

Meeting Notes

Land Use Information Accessibility Advisory Group

7 June 2006

Chairman Walter Alcorn welcomed the members and brought the Advisory Group meeting to order.

Meeting schedule for the Advisory Group:

- **July 12th**
- **September 6th**
- **October 11th**
- **November 8th**

The next meeting will be on the 12th of July at 7:15 (all meetings will now start at 7:15). The meeting will be in the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center parkway) in rooms 9 & 10.

Jeanne Wright walked the advisory group through two Websites.

The first site was Louisville Kentucky <http://neighborhoodnotification.louisvilleky.gov> . The site allows representatives of citizen groups to sign up for notifications about their neighborhood. The notifications are for proposed development and can be requested for the 26 council districts and by type. Detailed information is available for the proposed development, there is a link to maps and different map layers, there are links to summary and reference materials and a help function is available. Citizens can also

make a comment about a proposed development through the site.

The second Website was Howard County Maryland <http://maps.co.ho.md.us/PublicGIS/neighborhood.asp> . This site allows users to enter addresses and see site development plans and subdivision plans for the area surrounding where they live. Summary information is available for these plans. After the plan is no longer in process a detailed PDF is available.

Gary Zhang of MRF Systems showed the group several California Websites which dealt with land records.

The first site was Orange County <http://www.ocgeomatics.com/landrecords/> . This site allows public record retrieval. There are specific prices for the download of records associated with land use. The site was developed between 1999 and 2002, it includes 266,000 records and the cost of development and back file conversion was \$1.6 million. The information is also linked to GIS maps. Orange County has future plans for online plan submission. There was a discussion about whether counties are specifying the software that developers must utilize to do online submission of plans. Orange County is allowing Micro Station, AutoCAD or their own online submission tool.

The second site was LA County Land information Website this site was linked to GIS maps and also allowed access to land use information, but only in two pilot areas of the County. The pilot is one old neighborhood and one new neighborhood. The County also allows the plotting of maps to PDF. (I could not locate this Website via the LA County site).

The third site was San Diego County
http://www.sdcountyluegepay.com/SRI_Internet/ . The system was created between July 2002 and December 2003. The project cost was \$1.6 million. The number of records was 300,000. The system is linked to GIS mapping and it includes a permitting feature.

For Fairfax County the cost of conversion (digitizing and indexing) of land use information would be quite expensive as the County has millions of pages of information (estimate \$5 per page). A strategy of conversion of frequently used records first might be necessary. There would also be ongoing record maintenance costs and system integration costs.

The overall savings for systems is in the speed of information access for both external and internal system users.

Mike Liddle gave a short demonstration of 3D visualization software. The group discussed the shortcomings of the computer generated images i.e. you could see scale but not architectural detail, which gave the image a box-like look. It was suggested that the group see other examples of this type of software that does show architectural detail. It was also discussed as to whether developer should be required to do this type of rendering. There was a concern about cost to small developers.

At the end of the meeting an attendee (non-committee member) handed out a pamphlet about Digital Comprehensive Planning and an article about Three-Dimensional Modeling.

Advisory Group Members in Attendance:

Walter Alcorn - Chairman

Judith Anderson – League of Women Voters

Allison Anderson - EQAC

Anne Kanter – ITPAC

James Katcham – Federation of Citizens Associations

David Kochendarfer – Sully District

Linus Upson – Providence District

Jon Lindgren – NVBIA

Not Present

David Dale – Mount Vernon District

Daniel Gonzales – Northern Virginia Technology Council

Not Nominated

Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce Member