



Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council

September 10, 2025

In-Person Attendees: Mute your audio



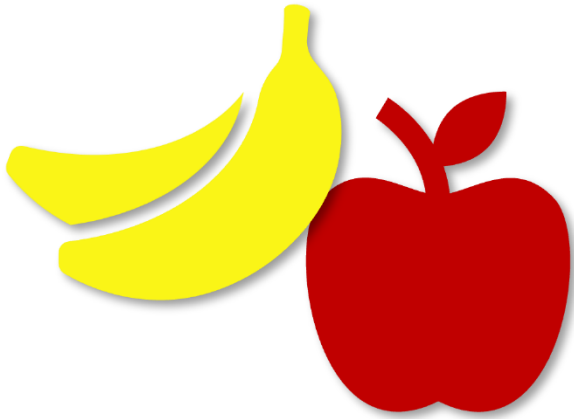
In-Person Attendees: Bathrooms & exits



Wi-Fi



In-Person Attendees: Food & beverage



**Help yourself to
food and beverages!**



Tennessen & Information Sharing

- This meeting is being transcribed (not recorded) by Microsoft Teams to assist with the creation of the meeting minutes.
- The content of the meeting chat and transcript is subject to the Minnesota Data Practices Act, and so a gentle reminder, please don't share any private information.

Starting transcription now

Agenda Item 1

Call to order

- Roll call
- Approve agenda
- Approve last meeting minutes
([May 21, 2025](#))

Maddox



Roll Call: FY2026-27 Members

1. **Alison Slaats**, MNIT MnGeo
2. **Amy Harrigan**, MnDOT
3. **Britta Maddox**, Anoka County
4. **Carla Coates**, Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium | MN DPS
5. **David Brandt**, MetroGIS | Washington County
6. **Dennis Tumberg**, City of Chanhassen
7. **Gerry Sjerven**, Minnesota Power
8. **Heather Albrecht**, Hennepin County
9. **Jessica Fendos**, LOGIS
10. **Kari Geurts**, MNIT DNR
11. **Kendis Scharenbroich**, Pro-West & Associates
12. **Mary Mortensen**, Met Council
13. **Matt Goodman**, St. Louis County Sheriff's Office
14. **Michael Krueger**, City of Moorhead
15. **Michelle Clasen**, Washington County
16. **Mitch Bergeson**, US Geological Survey
17. **Pat Veraguth**, Douglas County
18. **Quentin Ikuta**, National Indian Carbon Coalition
19. **Rama Mohapatra**, Minnesota State University, Mankato
20. **Rick Schute**, City of St. Paul
21. **Ryan Bonney**, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
22. **Ryan Stovern**, St. Louis County
23. **Shana Crosson**, U-Spatial / UMN Twin Cities
24. **Stacey Stark**, U-Spatial / UMN Duluth
25. **Tanya Mayer**, Metropolitan Council

Administrative Support Staff



Megan Sisko

MNIT MnGeo



Sally Wakefield

MNIT MnGeo

Non-Member Guests

First and last name

Name of your organization

In-Room Attendees: Please announce verbally

Virtual Attendees: Place in the chat

Agenda

Time	Topic	Time	Topic
11:00	Call to order	12:35	Committee introductions and recruitment
11:05	Review and receive Committee Reports	1:08	Greater Minnesota Regional Government seat definition
11:10	New term member welcome and introductions	1:18	Priorities review and survey introduction
11:25	Overview of the GAC	1:38	Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium updates
11:35	Member roles and expectations review	1:43	Minnesota Geospatial Information Office updates
11:45	Executive Team overview and appointments	1:48	Executive Team updates & term meeting schedule
11:55	Leadership Team overview and appointments	1:50	Round Robin / Announcements
12:05	<i>Break and networking</i>	2:00	Adjourn

Approve agenda*

Last Meeting Minutes Approval

Approve last meeting minutes*

(May 21, 2025)

Review and receive Committee Reports

Maddox



New term member welcome and introductions

Maddox



Introductions: FY2026-27 Members

- **City, Twin Cities Metro**
 - Dennis Tumberg, *City of Chanhassen*
- **City, Greater Minnesota**
 - Michael Krueger, *City of Moorhead*
- **County, Twin Cities Metro**
 - Michelle Clasen, *Washington County*
- **County, Greater Minnesota**
 - Ryan Stovern, *St. Louis County*
- **Regional Government, Twin Cities Metro**
 - Mary Mortensen, *Met Council*
- **Regional Government, Greater Minnesota**
 - Vacant
- **State Government**
 - Amy Harrigan, *MnDOT*
 - Kari Geurts, *MNIT DNR*
- **Federal Government**
 - Mitch Bergeson, *US Geological Survey*
- **Tribal Government**
 - Ryan Bonney, *Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community*
- **Nonprofit Organization**
 - Jessica Fendos, *LOGIS*
- **Business**
 - Gerry Sjerven, *Minnesota Power*
 - Kendis Scharenbroich, *Pro-West & Associates*
- **K-12 Education**
 - Shana Crosson, *U-Spatial / UMN Twin Cities*
- **Higher Education**
 - Rama Mohapatra, *Minnesota State University, Mankato*
 - Stacey Stark, *U-Spatial / UMN Duluth*
- **Surveyor**
 - Pat Veraguth, *Douglas County*
- **MetroGIS**
 - David Brandt, *MetroGIS | Washington County*
- **MN GIS/LIS Consortium**
 - Carla Coates, *Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium | MN DPS*
- **At-large**
 - Britta Maddox, *Anoka County*
 - Heather Albrecht, *Hennepin County*
 - Matt Goodman, *St. Louis County Sheriff's Office*
 - Quentin Ikuta, *National Indian Carbon Coalition*
 - Rick Schute, *City of St. Paul*
 - Tanya Mayer, *Metropolitan Council*
- **Chief Geospatial Information Officer (ex-officio)**
 - Alison Slaats, *MNIT MnGeo*

Overview of the GAC

Slaats



Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council

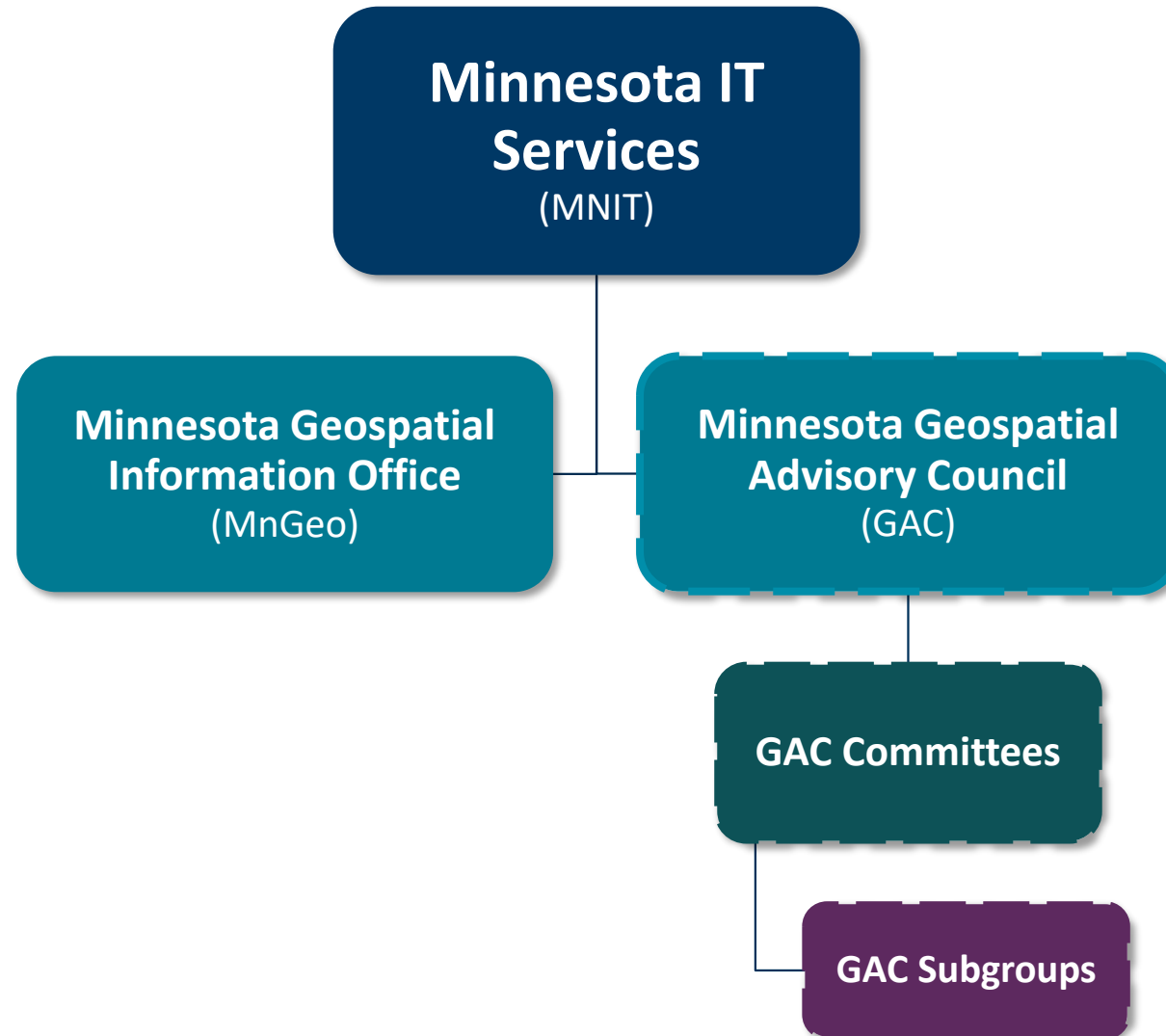
- The **Geospatial Advisory Council (GAC)** is the statutory statewide coordinating body for the Minnesota geospatial community
- The GAC **advises and complements** MnGeo
- Council members represent a **variety of sectors**: local, county, regional, Tribal, state and federal government, higher education, business, nonprofit, and land surveying

GAC Statutory Responsibility

*Advise the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo) on improving the **operations and management of geospatial technology** within state government, and on **issues of importance** to the community*

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/16E.30>

Organization within MNIT



A brief history

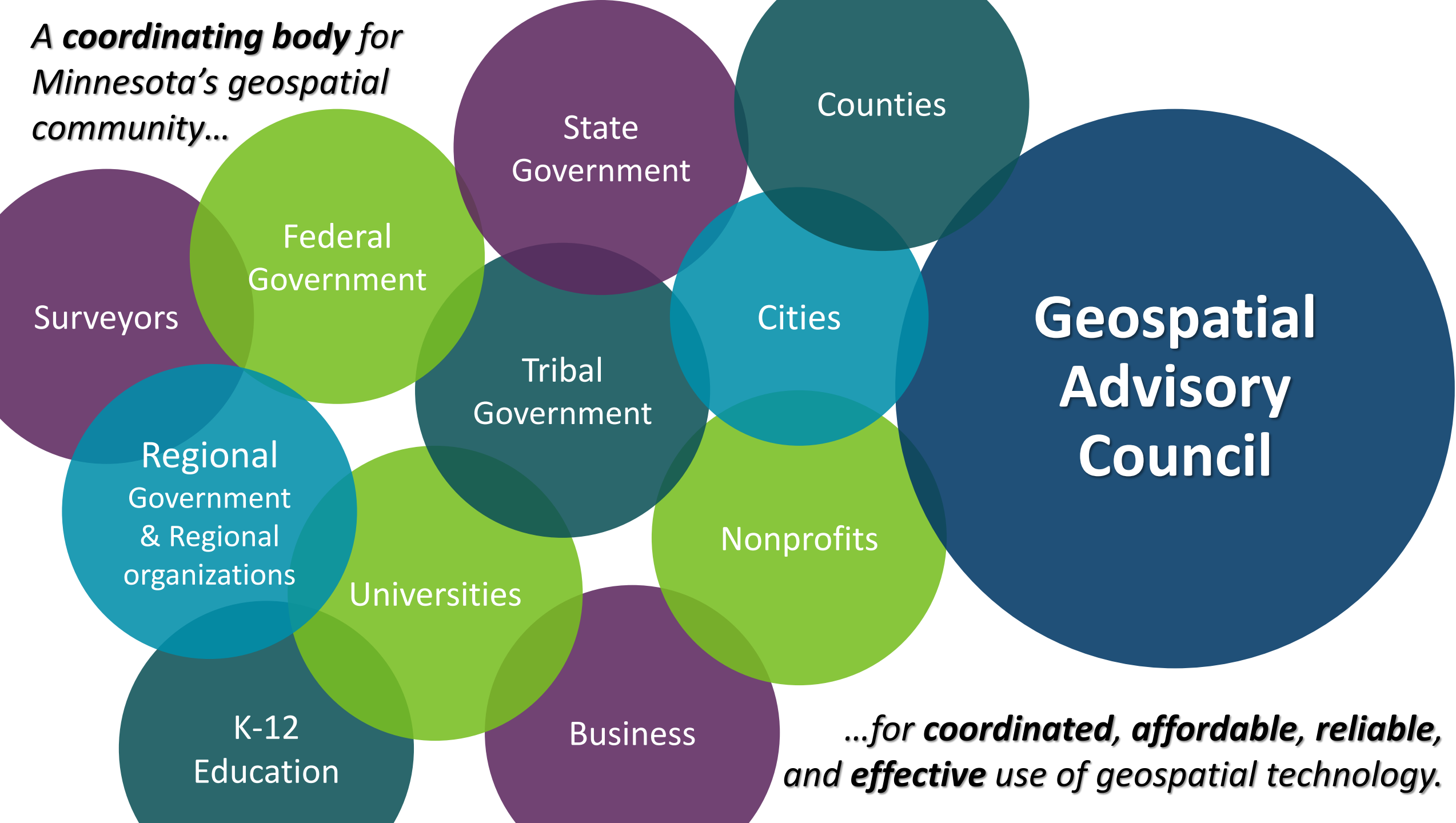


- Successor to Governor's Council on Geographic Information that advised the Land Management Information Center (LMIC)
- There have been eight 2-year GAC terms
- 25 appointed members + 1 ex-officio member (GIO)

Guiding Principles



*A **coordinating body** for
Minnesota's geospatial
community...*



*...for **coordinated, affordable, reliable,**
and **effective** use of geospatial technology.*

GAC Vision & Accomplishments

The GAC plays a pivotal role in creating a geospatial vision and supporting its implementation in Minnesota

- Funding for Public Land Survey System Remonumentation
- Developing geospatial data standards
- Authoring the Minnesota Lidar Plan, and coordinating funding for high quality lidar
- Recognizing geospatial work through outreach events, web sites and awards
- Leading efforts in emergency preparedness and critical infrastructure data
- Promoting the creation of statewide datasets, and advocating for free and open data datasets
- Sharing data to national datasets
- Collaborating with the K12 schools, universities and colleges
- Creating a data endorsement process
- Improving statewide data

Call to action

You are leaders in your sector and in the Minnesota geospatial community

- You can advise MnGeo on program work
- You can guide and define priorities for Minnesota geospatial community
- You can envision, design, and create change in our shared geospatial work

“GIS is successful in Minnesota because of all of us”

Member roles and expectations review

Maddox



Primary Responsibilities



Providing expertise: Offering insight and knowledge about geospatial technologies and practices relevant to your sector.



Advocating interests: Representing the needs and priorities of your sector in council discussions and decision-making processes.



Facilitating communication: Ensuring effective communication and collaboration between the council and your sector.



Contributing to policy development: Helping to shape policies and strategies that impact geospatial data and technology use.

**Sector
representation**



**Committee
participation**



**Meeting
participation**



**Policies and
standards of
conduct**



**Member
Expectations**



Sector Representation

- **Serve as an ambassador** for your sector beyond your organization
 - Communicate sector needs
 - Bring GAC news and information back to your sector
- **Minimum requirements:**
 - Present at least once about your sector during the two-year term (Recent activities, major trends, surfacing needs, etc.)
 - Encourage professionals in your sector to contribute to the priorities survey
- **Recruit volunteers** from your sector for committee work and future GAC membership



Meeting Participation



Attend majority of council meetings, preferably in-person at least once per year



Come prepared, reviewing past meeting minutes, agenda, and committee reports



Participate in round robin updates related to your sector



Respond to call for agenda items, suggesting topics pertinent to your sector



Turn on your camera throughout the meeting



Committee Participation

- Participate and contribute to **at least 1 GAC committee or subgroup**
 - As a leader or additional volunteering member
- May choose a committee or subgroup based on:
 - Expertise
 - Interest
 - Skills that may be of use to the group
 - An area you wish to learn more about



Policies and Standards of Conduct

- Abide by the **Constitution of the US and State of Minnesota** (Oath of Office)
- Abide by **MNIT policies and standards** of conduct
- When conducting any business with or on behalf of the council, represent yourself **professionally and respectfully** as an affiliate of the State of Minnesota
- Your seat **must not** be used for personal or professional gain (e.g., securing a contract for a project)
- Any business on behalf of the council **must be** approved by the council
- If you detect a **real, potential, or perceived conflict of interest**, bring this to MnGeo – if needed, the conflict of interest will be brought to the appointing authority



Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council
Operations Handbook

v1.0
9/3/2025

New!

**GAC
Operations
Handbook**

Executive Team overview and appointments*

Maddox



**Motion required*

Executive Team Purpose

The Executive Team of the GAC provides leadership, informs strategy, and ensures effective operations.

It leads the functions of the council by:

- Authoring the council work plan and term report
- Aligning council activities to adhere to the work plan
- Organizing the quarterly public council meetings
- Gathering feedback from the GIS community through the priority surveys
- Ensuring that committee work supports the priorities
- Developing reporting mechanisms for the council and its committees and subgroups
- Identifying and communicating resource needs to MnGeo

Executive Team Nominations

Chair

Vice-Chair

Secretary

Leadership Team overview and appointments*

Maddox



**Motion required*

Leadership Team Purpose

The Leadership Team of the GAC collaborates with the Executive Team to help refine council strategy, operations, and meeting planning.

It supports the functions of the council by:

- Attending and participating in quarterly GAC meeting planning
- Helping develop GAC meeting agendas
- Providing feedback to the Executive Team regarding council operations and strategy
- Contributing to the GAC term work plan and accomplishments report
- Participating in other leadership team discussions as needed

Leadership Team Nominations

Past Chair: Heather Albrecht

Advisor

Advisor

Advisor

Break and Networking



Committee introductions and recruitment

Committee Leaders



GAC Committees

1. 3D Geomatics
2. Archiving
3. Awards
4. Emergency Preparedness
5. K-12 Education
6. Outreach
7. Parcels and Land Records
8. PLSS Preservation
9. Standards
10. Contributing to Nationwide and Commercial Data Assets*
11. Data Endorsement*

* Ad-hoc committee

3D Geomatics Committee

Co-Chairs: Sean Vaughn | Gerry Sjerven

3D Geomatics Committee

- **Committee Mission:** The 3D Geomatics Committee (3DGeo) works to identify and promote the need for planning, funding, acquisition, and management of three-dimensional geomatic data and derived products. The committee engages multiple disciplines in Minnesota for the benefit of its resources and citizens; promoting the value, importance, and use of complex and voluminous three-dimensional information.

3D Geomatics - Priorities

GAC Priority	Owner	Status
9. Culvert Data Standard – A culvert data standard for data sharing across the geospatial and infrastructure asset management communities and to support development of a future statewide culvert inventory.	Rick Moore	Active
13. Lidar Data - New Lidar data acquisition across Minnesota for use in developing new derived products guided by committee-developed standards.	Gerry Sjerven	Active
14. Hydro-DEMs - Accurate hydro-DEMs (hDEMs) that serve modern flood modeling and hydro-terrain analysis tools, and the development of more accurate watercourses and watersheds	Sean Vaughn	Active

P3D Geomatics Committee – Next Steps

- The 3D Geomatics Committee is in the process of reaching out to current members to confirm their level of involvement.
- Chairs and Co-Chairs of the Workgroups are confirming the member involvement and updating future workplans.
 - Workgroups include:
 - Data Acquisition Workgroup
 - Hydrogeomorphology Workgroup
 - ✓ DEM Hydro-modification subgroup
 - ✓ Foundational Hydrography Data Stewards
 - ✓ Lidar-derived Hydrography subgroup
 - Vegetation Workgroup

Archiving Committee

Chair: Ryan Mattke

Archiving Committee

- **Committee Mission:** 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.

Archiving Committee - Priorities

- Building on previous Archiving Workgroups (2018-2022)
- Approved as a committee in March 2025
- Began meeting in Summer 2025

GAC Priority	Owner	Status
16. Geodata Archive Implementation - Implementation of an archive for Minnesota geospatial data.	Ryan Mattke	Active

Archiving Committee – Work Plan & Recruitment

Objectives

- Establish a statewide archiving framework
- Foster collaboration across sectors
- Align with existing efforts
- Educate and advocate
- Monitor and evaluate progress

Deliverables

- An operational framework
- Community engagement
- Documentation

GAC Member Vice Chair needed!

Contact Ryan Mattke: matt0089@umn.edu

Awards Committee

Co-Chairs: Len Kne | Ryan Stovern

Mission: Promote awareness of the Governor's Geospatial Certificate Award, review nominations, and submit recommendations to MnGeo.

Emergency Preparedness

Chair: Britta Maddox

Emergency Preparedness Committee

Volunteer with the Emergency Preparedness Committee

When disaster strikes, seconds matter — and so does knowing *exactly where* the problem is. The Emergency Preparedness Committee is calling on passionate volunteers to help bridge the gap between **Geographic Information Systems (GIS)** and **Emergency Management**.

We're building a future where first responders, planners, and decision-makers have the **right location intelligence at the right time**. This isn't just about maps — it's about saving lives, protecting property, and keeping our communities resilient.

Why you should get involved:

- **Shape the future of emergency response** by bringing GIS capabilities into the heart of planning and operations.
- **Collaborate with top agencies** like HSEM, DPS, SFMO, MEMA, AMEM, and others who are shaping state and regional preparedness.
- **Turn data into action** — your work will directly influence readiness, response, and recovery strategies.
- **Build bridges** between the geospatial and public safety worlds, ensuring no one is left blind to location-critical risks.

 **Join us.** Because when it comes to emergencies, location ignorance is not an option — and you can be part of the solution.



MN GAC K-12 Education Committee

Chair: Shana Crosson

MN GAC K-12 Education Committee

- Overview:

- The mission of the K-12 GIS Resource Committee is 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.

- Priority Projects:

- Increase the GIS professional community understanding of the educational landscape and develop areas in which we can contribute
- Develop dataset standards and specific datasets that specifically address needs of youth and teachers
- Support the GIS/LIS Geomenter program

- Recruitment

- The committee will meet every other month with smaller groups doing work outside of meetings
- There are opportunities to connect with youth, teachers, administrators and non-profits.
- We welcome anyone with an interest in this area to join us!



Shana Crosson, Chair

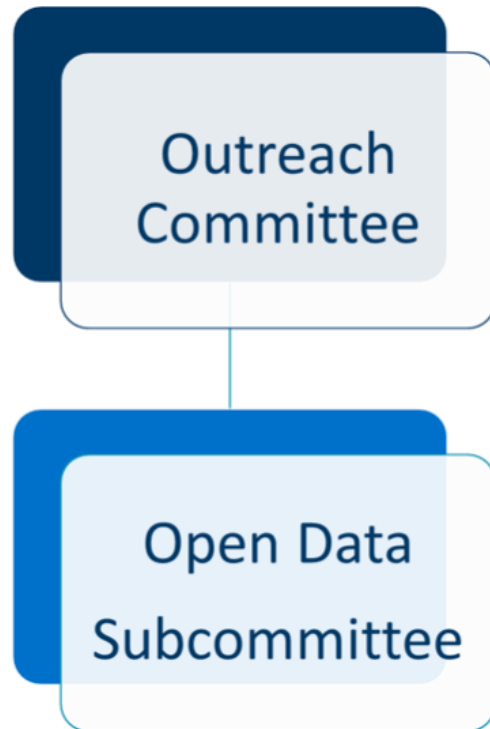
Outreach Committee

Chair: Jessica Fendos

Outreach Committee Overview

- GAC Outreach Committee is a newly energized group that was formed in early 2025 to undertake the mission to connect the community with the GAC using strategic communication resources.
- Objectives include telling GIS success stories through public engagement, web presence and recognitions and promoting free and open geospatial data working with local government.

Committee Structure



Outreach Committee Chair: Jessica Fendos,
GAC Nonprofit Representative | LOGIS

Chris Cantey – MN Legislative Coordinating Commission

Abby Stamm – MDH

Carla Coates – HSEM

Jeff Kalar – Ramsey County

Alec Trenda – Hennepin County

Cara Leitheiser – Dakota County

John Nerge – City of Brooklyn Park

Kendis Scharenbroich – ProWest

Nick Linell – We Are Alight

Shana Crosson – Uspatial

Dale Watt – Trust of Public Land

Open Data Co-Chair: Stacey Stark,
GAC Higher Ed Rep | USpatial

Open Data Co-Chair: Norm Anderson,
MnGeo

GAC and Committee Hubs

In review with MnGeo

The screenshot shows the Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council website. The header includes a search bar, a 'New' dropdown, a notification icon with the number 7, and a user profile for Jessica. The main navigation bar lists: Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council, About, Members, Committees, Meetings, Awards, and Standards. The content area features a grid of 15 member portraits, each with a name and affiliation. To the right of the grid is a map of Minnesota with blue location pins indicating various regional offices or meeting locations. The map includes labels for cities like Grand Forks, Fargo, St. Cloud, Willmar, Watertown, Sioux Falls, Rochester, Albert Lea, and Mason City, as well as a scale bar for 50 miles.

Member Name	Role / Affiliation
Heather Albrecht	(Chair) At-Large
Britta Maddox	(Vice Chair) At-Large
Dennis Tumberg	City, Twin Cities Metro
Christy Christensen	County, Greater...
Tanya Mayer	Regional...
Jill Amundson	Regional...
Kari Geurts	State Government
Jeffrey Bloomquist	Federal Government
Mitch Bergeson	Federal Government
Ryan Bonney	Tribal Government
Jessica Fendos	Nonprofit
Kendis Scharenbroich	

The screenshot shows the 'Council Committees' section of the Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council website. The header is identical to the previous screenshot. The main content area is titled 'Council Committees' and features three distinct committee hubs, each with a logo, a title, a description, and an 'Explore' button.

Committee Name	Logo Description	Hub Site Description
GEOSPATIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL OUTREACH COMMITTEE	Logo featuring a globe, a map of Minnesota, and three stylized people icons.	Outreach Committee Hub Site of the Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council
GAC Data Endorsement	Logo featuring a blue diamond shape with a white checkmark inside.	Data Endorsement Committee Hub Site of the Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council
Nationwide and Commercial Data Assets Workgroup (CAN DO)	Logo featuring a map of the United States with a green outline of Minnesota and a location pin.	CAN DO Committee Hub Site of the Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council

Outreach Event



2025

Minnesota Mapping Expo

Helping Communities Thrive with GIS -
Nonprofit & Government Collaboration

August 13th, 2025 at LOGIS
50 in-person participants
and 25 online attendees

[Event Story Map](#)

Open Data Subcommittee Status

- Of 87 Minnesota counties, 55 contributed parcels, 46 have agreed to contribute address points and emergency service zones, and 45 have agreed to contributed road centerlines to date.

MnGAC Outreach Committee Member Recruit Survey

If you like pushing the dial
And gettin' caught in the rays
If you're into graphics
If you have half a style
If you like building hubs at midnight
in the most ArcGIS way
Then I'm the group that you've looked for
Write to me and embrace!



Recruitment

Simply write Jessica Fendos
at jfendos@logismn.gov or
sign up using the following
survey QR code



Parcel and Land Records Committee

Chair: Preston Dowell | **Vice Chair:** Pat Veraguth

Parcel and Land Records Committee

- **Committee Mission:** The Parcels and Land Records Committee (PLRC) of the Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council works to promote research, education, implementation, and distribution of statewide guidelines surrounding the digital mapping of cadastral-related data; works to promote and facilitate the development and sharing of data throughout the state, region, and nation; and advises MnGeo.
 - **Boundary Alignment Subcommittee Mission:** Goal is to build a Public Land Survey System (PLSS) inventory map and increase awareness on why alignment is necessary.
 - **Public Land Survey System (PLSS) Remonumentation Legislation Subcommittee Mission:** Goal is to build a legislative proposal for PLSS remonumentation.

Parcel and Land Records Committee- Priorities

GAC Priority	Owner	Status
11. Updated & Aligned Boundary Data - Updated and aligned boundary data from authoritative sources.	Preston Dowell	Active
19. Remonumentation of all original federal Section Corners - Remonumentation of all original Minnesota section corners set by the national General Land Office.	Patrick Veraguth	Active

Parcel and Land Records Committee- Recruitment

- The PLRC works closely with the **PLSS Preservation Committee**.
- The PLSS Remonumentation Legislation Subcommittee is working on establishing a **permanent funding** source to remonument and maintain all the PLSS corners in the state.
- Open to those who are interested in improving the **accuracy and standardization** of PLSS data for Minnesota cadastral datasets.
- The Boundary Alignment Subcommittee developed the **Cadastral Point Data Standard**, and it will hopefully be up for adoption at the GAC in the near future. Next, we will work on some adoption guides and then move to compiling the **PLSS Point Map** and improve the accuracy of county and other boundaries.
- Ideal candidates are:
 - Minnesota Licensed Land Surveyors
 - Land Management Representatives
 - County Officers
 - County Engineers
 - County GIS Staff (Cadastral)

National Award

2024 Geospatial Excellence Award



Catalyst

*For extraordinary effort and/or results
in getting things done*

Presented To

**The Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council's
PLSS Remonumentation Legislation
Subcommittee and PLSS Preservation Committee**

The National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) Geospatial Excellence Awards recognize individuals and organizations that, through leadership, skill, and initiative, have made exemplary contributions to the advancement of geospatial capabilities for their state and the nation. Award winners have significantly advanced the goals of NSGIC and its members through technical innovation, building and sustaining partnerships, developing and sharing best practices, and improving efficiency, effectiveness, and public service.

PLSS Preservation Committee

Chair: Kory Thurnau | **Vice Chair:** Pat Veraguth

Public Land Survey System (PLSS) Preservation Committee

- **Committee Mission:** To aid the Minnesota Geospatial Information Officer (GIO) in establishing criteria for the PLSS Monument Grant Program, evaluate and prioritize PLSS Monument Grant applications, review grant work, and report grant performance measures with respect to [Minnesota Statutes 381.125](#).
- For more information about the importance of this program, please visit the [Preserving The Public Land Survey System Hub Site](#).

PLSS Preservation Committee - Recruitment

- Open to those who are interested in improving the accuracy of Minnesota cadastral datasets.
- This work means preserving and securing land ownership rights across the state.
- Ideal candidates are:
 - Minnesota Licensed Land Surveyors
 - Land Management Representatives
 - County Officers
 - County Engineers
 - County GIS Staff (Cadastral)

Standards Committee

Co-Chairs: Mark Kotz | Curt Carlson

Standards Committee

- We administer and support a process that allows the MN geospatial community to create and modify geospatial standards.
- Standards help the community be more efficient and effective
 - Data sharing
 - Aggregated datasets
- Standards are a critical collaboration tool for our community
- Committee meeting timing is irregular and infrequent (1-6 times per year)
- To join, contact [one of the chairs](#) (Curt Carlson, MnGeo or Mark Kotz, retired)

GAC Member Vice Chair

- Ensure the committee follows all
 - MNIT policies
 - GAC practices and procedures for committees
- Prepare quarterly committee reports for GAC meetings
- Attend committee meetings and some committee leadership team meetings
- Be in the loop on committee leadership communications
- Help with Standards HUB site content and maintenance

Contributing to Nationwide and Commercial Data Assets Committee

Chair: David Brandt

Contributing to Nationwide and Commercial Data Assets Ad Hoc Committee (CAN DO)

Mission: To share local authoritative data with nationwide and commercial assets.

Data Endorsement Committee

Co-Chair: Alison Slaats | Kevin Trappe

Data Endorsement Ad-Hoc Committee Overview

- Formed in late 2024. Began meeting in February 2025.
- **Mission statement:** To create and implement a Geospatial Advisory Council endorsement process for statewide geospatial datasets.
- Foundational statewide geospatial data are needed for many purposes. Sometimes there is more than one dataset available for the same topic, and it is unclear which dataset is most appropriate to use. **Creation of an endorsement process for statewide datasets will identify the best available.**



Data Endorsement Ad-Hoc Committee Overview

An endorsement process will:

1. Help data *users* because it quickly identifies the best available data.
2. Help data *producers* because it will reinforce the value of their data and provide evidence for the need for ongoing data stewardship.
3. Increase efficient investments by reducing the creation of multiple or similar versions of the same data.
4. Improve the quality of the data because it will bring stakeholders together to support the endorsement process and could increase the visibility of the dataset.

Data Endorsement Ad-Hoc Committee Membership

Co-Chairs:

Alison Slaats, *Minnesota Geospatial Information Office*

Kevin Trappe, *Beltrami County*

Jason Ewert, <i>MNIT MPCA</i>	Gerald (Gerry) Sjerven, <i>Allete</i>
Nila Hines, <i>MDH</i>	Stacey Stark, <i>U-Spatial, U of M</i>
Linse Lahti, <i>DNR</i>	Kory Thurnau, <i>MnGeo</i>
Tanya Mayer, <i>Met Council</i>	Sally Wakefield, <i>MnGeo</i>
Jonathan Mortensen, <i>City of Shoreview</i>	Alison (Ali) Wieckowicz, <i>MNIT DOT</i>
Pamela Oslin, <i>MESB</i>	

Always willing to have more people get involved!

Greater Minnesota Regional Government seat definition*

Slaats



**Motion may be required*

Member Sectors & Regional Government - background

- At the GAC May meeting, we made some modifications to GAC Sector Representation
 - Allowing some flexing of sectors with two seats
 - Adding two At-Large members
- We held on a discussion of Regional Government representation to be continued at this meeting
 - There are two regional government GAC sector seats
 - Regional Government, Twin Cities Metro
 - Regional Government, Greater Minnesota
 - The Greater Minnesota Regional Government seat has been challenging to recruit for and the discussion we tabled was whether to expand the assignment of this seat

Regional Government (Greater MN) Sector

Regional Government (Greater MN)

- How should we define this regarding GAC sector representation?
- Should the GAC definition of regional government be expanded which may help in recruiting? Ideas include
 - MCGISA regional representatives
 - GIS user groups

- Option 1: Regional Government, Greater Minnesota
 - No change
- Option 2: Expand definition of Regional Government, Greater Minnesota
 - If we change, what would the definition and title of this role be?

Priorities review and survey introduction

Maddox



Priority Projects Annual Survey

September

- Review current priority projects list

October – MN GIS/LIS Annual Conference

- Survey GIS stakeholders for project ideas

Late October

- Have GAC review proposed survey via email vote

Early November

- Distribute Priorities Survey to stakeholders

Late November

- Score survey results

December Quarterly GAC meeting

- Review Priority Project Survey results and set FY 2026-2027 project lists

Updates on GAC Priority Projects and Initiatives


1. Most recent success
2. Experiencing a barrier?
3. Next task
4. Request for Assistance



Why Create Priorities?

1. To create a voice for the MN geospatial community
2. To direct work plans of the GAC and its committees
3. To advise MnGeo on needs of the community
4. To allow other organizations to compare priorities and align efforts
5. To inform outreach and policy related efforts
6. Having clear direction helps motivate people to participate

GAC Priorities Process

- Create a list of proposed projects and initiatives
 - From GAC members and committee chairs
 - Outreach to sectors
 - Assess the **value** of each – degree of business need
 - MN Geospatial Priorities Survey
 - Assess **likelihood of success** of each - owner, work team, champion, funding
 - Preliminary priority calculation
- 
- GAC discusses and adjusts
- These are ranked under the GAC Priority numbered per committee workgroup each falls under, where applicable

Project or Initiative Name	Status	Done in %	GAC Rank	Priority Score	Value Score	Survey Score	Success Score	Owner Exists	Work Team Exists	Active Champ Exists	\$\$ Exis	Est \$\$	Easy Score	Effo	Priority Owner	Champ	Committee
Lidar Data	Active	1	1	204	20	2.04	10	3	2	2	2	some	1	High	Gerry Sjerven	Alison Slaats	3D Geomat
Updated & Aligned Boundary Data	Active	1	2	194	19	1.94	10	3	2	2	2	\$0	1	High	Preston Dowell	Alison Slaats	Parcel and Land Recor
Parcel Data	Active	1	1	183	18	1.83	10	3	2	2	2	\$0	1	High	Heather Albrecht	Alison Slaats	Outreach
Road Centerline Data	Active	1	2	174	17	1.74	10	3	2	2	2	\$0	1	High	Heather Albrecht	Alison Slaats	Outreach
Publication of Open Foundational Datasets	Active	1	1	157	14	1.43	11	3	2	2	2	N/A	2	Med	Dave Brandt	Randy Knippel	Can Do
Address Points Data	Active	1	3	152	15	1.52	10	3	2	2	2	\$0	1	High	Heather Albrecht	Alison Slaats	Outreach
Statewide County Boundary Dataset	New	1	4	150	19	1.87	8	3		2	2	N/A	1	High	Ben Timerson	Alison Slaats	Parcel and Land Recor
Remonumentation of all Section Corners	Active	1	1	148	15	1.48	10	3	2	2	2	some	1	High	Pat Veraguth	Alison Slaats	Parcel and Land Recor
Underground Utilities Data Sharing Team	Active	1	1	136	12	1.24	11	3	2	2	2	sig.	2	Med	Steve Swazee	Barb Cederberg	EPC
MnGeo Image Service Improvements	Recruiting	1	1	136	14	1.36	10	3	2	2	2	\$0	1	High	Alison Slaats	Alison Slaats	Image Servi
Hydro-DEMs	Active	1	2	133	17	1.66	8	3	2	2		some	1	High	Sean Vaughn	Many	3D Geomat
Culvert Data Standard	Active	1	3	130	12	1.18	11	3	2	2	2	\$0	2	High	Rick Moore	Andrea Bergman	3D Geomat
Statewide Survey Records Inventory	New	1	3	126	14	1.4	9	3		2	2	some	2	Med	Pat Veraguth	Alison Slaats	Parcel and Land Recor
Statewide Imagery Program	Recruiting	1	2	113	19	1.88	6	3		2		LOTS	1	High	Jennifer Corcoran & Christy Christensen	Alison Slaats	Image Servi
More fully attributed statewide parcel data	New	1	5	110	14	1.38	8	3		2	2	none required	1	High	Stacey Stark	Alison Slaats	Parcel and Land Recor
Critical Infrastructure Data Workflow	Active	1	2	108	11	1.08	10	3	2	2	2	\$0	1	High	Stacey Stark	Swazee	EPC
Success Stories for Geospatial Technology	Active	1	4	105	10	0.95	11	3	2	2	2	\$0	2	Med	Len Kne	Len Kne	Outreach
K-12 GIS Resources Group	Recruitment underway	1		95	9	0.86	11	3	2	2	2	none required	2	Med	Shana Crosson	Many - Len Kne	
Geospatial Commons Advisory Group	Pending	1	1	94	13	1.34	7			2	2	pending	3	Low		Alison Slaats	Commons
Geodata Archive Implementation	Active	1	1	90	10	1	9	3	2	2	1	some	1	High	Ryan Mattke	many	New WG
U.S. National Grid Materials	Active	1	3	79	7	0.72	11	3	2	2	2	?	2	Med	Randy Knippel	Knippel	EPC
State-hosted GIS Servers with Feature Services	Pending	1	2	78	16	1.56	5		2	2		?	1	High		Alison Slaats	Commons
Planned Land Use Data Standard	Recruiting	1	1	51	10	1.01	5	3		2		?			Todd Graham	MetCouncil	Standards
NG9-1-1 Geospatial Forum	Removed	1		32	8	0.79	4				2	\$0	2	Med	Statewide Emergency Communications Board (S		
State wide Future Planned Land Use	Tabled until Planned Land Use Data Standard Complete	1		20	10	1.01	2			2		?				90	MetCouncil

Retired Priorities

	Project or Initiative Name	Status	Rank	Score	Score	Score	Score	Exists	Exists	Exists	\$\$ Exis	Est \$\$	Scor	Effo	Priority Owner	Champ
27	Potential Retired Priorities?															
28	State Business License Data	Inactive, Potentially Retire?		15	7	0.73	2					?	2	Med		
29	Inventory of MN GeoData Assets	Inactive, Potentially Retire?		14	14	1.39	1					?	1	High		
30	Summary Crime Data	Inactive, Potentially Retire?		13	7	0.65	2					?	2	Med		
31	Snow Emergency Parking Data Practices	Inactive, Potentially Retire?	3	12	6	0.62	2					?	2	Med		
32	Street Parking Restrictions Data Standard	Inactive, Potentially Retire?	4	11	6	0.56	2					?	2	Med		
33	Recreational Trails Data Standard	Inactive, Potentially Retire?	5	0	10	1.04	0					?				
34	Fire Hydrant Data Standard	Inactive, Potentially Retire?	6	0	8	0.76	0					?				
35	Basemap Services	Inactive, Potentially Retire?	2	46	15	1.54	3		2			some	1	High		
36	Parks Data Standard	Inactive, Potentially Retire?	2	2	39	10	0.98	4			2	\$0	2	Med		
37	Strategy Team for All Types of Imagery	Inactive, Potentially Retire?	2	27	14	1.35	2					\$0	2	Med		

- Some priorities have been carried through from past surveys for many years and haven't gained traction nor have they reached a high level of desire from the broader community
 - Also lacking owners and champions, therefore scoring lower on overall GAC rank
- “Retiring” means they do not get sent with the next prioritization survey (unless they are actively resubmitted by members of the community, at which point they would be evaluated against that year's prioritization list as with any new submission)
 - The information obtained from previous submissions may be retained so these could be resurrected should a particular committee or workgroup have bandwidth to address them

Priority Project Updates – Now reported as part of Committee Reports and Updates



Address Points Data
Parcel Data
Road Centerline Data
Heather Albrecht



CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Critical Infrastructure Data
Workflow
More fully attributed
statewide parcel data
Stacey Stark



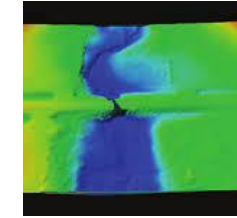
Remonumentation of all
Section Corners
Statewide Survey Records
Inventory
Pat Veraguth



Culvert Data Standard
Rick Moore



Geodata Archive
Implementation
Ryan Mattke



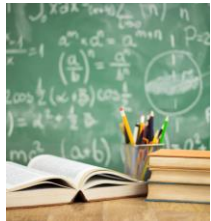
Hydro-DEMs
Sean Vaughn



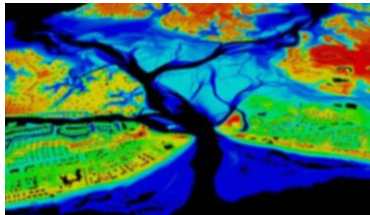
Success Stories
for Geospatial
Technology
Len Kne



US National Grid
Materials
Randy Knippel



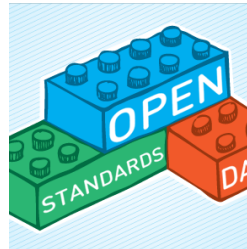
K-12 GIS Resources
Shana Crosson



Lidar Data
G. Sjerven



MnGeo Image
Service
Improvements
Alison Slaats



Planned Land
Use Data
Standard
Todd Graham



Publication of Open
Foundational
Datasets
David Brandt



Statewide County
Boundary Dataset
Kory Thurnau



Statewide Imagery Program
Jennifer Corcoran



Underground
Utilities Data
Sharing
Steve Swazee

Priority Project Survey COMING SOON!

Priority Project Survey coming this fall

- **Reach out to your sector** – Identify priorities within the sector your represent
- **Plan your submission** – review past submissions for the needed information and criteria
- **Plan how you will encourage your sector to vote**



Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium Updates

Coates





Update on MN GIS/LIS Consortium

Carla Coates | GIS/LIS Ex-officio for the GAC

Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium

- The Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with over 600 members across the Minnesota Geospatial Industry.
- **Mission Statement:** Our mission is to develop and support the GIS/LIS community in Minnesota for the benefit of our people and contributors.
- The MN GIS/LIS Board of Directors is responsible for shaping the direction and operations of the Consortium. Fourteen committees support the Board, each specializing in core operations in support of the Board.
- Board members serve two-year terms, with the exception of Board Chair and Conference The Board meets monthly (both in-person and virtual).

May – July, 2025 Meeting Updates

- The Board continues to discuss the possibility of fee-based membership to support rising costs and align with other state-wide non-profit organizations.
- The Board continues to work on potential Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with Minnesota Society of Professional Surveyors, Iowa, and MAGIC (MidAmerica GIS Consortium – it's a group for those in North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma in the GIS field).
- The Board approved an update to the Consortium's Bylaws. Membership to vote on the revised bylaws at the Fall 2025 Conference.
- Preparing for the Fall 2025 Conference in Duluth!

October 1-3, 2025 in Duluth

- **Online registration** through September 30
 - Oct 1: Half and full-day workshops
 - Oct 2-3: Conference
- **Mentorship Program** that matches GIS Professionals (Mentors) with students or young professionals (Mentees)
- <https://www.mngisliis.org/mpage/annualconference>



Thank You!

Carla Coates

Carla.Coates@state.mn.us

651-201-7701

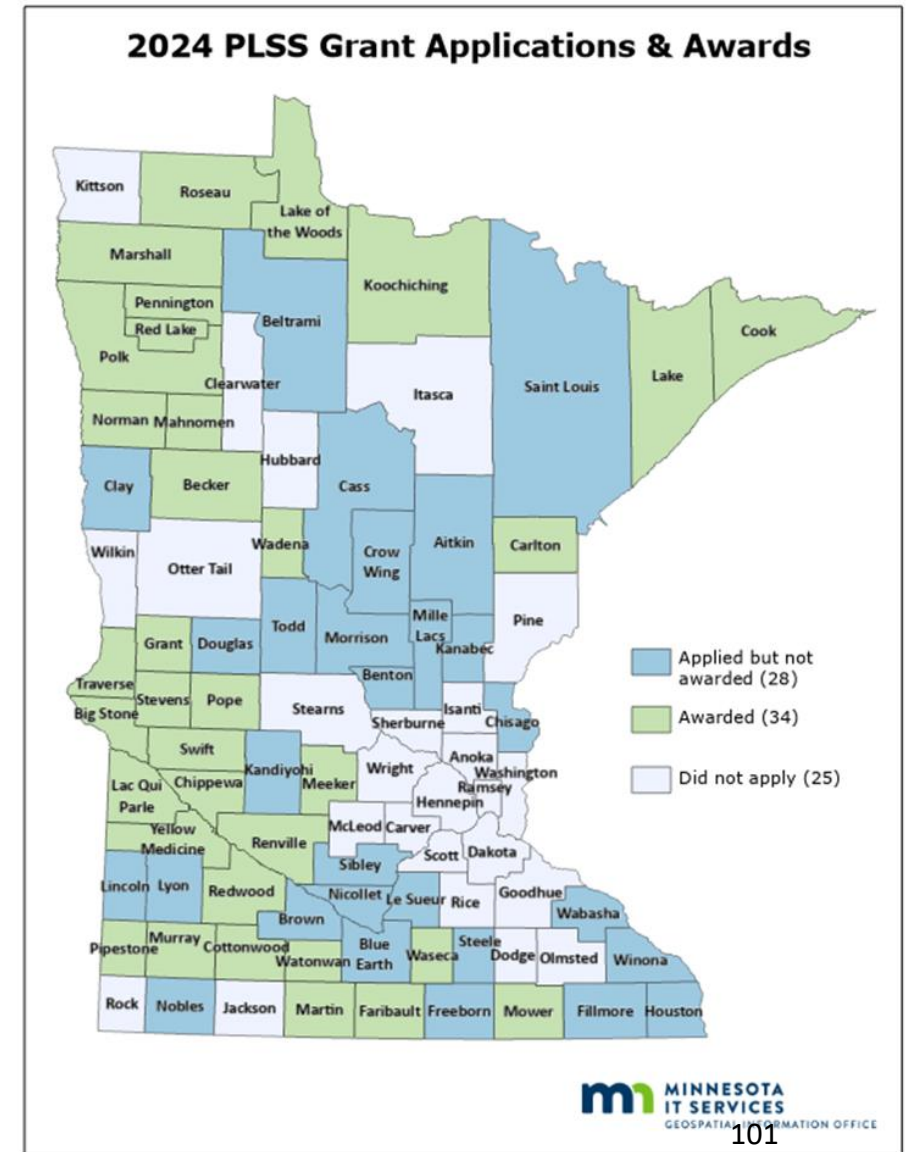
MnGeo Updates

Slaats



Update on MnGeo PLSS Monument Grant

- **August progress reports show:**
 - Average project completion is 65%
 - Total County Expenses to date: \$5,284,970.61
 - Processed **\$4,754,801.51** in reimbursements
52% of \$9.1 million
- Martin County has completed their project
- Cook County's project is getting back on track.
- **Other:**
 - 2025 Legislative Report is being finalized
 - Meet Me At The Corner (MATC) Workshop at GIS/LIS



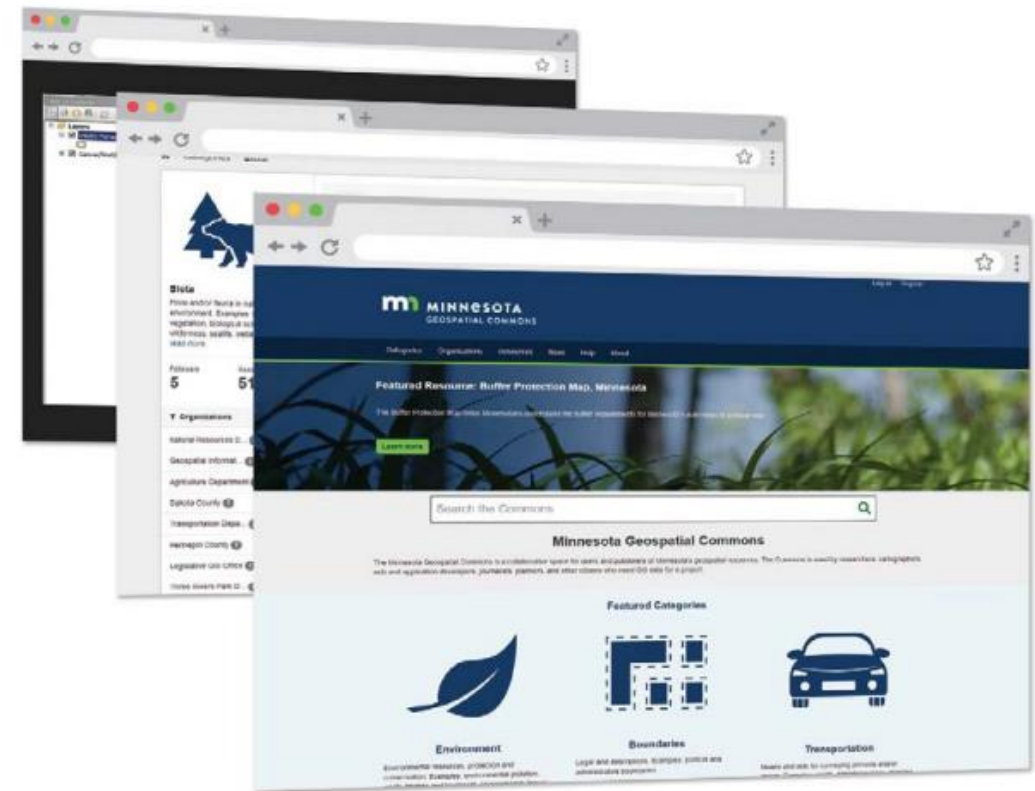
Update on MnGeo Image Services

- New imagery is available on the [Minnesota Geospatial Image Service](#) in natural color and color-infrared.
- 2025 color Wabasha 2 in
- 2018 color McLeod 4 in
- 2023 color Beltrami 9 in
- 2023, U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) [National Agricultural Imagery Program](#) (NAIP)



Update: Modernization of the Geospatial Commons

- The Minnesota Geospatial Commons technology is 10 years old
- MnGeo secured funds from the [MNIT Technology Modernization Funds](#) to *modernize* technology moving from a *file-based system* to a *web service model* and *improve user and publisher experience*
- **Updates:**
 - Project Minimum Viable Product 1 (MVP1) “Collaboration via ArcGIS Online” launched successfully on August 20!
 - Actively working on MVP2 “Collaboration via ArcGIS Portal” to launch in late November.
 - MnGeo will be reaching out to existing publishers to plan their transition to the new platform



MnTOPO 2 Update: Lidar Data Storage and Products Status

- Authoritative seamless 0.5m Lidar DEM
 - Created by subject matter experts from the 3DGeo derivatives team
 - Includes six Lidar Acquisition Blocks (LABS): Missouri River/Big Sioux, Lower Mississippi/Southeast MN, Central Mississippi, Upper Mississippi, Rainy Lake, Lake Superior
 - Will be shared for use in Open Source and Esri applications through
 - STAC Catalog
 - A virtual raster template (VRT)
 - Image service for use in desktop and web applications
 - Planned released is mid September 2025
- Other products expected include:
 - Raw vendor delivered 0.5m Lidar DEM, Flight swaths (formerly flight lines) service, Metadata, Guide for data access, Updated Lidar information page

MnTOPO 2 Update: Ongoing and Upcoming Work

- Continue work on MnTOPO 2 frontend
- Complete the creation of seamless 0.5m Lidar DEM for LABs with all available LAB data
- DEMs in other resolutions, Contours, Hillshade, Hydrographic Position Index (HPI)
- Other lidar derived products in the works include: Digital Surface Model (DSM), Hydro Breaklines, Lidar Point Cloud Tiles, Normalized Digital Surface Model (nDSM) and Building Footprints

MnGeo's 2023-2025 Report

- In July, MnGeo published its [most recent report](#), covering activity from January 2023 through June 2025.
- This report celebrates major achievements in advancing geospatial data and technology across Minnesota, showcasing progression of MnGeo's strategic priorities to:
 - Improve access to statewide foundational geospatial data
 - Lead coordination and communication for Minnesota's geospatial community
 - Provide outstanding support for statewide geospatial technologies



Change to the Data Practices Act for Judicial Officials and Personal Information in Real Property Records

Minnesota data practices have been modified and will go into effect on January 1, 2026. This impacts real property records on the web. Judicial Officials can request their information be removed from public websites and this must be done within 30 days

Links to get started in learning more:

- [Sec. 13.991 MN Statutes](#) has been amended by [Chapter 35, Article 9, Section 6](#)
- The terms "personal information" and "judicial official" have meanings given in section [480.40, subdivision 1](#).
- 480.40 subd. 1 has been amended by [Chapter 35, Article 9, Section 10](#) (definitions)
- 480.40 subd. 3 has been amended by [Chapter 35, Article 9, Section 11](#) (exceptions)
- Removal of personal information: section [480.45](#);
- 480.45 subd. 2 has been amended by [Chapter 35, Article 9, Section 12](#) (30 days clause to remove publicly posted personal information)
- New: [480.50 Personal Information in Real Property Records](#) (see subd 3. Notification to government entities & SOS and Subd 4.

Executive Team Updates

Maddox



GAC (Executive Team) goals

- 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
 - Completed
- Ease transition of GAC membership and leadership between terms
 - Completed with the implementation and successful completion of GAC Orientation
- Increased participation of GAC committee and sectors in meetings
 - Outlined in FY2026/27 GAC work plan
- Replace GAC website and committee pages with Esri Hub
 - In progress
- Additional GAC member support for committees
 - In progress



Still need GAC member on -
Standards Committee
Archiving Committee

Desired outcomes of GAC goals

- Align GAC structure
 - Support collaboration between the GAC and its committees by having a GAC member in leadership
 - Provide structure to GAC priority projects by aligning them with GAC committees
 - Make it easier for GAC members to be involved by asking them to join a committee or subgroup
- Foster collaboration with Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo), MNIT
 - MN Statute 16E.30 GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION OFFICE. 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.

Other Executive Items

- GIS/LIS Panel Discussion on Who's Who?
- NSGIC Participation
- ...and...

Emergency Preparedness Committee Leadership Transition
New Chair: Britta Maddox

THANK YOU!

To previous chair Steve Swazee for all his efforts
intersecting emergency preparedness and GIS.



Round Robin / Announcements

All



Equity and Social Justice Seminar

Equity and Social Justice Seminar

October 9, 2025

Esri Minneapolis
880 Blue Gentian Rd, Suite 200
Eagan, MN 55121
651-454 0600



- [2025 Esri Equity & Social Justice Seminar - Minneapolis - Registration Details](#)

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Virtual

(online via Teams)

Agenda Item 16

Adjourn*

Maddox



**Motion may be required*

Thank You!

