

# DDR for Government/Utility Data Partners

10/15/2006

**What is DDR?** Digital Data Request (DDR) is one application in the suite of myAIMS web applications that are accessible at <http://ims.jocogov.org/myaims.asp>. Its purpose is to enable users to purchase geospatial data for Johnson County, KS. Parcel, planimetric (e.g., elevation data, building footprint data), and orthophotography are among the datasets that may be purchased. Through a series of interactive steps, the user defines the specific extent, data, and output format they desire. Once the parameters for the data request have been collected, the user is prompted to purchase the data using a credit card. Having paid for the data, the user receives an email with a link to a .zip file in order to download the data.

**Who has access to DDR?** Anyone with an internet connection and a credit card may purchase data via DDR. Private businesses may enter into a "Data Partner" licensing arrangement with AIMS in order to be eligible for discounted prices on their purchases. More than fifty private firms involved in surveying, engineering, and architecture have signed on as AIMS Data Partners. For more information, see <http://aims.jocogov.org/partner/partner.asp>.

In addition to private businesses, AIMS also has "Data Partner" arrangements with Government (e.g., Municipalities, School Districts) and Utility organizations. These organizations also receive discounted prices on data purchases. Unlike private citizens and businesses mentioned previously, Government/Utility Data Partners do not typically request data via DDR. These organizations need data for fixed, non-changing extents, in established formats, and at repeated time intervals. In order to better meet their needs, AIMS has established custom data distribution procedures for these organizations.

Obviously, these custom distribution procedures do not preclude someone from a Government/Utility organization from requesting/purchasing data via DDR. Prior to October 14, 2006, such requests did not, however, receive discounted prices. In other words, a Government/Utility user was not treated different from any other anonymous user requesting data via DDR.

**What has changed with DDR?** As of October 15, 2006, AIMS has made it possible for Government/Utility organizations to request data via DDR and to receive that data at no charge (i.e., above and beyond their annual licensing fee). To be eligible for this capability (hereafter referred to as "DDR for Government/Utility Data Partners"), a Government/Utility organization must license current orthophotography and "bundled" vector datasets (for more information, see <http://aims.jocogov.org/partner/prices.asp>). Eligible Government/Utility organizations who wish to take advantage of "DDR for Government/Utility Data Partners" should notify AIMS of the names of the individuals at their organization to whom to grant access. In order to minimize the potential for abuse of this privilege, AIMS will limit access to no more than 3 individuals at each organization.

AIMS is releasing "DDR for Government/Utility Data Partners" in order to meet the ad-hoc data needs of Government/Utility organizations. For instance, some AutoCAD users at a municipality may prefer to use orthophotography as single section .tif files (rather than one .sid file which is typically how AIMS delivers orthophotography) and planimetric data in a .dwg format (rather than in feature class or .shp format).

**Why is AIMS concerned about abuse?** Individuals who are granted access to make requests for data via DDR and to receive that data at no charge, need to understand that it is their responsibility not to abuse this privilege. AIMS is well aware that it would be possible for an individual with this access to request data for persons who should legitimately pay for the data (e.g., a friend at a private engineering firm). While AIMS has no intention to audit every request it receives, AIMS does routinely monitor requests and anticipates that patterns of abuse will be readily apparent.

Potential for abuse may also come in the form of inappropriate requests that overburden the performance of the system. For example, given that price is a non-factor in deciding whether to make a data request, a user may go ahead and request property and planimetric data for the entire County. Or perhaps the user may make repeated requests for orthophotography, both current and historical, in .tif format for each of the 500+ sections in the County. The system is simply not designed to handle such requests. This type of abuse will be immediately obvious to those who monitor myAIMS applications.

While AIMS does not anticipate that any of these situations will occur, documented cases of abuse will be grounds for revoking the entire organization's access to "DDR for Government/Utility Data Partners".

