OREGON TASK FORCE ON SCHOOL SAFETY

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Task Force Envisions Five-Year Timeline to Put System in Place

In April, the state legislature established the Oregon Task Force on School Safety (OTFSS), tasked with developing a plan to make schools more secure against active shooter incidents, as well as other threats — such as fire, flooding and severe weather. The top priority for the 14-member working group is to develop a statewide database of school floor plans, accessible to public safety officials via the Internet.

Washington State already has such a program in place, the Critical Incident Planning and Mapping System (CIPMS), which includes not only every school in the state, but also other public buildings, such as the state legislature, SeaTac airport, CenturyLink and Safeco fields, as well as courthouses, hospitals and other facilities.

The Washington State Legislature voted to move ahead with the creation of CIPMS in 2003, following the success of a pilot project launched in 2001. The system was completed and became operational in April 2009, at a total cost of $21 million.

At the second meeting of the OTFSS, held on August 28, the Major Mike Bloom of Oregon State Police (OSP) described the steps that will be required to select a vendor to perform the mapping and develop the system — a process expected to take approximately five years.

The first phase of the project, expected to require about 15 months, will entail hiring a project manager and a business analyst, at a cost of $300,000 to prepare a detailed analysis of the project and the business case for moving ahead with it. After their work is approved by the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS), OSP will formally announce a Request For Proposals (RFP) from private vendors.

Receiving and evaluating proposals from the vendors will take about nine months, as well as requiring two additional approvals from DAS. Once a vendor has been selected, the design and development of the system is expected to take an additional nine months. With the system in place, two and a half years will be required to map all 1,476 K-12 schools in Oregon.

Project Timeline

To Establish an Online Mapping System of All Schools in Oregon, Available to First Responders Statewide

PHASE 1

Develop Project Materials and Business Case

PHASE 2

RFP/Procurement Process

PHASE 3

Design/Build Phase

PHASE 4

Implement at All Schools Statewide

* **Indicates a "Stage Gate," requiring approval from the Oregon Department of Administrative Services before moving forward with the project.**

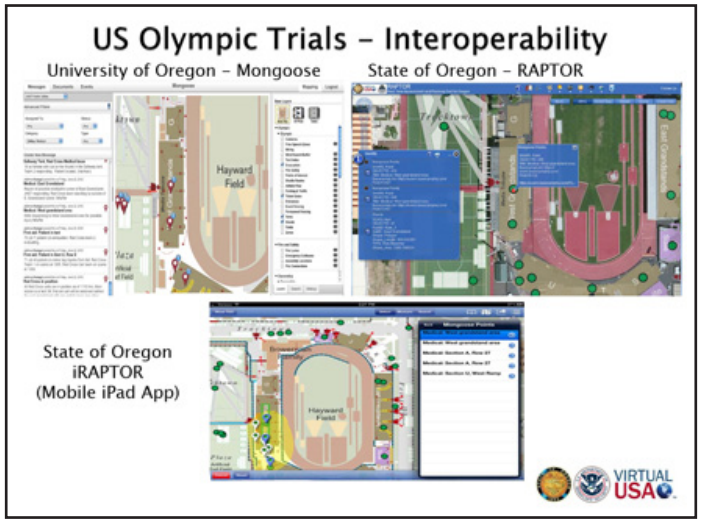
Task Force Learns About Alternative Technologies for School Mapping System

At its first meeting on August 4, the Oregon Task Force on School Safety (OTFSS) heard from Bruce Kuennen of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) about the development of the state's Critical Incident Planning and Mapping System (CIPMS). That system was developed by a company called Prepared Response using a software tool entitled **"Rapid Responder."**

Prepared Response is a privately held company headquartered in Kirkland, Washington. Its products are in use by more than 1,200 public safety agencies across the United States and include maps and other information regarding 16,000 facilities nationwide. It is certified by the United States Department of Homeland Security under the SAFETY Act.

At its August 28 meeting, the members of the OTFSS heard about a number of alternative systems which could be used to establish a statewide database of school floor plans and other emergency response information. These included:

- **Virtual Alabama**, which was initiated in October 2005 by the Alabama Department of Homeland Security. The goal of the program was to leverage existing imagery and data regarding facilities throughout the state to create a 3D-globe interface to make this information accessible to end user, including first responders responding to emergencies. Virtual Alabama has a total of 36,000 enrolled users representing more than 3,000 agencies statewide. For more information, visit: *https://virtual.alabama.gov/*
- **RAPTOR**, the Real Time Assessment and Planning Tool for Oregon, which is also available on Apple tablets as iRAPTOR. This system allows authorized users to view and interact with geospatial maps and aerial imagery, as well as information related to disaster preparedness, hazards, weather and ongoing events, all via the Internet. RAPTOR was utilized during the US Olympic Team trials at the University of Oregon. For more information, visit: *http://www.oregon.gov/DAS/CIO/Pages/RAPTOR.aspx*



RAPTOR interfaces with the University of Oregon's "Mongoose" event management system during the trials for the U.S. Olympic Team in 2012. ***Image Courtesy of the Oregon Military Department, Office of Emergency Management.***

- **The Computer-Based Assessment Tool (CBAT)** is utilized by the Office of Infrastructure Protection at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to enhanced vulnerability assessments of key community assets throughout the nation. It blends 360-degree geospherical video of facilities with data about the installation itself, the surrounding area, travel routes, as well as event-specific documents such as evacuation routes, operating procedures and structural schematics.

The OTFSS will consider all four of these systems as potential foundations to fulfill its legislative mandate, to make maps of all of Oregon's schools available to first responders statewide. Additional input will come from programs at the Homeland Security Science and Technology Directory, including the National Urban Security Laboratory and the Office of Interoperability and Compatibility.

Coming to Terms:

OTFSS Studies Use of Standard Terminology for School Emergencies

In addition to the school mapping project, the legislature also charged the Oregon Task Force on School Safety (OTFSS) with examining whether or not schools statewide should adopt standardized language and response protocols in response to emergencies, such as an active shooter incident, fire or flood.

This question was addressed at the OTFSS meeting on August 28, with members discussing several alternatives. Task Force Chair Craig Roberts suggested establishing a subcommittee to examine the issue more closely. Susan Graves, the Safety Coordinator for the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators, urged caution about moving ahead to standardize language statewide, noting that it could have a financial impact on schools that already have systems in place.

Task force Vice Chair Richard Evans, Superintendent of the Oregon State Police asked how to determine what system, if any schools are currently using. Reed Scott-Schwalbach, representing the Oregon Education Association, suggested that the OTFSS send out a survey to all schools throughout the state in order to understand what systems are currently in use.

To help resolve this question and address other issues that are coming before the task force, State Senator Betsy Johnson suggested that Governor John Kitzhaber identify a representative from the Oregon Department of Education to work with the group moving forward.