

## Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council Meeting

May 21, 2025  
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

### Meeting Options

- **Virtual:** Online via Microsoft Teams
- **In-person:** Room 2000 (Skjeggstad), [Stassen Building](#), 600 N Robert Street, Saint Paul, MN

### Agenda

1. Call to order <b>(Albrecht)</b>	11:00	15 min
a. Introductions		
b. GAC Mission Reminder		
c. Approval of Agenda*		
d. Approval of <a href="#">Meeting Minutes from March 5, 2025</a> *		
2. Committee term highlights <b>(Committee Chairs)</b>	11:15	60 min
3. Review and accept Committee Term Reports and Work Plans* <b>(Albrecht)</b>	12:15	5 min
4. <i>Break and networking</i>	12:20	30 min
5. GAC member representation discussion <b>(Slaats / Albrecht)</b>	12:50	30 min
6. Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium updates <b>(Knott)</b>	1:20	5 min
7. Minnesota Geospatial Information Office updates <b>(Slaats)</b>	1:25	5 min
8. Executive Team updates <b>(Albrecht)</b>	1:30	20 min
a. Review and accept GAC Term Report and Work Plan*		
b. Upcoming events		
9. Round Robin / Announcements <b>(All)</b>	1:50	10 min
10. Adjourn* <b>(Albrecht)</b>	2:00	

\* *Motion needed*

# **3D Geomatics Committee**

## **FY2024/25 Term Report & FY2026/27 Work Plan**

*Will be inserted here once available.*

## Archiving Committee

### FY2024/25 Term Report & FY2026/27 Work Plan

#### Committee Chair(s) and Vice Chair(s):

**Ryan Mattke**, Chair  
matt0089@umn.edu

**TBD**, Vice Chair

#### Active subgroups and associated leadership:

N/A

### FY2024/25 GAC Term Report

*Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/25: July 2023 - June 2025*

#### GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee was responsible for during the term.*

- Geodata Archive Implementation - Implementation of an archive for Minnesota geospatial data.

#### Accomplishments

- Committee proposed (December 2024) and approved (March 2025).
- Six committee members recruited so far.

#### Recommendations

*Recommendations for the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo) to support the Committee's goals.*

N/A

#### Additional Comments

It would be great if we could identify a GAC member to join the committee as vice-chair.

# FY2026/27 GAC Term Work Plan

FY2026/27: July 2025 - June 2027

## GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee is to be responsible for during the upcoming term – these may be subject to change based on results of the term’s priorities survey.*

- Geodata Archive Implementation - Implementation of an archive for Minnesota geospatial data.

## Planned Activities and Deliverables

### 1. An operational framework

- Actionable policies, best practices, and procedures that can be directly applied by stakeholders to archive geospatial data effectively:
- Define best practices and procedures outlined in the [Archiving Strategy](#) and the [Archiving Implementation](#) reports.
- Recommend tools and content models based on the findings of the [Archiving Pilot](#).
- Prioritize high-value data as identified by the [Priority Datasets Subgroup](#) and the [Archiving Imagery Workgroup](#).
- [Formalize agreements and policies for data licensing](#), deposit, retention, and withdrawal as informed by the [Archiving Agreement](#) template.

### 2. Community engagement

- Promote awareness about the benefits of geospatial data archiving and provide actionable steps for community stakeholders.
- Presentations at the MN GIS/LIS Conference and similar forums to share progress, lessons learned, and encourage broader participation in archiving efforts.

### 3. Documentation

- Provide oversight and guidance on strategies and activities to ensure intended goals are met, adjusting as needed based on lessons learned.
- Annual updates and reports detailing milestones, challenges, and next steps in implementing the archiving strategy.

## Roles and Responsibilities

Estimated time commitment for participants is two to five hours per month (one hour per month for group meeting, one hour per month for group meeting preparation, and up to three hours per month to accomplish the work of the group). Some participants will be needed to work on specific one-time tasks that may be more time consuming.

**Group Membership:**

Jennifer Corcoran - Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Melinda Kernik - University of Minnesota Libraries

Nick Linell - Alight

Brent Lund - MnGeo

Karen Majewicz - University of Minnesota Libraries

Ryan Mattke - University of Minnesota Libraries (Chair)

TBD (Vice Chair)

Alysa Zimmerle - Met Council

**Stakeholders:**

MnGeo

Government agencies at all levels (state, regional, county, city, etc.)

Tribal government

Researchers

All users of historical geospatial data

Higher Education

Non-profit organizations

Private sector

## Existing Resources

- N/A

## Committee and Subgroup Needs

- Additional Committee Members to be recruited in the coming months to represent stakeholder groups]

## Dependencies and Interrelationships

Image Service Sustainability Committee

- Relationship – imagery layers recommended for retirement would be archived; Archiving Committee would need to work with this group to achieve this goal

## Risks

- Risks include a lack of interest or enthusiasm from data producers, technical requirements for possible pilot projects, and possible complications arising from data licenses.
- Risk mitigation will include outreach and communication about the goals of the workgroup, planning and collaboration with regards to technology, and a review of the various licenses applied to the data by data producers.

## Additional Comments

N/A

**Date approved by the Geospatial Advisory Council:** Expected May 21, 2025

## Awards Committee Committee

### FY2024/25 Term Report & FY2026/27 Work Plan

#### Committee Chair(s) and Vice Chair(s):

**Len Kne**, Co-Chair

lenkne@umn.edu

**[Phil Nagel]**, Co-Chair

phil.nagel@bolton-menk.com

#### Active subgroups and associated leadership:

None

### FY2024/25 GAC Term Report

*Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/25: July 2023 - June 2025*

#### GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee was responsible for during the term.*

- None

#### Accomplishments

- None

#### Recommendations

*Recommendations for the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo) to support the Committee's goals.*

Continue to support the committee in facilitating outreach on behalf of committee

#### Additional Comments

None

# FY2026/27 GAC Term Work Plan

*FY2026/27: July 2025 - June 2027*

## GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee is to be responsible for during the upcoming term – these may be subject to change based on results of the term’s priorities survey.*

- None

## Planned Activities and Deliverables

- Rework nomination process instructions to improve clarity
- Solicit nominations for Governor’s Certificate award
- Review nominations and make recommendation

## Roles and Responsibilities

- Solicit nominations for Governor’s Certificate award
- Review nominations and make recommendation

## Existing Resources

- Website in GAC website

## Committee and Subgroup Needs

- Website in GAC website
- Assistance with soliciting nominations / outreach

## Dependencies and Interrelationships

- None

## Risks

- None

## Additional Comments

None

**Date approved by the Geospatial Advisory Council:** Expected May 21, 2025



## Committee Contributing to Nationwide and Commercial Data Assets Ad-Hoc Committee FY2024/25 Term Report & FY2026/27 Work Plan

### Committee Chair(s) and Vice Chair(s):

**David Brandt**, Chair

David.brandt@washingtoncountymn.gov

**Vice Chair TBD**

### Active subgroups and associated leadership:

- none

### FY2024/25 GAC Term Report

*Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/25: July 2023 - June 2025*

### GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee was responsible for during the term.*

- To share local authoritative data with nationwide and commercial assets.

### Accomplishments

- Apple, Google and Esri currently pull address data from the National Address Dataset.
- Several counties are participating in the Esri Community maps program sharing centerlines and other data.
- Met with Google and Esri representatives to identify preferred methods for statewide data sharing.

### Recommendations

*Recommendations for the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo) to support the Committee's goals.*

Statewide sharing of data relies on standards and open data licensing.

## Additional Comments

The committee has been focusing on the data sharing mechanism but has not defined what is meant by 'authoritative data'.

## FY2026/27 GAC Term Work Plan

*FY2026/27: July 2025 - June 2027*

### GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee is to be responsible for during the upcoming term – these may be subject to change based on results of the term's priorities survey.*

- To share local authoritative data with nationwide and commercial assets.

### Planned Activities and Deliverables

- Continue communication and data sharing with Esri and Google.
- Explore data sharing opportunities
- Define authoritative data.

### Roles and Responsibilities

Current Members:

- David Brandt (Washington County, Chair)
- Vic Barnett (Ramsey County)
- John Slusarczyk (Anoka County)
- Tanya Mayer (Met Council)
- Linse Lahti (MN DNR)
- Alison Slaats (MnGeo)
- Sally Wakefield (MnGeo)

### Existing Resources

- Current committee members and existing processes developed by MetroGIS and MnGeo.

### Committee and Subgroup Needs

### Dependencies and Interrelationships

- Statewide sharing of data relies on standards and open data licensing.

## Risks

- Access to free and open data

## Additional Comments

**Date approved by the Geospatial Advisory Council:** Expected May 21, 2025

## **Data Endorsement Committee**

### **FY2024/25 Term Report & FY2026/27 Work Plan**

#### **Committee Chair(s) and Vice Chair(s):**

**Kevin Trappe**, Co-Chair  
kevin.trappe@co.beltrami.mn.us

**Alison Slaats**, Co-Chair  
alison.slaats@state.mn.us

#### **Active subgroups and associated leadership:**

none

### **FY2024/25 GAC Term Report**

*Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/25: July 2023 - June 2025*

#### **GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee**

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee was responsible for during the term.*

- None

#### **Accomplishments**

- The Data Endorsement Committee was created during this GAC term through GAC Charter acceptance at the September 18, 2024, GAC meeting. The Endorsement Committee was created as an “Ad Hoc” or short-term committee because the work to create an endorsement process is considered an effort that has an end date, and the process could be handed to another GAC committee to administer into the future.
- The Endorsement Committee recruited and continues to recruit members. As of May 2024, the committee has 13 members.
- As of May 21, the Committee has met 4 times.
- The main work of the committee during the meetings and between has been to review materials from other states, NSDI, MnGeo and active work on defining criteria for a GAC data endorsement process.

## Recommendations

*Recommendations for the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo) to support the Committee's goals.*

We recommend that MnGeo continue to provide administrative support of the Committee including set up of meetings, hosting SharePoint space for committee documents, and providing any MnGeo historical information that might be appropriate.

## Additional Comments

None

## FY2026/27 GAC Term Work Plan

*FY2026/27: July 2025 - June 2027*

## GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee is to be responsible for during the upcoming term – these may be subject to change based on results of the term's priorities survey.*

- None

## Planned Activities and Deliverables

- The Data Endorsement Committee will use at least two datasets to test the draft data endorsement process and refine the criteria and process.
- The Data Endorsement Committee plans to complete a draft GAC data endorsement process to present to the GAC for review and approval.
- The Committee will roll out the final GAC data endorsement process and recommend how to use the process.

## Roles and Responsibilities

- The co-chairs of the Data Endorsement Committee, with the support of MnGeo, are responsible for the set up of meetings, agendas, notes and work for the committee.
- The committee members of

## Existing Resources

- Committee team members, GAC SharePoint and web site.

## Committee and Subgroup Needs

- none

## Dependencies and Interrelationships

- none

## Risks

- Availability of committee members for meetings, and their time to work on efforts between meetings.

## Additional Comments

none

**Date approved by the Geospatial Advisory Council:** Expected May 21, 2025

## **Emergency Preparedness Committee FY2024/25 Term Report & FY 2026/27 Work Plan**

### **Committee Chair(s) and Vice Chair(s):**

Stephen D. Swazee, Chair  
[chair@mgacepc.org](mailto:chair@mgacepc.org)

Britta Maddox, Vice Chair  
[BMaddox@coonrapidsmn.gov](mailto:BMaddox@coonrapidsmn.gov)

### **Active subgroups and associated leadership:**

- Critical Infrastructure Assessment Project Team  
Stacey Stark, [slstark@d.umn.edu](mailto:slstark@d.umn.edu)  
Matt Goodman, [goodmanm@stlouiscountymn.gov](mailto:goodmanm@stlouiscountymn.gov)
- Geospatial Assistance Project Team  
Brian Huberty, [bhuberty@gmail.com](mailto:bhuberty@gmail.com)
- Underground Utilities Mapping Project Team  
Kelly Connolly, [kelly.connolly@gopherstateonecall.org](mailto:kelly.connolly@gopherstateonecall.org)
- U.S. National Grid (USNG) Project Team  
Randy Knippel, [rdknippel@gmail.com](mailto:rdknippel@gmail.com)

### **FY2024/25 GAC Term Report**

*Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/25: July 2023 – June 2025*

### **Full Committee/Leadership Team Accomplishments**

- Met or exceeded all meeting goals for the term; held eight quarterly admin/educational meetings, and eight leadership team meetings.
- Continued efforts to bring efficiency to the committee's IT infrastructure and outreach efforts:
  - EPC quarterly meeting attendance continued to grow with attendance now averaging mid-30's per meeting; highest single attendance during term was 62 in April 2024.
  - EPC website ended CY 24 with 2,900 page views, up from 2,000 in CY 2023 (<https://mgacepc.org/>). Stats only available by CY.
  - EPC YouTube channel now at over 8,300 video views since inception in early 2021 ([https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3hwp5\\_9t3BkiTt-hyALArg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3hwp5_9t3BkiTt-hyALArg)).
- Developed an award certificate program and recognized a volunteer each quarter.

## **GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee/Accomplishments**

### **Critical Infrastructure Assessment Project Team**

- Met or exceeded meeting goals for the term; held eleven admin/educational meetings.
- Continued efforts to develop a long-term workflow to maintain a critical infrastructure resource listing on the MnGeo website.
- Coordinated with and contributed to GAC committee working to establish national data relationships.
- Created foundational discussion and documents which led to the MGAC approving creation of an ad hoc workgroup that will develop the methodology for endorsing statewide geospatial data sets.
- Continued efforts to document a long-term workflow to keep fire, law enforcement data verified annually by MN counties.
- Completed review of critical infrastructure for the MN State Hazard Mitigation Plan.

### **Underground Utilities Mapping Project Team (UUMPT)**

- Met or exceeded meeting goals for the term; held eight quarterly admin/educational meetings, and 26 UUMPT Leadership Team meetings.
- Coordinated acquisition of \$430,000 to support development of FuzionView and Field Data Collect software as envisioned by project team.
- Completed supervision of development of a statewide system which can aggregate diverse utility geospatial data into one view for use by design engineers, locators and excavators - FuzionView. Initial Operating Capability (IOC) at Gopher State One Call (811) anticipated to be June, 2025. In Minnesota alone, project is seen as having the potential to save local, state and commercial entities more than \$100 million annually.
- Delivered more than 20 presentations about the project at major conferences across Europe, Canada and the U.S.; both online and in-person.
- Continued efforts to develop Minnesota, U.S., and international project champions in the underground utility and regulatory communities.

### **U.S. National Grid Project Team**

- Met or exceeded meeting goals for the term; held eight quarterly admin/educational meetings, and eight USNG Institute Leadership Team meetings.
- In coordination with the USNG Institute, continued to assist with development of the USNGI's three sponsored websites, each of which had their genesis at the EPC.
- Completed three booth outreach events and four presentations in the Upper Midwest.
- Assisted with update and transfer of USNG 10K maps for Minnesota from Dakota County servers to MnGeo.

## **Recommendations**

As has been previously reported over the past decade, Chair Swazee firmly believes the extent of EPC activities clearly demonstrates the need for at least one, preferably two, dedicated, full-time, support employees assigned to MnGeo. This concept was previously discussed during creation of legislation which brought into existence the MGAC and MnGeo. It is believed the return on investment through



use of GIS as a force multiplier in the Emergency Service Sector to save lives and reduce suffering in Minnesota would far exceed the additional expenditure required to create the position(s). A draft document supporting this concept was submitted to the state GIO in June, 2024. Also, Chair Swazee acknowledges that to the extent its resources will allow, MnGeo has been actively engaged in creating movement on this issue by providing an improved level of support to the EPC during the previous term. However, this support is still not sufficient to achieve the value for Minnesota's citizens that would otherwise be possible with dedicated full-time support.

### **Additional Comments**

None.

## **FY2026/27 GAC Term Work Plan**

### **Full Committee/Leadership Team**

- Conduct at least three meetings of the full committee during each FY.
- Conduct at least four meetings of the leadership team (Chair, Vice-chair, and Project Team chairs) during each FY.
- Continue efforts to cleanup committee's files and bring efficiency to its IT infrastructure to facilitate handoff of the same.
- Britta Maddox to serve as EPC liaison to the [Metropolitan Emergency Managers Association](#) (MEMA) by attending that association's monthly meetings.

### **GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee/Planned Activities and Deliverables**

#### **Critical Infrastructure Assessment Project Team – MGAC PRIORITY**

- Conduct at least three meetings of the Project Team during each FY of the coming term.
- Document a long-term workflow to keep fire, law enforcement verified annually by MN counties.
- Coordinate with the Data Endorsement Workgroup to develop procedures for "endorsing" critical infrastructure data sets.
- Coordinate with the Contributing to Nationwide and Commercial Data Assets Workgroup to ensure distribution of any data sets created by the Project Team.
- Before end of FY 26:
  - Resolve discrepancies between critical infrastructure data sets posted to the MnGeo critical infrastructure data page and those found on MnSAV.
  - Document a long-term workflow to maintain the critical infrastructure resource list on the MnGeo website.
  - Entirely dependent on completion of work by the Data Endorsement Committee, complete the first statewide endorsed critical infrastructure data set.

#### **Geospatial Assistance Project Team (Activated FY 2026)**

- Conduct at least three meetings of the Project Team during each FY of the coming term.

- Develop a first version of procedures to help Emergency Services Sector (ESS) personnel understand steps for requesting aerial imagery and/or GIS support from federal, state and local assets before the end of FY 26.
- Evaluate the potential for creating a website/decision support/AI system to guide ESS personnel on where to acquire imagery to help respond to incidents and disasters.

#### **Underground Utilities Mapping Project Team – MGAC PRIORITY**

- Conduct at least four monthly meetings of the Project Team during CY 2025.
- Supervise release of FuzionView and Field Data Collect as open-source software before the end of FY 26.
- Deliver at least one presentation during FY 26 about overall team efforts at an established community appropriate conference (or webinar)
- Publish at least one article during FY 26 about the Project Team in a publication of importance to the industry.
- Before the end of FY 26, prepare to close project and transition to an industry hosted effort which will steer any future development.

#### **U.S. National Grid (USNG) Project Team – MGAC PRIORITY**

- Conduct quarterly meetings of the USNG Implementation Work Group.
- Before end of FY 26:
  - Complete development of the USNG Institute’s three sponsored websites,
  - Develop documentation for USNG map production, and
  - Complete USNG map and mapbook publishing application on USNG Center ([www.usngcenter.org](http://www.usngcenter.org)).
- Assist other government entities with publication of USNG maps for their areas of responsibility.

#### **Roles and Responsibilities:**

<b>Role</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Chair - EPC	Steve Swazee	Executive Director, SharedGeo
Vice Chair - EPC	Britta Maddox	PSDS Fire RMS Administrator, Coon Rapids Fire Department
Chair - Critical Infrastructure Assessment Project Team	Stacey Stark	Associate Director, U Spatial
Chair - Geospatial Assistance Project Team	Brian Huberty	USFWS remote-sensing expert (retired)
Chair - Situational Awareness Sharing Initiative Project Team (anticipating initiative will be absorbed into Minnesota Geospatial Commons)	Steve Swazee	Executive Director, SharedGeo
Chair - Underground Utilities Mapping Project Team	Kelly Connelly	COO, Gopher State One Call
Chair - U.S. National Grid Project Team	Randy Knippel	Retired GIS Manager, Dakota County

- Project Teams vary greatly in size but must have a minimum of five participants to be approved by the EPC Leadership Team. It is anticipated that in each ensuing FY, more than 50 individuals will be participating in EPC Project Team activities.
- Respective Project Team leadership is expected to drive mission accomplishment as appropriate for stated goals. Respective Project Team leadership is also expected to determine the appropriate mix of skills and experience, as well as time commitment, that will be required of Project Team members. Generically, this should be a minimum of 1 hour/week.
- Through Britta Maddox's participation in the EPC, it is believed there is the potential for additional personnel from the ESS community joining the committee.

#### **Resources:**

- Committee members primarily rely on resources available to them through their employers, with their employer's endorsement:
  - Time commitment,
  - Software and hardware, and
  - Expenses.
- EPC's dedicated Zoom, YouTube, LinkedIn Groups, Mail Chimp, and WordPress accounts.
- SharedGeo's donation of funding and resources to enable core committee activities.

#### **Committee/workgroup needs:**

- Through access to the above described resources, it is believed the EPC has all items necessary to successfully commence and complete operations as envisioned during the upcoming term except for one area where there remains substantial need: lack of dedicated funding to support ongoing development of accurate and current infrastructure data which is essential for emergency preparedness and response. Discussions to date with MnGeo about this issue have yet to find a solution.

#### **Dependencies and Interrelationships:**

- Other MGAC committees/work groups that depend on this committee's success or vice versa:
  - Data Endorsement, and
  - Contributing to Nationwide and Commercial Data Assets.
- Describe any relationships that exist with other committees/work groups:
  - Data Endorsement – policy as set by this group will determine how data developed by the EPC's Critical Infrastructure Assessment Project Team will get endorsement for data sets that it produces.
  - Contributing to Nationwide and Commercial Data Assets - The EPC's Critical Infrastructure Assessment Project Team will rely on this group to distribute any data sets the project team creates.
- Other: Through legislation enacting the MGAC, this Committee occasionally requires the following support from MnGeo:
  - Administrative assistance,
  - Hosting of EPC products, and
  - Promotion of EPC efforts with the state's interagency.

**Risks:**

- List risks which could impede the Project Team's ability to successfully accomplish its goals.
  - Volunteer support and engagement erodes, and
  - Stakeholders refuse to support efforts.
- List steps which can be taken to mitigate the risks?
  - Ensure the EPC's Project Teams have solid leadership, as well as access to responsive and effective administrative support.
  - Use outreach to highlight the value of Project Team efforts to stakeholders, team employers/participants, Minnesota government and the public.

**Additional Comments:**

- Although not an official Project Team, the 20 plus individuals who have volunteered to be available to assist other GIS personnel during disasters have now formally agreed to review and update the Geospatial Emergency Management Specialist (GEMS) training program previously created by the EPC's Education Work Group in 2010.
- In FY 2026, in addition to considerable manhours, SharedGeo anticipates it will donate at least \$500 to the EPC to pay for direct administrative costs (Zoom, etc.).

**Date Approved by the Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council:**

## K-12 Education Committee

### FY2024/25 Term Report & FY2026/27 Work Plan

#### Committee Chair(s) and Vice Chair(s):

**Chair:** Shana Crosson,  
scrosson@umn.edu

**Vice Chair:** Open

#### FY2024/25 GAC Term Report

*Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/25: July 2023 - June 2025*

#### GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee was responsible for during the term.*

- The K-12 Education Committee is responsible for the Outreach, K-12 GIS Resources Priority.

#### Accomplishments

This was the initial year of the K-12 Committee. Accomplishments include:

- Initial determination of goals and scope of the committee
- Developed a plan for the year
- Initial conversations with educators and administrators about barriers for GIS integration
- Presented at GIS/LIS Conference in October 2024
- Tabled at GEOFEST in October 2024
- Reviewed existing resources in the state

#### Recommendations

*Recommendations for the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo) to support the Committee's goals.*

MnGeo has provided excellent support in our initial year. Ongoing, it may be helpful to have MnGeo facilitate introductions to resources within state government and/or other areas.

## Additional Comments

The committee met regularly through December 2024. The chair was out on medical leave from January - May 2025, so work slowed. The committee is picking up the work again.

## FY2026/27 GAC Term Work Plan

*FY2026/27: July 2025 - June 2027*

### GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee is to be responsible for during the upcoming term – these may be subject to change based on results of the term's priorities survey.*

- The K-12 Education Committee is responsible for the Outreach, K-12 GIS Resources Priority.

### Planned Activities and Deliverables

- The committee plans to continue its exploration of available GIS resources for K-12 education
- Determine gaps in available resources
- Additional discussion with teachers and administrators about desired resources
- Develop a plan to create additional resources

### Roles and Responsibilities

- Chair: the Chair will call meetings, prepare agenda with input of the committee, submit reports to the GAC
- Vice-Chair: will cover these responsibilities in the absence of the Chair
- Committee members will attend meetings and develop workplans

### Existing Resources

- The committee has connected with other resources, including GIS/LIS, U-Spatial and other organizations and individuals working in this area

### Committee and Subgroup Needs

- Continue to develop relationships with K-12 to determine needs and interest

### Risks

- That no one is interested in participating in this committee
- That there is no demonstrated need for these resources in the community
- Teachers may have technological and organizational challenges that prevent successful use of these resources in classrooms

**Date approved by the Geospatial Advisory Council:** Expected May 21, 2025

## Outreach Committee

### FY2024/25 Term Report & FY2026/27 Work Plan

#### Committee Chair(s) and Vice Chair(s):

**Jessica Fendos**, Chair  
jfendos@logismn.gov

#### Active subgroups and associated leadership:

**Open Data Subcommittee**  
Norm Anderson, norman.anderson@state.mn.us  
Vacant

### FY2024/25 GAC Term Report

*Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/25: July 2023 - June 2025*

#### GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee was responsible for during the term.*

- Statewide Parcel Data
- Statewide Parcel Data – more fully attributed
- Statewide Address Points Data
- Statewide Road Centerline Data
- Success Stories for Geospatial Technology

#### Accomplishments

- The Outreach Committee Chair recruited a new group of 10 members from the government (state, county, city), non-profit, education and private sectors. The Outreach Committee convenes on the first Tuesday of every month to advance the Outreach Committee's goals and objectives.
  - A high emphasis was placed on this committee to build GAC Committee Hub sites, with guidance from MnGeo and MnIT Communications. The team is making good progress building CANDO, Data Endorsement and Outreach Committee hubs as well as the GAC Hub homepage.

- A new Outreach Committee charter was approved on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025 during the GAC meeting to make clear sense of the committee's mission and objectives. In May GAC meeting, the Outreach Committee Chair will show progress made for the CANDO, Data Endorsement, Outreach Committee Hubs as well as the enhanced GAC Hub site.
- The Open Data Subcommittee meets every 6 weeks to discuss status and strategy of encouraging counties to opt-in to sharing data toward statewide composites. Statewide Opt-in Composite datasets are available on the MN Geospatial Commons. Murray and Polk counties opted-in!!!
- Of 87 MN counties, 55 contributed parcels, 46 have agreed to contribute address points and emergency service zones, and 45 have agreed to contribute road centerlines to date.
- Parcels, address points, and road centerlines are available for download on the MN Geospatial Commons. The data is being refreshed on a quarterly basis. Parcel datasets were refreshed in Feb. 2025, address points and street centerlines updates followed.
- Open Data subcommittee leadership is preparing some talking points for a meeting on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Topics include the following.
  1. Continuing the conversation about attributes.
    - An overview of PRISM attributes
    - Examples of how parcel attributes are used in agency projects
  2. Creating a response/documentation to the common reasons for not publicly sharing data
  3. Sharing opportunities update

## Recommendations

*Recommendations for the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo) to support the Committee's goals.*

Solicit existing Outreach Committee members or someone from a county office to co-chair Open Data subcommittee with Norm Anderson. As Len Kne steps away from GAC duties in June of 2025, the Success Workgroup committee will sunset and branding/communication/success story-telling tasks will be undertaken by the Outreach Committee members. All committee members to work on advancing at least one committee objective listed in the Outreach Committee charter.

We seek MnGeo's support in providing state-hosted Open Data and/or Opt-in status web app URL(s) to be embedded in the Outreach Committee hub as well as other MnGeo-maintained contents to be consumed in other hub sites.

## Additional Comments



## FY2026/27 GAC Term Work Plan

FY2026/27: July 2025 - June 2027

### GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee is to be responsible for during the upcoming term – these may be subject to change based on results of the term’s priorities survey.*

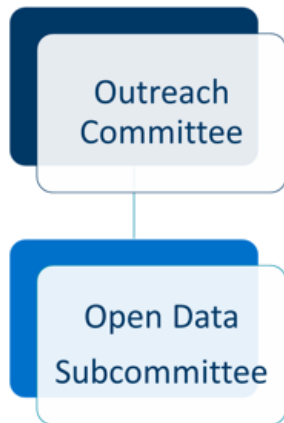
- Statewide Parcel Data
- Statewide Parcel Data – more fully attributed
- Statewide Address Points Data
- Statewide Road Centerline Data
- Success Stories for Geospatial Technology

### Planned Activities and Deliverables

Month	Accomplishments
Jan. 15 <sup>th</sup> Kick Off	Mission/Objectives – Revisit Role and Responsibilities Gain access to GAC resources on SharePoint and to state AGOL
Jan. 28 <sup>th</sup> Touch Base	Gather feedback to mission/objective language Commit to 1-2 hours of meeting time and 4-6 hours of work/per week to advance the committee mission.
Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Vote on revised committee mission/objectives. State Agencies Collaborative (Chris C + Abby S) County Alliance (Carla C + Cara L) Award nominations – solicit interest from GAC committees. Hub team builds contents for GAC hub and prioritized committee hubs build order. Jessica Fendos – Outreach Committee Hub Nick Linell – GAC Home Hub Jeff Kalar- Data Endorsement Hub Alec Trenda – CAN DO Hub
Mar. 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>GAC meeting on Mar. 5<sup>th</sup>.</b> Showed GAC Hub site progress. Mentioned Esri SAG and Governor’s Certificate Award Began build for 3 committee hubs and GAC homepage site
Apr 1 <sup>st</sup>	Governor’s Certificate and GIS/LIS Awards (due June 1 <sup>st</sup> ) Built hubs and showed hubs
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>GAC meeting - May 21<sup>st</sup></b> Deliver GAC Hub main site and committee hubs Working on GIS/LIS Conference presentation abstract? Draft 2026 – 2027 Outreach Committee Workplan

<b>June 3rd</b>	<p>MNIT Communications reviews GAC and Committee hubs.</p> <p>Deliver Committee hubs and align roles and responsibilities with Committees</p> <p>Start building the next wave of committee hubs (6)</p>
<b>July 1st</b>	<p>Esri User Conference (MN User Group Outing)</p> <p>Invite Governor to GIS/LIS Conference if we have a Governor's Certificate Award recipient</p> <p>Continue to build committee hubs</p>
<b>August 5th</b>	<p>Mapping Expo - GIS Education Day</p> <p>Build hubs</p>
<b>September 2nd</b>	<p><b>GAC meeting Sept. 10<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p>Build hubs and show hubs</p>
<b>October 7th</b>	<p>GIS/LIS Conference</p>
<b>November 4th</b>	<p>GIS Day event</p> <p>Wrap up all committee hubs</p>
<b>December 2nd</b>	<p><b>GAC meeting (Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>)</b></p> <p>Present all committee hubs to GAC</p>
<b>2026</b>	<p>Publish GAC hub and all committee hubs</p> <p>Communication – ArcWatch article</p> <p>Gather letters and contents from GAC Chair and Chief GIO. GAC Annual report (MnGeo +John N + Chris C)</p>

## Roles and Responsibilities



- State government outreach – Chris C + Abby Stam
- County alliance – Carla C + Cara L
- Media Outreach – Megan S & Sally Wakefield
- Publication/Messaging – John N, Megan S
- Governor’s Certificate + Esri/NSGIC Awards – Kendis S + Jessica F
- MGAC and Committee Hubs – Jeff K, Alec T, Kendis S, Jessica F, Nick Linell, Megan S.

Heather A + Norman A

## Existing Resources

- Need state’s ArcGIS Online accounts to build hub sites in ArcGIS Online. Use MnIT Communications approved branding rules and images.

## Committee and Subgroup Needs

- Need a county representative to work as a co-chair for the Open Data Subcommittee to conduct peer-to-peer contact with counties for Open Data and Opt-in data sharing.

## Dependencies and Interrelationships

- If compiling an annual report for the GAC is assigned to the Outreach Committee, we would appreciate it if the Executive Team can provide messaging/talking points for creating this report. Governor’s Certificate Award outcome and project success (Lidar and GeoCommons 2.0) leading to other awards help enrich the Minnesota GIS success story-telling undertaken by the Outreach Committee.

## Risks

- Need to fill a co-chair position for the Open Data Subcommittee. Lacking leadership, there is risk that key objectives will not be met.

## Additional Comments

**Date approved by the Geospatial Advisory Council:** Expected May 21, 2025

## Parcel and Land Records Committee FY2024/25 Term Report & FY2026/27 Work Plan

### Committee Chair(s) and Vice Chair(s):

**Preston Dowell**, Chair  
dowellp@stlouiscountymn.gov

### Active subgroups and associated leadership:

- **Boundary Alignment**  
Preston Dowell, dowellp@stlouiscountymn.gov
- **PLSS Remonumentation Legislation Subcommittee**  
Pat Veraguth, patv@co.douglas.mn.us

## FY2024/25 GAC Term Report

*Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/25: July 2023 - June 2025*

### GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee was responsible for during the term.*

- Remonumentation of all original federal Section Corners
- Updated & Aligned Boundary Data

### Accomplishments

- The Cadastral Point Data Standard has been submitted to the Standards Committee and is currently under review.
- PLSS Remonumentation Legislation was submitted to the MN House and Senate. Both bills sought funding to continue the PLSS Monument Grant Program established under Mn Statutes 381.125.
- Numerous outreach efforts and events with legislators, AMC, MSPS, MNGIS/LIS and members of the public.

## Recommendations

*Recommendations for the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo) to support the Committee's goals.*

Continued support from the GAC. One aspect of our work is public outreach. If any members of the GAC have sectors that they represent that would be willing to hear about our work, we are more than happy to come and discuss it with them.

## Additional Comments

## FY2026/27 GAC Term Work Plan

*FY2026/27: July 2025 - June 2027*

### GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee is to be responsible for during the upcoming term – these may be subject to change based on results of the term's priorities survey.*

- Remonumentation of all original federal Section Corners
- Updated & Aligned Boundary Data

### Planned Activities and Deliverables

- Finalize Cadastral Point Data Standard (CPDS) and present it to the GAC for adoption
- Outreach to help stakeholders adopt the CPDS
- Submit legislation to continue PLSS Grant Monument Program.
- Outreach to gain support for PLSS Grant Monument Program.

### Roles and Responsibilities

- Boundary Alignment Subcommittee
  - Build a Public Land Survey System (PLSS) inventory map and increase awareness on why alignment is necessary. Facilitate geospatial boundary alignment between jurisdictional boundaries.
  - Chair: Preston Dowell, St. Louis County, [dowellp@stlouiscountymn.gov](mailto:dowellp@stlouiscountymn.gov)
- PLSS Remonumentation Legislation Subcommittee
  - Goal is to build a legislative proposal for PLSS remonumentation.
  - Chair: Pat Veraguth, Douglas County, [patv@co.douglas.mn.us](mailto:patv@co.douglas.mn.us).

### Existing Resources

- PLRC sharepoint (MnGEO supplied)
- Virtual meeting software (volunteer supplied)
- Office software (volunteer supplied).

## Committee and Subgroup Needs

- Continued support from GAC, MnGEO and employers of volunteer organizations.

## Dependencies and Interrelationships

- Continued collaboration with GAC, the PLSS Preservation Committee, Standards Committee, other GAC committees and professional organizations.

## Risks

- The PLSS Remonumentation effort has been a long standing goal of numerous organizations. In the past 6 years we have made great headway and instituted the PLSS Monument Grant program with the support of the GAC and other organizations. This program is a costly endeavor which will take decades to complete. The continued and steady support of the GAC is crucial to the success of the program.

## Additional Comments

**Date approved by the Geospatial Advisory Council:** Expected May 21, 2025

## Public Land Survey System (PLSS) Preservation Committee FY2024/25 Term Report & FY2026/27 Work Plan

### Committee Chair(s) and Vice Chair(s):

**Kory Thurnau**, Chair  
Kory.thurnau@state.mn.us

**Patrick Veragugh**, Vice Chair  
patv@co.douglas.mn.us

### Active subgroups and associated leadership:

- None

## FY2024/25 GAC Term Report

*Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/25: July 2023 - June 2025*

### GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee was responsible for during the term.*

- Remonumentation of all original federal section corners
- Statewide Survey Records Inventory

### Accomplishments

- Released PLSS Grant RFP to MN counties and awarded \$9.1 million to 34 counties for PLSS remonumentation work
- Monitored progress of the 34 grant projects
- Reimbursed \$2.9 million in grant reimbursements to date
- Had an initial discussion about the statewide survey record inventory
- Created an initial survey to be completed by MN counties asking them about their county's survey records

## Recommendations

*Recommendations for the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo) to support the Committee's goals.*

Continued support by and through MnGeo's Survey Coordinator

## Additional Comments

None

## FY2026/27 GAC Term Work Plan

*FY2026/27: July 2025 - June 2027*

### GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee is to be responsible for during the upcoming term – these may be subject to change based on results of the term's priorities survey.*

- Remonumentation of all original federal section corners
- Statewide Survey Records Inventory

### Planned Activities and Deliverables

- Continued monitoring and reimbursement of PLSS Monument Grants
- Conduct Land Survey Record Inventory survey and compile results
- If additional grant funding is legislated, we will develop and publish a new grant RFP and award new PLSS Monument Grants
- Oversee the completion of the current PLSS Monument Grants; most to be completed March, 2026
- Development of a statewide PLSS Corner Viewer

### Roles and Responsibilities

- [Committee Roster](#)

### Existing Resources

- MnGeo Survey Coordinator and other MnGeo staff and resources
- Limited, one-time, funding
- Committee members

### Committee and Subgroup Needs

- None



## Dependencies and Interrelationships

- PLRC's PLSS Remonumentation Legislation Subcommittee
- Need permeant funding source to remonument all original section corners

## Risks

- No funding; no grant program, minimum corners remonumented
- Reliance on county response to develop a statewide land survey record inventory

## Additional Comments

None

**Date approved by the Geospatial Advisory Council:** Expected May 21, 2025

## Standards Committee

### FY2024/25 Term Report & FY2026/27 Work Plan

#### Committee Chair(s) and Vice Chair(s):

**Mark Kotz**, Co-chair  
markjkotz@gmail.com

**Curt Carlson**, Co-chair  
curtis.carlson@state.mn.us

#### Active subgroups and associated leadership:

None

### FY2024/25 GAC Term Report

*Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/25: July 2023 - June 2025*

#### GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee was responsible for during the term.*

- None

#### Accomplishments

- Small modifications to standards and templates to increase clarity and consistency.
  - Updated domain split policy in the geodatabase template
  - Standardized examples, descriptions and domain for the ESNs
  - Revision of element section name in Address Points Data Standard
- Worked with the Cadastral Point Data Standard subject matter experts from the PLSS Preservation and Parcels and Land Records Committees to review a draft standard proposal including clarification of scope, clarity and consistency of language and domains and moving it into the GAC standards format.
- Worked with the Lake and Wetland Basin ID subject matter experts to revise the standard initially approved by the Governor's Council on Geographic Information and move it into the GAC standards format.

## Recommendations

*Recommendations for the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo) to support the Committee's goals.*

None

## Additional Comments

None

## FY2026/27 GAC Term Work Plan

*FY2026/27: July 2025 - June 2027*

### GAC Priorities Owned by the Committee

*GAC priority projects and initiatives that the committee is to be responsible for during the upcoming term – these may be subject to change based on results of the term's priorities survey.*

- None

### Planned Activities and Deliverables

- In conjunction with subject matter experts from DNR, complete a revised draft of the Lake and Wetland Basin ID Standard in the GAC format and submit it to the GAC for approval.
- In conjunction with subject matter experts from the PLSS Preservation Committee, complete an initial draft of the Cadastral Point Data Standard, publish it for 90-day public review and make adjustments based on review comments.
- Continued making refinements to existing standards as needed for clarity and consistency.
- The Standards Committee meets on an as needed basis. It does not have a regular meeting schedule.

### Roles and Responsibilities

- **Committee members:**

Norm Anderson	MnGeo
Victor Barnett	Ramsey County
Marcia Broman	Retired
Curt Carlson	MnGeo
Jon Hoekenga	Metropolitan Council
Mark Kotz	Retired
Linse Lahti	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Peter Morey	Minnesota Department of Transportation
Phil Nagel	Bolton & Menk
Nancy Rader	Retired

Bart Richardson	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Chad Riley	Carver County
Dennis Tumberg	City of Chanhassen
Mark Volz	Lyon County

- The committee does not have formal standing subgroups but does form ad-hoc groups with subject matter experts to work on specific standards. Typically, the co-chairs begin the work with the subject matter experts and bring preliminary drafts to the full committee for further review.

## Existing Resources

- Existing resources include committee member and subject matter expert time and talent and MnGeo staff time to maintain the GAC Standards web content.

## Committee and Subgroup Needs

- The committee has no outstanding needs at this time.

## Dependencies and Interrelationships

- The committee relies on the time and expertise of subject matter experts from the geospatial community to create and revise standards. Currently the committee is working chairs from the PLSS Preservation and Parcels and Land Records Committees on the draft Cadastral Point Data Standard.

## Risks

- The development and revision of standards is a slow process, in part because it tends to nearly always be an activity that is not a normal part of anyone's job role. It can also require a significant time expenditure, particularly when developing a new standard. Because of this, work on standards can have unpredictable timeframes and may be paused for significant amounts of time due to the non-availability of expert knowledge and talent.

## Additional Comments

None.

**Date approved by the Geospatial Advisory Council:** Expected May 21, 2025

## Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council FY2024/25 Term Report & FY2026/27 Work Plan

This term report and work plan is for the Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council (GAC). Each GAC committee has its own term report and work plan which is not covered in this document.

### Chair(s) and Vice Chair(s):

**Heather Albrecht**, Chair  
heather.albrecht@hennepin.us

**Britta Maddox**, Vice Chair  
bmaddox@coonrapidsmn.gov

### Active subgroups and associated leadership:

- **Executive Team**  
GAC Chair & Vice Chair  
Tanya Mayer, tanya.mayer@metc.state.mn.us  
Alison Slaats, alison.slaats@state.mn.us
- **Administrative Support from the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo)**  
Sally Wakefield, sally.wakefield@state.mn.us  
Megan Sisko, megan.sisko@state.mn.us

## FY2024/25 GAC Term Report

*Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/25: July 2023 - June 2025*

### GAC Priorities

[GAC priority projects and initiatives](#) were decided on by the council based on feedback from the community. These priorities were then assigned to committees to complete this work. In addition to these priorities the GAC worked to:

- Increase duration of priority project work to align with full GAC term (Completed)
- Align GAC committees and priority projects (Completed)
- Improve committee and workgroup reporting (In progress)

- Increase participation of GAC committee and sectors in meetings (FY2026/27)
- Replace GAC website and committee pages with Esri Hub (In progress)
- Provide additional GAC member support for committees (In progress)
- Ease transition of GAC membership and leadership between terms (FY2026/27)

## Accomplishments

Accomplishments of the GAC occur at each of its public quarterly meetings throughout the term:

- September 13, 2023
  - Formation of term GAC Leadership Team to include chair Heather Albrecht, vice-chair Britta Maddox, secretary Tanya Mayer, advisor Kari Geurts, and board members David Brandt, Pat Veraguth, and Victoria Reinhardt, MnGeo ex-officio Alison Slaats, and GAC administrative support staff from MnGeo Sally Wakefield and Megan Sisko.
  - Accept the updated PLSS Preservation Committee Charter, removing the voting membership requirement for reviewing remonumentation funding applications.
    - Mission statement: This Committee exists to establish criteria for PLSS Preservation grants, evaluate and prioritize PLSS Preservation grant applications, review grant work, and report grant performance measures with respect to Minnesota Statutes 381.125.
- December 20, 2023
  - National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) membership extended to all GAC members.
  - GAC provided a letter of support for MnGeo's funding request to improve the MN Geospatial Commons through Technology Modernization Funding available through MNIT.
- March 20, 2024
  - Approval of the revised Outreach Committee Charter.
    - Committee Mission: To connect the community with the council and its committees by providing strategic communication resources that advance council priorities and values.
  - GAC approved formation of K-12 Committee to focus on GIS in Minnesota K-12 education, specifically to promote connections between GIS professionals and the K-12 community.
    - Mission statement: To expose Minnesota school-aged youth to GIS technology, inspire future GIS users and creators, and enhance the educational experience for students and teachers in the K-12 system.
  - Adoption of the priority projects to guide the July 2023 - June 2025 GAC term.
- May 29, 2024
  - Approval of the K-12 Committee Charter.
  - Formal establishment of the GAC Executive Team to include chair, vice-chair, secretary, MnGeo ex-officio, and GAC administrative support staff from MnGeo.
    - Mission: The mission of the Executive Team of the MN Geospatial Advisory Council is to support the functions of the GAC. The Executive Team authors the GAC workplan and aligns the activities of the GAC to adhere to the plan. The Executive Team supports the GAC by organizing the quarterly public meetings, gathering feedback from the GIS

community through the priority surveys, and ensuring the committee work support the GAC priorities.

- GAC sponsored a letter in support of St. Cloud State University continuing to offer degrees in geography and GIS, acknowledging adoption of GIS across industries and the need for developing professionals.
- September 18, 2024
  - MnGeo initiates work on GAC priority projects 1) sharing lidar data with MnTOPO 2) state-hosted GIS feature services available on the Geospatial Commons.
  - All \$9.1M in funds have been committed for work on the GAC priority remonumentation of all original federal section corners.
  - Created a new GAC Data Endorsement Ad-Hoc Committee and accepted the proposed charter.
    - Mission statement: To create and implement a Geospatial Advisory Council endorsement process for statewide geospatial datasets.
  - Introduced the Executive Team Goals:
    - • Increase duration of priority project work to align with full GAC term • Align GAC committees and priority projects • Improve committee and workgroup reporting • Increased participation of GAC committee and sectors in meetings • Replace GAC website and committee pages with Esri Hub • Additional GAC member support for committees • Ease transition of GAC membership and leadership between terms
- December 18, 2024
  - Archiving Committee Proposal approved to (re)establish an Archiving Committee of the GAC.
    - Mission statement: The Archiving Committee is dedicated to establishing Minnesota as a national leader in geospatial data preservation. By advising the state geospatial community on best-in-class archiving practices, shaping forward-thinking policies and procedures, and fostering collaboration across sectors, the committee ensures that Minnesota's valuable geospatial data is not only preserved but leveraged to drive innovation and benefit future generations.
  - GAC recognition of GIS Day on November 20, 2025.
  - GAC Chair Heather Albrecht, MnGeo ex-officio Alison Slaats, and GAC administrative support staff from MnGeo Megan Sisko attend the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) Conference in San Antonio, TX September 15-19, 2024 to learn from other state councils and GIO's.
- March 5, 2025
  - Approval of Outreach Committee charter amendment and presentation of draft GAC and committee Esri Hub websites.
  - Approval of the Archiving Committee charter and work plan.
  - Awards Committee announcement that applications review for the Governor's Certificate Award will begin June 1.
  - The Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium liaison to the GAC announced that nominations for GIS/LIS Consortium awards open in May.
  - GAC membership open appointments process for FY2026/27 term to begin March 7<sup>th</sup> and will conclude when all seats are filled.

# FY2026/27 GAC Term Work Plan

*FY2026/27: July 2025 - June 2027*

## GAC Priorities

GAC priority projects and initiatives will be carried over from the previous term and adjusted as needed based on results of the priorities survey. The GAC will work with committee leadership to determine which committees should be responsible for each priority, where appropriate.

### **GAC (Executive Team) Goals:**

- Increase duration of priority project work to align with full GAC term
  - Bi-yearly GIS Priority Projects survey of user community aligned with term
  - Priority Projects derived from results of user survey
  - 2-year GAC term focused on priorities set early in the term
- Align GAC committees and priority projects
  - Assign GAC priorities to the committees to ensure support for community initiatives
  - Committees do not need to be specific to a priority but may serve other GAC mission needs; therefore, there may be committees that exist in addition to those working on community priorities
- Improve committee and workgroup reporting
  - Priority project reporting will be rolled up into committee report to eliminate redundant reporting requests
  - Priority project updates will be included in agenda packets (as part of committee reports)
- Increased participation of GAC committee and sectors in meetings
  - Each committee will present at (a minimum of) one quarterly GAC meeting during each 2-year term
  - Some of the meeting time previously allotted to priority project updates will be allocated to sector reports
- Replace GAC website and committee pages with Esri Hub
  - Transition the GAC web presence to Esri Hub
  - Each committee will have an Esri Hub that links to the main GAC site
- Additional GAC member support for committees
  - GAC member in leadership role for each committee
  - The role will support quarterly reporting and Esri Hub maintenance, while creating opportunities for GAC member engagement in committees



- Ease transition of GAC membership and leadership between terms
  - Each Prior to the first GAC meeting of a new 2-year member term, Executive Team will host a GAC membership overview for new and returning members to set the stage for understanding the GAC and what is involved with the 2-year commitment
  - Gathering of committee chairs to align priorities across the Committees, GAC membership, and the GIS community

#### **Desired Outcome:**

- Improve GAC structure
  - Ensure alignment between the GAC and its committees and/or workgroups by having GAC members as part of their leadership
  - Improve alignment between GAC priorities and GAC committees and/or workgroups to better support the priorities
  - Increase participation of GAC members in priority work and to provide succession to its membership and committees
- Improved alignment between the GAC and Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo), MNIT
  - By [statute](#), the Geospatial Advisory Council (GAC) members are appointed by the Commissioner of Minnesota IT Services (MNIT) and supported by Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo) and, like other state supported Boards and Councils, serves as a function of State Government and is subject to state communication and conflict of interest policies.
    - Subd. 8. Geospatial Advisory Council created. (a) The chief information officer must utilize a governance structure that includes an advisory council to provide recommendations for improving the operations and management of geospatial technology within state government and also on issues of importance to users of geospatial technology throughout the state.
    - (b) The Geospatial Advisory Council must advise the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office regarding the improvement of services statewide through the coordinated, affordable, reliable, and effective use of geospatial technology.

#### **Planned Activities and Deliverables**

1. Application period for the GAC term FY2026/27 opens (March 2025)
2. Appointment of new GAC membership for term FY2026/27 (July 2025)
  - a. GAC follows the MN Secretary of State Office open appointments process
  - b. Members are appointed by Terek Tomes, MN CIO and MNIT Commissioner
  - c. Are representative of a cross section of GIS industry and users
3. GAC term FY2026/27 member orientation, Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

- a. Orientation to discuss GAC alignment on topics such as hub sites, preparing for the quarterly meetings, and abiding by MNIT communication committee policy guide and conflict of interest policies and an introduction to committees and teams.
    - i. GAC member volunteer appointed to a leadership position on each of the GAC committees
    - ii. Leadership opportunities shared about executive and leadership team and nominations to be approved at the September GAC meeting
  - b. GAC member roles and expectations
    - i. Support the Council's mission & guiding principles
      - 1. Attend term member orientation: September 3, 10 AM - 2 PM (in-person)
      - 2. Participate in a minimum of one committee or subgroup
    - ii. Be active in quarterly Council meetings
      - 1. Respond to call for agenda items, suggesting topics pertinent to your sector
      - 2. Come prepared, reviewing past meeting minutes, agenda, and committee reports
      - 3. Participate in round robin updates related to your sector
    - iii. Be an ambassador representing your sector
      - 1. Contribute a minimum of one sector presentation during the two-year term
      - 2. Responsibility to report GAC news and information to the sector you represent
    - iv. Abide by MNIT communication and conflict of interest policies
4. September 2025 GAC meeting agenda:
- a. Welcome and GAC mission and principles overview, introduction of committees and priorities from GAC Chair
  - b. MnGeo welcome of new membership and brief overview of GAC/MnGeo relationship
  - c. Nominations and appointment of GAC executive team to include chair, vice chair, secretary, MnGeo ex-officio, and administrative support from MnGeo
  - d. Nominations and appointment of GAC leadership team which includes the executive committee plus the advisor and board members.
    - i. Leadership team will meet a minimum of one time between GAC meetings
      - 1. Quarterly leadership meeting agendas includes strategic planning and GAC meeting preparation
  - e. Introduction to committee mission and leadership including GAC members and non-members. Recruitment of members and non-members to participate in the committees and associated subgroups.
  - f. Presentation from NSGIC about GAC membership use and purpose including how MnGAC priorities are aligned with multi-state state and national/federal initiatives. Promote the relationship about how work and innovation happening here at the city, county and state level aggregates up into important spatial datasets that have implications nationally.
    - i. Lidar, [3D National Topography Model](#)
    - ii. [National address dataset](#)

- g. Vice-chair will announce the priority project survey intent to collect priorities that will guide the term
  - h. September 2026 agenda, no orientation items, include reoccurring agenda items:
    - i. GAC Committee presentation(s)
    - ii. GAC sector presentations
    - iii. Round robin
5. Oct/Nov 2025 - Between GAC meetings
- a. Be intentional about promoting the GAC at the MN GIS/LIS Conference with an improved presence
  - b. Prepare and distribute the GAC priority projects survey to the GIS community ready by the MN GIS/LIS Conference
  - c. Evaluate the GAC term priority projects survey results
  - d. Leadership team meeting to plan for next GAC meeting and review survey results
  - e. Conduct committee leadership team gathering to discuss GAC alignment on topics such as hub sites, presenting at and reporting for the quarterly meetings, and abiding by MNIT communication committee policy guide and conflict of interest policies, and cross committee coordination and strategic alignment
    - i. Ensure term priority project alignment with committees to ensure success of the priority by providing structure for new ideas to get started
    - ii. Prepare a minimum of one committee presentation for GAC meeting during the two-year term
6. December GAC meeting agenda:
- a. Evaluation of term priority projects based on survey results (2025 only)
    - i. Assignment of priority champion
    - ii. Alignment to GAC committee
    - iii. Recruitment of volunteers to work on the project
  - b. GAC Committee presentation(s)
  - c. GAC sector presentations
  - d. Round robin
7. Jan/Feb - Between GAC meetings
- a. Committee workplans may need to be updated to reflect new priorities accepted as a results of the FY2026/27 term priority projects survey
8. March 2026/27
- a. Announcement of Governor's Certificate Awards for Exemplary Geospatial Projects nomination period, and other awards presented at the MN GIS Conference
    - i. What awards are given
      - 1. Examples of past projects
    - ii. What is the criteria
    - iii. What are the deadlines

- b. GIS/LIS ex-officio sector report
    - i. To include announcement of GIS/LIS award nominations for those presented at the MN GIS Conference
  - c. Approval of any changes to the workplans that are a results of the 2026/2027 term priority survey committee/GAC workplans – revised workplan will guide the remainder of the term (2026 only)
  - d. GAC Committee presentation(s)
  - e. GAC sector presentations
  - f. Round robin
  - g. Application period for the GAC term FY2028/29 opens (2027 only)
9. April - Between GAC meetings
- a. 2026: End of the year summary of GAC accomplishments by Chair and Committee chairs
  - b. 2027: Preparation of the GAC and its committees FY2026/27 term report and FY2028/29 term work plan
10. May
- a. May 2026 agenda:
    - i. End of the year summary of GAC accomplishments by Chair and Committee chairs
    - ii. GAC Committee presentation(s)
    - iii. GAC sector presentations
    - iv. Round robin
  - b. May 2027 agenda:
    - i. May 2027 (end of term committee reports are due)
    - ii. All GAC Committee term report and work plan (5 minutes)
    - iii. Approval of the FY2026/27 term reports and committee workplans
    - iv. GAC FY2026/27 term report and FY2028/29 term work plan presentation and approval
    - v. Round robin
    - vi. GAC sector presentations (0)
11. Appointment of new GAC membership for term FY2028/29 (July 2027)

**Date approved by the Geospatial Advisory Council:** Expected May 21, 2025