

## **ITRMC Information Technology Achievement Award For GIS Professional of the Year Nomination**

The City of Boise Information Technology Department is pleased to nominate Jimae Haynes, GIS Systems Analyst, for the ITRMC Information Technology Achievement Award for GIS Professional of the Year. Since being hired at the City of Boise in 2001, Jimae has become known throughout the valley and in the state for her desire for excellence in all things related to information technology, most specifically GIS. Jimae was instrumental in the formation of the State Framework Public Safety Technical Working Group (TWG). She was the lead of the Emergency Services Zone TWG which became the first approved State framework data standard.

Most recently, Jimae has led a group effort to pull Public Safety and GIS Professionals together to foster the gathering of needs, modeling of data, and development of a multi-agency common operating picture (COP) for public safety personnel. The ultimate goal is the development of a COP application with data served via the web, giving public safety personnel a common view of incidents with real time data available to field, Incident Command, and Emergency Operation Center Personnel.

The reason for Jimae's nomination can be summed up in eight key areas reflecting her character and skills.

**Enterprise Architecture** – Jimae supports the department's philosophy of enterprise architecture in her development and data modeling efforts and has attended Enterprise Architecture Certification training. In the past she has been responsible for the formation of, and chaired an Ada County TWG that dealt with issues related to the migration of data to the Geodatabase format among local agencies. Jimae successfully led an effort to interpret and implement FGDC Metadata Content Standard by local agencies. She led a valley wide project which produced an addressing data model that complies with and implements the NENA address standard. It was modeled with the ability for multiple jurisdiction use in mind. She currently co-chairs the City's enterprise data management committee. Jimae has an enterprise view when it comes to the architecture of GIS data and applications that allows for expandability and scalability in the future.

**Professionalism** – Jimae is known around the valley for her professionalism as she brings disparate agencies together for common and often difficult to reach goals. She was instrumental in the formalization of Southwest Idaho GIS users group (SWIG) by writing the steering committee charter and serving as chair for four years. Jimae often acts as a mentor for those just beginning or looking to advance their skills in the GIS profession. She is also very willing to learn from others and continues to strive in her professional development. Jimae stays connected with the GIS community through meetings and by using forums and other networking tools.

**Innovation** – Jimae's leadership of the City's Internet Mapping System (IMS) implementation, as well as the implementation of Boise's Enterprise Geodatabase is a great example of her innovation. The coupling of those systems enables every employee real time access to GIS data, increases productivity in immeasurable amounts, and reduces the need for redundant information. Jimae was also instrumental in writing a GIS application that allowed city leaders to play "what if" games during annexation strategy meetings simply by drawing boundaries. The resulting data assisted in determining the viability of proposed city driven annexations saving hours of staff time over the previous manual process.

**Role Model** – As mentioned under professionalism, Jimae exhibits tremendous leadership among her peers with her mentoring and “get it done” attitude. She was one of the first 1000 to receive the GIS Professional certification. Jimae is very patient and a good listener with both her fellow GIS peers and business contacts. She receives very positive feedback on her customer interaction and has an easy to work with attitude. Jimae leads by example. One example is her leadership in the Boise City implementation of the addressing data model and the FGDC metadata standards as mentioned under enterprise architecture. Jimae continually strives for excellence. Largely due to Jimae’s leadership during the implementation of the enterprise addressing data, the City of Boise was awarded an ESRI Special Achievement in GIS award in 2005.

**Measurable Success** – As mentioned under Innovation, Jimae’s implementation of the City’s IMS and Enterprise Geodatabase allows staff across all city departments up to date information at their desks, saving time and reducing redundancy of data on a daily basis. Another measure of Jimae’s success is the implementation of the addressing data model as mentioned under enterprise architecture. This data model, coupled with a web application, allows staff the ability to maintain address data and allows real time access to the address data to other software applications such as the IMS or utility billing systems. This again reduces redundant data and allows for one version of the truth. With Jimae’s leadership, Boise also has fully documented GIS metadata and data maintenance procedures.

**Personal Development** – Jimae has considerable GIS experience and has an excellent understanding of GIS software architecture. Jimae continually pursues educational opportunities through self-study, books, system training from professional groups, and forums. Jimae often works with providers to bring training to the area in an effort to make necessary training available locally, allowing more people to attend with a significant saving on travel cost. She has also developed her skill in the area of Business Analysis which proves to support a better understanding of the customer’s needs and in turn develop higher quality products.

**Collaboration** – System, data modeling, and data development projects Jimae gets involved in are generally done with collaboration in the forefront. She works at the regional level to educate and organize so that sharing GIS data and services gets faster, easier, and more effective. As mentioned previously Jimae is currently leading a group of Public Safety and GIS Professionals from counties, cities, and the State of Idaho. This group effort is aimed at gathering needs, modeling data, and the development of a Common Operating Picture (COP) for public safety personnel. The COP is envisioned as a critical tool for emergency managers and responders. The vision is a region-wide or state-wide common digital map displaying incidents and real time data necessary to respond to those incidents. The COP will be served via the internet for public safety personnel in the field, Incident Command Posts, and Emergency Operation Centers.

As stated, Jimae Haynes is an excellent example of achievement in excellence in the area of GIS and is deserving of the ITRMC GIS Professional of the Year.