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STATE PLANNING AGENCY

Strategic Plans 1990 and Beyond

GLOBAL WARMING

GLOBAL WARMING

Background

- There is general consensus in the scientific community that the greenhouse effect is real and that global warming will occur. The unanswered questions are how much the average temperatures will increase, what is or will be the rate of increase, and what will be the effects of higher global temperatures. Ultimately, the effect of global warming will be change: change in rainfall patterns, agricultural practices, forest types, energy use, etc. While the magnitude of change and the economy's ability to adapt are not predictable, it seems apparent that every segment of society will, in some manner, be affected.
- The most significant cause of the change in the natural greenhouse effect is carbon dioxide (CO₂) released to the atmosphere by the burning of fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and natural gas. This is essentially putting into the atmosphere in decades the quantity of CO₂ that nature took millions of years to remove and store. Other greenhouse gasses include methane, chlorofluorocarbons, nitrous oxide, and tropospheric ozone. In the United States, electric generation is the source of 35% of the CO₂ emissions. Transportation sources contribute another 30%. It has been estimated that, in order to stabilize atmospheric concentrations of CO₂ at their present level, it will be necessary to reduce emissions by 50 to 80%.
- Even with significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, a warming trend is likely inevitable. There is a lag of several decades before the full effect of past emissions is realized in terms of warming. Peter Ciborowski of the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs has concluded that "based on limited modeling, it appears that, in order to stabilize global temperature, all emissions of all [greenhouse] gasses must cease. This is not likely to happen soon".
- This work program addresses sources of emissions of greenhouse gasses, the potential range of effects of climatic changes on Minnesota's economy, what the State is doing now and what could be done to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and strategies for adaptation to changes. The emphasis will be on cost effective programs that stress energy conservation, the efficient use of resources, and protection of Minnesota's environment.

Recommended programs must be shown to be of direct benefit to Minnesotans as well as contributing to mitigation of the worldwide problems of the greenhouse effect.

Objectives

- Define the State of the State in issues relating to global warming. Review all state agency activities, programs, and authorities that address or relate to global warming. Review global warming policies and activities in other states and at the federal and international level. Develop policy options to minimize/slow global warming by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and programs to minimize the effects of weather extremes and a long term warming on Minnesota's economy.

Actions

- Task. Establish an multi-disciplinary SPA assessment team on global warming with the Environmental Division as chair. The team will provide ongoing support and advice to the Environmental Division/SPA regarding the tasks of the work program.
- Task. Coordinate the Environmental Quality Board's participation in the Humphrey Institute's project on Global Warming and Agriculture. Report the Institutes findings and recommendations to the Board.
Product. Conference summaries and a comprehensive report on the Institute's findings and recommendations. February 1990.
- Task. The SPA assessment team, in cooperation with appropriate agencies and the Governor's Commission on Global Warming, will prepare a Trend Report on Global Warming and a series of issue papers on topics relating to global warming, such as: electric energy conservation, fuel economy in the transportation sector, energy crops/oxygenated fuels, alternatives to fossil fuels, and improving energy efficiencies in state facilities.

Products. Trend Report - November 1989. Issue papers - February through September 1990.

- Task. Establish a Governors Commission on Global Warming to consider strategies for: 1) decreasing the emissions of greenhouse gasses; and 2) Minnesota's adaptation to an anticipated long term increase in weather extremes and higher average temperatures. The task force will:
 - Review state agency activities, programs, and authorities that address or relate to global warming.
 - Define major sources of greenhouse gas emissions and investigate strategies, including conservation, fuel switching, and application of new technologies to decrease such emissions. Address the costs and benefits of the different strategies.
 - Recommend specific actions that can be taken immediately and over the longer term to limit emissions of greenhouse gasses.
 - Recommend research necessary to minimize/slow global warming, to determine the regional impacts of global warming, and to develop strategies for adaptation.
 - Work with the Environmental Compact of the States to propose cooperative state actions.

Product. A State of the State report on global warming. Recommendations on research/policies/actions to limit emissions of greenhouse gasses and strategies to minimize the impacts of global warming on Minnesota. December 1990.

- Task. Prepare informational materials on global warming for public distribution and for use by the State's environmental education delivery system.

Product. Informational materials on global warming for public distribution. Materials will be prepared from the other products of this work program.

**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION:
A PLAN FOR SCHOOLS AND
COMMUNITIES**

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

BACKGROUND

- The State Planning Agency's involvement in environmental education is through two boards staffed by the agency -- the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) and the Minnesota Environmental Education Board (MEEB). The two board's activities are coordinated by sharing staff and helping each other accomplish work program objectives.

- Purpose of EQB Environmental Education activities: to support the EQB's environmental education priority issue by exploring the issue, advising the EQB and providing a structure and staff to improve coordination and implementation of environmental education efforts of state environmental agencies.

- Background. Environmental Education is being identified as an important component of solutions to many present-day environmental problems. The environmental agencies are strong on technical environmental solutions but weak in the education area. In 1989, the EQB adopted four goals for education:
 - Increase agency commitment to environmental education;
 - Maintain high priority for environmental education and coordinate efforts;
 - All Minnesota children receive K-16 environmental education;
 - Expand EQB's and other agencies' adult education efforts.

- Purpose of MEEB's activities: to facilitate/coordinate the work of the Board and its 13 Regional Environmental Education Councils (REECs) so that they carry out the provisions of Mn. Stat. Chapter 116E, and implement the State Plan for Environmental Education.

- Background. The Minnesota Environmental Education Board was established in 1973 to assist the Department of Education and Department of Natural Resources with implementing the 1969 statute to produce environmental education curriculum. The following year 13 Regional Environmental Education Councils were established throughout the state.

Regional councils rely primarily on volunteers to deliver environmental education programs at the local level.

- Building and supporting a strong regional council system became the primary focus of the MEEB especially as funding was cut further and further in the 1980s. In 1989, the MEEB budget was severely cut, and the organization was transferred to the SPA with very limited funds and personnel.
- Environmental Education is divided into two distinct areas -- formal and informal. Formal education is generally considered the K-12 system. Informal is other, usually adult, education. The two areas are parallel but not equivalent. K-12 education is long-term and has an established delivery system - the Department of Education and the school system. However, environmental education has a low priority in MDE. Non-formal education is tied to environmental issues and is short - term. MEEB divides its time equally between the two areas.
- Both the EQB and MEEB have formed advisory task forces or committees to assist with environmental education efforts. A major focus of both groups in 1990 is recommending revisions to MEEB's 1973 Plan for Environmental Education in Minnesota. Major revisions to the structure and functions of MEEB will be recommended to meet the current and future environmental education needs.
- This work program addresses both the MEEB work and the EQB's efforts in environmental education. In FY 1990, major work will be accomplished through the task forces and advisory committee which will make policy recommendations to both the EQB and the MEEB for their consideration.

OBJECTIVES

- Skeletal maintenance of the MEEB and regional programs. The budget cuts necessitated a cut in program funds. MEEB has set water education as a priority issue for all regions this year. In addition, the regions will take advantage of the twentieth anniversary of earth day and use the momentum to further environmental education in the regions. At the state level similar advantage is being taken with the earth day activities. Coordination between state and regional activities occur with shared staff.

Tasks:

- Supervision of staff and programs and administrative support of the Board, Executive Council and task force.
 - Contract management of 3M, Hormel, Koch Refining, CMIF and SEMIF contracts.
 - Liaison to agencies and other organizations
 - Oversee update and review of state plan
 - Prepare and oversee legislative initiatives and actions to restore MEEB's budget.
 - Provide regional coordination services to regional councils
 - Serve as a clearinghouse for environmental education resources
-
- Development of an environmental education strategy for the future. Re-structuring the state board to have more power and to meet the state needs is being addressed by the MEEB and EQB committees. They will be making recommendations concerning the functions and make-up of a reorganized state board. The groups are also determining the best "home" for MEEB. Recommendations will be made to both the EQB and MEEB on these questions.

Tasks:

- Coordinate the work of the task forces, prepare documents, oversee review.

- Interview legislators, agencies, groups and organizations and communicate concerns to task forces for input into revisions of plan/strategy.
- Co-sponsorship of a 1990 Congress on Environmental Education.
 Communicating with the larger environmental education community is a priority of both MEEB and the EQB. In addition, MEEB is proposing organizing the many groups (both governmental and private) who are attempting environmental education. The Congress, held in conjunction with Earth Day 1990 may serve as the kick-off for annual meetings of environmental educators in the future. Plans are in the very formative, idea stage.

Tasks:

- Draft Congress plan for EQB review and approval
- Coordinate Congress with state's Earth Day activities
- Oversee implementation of Congress plan and carry out administrative functions for the Congress
- Prepare report
- Draft implementation plan for actions from Congress for EQB review
- Legislative initiatives to further formal environmental education. The SPA and EQB are proposing a legislative initiative to ensure that integrated environmental education occurs in our schools. In contrast to past years, the SPA will maintain the lead for the legislation.

Tasks:

- Work with the MDE to draft legislation which mandates environmental education K-12 through the Learner Outcome process; establishes a model integrated curriculum; provides for testing of the model; and provides for inservice teacher training in environmental education through the nine Education Cooperative Service Units (ECSU) statewide.
- Oversee the proposed legislation through the legislative process in 1990 session.

- Participate in review process for Model Environmental Learner Outcomes
- Involve the Higher Education community in environmental education.
The post-secondary education system is one of the most difficult to reach and involve. The EQB is sponsoring a conference in early October to ascertain the type and amount of environmental education in universities and colleges. A national environmental educator will speak. A report will be circulated to all invitees (about 400).

Tasks:

- Work with planning committee and carry out assigned responsibilities
- Prepare information for conference
- Provide staff support at conference
- Prepare conference report
- Implementing the information and education responsibilities assigned to the EQB in the 1989 Omnibus Water Bill. Through the EQB Advisory Committee, a sub-group will be working on this issue. We received no funding in the 1989 bill, but will begin to address the issue with existing staff and structures.

Tasks:

- Coordinate with Water Resources Committee
- Coordinate water education planning with overall environmental education strategy from EQB and MEEB task forces
- Coordinate with other water education efforts
- Submit subcommittee work to Water Resources Committee
- Prepare legislative request for 1991 session.
- Major outcomes or goals of the 1990 Environmental Education activities are:
 - A 1990 State Plan for Environmental Education

- Restoration of MEEB's budget.
- Legislative initiatives based on the 1990 EE Plan.
- Legislative initiatives and other actions to assist the Minnesota Department of Education and the K-12 community with integrating environmental education into school curriculums.
- Increasing the commitment to environmental education of the post-secondary education community.
- A 1990 EQB Congress, connected with Earth Day, which focuses on Environmental Education.
- Implementing the information and education responsibilities in the 1989 Omnibus Water Bill.

State Planning Agency staff assigned to Environmental Education are:

St. Paul

Pam Landers
Shirley Dougherty
Bob Bystrom
Charles Hawkins
Anne DuFresne
Gloria Stiehl

Morris

Nancy Carlson
Clerical

Grand Rapids

Carole Langer
Clerical

**CHANGING SOCIAL AND
ECONOMIC NEEDS OF MINNESOTA
COMMUNITIES**

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC NEEDS OF MINNESOTA COMMUNITIES

Issues and Purpose

- During the past two years the legislature appropriated funds to assist Minneapolis and St. Paul with problems associated with unemployment, deteriorating housing and economic development in some of their inner city neighborhoods. The 1989 legislature provided additional funds for the next two years to continue not only the above activities but also to address crime, poverty and other social problems. The legislature also made Duluth eligible to receive funds to address these issues during the next two years.
- Similar problems exist in other cities and rural areas, but the severity and extent are less well known. The purpose of this study is to identify and document social and economic problems and issues affecting these other areas, particularly cities of more than 2,500 population. Such information would be used to: 1) provide baseline information to identify significant needs that can not be addressed in total with local resources; and 2) to establish a body of data that can be used to measure changing conditions in these communities.
- In conducting the study staff will rely on three types of data: 1) existing reports and studies i.e. census reports, state auditor; 2) consultation with various organizations who may have a handle on local problems; such groups would include Coalition of Outstate Cities, Minnesota Food Association, Joint Legislative Coalition, League of Cities etc. and 3) a survey of local officials to determine what they perceive to be their most pressing needs.

Work Tasks

- Establish an inter-division team to collect data and perform analysis - Demography and Human Services.

- **Data Search**
 - Investigate a variety of sources to determine what data is already available: Census, U of M, Ag Extension, RDCs, Joint Legislative Coalition, Minnesota Food Association, local government associations etc.
 - Analyze data to determine useability for this study

- **Data Development**
 - Meet with various organizations such as those listed above to determine if there is a role for them to play and how they may want to be involved
 - Obtain reports or studies they have conducted.
 - Could they conduct needs surveys.
 - Should they be part of a technical review committee.

- **Develop a survey form.**
 - identify need indicators or data to be collected.
 - prepare survey form.
 - send survey to cities of 2500 or more, all counties and RDCs.

- **Data Analysis**
 - Analyze data received from personal interviews and from the statewide survey.
 - Develop an economic and social data file which can be easily updated and monitored to identify changing conditions.
 - Prepare graphics and text depicting problems identified by data collected.
 - Prepare a summary of major findings based on an analysis of problems and issues addressed in items B and C above.

- Report
 - Prepare draft report for review by review committee and selected local governments.
 - Present draft report for legislative review.
 - Revise as directed by legislature and prepare final report.

Products:

- Report identifying basic social and economic needs that greatly concern local officials.
- 2. Data base that is easily accessible and can be regularly updated.

TIMELINE

Contact affected organizations August - September
 Develop Survey Form..... September
 Mail Survey Form..... October 2
 Data Collection/Analysis October - December
 Preliminary Review by Affected PartiesJanuary
 Interim ReportFebruary 1
 Legislative ReviewFebruary 6
 Develop Data Base July 1
 Prepare Draft Final ReportJuly - August
 Review by Affected Parties September
 Present Final Report to LegislatureJanuary

**DATANET:
INTEGRATING INFORMATION
FOR POLICY MAKERS**

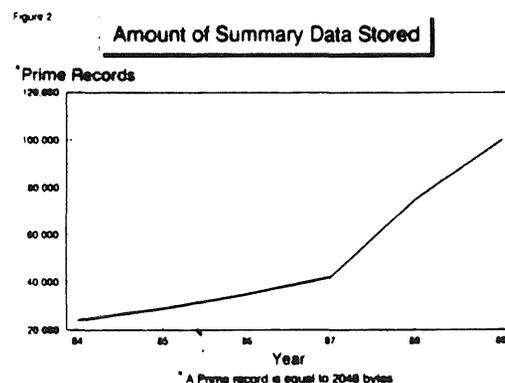
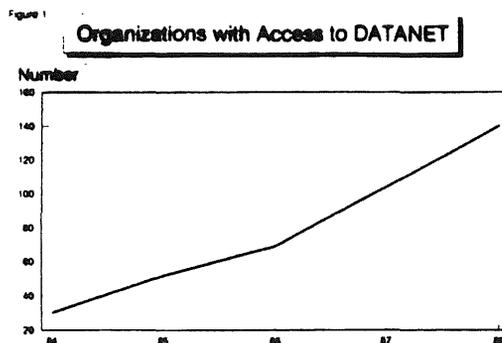
DATANET: INFORMATION FOR DECISION MAKERS

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

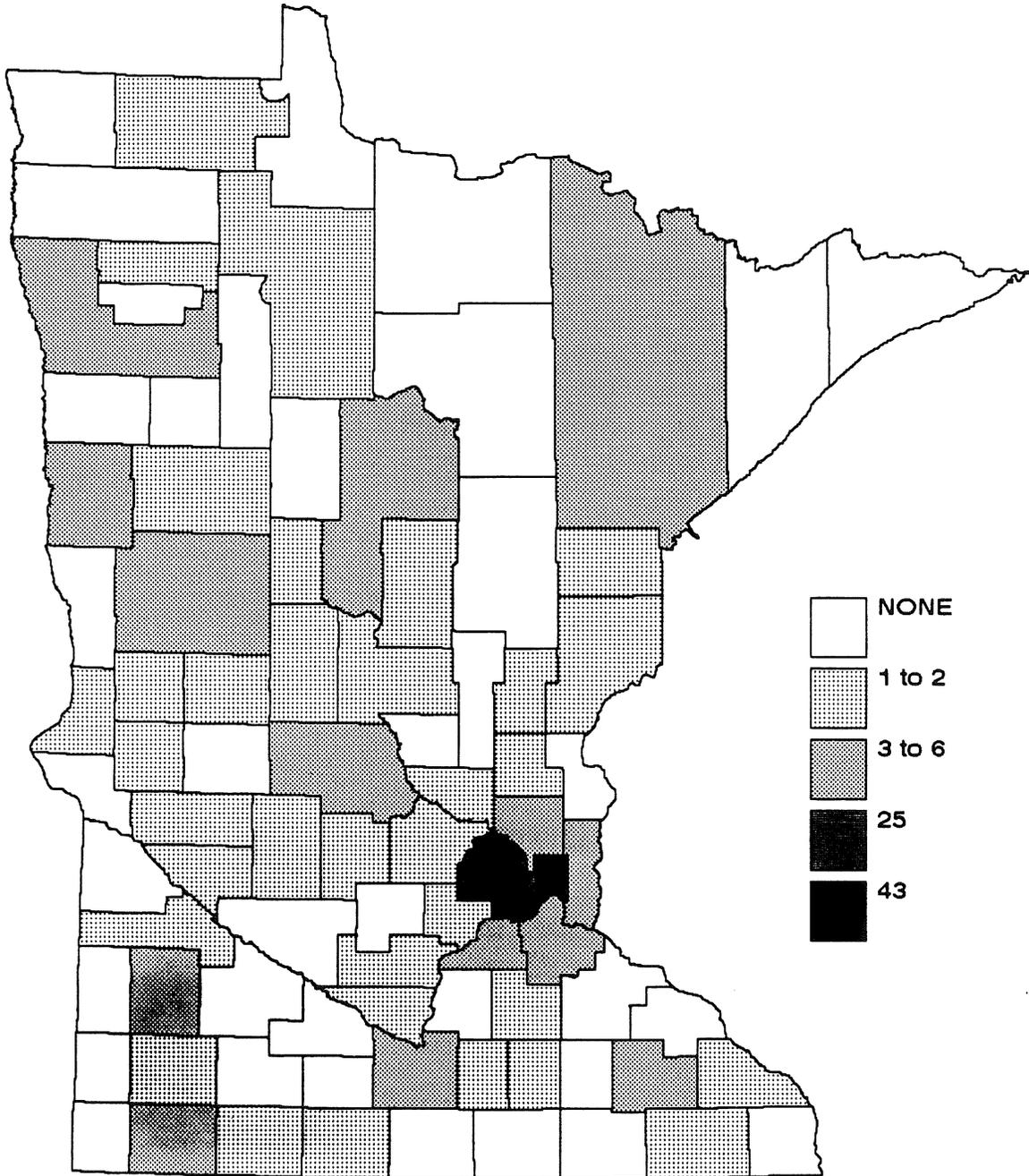
DATANET is an online information system operated by the Minnesota State Planning Agency that provides statistical profiles, trendlines, rankings and maps about a wide array of information for Minnesota, its political subdivisions and the nation as a whole. The program was initiated in 1982, to take advantage of the new emerging computer capabilities.

While the concept of an "electronic information center" began as an internal program, it was made available on a subscription basis in 1984 in order to share information with state agencies, the legislature, research organizations, libraries, universities and others. A \$200 annual subscription gives a user 10 hours of access time to use during the year.

The DATANET program has grown both in the amount of information stored and the number of organizations using the system (see Figure 1 and 2). In 1989 more than 140 organizations had access to the system, accounting for 3,500 data searches and cover 47,000 minutes of online time. Approximately 45% of DATANET's users are outside the metropolitan area and include about half of the counties in Minnesota (map 1). The amount of information stored has more than doubled since 1987.



DATANET SUBSCRIBERS 1989 PLUS GROUP ACCOUNTS



DATANET PLUS

This map shows the location of DATANET subscribers including those in group accounts.

DATANET, MINNESOTA STATE PLANNING AGENCY



MINNESOTA STATE PLANNING AGENCY

CURRENT STATUS

The Minnesota State Planning Agency is on the verge of developing DATANET into a comprehensive state-of-the-art, integrated information system serving both government and the citizens of Minnesota. The highly visible DATANET system uses advanced technology to share, analyze, display and map decision-making information. The purpose of the system is to monitor the State-of-the-State through integrated data themes in order to develop a broader understanding of conditions affecting the state and identify issues that should be addressed. With DATANET, decision-makers will have the ability to analyze the social and economic needs of the states communities through profiles, trendlines and rankings.

DATANET is becoming a well-known and highly regarded system. Nationally, DATANET represents the largest online summary statistical database of any state and others have looked to Minnesota as a model to emulate. While other state information managers are in awe of what Minnesota has accomplished with limited resources, substantial work needs to be done. Several other states have recognized this emerging trend in information management and have initiated programs that could eventually surpass our efforts. This program is an area where Minnesota should play a leadership role in the next 2-5 years.

The DATANET system delivers this decision-making information to more than 140 organizations throughout the state. The beneficiaries of the program go far beyond the State Planning Agency. Current users include the legislature, state agencies, public schools, local government, and even the private sector. The DATANET system is also emerging as an "electronic textbook" that will help educate the young and prepare them for jobs in an increasingly intensive information based society.

Critical needs include toll free access to provide equal access to information for rural Minnesota and increased technical support to develop summary data relating to key policy issues. Current data development efforts are driven by agencies and organizations interested in sponsoring databases which may not necessarily be the most central issues for the state to address.

DATANET WORKPLAN FOR 1990

- **Mission**

The mission of DATANET is to build and maintain state-of-the-art electronic information service to manage, analyze, display, and map statistical data. The system's goal is to be able to monitor the "state-of-the-state" through integrated data themes in order to develop a broader understanding of conditions affecting the state and its resources.

- **Public Service Objectives**

The DATANET mission includes several public service objectives:

- To place Minnesota in a leadership role in the use of information in decision-making;
- To enhance the capabilities of state information users to manage, analyze, and interpret data;
- To "promote efficiency" by developing information products serving a wide audience;
- To improve the accessibility and equality of access to information for all state users; and
- To enhance the quality and usefulness of the state's information resource.

- **Budget/Operations**

DATANET operates with a program director and a \$70,000 budget. One-third of the budget is general fund revenue, one-third is produced through subscription fees and information products, and the final third is obtained from data sponsors. An additional staff person has been assigned to assist DATANET's marketing and promotion efforts.

- **Project Selection**

Reliance on finding data sponsors creates the dilemma of not being able to choose the "most significant" or useful information for inclusion in the system.

The primary focus in developing data sponsor projects centers around five criteria of 1) summary statistical data; 2) Minnesota policy/issue

related; 3) data integration themes; 4) limited narrative data; and 5) enhance marketing or development of the system.

Primary data integration themes include business development, labor force and job skills, infrastructure, intergovernmental financing, youth, elderly, economic assistance, public health and safety, land conservation, resource utilization, environmental quality, international trade, and education. At our current pace this may represent a 20 year development program with no assurance that key issues are addressed. A more desirable development program would integrate key policy data in a five to seven year period.

- **Products/Support Services**

- 1) Online System - DATANET has become a well-known and highly regarded system. In 1989, more than 140 organizations have access to the system, which accounts for 105 paid subscriptions. In FY 1989, DATANET users logged into the system 3,500 times and used over 47,000 minutes of online time. Several new databases are added each year and most existing databases are updated on a regular schedule. A 1990 DATANET subscription costs \$200 and gives the user 10 hours of access time during the year.
- 2) Map Packages - DATANET has produced its first map atlas - 1989 School District Data - and sold over 130 copies. An additional 140 complimentary copies were sent to DATANET subscribers, major educational organizations and legislative leaders.
- 3) Training - DATANET offers "online tele-training" for users. At least four organizations offer formalized training/exposure sessions on DATANET. A one day workshop on curriculum development and DATANET training is being presented by DATANET staff this summer. About 25 high schools have access to DATANET in the classroom.

- 4) **Information/Marketing** - Marketing continues to be a major activity of DATANET. An open house was attended by 120 individuals, eight on-site demos were given, about 100 small group demos are provided in-house, new inquiries run about 80-90 a year, four newsletters are published during the year, and approximately 5,000 mailings are made annually.
- 5) **PC-Mapping Package**. - A major effort in fiscal years 1989-1990 is the development of DATANET PLUS. This PC-Software package enhances DATANET greatly by allowing users to integrate data, download information to their personal computer and visually display information in color maps and print them in their office. DATANET PLUS will be released in the fall of 1989.

DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES - FY 1990

- **Work Plan**

The 1990 fiscal year work plan will evolve from a series of opportunities that are in various stages of confirmation. About two-thirds of this list are expected to be completed. Additional opportunities will emerge during the year.

- 1) **Retail Sales** - A trendline of 2 digit SIC retail sales data back to 1980 will be developed for all Minnesota cities and counties. Standard reports of retail sales data will be generated on a per capita and per household basis. Work will begin as soon as the data tape is prepared by the Department of Revenue.
- 2) **Criminal Justice** - Incidence, victim, and court data will be added to complete the criminal justice database. Training workshops will be provided to twenty criminal justice practitioners. (BJS Grant supported).
- 3) **Health Profiles** - Discussions have been held with the Department of Health to disseminate their annual health profile reports through DATANET. A pilot study of the data would proceed contract discussions for annual production of the reports. (Potential Data Sponsor).

- 4) Library Statistics - LMIC already houses a public library database for Minnesota. The same data is available nationally. A federal task force may support a pilot to map Minnesota's data and state conditions through the U.S. This may be an opportunity to support a U.S. map atlas, develop a national market, and get widespread exposure at a national White House Conference in 1991. (Data sponsor needed).
- 5) Electronic Calendar - The Celebrate Minnesota office will be coordinating hundreds of events throughout the year relating to Earth Day 1990. They are interested in using DATANET to disseminate timely information through the EBIN and DATANET network. (Data sponsor needed).
- 6) Foundation Grant - DATANET is pursuing a major Grant to introduce strategic planning and environmental scanning (using DATANET) into secondary school system. Seven pilot projects should be conducted around the state providing teachers with training and state-of-the-art equipment. We have received favorable initial reaction and will be having a preliminary proposal submitted in September.
- 7) Teacher Training Workshop - DATANET will be conducting a day long training workshop on DATANET, mapping and curriculum development for 10 high school teachers and media resource staff.
- 8) Training For DATANET Trainers - At least five organizations have independently developed training/awareness workshops on DATANET. There is a need to bring these trainers together to show them advanced capabilities and new databases. These groups include Mankato State University, Bemidji State University, Brainerd High School, Minnesota Department of Education, TIES, and St. Catherines College.
- 9) County Government Initiative - DATANET plans to conduct a major awareness campaign to Minnesota County Officials about the capabilities and usefulness of the DATANET information service. This would include a major presentation and demonstration in 1990.
- 10) Status of County Land Use Controls - DATANET is in the process of automating a survey of land use controls conducted by the Environmental Planning Division, SPA. This data will support county government initiative.
- 11) DATANET PLUS Mapping - The completion, testing, and release of the PC-mapping software will require a major effort. Test (beta) copies will be installed at several sites, distribution agreements established, and contract arrangements streamlined. This activity is integral to many initiatives and will be high priority.

- 12) Map Atlas Series - Plans are to produce another map atlas perhaps in conjunction with the library data (item 4). The package may be U.S. by County data.
- 13) EPA Toxic Waste Inventory - This inventory contains a detailed description of chemical waste placed into our environment. Toxic wastes are identified by volume, chemical and discharge location (air, water or land). Data is available by county for the entire U.S. (Data sponsor needed).
- 14) Agricultural Drought Study - U.S. Agriculture Dept. will provide us with a tape of agricultural production by major crop for the entire U.S. This will allow analysis on state, regional, and U.S. level of the drought of 1988. (Data sponsor needed).
- 15) World Data Base - We will look for a sponsor to automate a tape of social and economic data for 202 countries world wide. (Data sponsor needed).
- 16) Export/Import Data - The Department of Trade and Economic Development expressed interest in having DATANET disseminate trade and export data. (Data sponsor needed).

OPERATIONAL ISSUES

Some of the major operational issues facing DATANET in the next three years include:

- Whether to operate DATANET on a stand alone micro-computer system or work station, using the Prime for "number crunching".
- Whether to convert DATANET programming to a more stable long term relational database management system by 1991.
- How to fund equal access to state information for decision-makers in rural Minnesota through toll free telecommunications.
- How to address the long term problem of increasing database maintenance and potential stagnation in new development.

DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY.

- **Information Environment**

DATANET has made exceptional accomplishments in its seven year history. In FY 1989 it had nearly 300 paying clients. DATANET has an established statewide network of information users (see map). The information system has proven to have widespread appeal and application. Users look to DATANET as the state's "electronic data library" - a state resource.

While the subscription based system has been accepted, it is not necessarily good resource management. It cannot generate sufficient funding to maintain and expand the database in the long run. The objectives of "affordable subscription rates" conflict with the public interest to know and understand. A Legislative request for funding is most appropriate for the program.

- **DATANET: A State Investment**

Staff plans to develop a year long plan (or longer) for continued exposure of DATANET products, services, and applications to general public and government officials and their staff. The objective is to build a compelling case to support the development of DATANET as a wise investment and necessary public service for the people of Minnesota.

- 1) Continue the development of State Planning Agency information products such as Trend Reports, Minnesota Patterns, map atlases and Population Notes that use and support the integration of data.

- 2) Develop new information products such as PC-mapping capabilities to use relevant information to address state issues (i.e., environmental concerns, rural economic strategies, briefing materials to support legislative initiatives.
- 3) Institute a DATANET Users Group to develop "grass roots support" for enhancement and development of the program. Encourage DATANET's constituents to express their views about the need and utility for information from the state.
- 4) Develop a coalition of state agencies and legislative staff that recognize the critical need for a program to integrate, summarize and share data. Use their support to leverage a program that would benefit all by assisting and developing plans for data integration.
- 5) Develop a schedule of demonstrations, open houses or other opportunities to inform the general public, local officials, and their staffs about DATANET.

HEALTH CARE: FUTURE ACCESS AND COST

HEALTH CARE ISSUES FOR THE 1990s

Phase I

OBJECTIVE

- To increase awareness and prompt discussion of health issues facing Minnesota in the 1990s. While the recently formed Health Care Access Commission will be focusing on the needs of the uninsured in Minnesota, it will be important to continue debate and dialog on other issues facing Minnesota related to health care. Phase I of this project, conducted over the next 2-3 years, is designed to ensure that this discussion takes place.

ISSUES

- Health care costs are rising rapidly in Minnesota as in the nation. This cost increase is having a major impact on the state Medical Assistance program, employers who purchase insurance for their employees, and individuals who purchase health insurance.
- At least 340,000 Minnesotans are not covered by health insurance.
- The changing age structure of Minnesota's population will increase the demand for health care services in the 1990s. From 1985 to 2000 the number of Minnesotans 85 years and over is projected to grow by 51 percent and many of the baby-boom generation will reach middle age in the 1990s.
- The availability of "high-tech" solutions to medical problems are generating an increased demand for expensive equipment that adds to the cost of medical care.

- Current laws mandate certain health insurance benefits which add to the cost of a "basic" health insurance policy.
- Minnesota's insurance plan for persons with chronic illnesses, the Minnesota Comprehensive Health Association, is experiencing dramatic growth, increasing from 6,000 persons covered in 1983 to 12,000 in 1988. The operating loss for the program, which is passed on to consumers of other health plans, is expected to surpass \$12 million in fiscal year 1990. No cost containment plan is in effect to control the expenditures.
- The financial well-being of several health maintenance organizations and at least 12 rural Minnesota hospitals is in doubt.
- Shortages of trained health care professionals are evident throughout the state.
- The role of the consumer in health and medical care will become increasingly important, but presently is unclear. Consumers are expected to encourage competition among providers by making choices, but have limited information to use in making those choices. Consumers may also be expected to share a greater portion of the cost burden of medical care, but have limited means of influencing costs.
- The appropriate role of state government, federal government, employers, and individuals must be examined.

TASKS/PRODUCTS:

- **TASK:** Develop an issue paper briefly outlining health care issues for Minnesota in the 1990s.
 - **PRODUCT:** Issue paper 5-7 pages in length.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** December 1989.

- **TASK:** Convene a series of roundtable discussions with legislators, major employer groups, the health care industry, state agency heads, and groups representing health care consumers. Potential exists to convene a 1-2 day "Policy Academy" to develop a strategy for Minnesota action on the issues at the end of Phase I.
 - **PRODUCT:** Roundtable Meetings - 2 hours in length - meeting once every 3 months with a prominent speaker or panel.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** Ongoing over next 2-3 years.

- **TASK:** Issue discussions with persons knowledgeable about health care issues.
 - **PRODUCT:** Meetings with individuals or groups to gain understanding to guide project and for design of roundtable meetings.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** Ongoing.

- **TASK:** Ongoing printed updates on health care issues -- summarizing information from roundtable discussions, meetings with knowledgeable persons as well as information about federal activities, actions in other states, and employer and consumer responses to the issue.
 - **PRODUCT:** Publication 2-3 pages in length.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** Ongoing - issued quarterly during project.

EDUCATIONAL CHOICE: THE NEXT PHASE

POLICY REVIEW: EDUCATIONAL CHOICE IN MINNESOTA

OBJECTIVE

- Draft a preliminary set of recommendations for the Governor outlining next steps for open enrollment and education reform.

ISSUES

- The education system must be opened up to provide real choices for students and parents. We should focus on "choice for teachers and administrators" to create innovative public schools or new programs within schools. Diversity of Choice is critical to an open enrollment strategy. We cannot expect families to choose schools if they all offer the same educational program.
- Creating new schools or programs will require removing the bottleneck on innovation. Strategies should be examined that allow other public entities (universities, non profits) to develop and run new schools.
- Future strategies must address the needs of at-risk youth, particularly those in the metropolitan area. If we concentrate on new schooling options, they could be targeted first to needy students.
- The state should re-examine its role in providing better parent information. The success of choice programs depend on an informed population, aware of options and alternatives.

TASKS/PRODUCTS

- **TASK:** Prepare an extensive briefing memo to the Governor on new directions for educational choice and reform. The memo will contain an outline of ideas and possible next steps.
 - **PRODUCT:** Briefing memo for Governor.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** October 15, 1989

- **TASK:** Prepare an SPA policy review on "Choice and School Improvement" containing an overview of the history, development, actions by other states and complementary actions for educational choice.
 - **PRODUCT:** Final Report.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** February, 1990

- **TASK:** Design and implement a Policy Academy (in partnership with Minnesota Department of Education) for next steps in educational choice with objectives and recommendations for 1991.
 - **PRODUCT:** Policy Academy recommendations.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** October, 1990

- **TASK:** Provide periodic status reports on the federal evaluation of Minnesota's open enrollment programs, the progress of the regional choice workshops held around the country, and actions taken by other states.
 - **PRODUCT:** Status Reports.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** December, 1990

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:
CHANGING POLICIES IN THE 90s**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR THE 1990s

OBJECTIVES

- To identify and assess current Minnesota economic development policies as expressed in programs for agriculture, economic development, energy, higher education, natural resources, taxation, transportation and public utilities.
- To identify options for economic development policy for Minnesota during the next decade.

Special emphasis will be placed on policies for utilizing research, technology development and technology transfer.

ISSUES

The review will have three focuses:

- What economic development programs are presently in place, including private sector and nonprofit initiatives?
- What economic development strategies are being employed by other states?
- What is suggested by the findings of major studies, reports, commissions, etc., which have recently addressed state economic development efforts?

Throughout, attention will be paid to federal initiatives that shape policy and to the driving forces in the global marketplace.

TASKS/PRODUCTS:

Phase I

What economic development programs are presently in place?

- **TASK:** Prepare for review; meet with Department of Finance staff; develop list of programs. Do analysis.
 - **PRODUCT:** List of agreed upon economic development programs.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** 4th Quarter 1989

- **TASK:** Review and analyze Minnesota programs and policies. Information to be collected includes published documents such as budget documents, finance reports, auditor's reports, press reports, etc. Meet with EBOs and/or program administrators as needed. Collect information regarding current spending, spending history, spending distribution, original program mission and constituency, and current mission and constituency.
 - **PRODUCT:** Analysis of Minnesota programs and policies.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** 1st Quarter 1990

- **TASK:** Review statewide and/or major private sector and nonprofit initiatives. Construct list of potential programs, e.g. utilities, cooperatives, foundations, business organizations, etc. Collect information regarding current spending, spending history, spending distribution, original program mission and constituency, and current mission and constituency.
 - **PRODUCT:** Analysis of statewide and/or major private sector and nonprofit initiatives.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** 1st Quarter 1990

What economic development strategies are being employed by other states?

- TASK: Review and analyze other states' economic development strategies. Obtain other states' studies, reports, commission findings.
- PRODUCT: Analysis of other states' studies, reports, commission findings.
- COMPLETION DATE: 1st Quarter 1990

What is being suggested by experts, think tanks, etc.?

- TASK: Review and summarize studies of economic development efforts. Obtain copies of studies, reports, commission findings, etc.
- PRODUCT: Analysis and summarization of findings and recommendations.
- COMPLETION DATE: 4th Quarter 1990

Place Minnesota in a broader context throughout the process.

- TASK: Identify federal programs affecting Minnesota economic development efforts; and
- TASK: Identify global forces offering opportunities for, and competing with, Minnesota economic development strategies.
- COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing throughout the process.

Prepare summary of findings - Identify trends: Spring 1990

Identify options for strategies for the 1990s: Spring 1990

Phase II

- **TASK:** Consult with state agencies, legislators, community leaders, etc. to share findings and discuss options.
 - **PRODUCTS:** Roundtables, Conferences, Meetings with Individuals
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** Spring, Summer and Fall, 1990

Phase III

- **TASK:** Articulate executive branch economic development policy goals for the 1990s.
 - **PRODUCT:** Final report.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** Fall 1990

MANAGING STATE GOVERNMENT ISSUES

MANAGING STATE GOVERNMENT ISSUES

OBJECTIVE

- Systematize a process with timelines and responsibilities for the identification and management of issues facing Minnesota which require state action.

ISSUES

- An urgent need exists to systematize SPA publications in order to consistently produce top-quality materials.
- A "master issues file" needs to be created. This should require minimal initial effort yet be a focal point for future growth and methods of utilization.
- A plan must be developed and implemented that will strengthen the issues identification and management process and tie it into both the existing initiative and budget processes and the development of SPA workplans.

TASKS/PRODUCTS

- **TASK:** Develop and implement a strategy for a stronger link between issue identification/management and the legislative initiative process.
 - **PRODUCT:** A clear flowchart of agency process for identification and management of issues and their route to inclusion in SPA initiative process (with timelines and responsibilities at each step of process.)
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** February 1, 1990

TASKS/PRODUCTS

- **TASK:** Prepare detailed monthly schedules for all SPA publications with clear areas of responsibility.
 - **PRODUCT:** A month-by-month, fiscal year publications calendar listing all necessary steps and responsibilities.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** December 1, 1989

- **TASK:** Create a monthly seminar program for SPA staff.
 - **PRODUCT:** No-cost, brown bag luncheon meetings designed to stimulate SPA staff by featuring SPA and outside sources of policy expertise.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** December 1, 1989

- **TASK:** To develop a publication with an emphasis on graphic display which integrates data from a variety of sources affecting critical issues before the legislature.
 - **PRODUCT:** Issue Brief
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** Prototype by November 9, 1989

- **TASK:** Develop an inventory of resources on international affairs.
 - **PRODUCT:** List of Minnesota experts in geographic areas and/or international issues and a plan for the acquisition of, or access to, printed information with an international focus.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** February, 1990

- **TASK:** Merge existing data bases (Future Scans list of topic covered; 1990 initiatives)
 - **PRODUCT:** SPA Master Issues File. Constantly revised by SPA staff and agencies.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** January 1, 1990

TASKS/PRODUCTS

- **TASK:** Develop and implement a strategy for greater outreach to other state agencies and to non-state government resources.
 - **PRODUCT:** Increase SPA awareness of future issues facing agencies and others, creating SPA response possibilities.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** January 1, 1990

- **TASK:** Devise a process for greater involvement by state agencies in the issues identification process.
 - **PRODUCT:** To be determined - waiting for report
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** Spring, 1990

- **TASK:** Implement plans for a State Scanning Board, including development of strategic plan and naming of members.
 - **PRODUCT:** Periodic reports of the Scanning Board.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** January 1, 1990

- **TASK:** Finalize plan on utilization of SPA staff resources in regards to Issues Management workplan.
 - **PRODUCT:** Clear responsibilities for development of material for publications; outreach with agencies.
 - **COMPLETION DATE:** November 15, 1989