

Breakout Session 2

Group B

Making the INFOstructure
Work

What is the INFOstructure?

- Lots of data and applications for use by public/private sector
- Tool to assist MPO planning process decision making (land use, environmental, programming, etc)
- Framework to provide information to various user groups
- Common thread to tie urban & rural issues groups
- Virtual warehouse to exchange data and stimulate data sharing
- Top layer to exchange key information across government / private functions and levels. Data collected locally.
- Support for state traffic data managers
- GIS based support for decision making
- Corridor management data and tool box
- Network customers rely on for data, information and applications
- Common data set usable by all

IN SHORT IT IS

Many things to many people!!

Portrait of INFOstructure



Performance of the INFOstructure

How to define performance, measure it & ensure it?

- ITS benefits unclear; ITS performance tools & criteria unclear (rural areas, HAZMAT, modeling)
- Identify Key users, customers and stakeholders
- Define Outcomes, measurable objectives and what to measure (What's In It For Them?)
- Determine key needs, services, applications, etc of INFOstructure
- Quality Information: easy to use, timely, user-friendly, accurate/valid as needed for use, accessible, outputs understandable, scalable to meet user needs, etc.

Performance of the INFOstructure

How to ensure it?

- Continuously talk with stakeholders, customers, users, opposing coalitions etc
- Evaluate INFOstructure meeting objectives
- Refine objectives
- Refine INFOstructure
- Agreement on accuracy by use
- Validate and sample evaluation
- Vetting versus setting standards to ensure quality

Performance of the INFOstructure

What standards are needed for the INFOstructure?

- Schema/Primitives, Content, performance, security
- Standards to share and exchange (communicate) data for translation for applications development and use.
- Understand standards of data collectors
- Meta-Data to document accuracy, granularity, collection method, limitations, standards, etc.
- Use existing standards of others data collectors (511, USGS, weather, professional groups, NENA, APCO, GIS)
- Standards will evolve as INFOstructure evolves and matures through use.
- Level of accuracy

Making INFOstructure Information Available

How should it be done? Should there be a national database? If so, who should be responsible for it and how should it be funded?

- No national data base; distribution backbone for local, regional and national data.
- Private sector distribution or public domain? (Copyright issues, software patents)
- Public generated data displayed with private sector applications and tools?
- Liability for mistakes caused by data or applications?
Joint, public or private.

Making INFOstructure Information Available

How should it be done? Should there be a national database? If so, who should be responsible for it and how should it be funded?

- Who is responsible for decisions made by INFOstructure users?
- Where is the data? Who aggregates the data? Who stores the data and where? Who fuses the data?
- How do you minimize liability while distributing data?
- Public sector goals/mandates vs private sector goals \$\$\$
- Responsibility will evolve as content and applications change to meet market and user needs.

Making INFOstructure Information Available

How should it be done? Should there be a national database? If so, who should be responsible for it and how should it be funded?

- Subscriber based packets of information (data and applications based on value-added to user).
- Data restrictions based on market demands limit user innovation.
- Multiple data sources for the same data.

Making INFOstructure Information Available

How should it be done? Should there be a national database? If so, who should be responsible for it and how should it be funded?

- Funding: Blend of seed money, collaborate with related activities,
- How can INFOstructure compete with Capital and other areas with understood benefits/outcomes? (Educate stakeholders, resistance, users on INFOstructure outcomes and benefits. Resistance from road building industry and other competition.)

Uniformity vs Variety

What needs to be nationally uniform and what can be done differently based on local needs and capabilities?

- National INFOstructure terms established for local implementation.
- Homeland Security is a national issue
- Operational analysis is a regional issue locally
- Planning requires a different roll-up of data
- Obstacles: Flexibility to innovate while meeting national needs and INFOstructure architecture.

Information/Data Security Concerns

What are the concerns? Where should they be addressed?
By whom?

- Who has access to what? National defense?
- Knowing what's good and bad information
- Input and maintenance (data and application)
- SPAM. Privacy Concerns. Terrorist infiltration.
- Secure networks, redundancy, back-up, protocols
- Responsibility assigned at level able and responsible to take action.
- What makes sense? Hierarchical levels of security?