GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS

A Geographic Information System (GIS) is a computer based system for capturing, storing, integrating, manipulating, analyzing and displaying data related to positions of items on the Earth’s surface (Department of State, Electronic Recordkeeping Rule, Rule No: 1B-26.003 Florida Administrative Code). GIS technology supports graphical analysis of geo-referenced data and enhances the quality of the Department’s information assets.

It is the policy of the Department of Transportation that its investment in GIS technology be leveraged in a cost effective manner to provide enhanced support for business functions, maximize decision support mechanisms, increase productivity, and improve overall communication with DOT employees, partners and citizens. To accomplish these goals, the Department approved a GIS Strategic Plan in 2009 to serve as a road map to ensure that GIS is implemented with an enterprise strategy. The Strategic Plan will be updated every three years, in coordination with the districts, to provide the overall framework that governs GIS efforts at the local, district, and enterprise levels. The use of GIS technology in support of Department business processes will be aligned with the Department’s goals and objectives and in compliance with applicable Department procedures and standards.

Management support is always needed and important for accomplishing strategic goals and objectives. GIS will be managed as an enterprise technology under the direction of an established Management Steering Committee. This committee is comprised of members appointed by the Secretary, and is chaired by the Assistant Secretary for Engineering and Operations. A Functional Steering Committee, appointed by the Management Steering Committee, consists of GIS experts from each district and the Tallahassee central office. The FDOT GIS Coordinator oversees the enterprise initiative and chairs the Functional Steering Committee. Departmental procedures and standards will be established to ensure that GIS processes, data, and applications are developed and maintained to promote collaboration among offices, avoid redundancy, and provide the most value to the Department.