

## GIS Education and Advocacy Work Group

Meeting Notes: September 21, 2010 2:00 – 4:00 PM

### Introductions, Agenda and Charter Review

#### In attendance:

- Jen Cimenelli
- Brian Crumpler
- Melissa Dabbs
- Mary Davis
- Lyle Hornbaker
- Stan Hovey
- Darlette Meekins
- John McGee
- Kevin Nelson
- John Scrivani
- Amy Snyder
- Wendy Stout
- Jennifer Wampler
- Dan Widner
- James Wilson
- Jason Overstreet

#### Elevation Workgroup need for LiDAR Education

- The Elevation Initiative Action Team has identified a need to develop a one page introduction to LiDAR data and how it will benefit both practitioners and decision makers
- Several ideas were discussed including input provided by Elevation team lead John Scrivani
- Action item taken by Stan Hovey to initiate this effort with a report at the next meeting

#### K through 12 GIS Education

- Discussions focused primarily on middle and high school GIS education needs
- Action item taken to collect ideas and for a sub group to sort into categories
- Identified a need to connect with the VDOE at the administrative level
- Other identified needs included:
  - Mentoring with local school teachers, etc.
  - Geospatial awareness efforts
  - Invite someone from the VDOE
  - Newsletter

- Conferences (primarily for tech-ed teachers)

#### Two Year College GIS Education

- A lot of activity is already occurring in this arena thanks to the grant Virginia received.
- Some of the items listed include links on the Geospatial Extension Program website <http://www.cnr.vt.edu/gep/> and the Virginia Geospatial DACUM
- The Community College Geospatial portal is in place at <http://vccsgis.org/>
- Needs identified include Faculty Mentoring through classroom support and a speakers bureau of GIS professionals
- A Geomentoring Program through ESRI was noted.
- VCCS Institute (cohort #2) for faculty and dual enrollment high school teachers will be held in Blacksburg during the late spring / summer 2011

#### Four Year Colleges

- The biggest need identified is enhanced communications amongst the institutions offering GIS courses.
- Suggestions include a focused get together once a year to share ideas and information. Perhaps piggy-back this effort with the Virginia GIS Conference.

#### Professional Training

- Budget constraints were identified as a hindrance to training access.
- Ideas to help include compiling affordable training facilities and their costs, identifying grant opportunities for education, and a prioritization of training needs by the practitioners
- LIDAR Workshop discussed
  - Management (non-techie) workshop focused on awareness, applications, options, deliverables, benefits, etc
  - More hands-on workshop for a more technical crowd.