

New York State Geospatial Advisory Council

December 10, 2025

10 am – 3 pm

Virtual Meeting will open at 9:45 am

NYS Harriman Campus

Building 5 Room 204, Albany NY

Directions: Please see separate PDF in your email. Note that due to construction on the campus, parking has changed

ONLINE Teams Meeting: [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 272 154 094 512 6

Passcode: 9sA3Vk3m

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

The NYS Geospatial Advisory Council (formerly called the GIS Coordinating Body), operating under the auspices of the NYS ITS Geospatial Services, coordinates, promotes and facilitates the development, effective use, and sharing of geographic information. It also removes barriers to implementing geographic information technology to improve the delivery of public services, protect the public and the environment, and enhance the business climate for the benefit of the State, its municipalities, businesses, and citizens.

Attending:

Jochen Albrecht

Santina Benincasa

Sylvie Browne

Joanna Craigmile

Christina Croll

Elisabetta DeGironimo

Shannon Dolte

Keith Ducett

Katie Duncan

Roy Garfinkel

Dave Genaway

Bryan Goodrich

Chris Holewinski

Wayne Howard

Dawn McCall

Rebecca Newell

Zach Simek

Larry Spraker

Karyn Tareen

Erin Tylutki

Jiin Wen

Alex Wolf

Guests: Kate Kiyanitsa (ITS- Note Taker), Richard Tobe (DOL), Heather Ferrero (NYSGISA President, Livingston County)

Grayed out attendees not present

10:00 Welcome / Agenda Review / Approval of Minutes (Genaway)

- Motion to adopt (Croll) and seconded (Newell)

10:10 Introductions: Who you are, where you come from, what sector do you represent, what sort of GIS work are you engaged in?

- Icebreaker – *In your respective sectors and organizations, what's the most important GIS project you'd like to accomplish within the next year? How can the GAC help?*
 - Kate Kiyanitsa- parcel sharing
 - Lis DeGironimo- more robust Clearinghouse, telling GIS stories
 - Rebecca Newell- transitioning to Pro, guidance, best practices
 - Christina Croll- State Agency Advisory Group (SAAG) better coordination, communication
 - Dave Genaway- Civil service footprint/titles/representation in GIS for local government (Lis- recommendation of an ad-hoc committee to be formed within the GAC)
 - Zach Simek- data governance, how to use AI responsibly
 - Sylvie Browne- ArcPro transition
 - Karyn Tareen- using and guiding customers using AI
 - Chris Holewinski- promote GIS use in county departments and with the public, AI
 - Jochen Albrecht- open-source GIS, emergency GIS & IT coordination PhD student course
 - Bryan Goodrich- upgrading enterprise GIS database server, ArcGIS Hub site, internal buy-in
 - Ray Garfinkel- county access to digital public land records

- Shannon Dolte- NG-911, improved parcel data, GDB to branched version GDB
- Joann Craigmile- Experience builder, asset inventory for hwy dept, GIS workforce training
- Keith Ducett- NG-911 PSAP boundaries, NYSDOT Interstate project, CAD map build project
- Heather Ferrero- Livingston County apps for County depts, NYSGIS new GeoAI Committee and Professional Committee
- Alex Wolf- AGOL layers for public vs. Internal use, land use/land cover change in the Hudson Valley
- Katie Duncan- ArcPortal republishing, metadata
- Wayne Howard- open-source GIS, GeoAI
- Erin Tylutki- PSAP, AI, Experience Builder, all of the above

10:30 GAC Governance Discussion- Nominating Committee Findings and Nominations - Open positions and slate will be presented.

- Local Rep- Heather Weller nominated (multiple endorsements)- motion to approve and seconded (Croll and Tareen), no discussion or opposition, vote approved, and motion passed. Heather is the new local rep for the GAC.
- Utility Rep- Grace Durham (Nat'l Grid) nominated- motion to approve and seconded (Browne and Simek), no discussion or opposition, vote approved, and motion passed. Grace is the new local rep for the GAC.
- Federal Rep- (Katie Duncan leaving)- Heather Grady (USDA Farm Services) recommended by Katie and nominated- motion to approve and seconded (Browne and Goodrich), no discussion or opposition, vote approved, and motion passed. Heather is the new federal rep for the GAC.
- Chair-Elect position needed- think of recommendations and notify the nominating committee. Erin emailed who was eligible.
- Private Sector position needed- think of recommendations and notify the nominating committee. Dawn McCall a potential.

11:45 Standing Report – Part 1:

- Federal Report (Duncan)
 - USGS 3DEP- delayed because of weather
 - USGS 3DHP- some completed or coming, 2026-2027 proposed projects depending on budget
 - NAIP 2024 available on public web service
 - Soils updated every Oct 1st
- NISGIS (Ferrero)- Oct 6-17th Summit 2026
 - NYGeoCon 2025 Lake Placid (Tareen)- 179 people registered, lost some fed attendees/speakers
 - Andrew Turner, Esri – GeoAI- look for videos online
 - Potential for the Capital region next time
- NYSAPLS (Garfinkel)
 - NY GeoCon Round Table
 - Future conferences may try to include NYS – winter meeting will be virtual
- State Agency Advisory Group report (Croll)
 - Jan 2026 meeting- Drones for mapping (e.g. check for sharks to shut down beaches)
 - Deeper dive into data in the future- what is out there for State Agencies to use
- Questions? Thoughts?- Last meeting for Keith Ducett and Katie Duncan- thank you for your service!!

12:00 Break for Lunch – On your own. Microwaves are available and there is a small convenience store with lunch options in the building. Parking issues may make nearby off-site lunch options a problem.

1:00 Topics of Interest in NYS: Rich Tobe, Department of Labor, Census

- 2020 Census- NYS count went up by 800,000; but lost 1 seat by 89 people
- How to get an accurate count from those who are not likely to fill out Census- immigrants, children, etc
- LUCA (Local Update of Census Addresses)- since 1990, consult with States on the Master Address File (MAF)- addresses first, people who are there are then counted. Addresses most important

- NYS 2020 LUCA- every County signed up to participate- obtained addresses known to NYS, compared to the MAF for discrepancies, County/local govt reviewed the areas with the most differences- submitted additions (300,000+) and corrections to Census
- Addresses for hard-to-count populations, fear to participate (e.g. Native American, Amish, Immigrant, Orthodox Jewish Communities)- local community engagement key to success (ex: Yiddish speakers, defining all household members when 2+ families live in a single-family dwelling)
- Residential parcels, electrical utility hook-ups, driver's license- addresses where people live
- Census believed NYS has an overcount – enumeration stage: \$30m from legislature, identify trusted members of communities/not-for-profits to encourage participation
- Covid restraints and delays for 2020 enumeration
- 19.4m 2010 NYS population, estimated decline, but 20.2m 2020 est NYS population (+~800,000)- Census thought NYS got it wrong- back and forth- 2024-2025 estimates going up
- 2030 Census- Census Working Group at the State level formed in ~2023 to prepare for the 2030 Census. Working well with the Census Bureau until January 2025 (Census-led Work Groups to be formed to improve on the 2020 Census/LUCA- e.g. group quarters, former commercial structures now used as dwellings, accessory dwelling units, etc)- technical solutions may fall short and miss dwellings/people
- Proxy can count people who won't answer the door (admin records, postal worker, etc)
- Cooperation ended during the current Trump administration, agency re-shuffling, no appropriations, monthly-to-quarterly reporting, 2025 count required for potential redistricting in 2026, considering changes to questionnaire with review needed before finalizing, reprieve from shutdown until Jan 2026, Congressional proposals for only citizens to be counted (does not match constitution)
- Questions?
 - County/local reps helpful local data?: bldg permits, ADUs, gas/plumbing permit, parcels, Certificates of Occupancy, updated street centerlines. How to send/aggregate data upward? Rich- LUCA should not be a hierarchical approach through the State, but a framework to encourage people at the local level to participate directly- rely on common purpose- and organized campaign of "we can do it for us"
 - Competition with other States? Rich- last time states were divided about their approach
 - How could a forced early enumeration affect the midterm election, based on this timing? Rich- it is complicated. A count can be done (e.g. the sampling they do routinely) but only the decennial count can be used to apportion congressional seats. The legislation proposed contradicts this.

2:30 **Standing Reports - Part 2 - NYS Geospatial Services (DeGironimo/Ruhren)**

- NYSGISA GeoCon presentations – some are available on GIS.NY.GOV
- Geospatial Services in a better seat at the executive table at ITS
- Judicial Security PII redaction for federal judges (72-hour turnaround)
- Data governance engagement with Esri- documentation and recommendations
- 25 Agencies now going into next 3-yr Esri EA- named user licensing model concerns
- Hiring- non-competitive title series "Technology Analyst 1 and 2" (SG 23 and 25 equivalent)
- Initiatives for 2026- data/platform/organizational governance, more staffing/skills, increased outreach, GIS architecture modernization, modernize Discover GIS Data NY and Who's Who
- Data Updates
 - Orthos- updates are being reviewed and deliveries continue
 - Lidar- no updates
 - Parcels- 2025 data coming in, new data will be ready starting in January 2026
 - Civil Boundaries- update in January 2026- minor improvements and annexation(s)
 - SAM- continue to make edits and improvements, geocoder improvements
- Questions?

- NYS Spaces/Esri indoors- update for a future meeting
- NAICS codes

3:00 New Business

- 2026 Meeting dates / Locations (Including possible field trip locations) / Discussion topics
- Ideas for future meetings
 - Cybersecurity and GIS- PII/HPII
 - Artificial Intelligence – Implications and policy for GIS across the State, presentation on training data for AI
 - Hudson Valley Land Use Change (Alex Wolf)
 - Wing Cheung from GeoTech is the person I heard present at GeoEd (Wayne Howard rec)
- Nominations for replacement members- Chair-Elect and Private Sector

3:30 Meeting Adjourns

Future 2026 Meetings

March 11th

June 10th

Sept 16th

December 9th

Guests

Kate Kiyanitsa (ITS)- note taker, Rich Tobe (DOL)