

# Bay Area GIS Survey

<http://warntz.gisc.berkeley.edu/survey/part.asp>

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*The Bay Area GIS Survey is a collaborative effort of the Bay Area Automated Mapping Association, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the Association of Bay Area Governments, the GIS Center at U.C. Berkeley, the California Department of Transportation and others. It is also partially funded by the Federal Geographic Data Committee.*

## Introduction

The purpose of the survey is to build the foundation for Geographic Information System (GIS) data sharing/exchange, as well as metadata awareness & usage in our region.

We are asking you to tell us who the primary GIS contact person is within your organization and document a few, basic metadata descriptors for GIS data that your organization **creates, maintains or is responsible for**. The survey also asks if your organization creates metadata and under what conditions you are able to share or exchange your GIS data with others. At the conclusion of the survey, we also ask you to briefly identify your major GIS applications, as well as GIS-related technology (i.e. CAD, RDBMS, image processing, etc) that your organization utilizes.

The survey results will be a compendium of the contact information and listing of data layers, as well as statistical analysis on the usage of metadata and data sharing. A comprehensive report will be distributed to all respondents.

We also plan to assemble the brief metadata descriptors into a regional NSDI metadata catalog so that others looking for geographic data will know about your data.

For background information about the survey, go to <http://warntz.gisc.berkeley.edu/survey>

## Who Should Complete the Survey?

The survey is being distributed to a wide variety of organizations that create and maintain GIS data for the Bay Area.

Within your organization (i.e. county government, city government, state or federal agency, utility company, transit operator, non-profit organization, college/university, private business or other organization), we're asking you to self-select the most appropriate person to complete the survey.

Our intended survey respondent is the key GIS contact person within an organization who is knowledgeable about all GIS data and activities within that organization. If a single GIS contact person doesn't exist within an organization, survey respondents should include the key GIS contact person within each department or unit that creates or maintains GIS data.

To help us reach the appropriate people, please forward this survey to whoever you feel is the appropriate person within your organization or within other organizations that you interact with. If you forward this to others, please let us know so that we may follow up with them.

## How to Complete the Survey

The survey can be completed using one of three methods:

1. Complete this printed survey, or
2. Download a PDF copy of this survey from <http://warntz.gisc.berkeley.edu/survey> and complete it, or
3. Complete an on-line\* version of the survey at <http://warntz.gisc.berkeley.edu/survey/part.asp>

*\*Note: The on-line version of the survey contains the same questions as this version, but the questions are in a different order. The on-line questions have been re-ordered to optimize the display for on-screen viewing.*

If you complete a printed version of the survey, you should attach additional pages as necessary and mail or fax the completed survey to:

Amy Lee, GIS Intern  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
101 Eighth St, Oakland, CA, 94607-4700  
Fax: 510-464-7848

**All surveys should be submitted by  
October 15, 2001**

## For more information, contact:

Mike Skowronek  
510-464-7808  
[mskowronek@mtc.ca.gov](mailto:mskowronek@mtc.ca.gov)  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission

or

Bruce Joffe  
510-238-9771  
[gis.consultants@joffes.com](mailto:gis.consultants@joffes.com)  
GIS Consultants

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## Part 1 – Background Information

Does your organization currently utilize GIS?

- Yes       No

If no, is your organization planning to use GIS?

- Yes       No       N/A

If yes, please specify when:

Who is the primary GIS contact person within your organization and/or department? (See “Who Should Complete the Survey” instructions).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Department \_\_\_\_\_

Organization URL (Web Address) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

*Physical Address:*

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

*Mailing Address (if different):*

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

How many dedicated GIS staff are employed within your organization?

Number of full-time GIS staff: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of part-time GIS staff: \_\_\_\_\_

Besides your dedicated GIS staff, how many other staff within your organization use GIS on a casual, periodic basis?

Number of casual GIS users: \_\_\_\_\_

How long has your organization been using GIS?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What primary GIS software does your organization use?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Part 2– Metadata Awareness & Use

Are you familiar with metadata (i.e. what it is; what it is used for; why it is important)?

- I'm very familiar with metadata  
 I only know a little about metadata  
 I'm unfamiliar with metadata

Does your organization create and/ or maintain metadata?

- Yes, for a majority of our data  
 For some, but not all of our data  
 No, not at all

If your organization creates metadata, what metadata format/standard do you use?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What are the biggest hurdles that make it difficult to create and maintain metadata?

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



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If you use something other than any of the above data layers as your standard GIS base-map, please describe.

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Are there any other GIS data layers that you do not currently have that you would like to have?

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Are you currently conducting any major data gathering or data creation activities, or will you be doing so within a year? Please describe.

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## **Part 4 -Data Distribution, Data Sharing, & Data Exchange**

Do you participate in GIS user groups or other organizations to coordinate data development, data sharing/exchanging or application development activities? Please describe.

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Does your organization serve, share, or provide GIS data or maps on-line? If so, how (GIS web server, FTP site, on-line metadata, etc)?

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Does your organization have a data distribution policy?

- Yes       No       Unsure

If yes, briefly describe your policy, or provide URL link to your policy, or transmit an electronic copy of your policy to [mskowronek@mtc.ca.gov](mailto:mskowronek@mtc.ca.gov)

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Do you have any other comments or suggestions related to regional GIS coordination, data sharing/exchange or metadata use in the Bay Area?

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## **Part 5 - Miscellaneous**

How is GIS used within your organization (i.e. what are your major GIS applications)?

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Besides the GIS software identified earlier, does your organization utilize GIS-related technology & software, such as a relational database management system, CAD, image processing, etc. If yes, please briefly specify & describe.

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**Thank You Very Much for  
Completing this Survey**