

Regional GIS

- Wednesday, Sept 19, 2018 a Mid-Shore GIS Committee meeting was held at the Talbot County Senior Center in Easton. Representatives from the ESRGC, City of Cambridge, Town of Denton, Dorchester County, Talbot County, City of Easton, Kent County, and Caroline County were present.

Topics/Discussion:

The meeting was held just days after Hurricane Florence was anticipated to significantly affect our Region. There was much discussion about the level of preparedness of the Mid Shore had the hurricane stayed on the course that was predicted. Mark Cohoon noted that if Florence had stayed on course, the Eastern Shore would have been in serious trouble. The group discussed forming a committee to discuss preparedness. ESRGC offered to help facilitate a meeting and it was suggested that we hold one before hurricane season begins to discuss preparations and then another after the season to review what went well and what can be improved. The group mentioned that this would be especially helpful for new staff in the counties to understand what is expected of them during a hazard event. It was suggested the Emergency Managers be included in the committee so that they can impart their needs to GIS staff. It was also suggested that the Region could perhaps send a representative to the National Hurricane Conference and report back, and also discuss with MSGIC the possibility of starting a sub-committee for emergency preparedness.

Next Generation 911 continues to be a major initiative in the counties. Caroline County has been working with a consultant to validate their street centerlines and are nearing completion. Talbot and Dorchester are waiting until there is more coordination and answers before proceeding with centerline data validation and clean up.

Cambridge reported on a High Street renovation project and the use of an App called Citizen Problem Reporter. This application allows the general public to submit non-emergency problems (for example, blight, graffiti, trash, pothole, and flooding) in their community from a smartphone, tablet or desktop computer.

Dorchester County is working to update their building footprint layer.

Town of Denton – Reported they are working on their rezoning effort.

The Town of Easton is engaged in data cleanup and organization, updating boundaries as well as working on submission of data to Census and working towards updating storm water and impervious surface layers in preparation for MS4.

Updates from ESRGC include status of RMPIF grant projects:
Health dashboard, Education dashboard, Eastern Shore Index, Housing updates, Circuit Rider.

Attendees were:

1. Mary Buffington, ESRGC

2. Lauren McDermott, ESRGC
3. Logan Hall, ESRGC
4. Brett Dobelstein, ESRGC
5. Erin Silva, ESRGC
6. Anastasiya Suprunova, ESRGC
7. Anthony DiBartolo, ESRGC
8. Sierra Crist, City of Easton
9. Carla Gerber, Kent County
10. Chris Kephart, Caroline County
11. Katy Maglio, Dorchester County
12. Scott Shores, City of Cambridge Public Works
13. Mark Cohoon, Talbot County
14. Donna Todd, Town of Denton