

Minutes: October 17, 2006 LED Steering Committee Conference Call

Members Present: Cynthia Swain, George Putnam, Greg Weeks, Erika McEntarfer, Jeremy Wu, Patti Becker

Agenda items and discussion:

1. Analytic Consortium

States are forming consortiums, in order to pool resources, design products those states need in common, and develop templates. The Steering Committee has started 3 consortiums: Illinois is spearheading a group to produce an On The Map disaster tracking and analysis template, Maine is leading a fabricated metals analysis, and Washington is leading the development of a template patterned after Hawaii's county profile brochure.

Greg announced this consortium idea to all member states in his email with the subject: The NEW LED Partnership, dated 10/2/06. He will email all member states again to ask for volunteers, needed by 10/27. Around 10/31, lead states should conduct kick-off conference calls to officially start these projects.

2. Annual State Workshop 2007

The Madison Hotel is available on 1/30/07 through 2/1/07, which is Tuesday through Thursday. The workshop will begin on January 31. It has always been two days and the Census Bureau is adding a day for a continuation of the marketing meeting started in Sep. Jeremy will check with the Census Bureau Director to see if he is available on these dates. Cynthia will check with steering committee members to be sure they are all available. The QCEW Policy and LMI Committee meetings are also in January, but before 1/30.

If these dates do not work out, other hotels will be considered for alternatives.

The partner states need to help define the content of the workshop. The nature of our partnership and applications are two subjects that should be covered. Partner states need to be asked what else it is they want to see, and what they could share. The three consortia could share their progress. Patti will take the lead collecting volunteer presenters. She will set up a conference call with George/Henry, Cynthia, and Greg by the end of October to discuss these ideas further. New partner states that have used LED data would be particularly good to get ideas from.

3. What is the understanding on data use?

Jeremy said the federal Office of Management and Budget is considering the use of LED data to measure performance and evaluate federal programs. Do states have a concern with this usage?

Erika said that some states have been nervous of political uses of the data when they first joined LED. This seems to have lessened as LED has matured. George said that state laws may exist on the use of wage and QCEW data. In Illinois and Washington, an acceptable use

is performance measurement, but enforcement is not acceptable. The Census Bureau is also not allowed to use this data for enforcement purposes, so that is common ground.

The question was asked, would the federal government be using micro data? Jeremy said they could be as long as they are subject to Title 13 rules and regulations and project by project approval. There should be rules to follow concerning micro data within the MOUs the Census Bureau has with each state. Jeremy will review those MOUs.

#### 4. WIRED Regions

The Census Bureau found the correct WIRED regions and their definitions. These will be a layer in On The Map Version 2.

#### 5. Sep Marketing Plan Meeting Follow-up

Jeremy sent steering committee members this list of upcoming presentations:

Oct 17 West Virginia SDC Affiliate Conference  
Nov 1-2 New Mexico State Data Center  
Nov 2-3 Georgia Workforce Conference  
Nov 9 Oklahoma State Data Center Conference

Greg will email member states to support these Census Bureau presentations.

#### 6. LED Training – No progress

#### 7. Steering Committee Membership

We need to have new steering committee members in place by the end of January, so they can attend meetings at the State Workshop. Greg will ask steering committee members to work within their regions to decide upon a representative per region by the end of November. If some regions are represented by returning members, we will have the continuity we need. If all members turn out to be new, old members must be available for a while to provide continuity.

#### 8. Technical Subcommittee

Lars has not returned to LED work yet. He hopes to return to it soon, and finish the [Quality Assurance](#) and [Audit](#) templates for our review.

#### 9. Priority of Projects – This item has been completed, as reported in prior minutes.

#### 10. Program Update

10.1 Alaska will be the next state to join LED. The Census Bureau is working with New York, Massachusetts, and Puerto Rico, to bring them into the partnership.

10.2 Production is going well. The Census Bureau is expanding their data storage capacity.

10.3 Two states are not encrypting the quarterly data they submit to the Census Bureau. This becomes a requirement on 1/1/07. The Census Bureau would also like all states to submit their data via FTP by 4/1/07. Jeremy will survey states that do not use FTP, to see why not.

10.4 The Brookings Institute workshop recommended better, consistent definitions for LED. This may be accomplished by the approval of an LED proposal for a National Institute on Aging grant.

## 11. Other

11.1 Tim Smith asked for an enhancement to On The Map within a listserv email. He didn't get an official response so asked Cynthia to bring it up during this conference call. John Carpenter, from ExCensus, answered Tim's question to Jeremy, but that answer did not get to Tim. Jeremy will forward it to Tim. People need to know how to request On The Map enhancements. The Census Bureau could ask for suggestions during a certain period of time, like 2 months.

11.2 Cynthia is working on creating a listserv for the LMI Directors of member states.

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