



GEOINT 2010 Young Professionals Group Service Project

WHO: USGIF Young Professionals Group (YPG) will be working with Beacon of Hope Resource Center. Beacon of Hope provides a model for recovery in neighborhoods devastated by Hurricane Katrina, as well as other areas affected by disaster. Encouraging civic action, fostering repopulation, providing information and resources is the foundation on which we build and grow. Beacon of Hope empowers residents to facilitate their own recovery while providing a hub of resident driven activities and a safe environment to create the synergy essential for restoring viable neighborhoods and improve the overall quality of life for residents. More information on the Beacon of Hope Resource Center can be found at www.lakewoodbeacon.org.

WHAT: The USGIF YPG Group will be working in the Filmore Gardens Neighborhood located in the 7th Ward of New Orleans, LA. There will be 2-3 locals from the neighborhood assisting with the project and will inform the group about the Filmore Gardens Neighborhood. Young Professionals will then cover the area in small teams of 2 or more people using a provided spreadsheet, a section map, and a complete neighborhood map. They will mark the conditions of the property and then turn their data over to the data manager from the neighborhood to be compiled.

Once the maps are finished they are given to the neighborhood where they are made public and used by neighborhood outreach teams. These mapping results provide a simple way for residents to identify blight, Louisiana Land Trust properties, and occupancy rates. Residents can also encourage developers and business owners to open new locations in heavily populated areas and make an investment back into their community, as well as assist in forecasting economic viability. City and state agencies have also used these results to establish priority areas of infrastructure repair and blight mitigation. The results are also used to identify needs in neighborhoods



The Beacon of Hope office has overlaid property conditions with Road Home data from the state. This has enabled the group to monitor state recovery programs and advocate for policy changes.

Participants in this project will be provided with training documents that are to be read prior to arrival in New Orleans. USGIF YPG will arrange for a Q & A conference call with Beacon of Hope so that our service project team can ask any questions they might have in order to gain better understanding of the project.

WHEN: Monday, November 1, 2010, 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. following the Young Professionals GEOINT 2010 orientation.

WHERE: Filmore Gardens Neighborhood, New Orleans, LA

WHY: One of USGIF's goals each year, is leaving the host city of the GEOINT Symposium in better shape than it was when we arrived. This mapping project has been customized for our group and provides an opportunity to give back to a community, as well as giving Young Professionals exposure that is unique to our organization.

HOW: Want to be a part of this unique service project? Contact the Young Professionals Group at ypg@usgif.org by **October 15** using the subject line **"GEOINT 2010 YPG Service Project"** if you are interested in learning more or participating in this event. More details on the service project will be available on the USGIF website, but those that email ypg@usgif.org will have the first opportunity to participate in this limited event.