their presentations including time for questions and answers. Please fill out the attached form for proposed presentations and email them **no later than close of business, Friday, April 18, 2008** to:

RuthAnne Harbison
HarbisonR@cityofmerced.org

Thank you.

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PRESENTATION PROPOSAL

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GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION FOR BETTER PUBLIC SERVICES**

Email to RuthAnne Harbison (HarbisonR@cityofmerced.org)

By Close-of-Business, Friday, April 18, 2008

Your Name:	
Email Address:	
Position/Job Title:	
Organization:	
Policy Theme:	
Morning or Afternoon:	
Presentation Title:	
Abstract:	