Maryland Council on Open Data
June 12th 2015 Meeting Notes by Betsy Jackson and Joshua Exler

Introductions & News Items
- Luis Estrada, the new DoIT Deputy Secretary, introduced himself to the group. Making public data available -- GIS and otherwise -- directly serves the State's constituents and is a priority for DoIT according to the Deputy Secretary.
- The printed agenda included a piece on the Statewide Data Inventory. DoIT Secretary Garcia is coordinating with the Governor's Office to fully understand the scope and impacts of conducting an inventory. An update for the Council on the inventory plans is expected during the September Council meeting.
- Yesterday (June 11) DoIT received the General Assembly's agenda for the fall yesterday. Del. Cullison and Sen. Ferguson are in attendance for today's meeting.
- There exists a Joint Committee on Technology and Open Government. They will be hearing our recommendations for GA legislation, during the September Open Data Council meeting.
- The iMAP Executive Committee and Open Data Workgroup, both set up by Executive Orders during the previous Administration, are still in effect, but the current Administration has been briefed on them and how they overlap with the state Open Data Act. We do not know how the Governor will proceed, and this is his decision alone, but signs so far tentatively point in the direction of the EOs being rescinded.
- DoIT recently purchased FME, "Feature Manipulation Engine," with a floating license model. DoIT can set up routines and load them to a server for Extract, Transform, and Load functions. FME can convert between over 350 kinds of data and perform complex data transformations, e.g., the work DoIT is doing on SDAT's Real Property data (see section below).

ESRI ELA
- The State has an ELA with ESRI to acquire our enterprise license software. We have had an ELA for 4 years and 1 more option year is available. But the new deal would extend the ELA 2 years plus an additional option year. We have reached an agreement with ESRI but it is not yet finalized. The Board of Public Works (BPW) would need to sign off for it to be finalized.
- The following items stay the same in the ESRI ELA Handshake, compared to the current contract:
  Unlimited deployment rights
    o ArcGIS for Desktop: Advanced, Standard, and Basic
    o Desktop extensions: 3D Analyst, Data Reviewer, Geostatistical Analyst, Network Analyst, Publisher, Schematics, Spatial Analyst, & Workflow Manager
    o ArcGIS for Server: Enterprise and Workgroup (Advanced, Standard, and Basic)
    o Server extensions: 3D Analyst, Geostatistical Analyst, Image Extension, Network Analyst, Schematics, Spatial Analyst, and Workflow Manager
    o ArcGIS Engine and extensions
    o ArcGIS Runtime and extensions
    o Mapping and Charting solutions

- ESRI is transitioning from 32 to 64 bit. 64 bit is ArcGIS Pro.
  Limited deployment rights
  - Esri Developer Network (EDN) Standard: 10 annual subscriptions
  - CityEngine 2 Advanced licenses
  - Roads & Highways for Server: 2 Server extensions
  - Roads & Highways for Server: 1 Staging extension
  - Roads & Highways for Desktop: 6 extensions
  - GeoEvent Processor: 2 4-core licenses
  - GeoEvent Processor: 2 4-core staging licenses
  - ArcGIS for Aviation: 2 single use licenses (these are new and were not included in the current contract)
- MSP asked for more details on ESRI's Aviation package. DoIT replied planning and facilities management at airports are the main uses. MSP and MIEMSS are curious whether there is any ability to integrate with existing helicopter tracking and planning. DoIT agreed to pass along the name of a contact at ESRI who is knowledgeable about the Aviation package.
- The following new items would be included in the contract:
  - ArcGIS Online: Organizational account with unlimited named users and 62,500 annual service credits named users must be employees or contractors of the State of Maryland.
  - ArcGIS Online: Additional Organizational Account with up to 250 named users and 37,500 annual service credits. Name users may be employees or contractors of any local government regional government, universities or public authority within the State of Maryland.
  - Annual User Conferences: Annual 20, Fed 40 registrations
- One of the most significant changes is moving from concurrent users to named users, which is where the industry in general is headed according to DoIT. The busiest times for the concurrent license manager has approximately 6 users online and approximately 5 licenses unused. DoIT and ESRI's deal has enough named users to cover this, with the correct amount of named users according to DoIT.
- This would greatly increases service credits for ArcGIS Online, the Cloud version of ArcGIS.
- Pricing information was shown to the Council, but this information cannot be made public.
- The new agreement includes the capability for a database of every business in Maryland. Del. Cullison asked what additional data besides business name will be available. Currently Archives keeps data related to businesses' mortgages, she noted, and asked whether this will link to the Central Business database. Archives keeps "notice records" (deeds mortgages, certificates of satisfaction -- anything filed with the Circuit Court to give notice). There is normally no property description as part of these notice records. Archives does not think it would be straightforward to link notice records to the business records.
- Dr. Scott, Director of the Eastern Shore Regional Geospatial Cooperative (ESRGC) at Salisbury University, asked if ESRI is providing any tools to transition to named users.

He reported that even 100 named users at Salisbury is a difficult volume to manage. DoIT replied that there are online authentication tools available for named users.

- One of ESRI's reasons for transitioning to named users is to see who its users are.
- Setting up a profile on ArcGIS Online doesn't require much information -- no agency required, no subunit required.

Update on SDAT & MDP Real Property Dataset on Maryland.gov

- We now have a Beta testing site which can be accessed by state employees who choose to sign up.
- Passed around a sheet for agencies to sign-up for testing. Must have a Socrata account to access the link. DoIT will create Socrata accounts for anyone present who wants to access the link but does not yet have an account.
- There are three main ways to access the Beta dataset at this time, but the recommended means is using the Data Lens view, which takes advantage of the new Socrata backend and frontend. Loading the data using this link should be orders of magnitude faster than loading data through the old frontend. Link: https://data.maryland.gov/view/sjn4-j6z3
- No hard criteria on how many Beta testing users will be allowed total – but DoIT reserves the right to prevent new users from gaining Beta access at a later date, if too many users request Beta access.
- Main goal of the Beta test is to gather user input before the public, live release.
- Additional counties' data are being loaded during the Beta test – not all counties' data are loaded yet.
- Please send all feedback to josh.exler@maryland.gov and barney.krucoff@maryland.gov.
- Input desired from beta testing users: which fields require more explanation, e.g., decoding, field descriptions, or additional information in the documentation?
- Three ways to access data set:
- Attendees raised several concerns about how the data will be made public:
  o Does DoIT have dedicated staff who can make sure that confidential information is not being exposed in a public release? A: These issues are being taken into account, e.g., we are not going to release property owner names publicly because that would be a violation of the state Public Information Act. DoIT will closely look at the data before it is released and make sure that it can not be combined with already-published data sources to expose data falling under PIA inadvertently. For example, property owner names are already available in MDP's property map products, and DoIT will make sure that data on data.maryland.gov could not be combined with MDP data sources to expose property owner names en masse. Given the potential risks of exposing personal information, this will require a very close review by DoIT.
  o Q: How is DoIT ensuring the quality of the data? A: Much of the data cleanup is already performed by MDP. Additional tests and QA checks are performed as part of DoIT's scripts to transform from SDAT's source data into the final, Socrata-readable data. For example, Google Maps links are not generated if latitude and longitude data are missing. SDAT employees enter Real Property assessment information individually, and some degree of human error is unavoidable – the

key is finding the right balance between automated cleanup, performed by DoIT and MDP, and minimizing errors in the source data.

Central Maryland Regional Transit (CMRT) - Open Transit Data Statewide
- Over 12 months, this project will involve entering all Maryland transit agencies' routes into Google Maps
- CMRT has been doing this for central Maryland for some time already.
- CMRT is part of the TRIP program (Transportation Resource Information Point). Initial project included putting bus routes into Google Transit. Now proceeding putting additional feeds on Google Transit. As of last month Anne Arundel County is online. Previously commuters passing through Annapolis, or beginning or ending there, would not see the local mass transit as an option in Google Maps.
- TRIP has an online trip planner and call center for help generating routes on MD mass transit.
- TRIP has a call center: 1-877-331-TRIP (8747)
- Hours: Mon-Fri: 5am-6:30pm. Sat: 7am-5pm. Sun: 8am-4pm
- According to CMRT the Governor wants to put a new focus on rural transit.
- Google Transit specifications are not strict. It sometimes draws straight lines between stops instead of following roads, but this will be the last priority for CMRT, after the stops are all loaded. They recognize that user confidence will decrease if, for example the bus route is cutting directly through a pond or field.
- Public transit not usually thought of as "mass transit" will also be added, e.g., senior center buses, veterans' buses.
- The water taxis in Baltimore are mapped, but there are no specific ways to route ferries without explicit stops.
- Dr. Scott asked how the data will be maintained once they are loaded. CMRT responded that this is a 1 year project, but part of it is to use the RTAP (Rural Transit Assistance Planner) -- a macro-enabled Excel file -- to train the transit agencies to update routes. CMRT thinks that it is low-tech enough for agencies' staff to be able to enter new routes and modify existing routes, after the 1 year project is over.

Update on StateStat Data Templates (Josh Exler and Kevin Conroy)
- Directory for DPSCS Facility-Specific data template now links to reports for all prisons and jails. 30 reports total: 26 facilities + Region Totals (3) + Department-Wide Totals (1)
- Link: https://data.maryland.gov/Public-Safety/DPSCS-Data-Templates-Directory/rvm2-6rkn (prominently linked to on home page of Open Data Portal)
- Approximately 70 data series are tracked for each facility, some going back as far as July 2005.
- For each facility, approximately new 1,200 bivariate correlations are run each month. Only those which are found to be statistically significant at or below the 0.1 level ($p < 0.1$) are included in the online reports.
  - DHMH and ESRGC raised a serious concern that not all correlation results shown represent valid results. Only statistically significant results are shown, but data series

not meeting criteria for linearity, outliers, sample size, etc. should not be published to the Open Data Portal. For example all correlations regardless of sample size are currently included – however the sample size is reported so that anyone looking at the results could take the sample size into account when interpreting the data. DoIT acknowledged the limitations in the currently published results and agreed that implementing these tests on the data would make the results more valid and easier to interpret. DoIT agreed to implement these tests in future data uploads and DHMH (Andrea Bankoski) agreed to pass along a suggested list of additional tests to run on data series before correlations are run.

- Each report in the directory contains links to:
  o View the report as a data table
  o View the report one month at a time (the "single month view")
  o List all graphs generated from the report in one catalogue search result
- Update on StateStat from Kevin Conroy
  o Might be transitioning to new name after next fiscal year starts. Thinking the name might be Governor's Office of Performance Improvement, but not 100% sure yet;
  o Will be reviewing agency's strategic plans;
  o Will meet with all agencies about their templates and topics;
  o Still getting budget back so that more staff can be hired and the office can get up and running;
  o Question: What is Governor Hogan's position on performance management? A: Governor Hogan is very interested in performance management. He has delegated it to Lt. Governor Rutherford. In general, agencies are still in a state of transition with new Secretaries. StateStat wants to give Secretaries a chance to get comfortable within their agencies and get a handle on their issues.

Implementation of Changes to Law on Automated Mapping
- Senate Bill 094 passed. The bill amends State government section 10-901 through 10-905. Please inform DoIT if you encounter practices that run counter to the revised law.

New ArcGIS Online Organization (AGOL) for Inter-Jurisdictional Data Sharing
- ArcGIS Online is a cloud based GIS product for storing and sharing GIS data.
- State GIS community (state employees and contractors) already uses ArcGIS online.
- Will now be allowing local municipalities, universities, and regional groups to have access to ArcGIS online. The group will be called MD GeoShare.
- MD Geo Share mission. Publicly sharing GIS data and tools to support decision makers with information that helps MD citizens or Privately sharing GIS data among government agencies for emergency management.
- Organization of MD Geo Share: DoIT Staff are administrators of the group; Local GIS managers and specialists are publishers; Users can create/edit/update & view data/dashboards/apps. Overall, users' roles are limited.
- Initial damage assessments with ArcGIS Online are available to local jurisdictions.