Activity Description

The Land Management Information Center (LMIC) provides services and products that promote the effective and efficient use of geographic data and information technology. LMIC serves as a focal point for Geographic Information Systems (GIS) within Minnesota, coordinating many of the state's GIS activities and providing geospatial data services and project consulting services that help organizations use GIS to improve their effectiveness. LMIC is authorized by M.S. 4A.05, subd. 2 and supports and receives advice from the Minnesota Governor's Council on Geographic Information, authorized by Executive Orders since 1991.

Activity at a Glance

During FY 2008, LMIC services included:
♦ 25,000 downloaded GIS data sets;
♦ 550,000 user sessions providing maps, reports, data, and information about the state;
♦ 3.8 million customer requested map images delivered through web services;
♦ 28 contracts for GIS project services; and
♦ a Drive to Excellence project to provide coordinated enterprise GIS services.

Population Served

LMIC serves the entire state's population, primarily by supporting state agencies and local government units. LMIC also serves elected officials, federal agencies, non-government organizations, educators, and citizens.

Services Provided

GIS Coordination: LMIC serves as the state's de facto coordinator for geographic information technology. In this role, LMIC promotes coordinated applications of GIS by developing, promoting, and implementing standards; representing the state in national organizations; serving as the state's liaison with federal agencies; supporting coordination among local governments; and staffing the Minnesota Governor's Council on Geographic Information. In FY 2008-09, LMIC brought together seven state agencies and two federal offices to support a $1.3 million statewide aerial photography program, leveraging a $405,000 state contribution by more than 2:1. LMIC also coordinates the Drive to Excellence Enterprise GIS initiative. Although LMIC does not have explicit legislative authority for its coordination role, it has served in this capacity for almost 30 years.

Data Services: LMIC serves as the state's steward of publicly funded spatial data. In this role, LMIC is responsible for organizing, safeguarding, and improving the value of these public investments by ensuring their availability and supporting their effective use. The Geographic Data Clearinghouse emphasizes services that promote access to data maintained by state agencies through web portals and web services. Clearinghouse services support organizations throughout Minnesota, reducing their costs while improving their effectiveness.

Project Services: The Project Service Bureau assists state agencies and other government clients by designing and implementing projects that use GIS for analysis, planning, program operations, and decision-support. Unlike other LMIC functions, which are supported by the general fund, the Service Bureau is entirely funded by project revenues. During FY 2008, LMIC conducted 28 projects for clients with a total contract value of nearly $500,000.

Historical Perspective

LMIC was created in 1978 to promote the introduction and development of technology for analyzing and mapping the use of land and natural resources within the state. As the state's first organization devoted to using geographic information systems, LMIC served all of the state's GIS needs for some time. LMIC's role has evolved as the technology has been adopted by many state agencies and local governments. Rather than serving as a centralized GIS program, LMIC now focuses on coordination of geospatial technology, promoting access to standardized geospatial data, developing GIS-based decision support tools that help organizations improve their effectiveness, and consulting with other agencies that need assistance with GIS technology. LMIC is recognized within the state and around the nation for leadership and creativity in the GIS field.

Key Program Goals

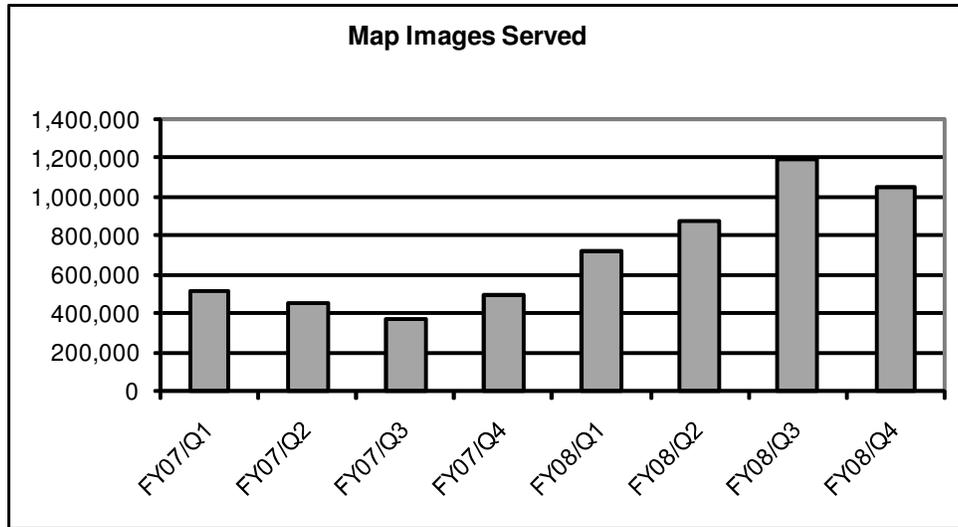Goal 1: LMIC provides high quality services that satisfy the data, information, and analysis needs of its customers.
Goal 2: LMIC provides effective and efficient access to useful data, information, and analysis.
Goal 3: LMIC's Service Bureau maintains high-quality GIS project consultation services to state agencies at cost-effective rates that fully cover the cost of providing those services.

Key Measures

Measure for Goal 1: The average *quality of service* score on LMIC's quarterly customer satisfaction surveys based upon a 5-point scale where 4 = Good and 5 = Excellent. For FY 2008, those scores averaged 4.5, with 93% of the evaluations rated as Good or Excellent. Quality of service grades received by LMIC's customers consistently rank highest among the department's activity areas.

Measure for Goal 2: The number of map images served by LMIC web mapping services designed to effectively deliver data directly to requests by GIS users and web mapping applications. During FY 2008, map images served totaled: 719,528 for Quarter 1; 875,693 for Quarter 2; 1,193,318 for Quarter 3 and 1,049,980 for Quarter 4.

Map Images Served

	FY07/Q1	FY07/Q2	FY07/Q3	FY07/Q4	FY08/Q1	FY08/Q2	FY08/Q3	FY08/Q4
Map Images Served	~510,000	~450,000	~370,000	~490,000	~720,000	~875,000	~1,193,000	~1,050,000

LMIC's internet services are delivered through the Minnesota Geographic Data Clearinghouse, the state's principal source for geographically referenced data – data that organizations use with mapping and GIS technology to support their activities. In FY 2008, users directly downloaded 25,000 data files from LMIC. Web mapping service technology enhanced and implemented by LMIC last year provided access to valuable image data in a just-in-time environment – one that minimizes time and resource investments by LMIC's customers and eliminates needless data duplication. More than 3.8 million customer-accessed map views were served during FY 2008.

Measure for Goal 3: Maintain adequate "Retained earnings" for LMIC's Project Service Bureau. The Service Bureau operates as a business and depends entirely upon revenues from client projects. Rates are set annually to provide value to LMIC customers while generating enough revenues to cover operations. Standard "business" accounting conventions are used to monitor the financial health of this activity. The goal is to maintain "retained earnings" that cover two months of operations. Lower than expected demand in FY 2008 resulted in year-end negative retained earnings but booked work for FY 2009 already exceeds FY 2008 revenue. Retained earnings will be monitored through financial statements and at quarterly operations review with management.

Activity Funding

LMIC is funded by a general fund appropriation for GIS coordination and geographic data clearinghouse services. Activities are also supported by federal grants, contracts for services, and product sales. This hybrid funding structure provides a base level of support to sustain core functions while encouraging entrepreneurial behavior that has characterized LMIC since its creation.

Contact

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ADMINISTRATION DEPT
Program: GOVT AND CITIZEN SERVICES
Activity: LAND MANAGEMENT INFO CENTER

Budget Activity Summary

| | Current | | Forecast Base | | Biennium |
	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	2010-11
Direct Appropriations by Fund					
General					
Current Appropriation	889	864	864	864	1,728
Technical Adjustments					
One-time Appropriations			(50)	(50)	(100)
Forecast Base	**889**	**864**	**814**	**814**	**1,628**
Expenditures by Fund					
Direct Appropriations					
General	887	866	814	814	1,628
Statutory Appropriations					
Miscellaneous Special Revenue	519	683	711	725	1,436
Federal	211	315	108	18	126
Total	**1,617**	**1,864**	**1,633**	**1,557**	**3,190**
Expenditures by Category					
Total Compensation	1,198	1,247	1,308	1,313	2,621
Other Operating Expenses	419	612	325	244	569
Local Assistance	0	5	0	0	0
Total	**1,617**	**1,864**	**1,633**	**1,557**	**3,190**
Full-Time Equivalents (FTE)	**13.8**	**14.2**	**15.1**	**14.7**	

Dollars in Thousands