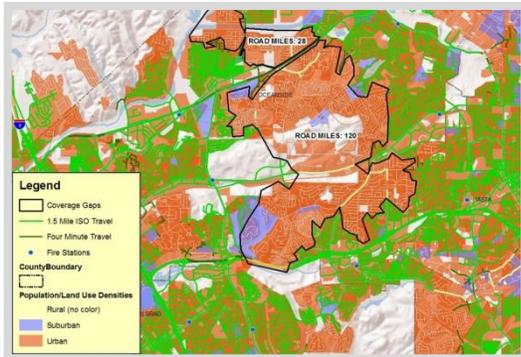


OMEGA Case Study

June 9, 2010

The Omega Group Collaborates on Landmark Fire Services and Emergency Response Study for San Diego County



The San Diego County Board of Supervisors just received and embraced an unprecedented regional deployment Standards of Response Coverage study to assess the countywide deployment levels of Fire and EMS services. The study relied upon The Omega Group's FireView™ geographic information system which is built on the ESRI mapping platform, and was led by Omega's business partners

Citygate Associates and Animated Data, Inc.

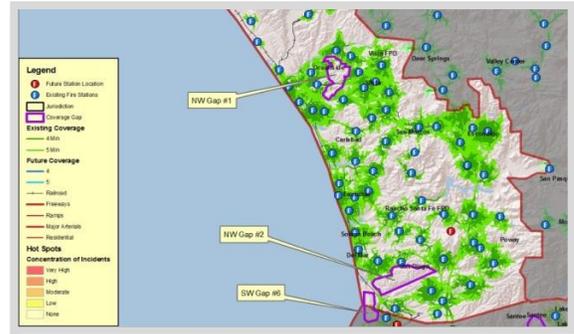
Stewart Gary of Citygate Associates was the principal overseeing the study and is a former fire chief with forty years in the fire service and fifteen years of teaching and consulting on fire services deployment of resources and standards of response cover. Chief Gary stated that he was unaware of any comparable regional study of this magnitude given the size, population, topography and multi-jurisdictional complexity of San Diego County.

The Board of Supervisors fully agreed that this project was enormously significant in its breadth, depth and scope. As summed up by Supervisor Dianne Jacob, "the deployment study is now completed, and truly...the first of its kind. Never before has a study been done that looks across the wide range of jurisdictional lines and at a level of analysis this deep. In short, this study will be the comprehensive blueprint that can be used as a tool to guide regional efforts to enhance our fire protection and our emergency medical system..."

The study used three years of data compiled from 2007-2009 for the entire county which comprises a population over 3.2 million giving rise to 630,000 incidents during this period, and occurring across 59 local and state fire jurisdictions within the county. In turn, these incidents were dispatched from five communication centers resulting in over 1.5 million responses of fire engines, ladders and other specialty/apparatus units over an extremely curvilinear and maze-like street network typifying the County's

challenging topography. The total annual firefighting expense countywide is \$517 million for the second largest county in California.

Citygate and Animated Data were able to process this enormous amount of complex data in a relatively short period of four months leveraging FireView™’s geo-spatial analysis tools to visualize response and travel times in relation to station locations. The ability to produce this vital study quickly while maintaining clarity of detail was imperative given that the county suffered two widespread wildfires in the last seven years that took many lives and destroyed thousands of homes. Consequently, the county was eager to learn where its deployment of firefighting capabilities of the region stood in order to make any necessary adjustments.



FireView™-generated maps depicted response times and call densities to illustrate the specific need for additional stations and staffing based on national best practices for sufficient speed and weight of the firefighting attack to secure rapid containment. The study resulted in statistics of Fire and EMS response to calls totaling almost 300 pages with 94 maps. The study identified 45 findings and 33 recommendations. Commenting on these results, August Ghio, President of San Diego Fire Chief’s Association, told the Board of Supervisors that “we support all of the recommendations [of the study]... and we’re glad that [the members of the board] are going to [unanimously] adopt the report.”



The Omega Group, Citygate Associates and Animated Data have been jointly conducting standards of coverage and deployment fire services studies for jurisdictions of all sizes for many years. The technical capabilities of FireView™ combined with Citygates’ and Animated Data’s expertise in the area of Standards of Response Coverage made this project flow smoothly despite its complexity. As San Diego County Chief Administrative Officer Walter Eckard noted, “the goal of this project was simple but the work was not simple... **This report is some of the best work I’ve seen in my tenure.**”

If you would like more information about **FIREVIEW™** please contact us at:



sales@theomegagroup.com or call us toll-free **(800)228-1059**

www.theomegagroup.com

