MAPPS NGA Liaison Meeting

Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel, November 17, 2011

NGA Representatives: Dennis Morgan, Ken Peterman, Cheryl Christopher

MAPPS Members in attendance:

- Mark Safran, BAE Systems
- Mary Bauer-Cox, LSI
- Mike Wooster, Sanborn
- Mark Baker, ESRI
- Con Sweeney, Michael Baker
- Steve Mattingly, DigitalGlobe
- Mike Gourley, Harris
- Liz Nielsen, Harris
- Bill Daniel, Lowe Engineers
- Brian Pedersen, SAIC
- Don Vance, Boeing
- Bill McKeague, Aero Metric
- Scott Beard, Wiser
- Nancy McGee, Fugro-EarthData
- Anne Downs, Northrop Grumman
- Thomas Mackie, Woolpert
- Lisa Bishop, Booz Allen
- Jeff Young, Lizard Tech
- Ben Redding, Continental Mapping
- Roy Kolstad, NAVTEQ

Ken Peterman

Ken discussed EnhancedView contract explaining that it is the largest monetary contract they manage and takes up considerable discussions at NGA.

The task order for Enhanced GEOINT Delivery (EGD) is narrowly focused to have DigitalGlobe and GeoEye process orthophotos directly from their source extremely fast. Ken said DigitalGlobe processed 2 million square miles of orthophotos in one month. The data is stored at DG and GeoEye’s nodes and can be accessed via OGC web enabled services. It is expected that other contractors (GGI, GDS) will “hook into this service.”

While EDG was narrowly focused, they have a bigger strategy to have the EnhancedView contractors process airborne imagery as well as SAR imagery, but no funding is currently available. CIB products were intended to be sunset in 2014-2016, but now it may not happen until 2025.

Dennis Morgan

Dennis was to brief Acting Director of Source, Jimmy Green, on 11/18/11 about the current GDS program design, specifically to discuss the methodology of the GDS contractors’ data distribution to NGA. Dennis is hoping GDS contractors will have direct connectivity.

RFP Timing Issues

The Draft RFP is “delayed” and Dennis is “trying hard not to affect your Christmas.” One of biggest delays is due to Small Business Administration issue. OMB is currently reviewing the recommendations for increase in revenue size defining small business. Apparently if a procurement is under way and OMB announces changes to the small business determination, the procurement would have to start over.
NGA is working with SBA to determine legal issues and this may delay draft RFP until January. Some believe once a procurement begins, the old small business designations can be grandfathered in. If this is the case, the RFP could be released earlier, if not, NGA may wait until after the OMB ruling (could be a 90 day review).

NGA might release a new draft Performance Work Statement in the mean time or they may just wait until they are able to release the draft RFP. Earliest possible release of a draft RFP will be the week of December 5, but it has to be reviewed first by the NGA Procurement Board. If we don’t see a draft by that first week in December, we can expect not to see anything until January.

All three draft RFPs (GEOINT Foundation, GeoNames and Airborne Acquisition) will be released at the same time, but RFP’s will be released at separate times, probably in the above order. GEOINT Foundation RFP should be released in time for award to occur before GGI ends, but other RFPs will probably not. GeoNames will be a Small Business Set Aside. Mercantile Exchange (Commodity) will be removed from GDS.

Current budget cuts and CR will not cancel RFP release or affect release date, however, cuts are already being made to task order funding that will occur under GDS, though Safety of Navigation TOs funding is safe.

**Procurement Issues**

According to Dennis, GDS will follow FAR 15 procurement rules which includes pricing. Draft RFP might not have information on how proposers will submit pricing. Dennis claimed they HAVE to follow FAR 15 since GDS is not for Arch & Eng. Services. Under FAR 15, NGA will not approve or disapprove of subcontractors, which Dennis claimed is an advantage since it offers primes greater flexibility. There is no truth to rumors about NGA disallowing exclusivity arrangements. Technical approach will be a very strong component of selection criteria.

Dennis was not sure about the issue of the use of non-Americans for contract. Primes definitely have to be US, but he needs to check on subcontractors. We let him know that this is a huge issue and needs to be clarified in black and white language. It may not be a choice as there may be Buy America rules.

**Scope Issues**

Primary thrusts of GDS will be:

- Data Focus
- Product-on-Demand
- Dissemination

Dennis said to refer to Director Long’s vision: It is all about the “cloud” and “Apps”.

GEOINT Foundation still consists of six Domains:

- Topo, Elevation, Imagery, Aeronautical, Maritime and Human Geography

Winning GDS contractors must be capable of producing all six Domains. How NGA awards task orders under GDS will probably be different. GDS contactors will bid against each other on task orders which might be for specific Domains or for multiple Domains over regions (probably not COM based and probably will include flexibility to adjust regions).