



October 31, 2008

Richard Butgereit, GIS Administrator
Florida Statewide GIS Coordination Committee Coordinator
Florida Division of Emergency Management
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

RE: Florida's Strategic Plan for Statewide Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Coordination

Dear Mr. Butgereit:

After review of "Florida's Strategic Plan for Statewide Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Coordination," I wish to offer the Florida Chapter of Urban and Regional Information System's endorsement of the strategic plan.

Geographic information systems (GIS) technology has been used for years across Florida. Many in the public and private sectors have successfully used this technology, and the geographic data it produces, to help manage our natural resources, predict the impacts of urban development and respond to emergencies. Recent natural disaster events have brought to light that there is still unequal access and usage of this technology in various parts of the state. The strategic plan certainly provides a comprehensive approach to the quality and accessibility of GIS within Florida.

I wish to congratulate you and the steering committee for the care and thought that went into the development of the strategic plan and wish you success as you proceed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee N. Hartsfield", written over a white rectangular background.

Lee N. Hartsfield
President