Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council Meeting

December 17, 2025

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Meeting Options

- **Virtual:** Online via Microsoft Teams
- **In-person:** Location available upon request to gisinfo.mngeo@state.mn.us

Agenda

1. Call to order **(Mayer)**	10:00	10 min
a. Roll call		
b. Approval of Agenda*		
c. Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 10, 2025*		
2. Review and receive Committee Reports **(Mayer)**	10:10	5 min
3. Term Priority Projects: Survey results, priorities selection, and assignments **(Maddox)**	10:15	60 min
4. Sector Report 1: County - Greater MN **(Stovern)**	11:15	10 min
5. Sector Report 2: MetroGIS **(Brandt)**	11:25	10 min
6. Minnesota Geospatial Information Office updates **(Slaats)**	11:35	5 min
7. Executive Team updates **(Mayer)**	11:40	5 min
8. Round Robin / Announcements **(All)**	11:45	15 min
9. Adjourn* **(Mayer)**	12:00	

* Motion required

Committee Reports

These reports include updates on each committee's [2024 Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council Priorities](#).

3D Geomatics Committee

Responsible Priority Projects and Initiatives

- Culvert Data Standard
- Hydro-DEMs
- Lidar Data

Most Recent Successes

- Presented 'Acquisition, Temporality & Accuracy of Minnesota's Second Generation of Lidar Data' and 'Lidar Data Download from Federal Apps and Application of ArcGIS Pro and QGIS' at the 35th Annual MN GIS/LIS Consortium Conference & Workshops.
- Breachline Dataset has become more widely known and discussions are moving forward on next steps.
- Second Generation Lidar data is located on the GeoCommons and on MnGeo, https://www.mngeo.state.mn.us/chouse/elevation/lidar_gen2.html
- Minnesota Second Generation Lidar Flight Swaths are on the GeoCommons.

Next Activities / Tasks

- Working on resetting the meeting schedule and frequency along with confirming members of the committee and level of interest and involvement. Followed by development of new work plan for 2026.
- Continue discussions of Breachline Dataset.
- Promote that any DEM Hydro-modification work should now be conducted on 2ndGEN lidar and not 1stGEN lidar.

Barriers

None

Additional Priority Projects and Initiatives Updates

None

Request for Assistance

None

Content contributed by [Gerry Sjerven](#) on behalf of the committee.

Archiving Committee

Responsible Priority Projects and Initiatives

- Geodata Archive Implementation

Most Recent Successes

- Made a plan to achieve the deliverables set out in our work plan and we have a GAC member Vice Chair!

Next Activities / Tasks

- Develop a communications plan; explore how/what data should be prioritized for archiving.

Barriers

None

Additional Priority Projects and Initiatives Updates

None

Request for Assistance

None

Content contributed by [Ryan Mattke](#) on behalf of the committee.

Awards Committee

Responsible Priority Projects and Initiatives

None

Most Recent Successes

- The Committee met and recommended one project for the Governor's Commendation. The award was presented at the MN GIS/LIS conference.

Next Activities / Tasks

- Review methods for promoting nominations and recommendations for acknowledging recipients of awards.

Barriers

None

Additional Priority Projects and Initiatives Updates

N/A

Request for Assistance

None

Content contributed by [Len Kne](#) on behalf of the committee.

Contributing to Nationwide and Commercial Data Assets Committee

Responsible Priority Projects and Initiatives

- Publication of Open Foundational Datasets

Most Recent Successes

- We have discussed data sharing with Esri (TomTom), Google and OpenStreetMap.
- Apple, Google and Esri (TomTom) currently pull MN address data from the National Address Dataset. (about every 8 months for updates)

Next Activities / Tasks

- Based on our meeting with OpenStreetMap, Ramsey County will work with OpenStreetMap on the data sharing process and report back.

Barriers

- Each vendor has separate ways for data stewards to share their data.

Additional Priority Projects and Initiatives Updates

None

Request for Assistance

None

Content contributed by [David Brandt](#) on behalf of the committee.

Data Endorsement Committee

Responsible Priority Projects and Initiatives

None

Most Recent Successes

- The Data Endorsement Ad-Hoc Committee has been meeting monthly since February 2025.
- The committee has most recently been focusing on simplifying the process and condensing the key criteria, questions, and considerations to ensure that the process is manageable and not overly time-consuming.

Next Activities / Tasks

- Continue testing the draft process with examples of actual datasets, identify any needed changes, and continue refining the process. We had wanted to have a recommendation ready for the GAC to review by the end of 2025, but we will be targeting the first quarter of 2026 now.

Barriers

None

Additional Priority Projects and Initiatives Updates

N/A

Request for Assistance

None

Content contributed by Kevin Trappe on behalf of the committee.

Emergency Preparedness Committee

Responsible Priority Projects and Initiatives

- Critical Infrastructure Data Workflow
- U.S. National Grid Materials
- Underground Utilities Data Sharing Team

Most Recent Successes

- **USNG** - Working with the USNG Implementation Working Group (IWG) to update the USNG Center website and store, including migrating the old ArcMap instructions and map document for making 1K maps and map books to ArcGIS Pro.
- **Critical Infrastructure** - Met with HSEM to discuss needs and uses of CI data.
- **Underground Utilities** - This work has been completed and the priority project will be closed out! Way to go!
- **EPC Overall** - All of this term's EPC meeting dates have been chosen and are listed below.
    - Feb. 12, 2026
    - May 14, 2026
    - Aug. 13, 2026
    - Nov. 12, 2026
    - Feb. 11, 2027
    - May 13, 2027

Next Activities / Tasks

- **USNG**
    - Publish ArcGIS Pro 1K map project and instructions by end of November.
    - Review and comment on the USNG Center website content.
    - Research ESRI implementation of the "Grid Overlay" widget on Experience Builder, including contacting NAPSG for coordination with them to further lobby ESRI as necessary.
    - Work with Dakota County and MnGeo to transfer ArcGIS Pro project for creating USNG 10K maps, update maps, and transfer map storage from Dakota County to MnGeo.
- **Critical Infrastructure**
    - HSEM could provide evidence of need to MDH if MnGeo needs more support to compel MDH to create a sustainable workflow for keeping up geospatial data.
    - Consider an informal after-action review for the geospatial data needs/uses during the pandemic to help build some case studies for the critical infrastructure assessment workgroup.
- **EPC Overall**
    - Continue to make connections and build bridges between members of emergency services sector, emergency management, and GIS professionals.

Barriers

None

Additional Priority Projects and Initiatives Updates

None

Request for Assistance

- During the December 16, 2025, meeting of the USNGI Board of Directors, the Board will be electing (4) individuals to serve on the Board for the next three years. If you have a passion for making the U.S. National Grid the nation's "emergency response language of location" that it was intended to be when it became a federal geospatial coordinate standard back in 2001, then the Institute would appreciate hearing from you.
    - *Who should apply:*
        - No special qualifications - Anyone with a passion for the U.S. National Grid. We are looking for individuals from a variety of life experiences, geographic locations and skill sets.
    - *Commitment:*
        - Attendance at (8) meetings/year (4 USNGI BOD, 4 USNG IWG).
        - Help guide Institute efforts - 2026 will be a transition year from organization building to advocacy.
    - *How to apply:*
        - Submit a resume and cover letter explaining why you want to be on the BOD to: chair@usngi.org.
- Deadline for submitting your resume and cover letter is midnight CT on December 12, 2025.

Content contributed by Britta Maddox on behalf of the committee.

K-12 Committee

Responsible Priority Projects and Initiatives

- K-12 GIS Resources Group

Most Recent Successes

- The committee recently met with the GIS/LIS K-12 committee to discuss alignment with that committee in order to not duplicate work and to strengthen our presence. We have tentatively agreed to move forward with this, so are now in the process of defining how it will work logistically.

Next Activities / Tasks

- Continue planning how the GIS/LIS K12 group and the GAC K12 group will combine efforts. The GAC continues to see its primary role in creating data sets that are appropriate for and usable by K12 teachers and students, although this may expand. We would like to confer with the group working on the GeoSpatial Commons.

Barriers

None

Additional Priority Projects and Initiatives Updates

None

Request for Assistance

- We would like to confer with the group working on the GeoSpatial Commons about ensuring that data there is usable by K12 audiences.

Content contributed by [Shana Crosson](#) on behalf of the committee.

Outreach Committee

Responsible Priority Projects and Initiatives

- More fully attributed statewide parcel data
- Statewide Address Points Data
- Statewide Parcel Data
- Statewide Road Centerline Data
- Success Stories for Geospatial Technology

Most Recent Successes

- During the October 7, 2025 Outreach Committee meeting, the GAC hub build team shared the build of GAC home hub and three committee hubs (Outreach, CAN DO and Data Endorsement) with Megan S and Sally W for their feedback and follow-up with MNIT Communications for an overall branding approval. This will be followed by GAC Executive Team's OK before March 2026 so the build team can proceed with new build for other GAC committee hubs.

Next Activities / Tasks

- Provide a short write-up on GAC's major accomplishments in 2025, to be included in a year-end message in MnGeo Newsletter.
- After the first four ArcGIS Hubs are approved, GAC hub build team will follow the blueprint and move on to build the next four committee hubs.
- With new leadership, Open Data Subcommittee will continue to work on the following.
  - Parcels
    - Encourage counties to contribute more parcel attributes
    - Explore how the Department of Revenue's PRISM data could be used to enhance existing parcel data
    - Alternative methods of assisting counties to extract additional parcel attributes are being explored.
  - Opt-In
    - Continue to contact counties about opt-in
    - A new communications strategy is under development to address remaining counties who are reluctant to opt-in to parcel data. Case studies are sought.
  - Open Data
    - How to address counties concerned with becoming an open data county

Barriers

None

Additional Priority Projects and Initiatives Updates

- Statewide Opt-in Composite datasets are available on the MN Geospatial Commons.
  - Of 87 MN counties, 59 contributed parcels, 54 have agreed to contribute address points and emergency service zones, and 53 have agreed to contribute road centerlines to date.

- o   Parcels, address points, and road centerlines are available for download on the MN Geospatial Commons. The data is being refreshed on a quarterly basis.
  - o   The open data subcommittee meets every 12 weeks on Tuesdays from 10-11am. Our next meeting is January 7, 2026. Members are asked to report on workgroup tasks between meetings.
- The Outreach Committee convenes at a 6-week interval on a Tuesday from 2-3 PM to monitor GAC Committee Hub sites build progress and the Outreach Committee's community engagement activities and communication endeavors. The first meeting in 2026 will be Jan. 13, 2026.

Request for Assistance

- Open Data glossary and web map need work and require assistance from MnGeo so we can include new verbiage and a well-explained web map on the Open Data Subcommittee page in the Outreach Committee Hub.

Content contributed by [Jessica Fendos](#) on behalf of the committee.

Parcels and Land Records Committee

Responsible Priority Projects and Initiatives

- Remonumentation of all original federal Section Corners
- Statewide County Boundary Dataset

Most Recent Successes

- 2023 legislation for PLSS Remonumentation

Next Activities / Tasks

- The GAC PLLS Legislative Sub-committee and the County Recorders State Board are currently working on a bill for permanent funding for PLSS legislation using the State Deed Tax and the Mortgage Rate Tax. We want to raise the tax by one point each, generating $8-10 Million a year for PLSS remonumentation.

Barriers

- The state may be in a deficit and may not want to create any more taxes.

Additional Priority Projects and Initiatives Updates

- The PLSS Legislative Subcommittee and the PLSS Preservation Committee share the priority of the Remonumentation of all the PLSS corners in the State.

Request for Assistance

- Talk to your local state legislators about supporting this legislation.

Content contributed by [Pat Veraguth](#) on behalf of the committee.

PLSS Preservation Committee

Responsible Priority Projects and Initiatives

- Remonumentation of all original federal Section Corners
- Statewide Survey Records Inventory

Most Recent Successes

- Grant Projects are proceeding on schedule. A few counties have finished their projects.

Next Activities / Tasks

- We hope to have all the current grant programs completed in the next year or two.

Barriers

- Projects can be extended to 2027 but we have no money for any new projects until the legislature approves legislation for Remonumentation Legislation.

Additional Priority Projects and Initiatives Updates

- The PLSS Legislative Subcommittee and the PLSS Preservation Committee share the priority of the Remonumentation of all the PLSS corners in the State.

Request for Assistance

- We need everyone to talk to the local legislators about supporting PLSS legislation.

Content contributed by [Pat Veraguth](#) on behalf of the committee.

Standards Committee

Responsible Priority Projects and Initiatives

None

Most Recent Successes

- The PLSS Point Data Standard has been approved by the Standards Committee and is in the 90-day public review period.

Next Activities / Tasks

- Address the comments provided during the review period.
- Review the Lake and Wetland Basin Standard after DNR has completed their updates.

Barriers

None

Additional Priority Projects and Initiatives Updates

N/A

Request for Assistance

None

Content contributed by [Dennis Tumberg](#) on behalf of the committee.

Term Priority Projects

Proposed priority projects for the term are available on the GAC homepage – these include priority projects from the previous term, and new priority project ideas submitted through the GAC Project Ideas Survey, which was open September 24 - October 22, 2025.

View the Draft GAC Priority Project Ranking Spreadsheet which will be populated on-screen during the meeting based on discussion and results from the GAC Project Prioritization Survey, open November 10 - December 1, 2025.