Metropolitan Area Planning Council

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Serving 101 cities and towns in metropolitan Boston

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has been divided into 5 Homeland Security Regional Planning Regions defined by the Executive Office of Public Safety (EOPS). These regions have been formed as part of the Massachusetts Statewide Homeland Security Strategy program. Each Region has it's own council of state, regional and local officials who meet regularly to decide how to implement the Homeland Security Grant Funds. Each regional council member has been appointed by EOPS.

The Northeast Regional Advisory Council (NERAC) has contracted with 4 Regional Planning Agencies (RPAs) in Massachusetts to implement an 85 community GIS project for public safety officials. The lead RPA for this project is the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) working in collaboration with the Merrimack Valley Planning Council (MVPC), The Northern Middlesex Council of Governments (NMCOG), and the Montachusett Regional Planning Council (MRPC).

See Page 2 for a more detailed description of the project or select to view a **PowerPoint** presentation of the project.

The Northeast Homeland Security Regional Advisory Council (NERAC) has set aside funds so that each community can obtain a basic level of GIS capability or enhance current systems. The participating communities are represented below by their RPA.

MRPC	MVPC	MAPC		
ASHBY	AMESBURY	ACTON	IPSWICH	READING
AYER	ANDOVER	ARLINGTON	LEXINGTON	ROCKPORT
GROTON	BOXFORD	ASHLAND	LINCOLN	SALEM
SHIRLEY	GEORGETOWN	BEDFORD	LITTLETON	SAUGUS
TOWNSEND	GROVELAND	BELMONT	LYNN	SHERBORN
	HAVERHILL	BEVERLY	LYNNFIELD	STONEHAM
NMCOG	LAWRENCE	BOXBOROUGH	MALDEN	STOW
BILLERICA	MERRIMAC	BURLINGTON	MANCHESTER	SUDBURY
CHELMSFORD	METHUEN	CARLISLE	MARBLEHEAD	SWAMPSCOTT
DRACUT	NEWBURY	CONCORD	MARLBOROUGH	TOPSFIELD
DUNSTABLE	NEWBURYPORT	DANVERS	MAYNARD	WAKEFIELD
LOWELL	NORTH ANDOVER	ESSEX	MEDFORD	WALTHAM
PEPPERELL	ROWLEY	FRAMINGHAM	MELROSE	WATERTOWN
TEWKSBURY	SALISBURY	GLOUCESTER	MIDDLETON	WAYLAND
TYNGSBOROUGH	WEST NEWBURY	HAMILTON	NAHANT	WENHAM
WESTFORD		HOLLISTON	NATICK	WESTON
		HOPKINTON	NEWTON	WILMINGTON
		HUDSON	NORTH READING	WINCHESTER
			PEABODY	WOBURN

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) will soon begin work to assess their community's existing GIS capabilities and develop accurate data layers of critical facilities and other information in your community. Training will be made available to key local personnel on the GIS software and applications to identify sites, query specific features, and print site-specific maps for emergency response and planning purposes. MAPC will distribute the data and aerial imagery to your community so that once trained, you will be able to use this GIS technology independently.

The ability to use GIS technology will be an invaluable tool for your community.

Northeast Homeland Security Region GIS Project Description:
The Merrimack Valley Planning Commission, Metropolitan Area Planning Commission, the Montachusetts Regional Planning Commission and the Northern Middlesex Council of Governments will initiate and implement the following actions in order to maximize the value of geographic information systems among the communities of the Northeast Homeland Security Region:

Work Tasks:

Meeting/s: MAPC will host introductory informational meetings at the community level to present the Homeland Security project, identify relevant personnel and develop a timeline for specific tasks.

Task 2: (Survey)
Assess current GIS and IT capabilities in each of the 85 communities.

Task 3: (Critical Facility Data)
The RPAs, in cooperation with MEMA, will develop accurate data layers of critical facilities for the 85 communities of the Northeast Homeland Security Planning region. Established MEMA data architecture will be maintained for all data developed for this project. The Northeast Region project will begin data updating and development starting from #1 and work its way down the list. The regional GIS departments will complete updating as many of the critical facilities data layers as possible for this project.

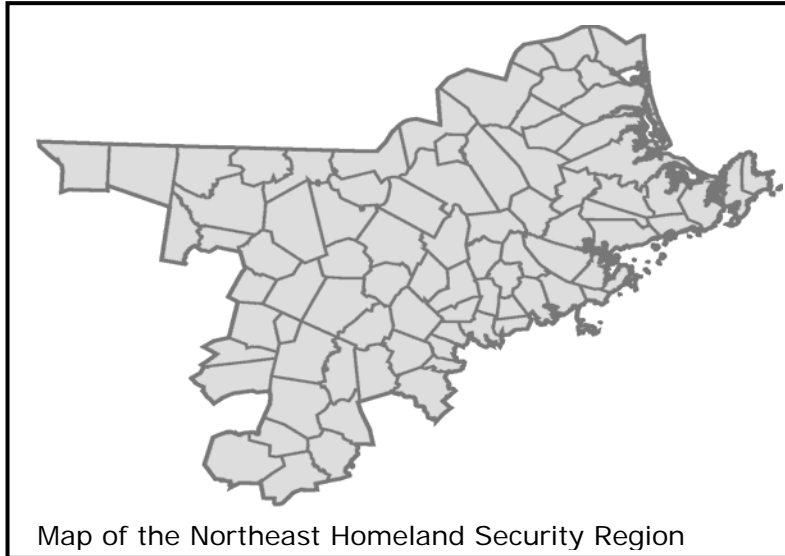| Ranking	MEMA Data List
1	911 Dispatch Centers
2	Police Stations
3	Decontamination Units
4	Fire Stations/EMS
5	Emergency Operations Centers & Offices
6	Clinics/Doctors Offices
7	Public Health Offices/Health Services
8	Public Water Supplies/Wells
9	Key Government Buildings
10	Day Care Facilities

An extensive amount of attribute data (descriptive information) will be gathered about each critical facility data layer. The ranking schema is MEMA defined and contains approx. 83 data layers in total. (see attached documents for data attributes)

Task 4: (Training - EFS/HTML/Web Mapper) Once data has been developed and deployed, training for key local personnel will be conducted within respective RPA communities . Users will be introduced to each technology and trained on how to identify sites, query specific features and print site-specific maps for emergency response/planning purposes. Three training sessions will be provided for each participating community. Trainings will also cover the use of the following tools:
1. Pictometry EFS 2.6 software ,
2. HTML Viewer using a hard-coded display package
3. An Internet based Web Mapper utilizing an ArcIMS system.

Task 5: (Setup - EFS/HTML) Data will be distributed to the communities using Pictometry EFS software, a HTML Viewer, a hard-coded display package will be provided for laptop usage in the field and will provide back-up to both Pictometry and an Internet based ArcIMS Web Mapper system.

Task 6: (Web Mapper) ArcIMS, an internet-based GIS display technology will be provided to cover all data in the region.

Map of the Northeast Homeland Security Region

Note:
In order to ensure ongoing maintenance of the critical data the Regional Planning Agencies will adopt a perpetual care policy. The RPA's will work with MEMA and the Northeast region to create a system for regularly updating critical infrastructure GIS data. Once the data is updated,the RPAs will provide these updates to MEMA and the North East region communities.

Security protocols: The RPAs will work with state and local officials to develop and implement appropriate security protocols for all data. Local communities will be asked to designate a POC for receiving GIS critical infrastructure datasets and will also be required to comply with established security protocols.

For more information please contact the following MAPC GIS Team Members at:
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