



**November 2012**

## **SCAG GIS Services**

Welcome to the third edition of the SCAG GIS Services Program e-newsletter, the source for maximizing the benefits of GIS technology in your jurisdiction.

### **Service and Savings to Members**

Started in 2010, the GIS Services Program (the Program) is a free service to SCAG member agencies. Currently, 79 local jurisdictions and two partner agencies (Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) and Imperial County Transportation Commission (ICTC)) are participants. Through the Program, SCAG GIS staff assists member agencies with professional services and free trainings and software. For some agencies the newly acquired tools have been used to create additional services and revenue. The Program has also given SCAG staff the opportunity to meet, discuss and customize GIS services for the 81 participants. Customized services include creating desktop/web applications with local jurisdiction data, converting non-spatial data into GIS format, day-to-day GIS problem-solving and GIS training at 17 venues across the region including the cities of Brawley, Lancaster, Los Angeles, Palm Desert, Santa Ana and Ventura.

Participants have expressed appreciation for SCAG's leadership in promoting GIS technology, data sharing and spatial data standardization, as well as the effort to establish stronger relationships and collaboration between SCAG and local jurisdictions region wide.

Tangible benefits to local jurisdictions include: (1) enabling more efficient operations in local jurisdictions' day-to-day activities involving GIS; (2) providing over 400 participants with free, customized GIS training (these participants range from planning interns, planning directors, city managers, IT managers as well as engineers, police and fire professionals); and (3) software, equipment, data, and other services. These resources help local agencies better leverage their assets to become more efficient, save money, and/or provide new services to their residents and businesses. SCAG's conservative estimate of savings to local participating jurisdictions is \$2 million.

<b>SCAG GIS Services Program by Service Type</b>		
<b>Service Types</b>	<b>by City</b>	<b>by Service</b>
GIS Training (101)	100%	47%
Data/Map Support (42)	44%	20%
Desktop/Web Application (24)	25%	11%
On-site visits (23)	24%	11%
GIS Rollout (21)	22%	10%
<b>TOTAL (214)</b>		<b>100%</b>

Additional positive impacts and benefits to local jurisdictions include the training of over 400 participants, which is expected to surpass 500 by the end of 2012 at Arcadia, Brawley, Calexico, Canyon Lake, Downtown LA, El Centro, Fontana, Holtville, Indio, Lake Forest, Lancaster, Needles, Palm Desert, Pico Rivera, Santa Ana, Ventura, and West Covina. In the case of small jurisdictions, SCAG deployed its mobile GIS lab, comprised of 8 laptops and a projector for the trainings. Forty-one training courses have been offered in 17 different venues across the region. Courses include Introduction to GIS, Intermediate GIS, and Advanced GIS, as well as Transcad (a transportation modeling software with a GIS base).

<b>SCAG GIS Services Students</b>				
<b>Courses</b>	<b>Total (to date)</b>		<b>2012 Planned</b>	
	<b>Courses</b>	<b>Students</b>	<b>Courses</b>	<b>Seats</b>
Advanced GIS	3	28	2	36
Intermediate GIS	7	80	3	52
Intro. to GIS	27	265	2	32
Transcad	4	58	0	0
Number @ SCAG	17	187	5	80
Number Outside SCAG	24	244	2	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>120</b>

## Local Accomplishments

### Training

In the last six months, SCAG staff has provided 13 customized GIS training sessions to 130 people in

the cities of Brawley, Canyon Lake, Holtville, Lake Forest, Needles, Palm Desert, Pico Rivera, Santa Ana and West Covina. During these training sessions, SCAG performed GIS knowledge-sharing and skill-development at various levels (introductory, intermediate and advanced) utilizing the latest version 10.1 of Esri ArcGIS software and its extensions.



SCAG staff Javier Aguilar teaching Introduction GIS

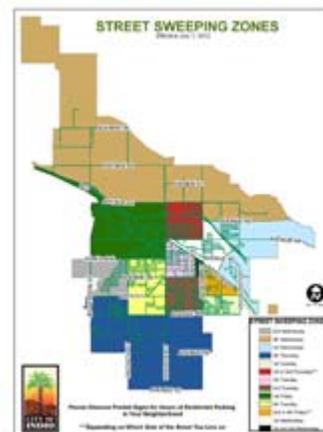
Christopher Wright, Associate Planner at the City of San Clemente wrote, "Thank you for the very informative and productive GIS training course yesterday. SCAG staff did such a great job explaining the Esri Arcview 10 software yesterday! We found the class to be quite useful. The City of San Clemente is so grateful to be a part of the SCAG local government GIS services program. It has been such an invaluable resource for several reasons."

### GIS Rollout

SCAG has delivered free hardware, ArcGIS software and data to twenty-one (21) local jurisdictions. The participants in this GIS Rollout are the Town of Apple Valley, and cities of Artesia, Baldwin Park, Brawley, Buena Park, Calexico, Calipatria, Canyon Lake, El Monte, Hidden Hills, Holtville, Laguna Hills, La Mirada, Los Alamitos, Menifee, Needles, Perris, Pico Rivera, Westmorland and Yucca Valley and Imperial County Transportation Commission (ICTC). SCAG is working closely with these agencies to help develop their GIS capabilities through training and follow-up visits. Ilene Paik, Assistant Planner at the City of Perris, stated "Thank you for all of your assistance with GIS Services. If your assistance was not available, the City of Perris would not have the ability to acquire ArcGIS 10. GIS Services has been an integral part of the City of Perris for various projects, from everyday workflow to helping the City with grants."

### Special Projects

Special project accomplishments include assistance to the City of Indio's Public Works Department in developing a street sweeping schedule and assistance to the City of Compton to develop an updated zoning map. Juan Raya, the City of Indio's Principal Civil Engineer wrote, "Thank you for all your help with a very time-sensitive task, the City of Indio Street Sweeping Schedule exhibits. Due to the City's significant reduction in staff, we would have not been able to complete this task in order to implement the Street Sweeping Schedule effective July 1, 2012. There was also a significant cost savings to the City,



as we did not have to outsource to a consultant."

Street Sweep Schedule

SCAG also assisted the City of Compton in acquiring a plotter to give the city the ability to print large scale maps. Robert Delgadillo, Senior Planner of the City of Compton stated, "We are also in the process of revising our General Plan and will need to print out 3' x 4' foot land use maps. Additionally, we just created with SCAG staff's help, a GIS-based draft zoning map and now have the ability to print out a zoning map for ourselves and the public. The plotter will definitely be put to good use."

SCAG has also assisted the Town of Apple Valley with software installation and server configuration, so that city employees are able to publish and share GIS maps and data on the internet. This was a major accomplishment toward the development of the Town's online GIS system that will enable more efficient data dissemination to the public.

SCAG would also like to welcome the cities of Brea, Calabasas, Carson, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Hemet, Huntington Beach, Monrovia, Orange, Redondo Beach, San Fernando, Thousand Oaks, Victorville, Westminster and Los Angeles County, Orange County and the Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC) as new participants. SCAG looks forward to assisting these jurisdictions and partners with customized GIS projects.

## Next Steps

Building on the current foundation, SCAG plans to improve the Program by providing more GIS training and follow-up visits to participating members, implementing assistance programs for all counties in the region, conducting Program outreach throughout the region, implementing a GIS Portal for data sharing and providing transportation modeling training (in Transcad).

SCAG is committed to collaborating with all member jurisdictions and other program participants to better utilize GIS to improve local and regional planning and looks forward to continued development and expansion of the GIS Services Program as part of its membership benefits. SCAG welcomes input from Program participants regarding activities, training or other elements that will ensure the success of the Program. For more information contact Javier Aguilar at (213) 236-1845 or [aguilar@scag.ca.gov](mailto:aguilar@scag.ca.gov).

Follow us on    and at [www.scag.ca.gov](http://www.scag.ca.gov).

SCAG GIS Services is a project of  
Southern California Association of Governments

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