



Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council

March 11, 2026

Information Sharing

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- The content of the meeting chat and transcript are 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
([Dec. 17](#) and [Jan. 14](#))

Mayer



Roll Call: 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**
 - Karissa Beierle Pavek, *Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments*
- **State Government**
 - Amy Harrigan, *MnDOT*
 - Kari Geurts, *MINIT 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, *Education Consultant/Mapping Together*
- **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*

Minnesota Geospatial Advisory
Council Meeting Poll



MnGeo Staff Support



Megan Sisko

MNIT MnGeo



Sally Wakefield

MNIT MnGeo

Non-Member Guests

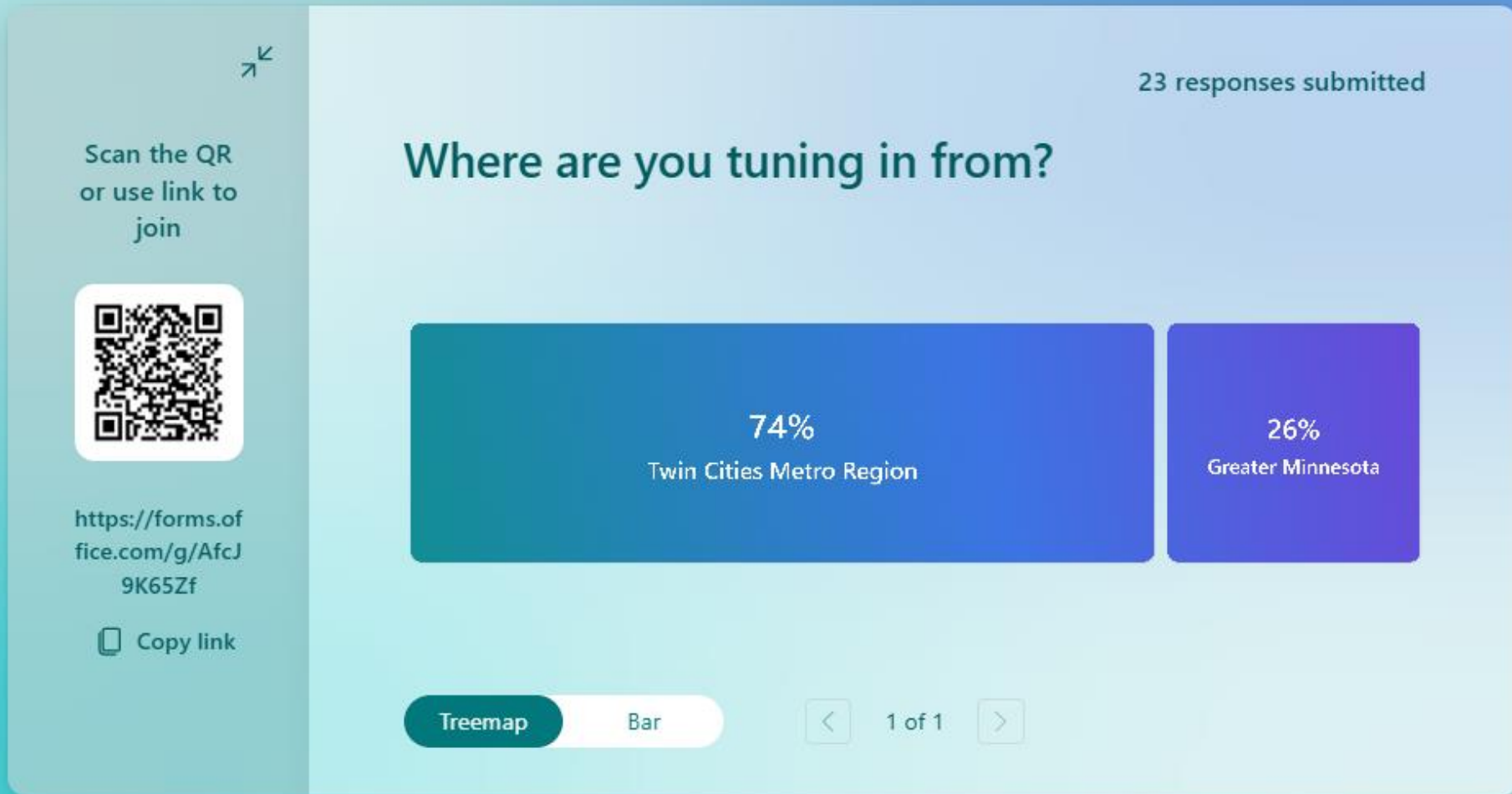
First and last name

Name of your organization

In-Room Attendees: Please announce verbally

Virtual Attendees: Place in the chat

Live Polling



Agenda

Time	Topic	Time	Topic
10:00	Call to order	10:50	Committee Presentation 2: CANDO
10:10	Review and receive Committee Reports	11:00	Sector Report 1: City - Greater MN
10:15	Approve modified Committee Work Plans	11:10	Sector Report 2: Tribal Government
10:20	Recap Data Practices Act judicial GIS impacts information session	11:25	MnGeo updates
10:25	Map accessibility presentation	11:35	Executive Team updates
10:35	MN GIS/LIS Consortium updates on awards and Spring Workshops	11:45	Round Robin / Announcements
10:40	Committee Presentation 1: Awards	12:00	Adjourn

Approve agenda*

Approve last meeting minutes*

(Dec. 17, 2025 & Jan. 14, 2026)

Review and receive Committee Reports

Mayer



GAC Committee Report Highlights

Archiving Committee

- Re-starting the Image Services Sustainability Committee as a subcommittee of Archiving.

Data Endorsement Committee

- Developed a draft process for data endorsement with two key components:
 1. a process for requesting or proposing that a dataset be considered for GAC endorsement, and
 2. a process for evaluating the proposal and making a recommendation on whether the dataset should be endorsed.
- Committee members are currently testing the draft process by applying it to real dataset.

GAC Committee Report Highlights

Emergency Preparedness Committee

- The EPC Education Workgroup was revitalized with a resource from HSEM.
- Researching options for a Fire Risk Assessment Tool priority resulted in what will likely be the creation of a new workgroup.

Parcels and Land Records Committee

- A new legislative bill will increase the State Deed tax and the Mortgage Rate tax. This would generate between \$8-10 million per year.
- Legislators are looking to change this tax into a direct fee for Remonumentation. Permanent funding is a barrier for remonumentation of all section corners in the state.

GAC Committee Reports Acknowledgement

**Acknowledge receipt of
committee reports**

Approve modified Committee Work Plans

Mayer



GAC Committee Work Plan Updates

6 Committees were assigned new Priorities

Committee	Priority Project Name	Priority Owner
3D Geomatics	Lidar Data	Gerry Sjerven
3D Geomatics	Lidar-derived Hydrography	Sean Vaughn, Jamie Schulz
3D Geomatics	Hydro-modified DEMs	Sean Vaughn
3D Geomatics	Culvert Data Standard	Rick Moore
Archiving	Geodata Archive Implementation	Ryan Mattke
CANDO	Publication of Open Foundational Datasets	David Brandt
Emergency Preparedness	Critical Infrastructure Data Workflow	Stacey Stark
Emergency Preparedness	US National Grid Map Availability	Britta Maddox
Emergency Preparedness	Options for a Fire Risk Assessment Tool	Britta Maddox
K-12 Education	K-12 Curated Geospatial Datasets	Shana Crosson
K-12 Education	K-12 Minnesota Digital Atlas	Shana Crosson
K-12 Education	Statewide Educator Dataset	Shana Crosson
Outreach	Statewide Parcel Data	Stacey Stark, Norman Anderson
Outreach	Statewide Road Centerline Data	Stacey Stark, Norman Anderson
Outreach	Statewide Address Points Data	Stacey Stark, Norman Anderson
Outreach	More Fully Attributed Statewide Parcel Data	Stacey Stark
Outreach	Success Stories for Geospatial Technology	Jessica Fendos
Outreach (with help from MnGeo)	GIS Advocacy Resources	Jessica Fendos
Parcel and Land Records	Updated & Aligned Boundary Data	Preston Dowell
Parcel and Land Records	Statewide County Boundary Dataset	Kory Thurnau
Parcel and Land Records	Statewide Right-of-Way Data	
Parcel and Land Records	Cadastral Mapping Guidelines	
PLSS Preservation	Remonumentation of all original federal Section Corners	Pat Veraguth
PLSS Preservation	Statewide Survey Records Inventory	Pat Veraguth
Standards	Public Land Survey System Data Standard	Curt Carlson, Mark Kotz
Standards	Transportation Asset Standard	Amy Harrigan
Standards	Bikeways Data Standard Expansion for Trails	

GAC Committee Work Plan Updates

Work Plan Updates in Process

- 3D Geomatics – noted they have plans to review workplan
- Outreach – requesting support for GIS advocacy engagement and funding needs
- Parcel and Land Records – need more direction on ROW priority

Work Plan Updates submitted

- Emergency Preparedness – updated workplan submitted
- K-12 Education – updated workplan submitted
- Standards – updated workplan submitted, formulating workgroups and leadership

GAC Committee Work Plan Updates

Request a motion to approve
the 3 updated Committee Workplans
as reflected in the meeting agenda packet

Event Recap: 2026 Data Practices Act changes for judicial officials – GIS impacts

Mayer



Data Practices Act changes for judicial officials - GIS impacts

What changed

- Starting on January 1, 2026, judicial officials may request restricted access to real property records containing information with their (or their family's) name and address.
- Relevant statutes include § [13.991](#), § [480.40](#), § [480.45](#) and § [480.50](#).

What's Impacted

- Upon receipt of a judicial request form, an organization must update that judicial official's property record information as “private”.
- This can impact GIS and related data, such as parcels and other official property records within the organization. Definitions and processes are outline in these statutes.

Data Practices Act changes for judicial officials - GIS impacts

Information Session on February 9, 2026

- The Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council (GAC), Minnesota County GIS Association (MCGISA), and Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo) hosted a public information session to help the geospatial community navigate recent judicial changes to the [Minnesota Government Data Practices Act \(DPA\)](#) and its impact on GIS data management and sharing.
- Legal, judicial, and GIS experts reviewed relevant state statutes, clarified what has changed, and helped attendees consider what this may mean for GIS data at their organization.
- GIS managers across sectors shared how they plan to accommodate incoming requests, and the session closed with an open discussion between attendees and presenters.

Data Practices Act changes for judicial officials - GIS impacts

Information Session on February 9, 2026

- View the [session recording](#).
- Browse the [Q & A handout](#) containing questions from the hosts and attendees, answered by the Minnesota Department of Administration's Data Practices Office.
- [Session slides](#) are also available.

**None of the content presented during the session
or in the Q & A handout should be construed as legal advice.**

If you need legal advice on these statutes, please contact your entity's legal representative.

Questions about the event? Contact MnGeo at gisinfo.mngeo@state.mn.us

Map Accessibility Presentation

Ewert



Title II ADA compliance April 24th!

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1, Level AA

- **Perceivable** – Easy to see and hear content.
- **Operable** – functionally available and navigable
- **Understandable** – clear and predictable content and interactions
- **Robust** – compatible with assistive technologies

[ADA fact sheet](#)

[WCAG 2 at a glance](#)

Steps to take today

- **Use your words** – lead with a descriptive introduction.
- **Add contact information** – and give your front desk a heads-up!
- **Include a table** – Yet another map that could have been a table.
- **Run a check** – and adjust accordingly. (I like to start with [WAVE](#) and [ANDI](#))

MNIT's accessibility resources

Map accessibility resources

- **The Map accessibility community of practice** – cartographers, web developers, and communications specialists from Minnesota state agencies, counties, cities, Met. Council, University of Minnesota, Esri, California, Illinois, Ohio, Missouri, Tennessee, and Texas.
- [Learn about accessible maps](#)
 - **Map design** – color, fonts, labels, and symbology
 - **Static maps** – design, human contact, export formats, tags
 - **Web maps** – map purpose, native HTML, keyboard access, testing early and often
- [The Office of Accessibility](#)

MN GIS/LIS Consortium Updates: Awards and Spring Workshops

Coates



GIS/LIS Consortium Update

Carla Coates | GIS/LIS Consortium

- **Board Retreat and Board Meeting: February 23, 2026**
 - **Budgets approved**
 - **Highlights: Committee reports and 2026 goals**
 - **K-12**
 - ✓ **Combining GIS/LIS and GAC Committees**
 - **Fall Conference and Workshops**
 - ✓ **Planning is under way!**
 - ✓ **In Duluth for next 4 years**
 - **Fundraising**
 - ✓ **Explore fundraising opportunities outside of Fall Conference**

- **Board Retreat and Board Meeting: February 23, 2026**
 - **Committee reports and 2026 goal highlights (continued)**
 - **Spring Workshops**
 - ✓ **New venue for networking event**
 - ✓ **Seeking a new Chair or Co-Chair**
 - **Communications**
 - ✓ **Renew efforts to highlight who we are as an organization**
 - **Website refresh**
 - **Continue to expand social media presence**
 - ✓ **Strengthen collaboration with the GAC**

- **Board Retreat and Board Meeting: February 23, 2026**
 - **Committee report and 2026 goal highlights (continued)**
 - **Higher Education**
 - ✓ Explore additional award funding sources to support students
 - **Finance**
 - ✓ Continue to increase reserve fund
 - **Professional Development**
 - ✓ Continue to expand networking opportunities
 - **Executive Committee**
 - ✓ Explore possibility of membership dues
 - ✓ Revitalize DEI

Upcoming Events

Women in GIS Networking Event

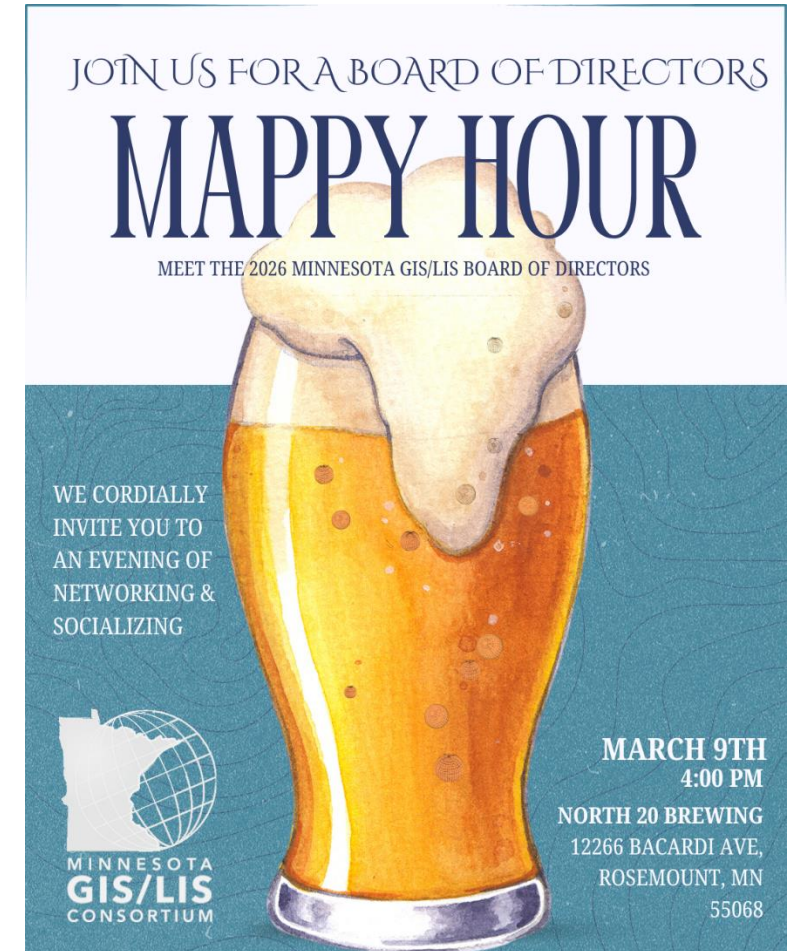
- **March 26th, 2026: 5:30-7:00pm**
- **Urban Growler Brewing**
- **ALL in the MN GIS/LIS community are welcome!**



Upcoming Events

Board of Directors Mappy Hour Networking Event

- **After each board meeting**
 - **Monday, April 13, 2026**
 - **Monday, May 11, 2026**
 - **Monday, June 8, 2026**
- **ALL in the MN GIS/LIS community are welcome!**



Upcoming Events

Spring Workshops

- May 14th, 2026 – University of Minnesota Twin Cities
- **Instructors and volunteers are needed!**
 - https://lnkd.in/gN9td_ui



**INSTRUCTORS
NEEDED
FOR**

SPRING WORKSHOPS

*Share your knowledge and skills with the GIS Community.
Sign up today to teach a spring workshop!*

Save the date:
MAY 14TH, 2026



mAppetites

- Virtual lunch & learn
- Recurring dates TBD



GIS On Tap

- Presentations and networking in a relaxed setting
- Recurring dates TBD



2026 Salary Survey

- Survey is open
- Tool for understanding the state of GIS/LIS jobs in Minnesota
- 5-10 minutes

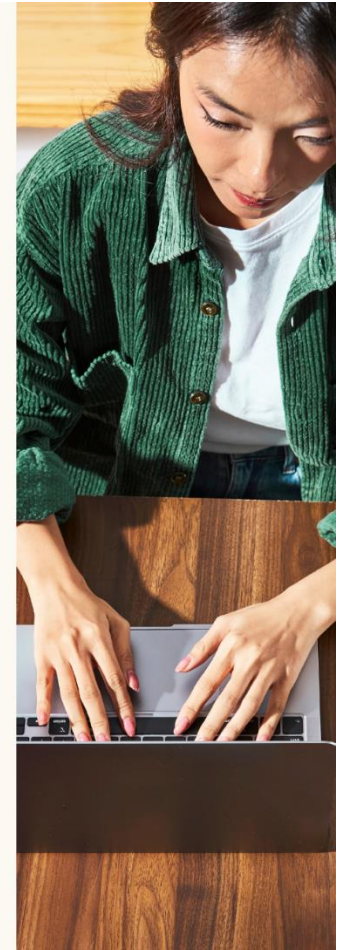


NOW OPEN

2026 Salary Survey

Help us capture career information and discover the changing trends in our industry to help emerging professionals understand what to expect in Minnesota's GIS professional landscape.

Take the Survey Today!



Award Nominations

- **Open April 1-May 31, 2026**
 - E-announcement with details in March
- **Award descriptions, past winners, how to nominate:**
 - <https://www.mngislis.org/page/awards>
- **Contact: Rebecca Foster, Awards Chair**
 - Rfoster@EdinaMN.gov



John Borchert, one of the first Lifetime Achievement Award winners in 1993 along with Joseph Sizer and Alan Robinette

GIS/LIS Consortium Board - Open Seat

Open Seat

- **Non-Profit Representative**
 - Nominations are open
 - **Contact: GIS/LIS Consortium Board Chair**
 - chair@mngislis.org



**NOMINATIONS
ARE OPEN**

NON-PROFIT REPRESENTATIVE

Are you passionate about making a difference in the GIS community? Do you want to be part of something bigger? Join a great team and serve on the MN GIS/LIS Consortium Board!



If you're interested in filling this role please email:
Chair@mngislis.org

Thank You!

Carla Coates

Carla.Coates@state.mn.us

651-201-7400

Committee Presentation 1: Awards

Stovern / Kne





Awards Committee Update

Ryan Stovern & Len Kne | Awards Committee

Awards Committee Mission

Committee Mission: Promote awareness of the [Governor's Geospatial Certificate Award](#), review nominations, and submit recommendations to MnGeo.

Objectives and Deliverables:

- Maintain and revise the Geospatial Certificate nomination information and award criteria
- Convene to review nominations for the Governor's Geospatial Certificate as needed
- Recommend nominations to MnGeo for Geospatial Certificate
- Promote awareness of the award across the Minnesota geospatial community

Winners

Explore past Governor's Certificate recipients for exemplary geospatial projects.

[2025 Awards](#)

- **Minnesota Lead Service Line Mapping and Data Display Project** - *Minnesota Department of Health, U-Spatial - University of Minnesota, Minnesota Rural Water Association*

2023-2024: No award given

[2022 Awards](#)

- **COVID-19 Testing Locations and Vaccine Finder Web Mapping Applications** - *Metropolitan Council, Minnesota Geospatial Information Office, Minnesota IT Services partnering with Minnesota Departments of Revenue and Health, Minnesota IT Services Application Development, Minnesota Departments of Health and Human Services*
- **Minnesota Natural Resource Atlas** - *Natural Resources Research Institute, University of Minnesota Duluth*

2020-2021: No award given

[2019 Awards](#)

- **Mapping Prejudice project** - *John R. Borchert Map Library, University of Minnesota*
- **Minnesota Wetland Inventory project** - *Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund, University of Minnesota, St. Mary's University, Ducks Unlimited*

[2018 Awards](#)

- **Minnesota Historical Aerial Photographs Online website** - *John R. Borchert Map Library, University of Minnesota*
- **Minnesota Geospatial Commons** - *Minnesota Departments of Natural Resources and Agriculture, Minnesota Geospatial Information Office, Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency*

2016-2017: No award given

[2015 Award](#)

- **Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium**

[2014 Award](#)

- **Minnesota Elevation Mapping Project** - *Minnesota Departments of Natural Resources, Transportation, and Agriculture, Minnesota Geospatial Information Office, University of Minnesota, U.S. Geological Survey, Clean Water Legacy Council*

[2013 Award](#)

- **GeoMoose** - *City of St. Paul*

2012: No award given

[2011 Award](#)

- **Red River Basin Mapping Initiative** - *The International Water Institute*

Governor's Certificate Awards for Exemplary Geospatial Projects

Award Criteria

The award criteria require that projects must have:

1. Yielded tangible benefits and exceptional results
2. Had a significant impact outside the home organization, and
3. Demonstrated at least one of the following goals:
 - Efficient investments in geospatial information, such as those that serve multiple purposes or users or have exceptional cost-benefit ratios
 - Exemplary use of geospatial technology that effects positive change and/or improves the quality of life in Minnesota
 - Sharing of geospatial data, expertise and technology
 - Development of geospatial data as a public resource, widely available at reasonable cost
 - Establishment and promotion of geospatial data standards and guidelines
 - Delivery of quality education and training programs
 - Use of GIS as an instrument for policy and decision-making
 - Fruitful discussion of issues important to Minnesota's geospatial information users

Key Dates

- **June 1** - Submit a preliminary nomination packet to the Awards Committee at gisinfo.mngeo@state.mn.us
- **June 7** - Awards Committee provides feedback to all groups submitting nominations
- **June 30** - Final nomination packet is due to MnGeo (see instructions below)
- **September** - Groups submitting nominations are informed of their nomination's status
- **October** - presentation of Governor's Certificate at MN GIS/LIS Conference

Thank You!

Ryan Stovern
Len Kne

Committee Presentation 2: CANDO

Brandt



Nationwide and Commercial Data Assets Workgroup (CAN DO)



Contributing to National and Commercial Data Assets

David Brandt | CANDO

To share local authoritative data with
nationwide and commercial assets

Objectives

- Raise awareness of the need for shared data.
- Identify major consumers of shared data.
- Identify, document, and recommend requirements and processes for MnGeo to share aggregated statewide datasets compiled from local authoritative data.
- Identify appropriate open licensing.



Providers Contacted

We confirmed that Apple, Esri, Google, Here, and TomTom were using the National Address Database (NAD). Minnesota contributes aggregated address data to the NAD for those counties that have agreed to share their data openly. OpenStreetMap (OSM) did a single load from NAD in 2021 and has relied on OSM mappers since.

Esri and TomTom are using local street centerline data contributed through the Community Maps Program.

- Processes for sharing authoritative data with national and commercial assets.
- Framework for sharing with new entities.
- Defined and documented data sharing outreach to authoritative data producers.
- Additional shared aggregated data availability.



ESRI Requirements

There are three ways to share under the Esri Community Maps program

<https://communitymaps.arcgis.com/home/>

1. [Provide map feedback](#). **Tell Esri** What's wrong; send corrections so they can fix it
2. [Edit Features](#). **Add basemap details** by creating or editing large scale features
3. [Share data](#). **Send Esri** your authoritative data so they can enrich the basemap

Google Requirements

- Google Maps Content Partner Program
<https://contentpartners.maps.google.com/>
- [Content requirements: specifications for sharing data](#): Specifications for sharing data, where to find requirements, suggestions, and sample datasets.
- [Share Data Feeds](#) and [Share via a website URL](#): Share via a website URL; how to set up your submission for Google to get data from your website regularly.
- [Edit the map directly](#): Google's new tool for submitting direct edits to roads without the need for a dataset. This may be particularly helpful for the honorary road name and alternate road name issues.

- Allows for direct editing of the OpenStreetMap layers
<https://www.openstreetmap.org/>
- There is a process for city/county/state/country government, a non-profit, or some other organization to improve the quality of OpenStreetMap. [Import/Guidelines - OpenStreetMap Wiki](#)

Overture Maps Foundation

- Launched in December 2022
- A collaborative open-data initiative led by software developers, data experts, cartographic engineers, and product managers from dozens of Overture Maps Foundation [member companies](#) (TomTom is a founding member Esri joined in 2023).
- Members have been working toward a shared vision: to create reliable, user-friendly, and interoperable open map data that supports both current and future map products.

- What type of open data license to use?
 - Open Data Commons Public Domain Dedication and License (PDDL) v1.0
 - Creative Commons CC0
- Promote open sharing of statewide centerlines and address points

Thank You!

David Brandt

David.Brandt@washingtoncountymn.gov

651-430-6451

Sector Report 1: City - Greater MN

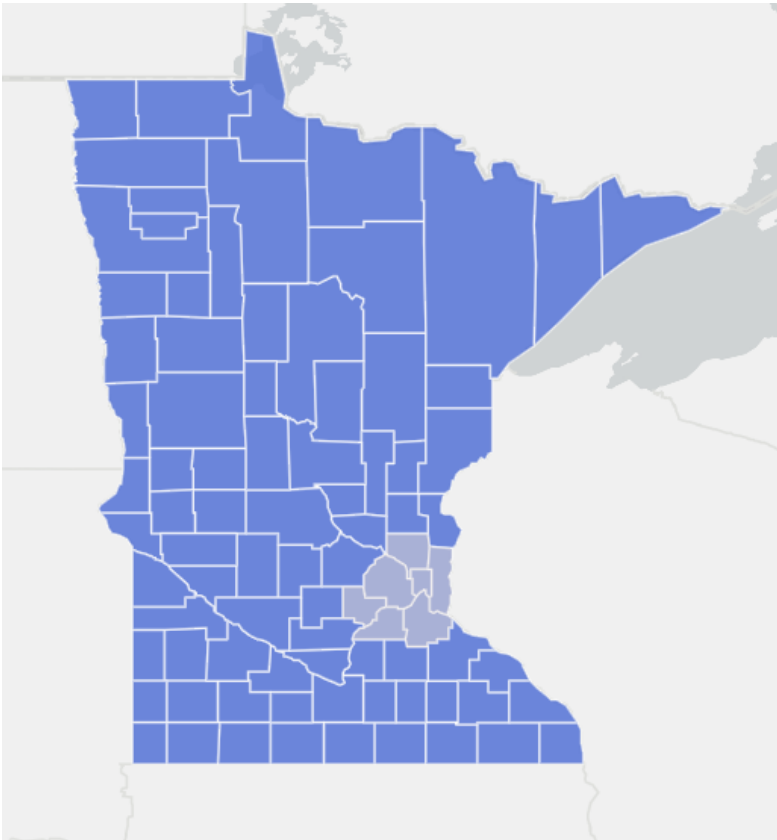
Krueger





Sector Report 1: City – Greater MN

Michael Krueger | City, Greater Minnesota



Greater MN Cities GIS

- Geographically defined as **outside the Metro Area**
- **Many Hats** – City Planners, Asset Management Professionals, Engineers, focused GIS Professionals, Emergency Service Analysts.
- Recurring theme – “**Do more with less**”
- **Broad responsibilities** and **growing data demands**

What's in Scope

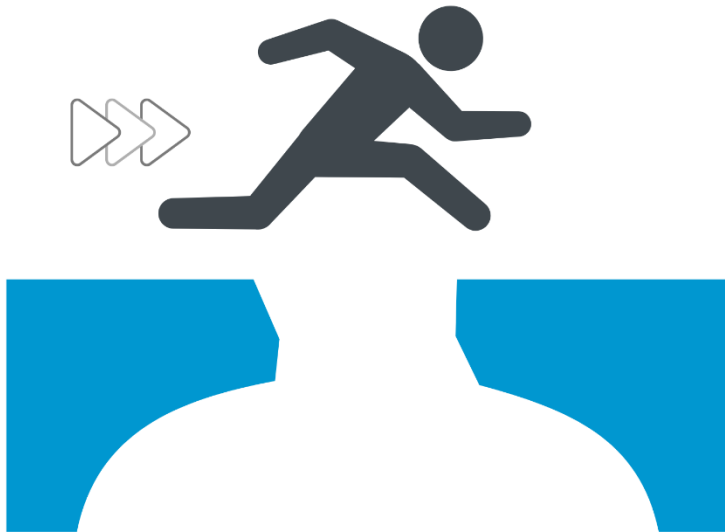
- *Parks, Airports, Utilities, Cadastral, Addressing, Transportation, Emergency Services, Asset Management, Forestry, Elections and More*



Identifying Points of Contact

- **MnGeo Contacts** – Update
- First Virtual Meeting in February
 - Feedback – **Expand the Group**
 - What we do and its impact
 - Next meeting planned for April





Engagement Gap

- **0** sector priority project submissions
- General GAC Awareness
- Establishing a network

Focus Areas



- Communicating **GIS needs** to councils, commissions, leadership
 - *Opportunity: create toolkit (one-pager, ROI templates, success stories)*
- Isolated Networks
 - *Opportunity: increase engagement with sector through focused communications, meetings, and increasing GAC awareness*

Measures of Success

- Increase Sector Participation
 - From 4 cities to 5, 6
- Establish working group to explore toolkit creation
- Priority Projects
 - Awareness and participation this cycle
 - Creation and stewardship next cycle



Thank You!

Michael Krueger, GIS Manager, City of Moorhead

Michael.Krueger@moorheadmn.gov

218-299-5125

Sector Report 2: Tribal Government

Bonney / Ikuta





Tribal Government Sector Update

Ryan Bonney | Tribal Government Representative

Upcoming Events

- **National Tribal GIS Annual Conference**



16th Annual National Tribal GIS® Conference ●

The National Tribal Geographic Information Support Center (NTGISC) invites you to join us for the 16th Annual National Tribal GIS® Conference at the Embassy Suites...

 **APR 27 - MAY 01**

 ALL DAY

 Local Time

Date: Apr 27 2026 - May 01 2026

Time: All Day

 Embassy Suites Albuquerque

1000 Woodward Pl NE, Albuquerque,

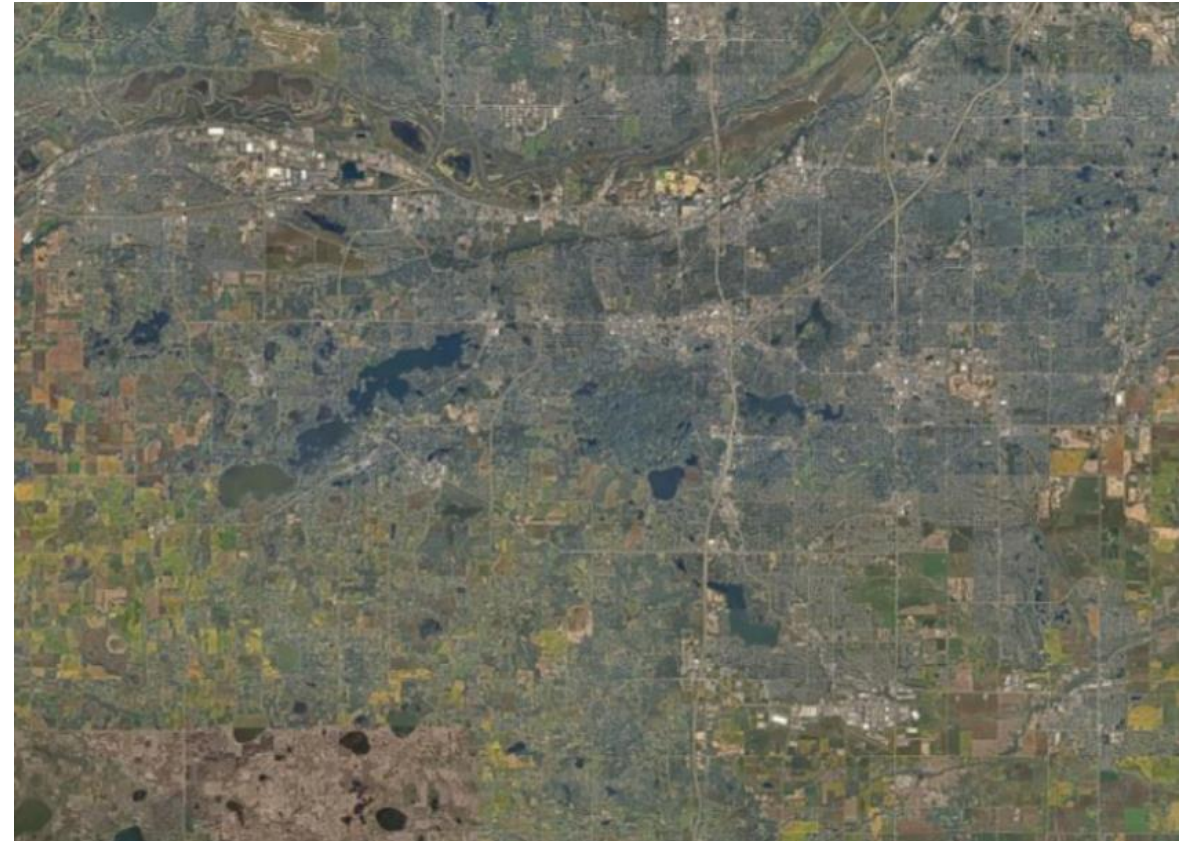
NM, 87102

 Tribal GIS® Organization Event

 National Tribal Geographic
Information Support Center

Challenges and Opportunities

- The Importance of aerial imagery access
- ArcGIS Enterprise
- Asset Management Development



Thank You!

Ryan Bonney

Ryan.Bonney@shakopeedakota.org

612-875-1947

Tribal Government Representative



Tribal Youth GIS Workshop

Quentin Ikuta | At-Large Member, MN GAC

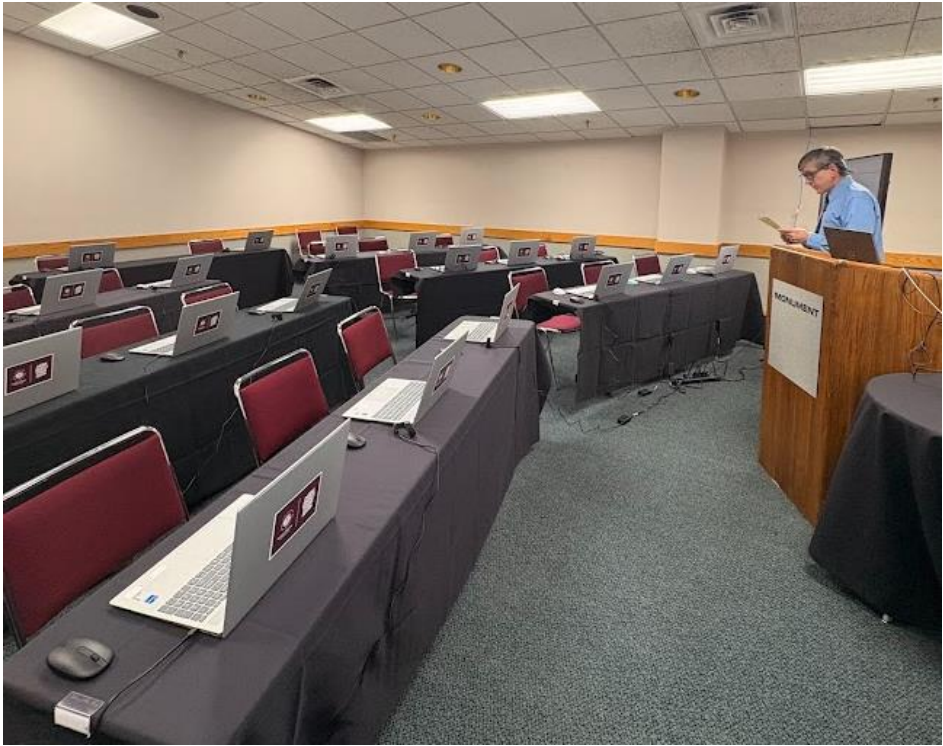
Project Manager, Indian Land Tenure Foundation

Tribal Youth GIS Workshop

- **Date** – December 16-17, 2025
- **Location** – Rapid City, SD
- **Host** – Indian Land Tenure Foundation (Little Canada, MN)
- **Purpose** – Introduce tribal youth (high school age) to GIS concepts and software; provide an opportunity for career exploration.

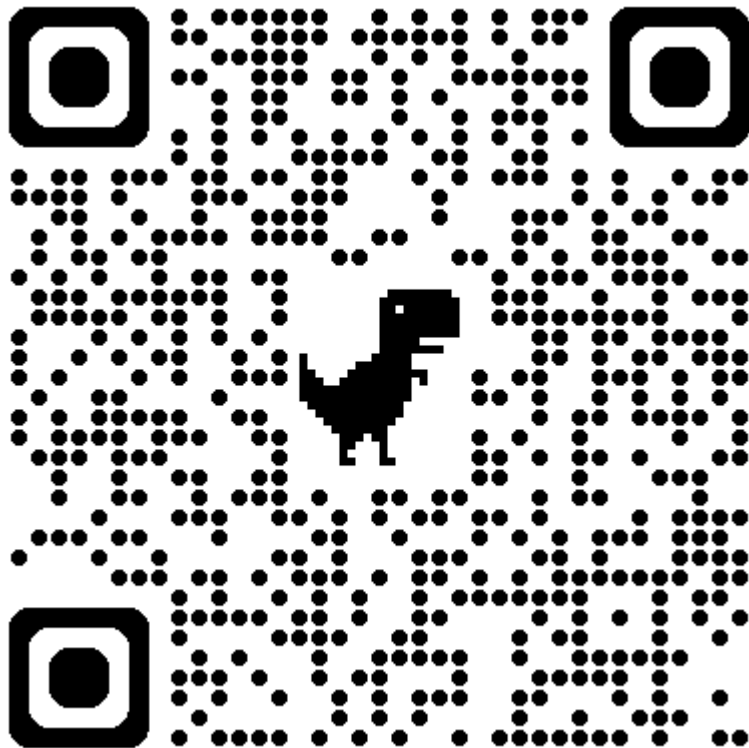


Laptops purchased by ILTF and Provided to Students to Take Home at End of Course.
15 students total.



Course was created and hosted via a collection of interactive ArcGIS StoryMaps

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/collections/128881e43aad4bd9971f1d15b6fcc901>



Collection

ILTF GIS Short Course

Discussions and activities to support a short course in spatial thinking and GIS for the ILTF community.

Joseph Kerski

[Get started](#)

Image art credit: Thomas Mails, an author who has published several books on Plains Indian Culture

- 1 ILTF: Creating Positive Change: GIS in Indigenous Education
- 2 ILTF Fill Out Field Survey, View Map and Dashboard
- 3 ILTF: Why Today is the Ideal Time to be a Student
- 4 ILTF: Working with the Short Course Participant Survey
- 5 ILTF GIS Fundamentals
- 6 ILTF Symbolizing and Filtering Maps

Students learned from instructor, ILTF president (Elder), and other young professionals. School administrators were also present.



Main Takeaway: valuable model for tribal youth GIS introduction and education, can and should be replicated in Minnesota given funding and resource availability.

Thank You!

Quentin Ikuta, At-Large Member, MN GAC

Indian Land Tenure Foundation

qikuta@iltf.org

Agenda Item 11

MnGeo Updates

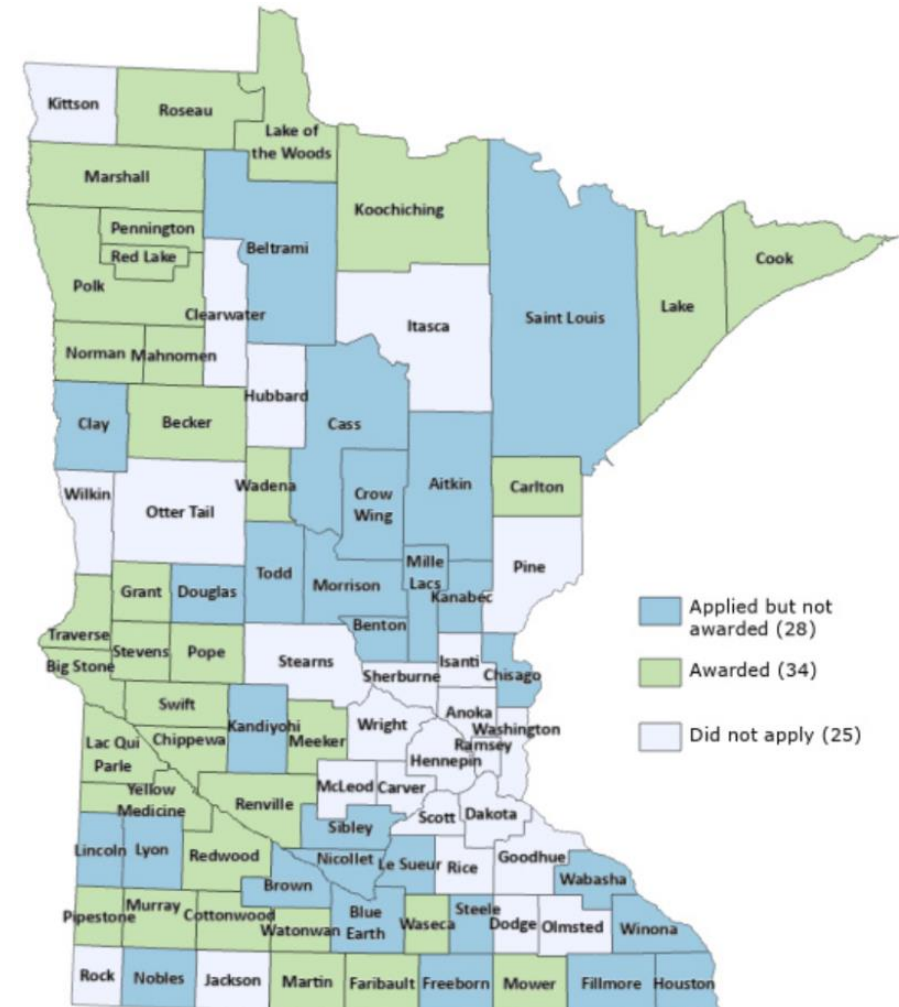
Slaats



Public Land Survey System (PLSS) Grants

Grant projects are wrapping up!

- **23 Projects will be completed by March 31**
- **8 counties** have been granted extensions
 - Some just need 1-3 months to finish up
 - Some were able to expand projects with realized savings
 - Some of these extended to **June 30, 2027**
- **MnGeo Survey Coordinator is busy:**
 - Reviewing deliverables
 - Processing reimbursements
 - Closing out projects/agreements
- **Minnesota Land Surveyor's Day at the Capitol**
 - **April 7** in the L'Etoile du Nord room



See the [PLSS Grant Information Page](#) for more details

Statewide Foundational Datasets: Imagery

Minnesota Geospatial Image Service: local, regional, and statewide imagery in natural color and color-infrared

- **Recently Added:**
 - 2025 Met Council spring imagery
- **Coming soon:**
 - 2025 NAIP imagery
- Discussions underway to explore **STAC** and **Cloud Optimized GeoTIFFs (COGs)** for future image services

Interested in adding your imagery?

Contact kory.thurnau@state.mn.us



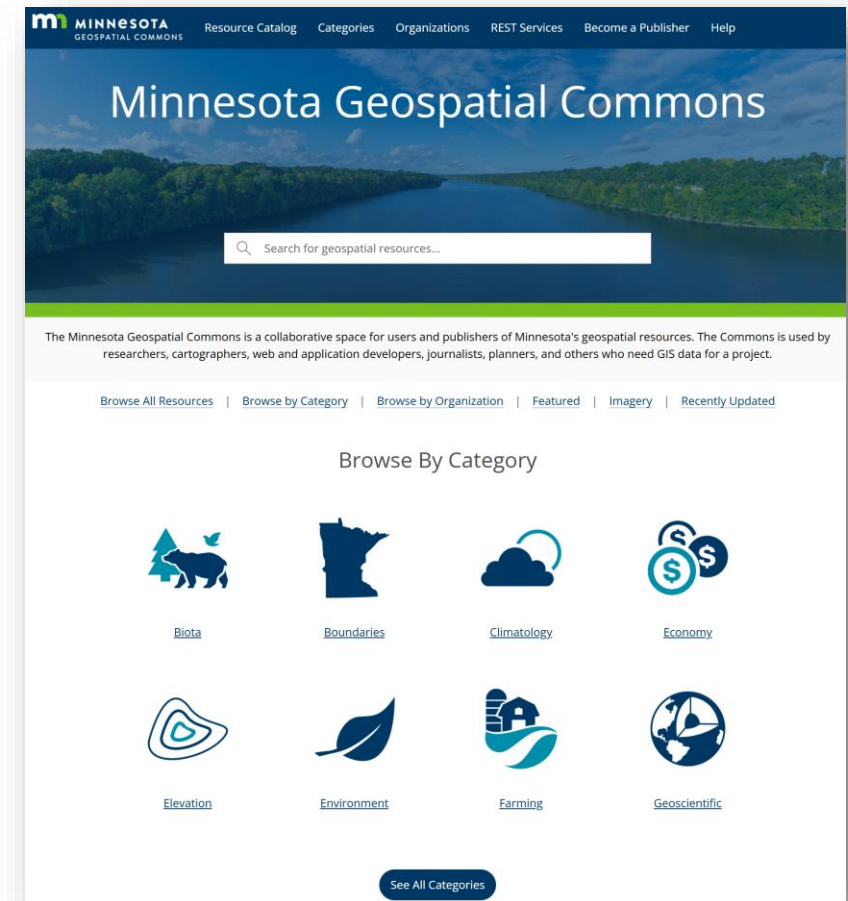
Update: Modernization of the Geospatial Commons

The Minnesota Geospatial Commons technology is 10 years old

MnGeo using [MNIT Technology Modernization Funds](#) to *modernize* technology moving from a *file-based system to a web service model* and *improve user and publisher experience*

Project updates:

- Minimum Viable Product 3 (MVP3) “Collaboration via File-based sharing” launched successfully on February 13!
- Actively working on MVP4 “Collaboration via Website interface” to launch at the end of this month!
- Launched 295 successful resource collaborations and 7 Publishers
- Migration of resources:
 - 33% resources migrated
 - 31% In progress
 - 79% Publishers have chosen a collaboration type
- Created a communication plan that includes Information sessions, Open office hours, dedicated email address and contact with each publisher to help migration to new site
- Requested the project be extended through the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2026)

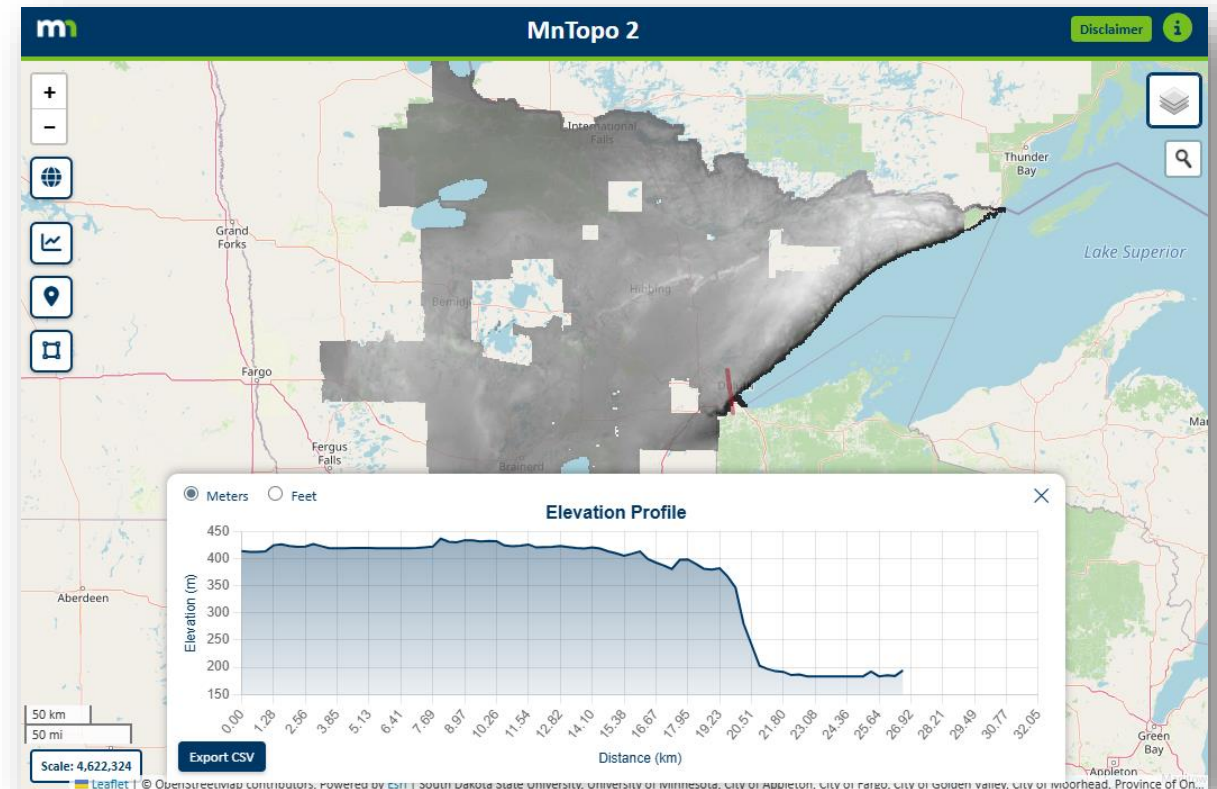


MnTopo 2 Update: Lidar Data Storage and Products Status

- Minnesota seamless 0.5m Lidar DEM
 - Created by subject matter experts from the 3DGeo derivatives team; released in October 2025
 - 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
- Other products available 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 application development completed and tested by beta testers

MnTopo 2 Update: Ongoing and Upcoming Work

- Subject matter experts conclude research and development for creating additional derived data: Contours, Hillshade, Hydrographic Position Index (HPI)
- Complete the creation of seamless 0.5m Lidar DEM for lidar acquisition blocks with available vendor delivered data
- MnTOPO - new application “soft launch” by March 12



Legislative Updates

- Federal: NSGIC Day on the Hill
 - National States Geographic Information Council Day on the Hill, Washington DC February 24
 - MnGeo's Slaats and Wakefield visited Senator Klobuchar Office to advocate for continued funding of Digital Coast Act, 3D Elevation Program and 3D Hydrography Program, and Next Generation 911 funding
- Minnesota: PLSS Funding Proposal
 - Content of proposed bill may be changing, but continues to have support to move forward
- Minnesota: Data Practices Act proposed changes
 - [HF 3353 Introduction - 94th Legislature \(2025 - 2026\)](#) Proposed changes to expand from Judicial Officials to "Covered Officials" with a taskforce to "analyze need for expanded protection ... and explore options for efficiently and effectively administering such protections."

Executive Team Updates

Mayer

Mission: The Executive Team of the MN Geospatial Advisory Council supports 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 supports the priorities.



GAC Executive Team Updates

Since we last met on December 17

- Special meeting of the GAC to finalize the 2026-27 Term Priorities – January 14, 2026
- GAC Committee Leadership Meeting – January 14, 2026
- Executive Team Meeting – February 6, 2026
- Public Information Session: Data Practices Act Changes for Judicial Officials - GIS Impacts – February 9, 2026
- Leadership Team Meeting – February 11, 2026
- GAC Committee Leadership Retreat: planning meeting – February 20, 2026
- NSGIC Mid-year Conference – Washington D.C. February 23-27, 2026

GAC Executive Team Updates

What's Next

- New: Individual Member Coffee Chats with Alison and Tanya
 - March 23 through May 8 - 1 hour time slots
 - Sign up instructions will be emailed
- Time change: GAC meeting May 20, 2026, 10:30 am – 1:30 pm, in-person
- GAC Committee Leadership Retreat
 - May 20, 2026, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, in-person



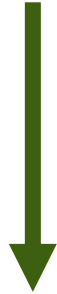
Desired GAC outcomes for 2026-27 Term

- 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.

GAC Goals for 2026-27 Term

- 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
- Additional GAC member support for committees
 - Completed
- Increased participation of GAC committee and sectors in meetings
 - In progress: Contribute a minimum of one sector presentation during the two-year term
 - In progress: Each committee will present at (a minimum of) one quarterly GAC meeting during each 2-year term
- Replace GAC website and committee pages with Esri Hub
 - In progress
- Ease transition of GAC membership and leadership between terms
 - Completed: GAC term FY2026-27 member-orientation
 - Completed: Committee Leadership Meeting (January 2026)
 - Planning: Committee Leadership Retreat (May 2026)

GAC Sector and Committee Presentation Schedule



GAC Meeting	GAC Sector	GAC Committee
9/10/2025	MN GIS/LIS Consortium	
12/17/2025	County Government - Greater MN	
	MetroGIS	
3/11/2026	Tribal Government	Awards
	City Government - Greater MN	CANDO
5/20/2026	County Government - Metro	Outreach
	City Government - Metro	Standards
9/16/2026	Higher Education	Emergency Preparedness
	K-12 Education	K-12 Education
		Data Endorsement
12/16/2026	State Government	PLSS Preservation
	Surveying	Parcels and Land Records
3/10/2027	Federal Government	3D Geomatics
	Non-Profit	Archiving
5/26/2027	Regional Government - Metro	
	Regional Government - Greater MN	
Participate with appropriate Sector	At-Large	

Thank You!

Tanya Mayer

tanya.mayer@metc.state.mn.us

Stay up to date on GAC news: <https://www.mngeo.state.mn.us/newsletter.html>

Round Robin / Announcements

All



Reminder: Next Meeting

Wednesday, May 20, 2025

10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Hybrid

(in-person and online via Teams)

Agenda Item 14

Adjourn*

Mayer



**Motion may be required*

Thank You!

