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*Executive Director, RPC*

October 2, 2007

David Gisclair  
 Council Chair  
 Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council  
 c/o Louisiana Geographic Information Center  
 E-313 Howe Russell Building  
 Louisiana State University  
 Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Dear Mr. Gisclair,

The Regional Planning Commission for the Greater New Orleans area supports the resolution to support the DOTD budget request for providing the update and development of a seamless geospatial database for Louisiana. These data sets are needed to support all levels of government, but in particular local government which does not have the resources to produce all of its needed data layers.

The devastation of Hurricane Katrina and Rita has brought our area attention from federal entities to aid us in procuring high resolution imagery that is being made available to local governments as a base for their mapping needs. There are still no funds available to produce the needed layers at the local level. The RPC welcomes the work of the Department of Transportation and Development to aid in developing a seamless database for the state at a high level of accuracy that would be available to everyone at every level of government. There is no greater need for the recovery effort and for future disaster planning than the availability of an accurate database that is easily shared and easily updated at the local level.

From personal experience working with the Louisiana GIS Council over the past years I see no agency in a better position to integrate the development of the needed data set.

Sincerely,

Lynn E. Dupont  
 Senior Planner/GIS Coordinator  
 Regional Planning Commission for Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard and St. Tammany Parishes  
 1340 Poydras St. Suite 2100  
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