

## EGC Parcel Workgroup Meeting

9/16/14

National Life Building, Montpelier

**Present:** Leslie Pelch, VCGI; Chris Cochran, ACCD; Melissa Prindiville, ACCD; David Metraux, ACCD; Nina Safavi, VTrans; Ryan Cloutier, VTrans; Rob White, VTrans; Dan Currier, CVRPC; Bill Tobin, Tax Dept.; Karen Horn, VLCT; John Roache, AppGeo. (Kate Hickey and Rich Grady from AppGeo participated via phone)

***Please note** that at the end of these notes you will find a request for your input regarding parcel data stakeholders, events/meetings of those stakeholders coming up in the next few months, and any other information you feel that AppGeo should have to help them work on the project described below.*

This month's meeting we devoted to learning about the VTrans ROW project to be performed by AppGeo: VT Parcel Data Return on Investment Study and Parcel Lifecycle Report. John, Kate, and Rich walked us through the process, which I will briefly summarize below. The powerpoint they presented will be available for viewing at the EGC Parcel Workgroup web page.

### ROI

- AppGeo will use several different methods to gather information about stakeholders and their use of parcel data:
  - Online Survey
  - 3 half-day workshops
  - Deep Dive Interviews with key users
- They use the information gained to start quantifying costs and benefits of having and not having parcel data
- Time frame to be analyzed will be decided by VTrans at beginning of project – estimates include costs and benefits incurred over that whole time frame (often 5 years).
- Final result is a number. If number is great than 1, then benefit is greater than cost. If number is less than 1, not so much. In another state, the result was somewhere in a range between 4 and 12, which equates to 400% to 1200% return on investment.
- Study should be complete within 3 months of when they start.

### Parcel Lifecycle

- This report will be developed in parallel with ROI study. Approximately the same time frame of 3 months.
- They will look at many factors to determine program management options:
  - Funding
  - Location
  - Process flow
- Final implementation plan will include:
  - Existing Technology Infrastructure
  - Existing Data
  - Town Capacity to do parcel data management
  - Technology Integration Approach

## Questions and Discussion that came up during presentation:

Melissa asked - who will define what is meant by Parcel Data? Kate responded that that definition is not pre-determined and that VTrans ROW gets to define it. Ryan pointed out that he wants our wider group of stakeholders to help define it.

Karen asked if the maps/data eventually developed will be publically available. We answered with a resounding yes. Dan shared that the Moretown Town Clerk is not planning to make the parcel data being developed there available for public distribution because she is concerned about a reduction in revenue through records access in the town office.

Karen pointed out that it would be helpful to do some analysis/estimate of how much money towns actually take in through public record access fees, and perhaps whether that would necessarily change when parcel data is freely accessible. (Leslie had a conversation with Steve Sharp of VCGI the next day when he pointed out that lawyers, surveyors etc. would still need to access all of the other land records that are kept in the town office, so unless and until we have a state system to digitize all of that and make it available via the internet, the towns don't really need to worry about loss of revenue – and at that point there could be access fees for the digital documents).

Bill Tobin pointed out that the towns do already have funds given to them by the Tax Dept. to “Maintain the Grand List” which can be used to pay for parcel mapping.

We discussed upcoming webinars, meetings, and events that could be convenient for AppGeo to participate in, in order to start gathering info about stakeholders:

- VT Municipal Clerks and Treasurers
- VT Association of Listers and Assessors
- VLCT Town Fair Oct. 9 (Leslie is presenting)
- Leslie has two webinars coming up next week: A Primer on The Grandlist and SPAN on Monday, Sept. 22, and one about the Statewide Parcel Data Effort on Tuesday.

Leslie pledged to send the AppGeo folks all of the relevant info she could think of:

- Spreadsheet with info about the status of each town's parcel data (digital or not and age) as well as who each town uses as a parcel mapper.
- Spreadsheet of members of the Parcel Data Workgroup (a good starting point for state agency/dept. contacts).
- Links to various websites with information about what has been going on in VT related to parcel data.
- Parcel Data Outreach Plan - which includes our somewhat exhaustive listing of potential stakeholders/data users.

**Questions for YOU** – Please send your input to Leslie and she will pass along to Nina and the AppGeo folks.

1. Who else should be included as stakeholders for AppGeo to consider contacting for input?
2. What events or meetings are coming up in the next couple of months that would offer an opportunity for AppGeo to reach stakeholders?
3. What other key information do you think AppGeo should have in order to conduct the two studies described above?
4. What other questions do you have about this project?