
Minnesota Governor's Council on Geographic Information

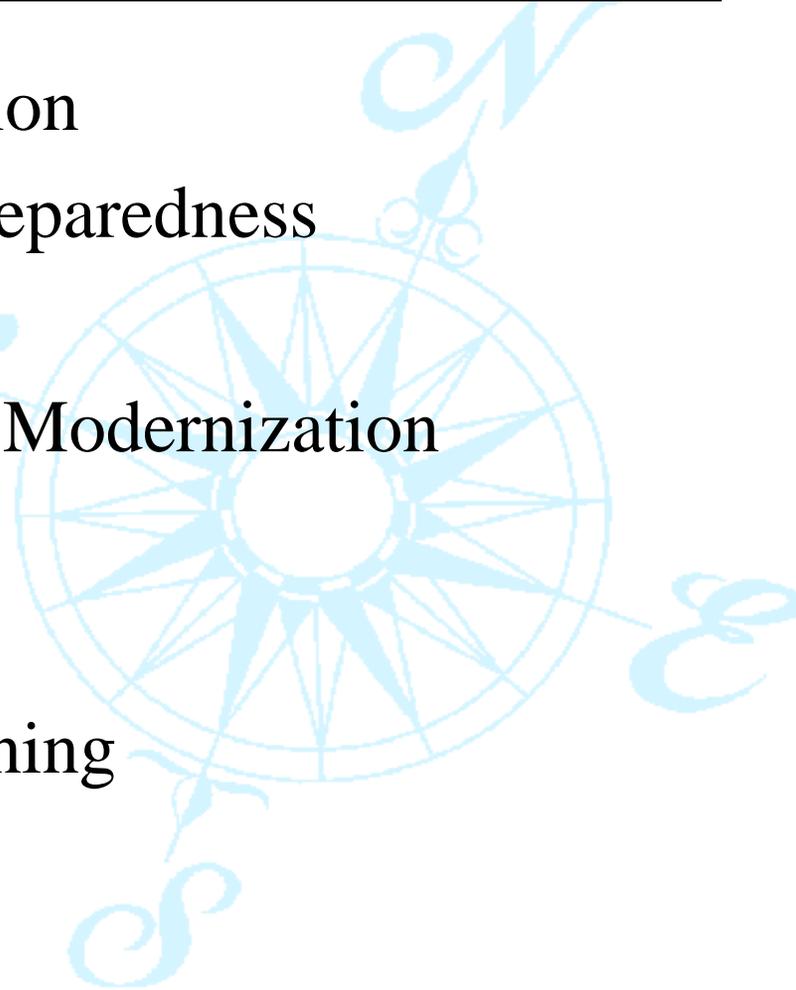
FY2009 end-of-year

Committee Reports

- Accomplishments
- Future Plans

Committees

- Digital Elevation
- Emergency Preparedness
- Hydrography
- Land Records Modernization
- Outreach
- Standards
- Strategic Planning



Digital Elevation

Purpose: *Promote the creation of statewide digital elevation data that is consistently accurate and available to the public.*

Co-Chairs: Ron Wencil, U.S. Geological Survey

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David Claypool, Ramsey County

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Digital Elevation

Accomplishments:

- Actively promoted elevation projects and activities in MN
 - GIS/LIS conference panel session
 - Information exchange and status of known projects
 - Support Red River Basin & southeast MN projects
- Delivered technical information and support
 - Technical presentations/briefings at Committee meetings
 - Technical resources posted on Committee web page
 - Committee members assisted in preparation of statewide elevation program documentation
- Supported Legislative proposal by documenting specific needs and applications for high resolution elevation data

Digital Elevation

Future Initiatives:

- Assemble work teams to:
 - Review technical specifications for statewide high resolution elevation data program
 - Study data collection costs, establish budget guidelines and evaluate existing data sources
 - Prioritize data collection areas and partnership options
- Support communication of statewide elevation program and technology

Digital Elevation

Change Opportunities and Future Issues:

- Coordinate with State Agency and Statewide Advisory Groups for Elevation Program requirements
 - Start efforts in Summer 2009 for Spring 2010 acquisition
 - Develop data distribution strategy and prototype
- Continue statewide technical leadership role in Elevation Data and Applications development
- Recommendations for long term data maintenance and stewardship

Emergency Preparedness

Purpose: *Serves as Minnesota's principal organization for promoting, coordinating, and standardizing GIS use across all levels of the state's Emergency Management community.*

Co-Chairs: **Kris Eide, MN Department of Public Safety,
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Emergency Preparedness

Accomplishments:

- **Grew committee membership from 122 to 170, with 60 serving on one of the committee's five work groups. Now believed to be the largest state organization of its type. Membership includes individuals from the:**
 - GIS, emergency management, public health, public safety, and first response communities, who represent
 - Federal, state, county, city, service, corporate, academic and out-of-state entities (IL, NC, WI).
- **Continued substantial development of the committee's public web site that serves as the:**
 - Membership and event management hub through its electronic enrollment, contact data base, and event registration features, and
 - Public information hub on GIS/emergency preparedness through extensive links and informational downloads. The site has become a national level hub for U.S. National Grid (USNG), Red River Valley flooding, and pandemic influenza.

Emergency Preparedness

Accomplishments:

- **Expanded committee's 2008 SharePoint effort (68 authorized users), into a ground breaking virtual workspace for GIS support during disasters. Refinement continues based on experience using:**
 - Dakota County's SharePoint to exchange "For Official Use Only" and "Sensitive Security Information" data,
 - SharedGeo's GeoMoose based Common Operating Picture platform and Jabber secure Instant Messaging system,
 - Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MGIO) provided online email and FTP backup file transfer capability,
 - National Interagency Fire Center's servers for product storage, and
 - Collaborative local efforts to obtain data.

Emergency Preparedness

Accomplishments:

- **Continued administrative efforts to create a state sponsored GIS “Go Team” for disaster response including:**
 - 9-page plan of action for formally creating a state GIS Go Team and improving the state’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC) GIS capabilities sent from Commissioner Badgerow to Commissioner Campion,
 - Lessons Learned document concerning the Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPC) participation in the Republican National Convention security efforts released as part of the Proceedings of the Geospatial Information Technology Association 2009 National Conference, and
 - Memorandums of Understanding and procedural documents are under development that will facilitate formal activation, payment for services and standardized operating procedures.

Emergency Preparedness

Accomplishments:

- **Supported the Republican National Convention National Special Security Event (NSSE) by:**
 - First deployment of EPC's GIS Go Team and first national use of local GIS support inside the U.S. Secret Service (USSS) Multi Agency Communications Center (MACC).
 - Providing 24/7 event coverage using 10 individuals who received greater than 10 hours of specialized training provided by FEMA, USSS, and the EPC,
 - Creating and deploying a first generation Common Operating Picture that linked together the MACC and state EOC, and
 - Working through technical and procedural issues to achieve the first national use of Civil Air Patrol ARCHER imagery in support of a National Special Security Event.

Emergency Preparedness

Accomplishments:

- **Supported the Red River Valley Flooding response by:**
 - Developing and deploying a collaborative online work environment that allowed 25+ volunteers to map 220 miles of the Red River Valley in under a week with 1:24,000, 10 KM USNG standard map products for the entire valley and 1:6,000, 1 KM product for urban areas.
 - Maps incorporated latest available imagery, 2-foot contour intervals, previous flood extents, and were updated as new event information became available.
 - Products were available to the response community 24/7 through an online interface that allowed map selection by geo-location.
 - Contributing more than 1124 hours of event geospatial support.
 - Preparing to provide a National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) sponsored national webinar concerning the response during Fall 2009.

Emergency Preparedness

Accomplishments:

- **Continued efforts to promote introduction of the U.S. National Grid in MN's GIS, emergency preparedness and first response communities. Efforts have placed Minnesota in a position of *national leadership*:**
 - Worked with the GCGI Standards committee to develop the formal state standard passed by the full GCGI on March 25, 2009,
 - Provided training and support materials to various Minnesota organizations, as well as some out of state entities,
 - Continued working with local response communities on production of map books,
 - Featured as the story line for a front page article in the *Pioneer Press* on May 5, 2009, a feature article of Edina City publication, *About Town*, Winter 2009, and a soon to be released article on the FGDC web site, and
 - Entered discussions with GIS personnel of Wisconsin's Department of Military Affairs concerning joint USNG support to National Guard exercise Valiant Guard 2011.

Emergency Preparedness

Accomplishments:

- **Promoted GIS use in the emergency preparedness and public safety communities through presentations and/or displays at the:**
 - 2008 Minnesota GIS/LIS Conference (Oct),
 - Sherburne County CERT Meeting (Nov),
 - 27th Annual MN Government IT Symposium (Dec),
 - NSGIC National Webinar (Jan),
 - 2009 Minnesota Governor's Homeland Security and Emergency Management Conference (Mar),
 - GITA National Convention (Apr), and
 - Various smaller meetings with state, regional, county and city officials.

Emergency Preparedness

Accomplishments:

- **Other substantial and ongoing efforts included:**
 - Submitting articles for the GIS/LIS Newsletter,
 - Continuing development of what is believed will be the *first “state endorsed” program* for training GIS personnel in emergency management practices and procedures,
 - Continuing work toward a November 30th conclusion to the CAP grant for what is believed to be *a first in the nation effort* to create “state endorsed” data layers for schools, hospitals, fire stations and police stations.
 - Hosting quarterly meetings/training with attendance *averaging 34* during the past year (up from 22 in 2008).
 - Creating a Next Generation 9-1-1 Work Group.
 - Nurturing startup of the SharedGeo nonprofit that achieved IRS *tax-exempt status on May 14, 2009*.

Emergency Preparedness

Future Plans (summer):

- **Near term points of focus (pandemic influenza/AMEM):**
 - Completion of the CAP grant,
 - Formal introduction of committee’s education plan,
 - U.S. National Grid related development activities,
 - Extensive upgrading and additional resources pages for USNG, Pandemic Influenza, HAZUS-MH, General Response, Common Operating Picture, Law Enforcement, WMD, Environment, Radiological, Wildfire,
 - Development of “Field support” products for the emergency preparedness and response communities, and
 - Refining and expanding Go Team operational capabilities
- **Distant points of focus:**
 - *“Continuing to eat the elephant, one pound at a time”* through ongoing execution of committee’s Vision Statement.
 - Maintaining sight that this committee is about saving lives and reducing suffering through the power of GIS!

Emergency Preparedness

Change Opportunities and Future Issues:

- EPC should continue to exist after the GCGI ends.
- Relative to the GCGI's other committee's, the EPC will probably require an organizationally unique structure.
 - It has both advisory and operational functions!
 - Continuing growth strongly suggests need for funding/administrative support.
 - State version of the Homeland Infrastructure Foundation Level Data Working Group?
- The number and extent of the rapidly expanding issues associated with emergency preparedness and response strongly suggest the need for a full-time support node in Minnesota government (e.g. New York State's Office of Cyber Security and Critical Infrastructure Coordination).
- Legislative involvement is needed to solve data sharing issues.

Hydrography

Purpose:

Promote consistent development of hydrography data and enable data exchange through coordination, cooperation and standards development.

Co-Chairs:

Tim Ogg, Board of Water and Soil Resources

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Hydrography

Accomplishments:

- **Forum for information exchange on data development**
- **MN hydrography framework implementation (ctd.)**
 - Integrated storm sewer data to NHD for Metro area (Met Council)
 - MN is *first* state to do this!
 - Developed work plan to research methods for integrating DNR 24K hydrography geodatabase and NHD data (EPA grant).
 - Participated in needs assessment, testing and evaluation of a national hydro event creation tool.
 - Fostered development and sharing of information:
 - Delivered presentations and technical workshop at National NHD/WBD Stewardship Conference (4/09)
 - Gave presentations on MN framework at:
 - EPA National GIS Workgroup meeting – Chicago, IL (9/08)
 - NSGIC fall meeting – Keystone, CO (9/08)

Hydrography

Accomplishments (continued):

- **Watershed Data Development**

- DNR's Statewide 'Minnesota Catchments' data made available for distribution through DNR Data Deli
- State's watershed definitions reviewed (as outcome of DNR Lakeshed Project)
- Minnesota's portion of 'Watershed Boundary Dataset', created from DNR's 'Minnesota Catchments', certified by NRCS

- **Storm Water Guidelines**

- Committee members participated on Storm Water Standards Work Group to complete draft guidelines for storm water data exchange
- Committee reviewed draft storm water guideline for consistency with surface water standards

Hydrography

Future Initiatives:

- Implement plan for use and maintenance of the framework
 - Refine roles and responsibilities
 - Implement MN NHD data update process
 - Implement event creation and maintenance process
 - Foster development and sharing of applications and tools
 - Integrate DNR 24K hydrography data improvements into MN NHD (2008 EPA Grant)
- Plan for future maintenance and stewardship of MN Watershed Boundaries
- Continue Phase 1 wetlands mapping activity and maintenance strategy
- Continue development of storm water mapping guidance

Land Records Modernization

Purpose: *Work to research and develop support for statewide Land Records Modernization for local governments.*

Co-chairs: **Sally Wakefield**, 1000 Friends of Minnesota
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Curt Carlson, Regional MLS of MN, Inc.
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Land Records Modernization

Accomplishments

- Prioritized and focused committee goals via internal survey
- Redefined Committee mission and name
- Held 4 very well attended meetings via ITV with up to 8 sites participating from throughout the state
- Collected testimonials with examples about the value and benefit of parcel data to local governments
- Illustrating and posting testimonials on LRM website
- Began discussion about common attribution of parcel data leading toward discussion of “best practices” for attribution or RFP development

Land Records Modernization

Future Initiatives:

- Continue to meet to explore issues and identify solutions to coordinate activities related to LRM:
 - Continue discussion of “common attribution” best practices
 - Develop “Model RFP” for adaptation by local governments seeking parcel data development
 - Continue to provide a forum for coordination of state agency parcel related efforts
 - Support MCGISA initiatives related to land records modernization.
 - Identify vehicles to communicate the need for accurate parcel information to satisfy the business needs of local government including if possible, quantification of the benefits

Land Records Modernization

Change Opportunities and Future Issues:

- Recommend committee work continue under the umbrella of the Statewide Advisory Group
- Recommend strong cross communication with State Agency Advisory Group, perhaps via workgroup
- Recommend committee change name to Digital Cadastral Data Committee (DCDC)
- Recommend mission change to: The Digital Cadastral Data Committee works to promote the research, education, implementation, and distribution of statewide guidelines surrounding the digital mapping of cadastral related data to promote and facilitate the development and sharing of data throughout the state, region, and nation.

Outreach

Purpose: *Works to connect the Council with its constituencies and to publicize its work to the broader community.*

Co-chairs: **Joshua Gumm**, Scott County
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Outreach

Accomplishments:

- **Facilitated Committee Outreach Initiatives**
 - Strategic Plan, Drive to Excellence, MGIO
 - Working to assist LRM with Outreach needs
 - Revised Council's informational poster
- **Involvement in Seminars and Presentations**
 - Outreach attendance at the Government IT Symposium
 - Outreach member hosted the Midwest Utility Group User Group

Outreach

Accomplishments (continued):

- **Promoted Inter-organizational Communications**
 - Attended GIS/LIS Strategic Planning Retreat and other GIS/LIS Board meetings
 - Members attended LRM & Digital Elevation Committee meetings
 - Shared and discussed collaboration efforts and experiences

Outreach

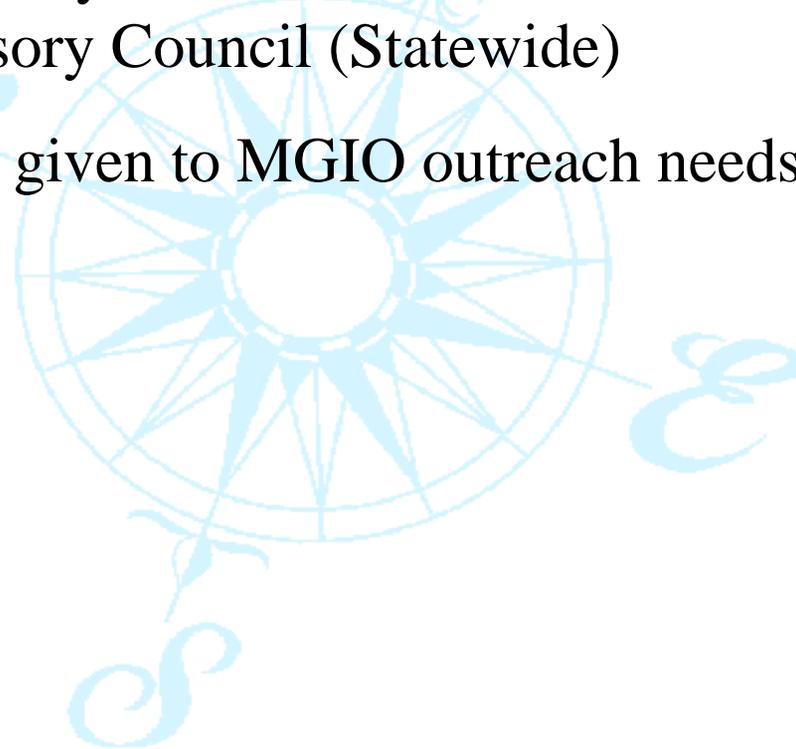
Future Initiatives:

- Participate with other professional organizations and their associated conferences
- Continue and expand on attendance to other Committee meetings to identify Outreach needs
- Assist in communication and public relations for the MGIO & Advisory Council transition
- Explore other organizational relationships (Planners, Surveyors, Utilities, Public Health, K-12 Educators)

Outreach

Change Opportunities and Future Issues:

- Outreach should stay a committee of the Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council (Statewide)
- Priority could be given to MGIO outreach needs



Standards

Purpose: *Help coordinate strategies for integrating geospatial data and business processes across all levels of government.*

Co-Chairs: Eileen Quam, MN Office of Enterprise Technology

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Standards

Accomplishments:

- Finalized multi-year CTU identifier standard process
- USNG standard approved
- Progress on storm sewer data standard
- Streamlining standards info on web

Standards

Accomplishments (continued):

- Finalized multi-year effort to put in place a responsive and sustainable state municipal identifier standard process
 - Completed work begun in previous years
 - Worked with LMIC to create an online database and cross reference table for CTU identifiers
 - Approval of state CTU identifier standard
 - Public review
 - Committee approval
 - GCGI approval
 - Posting on OET website

Standards

Accomplishments (continued):

- USNG standard approved
 - In conjunction with EP Committee
 - Approval of state USNG standard
 - Public review
 - Committee approval
 - GCGI approval
 - Posting on OET website

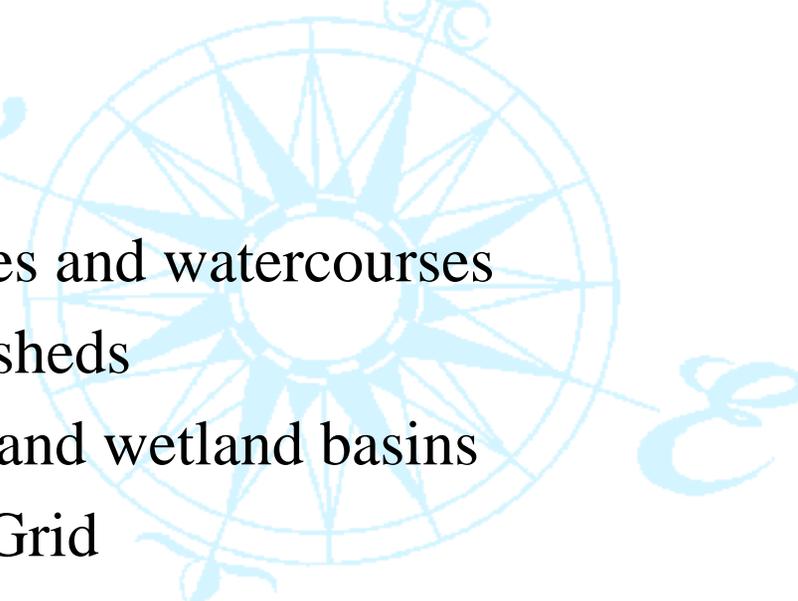
Standards

Accomplishments (continued):

- Storm sewer data standard in progress
 - Storm sewer data workgroup – led by PCA
- Streamline standards info on web
 - Standardize the format of all existing state geospatial standards
 - Streamlined committee website

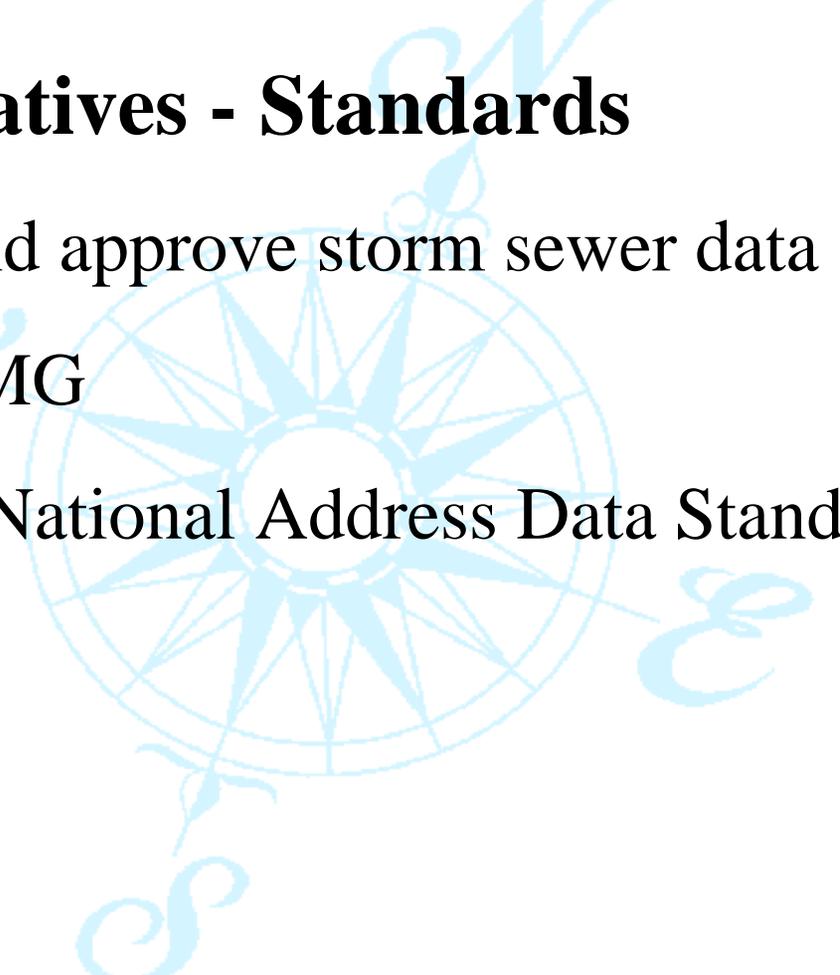
Standards

Looking Back... Ten GCGI Standards:

1. State IDs
 2. County IDs
 3. CTU IDs
 4. IDs for reaches and watercourses
 5. IDs for watersheds
 6. IDs for lakes and wetland basins
 7. US National Grid
 8. Coordinate exchange
 9. Measuring and reporting positional accuracy
 10. Minnesota Geographic Metadata Guidelines
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Standards

Future Initiatives - Standards

- Complete and approve storm sewer data standard
 - Revise MGGMG
 - Respond to National Address Data Standard
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Standards

Change Opportunities and Future Issues:

- Develop a long-term solution to the state standards approval process. What role does MGIO play?
- Standardized practices/policies for data access – MGIO could be a real leader – maybe not in the realm of this committee

Standards

Change Opportunities and Future Issues:

- Standardized/coordinated data sharing with map services – shared federation of architecture (trust, reliability, SLAs)
- Shared, standardized applications and web services – not just data!
- Geospatial commons and broker

Standards

Change Opportunities and Future Issues:

- Where does this committee fit in the new organizational structure?
 - Some initiatives are state-wide – data standards
 - Some might be best started with state agencies – shared architecture
 - Some will need the leadership and/or resources of the MGIO – geospatial broker

Strategic Planning

Purpose: *Identifies emerging opportunities, desired outcomes, and guiding principles to cultivate a strategic plan for the MGIO*

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Strategic Planning

Accomplishments:

- Championed broad vision and priority goal for the Council:
“The creation and adoption of a state governance model for GIS, utilizing and expanding upon the ... governance structure for a proposed Minnesota Geographic Information Office”
- Endorsed and supported the Drive to Excellence project on GIS Coordination, leading to successful legislation creating the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MGIO).
- Created and endorsed guidelines for geospatial advisory bodies in governing the MGIO.

Strategic Planning

Future Initiatives:

- Present initial recommendations on transition from Governor's Council governance structures to new MGIO Advisory structures.
- Create a two-year strategic plan for the MGIO that identifies top priorities and desired outcomes from the Applied Geographics Program Design Document.
- Sponsor geospatial strategic planning sessions at MN GIS/LIS Consortium and MN Government IT conferences.

Strategic Planning

Change Opportunities and Future Issues:

- Strategic planning recommendations for the MGIO will be reported directly to the CGIO
- Strategic planning recommendations for the state as a whole will be reported directly to the chair of the Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council (MGAC)
- Suggested alternating cycle for planning and monitoring:
 - Year One: Planning – Identifying goals and opportunities
 - Year Two: Monitoring – Measuring progress against goals
- Committee will continue to consist of members from both state government and the wider community