

NY State Geospatial Advisory Council
Draft Minutes for December 8, 2020 Meeting

Remote Session

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

Via WebEx: Jason Baum, Svetla Borovska, Christina Croll, Mickey Dietrich, Keith Ducett, Jonathan Garner, Eric Herman, David Jorgensen, Katherine Kiyantsa, Mary Susan Knauss, Todd Nelson, Julia O'Brien, Christopher O'Connor, Matt Owen, Lindi Quackenbush, Christopher Rado, Randy Rath, Rick Reichert, Dave Richardson, Heather Weller, Carrie Wiley, Frank Winters

Guests: Molly Shar, Vice President NSGIC
Liz Burakowski, Deputy Director of Upstate Revitalization for New York State's 2020 Census Task Force

Minutes: Christopher O'Connor

9:00 Welcome / Agenda Review / Approval of Minutes (Weller)

- Introductions
- Approve previous meeting minutes
 - Weller motioned to approve previous meeting minutes as posted, seconded by Quackenbush, all approved, none opposed

9:15 Reports

- State Agency Advisory Group report (Herman)
 - The last meeting was October 6, first virtual meeting
 - Large turnout, ~30 attendees
 - Go-around covered how agencies and staff were working remotely and were impacted by COVID
 - Large variation in approaches to working remotely as well as the level of GIS support requested for COVID response
 - Detailed minutes are available online:
http://gis.ny.gov/coordinationprogram/workgroups/wg_7/meetings/2020-10-meeting-minutes.pdf
- NYSGISA report (Garner / Knauss)
 - Garner is the new past-president of the GIS Association and will be representing the NYSGISA on the GAC
 - NYSGISA elections concluded on 12/4/2020; visit association website for more details:
<https://www.nysgis.net/>

- Primary focus was on the association's fall virtual event; challenged by a transition to an all-remote meeting but had great speakers and it was a worth-while effort; event was recorded and is available on the newly re-branded website (see link above)
 - Planning for GeoCon 2021 event
 - Will begin working on 2021 NYSGISA goals for the year
 - Working with GISMO to promote participation in both groups; focus on higher education students
- Federal Report (O'Brien)

Status of National Flood Insurance Plan Studies

The FEMA Region II Risk Mapping site is here:

<https://fema.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=39e87438546249d988a85fc3085cab0e>

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region II office has created this site to support your community through the Risk Mapping, Analysis, and Planning (Risk MAP) program. Risk MAP is a national FEMA program that works with states, tribes, and local communities to evaluate and better understand their current flood risks, as well as the actions that can be taken to mitigate those risks and become more resilient.

This site now also contains the reports that come out of the Discovery projects as they are completed.

COVID-19 Response & Operation Warp Speed

FEMA and HHS have been responding to COVID-19 since March of 2020. FEMA Region II's Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC) continues to be partially activated in response to the pandemic, and in preparation for Operation Warp Speed – the preparation for rapid deployment of COVID vaccines to states and territories. Each state has been requested to submit plans for distribution of the vaccines.

CDC COVID Tracker website is an excellent source of data, particularly for comparisons with other states/counties. Territories should be ready for inclusion in a future release.

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/>

NOAA/National Geodetic Survey

As mentioned before, to improve the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS), NGS will replace all three North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) frames and all vertical datums, including the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88), with four new terrestrial reference frames and a geopotential datum. The original expected date was 2022, however NGS has announced that there will be a delayed release. The exact

dates are unknown, but they are expecting the whole NSRS update will be closer to the 2024/2025 timeframe.

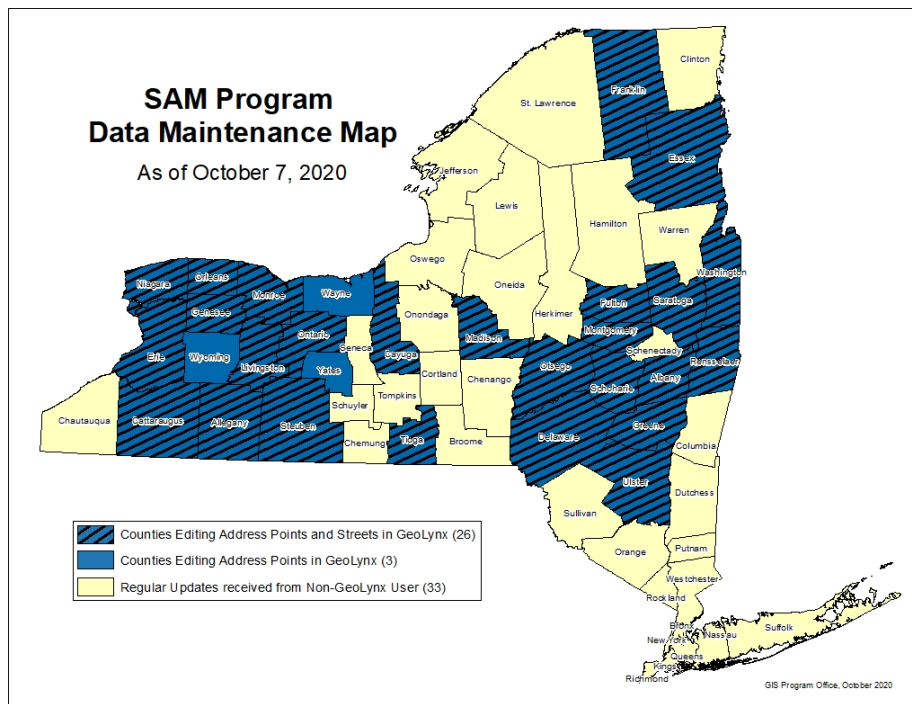
For more information:

<https://geodesy.noaa.gov/datums/newdatums/index.shtml>

- GIO/GPO/GCO Report (Winters)

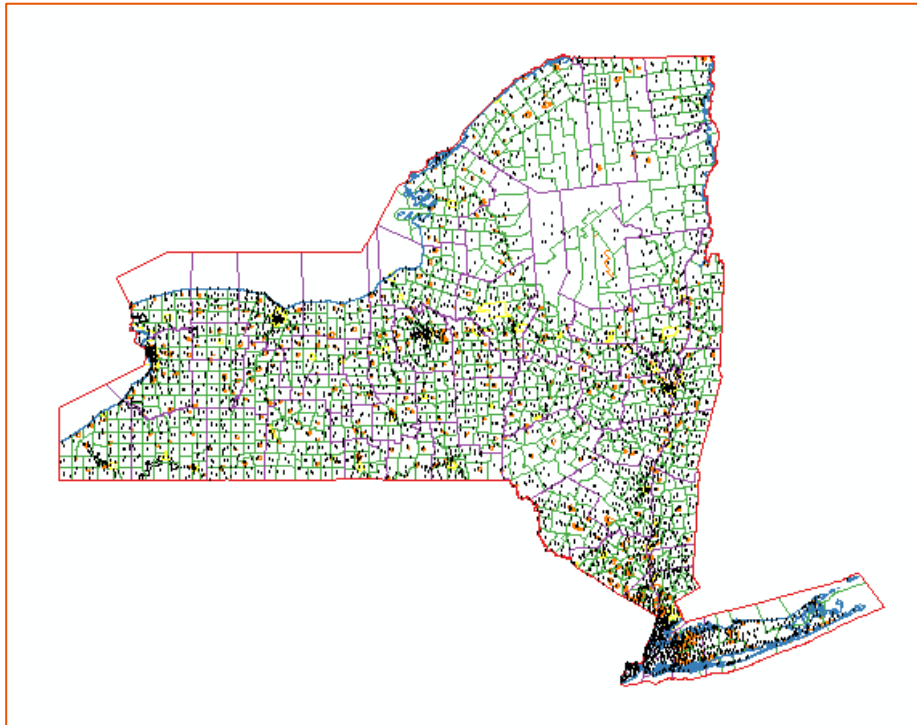
SAM Program

- The SAM team is now receiving updates from every county
- Huge spike in the use of the services – over 375,000 hits for the combined Address Points and Streets services; nearly 4.3 million hits on the Geocoding service. Both numbers are for the month of October.



Civil Boundaries

- Updated data for Civil Boundaries and Place Points will be published by the end of December. They will be available in geodatabase and shapefile formats along with map and feature services.

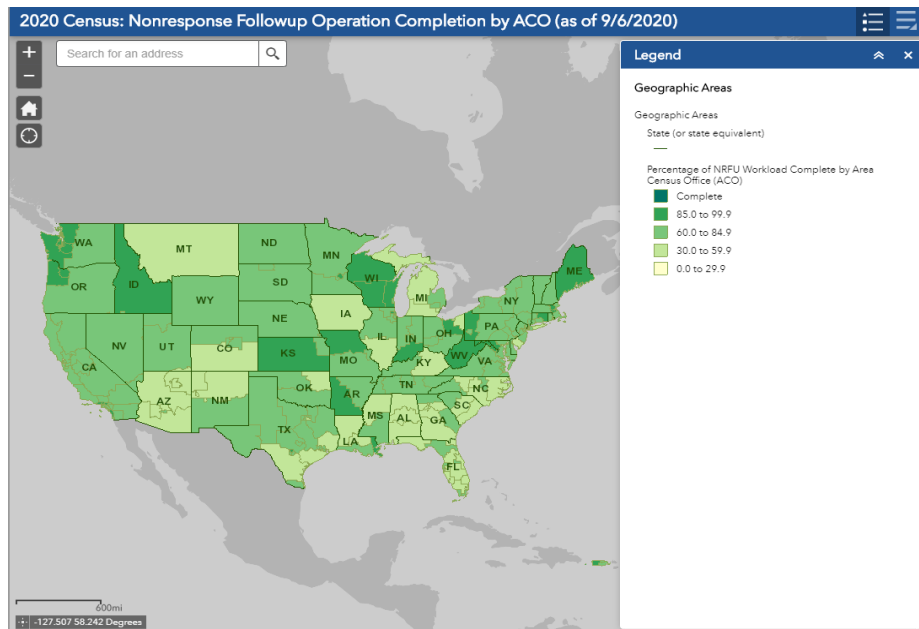


Statewide Parcel Map Program

- Putnam, Rockland, Hamilton, and Oswego are now publicly shareable!
- 2019 GIS Tax Parcels for State Agency use (all counties), Public use (25 Counties), State-Owned Parcels, and Statewide Centroid Points are available now for download. Public web services are also updated. A secure web service of all counties' tax parcel data is available for State Agency use.
- Outreach for 2020 GIS tax parcel polygons is almost complete. 15 counties have posted their 2020 parcels on their county data pages on GIS.NY.GOV. Data standardization with 2020 assessment data will begin in Q1 2021.
- Reached out to County RPS Directors to share the Open Parcel Data Benefits message and have received mixed responses. The seeds are being planted. A public version of this material will be made available in the coming months for wider GIS community advocacy to Counties.

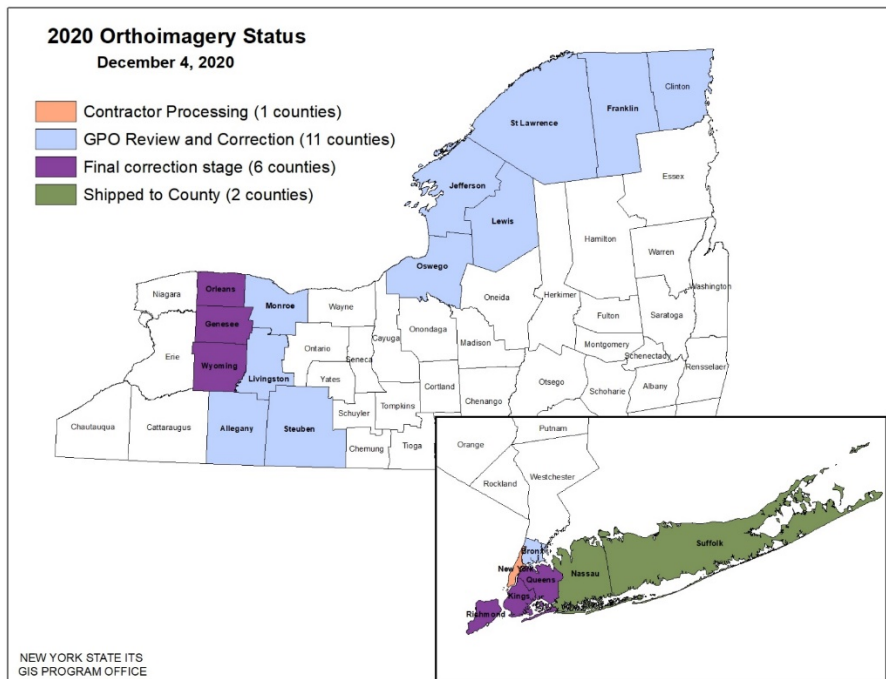
Census

- <https://2020census.gov/en/respnose-rates/nrfu-completion.html>
- Interesting information from Department of Labor: Six contacts are attempted for every nonresponse address. An ACO is not eligible to enter the closeout phase until 90% is reached.



Orthoimagery

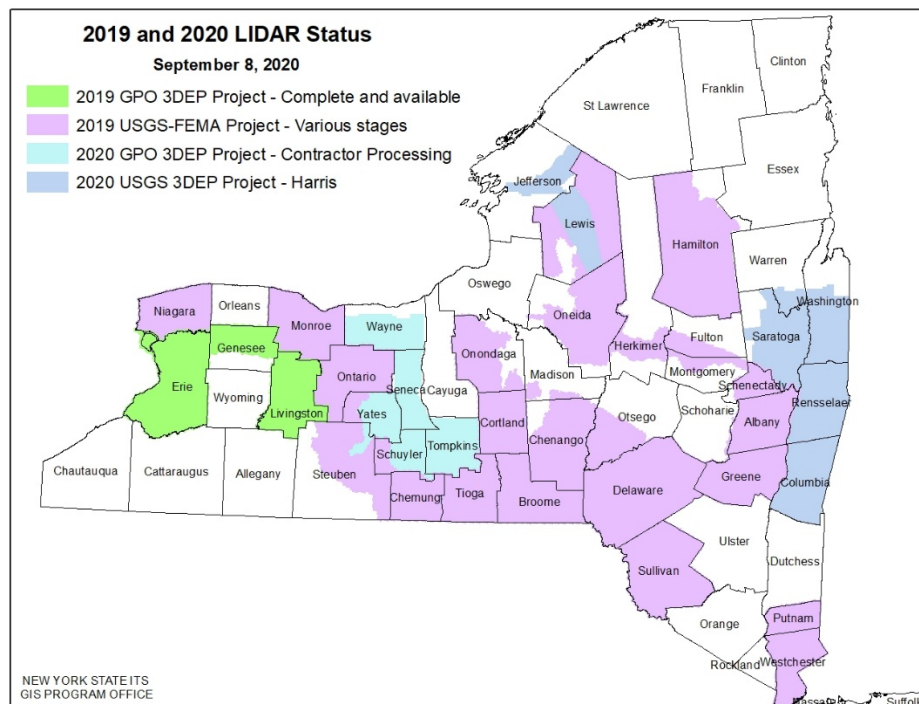
- All initial deliveries received, but New York County needed substantial rework before review
- Nassau and Suffolk imagery shipped to counties
- Goal is to get Long Island out as WMS in next few weeks.
- Counties in Western block are all close to completion.
- Meanwhile, can provide pre-acceptance versions to County or NYS agencies for project areas



LiDAR

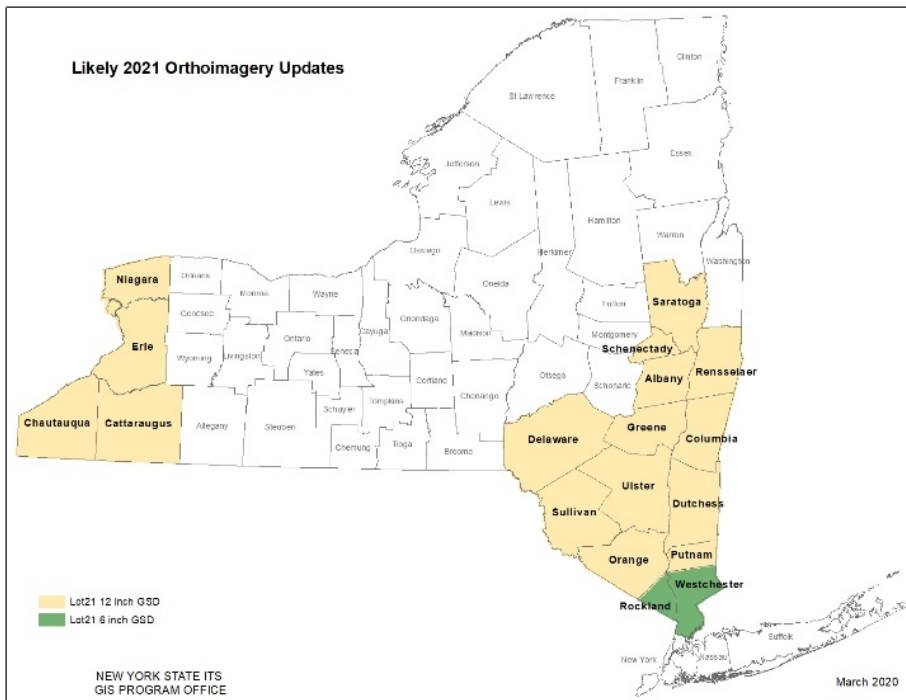
- 2019 Federal project in various stages

- Remaining areas flown in early Fall 2020.
- Much of data flown prior to this Fall has been processed
- No update on when data will be released – could be when entire block is completed.
- 2020 GPO 3DEP project is now in the review and correction phase.
 - The classified point cloud for the southern portion is nearly done in correction, so bare earth DEMs will come in soon.
 - GPO review of point cloud for northern portion is nearly complete.
- 2020 USGS 3DEP project included purchase of off-the-shelf data from L3Harris Technologies, Inc
 - USGS' estimate in October 2020 was data release could be in April 2021.



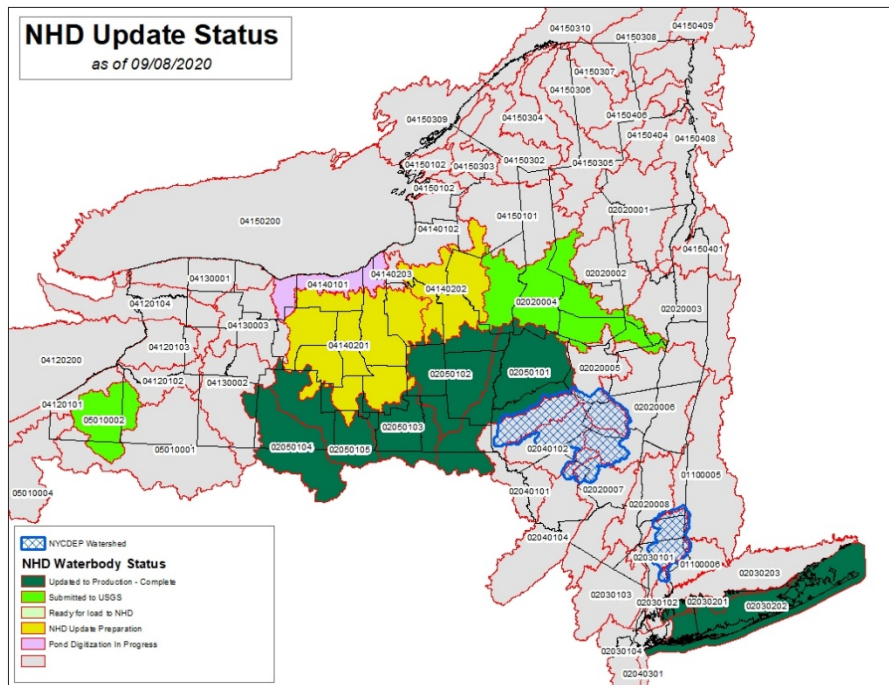
Orthoimagery and Elevation Planning

- Outreach to 2021 counties started in early November.
- Current active LIDAR projects fill all areas without Quality Level 2 data and update many areas which were near the 3DEP update age of 8-years old
- NY FY 21/22 Budget has many uncertainties.



National Hydrography Dataset

- Since the September 2020 update, GPO has not performed additional improvement as staff were working on orthoimagery, LIDAR, and other tasks.
- The goal is to resume work in early 2021



Emergency Management Support

- Continue supplying GIS support to DHSES as temporary replacement for GIS Specialist (Dan O’Brien) who retired in October 2019.

- Supporting AGOL content for:
 - Search and Rescue (based on national standard) – DHSES OFPC is lead customer
 - Building damage assessment – DHSES OFPC and DOS are lead customers
 - Ice jam status reporting – DHSES-OEM leading a multi-agency effort

GIS Platforms

- 104,657,761 Web Service requests since our last meeting
- ShareGIS publishing an updated COVID-19 MicroCluster Zone service in cooperation with DOH
- CIRIS Hosting a COVID Layer for identification of Facilities within the MicroCluster Zones

10:00 Break

10:15 COVID Round Table (GAC) Everyone gets 2 min to talk about their GIS work related to pandemic and where they see that work headed forward.

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| Jason Baum | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports ShareGIS platform • ShareGIS has proven out a lot of value during this crisis; Geocoder has gotten a lot of use • Advised on the procedure for making the spatial version of the zones • Working with consultants, DOH and Chamber; advocating against the use of zip codes for COVID • Oversees GIS Program Office group that handles map requests, provide quality assurance |
| Svetla Borovska | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports Tompkins County efforts • A lot of work and effort went into the COVID data and website • Working with partners including DOH, higher education, & federal agencies |
| Christina Croll | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OPRHP has been involved with emergency services unit and police force • OPRHP used for staging areas, drivers, logistics and coordination • State Parks have remained open and are addressing capacity issues • OPRHP is operating as usual, support regional support staff • Parks Explorer mobile application has been used to support communicating park closures |
| Mickey Dietrich | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities have been more reactive in nature • Working on Tug Hill recreation brochure – created trail maps: https://tughilltomorrowlandtrust.org/explore/ • Had been switching over to QGIS and PostGIS, with staff working from home, utilizing these platforms more frequently • Seeing a switch over more to online map viewing, sharing “private” maps online • Has participated in a lot of Zoom meetings; communities have been proactive and embraced the Zoom meetings |
| Keith Ducett | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using NY-Alert for notifications • Notifying residents based on zip code of free COVID testing |

- Special situations in the CAD Dispatch system are informed if there is a COVID case in the location of the emergency situation
 - COVID 19 County Dashboard is up and running
 - Rolled out new CAD map using local data and regional map data from surrounding counties using SAM data
 - Switched to Pictometry IPA (previously used EFS solution) – online platform that interfaces with their CAD Dispatch system
- Eric Herman
- Not much directly related to COVID with Thruway Authority
 - Noted reduced traffic flow, which has resulted in huge impact on their budget (~90% of revenue comes from tolls) ... at the lowest, traffic dropped to 10% but has climbed again
 - Implemented cashless tolls and will be removing toll plazas
- David Jorgensen
- Not much with COVID
 - Continue gathering data and running reports for ToxicTargeting
 - Working a lot with water districts
- Katherine Kiyanita
- Working on GIS Program Office parcel map and civil boundaries program
 - Helping SUNY ESF group looking at using parcels to determine private vs municipal sewers (deducting sewer sheds for COVID testing)
- Mary Susan Knauss
- Pivoting with the NYS GIS Association on the restrictions from COVID
- Todd Nelson
- Works for GPO, supported national initiatives
 - No hands-on GIS pertaining to COVID
- Julia O'Brien
- FEMA is providing logistical support
 - Tracking refrigerated trucks, locations of alternative hospital sites (concerns regarding alternate care facilities weatherization for winter season)
 - Logistics support for Operation Work Speed, but not overly spatial-centric; CDC leading geospatial part
 - Supporting Virgin Islands
- Christopher O'Connor
- Supporting multiple state agencies, providing GIS solutions, user support and training
 - Updates to NYSDEC's centralized GIS database in support of COVID response
 - GIS Client Office team developed a ArcGIS Online application for the Department of Public Service to manage staff resources given the COVID zones – leveraged the GIS Program Office's web feature service
- Matt Owen
- County is tuned in, and is maintain business continuity
 - Moved away from in-person meetings, resulting in the need for web mapping applications to delivery data
 - Biggest push has been on accessing GIS data via the web
- Lindi Quackenbush
- No current mapping related to COVID
 - COVID had a big impact on campus activities
 - Strict guidelines in place that have resulted in low COVID numbers; partnership with Syracuse University for COVID testing
- Christopher Rado
- DOITT GIS team has been handling regular, usual business
 - DOITT provides remote support with platforms like CITRIX

- Team has been highly productive working from home
 - Working with GIS Program Office on NYC orthoimagery (flown in spring 2020) and is working on planimetric data updates that will be based on the new imagery
 - COVID risk zones were integrated with NYC DOT Open Streets that would be blocked to car traffic, application for any 311 service request would get information for nearby “open streets”
 - NYS Next-Gen 9-11 subcommittee; kept regular cadence meetings over the summer; trying to get an open-source software environment to enable counties to make eddies to next-gen 911 data
- Rick Reichert
- Working at the county level; work dominated by COVID 19 since April
 - Pushed for the use of GIS tools and data; demand has increased for these capabilities
 - Built dashboards, summary level reports and metrics, tracking information > evolved to use in risk assessment (block, block groups) > geocoding cases, mapping hot spots,
 - Looking at Census data for high risk populations; proactive in testing; looking at predictive analysis - trends
- Dave Richardson
- Not a lot of COVID related GIS
 - A lot of focus on stewardship for preserves; only had to close a few due to physical bottlenecks on trails
 - Equitable access and Environmental Justice work has increased and will be a big focus going forward
- Heather Weller
- Normal GIS support
 - Few dashboard requests, but county wants to keep reporting at the county-level
 - Signed up to be Contact Tracer
- Carrie Wiley
- Works for NearMap (aerial imagery company)
 - Has seen an uptick in usage and more involvement from agencies
 - NearMap presented an offer for 3D datasets in the early onset of COVID
- Randy Rath
- No specific COVID mapping, but Lake George area impact saw dramatic decrease, then a big uptick
 - Randy’s focus is on stormwater related projects
 - Lake George had a HAB; will be looking into remote sensing resources to help identify blooms

11:00 Nomination Committee (Nelson)

- Nominees Included:
 - Sylvie Browne – DOT (State)
 - Cattyann Campbell – Tompkins County (Local)
 - Larry Spraker VHN (Private)
- Weller motioned to approve , Ducett seconded

11:30 Chair/Vice Chair Nomination (Weller)

- Volunteer results posted by Jan 15, currently:
 - Chair – Weller
 - Vice Chair - Croll

11:45 Parcel Data update (Kiyanita)

- Mission: to collect, assemble, and maintain NYS parcel data
- Looking for feedback on receiving timely updates from all counties; most counties are good
- Advice from GAD for how to improve relationships and coordination with counties
 - Express value of the data
 - Provide example uses of the data
 - Get input from NYSAPLS
 - Ex-officio member from Real Property Tax Director to get their perspective
 - Express the cost associated with selling data and lawsuits vs free provision of data
 - New ACES system could be used as leverage to incentivize free provision of data

12:30 Break for lunch

1:05 NSGIC Update (Shar/Winters)

- Molly Shar, NSGIC Executive Director
(PowerPoint Presentation)
- About the Organization
 - NSGIC exists to advance effective state-led geospatial coordination for the nation
 - Serve as a national forum to develop future-oriented geospatial leadership and advance sound policies and practices for geospatial activities
- Membership
 - State rep's (most GIOs), GIS coordinators, GIS councils, local government, Federal agencies, private industry
- Advocacy Agenda
 - National Address Database
 - Next Gen 9111
 - Geospatial Data Act Implementation
 - Digital Coast Act
 - Authoritative Data for Wayfinding Companies
 - NAIP
- Multiple Initiatives
 - 3DEP and Hydrography for the Nation with USGS
 - Geo-Enabled Elections
 - Addresses and Transportation
 - Geospatial Preparedness
 - NG9-1-1

- National Pandemic GIS Task Force
- Geospatial Maturity Assessment
- Conferences
- Federal Summit
- GIO Academy
- Council of Councils Forum
- State/Tribal Collaborative
- GeoWomen
- (Winters) Commentary
 - GAC's focus has commonalities with NISGC
 - Asked about other Council Models of Collaboration and Coordination
 - (Shar) Response
 - Indiana is a nonprofit, not associated with state
 - Utah is nonprofit – more like a user group, free, anyone can join
 - Sometimes appointments are at the Gov. Office level
 - Some are about reporting out vs. getting in and getting things done

1:30 State Census Efforts

Liz Burakowski, Deputy Director of Upstate Revitalization for New York State's 2020 Census Task Force

- Discussed Governor's Complete Count Initiative
- Unprecedented effort; state government and web of partnerships
- NY was a leader and has a good relationship with Census Bureau
- No census results released yet, so it is too early to speak to the results
- Schedule was impacted by COVID
- Census Bureau (CB) requested an extension, but it was later revoked
- There were questions on undocumented immigrants
- NY used a lot of data analysis and saw approximately 864k updates (some overlap, but still a significant submission)
- Unsure how many housing units were enumerated with different methods
- Strong partnerships were key
- Concerns include:
 - Differential privacy is a big question for them
 - CB required to maintain privacy of data, but accuracy as well
 - CB is trying to determine what level of noise and where to insert into the data to maintain privacy within adversely impacting accuracy
 - There is low confidence in the process and resulting output – so the question is what is the degree of accuracy, and is it even fit for use? This has been shared with the current CB team and the incoming Biden team
 - Encouraging Biden team to have communicable teams, and let the professionals provide leadership
 - Census data is the gold standard; we need it to be accurate and for people to have confidence in it
- Going forward:
 - AG will keep an eye on litigation (Barbara Underwood)
 - Stay on top of data privacy issue

- Maintain relationship with CB – need to institutionalize knowledge and relationships for what is a 10-year frequency

2:00 Meeting Adjourns

- Follow-up items include:
 - Need to firm up the chair and vice chair nominations
 - Start thinking about any subjects to cover for next year's set of meetings
 - Google poll to include new members for finding dates for next meetings
- Richardson motioned to adjourn the meeting, Herman seconded, all approved, none opposed