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May 12, 2008

Mr. Jim Plasker
Executive Director
The American Society for Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing
5410 Grosvenor Lane, Suite 210
Bethesda, Maryland 20814-2160

RE: Draft Guidelines for Procurement of Geospatial Mapping Services

Dear Mr. Plasker:

GISCI applauds the efforts of ASPRS and others to draft a set of guidelines for consumers of spatial data to identify those instances where the work constitutes a professional or technical service. Many of the elements of the draft now being circulated for comment address issues that motivated our participation in an amicus brief last year. Although we might suggest minor changes to some of the illustrative examples in the tables, we can voice general support for the concepts included. Your work is sure to improve the procurement process for spatial data.

As an association representing many of the persons who would utilize the guidelines to procure spatial data, GISCI offers to be an active participant in the process of developing a final draft in response to comments received. We believe that the more professional associations and other interested parties that can take ownership, the better the final version will be received by the user community.

Please let us know how we can assist you in reviewing comments and making appropriate revisions to the first draft. You can reach me at 407-376-3258 or abutler@mpzero.com. We look forward to participating in this worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

J. Allison Butler, GISP
President

cc: GISCI Board of Directors
Wendy Nelson, Interim GISCI Executive Director