GIS and the Three Pillars of Sustainability

Problems and Solutions
At the very beginning of GIS-Pro 2014 in New Orleans, there was a facilitated brainstorming session in which all the conference attendees participated. The session was very brief, just 30 minutes, so a lot of thinking was packed into a small space. But with that much intellectual capital in the room, a number of really good ideas surfaced.

The conference theme this year was partly based on the Three Pillars of Sustainability, particularly related to sustainable development.

The three pillars are Social, Environment, and Economic, as represented in the Venn diagram below.

The participants were asked to identify problems or challenges they face in their communities that make sustainable development difficult. Those ideas were captured in digital form and then transcribed on a flip chart immediately following the session. The flip chart was placed on an easel near the conference registration area, and several ideas were added by attendees over the next couple of days. Some of the problems or challenges were related to sustainable development and some were related to the use of GIS to support sustainable development, as you can see below.

- Need to restore sense of community & trust in government
- Most people seem to be apathetic, only a few act
- Money drives quick fixes, not long term solutions
- Social uses of GIS take a back seat to environmental and economic uses
- Need performance management to show progress on social issues
- Unfunded mandates are prevalent
- Funds for sustainability aren’t often applied to improving infrastructure
- Data often built for a single purpose, greater value is unrealized
- Executives & elected

continued on page 2
officials haven’t bought into sustainability
• GIS plans are too often not implemented
• Conference ideas are good, but difficult to implement or act on
• GIS communication is often unclear and/or unrelated to impacts
• Attorneys need to be educated about sustainability and GIS, too
• Competing ideals (e.g., privacy vs. open data)
• Data is not always public and not always relevant to the problem(s)
• Corporate responsibility often goes untracked and unnoticed
• Need to engage the next generation
• Data alone won’t solve the problems, need to address underlying issues/motivations

All conference attendees were asked to watch for possible solutions to these problems and challenges as they participated in sessions throughout the rest of the conference. On the last day, the final conference session included a facilitated discussion to identify those solutions and talk about how to implement them. The solutions and action items are below.
• Need to hold ourselves accountable for providing improvement/change with performance management tools
• Need new laws/processes for procurement
• Return on investment analysis is a required element of GIS development, communication is key
• Need to dramatically improve the way GIS results and analysis are communicated
• Need to invite more public participation in sustainable development
• Develop actionable cycle: communication, user-centered design, feedback, implementation, improvement
• Bring GIS to schools to involve the next generation
• Incorporate modern technology in the sustainable development process
• Make data public and relevant to the process
• Build relationships with local technology groups
• Collaborate globally, implement locally
• Constant improvement

Action: URISA work group to start assessing/correlating GIS impact on Star Communities

Action: URISA connect with National Association of State Procurement Officials on procurement reform

Action: URISA initiate work group to develop Elected Officials Guide to GIS brochure (GFOA model)

Action: URISA presence at newly elected officials’ events, coordinating with NACo, others

Starting immediately after the conference, a work group was formed to develop the Elected Officials Guide to GIS brochure. The group set itself a target of 13 weeks to develop and finalize the brochure. They are working under the auspices of URISA’s GIS Management Institute (GMI) and the brochure will be a GMI product.

If you want to get involved with any of these conference outcomes, please contact Wendy Nelson, URISA’s Executive Director at wnelson@urisa.org.

Submitted by:
Cy Smith, GISP, State of Oregon
Danielle Ayan, GISP, Booz Allen Hamilton
Emergency managers in the region have a new tool to assist with situational awareness, the Northeast Ohio Common Operating Picture (NEO-COP) website. Leaders from across the region are committed to providing robust situation awareness through a Common Operating Picture for those who prepare for, respond to and recover from natural and man made disasters as well as emergencies, mass gatherings and other events that affect the public. This includes emergency managers, first responders such as fire, police, HAZMAT and EMS services, search and rescue, health professionals, the Red Cross, local, State and Federal partners, and others.

A regional team of Geographic Information System (GIS) professionals, the NEO-COP Working Group, has been working towards the implementation of this regional, GIS-based Common Operating Picture (COP) website. The Lake County Emergency Management Agency, GIS and Information Technology Departments are supporting the technology infrastructure, development and administration of NEO-COP.

This resource is available for any northeast Ohio emergency responder entity that is interested in participating. Detailed critical infrastructure information is initially included for Cuyahoga, Lake and Geauga Counties. GIS layers from the Department of Homeland Security’s national-wide dataset, HSIP Freedom, will provide Critical Infrastructure layers throughout the State of Ohio, as disasters can affect multiple Counties. NEO-COP is currently available for use in the event of a significant emergency or disaster event. It was recently used in the Perry Nuclear Power Plant Hostile Action Based full-scale exercise in September.

For many years now, GIS has provided an integration platform for supporting the mission of emergency response and public safety. This includes providing data management, E911, planning and analysis, field enablement, and situational awareness. GIS has been a foundational technology linking data and response after the September 11th terrorist attack, Hurricanes, the fires in California and the more recent Haiti earthquake, Japan earthquake and tsunami and the Gulf of Mexico oil spill.

The integration of all available resources into a user-defined operating picture is essential to the success of crisis decision-making.

In an environment that increasingly requires cooperation between local, state, and federal agencies in a crisis, the ability to provide comprehensive, real time situational awareness to multiple entities is critical. The integration of all available resources into a user-defined operating picture is essential to the success of crisis decision-making.

This password protected web site is available to support authorized users such as emergency management officials, first responders, local, State and Federal partners by promoting communication.
between these stakeholders and others such as State and Federal authorities. All can tap into a single information resource. People access the system to gain an accurate understanding of events on the ground, deploy the right personnel and equipment, and update data dynamically from the field or command center. This website can overlay incident information such as damage assessments, plumes, staging areas, evacuation routes and detours, relief sites, landslides, compromised bridges and culverts, hazardous spill locations, evacuation areas, resource locations, boil water areas, likely flood zones, detailed terrain and aerial imagery, and more. Critical Infrastructure layers are included, standardized to conform to the Department of Homeland Security’s Geospatial Data Model to support geospatial interoperability and information sharing, organizing features of interest to the homeland security community.

Also, many layers of at-risk populations are displayed, such as day care centers, nursing homes, schools and other gathering points. This will allow for officials to quickly make decisions regarding protective actions and resource allocation.

The GIS-based NEO-COP platform provides a web-based, real-time view of incident information that helps keep emergency response teams and decision-makers informed. The data-driven platform means the map can be quickly updated for greater situational awareness and coordination of efforts.

After submitting an authorized user name and password, the user of the NEO-COP website will have the ability to navigate around the map by both zooming and panning or by searching for a particular address. The base map layers consist of aerial imagery, roads, building footprints and jurisdictions.

Numerous tools (widgets) are provided which will provide various capabilities to enhance situational awareness and analyze information on the map. Examples include routing to the nearest hospital, placement of an ALOHA plume, bomb threat standoff mapping, creating a half mile buffer from a toxic spill point, and adding KML (Google Earth) layers. Also included are the integration of real time data feeds that are available from many external sources, for example the ODOT traffic cameras, weather information such as Nexrad Radar, or wind gusts.

Select, authorized data editors will also be able to create layers on the map, e.g. traffic control points, evacuation zones, incident command post, staging areas, etc. as well as drawing on the map to highlight information such as response areas, traffic accidents, Hazmat spills, etc.

This all results in a data sharing capability and interoperability with partners at various levels of government, the private sector, and volunteer organizations – use of common data standards for transfer of information creates a means to exchange information from the managers of emergency response to a multitude of first responders, up and down the chain of command.
Governance and management

NEO-COP Steering Committee

The Northeast Ohio Common Operating Picture Steering Committee manages broad goals and policies for overall system development and management. These decisions typically include access policies, budgeting, system development, oversight on managing system expansion and maintaining project goals. NEO-COP faces resource limitations. Much is done through in-kind services. The Steering Committee must be able to set relevant, attainable priorities for the program.

The NEO-COP Steering Committee is currently run by the Cuyahoga County and Lake County EMA Directors. Decisions are reached through consensus.

The Steering Committee works with external agencies that may have an interest in the NEO-COP, to formalize cooperative ventures between new agencies.

NEO-COP Working Group

The NEO-COP Working Group operates as a stakeholder user group rather than a decision-making body. Working Group members do not have the authority to make substantive decisions on behalf of their organizations or locality. They have no power over other localities, only coordination and administration duties as they relate to disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery plans.

Working Group Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City of Cleveland</th>
<th>Office of Emergency Management, GIS Department, Dept. of Public Utilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland Metroparks</td>
<td>GIS Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuyahoga County</td>
<td>Office of Emergency Management, Planning Commission; Cuyahoga County IT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake County</td>
<td>Emergency Management Agency; GIS Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N.E.O.R.S.D.</td>
<td>GIS Department</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

continued on page 6
Share subject matter expertise and resources

Identify funding opportunities *

Coordinate NEO-COP related activities to ensure information sharing is occurring

Act as champions for this tool in the northeast Ohio region

Help prioritize NEO-COP development

What's next?

Credentialing and training is in the works. Our goal is to integrate NEO-COP into exercises and real world situations.

Plans for the future include provision of a public-access mirrored site without any sensitive or FOUO information that can be stood up to provide the public with information such as road closures, closed bridges, mass feeding, shelter locations, FEMA loan assistance centers, etc.

* Thanks to Cuyahoga County LEPC for funding assistance in 2013 and 2014.

Author: Richard Kotapish, GISP, Director
Lake County GIS Department
440 350-5943; dick.kotapish@lakecountyohio.gov

Bio: Mr. Kotapish is a senior GIS Project Manager with over 25 years of experience implementing GIS for local government. In the disaster response space, Mr. Kotapish joined other GISCorps volunteers on a two week deployment to Hurricane Katrina at the State EOC in Jackson, Mississippi. He also is a member of the State of Ohio All-Hazards Incident Management Team and has been dispatched to Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene, floods and other large-scale disasters to support response and recovery. He also is the State of Ohio Project Manager for the “International Charter – Space and Major Disasters” which aims at providing a unified system of space data acquisition and delivery using the assets of most every Countries’ space agencies across the world.
Are You A Reluctant Leader?

By Walt Grassl

Do you know someone who is very comfortable doing a job that has no leadership dimension, even though you just know they will thrive as a leader? Many of them have a condition that is sometimes referred to as Altitude Sickness. This is not the medical condition, which occurs when you are at high altitudes and cannot get enough oxygen. This Altitude Sickness refers to the fear of success, the fear of reaching great heights.

Jesika leads a department of engineers at a design and manufacturing company. Two years ago, she realized that her organization was growing too large for its current structure. To keep a workable supervisor to employee ratio, she needed to split the biggest section into two. This left her with a supervisor position to fill. She preferred to fill the position from within the existing organization, to provide career growth paths for her existing employees. She sat back in her chair and thought about which of her employees might be candidates for the new position.

The water-cooler favorite was Donald, who, for years, has been lobbying for a move into management. But, Donald was not well liked by his coworkers. He was not good at working together with his team. On more than one occasion, he mentioned that if he were supervisor, people would do what he said. When rumors of an organization change started circulating, the thought of Donald being in a supervisory role was negatively impacting morale.

No other employees had expressed interest in moving into supervision. Jesika remembered that when she first became a supervisor, she did not want the job. She reluctantly took the job after her boss convinced her that often, reluctant leaders are the best leaders. They lead from a desire to serve, not a desire for power.

The following are five signs to identify reluctant leaders:

1. **Peers seek their counsel**
   Most organizations have two kinds of leaders: People with leader in their title and people who are sought out for advice by their peers.

   When looking for reluctant leaders, observe your teams. Who do the team members respect? Who do they go to before bringing problems to the attention to management?

2. **They are focused on team success, not individual glory**
   Some employees are too busy focusing on their tasks to help others with theirs. Others realize that if one employee is stuck, it hurts the team, and they are willing to either help the other employee or direct them to someone who can. The latter are potential leaders.

   Some employees take as much individual credit for the work of the team as they can. Other employees are selfless and focus on the achievements of the group. The latter are potential leaders.

   And, when things go wrong as they sometimes do, some employees are never at fault and are quick to blame others. Other employees focus on fixing the problem and correcting the root cause. The latter are potential leaders.

3. **They are passionate about the work**
   Which employees have a passion for the work? They should take pride in a job well done and see their work as a reflection of their character. They sometimes stay late when in the middle of a key project, not to impress the boss but because they are caught up in the moment and lose track of time. That passion and dedication inspires others. If they constantly have their eye on the clock and don’t feel that the quality of their work reflects the quality of their character, they are not leaders.

4. **They exercise good judgment**
   One of the key characteristics of a great leader is judgment. A sign of good judgment is when an employee seeks help. When they are stuck, do they immediately get help? Do they spend a little time and effort on the problem, but when they see it will impact the schedule, then reach out for help? Or do they never ask for help and then when the task is due, blame the late delivery on the problem they couldn’t solve? The first and last examples are not yet ready for leadership.

5. **They are life-long learners**
   An employee who is a life-long learner is potentially a good leader. They realize that they don’t know it all. They are more likely to listen and fairly evaluate the inputs of others, in particular, their subordinates. This promotes innovation and encourages employees to speak up if they feel something is heading in the wrong direction, leading to happier teams and better quality decisions.

   Employees who feel that they do not have anything new to learn and don’t fairly assess contrary inputs are at risk for continued on page 8
stagnation and ignoring the warning signs of trouble.

---

In thinking of all the people in her department, Matt stood out. Matt was quiet, very technically competent and respected by his peers. On more than one occasion, Matt said he was happy doing design work and had no desire to become part of management. Jesika ran Matt through the criteria for reluctant leaders and he met them all; she felt he was just suffering from a touch of altitude sickness.

Jesika met with Matt and had a heart-to-heart discussion. She gave him specific examples of how he had all the characteristics of a reluctant leader. She also shared that she also had suffered from altitude sickness. She understood his reluctance. She asked him to take a day and consider accepting this challenge.

Matt slept on it, and the next day agreed to become a supervisor. Jesika promised to mentor him and provide him with the training and resources he needed to be successful. Fast forward to today: Matt is a well-respected leader and has not let the power go to his head.

Sometimes, the best leaders are the reluctant leaders. When assessing your teams, look for the quiet, unambitious employees who demonstrate the qualities of reluctant leaders and help cure them of their altitude sickness.

About the Author
Walt Grassl is a speaker, author of “Stand Up and Speak Up,” and host of the Internet radio show, “Stand Up and Speak Up.” Walt’s accomplishments include success in Toastmasters International speech contests and performing standup comedy at the Hollywood Improv and the Flamingo in Las Vegas. For more information on bringing Walt Grassl to your next event, please visit WaltGrassl.com.
Recently I was reflecting on what I have gotten from URISA. For my first few years as a member I was simply a passive member. I read some parts of the newsletter, a little of the URISA Journal and a Quick Guide or two. I was not using my membership to help me in my professional career, I was only a member because it was a thing to do. Over time I started to see that people were having and discussing the same sort of problems that I was trying to solve as a GIS Manager. I started to attend meetings of the local Georgia URISA chapter and eventually started to present on the problems we were encountering at Fulton County and our solutions to them. We were focusing on two major initiatives: refining our inventory of geospatial datasets and converting important non-digital assets into digital ones; and better supporting the business systems.

When I presented on those topics at meetings and conferences I was able to further refine our solutions because of the people in the audiences. Those professionals brought their own experiences with similar problems to light as well as their ideas on ways to solve them. It was through the interaction with other geospatial professionals that ideas got refined and honed. That interaction helped quash some ideas that seemed really good at the moment but would have been disastrous over time.

A goodly number of years ago I got asked by a friend and colleague or two to volunteer to help URISA with both the URISA Leadership Academy and the Drafting of an Address Data Exchange standard. Both of those opportunities to volunteer, affirmed what I really did know, clarified ideas I was unsure about, and taught me the important things that I had not yet encountered.

It is a paradox, that by volunteering, we learn things about ourselves and our professional craft. Those things we learn are often very subtle and hard to get in any other way.

So this reflection has got me to the point where I want to encourage you to hone your craft, refine your solutions to problems, and grow as a geospatial professional. If this is your first time reading “The GIS Professional”, read all of the articles to see how others are approaching problems and write an article about problems that you are solving. If you have been around for a while, volunteer to participate on one of the PPD studies or practice investigations, help with a conference, help get URISA’s message out with the Marketing Committee. If you are already volunteering, think of a peer who is doing great things on their own and personally invite them to volunteer too.

It’s going to be a great year at URISA. carl.anderson@vadose.org

Vertices Launches Ebola Mapping Project
Submitted by: Dr. Wansoo Im, Vertices wansooim@gmail.com

Due to the public fear of the Ebola outbreak, we’re seeing an increase in mishaps and episodes of confusion related to the deadly disease. In order to provide a fair view of how the public is reacting to Ebola, we decided to aggregate and visualize various geospatial data.

First map, Ebola Happenings, shows the actual breakout cases, high-risk locations, and news stories related to Ebola. By observing any patterns (or lack thereof) in the way these incidents manifest themselves, viewers will be able to have a broader sense of the situation and become aware that most cases of panic can be avoided.

A second map, Ebola in Twitter, and a chart page, Ebola in Charts, are two different ways of looking at time-and-location-specific patterns of Ebola (and Flu) in the social media.

Many academics, engineers, and volunteers sacrificed their time for this project, and we plan to update this site as our team evolves. It is our hope that our efforts may work towards reaching a better understanding of how the public is responding to this global epidemic.
Esri® CityEngine®

Create High-Quality 3D Content

Design urban layouts in 3D for analysis and review.
Model 3D environments for entertainment and simulation.
Quickly create 3D models using real-world 2D GIS data.

Download your free 30-day trial at esri.com/cityenginetal
URISA Brain Trust – Committee and Division Meetings at GIS-Pro 2014

GIS-Pro 2014 in New Orleans began with an afternoon meeting of URISA committee volunteers and division chairs. The purpose of the meeting was to capitalize on the ‘brain trust’ in the room to discuss workplans, avoid duplication of efforts, and move the organization forward. We expect that this will be an annual in-person event held in conjunction with the conference, with frequent organization-wide virtual collaborations every quarter or so. Thanks to everyone who made this meeting a success!

GIS MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE (GMI)
GIS Management Institute (GMI) committee members were busy at GIS-Pro, both on the program and in various planning sessions. A half-day GMI workshop on understanding and applying the GIS Capability Maturity Model was presented to more than 30 attendees. This workshop is also available as a recorded URISA webinar. GMI Committee leadership provided a 45 minute plenary session GMI status update, to provide all conference attendees an outline of the imminent roll-out of new online GIS assessment services. There was also a panel discussion that focused on an important GMI Discussion paper titled “A Distributed Model for Effective National Geospatial Data Management: Building a National Data Sharing Infrastructure.”

Throughout the conference there were many planned and ad-hoc GMI planning meetings. The GMI Committee provided an update to the Board on work accomplished over the past few months, and the roll out of the new GMI Assessment Services. Committee work included development of recommendations regarding the placement of GMI within URISA as a whole, subscription fees for GIS assessment services, and a possible comprehensive GIS ROI study. The relationship between GMI and the URISA Journal was also explored. At the very end of the conference, during the closing GIS Issues Brainstorming session facilitated by Past-President Cy Smith, it was agreed to develop a new URISA GMI elected officials’ guide for GIS – work has already begun on this initiative (discussed in the feature article of this issue). For more information: URISA GIS Management Institute. Interested in volunteering to help develop GMI products and services? Contact Greg Babinski.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE DIVISION
A number of important Professional Practice Division (PPD) initiatives were discussed at GIS-Pro. During the summer of 2014, PPD collaborated with the Education Division on the completion of two surveys that were designed to solicit input from URISA members. The intent of these surveys was to collect information that will help URISA focus its efforts on creating timely and useful best practices, workshops and other resources. The surveys are currently being analyzed and the results will be shared with the URISA membership in a soon to be announced webinar. PPD also has eight active workgroups that are moving toward the development of best practices and related products in areas ranging from use of GIS in a Cloud environment to methods for conducting an effective return on investment. We are also engaging other stakeholder groups in the GIS industry for the purpose of seeking mutually beneficial ways to collaboratively develop and share resources. To learn more and/or get involved, contact Kevin Mickey.

MARKETING DIVISION
The Marketing Committee discussed several projects that will be beneficial to URISA members, including the following:
• Creating a vision and mission statement,
• Developing a communications strategy,
• Reviewing the member benefits/value proposition, and
• Assisting with the initial rollout of the GIS Management Institute (GMI).

If you are interested in volunteering for any of these projects, please contact Teresa Townsend!
In this timely resource comprised of 14 distinct chapters, editor Hassan Karimi sought to provide a high-level introduction to emerging big data techniques and applications for geospatial analysts in the rapidly developing field of geoinformatics. In the preface, the reader is introduced to the three ‘V’s of big data: volume, referring to the large-scale aspects of data storage and data processing, variety, concerning the types and formats in which data are available; and velocity, or the rapidly accelerating rate of new data acquisition. While big data may involve only one of these aspects, in geographical information sciences, our needs are more likely to involve all three . . . and indeed, as Sugumaran, Burnett and Armstrong point out in the introduction to Chapter 3 point out, also a fourth ‘V’, the veracity or accuracy of the data contained in resources involved in big data.

Following a brief preface, the first chapter discusses distributed and parallel computing, describing in turn the distributed computing methods of cluster, grid and cloud computing, followed by parallel computing, supercomputing, and XSEDE. These approaches are compared and contrasted in the concluding section of this chapter. Chapter 2 describes the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), focusing on methods to support the integration of geospatial resources using this broad platform. Chapter 3 provides techniques using a cloud computing environment for processing large 3-dimensional spatial databases, using the Iowa LiDAR database to demonstrate these applications. Chapter 4 focuses on the design and functioning of open environments focusing on big data challenges in the geosciences. The four applications discussed are GeoBrain, CropScape, VegScape, and the Global Agricultural Drought Monitoring and Forecasting System (GADMFS), and the functions of interoperability, serviceability, and infrastructure in these open environments are each examined in turn.

Chapter 5 focuses on the development of online visualization and analysis tools to use with NASA satellite-derived global precipitation products. These products are briefly described, big data challenges and solutions are discussed, and a prototype application with examples of outputs is explored. Chapters 6 and 7 describe algorithmic design issues and machine learning in big data geoinformatics applications, respectively. Chapter 8 provides three case studies examining volume, velocity, and variety, using examples with climate and transport data. In Chapter 9, the incorporation of volunteered geographical information into big spatial data applications in explored, while Chapter 10 examines methods for applied sequence mining algorithms with big data, using a database of taxi trip records.

The role of social media as inputs to big data applications in geoinformatics is the subject of Chapter 11. Social media data, also referred to as ambient geographical information, pose additional challenges for data processing, requiring additional methods and techniques. In Chapter 12 the focus is on data accessed through mobile computing, using a framework the authors refer to as Time Mobility Context Correlation Pattern (TMC-Pattern). This chapter describes a number of measures and techniques for trajectory modeling and mining with sample algorithms, and concludes with an empirical example. Chapter 13 is concerned with the geospatial cyberinfrastructure for the worldwide sensor web, which has been evolving in a manner similar to that of the World Wide Web. The book concludes with a chapter discussing the continual adaptation of Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) standards to address emerging issues in privacy, provenance and data quality in big spatial data applications.

Each chapter was prepared as a self-contained unit, complete with its own references. This will facilitate their utility for readers interested only in selected chapters. Readers interested in utilizing the entire book with find the repetition of introductory information across many chapters somewhat tedious, and lack of consistency in the use of terms and acronyms throughout the book also poses a minor distraction. While the book does have an index, there is no glossary of terms or comprehensive list of acronyms. The entire book would benefit from careful copyediting, as many authors write technically rather than for a broader audience and in several instances it appears that English was not the authors’ primary language.
Who should read this book? Geographic information scientists looking for a succinct introduction to techniques for applying geoinformatics to big data will find much of interest here, but of course the hard work of creating applications only begins after reading a book such as this one. Educators will probably prefer to utilize individual chapters rather that the entire text, but it would be possible to structure an intensive hands-on seminar around it. Geography and GIS libraries should definitely consider adding Big Data to their holdings, in digital or physical form.

Review submitted by: Russell S. Kirby, PhD, MS, FACE, - University of South Florida, Tampa, FL.

URISA is pleased to announce the availability of the 2015 Vanguard Cabinet application. The Vanguard Cabinet (VC) is a URISA initiative which debuted in 2011 to engage young GIS practitioners (35 and under), increase their numbers in the organization, and better understand the concerns facing these future leaders of the GIS community. The Cabinet’s mission is to collaborate with URISA’s Board of Directors and Committees in creating and promoting programs and policies of benefit to young professionals. Comprised entirely of passionate young members selected from different geospatial disciplines, the Cabinet aims to position URISA as the center of opportunities for creative young professionals who are committed to improving URISA and the geospatial profession via innovation, collaboration, networking, and professional development.

Clare Brown, GISP, advisor to the Vanguard Cabinet, notes, “Young professionals are not only increasing in number within URISA, but they are also leading and initiating important programs. From student outreach to professional practice development, the VC is making its mark and being noticed. I encourage all young GIS professionals to learn more about the Vanguard Cabinet and apply to become a part of this great group of future leaders.”

Visit the Vanguard Cabinet web page for the 2015 application form (due by November 30) and additional information.

Mark Your Calendar!
GIS-Pro 2015: URISA’s 53rd Annual Conference
October 18-22, 2015 • Spokane, Washington

We are pleased to announce that next year’s URISA annual conference will be presented in partnership with the Northern Rockies URISA Chapter and the Northwest GIS Users’ Group, along with the Washington URISA Chapter!

Expect a phenomenal conference program in a beautiful setting! Natural, walkable, friendly... Spokane is a vibrant city, a roaring river, a gateway to the American west. Book a whitewater adventure, shred fresh powder, bike the beautiful Centennial Trail or hike through countless nature preserves. But it’s not just about the outdoors! Taste Washington’s renowned grapes and hops at any number of local wineries and craft breweries.

URISA is pleased to announce the availability of the 2015 Vanguard Cabinet application. The Vanguard Cabinet (VC) is a URISA initiative which debuted in 2011 to engage young GIS practitioners (35 and under), increase their numbers in the organization, and better understand the concerns facing these future leaders of the GIS community. The Cabinet’s mission is to collaborate with URISA’s Board of Directors and Committees in creating and promoting programs and policies of benefit to young professionals. Comprised entirely of passionate young members selected from different geospatial disciplines, the Cabinet aims to position URISA as the center of opportunities for creative young professionals who are committed to improving URISA and the geospatial profession via innovation, collaboration, networking, and professional development.

Clare Brown, GISP, advisor to the Vanguard Cabinet, notes, “Young professionals are not only increasing in number within URISA, but they are also leading and initiating important programs. From student outreach to professional practice development, the VC is making its mark and being noticed. I encourage all young GIS professionals to learn more about the Vanguard Cabinet and apply to become a part of this great group of future leaders.”

Visit the Vanguard Cabinet web page for the 2015 application form (due by November 30) and additional information.
The New England Chapter of the Urban & Regional Information Systems Association (NEURISA) will host its annual NEURISA Day conference on Monday, November 3, 2014. This one day conference will include a keynote session, exhibitors, and presentations from professionals in the GIS community. We are excited to announce that new for 2014 we will have a second concurrent track in order to offer more for our attendees! In addition to networking and hearing relevant presentations, conference attendees will get to spend a few minutes in one-on-one conversations with participating geospatial exhibitors as a means to build introductions and discover mutual business or professional interests.

2014 NEURISA Day Conference Agenda
November 3, 2014 • Old Sturbridge Village, Massachusetts

SESSION 1:
New Technology - Moderator: Michael Olkin, Town of Amherst, MA
- Using Online GIS Tools to Map Spatial Narratives, Victoria Beckley, Smith College Spatial Analysis Lab
- ArcGIS Pro - Getting Started and Lessons Learned, David Shortman, CDM Smith
- Python+Geo - Guido Stein, AppGeo

Online Maps in Government & Infrastructure - Moderator: Steve Sharp, VT Center for Geographic Information
- Streamlining Municipal Operations in Rockport, MA, Matthew Barrett, Town of Rockport, MA
- Integrating GIS & IWMS to Create an Effective Space Planning Tool, Niels la Cour, UMass Amherst
- Using Intelligent Maps to Engage Communities and Create Responsive Government, Kate Hickey, AppGeo

SESSION 2:
Looking Towards the Future- Moderator: Erin Jacque, Tighe & Bond
- Statewide Standardized Tax Mapping: Lessons Learned, Future Prospects, Neil MacGaffey, MassGIS
- NOAA Digital Coast: Improving Coastal Resilience, Jamie Carter, NOAA Office of Coastal Management
- Brownfields Assessment Program, Amy Vaillencourt, Tighe & Bond
- Technology Trends - Moderator: Brett Horr, Town of York, ME
  - A Roundtable Discussion about the State of the GIS Industry, Chris Akin, FM Global

SESSION 3:
Hands On Workshop - Moderator: Shane Bradt ,UNH Cooperative Extension
- Census Data Access Workshop, Alexandra Barker, US Census Bureau

Professional & Technical - Moderator: Chris Akin, FM Global
- GIS Management Institute, Greg Babinski, URISA
- Precision Street Panoramas in GIS, Paul Smith, Cyclomedia Technology

Mr. Greg Babinski, GISP, King County GIS Center & URISA Past President
NEURISA is proud to welcome 2014 NEURISA Day Keynote Speaker Greg Babinski. Mr. Babinski is a highly successful advocate for the use of GIS to improve all aspects of local government business practices, and is internationally recognized as a prominent contributor to several effective efforts to advance the cause of the profession. In his tenure as President of URISA, Mr. Babinski led the expansion of the organization into the international realm, adding several new chapters around the world. As the current Chair of URISA’s GIS Management Institute, Mr. Babinski is dedicated to developing resources that advance professional best practices and standards for the management of GIS operations.

Register Now!
Welcome New URISA Members

Hafsa Aasi —Claremont Graduate University—Fullerton, CA
Darin Acosta—Norco, LA
John Adams—Orleans Parish Communication District—New Orleans, LA
Eric Adolphson—Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho—Meridian, ID
Brad Agius, GISP—Tetra Tech—Portland, ME
Maegan Allen—Kern County Water Agency—Bakersfield, CA
Matthew Bell— Parkers, CO
Doug Bennett—Thomson Reuters—Portage, MI
Benjamin Bidell, GISP—Niagara County Center for Economic Development—Sanborn, NY
Andrea Bolks—US-EPA/ORISE—Chicago, IL
Tierney Booker—Bend, OR
Taylor Bowen—City of Columbia—Columbia, MO
Ross Brewer, GISP—City of Marietta—Kennesaw, GA
Andrew Brown—Geographic Information Services Inc—Arlington, VA
Sarah Brown—Downingtontown, PA
Tyler Brown, GISP—National Wild Turkey Federation—Ward, SC
James Bryant—Alexandria, VA
Kathryn Butler, GISP—SC Army National Guard—Swansea, SC
Justin Cahoon—Roseville, CA
Frank Conetta—Manatee County—Bradenton, FL
Nell Conti—Fehrland Peers—Denver, CO
Andrea Conver—Sanametrix—Washington, DC
Thomas Copenhaver, GISP—Dewberry—Fairfax, VA
Mark Crane, GISP—APHIS PPQ—Raleigh, NC
Keith Dailey, GISP—Cowley County, KS—Winfield, KS
Jason Darley—Clifton, NJ
Alison DeGraff—Middlebury, VT
Brandt Denham—Edmonton, AB Canada
Michael Dixon—Holly Springs, NC
Malcolm Echaluce, GISP—Prince William County—Woodbridge, VA
Andrew Eckerson—Lincoln, NE
Bill Fearrington, GISP—Maryland Dept. of Human Resources—Parkville, MD
Loretta Gebow—Orlando, FL
Jodie Gosselin Sturbridge, MA
Greg Griffin—Austin, TX
James Gulliso, GISP—City of Durham—Durham, NC
Kevin Hawley, GISP—US Census Bureau—Springfield, VA
Marc Haworth—Los Angeles, CA
Edwin Hom, GISP—Rockwell Collins—Draper, UT
William Huggins—CCBC Catonsville—Randelstown, MD
Katherine Hurley, GISP—MN Department of Health—Saint Paul, MN
Melinda James Lopez—City of Hoover—Hoover, AL
Josi Jennenskens—Lakewood, CA
Anne Johnson—Eagle River, AK
Aaron Jones, GISP—Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency—Louisville, KY
Steve Kennedy, GISP—Ventura County Fire Dept—Ventura, CA
Letitia King-Branch, GISP—MARTA—Atlanta, GA
Nicholas Knize, GISP—Thermopylae Sciences & Technology—Rockwell, TX
Alison Kuemmel—City of New Orleans—New Orleans, LA
Jeremy Lind, GISP—Wiser Company—Murfreesboro, TN
Katherine Loving, GISP—DC Water—Arlington, VA
Cameron Ludwig—Edmonton, AB Canada
Nathan McKinney—University of West Florida—Pensacola, FL
Andrew Mehos, GISP—City of Philadelphia—Philadelphia, PA
Ryan Mello, GISP—Eastern Shore Regional GIS Cooperative—Salisbury University—Salisbury, MD
Catheine Metzgar—Berlin, PA
Travis Miller—Conroe, TX
William Moody, GISP—Training Brain Operations Center—Newport News, VA
Kieran Murphy—City of Philadelphia—Philadelphia, PA
John Nolte, GISP—Zapata Incorporated—Lakewood, CO
Stefan Norton—Denver, CO
Zachary Ordo, GISP—EQT—Washington, PA
Nicole Palmer, GISP—GSI Water Solutions, Inc.—Portland, OR
Ronald Pawlowski—West Roxbury, MA
Evan Peters—Ft. Worth, TX
Jeremy Peters, GISP—Pitney Bowes Software—Clifton Park, NY
Katie Pickett—New Orleans, LA
Lane Pitre—Baton Rouge, LA
Olesya Powers—Garland, TX
David Ramirez, GISP—C2Logix—Tampa, FL
Justin Reed—La Grange, KY
Hobbie Regan, GISP—South Mississippi Electric Power Association—Sumrall, MS
Heather Roberts—Clinton, WA
Christopher Rodengen, GISP—Hydrocarbon Acquisitions LLC—Golden Valley, MN
Rafael Rosado—Manati, PR Puerto Rico
Angela Rudolph, GISP—Greenwood Mapping Inc.—Victor, ID
Dovile Rusonyte, GISP—Institute of Aerial Geodesy—Kaunas, Lithuania
Jim Sahlie, GISP—City of Wilmington—Wilmington, NC
Willard Schulmeister—Tonawanda, NY
Gregory Scott, GISP—The R-A-M Professional Group—Jacksonville, FL
Shravan Shah—Ahmedabad, Gujarat India
Rajmani Subedi, P.E., CFM—Wood Rodgers—Sacramento, CA
Sona Sunny, GISP—City of Houston—Missouri City, TX
Daniel Toombs—Virginia Dept of Transportation—Richmond, VA
Amanda Vann—Vancouver, WA
Alberto Volkmann—CadPros, LLC—Kenner, LA
Avis Wiggins, GISP—City of Tallahassee—Tallahassee, FL
Alice Wilson, GISP—City of New Bern—New Bern, NC

Government Agency

Town of Lexington, Massachusetts
- Judy Baldasaro
- Aaron Henry
Specific program details are available online in the conference Sched app. What follows is a basic schedule/overview:

**Monday, March 2, 2015**
- Optional Preconference Workshops
  - Introduction to Valuation & Spatial Analysis (full day)
  - GIS Program Management (full day)
  - Excel for Assessors (morning)
  - Introduction to GIS (afternoon)
  - Speed Networking/First-Time Attendee Orientation
  - Opening Reception in Exhibit Hall

**Tuesday, March 3, 2015**
- Opening Keynote Address
- Breakout Sessions
- Exhibits
- Esri Hands-On Learning Lab
- Conference Luncheon & Vendor Spark
- Conference Social Event

**Wednesday, March 4, 2015**
- Breakout Sessions
- Exhibits
- Esri Hands-On Learning Lab
- Panel Discussion: The Future of Assessing
- Vendor Luncheon Sessions
- Optional Social Activity: Oklahoma City Thunder NBA Game (vs. Philadelphia 76ers)

**Thursday, March 5, 2015**
- Breakout Sessions
- Esri Hands-On Learning Lab
- Closing Keynote Address

**Exhibits & Sponsorship**
The exhibition completely sold out for the 2014 conference in Jacksonville, Florida. Companies are encouraged to reserve their booth space and/or sponsorship opportunity right away! Discounts available until December 31.

**Download Exhibitor & Sponsor Prospectus**

**Registration & Venue**
Full registration includes access to all sessions, the conference proceedings, receptions, social event, Luncheon, and vendor educational sessions. Attendance at a preconference workshop and the Oklahoma City Thunder NBA game on March 4 is an additional cost.

- URISA and/or IAAO member: Early rate (by January 5) $425; Regular rate (beginning January 6) $475
- Non-member Early rate (by January 5) $575; Regular rate (beginning January 6) $625
- Student and one-day registration options are also available.
- Fee to attend a preconference workshop: $195 for URISA and/or IAAO members; $245 for nonmembers
- Oklahoma City Thunder NBA tickets - $30 each - a limited number of tickets is available. We have purchased a block of tickets with seats together in one section. (Note that it is acceptable to pay for tickets using a different payment method than your conference registration.)

The conference will take place at the Renaissance Oklahoma City Convention Center Hotel and a block of rooms has been offered to conference attendees at the discounted rate: $139 single.double ($149 club level and $169 for suites). This great rate will be available until the rooms are filled or until February 9 (whichever comes first). Note that in-room internet is included along with complimentary shuttle service to/from the OKC Airport.

The GIS/CAMA 2015 conference committee met in OKC in late September. What a friendly and walkable city! There is an abundance of dining and entertainment options just a block from the Renaissance Hotel, in Bricktown, and a canal that rivals the San Antonio Riverwalk. You’ll love it!
October 27-30, 2014
URISA Caribbean GIS Conference
Curacao

March 2-5, 2015
GIS/CAMA Technologies Conference
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

October 18-22, 2015
GIS-Pro 2015: URISA’s 53rd Annual Conference
Spokane, Washington
In conjunction with the NW GIS Users’ Group, URISA’s Northern Rockies Chapter, and URISA’s Washington Chapter

Attend a URISA Certified Workshop Virtually:
- November: Asset Management: Planning, Strategy, and Implementation

Learn more and register today here.
Since 1969, Esri® has been helping organizations map and model our world. Esri’s GIS software tools and methodologies enable them to effectively analyze and manage their geographic information and make better decisions. They are supported by our experienced and knowledgeable staff and extensive network of business partners and international distributors.

A full-service GIS company, Esri supports the implementation of GIS technology on the desktop, servers, online services, and mobile devices. These GIS solutions are flexible, customizable, and easy to use. Esri software is used by hundreds of thousands of organizations who apply GIS to solve problems and make our world a better place to live. We pay close attention to our users to ensure they have the best tools possible to accomplish their missions. A comprehensive suite of training options offered worldwide helps our users fully leverage their GIS. Esri is a socially conscious business, actively supporting organizations involved in education, conservation, sustainable development, and humanitarian affairs.

Cyclomedia Technology, Inc.
12501 Newell Ave., Suite 160
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
Phone: 800-790-3652
Email: usa@cyclomedia.com
www.cyclomedia.com
www.theridingdutchman.com

Cyclomedia is the market leader in systematic imaging of large-scale environments from cities to complete countries. Cyclomedia’s smart imagery solution creates Cycloramas—360-degree panoramic photos—with high accuracy, providing current and clear views of street-level environments.

The Cyclomedia recording system is like no other. It uses patented technology to determine the exact position and orientation of every picture taken. By creating a dense network of geometric street images, Cycloramas are always focused on the correct address or feature from multiple vantage points.

Our solution revolutionizes the way asset and property assessment is managed and reported. It reduces field visits and provides accurate feature measurements with convenient spot-checking. It simplifies maintenance and enables automated inventory and controlled processes. It also saves valuable resources while simplifying the decision-making process, improving operations and increasing efficiency.

We provide ready-made solutions throughout Europe, North America, and Asia. Our technology is widely used in government GIS, public safety, and security markets, as well as in construction, infrastructure management, and insurance.

We provide a full range of services related to 3D mobile mapping. Data is captured and delivered worldwide.

Our primary market segments include:
- Property Taxation, Appraisal, and Building Inspection
- Transportation and Infrastructure Management
- Public Safety and Homeland Security
- Engineering and Construction Planning

Cyclomedia offers the following licensed products:
- Content
  - Cycloramas—Seamless, accurate 360° panoras taken at street-level with our patented recording technology.
- Viewer Software
  - GlobeSpotter—Our feature-rich web app for viewing Cycloramas that runs on any browser supporting Flash.
  - GlobeSpotter for ArcGIS Desktop—The power of GlobeSpotter inside Esri’s leading GIS software.
- Hosting Solutions
  - GlobeSpotter Cloud—Secure, scalable hosting service managed by Cyclomedia that’s free to customers.
  - GlobeSpotter Server—Locally hosted option supporting all Cyclomedia’s content and software.

Loqate, Inc.
999 Baker Way Ste 320
San Mateo CA 94404-1566
Tel: +1 (800) 313-3910 (Toll free)
Tel: +1 (650) 273-5603
Fax: +1 (650) 273-4364
Email: webinfo@loqate.com
Web: www.loqate.com

Accurately Capture, Verify, and Geocode Any Address Worldwide

Almost all data has locations, and accurate locations power a wealth of business processes: Customer Relationship Management, data quality, delivery of materials, goods or services, fraud detection, insurance risk assessment, data analytics, store and territory planning, and much more. New applications that harness the information in Big Data, location based services, customer analytics, and market intelligence need the accuracy and intelligence that only comes from great address quality. Loqate, the definitive source of everything location based, can power your applications with a combination of address capture, verification, and geocoding—all for 240+ countries. Loqate becomes the single global source for high quality, accurate location information.
Every day, new applications for Pictometry are realized. Discover how Pictometry can help you work better, faster, smarter and with optimal cost savings.

**Bronze Corporate Partners**

**Blue Marble Geographics**

77 Water Street
Hallowell, Maine 04347
1-800-616-2725
patrick@bluemarblegeo.com

For over two decades, Blue Marble Geographics has been at the forefront of the GIS data processing software business. Pioneering work in geomatics and spatial data conversion quickly established this Maine-based company as a key player in the GIS software field. Today GIS professionals are turning to Blue Marble for Global Mapper a low cost, easy to use yet powerful GIS software tool that everyone can afford and use. Blue Marble is known for coordinate conversion and file format expertise and is the developer of Geographic Calculator, GeoCalc SDK, Global Mapper and Global Mapper SDK.

**Connected Nation**

360 East 8th Avenue
P.O. Box 3448
Bowling Green, KY 42102
(877) 846-7710
info@connectednation.org

Connected Nation is a non-profit technology organization committed to bringing affordable high-speed Internet and broadband-enabled resources to all Americans. Connected Nation effectively raises the awareness of the value of broadband and related technologies by developing coalitions of influencers and enablers for improving technology access, adoption, and use. Connected Nation works with consumers, community leaders, states, technology providers, and foundations, including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, to develop and implement technology expansion programs with core competencies centered on a mission to improve digital inclusion for people and places previously underserved or overlooked.

**Thomson Reuters**

510 East Millham Ave.
Portage, MI 49022
Phone: 866.471.2900
www.thomsonreuters.com

Thomson Reuters is the world’s leading source of intelligent information for governments, businesses, and professionals, combining industry expertise with innovative technology to deliver critical information to leading decision makers. Our integrated Government Revenue Management (GRM) suite offers end-to-end software with services to ensure revenue through land and property tax administration. Meeting the needs of emerging economies, OpenTitleT is an affordable registry and cadastre tool with an all-inclusive approach to collecting, documenting, and recording the documentary and geographic information relating to property rights. At Thomson Reuters, our goal is to use state-of-the-art technology to develop and deliver sustainable tax and land administration solutions on time, within budget and configured to client requirements.

**Valts Imagery Services**

212, 5438-11th St NE, Calgary, AB T2E 7E9 Canada
Phone: (403) 295-0694 Toll Free: (800) 661-6782
tammy.peterson@valtus.com

Valts Imagery Services provides best in class solutions for the storage, management and delivery of geospatial information in the form of ortho-imagery and elevation data through web delivery systems.

**Business Partners**

*eGIS Associates, Inc.*

2712 Wilding Green Lane, Suite 100
Dacula, Georgia 30019, USA
Phone: +1 678-710-9710
info@egisassociates.com

*eGIS Associates, Inc.* is focused on providing efficient and cost effective Geospatial Solutions that meet the growing needs of public and private sector enterprises. Our mission is to help you consume the “Power of Place” with current technology standards and Applied Spatial Intelligence. *eGIS* offers a wealth of professional products and services including: Enterprise GIS Implementation, Application Development, Business Systems Integration and Geospatial Training and Support. *eGIS* is committed to customer satisfaction – Relationships Matter. Whether you need advice on your project or are looking for a relevant product or just have a technical question, contact us today.
geographic Data Base Management Systems, Inc.
41 E. 4th Avenue, Collegeville, PA 19426-2341
(610) 489-0353
peirceichelberger1@mac.com
gDBMS Services include:
Technical reviews and ongoing evaluations of existing GIS programs. Making sure GIS is all that it can be in your jurisdiction.

geographIT
geographIT® offers the depth of experience, insight, and innovation that only comes from more than two decades of GIS consulting, custom software development, and system integration projects successfully completed for state and local governments, utilities, transportation, and law enforcement sectors. Technologies have changed significantly since the early days of GIS, allowing for tightly coupled GIS/IT system integration, deployment on multiple platforms, and quicker implementation of cost-effective solutions. Founded in 1990 as Advanced Technology Solutions Inc., we were a pioneering GIS consulting company in Pennsylvania when GIS commercialization was still in its infancy. We rebranded as geographIT in 2007 to highlight our comprehensive and competitive offering of geospatial services and solutions. Contact us today (marketing@geographit.com) if you are looking to start GIS or improve the efficiency of your legacy GIS and IT systems.

GeoPlanning Services, LLC
3564 Avalon Park Blvd E., Suite 1, 4243, Orlando, FL 32828
Phone: (407) 608-4186
mroche@GeoPlanningServices.com
GeoPlanning Services, LLC of Orlando, FL was founded in early 2009 is a full service provider of geospatial tools and analysis to support urban planning, logistics, real estate and economic development organizations.

GeoTechVision
With offices in Kingston, Jamaica (876-970-5686) and Georgetown, Guyana (592-227-0433) www.geotechvision.com
GeoTechVision focuses on “Delivering Value through Innovative Solutions!” We have been assisting Caribbean Businesses, Agencies and Government Ministries to develop and effectively use spatial intelligence in critical decision making! We are very involved with establishing Geographic Information Systems, GPS and Mobility products and solutions, as well as marketing our own “GeO” brand tablet. We consider Human Capacity Building as very critical — right from the classroom to the work environment. Hence our Classroom Management Solution and our strong focus on Training and Development in all our engagements. Our other consulting services include Project Management, Information Security Advisory, Process Audit and Assurance, Business Analysis and Enterprise GIS solution planning and Implementation.

MGP
701 Lee Street Suite 1020
Des Plaines, IL 60016
Tel: (847) 656-5698
info@mgpin.com
www.mgpin.com
MGP is an information systems services company that specializes in geo-spatial solutions. Our comprehensive range of geographic, data modeling, and business process solutions provide you new opportunities to find a better way. We believe that innovation creates opportunity and collaboration breeds success. MGP was formed as a shared business model in which clients are partners. This philosophy enables significant cost savings and makes it possible for any client, regardless of size, to get to where they need to go. MGP is the managing partner of the GIS Consortium.

North River Geographic Systems, Inc.
215 Jarnigan Ave, Chattanooga, TN 37405
Phone: (423) 653-3611
rjhale@northrivergeographic.com
North River Geographic Systems, Inc. is a Geographic Information Systems and Services Company located in southeast Tennessee. Although in business for just over two years, we bring over 15 years experience in the GIS/Mapping industry. NRGIS has provided an array of services such as GIS consulting, spatial analysis, and cartography to an array of public and private organizations. Being a small company and Esri business partner gives us the ability to keep costs low and solutions innovative. Please give us a call/ email if you have any questions.

Open Spatial Corporation
5701 Lonetree Blvd, Suite 109
Rocklin, CA 95765
(800) 696-1238
info@munsys.com
Contact: Colin Hobson
Open Spatial is a multi-national company delivering geospatial solutions based on Oracle and Autodesk technologies. Recognized for delivering applications to government and utility sectors, our solutions are based on internationally accepted open standards and world-class best practices. Open Spatial offers innovative spatial infrastructure solutions to managing spatial data from survey through to design, construction and ongoing spatial data management. Our clients efficiently manage cadastre, water, wastewater, stormwater, roads, electric and fiber networks.

Planning Communities, LLC
9131 Anson Way, Suite 304
Raleigh, North Carolina 27615
919-803-6862 (Office)
919-882-1206 (Fax)
contactus@planningcommunities.com
rtownsend@planningcommunities.com
Planning Communities, LLC provides a wide range of multi-disciplinary planning services for local, state and federal agencies, tribal nations and community organizations. Community, transportation, environmental and GIS services include local/regional planning.

For information about URISA Partnership, please visit:
http://www.urisa.org/about-us/become-a-urisa-partner/ or contact Wendy Nelson at URISA Headquarters.
visioning/scenario planning, land use, socioeconomic, market and cost-benefit analysis, community asset mapping, tool/application support and development, process improvement/integration, consensus-building and facilitation.

Headquartered in Raleigh, North Carolina, Planning Communities has additional offices in Charlotte (NC) and Seattle (WA). Planning Communities is a North Carolina certified Small Professional Service Firm (SPSF) and is certified as a DBE in North Carolina, Tennessee, Florida and Delaware.

**Spatial Focus, Inc.**
6813 40th Ave, University Park, MD 20782
Phone: (301) 277-6212
mwells@spatialfocus.com

Spatial Focus, Inc. is an independent consulting firm, specializing in planning, design, implementation and technical services in the field of geographic information systems.

Spatial Focus, Inc. was formed to offer a new standard for vendor-independent technical and consulting services in geographic information of all kinds. Organized in 1998, Spatial Focus, Inc. specializes in integrating geographic information throughout public and private enterprises, giving them spatial focus.

**Somers-St. Claire GIS Management Consultants**
3157 Babashaw Ct, Fairfax, VA 22031
Phone: (703) 204-0033
www.somers-stclaire.com
rsomers@somers-stclaire.com

Independent consulting firm providing GIS implementation and management consulting and education.

**Temporal Geo Analytics**
P.O. Box 181431
Denver, CO 80218
Phone: 720-235-0390
info@TGAmaps.com

Temporal Geo Analytics, Inc. (TGA) is a Land Use and Environmental Litigation consulting firm. We have expertise in using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to develop, manage, and distribute complex spatial databases, as well as creating the presentation-quality visualizations and graphics needed for natural resource litigation and land use projects.

TGA specializes in the analysis of multi-faceted land use issues and environmental impacts over time. TGA is expert at acquiring and integrating historic and current spatial data to build the critical information you need to represent your case.

Using GIS, we transform complex issues into defensible, authoritative, and easily understood maps and graphics. Our clientele consists primarily of natural resource and environmental attorneys, oil and gas companies, mining companies, and land developers.

Leveraging GIS for Environmental, Natural Resource, and Land Use Planning is our core expertise. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) integrate and overlay unlimited layers of themed spatial and tabular data to illustrate and reveal patterns, context, and the intrinsic qualities of any location. A GIS is also a powerful analysis tool capable of querying data for location and its relationship to overall context. At TGA, we have an intimate understanding of these tools and their capabilities.

Working with you and other experts, we build a completely defensible, dynamic analysis data platform with interactive visualizations and related tables that clearly represent the qualities of your project and its relationship to larger political, environmental, and regional contexts.

**Wellar Consulting**
Ottawa, ON Canada
Phone: (613) 728-3483
wellarb@uottawa.ca

Wellar Consulting services include design and evaluation of education and training courses and curricula for GISystems and GIScience programs; advice and workshops on the development of quantitative measures to assess information system and transportation system performance; critical reviews of IS and GIS RFPs; seminars on the safety and security aspects of interdependent infrastructures; professional opinion on land use planning and zoning issues; and, expert opinion on liability for safety-related incidents involving pedestrians, cyclists, and motor vehicle operators.

**Federal Agency Sponsor**
U.S. Census Bureau
4600 Silver Hill Road, Washington, DC 20233

The Census Bureau serves as the leading source of quality data about the nation’s people and economy. We honor privacy, protect confidentiality, share our expertise globally, and conduct our work openly. We are guided on this mission by our strong and capable workforce, our readiness to innovate, and our abiding commitment to our customers.
Mark Your Calendar!

October 27-30, 2014
URISA Caribbean GIS Conference
Curacao

March 2-5, 2015
GIS/CAMA Technologies Conference
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

October 18-22, 2015
GIS-Pro 2015: URISA’s 53rd Annual Conference
In conjunction with the NW GIS Users’ Group and the Northern Rockies URISA Chapter
Spokane, Washington

Coming Soon:
Announcements about the location and dates for the 2015 URISA Leadership Academy, GIS in Public Health Conference and GIS in Transit Conference!

THE GIS PROFESSIONAL
A publication of URISA – Fostering Excellence in GIS.
URISA is a non-profit professional and educational association that promotes the effective and ethical use of spatial information and information technologies for the understanding and management of urban and regional systems. It is a multidisciplinary association where professionals from all parts of the spatial data community can come together and share concerns and ideas.

URISA Headquarters
701 Lee Street, Suite 680
Des Plaines, IL 60016
Phone (847) 824-6300
Fax (847) 824-6363
info@urisa.org
www.urisa.org

Submissions
Managing Editor – Wendy Nelson, Executive Director,
wnelson@urisa.org
Technology Editor – Comfort Manyame, GISP,
cmanyame@mselectric.com
Trends Editor – Keri Shearer, GISP,
giscommunity@gmail.com

RFP Distribution
URISA members, remember that URISA will distribute your RFP/RFQ announcements to our corporate and business members at no charge. Simply email your announcement to info@urisa.org (Subject: RFP Service) and we’ll send it right out for you!