

Announcing the 1998 Washington State URISA Chapter Conference!

Mapping Pathways to Livable Communities

Presented in cooperation with Washington State Geographic Information Council

May 11-12, 1998

Embassy Suites Hotel
15920 West Valley Highway
Seattle, WA (206)227-9567

From the Conference Chair:

*Citizens and policy makers are increasingly concerned with sustaining the accessibility, environmental quality, and natural resources that make Washington communities so livable. How can urban and regional information systems be used to answer the difficult questions that face us as we plan for continued growth? **Mapping Pathways to Livable Communities** is organized around this central question.*

This conference is designed to help you:

- *Understand the application of information systems to decision making about:*
 - *managing growth*
 - *planning for neighborhoods*
 - *managing watersheds*
 - *enhancing urban mobility*
- *Find out how spatial information analysis is being used to monitor and model urban development.*
- *Discover how infrastructure managers are using information systems to optimize capital and maintenance investments.*
- *Learn about getting (and providing) access to spatial information that is in the public domain.*
- *Explore new data collection technologies that lower the cost of building a geographic information system.*

To learn more about the details of this year's conference, look inside. We look forward to seeing you on May 11th and 12th!

*Gregg Selby
Conference Chair
Senior Project Manager
Roy F. Weston, Inc.*

Preliminary Conference Program

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Tom Poiker, Professor of Geography, Simon Fraser University.

During his thirty-plus year career in research and higher education, Professor Poiker has made tremendous contributions to the science and application of GIS. In 1972 he authored the first popular text on the subject, *Computer Cartography*, published by the American Association of Geographers. He was responsible for much of the fundamental work on terrain representation and analysis, leading the development of triangular irregular networks (TINs) and contour automation algorithms. He and Nick Chrisman's 1975 paper on topological data structures was pivotal in the development of vector-based GIS. In recent years he has focused on the social, political, and economic issues of GIS along with innovations in GIS education.

Opening Plenary Panel: How do We Manage Sprawl in an Era of Growth?

Moderator: Nancy Tosta, Director Forecasting and Growth Strategy, Puget Sound Regional Council

In 1990, Washington passed a Growth Management Act (GMA) designed to address the concerns that "uncoordinated and unplanned growth ... poses a threat to the environment, sustainable economic development, and the health, safety, and high quality of life enjoyed by residents of the state". The GMA has created a need for more accurate and timely data, as well as analytical tools that display patterns of population, employment, and transportation, based on various adopted policies. This panel will explore the issue of growth management from several perspectives including technologists, strategists, and policy makers.

Session: Monitoring and Modeling Urban Development

Moderator: Dr. Paul Waddell, Associate Professor of Public Affairs and Urban Design & Planning, University of Washington

The challenge of managing sprawl in an era of growth requires that we develop a capacity to understand, monitor, and predict patterns and impacts of land urbanization. In formulating plans and policies to make urban development more environmentally sound, we need to monitor land use and land development at the parcel level. In addition, we need analytical models that use these data to evaluate alternative growth management strategies on land market, transportation, and environmental outcomes. This session will explore the context of growth management within the State of Washington, the implications for current planning models, and emerging technical approaches to addressing these challenges.

Session: Applying New Data Collection Technologies to GIS

Moderator: Dave Ward, Regional Manager, Space Imaging EOSAT

The choice of technologies for supplementing and in some cases replacing more traditional photogrammetric and field inventory techniques for GIS data collection continues to grow at a rapid pace. This session highlights two proven technologies that are reducing data collection schedules and budgets. Find out how an aircraft mounted LIDAR system is being used to collect very accurate and dense elevation models, even through forest cover. Also learn about results from WSDOT's pilot program to collect roadway inventory data using vehicle-mounted sensors and a laser range finder.

Session: Infrastructure Planning and Management Systems

Moderator: Gregg Selby, AICP, Senior Project Manager, Roy F. Weston, Inc.

Identifying and setting priorities for capital improvements requires balancing demands for new service with the need to rehabilitate existing infrastructure. Learn how GIS is being applied to this planning process. Discover how to successfully implement an infrastructure management system for optimizing maintenance investments and gathering the data necessary for replacement and rehabilitation analysis.

Panel: Managing our Resources - A Watershed Approach

Moderator: Elizabeth Marshall, President, Marshall and Associates, Inc.

Watersheds are the fundamental resource management unit. This panel discussion on managing Washington State resources with a watershed perspective will include experts with water supply, hydrogeology, timber, and environmental backgrounds. Special emphasis will be placed on the role of GIS in supporting watershed management.

Session: Urban Mobility and Station Area Planning

Moderator: Ned Conroy, Senior Planner, Puget Sound Regional Council

Passage of the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) in the fall of 1996 is creating many opportunities to rethink transportation and land use in the central Puget Sound Region. Issues of where transit stations should be located, how they will connect with other modes of transportation, and what types of development in station areas will support transit ridership are all being addressed. This session explores the questions of most importance, the types of geographic information needed to answer those questions, and the roles and responsibilities of various organizations in providing data, analysis and answers.

Conference Schedule at a Glance

Monday, May 11

8:00 - 9:00	9:00 - 10:00	10:00 - 10:30	10:30 - 12:00	12:00 - 1:00	1:00 - 2:30	2:00 - 2:30	3:00 - 4:30
Register	Keynote Speaker	Break & Events	How Do We Manage Sprawl in an Era of Growth?	Lunch & Exhibits	Session: Monitoring and Modeling Urban Development	Break & Exhibits	Panel: Managing Our Resources - A Watershed Approach
					Tract: Information Clearinghouse for Washington State		Track: Creation of Statewide Spatial Data Themes

Tuesday, May 12

7:30 - 8:30	8:30 - 10:00	10:00 - 10:30	10:30 - 12:00	12:00 - 12:30	12:30 - 2:30
Register & Exhibits	Session: Infrastructure Planning & Management Systems	Break & Exhibits	Session: Applying New Data Collection Technologies	Exhibits	Luncheon & Closing Panel: Challenges in Mapping Pathways to Livable Communities
	Track: Neighborhood Planning, Spatial Information & GIS		Session: Urban Mobility & Station Area Planning		

Preliminary Program (continued)

Track: Access to Spatial Information

Organizer: Jeff Holm, Washington Geographic Information Council Coordinator

Access to spatial information is the key to effective use of GIS to meet the challenges presented by growth management and sustaining the quality of life in our communities. This track focuses on the initiatives that are currently underway in Washington State to improve access to spatial information. Learn about the initiatives that are aimed at providing access infrastructure and the creation of statewide spatial data. This information-packed track is composed of three panel sessions:

- **Spatial Information Clearinghouse for Washington State** - An Internet-based spatial information resource partnership involving Washington State Department of Information Services and University of Washington Libraries provides users with descriptive information about the state's spatial data. Through this registered node on the National Spatial Data Infrastructure's (NSDI) global network, users are able to query the entire network for spatial information. In the near future the clearinghouse will provide direct links to a number of the underlying spatial data sets. Find out how to make use of this resource as a data contributor or as a data user.

- **Creation of Statewide Spatial Data Themes** - Learn how your organization can benefit from and contribute to this standards-based approach to creating fundamental statewide data themes from the best available state, local, and regional sources. This NSDI Framework approach promises to provide lower cost, more accessible spatial information through the state and national network of clearinghouses. Discover how your organization can become a part of the initiative and meet many of your spatial information needs.

- **Neighborhood Planning, Spatial Information and GIS** - This panel focuses on the interplay between neighborhood planning, spatial information access and the innovative use of GIS to manage and understand urban neighborhood environments. It brings together the perspectives of a Community Activist, a Neighborhood Planner and a GIS Professional.

Closing Plenary Panel: Challenges in Mapping Pathways to Livable Communities

Moderator: Don Eginton, GIS Manager, Snohomish County

Panelists will address challenges faced by the decision makers and analysts who apply spatial information analysis to policy and management questions.

REGISTRATION FORM - 1998 Washington State URISA Chapter Conference

Name: _____

Last

First

Agency/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Province/Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Badge Name: _____

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES

Full and student registrations include Washington State URISA membership from July 1, 1998 - June 30, 1999.

	Early (by April 20, 1998)	Regular (after April 21, 1998)
Full registration:	\$150	\$185
One day - M T (circle day)	\$100	\$125
Student (one day, \$40)	\$80	\$80

Make Check or Purchase Order out to: WA State URISA

Mail registration form and payment to: WAURISA, 7534 NE Emerald Way, Bainbridge Is., WA 98110

Please fee free to copy this form and pass it on to colleagues!

Contact UAURISA (425) 453-5337

e-mail: waurisa@waurisa.org

WWW - <http://www.waurisa.org>

