

Parcel Technical Working Group - DRAFT

May 2, 2013



Attendees:

Wilma Robertson - Idaho State Tax Commission (Chair)
Dixie Booker-Lair - Idaho Department of Lands
Sherry Lufkin - Jefferson County
Anne Kawalec - Ada County
Jeff Servatius - Idaho State Tax Commission
Charles Finley - Idaho Power
Jack Clark - Ada County
Bill Farnsworth - Office of the CIO
Bob Smith - Office of the CIO
Michael Ciscell - Idaho Department of Water Resources

1. Welcome and introductions

- Wilma thanked Anne for her many years of service as Parcel TWG chair
- The article in the upcoming “Fair & Equitable” magazine (an IAAO publication) titled “Standardizing and providing access to parcel data in Idaho” is coming out in May, 2013 which is earlier than the July-August timeline that was previously stated.
- **Action item: Wilma** will contact Chris Bennett from IAAO to see if we can get extra copies of this issue of Fair & Equitable to share with Parcel TWG members (and other interested parties).

2. Update on Parcel Sharing Website and Access Idaho

- Because the Fair & Equitable magazine mentioned in the paragraph above will be seen by assessors and their staff worldwide, Bill has been working with Access Idaho to try and move up the completion date of the parcel sharing website.
- Bill has a meeting planned with Access Idaho on Friday May 3. There is also a May 13 meeting planned between Access Idaho, Bill and a number of parcel TWG members to discuss the layout of the parcel sharing website.
- Access Idaho plans to build a beta version of the parcel sharing website in the near future. Building the data-delivery function of this website will take at least 2 months.

- The parcel data itself is not stored on Access Idaho servers, but rather on Department of Administration servers.
- The beta website needs to be reviewed. To help speed up this review process we discussed compiling a list of potential reviewers:
 - Bill already has been compiling a list of reviewers
 - Someone from Century Dynamics may be a good review person
 - **Action item: Anne** will send Bill a list of people that have attended Parcel TWG meeting in the past year
 - **Action item: Charlie** will provide Bill with the contact information for real estate contact in IPCO that may be willing to review the website
 - **Action item: Dixie** will send the contact information of their Attorney General to Bill.
 - IGC-EC members should also be invited to review the beta site
- A working group consisting of parcel TWG members as well as Sherree Merritt (database person from department of Administration) met a few weeks ago and developed the database containing information needed for the transaction of parcel data. For example, there are fields for the fee structure, contact information as well as basic information about the people who may be downloading the parcel data.

2a. Comparison of two embedded maps

- The home page of the parcel sharing website will have an embedded map. There are two competing concepts for this map: the “public attribute map” and the “footprint” map which are explained below.
 - The “Public attribute map” shows each parcel. When a user clicks on a parcel a pop-up box displays all seven public standard attributes.
 - The “footprint” shows outlines of all the counties that are participating in the parcel sharing project. When a user clicks on one county it displays a download button which brings the user to a screen where they can directly download the shapefile for this county’s parcel data as well as a link to the assessor’s website and a link to a web service build by that county itself, or by the ISTC, with (in many cases) has more detailed parcel information and better query tools.
- The discussion went back and forth between the two maps. A compromise is to look at a map that combines the best of both maps: show all parcels that - when clicked upon - shows a pop-up with their public standard data attributes as well as links to other web services and a link that directly sends users to a place to download the data.

- **Action item:** follow-up meeting with Kevin Jones and a small number of other people to look at the feasibility of the compromise map described in the previous bullet point. This meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 9, 2013.
- Some of the terminology we have been using like “gov-to-gov standard” will probably need to be changed to more “user friendly” to the public.

3. Update on the Parcel Sharing Agreements

- No new MOA’s have been signed since the last parcel TWG meeting. Gooding and Idaho County are talking to their commissioners about the parcel sharing project.
- **Action item:** Bill will follow up with Jerome County who, as far as we know have signed the MOA, but Bill has not received this document yet.
- **Action item:** Bill will follow up with Payette County who has signed the MOA, but for whom he has not received any parcel data. Bill has been in contact with Payette’s contractor who - until now - has not been very cooperative.

4. Marketing and promoting parcel sharing efforts

- Once the parcel sharing website is up and running it should be marketed so people will start taking advantage of this project. Here are suggestions made during the meeting:
 - Websites:
 - A direct link on the website of participating assessors.
 - GIO website
 - External link on State Agency websites (i.e. Tax Commission, Department of Lands, others)
 - Inside Idaho
 - Bill mentioned that he is working on a map gallery with his pilot ArcGIS online subscription that can include the parcel sharing website
 - Map galleries at counties and regional resource centers (Craig Rindlisbacher has already been working on this)
 - IAC (Bill mentioned he has been in contact with IAC and keeping them posted on this parcel sharing project)
 - Meetings:
 - Bill is planning to attend the assessor’s conference in the fall
 - Access Idaho:
 - Has marketing director. Will promote this site to real estate, banking and other user groups

- Will help to bring this website higher up in google search results
 - Publications:
 - Upcoming Fair & Equitable article
- During the next TWG we will brainstorm any other suggestions as well as start talking on the implementation of the suggestions mentioned above. **Action item:** bring your suggestions to this meeting.

5. Review of TWG Vision, Goals and Objectives

- Wilma went through the current visions and goal of the parcel TWG as listed on the GIO website: <http://www.gis.idaho.gov/portal/TIM/parcels.html>
- It became obvious that the information needs to be reviewed and discussed. For example, a discussion about the definition of “seamless” ensued.
- **Action item: Bill, Wilma and Anne** will discuss and propose changes to the vision and goal and present those during the next parcel TWG meeting.
- The purpose of this vision and goals review is to start a discussion of the direction of the parcel TWG in the next 12 months. Some suggestions:
 - Some counties do not map public lands (which appear as holes in their datasets). Work on explaining the benefits of mapping those public lands along with guidelines on how best to map those.
 - Review the stewardship document
 - Developing best practices for aligning parcel data in Idaho

6. Other business

- Note that only parcel-related “other business” is included in those notes.
- Anne handed out copies of <http://www.iaao.org/uploads/Stage.pdf> that explains terms like “authoritative” and “steward” as it relates to the production and dissemination of parcel data.
- Bill mentioned that his AG has reviewed the MOA to be put in place between the department of Administration and government agencies that have access to the “gov-to-gov standard” datasets. Hopefully they will be implemented soon.

7. Review of Action items

Action items are highlighted in bold font throughout this document.

Big thanks to Charlie Finley and Dixie Booker-Lair for taking and submitting notes for this parcel TWG meeting!