MnGeo Priority Projects and Initiatives

September 24, 2014

While there are many worthwhile geospatial projects and endeavors, MnGeo is focusing its efforts and its limited resources on a few projects in order to make meaningful progress. All of these projects are in collaboration with other organizations and are either underway or anticipated to be initiated in the coming months. In alphabetic order, MnGeo's priority projects are:

Planned

Statewide Addresses

Project Goal: To have building addresses and geo-locations for all structures in the State established and a mechanism created for ongoing data updating and maintenance. The data would be freely and publicly available.

Project Status: This effort has not yet started. It is anticipated to be a late 2014 project. This effort will be related to Dept. of Public Safety's 911 efforts and to the Street Centerline and Parcel projects described below.

Anticipated Completion and Milestones: TBD

Project Funding: TBD

Project Issues, Concerns and Risks: Issues, concerns and risks will be identified during the first phase of the effort once it begins.

Project Contacts: Dan Ross (Executive Sponsor), John Hoshal MnGeo GIS Project Lead

In Progress

Aerial Imagery

Project Goal: Complete statewide coverage of spring leaf-off color and color infrared imagery at 0.5-meter resolution (orthoimagery and stereo), providing the opportunity for partners to buy-up to higher resolution in their areas of interest. Current partner counties include Beltrami, Polk and McLeod. For more information on the Spring Aerial Imagery Program, see the SAIP webpage.

Project Status: On schedule

Anticipated Completion and Milestones: This project, which was initiated in 2009, is anticipated to be completed by the end of calendar year 2014. Spring 2014 imagery acquisition has been completed and is currently being processed and quality control checked.

Project Funding: State: $1,100,000; Partners: $1,000,000

Project Issues, Concerns and Risks: Over the long term, this project demonstrates an opportunity for significant leveraging of public funds if the state, working with Minnesota's counties, local governments, and tribal governments, establishes a cooperative, sustainable program to collect, process and distribute aerial imagery on a predictable cycle that implements a fair cost-sharing model. Discussions have begun to consider the development of a spring 2016 Twin Cities Metro aerial imagery project in the near future.

Project Contacts: Chris Cialek (MnGeo); Steve Kloiber (DNR)

ArcGIS Online for State Agencies

Project Goal: Create an authoritative, multi-purpose, public-domain site of maps and web applications from Minnesota State agencies. Assist state agencies in developing their ArcGIS expertise.

Project Status: The governance document was completed in mid-June. The Minnesota Maps site is open to the public and proper metadata has been created for the maps and apps available to the public on the site. The ArcGIS Online agency kickoff meeting on 6/3/14 highlighted the training needs of the agencies.
Anticipated Completion and Milestones: Training – Winter 2014/2015
Project Funding: There is no specific project funding for this effort. MnGeo has assigned a project lead who is working with other agencies to get their maps, web applications and metadata published on the site.
Project Issues, Concerns and Risks: Agencies are to use this site for their public-facing maps and web applications and use their own subscription for internal use. While discouraged, agencies may find it easier to publish on their own subscription. Some services available through the site use credits; however, there are not adequate tools to manage credit use by individuals. How does ArcGIS Online information and training get distributed within each ELA partner's agency especially for the non-traditional GIS user?
Project Contacts: Norm Anderson – MnGeo

Drainage Record Modernization
Project Goal: This project will develop a GIS database template along with data standards and a web-based data portal for Minnesota's public drainage system records.
Project Status: A project plan has been written and a Service Authorization (SA) between the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and MnGeo has been written but not yet executed.
Anticipated Completion and Milestones:

Project Milestone	Target Completion Date
Project Start	6/27/2014
Project Plan, Vendor RFP, Steering Committee, detailed requirements	3/15/2015
Develop GIS database template and web-based data portal for public drainage system records	6/30/2016
Update Drainage Records Modernization Guidelines	6/30/2016
Disseminate GIS Database Template and Data Standards to stakeholder communities	6/30/2016
Project Complete	June 30, 2016

Project Funding: $230,000
Project Issues, Concerns and Risks: BWSR has not yet signed (executed) the SA because they have misgivings about its format and validity. They plan to speak to MMB to resolve their concerns regarding the SA as well as the general Service Level Agreement (SLA) that MnGeo has with them through MN.IT.
Project Contacts: Chris Buse (Executive Sponsor), Al Kean (Business Champion), Jim Krumrie (Project Lead)

Geospatial Commons
Project Goal: The long-range objective of the Commons is to be the best source for the widest variety of geospatial data, services, information, ideas and news in Minnesota. It is initially being designed as a coordinated, next-generation website that will allow users to find, view and download data; publish metadata and data; and find and use web services and applications. Additional proposed functions of the site include: web service ratings and monitoring; back-end broker functions that connect applications to web services; and user reviews of data and web services.
Project Status: The initial goal of this effort – to stand up a single geospatial resource distribution website – was achieved on July 1, 2014. The new application is not fully stocked with data at this time, however.

Migration of all significant state data currently provided in the Data Deli, Minnesota Geographic Clearinghouse, Data Finder and other independent state government portals is currently occurring in phase 2 of this effort.

Anticipated Completion and Milestones: The first seven agencies are expected to have their data in the system by the end of December 2014. Participation of remaining state agencies and local governments will be pursued through the current phase of the project, which runs through June 30, 2015.

Project Funding: There are no dedicated funds for this effort. MnGeo is providing a full time Project Manager, technical and administrative support. Staff members from several State agencies have been assigned to this project. Other resources are expected to be made available by MN.IT Services as needed.

Project Issues, Concerns and Risks: There is a great deal to accomplish by December 2014. To be successful, State agencies need to actively participate in migrating their data into the system.

Project contacts: Chris Cialek (Project Manager); Dan Ross (Executive Sponsor)

Parcels

Project Goal: To establish and maintain a parcel/cadastral data layer (both spatial and attribute) for the entire state based on authoritative county data that is freely available to the public.

Project Status: This project has been underway for several years. While significant progress has been made (e.g., survey of all 87 counties, development of a Business Plan, generation of a proposed parcel attribute data exchange standard, and passage of legislation in May 2013 for the exchange of geospatial data between governmental entities at no cost) much work remains to be completed. Work has been started on a process that MnGeo will use to acquire parcel data from counties and make it available to all State agencies and other governmental entities. MnGeo continues to work with the MN Department of Revenue to determine how the Parcels Project complements Revenue's PRISM (Property Record Information System of Minnesota) Project.

Anticipated Completion and Milestones:

Milestones	Anticipated Due Date
Table of county contacts, willing to share/not, data status, data form, etc.	September 30, 2014
Signed and executed agreements of all willing counties	November 28, 2014
Concerns and possible solutions document of unwilling counties	October 17, 2014
Database schema and metadata document of chosen dataset model	October 17, 2014
Determination if Revenue's PRISM data is suitable for incorporation	September 19, 2014
Parcel data loaded into statewide repository per documented process	December 31, 2014
Established web services (internal)	November 28, 2014
Documentation of lessons learned and refined processes	January 16, 2015

While we do not expect to be able to obtain complete statewide coverage, we do anticipate we will be able to obtain and aggregate many counties. It is hoped that a complete statewide parcel data layer will be available in 2 years.

Project Funding: There are no dedicated funds for this project although an FGDC CAP grant provided funding to assist in developing the Business Plan.

Project Issues, Concerns, and Risks: Project success is dependent on counties developing and sharing both spatial and attribute parcel data. Issues include: some counties may be reluctant to share their parcel data, data content and quality can vary between counties (and in some cases within counties) and there is no established standard for spatial parcel data.

Project Contacts: Dan Ross (Executive Sponsor), Jim Krumrie (Project Lead)

Street Centerlines

Project Goal: Create an authoritative, multi-purpose, public-domain centerline spatial dataset representing the entire state of Minnesota that can be relied upon to accurately represent (to the best extent possible) the actual roadway assets of the state. This data layer is to be collaboratively built and maintained to reduce cost, eliminate redundant efforts, facilitate better data capture, provide inter-agency reporting and address a variety of needs from roadway data consumers.

Project Status: The timeline for the pilot project is dependent upon the deliverables and key milestones being met on the MnDOT TIS-LRS project timeline. The project team is in the process of setting up tools, data and services for the pilot partners to learn and experience the new environment. The state team will be working closely with pilot partners to test out the new tools and services and will obtain non-state centerline requirements at this time. Metro counties have joined together to create functional requirements and a common data model to meet their needs. This will go a long way to helping to understand local government needs and will likely serve as an initial model for partners.

Anticipated Completion and Milestones: Specific dates will be determined by the project management team with input from the pilot participants and MnDOT. Anticipated completion of the pilot is June 2015.

Project Funding: MnGeo and the MnDOT are providing part-time staff; MnDOT is providing project funding.

Project Issues, Concerns and Risks: The project scope needs to be well defined. Concrete goals and objectives are developed; dates must be determined.

Project Contacts: Peter Morey (MnDOT)**;** Geoff Maas (MetroGIS); Gordy Chinander (Metropolitan Emergency Service Board); Dan Ross (MnGeo); Teresa Leiste and Joe MacPherson (Benton County); Perry Clark (Carver County); Jon Large (Mahnomen County); Matt Koukol (Ramsey County); Jeffrey Miller and Chad Martini (Stearns County); Burny Tibbets and Dawn Sherk (White Earth Nation).