Technical Workgroup Project Request Form

Please be precise when completing this form. Additional documents/pages may be added, but this form should serve as a summary. Incomplete forms will be returned. Completed forms should be emailed to info@reso.org.

Date submitted: 8/13/2013

Requested or proposed by: Robert Gottesman

Email: bobg@reso.org   **Phone:** 818.209.6075

Proposed Project Name: Create a RETS 1x Workgroup

Project Narrative/Background: What business problem are you trying to solve? Provide a complete description of the project you are requesting, including the background explaining why this project is needed. Also include here the justification for specific time frames for implementation, if applicable.
The RETS 1.x platform will be utilized for 3 to 4 years to due to heavy transition costs to other platforms. This is a safe assumption as the current proposed Transport technology does not duplicate all of the RETS 1.x features. A lot of work is still needed on RETS 1.x to keep it up to date on current changes involving security, certification and data dictionary. Hence, RESO should create a RETS 1.x workgroup to handle all of the upcoming requests. This workgroup should be formed ASAP.

Project Narrative/Background: Who will be impacted by this project?

RESO needs to create a workgroup which requires a workgroup chair and volunteer members. It will also have minor impact on the Executive Director and IMI administration.

Project Narrative/Background: What are the downstream implications?

There are already 3 to 4 RETS 1x requests in the queue which cannot be resolved easily as it requires volunteers to manage each request individually. This is taking precious time away from the Executive Director as well as important requests being delayed.

Forming a RETS 1x workgroup may take away resources from other workgroups as there are only so many qualified and willing volunteers.

Project Objectives/Outcomes: How do you plan to market adoption/ compliance for this product? Please include cost, change, etc.

There is already a need and backlog for RETS 1.x requests. There is no direct costs involved but does have minor RESO Operations indirect costs.

Project Objectives/Outcomes: Provide qualitative justification/benefit. Include the expected project outcome of this effort, the desired end result. Be specific and action oriented. Knowing specifics around what is to be accomplished will help in identifying needed changes

There are current requests from the Authentication & Authorization, Research & Development and the Data Dictionary workgroup. None of this work is being done due to lack of RETS 1.x leadership. Specifically there are items in the Data Dictionary and Research and Development that if not completed could negatively impact Data Dictionary deployment.

Two examples: (1) Data Dictionary workgroup requires a RETS 1.x best practices or recommendation on how to execute Saved Search operations. (2) Research and Development are asking for a modification to allow easier and expanded use of lookups within RETS 1.8 metadata to make Data Dictionary easier to deploy. (other) The certification system will need additional support when it approaches production.

Project Support: At a high level: what equipment, time, materials, participation from other groups, etc., do you expect to need? Who needs to be represented on the project team? List skill set needs.

The proposed RETS 1x workgroup is a key especially with the introduction of a new Certification System that will certify RETS 1.8 and the Data Dictionary (both RETS 1x dependent). The Executive Director will participate in every meeting and ensure actions items are followed up. The workgroup chair and volunteers have not been selected but all members need to be strong programmers with a background in RETS 1.x technology.

Stakeholders: Key individuals/industry representatives/industry segments with a vested interest in the outcome of this project and how each would benefit from the project

Any entity dependent on RETS 1.x would be positively affected if this workgroup is formed. Likewise negatively impacted if the workgroup is not formed.

RETS 1.x touches every member directly (and indirectly). That includes MLS Vendors, MLS and 3rd party application vendors.

Known Issues/Constraints: Describe all identified issues/constraints/risks associated with the project. Consider resource needs, funding factors, sponsorship, coordination with other industry segments, etc.

The biggest issue is finding 'qualified' volunteers to attend and participate in this proposed workgroup. RESO is currently stretching its workgroup resources due to the many initiatives.

Industry View: Are you aware of a similar project underway/proposed? Who? Where?

There are no other similar projects or workgroups underway. The only alternative is to seek out individuals for each and every request relating to RETS 1.x

Strategic Alignment: Why do you think this project would be a strategic fit with RESO's mission?

RESO has a mission to supply real estate technology standards to the real estate community. This request is based on a solid assumption that RETS 1.x will be used by the real estate technology participants for 3 to 4 years. This is too long to ignore without jeopardizing RESO credibility.