

**NYS Geospatial Advisory Council**  
**December 13, 2016 Meeting**  
Building 7A, Harriman State Office Building

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

*Attendance: Alex Chaucer, Doug Freehafer, Austin Fisher, Eric Herman, Jeff Herter, David Jorgensen, Frank Winters, Todd Nelson, Julie Tolar, Colin Reilly, David Richardson,*

*On phone: Laura Feitner Calarco, Sheri Norton, Jonathon Mayr, Dick Johnston, Michael Ross, Matthew Owen*

10:35 - meeting start and agenda reviewed. Approved previous meeting minutes: Eric Herman motions, Todd Nelson seconds, unanimously approved. Recognize out going members and express gratitude

**Chair report** (Eric Herman)

- Follow-up from last meeting: federal webservice links now active in GIS Clearinghouse Data Catalog <http://gis.ny.gov/webservices/>: (including National Map endpoints) under “federal webservices” as discussed/planned on.
  - Agreement on desire to place announcement on GISNY-L by Doug Freehafer. (USGS)

**GIO report** (Frank Winters):

- Thoughts on gratefulness for past service and mission of GIO/GPO.
- What’s different now:
  - Within the ITS Public Safety Cluster now
  - Now GIO & GPO are within the same hierarchy w/ direct report (Frank in both roles at present).
  - GPO head & Core Services team lead positions are still open, but with state commitment and approval to fill.
- GIO tasked with drafting a new 5-year strategic plan
  - Backfilling of the GPO contingent upon the 5-year plan
- State working to consolidate state ESRI licensing (3 existing cluster ELAs into 1) and next understanding the needs across the 20 agencies now licensing ESRI software.
- GIO is coordinating and facilitating work for the Governor’s Office, including cross-cutting work for Environmental Justice + environmental data + Dept. of Health
  - Example: water wells testing results and impact on health
  - DOS Gateway has a few other examples of similar cross-department uses

- Spatial data policy (brewing) – to be folded into an item in the 5-year strategic plan [following question by Eric]

GPO report (Frank Winters):

- Ortho Program:
  - 2016 ortho program is all processed: half the areas flown are done and published and the other half are in review
  - 2017 ortho program is in outreach to local government (who desires to partner to upgrade collection resolution to 6 inch
    - Areas to be flown in 2017 are Erie + Niagara, and Oneida/Madison-to-Essex-to-Albany/Columbia.
    - Colin Reilly brought up that NYC wants 3” resolution imagery but that it is hard to get within the current contracts (NYC on 2-year cycle with Pictometry during the off years [obliques and orthos captured but no mosaicking])
- LiDAR program
  - 2016 LiDAR program: Warren & Essex data is done and at USGS; Columbia/Rensselaer done and at USDA; Allegany/Steuben collected and entering review.
  - 2017 acquisitions: Chautauqua, Steuben, Wyoming, Genesee infilling
  - Also 2017 FEMA fill-in projects in the North Country (St. Lawrence & Franklin) as well as in the Oneida subbasin (to complete the HUC8 region) by the end of 2017.
  - NYC is currently getting quality level 1, most federal acquisitions are at quality level 2: desire expressed to have the option to increase quality level in the next state services contract.
- Council mention of other GIS collections: Monroe Co. has a mobile GIS van (Austin); drone activity and research; Rotterdam Junction flooding brought up as an example of push/pull of needing/desire for more in-house vs. contract capacity/expertise (Austin).
- SAM project
  - Lots of edits (new address points, refinement of existing points, and fixing problems)
  - NY streets and addresses now in the public domain since being unlocked from prior license restrictions
  - GPO is pushing NY address points to the National Address Database
  - National Grid is now sharing metered address location with GPO (great example of quality improvements for both state and private sector as result of state decision to make address locations and geocoder open data).
- Parcels
  - GPO is shooting for annual updates its parcel datasets (same state agency and limited public availability)
  - Centroids now unlocked and public on Clearinghouse within the Real Assessment data

- Austin voiced question/desire about historic parcel data will remain available going forward.
- Share GIS
  - Phase 1 (complete): more resilient hardware architecture; load/resiliency/capsit/duration testing is done; a new geocoder to be announced.
  - Phase 2 is in concept design with use cases stage, expected plan in January.

**GIS Association report (Colin Reilly):**

- Well attended GeoSpatial Summit in NYC, all went well
- Had a bus from Albany (more folks from upstate if more knew of similar options?)
- Colin is now the Association President
- Association. is highlighting what Association and GAC do (complimentary) and the representation available to folks (plug Assoc. members in to GAC more)
- GeoSpatial Summit attendance more diversity in downstate GIS community; and more folks and students from universities attend, esp. if attendees have option to be housed in university housing during event.

**Review and vote on nominated new representatives on GAC (11:45am)**

- GIS Association provided 2 candidates to selection committee; committee believes someone should reach out to those not selected to thank them.
- Selection committee narrowed down to 4 candidates for the 4 open slots
- Motion to approve slate of 4 candidates (Eric); seconded (Colin)
- Discussion of candidates
  - It's noted that GAC continues to have good geographic dispersion of membership
- Motion unanimously approved

Sector	Region	Candidate	Organization
Local Government	Finger Lakes	Mike Ross	City of Rochester
Local Government	Long Island	Ross Baldwin	Town of Southampton
Local Government	Central	Richard Reichert	Oneida County
Private/Utility	Central	Linda Rockwood	Mohawk Valley GIS

- Frank will send out the invites to the new members
- It's noted that Mickey Dietrich (past president of GIS Association) will also be on the GAC next year as an ex-officio member.
- GAC chair (Eric) and vice-chair (Alex Chaucer) terms are both up
  - 2016 GAC members will vote for the next chair (runner up becomes vice chair) using an online poll, to be sent out soon and close in Jan.

**Federal Report (Doug Freehafer):**

- USGS assisting GPO with statewide LiDAR request

- Noted maybe Groundpoint technologies as someone that might be interested in talking to GAC on subject of UAVs
- Digital topos for the state (in GIS-ingestible form, not geoPDFs) still on to-do list
- Reminder that twice-yearly call for LiDAR collection plans underway using SeaSketch – interested parties and public can submit 3DEP LiDAR Areas of Interest; used to facilitate partnerships and buy-in requests; includes opportunities for other kinds of data collection in addition to LiDAR.

### **Work group reports (part 1)**

- Elevation Data Distribution (Doug/Tim Ruhren):
  - Working on a plan for elevation data distribution
    - Define what is happening at the federal and state level
    - Where is there unnecessary duplication; where is duplication a good thing (ex. rapid release by NYS of DEM data quicker than feds can); where can NYS save money by relying on what the feds are doing.
    - Looking at elevation tools out there worth mentioning
    - See what has changed since the 2015 help document was developed on how to get Dem and point cloud data
    - Frank suggests adding: what is the state of practice for delivery methods that work well.
- Crowd-sourcing workgroup (Jeff H.):
  - First meeting tomorrow (12/14 call).

Break for lunch

### **Next Gen 911 (NG911) & GIS use – presentation to GAC by Cheryl Benjamin (GPO)**

- 9-1-1 will use IP protocol plus can accept text, photos, video on any connected device
- Interoperable at county/state/federal level and can easily switch who takes incoming calls as needed
- On ESInet broadband network. Routes incoming calls using GIS data.
- People/policy/data standards/funding considerations
- Some counties are naming trails and doing linear addressing along trails for emergency response in remote locations (as well as adding the mile marker address to trail markers and signage).
- NENA-STA-006: standards for NG911 GIS data model – out for public review (until end of Feb. 2017)
- Other GIS-related NG911 standards: data stewardship, data collection & management
- Cheryl encouraged interested members to contact and work with Cheryl directly and to bring reports back from Cheryl and GPO (instead of forming a separate GAC workgroup on the topic).

### **Strategic Plan discussion (Frank) 2:15pm**

- Strategic plan is seen as a roadmap for GIS across the state

- What is the scope of GIS, helps tune NYS's GIS vision/mission, expound on goals, and set priorities
- The best vision and mission statements are easily repeatable (clear spoken message) [but with enough detail embedded somewhere in the document so that it's not just a collection of platitudes – Dave].
- Frank's presentation meant to get GAC thinking about the best ways for GAC to contribute (in addition to input from state agency advisory group and ITS/GIS groups).
- Building blocks of what's come before:
  - Framework Data Programs, 2008 GIS strategic plan, 2011 business plan for centralized access to consistent cadastral data, GIS team, ShareGIS conceptual design
- Demonstrated appetite for GIS by the Governor's office ("chamber"): executive dashboards, NY Responds, CIRIS
- ITS mission/vision/values
- Question to GAC: How best to get feedback from the sectors we represent?
- Goals: GPO wants more and broad sector input
- Mission: (Laura Feitner Calarco) - Choose 3 key words, ex. "Communicating Effectively & Comprehensively"
  - Collaboration is also key, and location
  - Communicating decision making is also an economic driver
- Work on:
  - Who is the audience?
  - Who are the plan's recipients?
  - Who do these actions/plans guide?
- (Jeff H.) DOS's (ESL article 14) "public & decision makers" – the DOS Gateway's vision is in its enabling legislation
- Wordle word cloud descriptive picture for what stakeholders say/value/care about?
- Get away from jargon and use more common language
- Other examples: "Maps to swear by, not at." (JIMAPCO), "mapping for success"
- Frank to circulate some more material to GAC

#### **Coordinating data for Ag & Farmland Protection plans (Dick Johnston)**

- Tug Hill Land Trust has worked with 6 counties and been involved with a couple of Farm Protection boards.
- Plans are updated and submitted to the state every 10-15 years. Generally about 6 or so counties updating these plans at any given time.
- Boards spend a lot of time trying to find the data to use in updating plans: hunt and peck and then eventual run out of time and need to hire contractors to get/provide what they still don't have.
- It was asked if Cornell Ag Extension collects data from counties each year – answer was no.
- Program for this work is within Ag and Markets, which has planning and implementation assistance program (as well as implementation assistance), which in addition to grants

could/does include providing technical assistance – so providing commonly required data would fit in here.

- Jeff H. offered rationale for why hosting collected common data could be hosted on DOS Gateway because of regulatory tie-in requiring consultation with these plans [-see Jeff's pre-meeting email for more details – Dave]
- Noted that Barbara Cruden (ITS) provides GIS support to Ag and Markets as well
- The question is can/should the GAC ask the state or the GIS Association or a grant program to compile data for the use of these report updates and make the product(s) freely available to the ability possible.
- Folks to follow-up with Dick on this topic.

#### **Work group reports (part 2)**

- Big Data – met twice so far, biweekly schedule, in “learning more” mode, goal is to present to GAC a white paper, hopefully in March
- Nothing to report yet from other workgroups.
- GPO desire that GAC feed workgroup products to the Strategic Plan and to collaborate with NY GIS Association as a way to push the effort forward.

**Meeting adjourns (3:30 pm).**