San Diego Regional Technology Partnership

DATE: August 7, 2012

TO: Unified Disaster Council

FROM: Mike Scott, Regional Technology Program Director

SUBJECT: Update on Regional Technology Partnership Activities

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In December of 2011, project support began transition from the San Diego State University contract to the LR Kimball contract. This included filling the Director position, GIS Program Manager and RCIP Manager. Efforts for these three positions has focused on reviewing the programs, the strategic plans, agreements and supporting the forward progress of the key regional initiatives.

The Regional Technology Partnership (RTP) provides support to multiple projects throughout the San Diego region. The RTP Advisory Council has provided staff with the following priorities for focusing efforts.

1. San Diego Regional Public Safety Geodatabase
2. Regional CAD Interoperability Project
3. Modular Tactical Command Kit
4. Mobile Data Computers
5. Camera Surveillance and Sensor Project
6. Dispatch Center Consolidation Study
7. Urban Area Working Group Charter Update

The following information provides an update on each of these projects.

1. **<u>San Diego Regional Public Safety Geodatabase</u>**
   This project is being designed to serve as a regional geospatial data source providing situational awareness on a map-based Common Operating Picture. This geodatase will allow for the sharing of geospatial information before a fire, disaster or other incident. It will provide the first responders and emergency managers' invaluable information in managing emergency response.

The Regional Public Safety Geodatabase project has seen considerable progress since the last update. The most notable milestone met is the regional collaboration and consensus of a GIS data model that will allow for the effective combining of the existing North/Central zone database with the rest of the region's GIS data. This process happened with input from active GIS stakeholders across the region and were agreed to and approved by the GIS Steering Committee. The next steps for the project are to document and review the current business processes that surround general editing, structural pre-plan creation and data conflict resolution. We'll also be creating a business process that will allow stakeholders to recommend changes and improvements to the regional geodatabase. In addition to the current project we're planning on standing up a project to construct a regional set of wildland/urban interface pre-plans.

2. **Regional CAD Interoperability Project**

The objective of this project is to develop and implement a Regional CAD Interoperability solution that will allow all San Diego urban area Fire Rescue and Law Enforcement CAD systems to seamlessly exchange data between each system where appropriate, regardless of the manufacturer. This system will provide regional fire rescue and law enforcement dispatch agencies to share CAD data and provide a common operating picture to facilitate effective regional incident command and emergency response.

San Diego Fire, Cal Fire, NorthComm and Heartland Fire are current, fully functional users of RCIP. AMR (American Medical Response) is also using the product and SDG&E is in final setup and testing. The work on Escondido had been stalled for several months due to contract disputes, but this is being addressed.

A renewed emphasis on Law Enforcement is taking place, with several agencies being contacted. The San Diego Harbor Police Department has contracted for work and programming will start soon. The San Diego Sheriff's Department and El Cajon Police Department have met with RCIP and requested a formal review of costs and work to be done. La Mesa may be impacted by a pending upgrade, but has requested to be involved in the SDSD/ECPD review.

The MOU is being reviewed so as to better define the use of RCIP resources for other public safety dispatch agencies and also third party, non-governmental agencies. While

AMR and SDG&E are being introduced with unique documentation, the standardization of the process and billing needs to be addressed.

3. **Modular Tactical Command Kit**

This project has been created to test the concept of a standard portable command post that can be deployed from the back of a command vehicle or deployed as a stand-alone system at command post or other remote location. The kits are a combination of radios, mobile data computers, mobile phone technology, wireless connectivity solutions and software built on a ruggedized platform. The goal is to provide a quick, simple integration of tools and functions to enhance real-time situational awareness.

The kits are in the final phase of being configured and being prepared for deployment. The kits have been exercised at a remote location (Golden Acorn Casino) to test and further refine the configuration and introduce the system to the proposed host agencies. Once the configuration for the kits has been completed, they will be distributed to the host agencies for additional field testing. The field testing will include a survey tool to evaluate effectiveness for consideration of expansion of the program. The kits are currently scheduled for deployment to Encinitas/Rancho Santa Fe, Heartland Fire Rescue, San Miguel Fire Protection and Escondido. San Miguel has been the project lead on this.

4. **Mobile Data Computers**

The goal of this project is to provide support to the region on future options for hardware platforms for first responders. This includes evaluating the features, capabilities, ruggedness and costs associated with devices that first responders utilize in the field. This also concludes an evaluation of wireless connectivity solutions as related to stability of connection and coverage issues.

In May, a MDC alternatives meeting was hosted by Heartland/NorthCom Communications. Several vendors, including Sierra Wireless, Data 911, Radio Mobile and Panasonic Toughbook demonstrated their products. As a result of that demonstration, NorthCom has selected to utilize the Panasonic 31 and 19 for their current replacement program. The RTP staff will continue to evaluate options for mobile data computers for first responders.

5. **Camera Surveillance and Sensor Project**

This project is providing support to the Camera and Sensor Management Working Group. The objective is to determine strategic paths and provide clear choices in regards to surveillance and camera management technology. This is especially critical as San Diego looks at spending regional funds in support of more robust surveillance and detection systems.

A pilot project was completed last year with Boeing Company, SDSU, MTS, UCSD and SDPD. Due to security issues with firewalls and networks, the project had limited success on a regional scale. The project did demonstrate the ability to share, but this approach may not be the technical solution to use going forward. Next steps include considering development of a steering committee and technical committee that would evaluate additional technology solutions, agreements and governance. The key to success of developing a regional network will be to get the key management and computer security personnel involved. This project has also been discussed as part of a regional fiber sharing network. This regional fiber sharing network may offer some partial solutions to the regional network issues for a shared camera system.

6. **Dispatch Center Consolidation Study**

This project is a follow up to the San Diego Dispatch Center Optimization Study and the Citygate recommendations to evaluate dispatch center consolidation opportunities. The study would include a facility needs assessment for a consolidated Heartland and NorthComm Communications Center that would meet the need for current and future operational space requirements for a next generation 9-1-1 Center to serve the region.

A scope of work is in the final stages of development. Once the scope of work is completed, the San Diego Office of Homeland Security will request pricing through the LR Kimball contract. Once that pricing is provided, the RTP Advisory Council will decide if a task order should be awarded to LR Kimball for completion of the study.

7. **Urban Area Working Group Charter Update**

This project involves a review of the current Urban Area Working Group Charter. The UAWG Charter outlines the governance, structure, mission, description, purpose, membership, voting and committee procedures of the San Diego Area Working Group. As part of the FY 12 grant requirements, Urban Areas are strongly encouraged to

consider collaboration across disciplines, jurisdictions and agencies within the framework of the mission areas and based on a capability-based planning approach. The current UAWG Charter does not include all of the recommended stakeholders.

A crosswalk comparing the current UAWG Charter to the FY 12 requirements has been completed. The Director will work with the County of Office of Emergency Services to identify potential community groups and stakeholders that could be identified for inclusion. Once identified, the UAWG Charter will be updated and presented to the Unified Disaster Council for approval. This item is currently planned for the October UDC Meeting.

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