

**GIS
Certification
Plan
Review**



The Document

- ✦ Executive Summary
- ✦ Introduction
- ✦ Justification
- ✦ URISA Process
- ✦ Certification Plan
- ✦ Impacts



Justification

- ★ Minimal cost impacts
- ★ Improves profession
- ★ Data sharing assurance
- ★ Data quality assurance
- ★ Identifies qualified individuals
- ★ Provides standard evaluation tools
- ★ Not doing so puts profession at risk
- ★ Education



URISA Certification

- ★ Since 1999, the Urban and Regional Information Services Association (URISA), along with the American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) has been exploring the certification for GIS professionals for a national perspective.
- ★ Established the “Certification Institute”



URISA Program

- ★ Voluntary certification
- ★ For professionals with primary GIS responsibilities
- ★ Certification based on:
 - Education
 - Experience
 - Professional Contribution



URISA Program

- ★ Has a continuing education component
- ★ Has a code of ethics



Implementation Plan

- ★ Who should be certified?
 - Senior GIS Professionals who manage programs or supervise the production of data/products.



Implementation Plan

- ★ Step 1: Professional adoption
- ★ Step 2: OGIC adoption
- ★ Step 3: Professional outreach
 - (Get folks certified)
- ★ Step 4: Agencies make it desirable
- ★ Step 5: Review by OGIC



Impacts

- ✦ Existing Employees
- ✦ Hiring
- ✦ Personnel Management
- ✦ Contracting/Contractors
- ✦ Product Evaluation
- ✦ Improved Profession
- ✦ Private Industry



Conclusion

- ★ Without it we are at risk
- ★ Cost is small
- ★ Can be done incrementally

