

NYS Geospatial Advisory Council
September 14, 2016 Meeting

at State Preparedness Training Center, 5900 Airport Road, Oriskany, NY



Mission: Advise the State on effective use of geospatial technology resulting in tangible benefits to NYS.

Attendance: Sheri Norton, Alex Chaucer, Austin Fisher, Jeff Herter, Matt Owen, Doug Freehafer, David Jorgensen, Frank Winters, Eric Herman, Dave Richardson, Todd Nelson, Jeff Quackenbush, Ann Deakin (arrived to meeting at 11am), Marty Goldblatt; Joined on phone: Jonathon Mayr, Laura Feitner Calarco (joined at 10:50am), Mike Naughton (joined at 12:41pm)

10:30 a.m. Welcome/Review of Agenda/Approval of Minutes

- Welcome: Eric provided an overview of the day.
- Minutes from last meeting approved unanimously.

10:35 a.m. Chair Report

- Discussion about note-taking and roles.
- Eric makes a motion to rescind the previous motion from last meeting from June 14th regarding the Vice Chair taking the notes. Seconded by Jeff. Motion passes unanimously.
- Future meeting minutes will be the responsibility of the Executive Director, or their delegate.
- Eric defers GIO item to the Executive Director.

10:45 a.m. Executive Director Report

- Frank Winters taking on [ShareGIS](#) and other responsibilities. Marty is taking on some of what Frank was doing, directing the Framework Data Programs.
- There is currently a vacancy in the GIO position. The GIO is still a very important and crucial role.
- Some discussion about the GIO role.
- Some discussion about the day – perhaps some items could be put into a “parking lot” for the afternoon session.
- Laura F. asks if the GIO as a fully funded civil service position, and it is.
- Eric H. puts some items into the parking lot, and that we can prioritize for the afternoon discussion.

10:50 a.m. GPO Director Report

- Renewed update of civil boundaries. 5 villages dissolved, and some other changes, resulting in municipal boundary changes. Data will be updated on quarterly basis.
- Parcels have been collected, getting the RPS data connected, now we are working on county permissions for sharing. 59 of 62 have given permission for sharing with State agencies, all have given permission for emergency purposes. Suffolk, Putnam, and Rockland are still being worked on. 16 are currently publicly available.
- NextGEN 911 is GIS centric; Parking Lot: NextGEN 911 and Albany County pilot
- Streets and Addresses – numbers reported for edits/changes this past year.
- Ortho Program – 17 counties flown. 20 counties in production for 2016.
- LIDAR – Strategy is to identify gaps and focus resources. GPO is making consistent DEM’s and contours available online. Funding has been approved to stand up servers to make full point clouds available in the future. Tim Ruhren, Marty Goldblatt, or Frank Winters can be contacted for LIDAR requests.
- 24K contours are available from the USGS as map services according to Doug F. **Proposed adding federal web services to the Clearinghouse.**
- Consistent map requests to provide geospatial data and maps for decision making, which is helping for visual communication and leading to additional map and data requests. More interest in data validation and improving the information for better reporting. Another item for afternoon Parking Lot.
- Discussed state spending app. May lead to state policy aimed at improving location data in state systems.

11:00 p.m. Associate Organization & Work Group Reports

- NYS GIS Association
 - NYS Geospatial Summit is coming up this fall. Registration is currently up and running.
- NYS GIS State Agency Advisory Group
 - Eric: Typical poor attendance (about half usual) at summer meeting
 - Most agencies using ArcGIS or Global Mapper for elevation data
 - Tim Ruhren gave an update on Orthos
 - Discussed County tax parcels
 - Drones for mapping purposes discussed (Thruway Authority interested for bridge inspections, wetlands; DEC is having rangers trained; Attorney General's office is interested as well for their work) Parking Lot: Drones
 - VDI – Virtual desktop technology discussion – using thin clients to access GIS that is hosted on a server
 - Discussion about removing some Census columns from publicly available street centerline files, since the Census data is available as a service
 - State Spending App demo
 - Next meeting: Jan. 10th
- Review of Federal Report
 - US Topos (2016 version) are available for download, and Doug can get those for the state
 - It sounds like the USGS will be creating GeoTiffs of all the Quads
 - 2 versions – 1 with NAIP imagery, and one without
 - Note: Avenza GeoPDF allows you to use the GeoPDF's on your smartphone

11:15 p.m. Nominating Committee & Timeline

- Association Representative – Colin will not be representative next year, Mickey D. will be
- Four expired terms need to be addressed:
 - Three Local Government items to be open (Laura and Jeff both will have termed out, Mike Ross eligible to be re-nominated)
 - One For-Profit position to be open (Austin termed out)
- A Nominating Committee was established:
 - State Government rep: Jeff Herter
 - Local Government rep: Laura Feitner Calarco
 - Academia rep: Ann Deakin
 - Additional rep: Dave Jorgenson (Designated as Chair)

Chair of the GAC

- Will be discussed at the December meeting

11:30 a.m. Planning Session Preliminaries

- Review of Status on Items from 2015 Planning Session
- Format for afternoon session discussed

12:00 p.m. Lunch

12:30 p.m. Planning Session

- Discussion on best ways to proceed with the planning session
- Thoughts – what are the current priorities for the state? How can this group make an impact over the long term? (Membership – getting the main GIS movers/shakers over time plugged in)
- Is the state doing things that help all the sectors, not just State agencies? (private, non-profit, education, local government, etc.).

- Does the Council have realistic expectations for our role in GIS in the State?
- Reviewed items from the 2008 Strategic Plan and discussed.
- What is the role of government in the work we are doing, and what should government be doing and what should be better done by the private sector?
- Can we create Work Groups to involve more people involved in local/regional groups?
- Can we take some of our initiatives and make them into Work Groups and strategic problems to work on, and have these workgroups with concrete solutions?
- Mike: How to get an enterprise geodatabase setup, and how to get permissions set up? Resources available for getting these things set up? suny.itec.edu is where you go for your campus license.
- Discussion on each of the items on the list and added action items to each.
- Some good discussion around Academia, Big Data, ShareGIS architecture, crowdsourcing, GIS business.
- Once topics were reviewed, the group reviewed action items/next steps. Eric then categorized the items as Group Briefing, Brainstorming, and Work Groups. Nominations for Work Group members and Chairs were chosen for each of the Work Groups.
- The following determinations were made:

Items for Which Council Would Like Briefings

- *Dec 2016:* NexGen 911 emergency work (Possible Work Group to result)
- *Mar 2017:* GIO/GPO role/organization in state (Rework of Eric's 2015 NYGeoCon presentation)
- *Mar 2017:* Drones & mapping applications (Alex to follow-up)
- *Jun 2017:* Training for local government on GIS (Share training/solicit feedback)
- *When ready:* Chamber GIS Policy Statement (GPO draft statement/feedback via email)
Include Elevation Data Collection as coordination under this policy item

Items for Which Work Groups Should Be Created

~With suggestions for Chairs and members; *Chairs to attend Council meetings, with goals and status*

- Elevation Data Distribution (Tangible product/Provides GPO & Community Guidance/Survey from Association?)
 - *Existing Work Group (T. Ruhren, D. Freehafer)*
- Big Data/Science & Disparate sources – What are geospatial implications? Develop briefing for Council
 - *A. Fisher (Chair), A. Chaucer, N. Harp, T. Nelson, D. Jorgensen, J. Herter*
- Field Data Collection with handheld devices/tools & best practices
 - *D. Richardson (Chair), A. Fisher, J. Cobb, K. Hunt, C. Croll, M. Dietrich*
- Crowd-sourcing
 - *J. Herter (Chair), A. Fisher, D. Freehafer, D. Jorgensen, D. Richardson, B. Kinal, C. Reilly*
- Repository for implementation plans from entities across the state/Resources to support implementing systems (Gather info/Recommend repository)
 - *A. Chaucer (Chair), L. Feitner Calarco, M. Dietrich, S. Frankenfeld, J. Tolar, D. Meltz, J. Daly?*
- Refresh of GIS Contracting/Mechanisms
 - *F. Winters (Chair), A. Chaucer, K. Hunt, OGS Contracts contacts*

Brainstorming Topics During Current/Future Meetings, As Needed

- Common State GIS interface
 - Frank: Single source data layers for applications
 - Data manager tries to look for ways to improve datasets, broker agreements among stakeholders
 - Looking to reduce separate datasets on separate servers
 - A differentiation (Jeff) ShareGIS serves GIS professionals, and other portals (Gateway) help to communicate and consume data for the public.
 - Something to figure out – all of the *ShareGIS* layers to be in a data catalog with a single entry point. Metadata will have the information about data, where the data comes from, who the custodian is.
- Access to Parcels
 - Access to parcels – they are now accessible to state agencies. It is available via download currently, and password protected in the future, and another public service (16-17 counties).
 - There has been a lot of progress, and more counties to come online soon to state access.
 - Centroids may make sense to publish in a few weeks for all of NYS.

3:30 p.m. **Adjourn** (Next meeting date 12/13/2016)