

## **United States Proposal to Host the 2017 International Cartographic Conference in Washington, D.C.**

### **Bid Summary**

The United States proposes to host the 28<sup>th</sup> International Cartographic Conference (ICC) for the International Cartographic Association (ICA) in Washington, D.C., in July or August of 2017. There are many cartographic organizations and activities throughout the United States, and the Washington, DC, metropolitan area employs the highest concentration of cartographers in the nation. The area is home to dozens of federal agencies, private companies, and other organizations that have cartographic programs, often national or global in scope. The Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress in Washington holds more than 4.5 million items. The National Geographic headquarters has a variety of exhibits and maps from around the globe. The Bureau of the Census and the U.S. Geological Survey, both based in the Washington area, have a long history of mapping and participation in the ICA. Numerous companies managing satellites and geospatial information are based in the DC area.

The United States proposal contains all the elements required by the ICA guidelines including development of a Local Organizing Committee (LOC) and supporting organizations from societies, government agencies, and the private sector. All elements of a typical ICC are planned and described in detail including the Scientific Program, the Exhibition of Childrens' Maps, the International Map Exhibition, an international technical exhibition and trade show, and a set of technical tours to cartographic and other organizations in the Washington, D.C. area. The proposal also documents plans for social functions and receptions, including opening and closing ceremonies, an accompanying persons program, exhibit reception, and a gala dinner.

The LOC has planned activities and events for establishing excellent communication through a proposed website. The process of abstract submission and review and final reviews and publication of conference papers, posters, and maps are included, but the details and final set of activities around the scientific program will be determined in coordination with Commission and Working Group chairs prior to the 2017 event.

The proposal documents a variety of hotel possibilities in the Washington area and the LOC has demonstrated with the United States 2015 bib, the ability to lock exceptional room rates in a venue that can accommodate the required display and exhibit space for the technical exhibition and for the Childrens' and International map exhibits. The LOC has secured letters of support for the 2017 ICC in Washington from a variety of strong cartographic and geospatial organizations. The LOC has also determined a conservative operating budget for the 2017 ICC that provides a registration fee similar to recent ICCs and maintains reduced rates for Africans and students.

Washington, D.C. provides an excellent venue for the ICC. The city itself is a major attraction for cartographers since it is a unique exercise in urban design and planning. The City of Washington was designed in 1791 by Pierre L'Enfant, mapped the following year, and the original design remains largely in place. Washington, DC, is also an international tourist destination with museums, galleries, theaters, historic monuments, and sporting events. The Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of nineteen museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research

facilities. The National Air and Space Museum holds the world's largest collection of aircraft and spacecraft. There are numerous performing arts venues, including the Kennedy Center and Ford's Theater.

International participants in the ICC can travel to Washington, D.C. with three airport destinations serving the area. Additionally, Washington is served with modern rail and highway access and travel within the city is multimodal with a modern subway system as well as excellent taxi and shuttle services. However, one of the best and easiest ways to see the attractions of Washington is by walking in a safe and modern city.

The United States proposal for the 2017 ICC provides the ICA with the choice of an excellent modern city with strong cartographic traditions and modern geospatial activities. The proposal includes all traditional events of an ICC and provides a detailed plan to execute an exciting intellectual and financially successful 2017 ICC.