MetroGIS Coordinating Committee: Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 26, 2014, 1:00 PM
Metro Counties Government Center, 2099 University Avenue, St Paul
Approved, September 25, 2014

Members Attending:

John Slusarczyk, Anoka County	David Brandt, Washington County (Vice Chair)
Nancy Read, Metro Mosquito Control	Ben Verbick, LOGIS
Gordon Chinander, MESB	Jim Fritz, Xcel Energy
Erik Dahl, EQB (Chair)	Peter Henschel, Carver County
Mark Kotz, Metropolitan Council	Mark Maloney, City of Shoreview/Metro Cities
James Bunning, Scott County	Hal Watson, MnDNR
Matt Koukol, Ramsey County	Hal Busch, City of Bloomington/Metro Cities
Dan Ross, MnGeo	Gary Swenson, Hennepin County
Len Kne, University of Minnesota (alternate)	David Bitner, db Spatial LLC
Curt Carlson, Real Estate Representative	

Members Absent:

Matt Baker, Metropolitan Airports Commission	Eric Haugen, Resource Data, Inc.
Ben Butzow, MnDOT	Francis Harvey, University of Minnesota
Ron Wencl, USGS	Brad Henry, University of Minnesota
Jeff Matson, CURA/University of Minnesota	Sally Wakefield, Non-Profit Representative
Randy Knippel, Dakota County	

Guests:

Marty Millhayer, Intern, Xcel Energy	Jon Hoekenga, Metropolitan Council

Staff:
Geoff Maas, MetroGIS Coordinator

1) Call to Order
Chair Dahl called the meeting to order at 1:11 pm

2) Approval of Meeting Agenda
Motion: Chinander, Second: Koukol, motion carried, agenda approved.

3) Approval of Minutes from March 27, 2014
Motion: Kotz, Second: Bitner, motion carried, minutes approved.

4) Appointment of Curtis Carlson to the Real Estate Seat
Curtis Carlson, GIS Coordinator at NorthStar MLS submitted a letter to MetroGIS in April 2014 expressing interest in filling the real estate seat vacancy. The letter was circulated to the Committee members who were encouraged to contact Curtis if they so desired. Curtis gave a summary of his career to date, his work at Northstar MLS and reiterated his interest in becoming a member of the group.

Motion to approve: Bitner, Second: Chinander, approved unanimously by vote, motion carried.

Chair Dahl welcomed Mr. Carlson to the MetroGIS Coordinating Committee.

5) Lightning Round

Dahl (Environmental Quality Board): The Environmental Quality Board is presently developing a new website, to be launched soon.

Brandt (Washington County): Several projects in the works in Washington County, including a project with summer interns collecting ADA ramps for a ramp assessment study as well as a park inventory. Washington County is still engaged with Ramsey County on a joint recycling project as well.

Swenson (Hennepin County): We have a great deal of activity centered on open data. To date, we have released nine (9) datasets to the public on our website as of the end of April, and we have prioritized a list of twenty to twenty-five additional datasets for review for release; we should be able to move through that process by August of this year. Hennepin County has developed an internal process for reviewing the data among departments. Public release of the data has raised some concerns about exposing current maintenance procedures and routines. Stewards of the data within the various departments have the opportunity to respond within the review process and we also have the county attorney involved in review. We have received some good feedback from the public about serving up the data and we are taking into consideration the requests for data identified by the public. One key issue for us with releasing data to the public is the Safe At Home law, this is a significant discussion topic internally as to how we will handle it.

Another issue we are discussing internally is determining a clear definition of what is GIS data. The desired to add geospatial functions to other data is blurring that line. We are working toward a clearer definition of what we determine to be GIS data and what is not.

Bunning (Scott County): No updates at this time.

Henschel (Carver County): No updates at this time.

Bitner (db Spatial LLC): I will mention that the FOSS4G conference will be in Portland, Oregon this year, September 8-13, 2014.

Verbick (LOGIS/GIS-LIS Consortium): Through LOGIS we are working with public safety to increase their awareness of the data including addressing, address points, addressable centerlines and the address point editor.

Slusarczyk (Anoka County): Our main focus right now is public safety data system implementation; we've been working to get our centerlines data prepared.

Read (Metro Mosquito Control): I'm happy to mention that the good old MetroGIS geocoder is still getting around 1000 hits per day, not all of these are Mosquito Control. Additionally, Mosquito Control is seeking locations of beehives being kept in the metro. Is there anyone in the group working with beekeepers?

Carlson (Northstar MLS): Nancy, I believe that both Minneapolis and St Paul have a beehive registry program, there is likely a permit issued for beekeeping that could help you track those.

Kotz (Metropolitan Council): As you can see from the window, we've been busy, the Council formally opened the Green Line June 14th. We've also launched the a new Transit website, with increased GIS capacity including the Trip Planner and revamped our geocoder to support them, we are seeing 15,000 to 20,000 hits per day on that. Several other issues as well, the recent sinkhole on Phalen Avenue and the impacts of recent rain events to the sewer system. Specific to GIS, our present contract with NCompass will end in 2015 and they have approached us to offer to sell the rights to that data. The interest of the Council is to have a source of continually updated data, not in having the rights to data and being responsible for upgrading it. If you are interested in purchasing that data, please contact me.

Also, we have supported a socio economic data resource website within DataFinder, this had been maintained by Will Craig at the University of Minnesota. We are considering ending our support for it as the Metropolitan Council no longer has a business need for it and its use is limited; recent tracking indicated it is receiving approximately 100 uses per year.

Hoekenga (Metropolitan Council): I will provide updates relevant to the Address Points later in the agenda.

Kne (U-Spatial, University of Minnesota)**:** We have a number of University of Minnesota masters students looking at solar potential, working from David Brandt's work and using LIDAR to produce a 1 meter resolution of solar potential for the entire state. We are focusing on quality assurance of the data this summer, the data needs some work, but we are making progress.
We are looking at the thousands of solar installations and analyzing modeled vs. actual potential for solar capacity. This work has resulting in a number of derivative projects as well including a 1-meter resolution service model. We also went through the processing work in dealing with solar models statewide, putting up on GitHub calling it our "pleasingly parallel" process, able to port ArcGIS Server, run it on their core and load the Python modules.

Maloney (City of Shoreview/Metro Cities): While I am the city engineer for Shoreview, I am involved with a large amount of interagency work specifically the Northeast Metro Groundwater Management and Metropolitan Council Water Supply. What I see in these groups in the continual need for consistent data of all types, we do see a "siloed" approach to mapping resources and data; agency turf issues, being protective of their data and information, especially regarding groundwater resources. For us to address these issues in a practical way we need to refer to the same datasets. Water supply issues will be going on for a long time, it is so much more than the lake levels of White Bear Lake, that is the 'media level topic', but there are many issues and details that water supply providers will be facing in coming years. Again from a city engineer perspective it really appears like things are siloed between agencies.

Ross (Minnesota Geospatial Information Office): Mark, I'd mention that the Legislature has earmarked two million dollars for groundwater data.

Maloney: That's a great start, we'll need it.

Carlson (Northstar MLS): Working since 2007 in the real estate industry since GIS, at Northstar MLS we process real approximately 350 to 400 new listings and a similar number of sales in nearly 60 counties across Minnesota and Wisconsin every day. Northstar MLS focuses primarily on residential real estate. We use a three-stage geocoder, making use of MetroGIS' geocoder, the US Postal Service API and Texas A & M geocoder; a 3 stage system that is SQL based. I'm glad to be here and part of the group.

Chinander (Metro Emergency Services Board): We are working closely with the data producers of the region to get the 911 database in sync with GIS database; we are working with the Statewide Centerline collaborative and the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to figure out data issues for 911 call routing, location validation of 911. Recently there was some media attention about 911 calls from Minneapolis routed to Queens, New York. We are researching exactly what happened; appears to be an issue with T-Mobile which doesn't work with every phone. The issue made news in the United Kingdom, but it appears that the media really blew the story out of proportion.

Koukol (Ramsey County): Our recent efforts have focused on TriTech system integration. A little over a month ago, we got our parcel fabric fully implemented, the data is ready, we've established the work flow for property records and work now working with public works; ensuring we have good workflow with those departments.

Ross (Minnesota Geospatial Information Office): I'll mention the Statewide Geocoder first. It is not public, its going to be used by agencies working with private data, notably the MN Department of Health and others that have sensitive data. It will have a nine-level cascading geocoder; we may open it up eventually for broader use for seven of nine of those layers. I'll have full updates on Centerlines and Geospatial Commons later in the agenda.

Busch (City of Bloomington/Metro Cities): We are in the midst of switching our GIS system from Small World to ESRI, and we are taking that transition as an opportunity to move from the status quo and innovate, move away from silos and integrate departments range from Financial to Public Works.

Watson (Minnesota Department of Natural Resources): We contributing steadily to the Commons effort.
At the DNR we are ramping up our recreational data mapping effort, this ties together several internal divisions, trying to extend that and break down some silos internal to the DNR.

Millhayer (Xcel Energy/Summer Intern): I am an intern in Jim's [Fritz] department at Xcel and a student at St. Cloud State, just here as an observer today.

Fritz (Xcel Energy): As he mentioned, Marty is our intern for the summer, we've recently lost some staff to other departments; he is assisting with core day-to-day tasks. At present, if you are interested in acquiring transmission line data, you can revisit published USGS maps. When Xcel gets a line permitted by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commissioner, line work is submitted to the Department of Commerce through Norm Anderson (MnGeo) at the state, Department of Commerce maintains all utility line data in the Minnesota, please contact him:

Norman Anderson, Senior Research Analyst
Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo)
658 Cedar Street, Room 300, St. Paul, MN 55155
Phone: 651-201-2483
Email: gisinfo.mngeo@state.mn.us

Another issue I'll mention is the need for 911 addresses for our Xcel substations throughout the state. This is something we'll need to take on and we are wondering if municipalities and counties are interested in having that for their systems, we'd like to get the ball rolling.

Maas (MetroGIS): I'll mention quickly that the new MetroGIS website is ready for launch. We are waiting for the final security checks at the MetCouncil to approve it. Not every page is complete, but we'll see it evolve with the spaced filled in over the remainder of the year. As it takes shape, your ideas and suggestions are welcome

6) Policy Board Update

Maas: The Policy Board was not convened at its last scheduled meeting data of April 23, 2014 as no issues of policy or fiscal import were identified by the Coordinating Committee or members of the MetroGIS stakeholder community. I provided the Policy Board members with a brief update of recent activity of MetroGIS including updates on Free and Open data advancements. The next Policy Board meeting is scheduled for July 23, 2014. Are there any issues of policy or fiscal import this body [Coordinating Committee] would like to have advanced for discussion or consideration at the Policy Board level? (No responses). Hearing none, I will update the Policy Board with our recent activity and not convene the July 23 meeting, thank you.

7) Current Work Plan Items

7a) Address Points Aggregation Project

Hoekenga: Dakota County has completed their dataset and it is now available in the DataFinder. I will be performing the manual assembly of the datasets as they come in and are in the address standard. We are working closely with Hal [Watson] at DNR with the GDRS to automate the aggregation work flow process.

Koukol: Just to add, we are putting the final touches on our data, getting it into the format with the required fields. We should have something very soon.

7b) Free and Open Data Update

Maas: I'm pleased to announce that since our last meeting Carver County and Anoka County Boards have adopted free and open data resolutions in April, bringing the total to five counties in the metro. Our understanding is that the concept is under consideration in Scott and Washington Counties. Interestingly, the bordering counties in Wisconsin are no longer licensing the data, charging only nominal duplication fees, and Polk County as of January 2014 is allowing their data out without fee or license. I will continue to monitor the issue and report back as events warrant.

7c) Support for the Minnesota Geospatial Commons [gisdata.mn.gov]

Ross: We will be ready to go live with the site very soon. We will offer a variety of search options, depending on how you want to look for data. At present, we have fifty-eight (58) data layers available with more being added all the time as well as applications.

Chinander: Is there an official state boundary file available?

Watson: The DNR is presently the custodian of a state boundary file. We've maintained that for some time, I am not sure if it is officially available on the Commons yet.

Ross: To access the Commons, there is a standard login where you create an account, choose options to participate in the RSS feed and notifications. You can follow an organization, you can follow an individual dataset, and it allows you to put in comments, create date stamps and track the newest updates. I am encouraging the group to put things into the Commons. At present, our primary focus is public data, not private or sensitive data. Agencies putting up sensitive data can manage its availability through the GDRS Broker.

Watson: We are focused primarily on state agencies right now that are actively participating. We are working directed with Jim Gonsoski, a developer at the Met Council to develop an ArcGIS add-in to assist a person to publish data into the right format so it can be 'sucked' into the system. Jim has a target of late August for that. Without a tool like that, there would be too much 'futzing' around; we want to make it easy for folks to get data into the system. I will be teaching a workshop at the fall conference, and we are working to bring in more agencies to publish. We will be working with the Met Council and some counties in test mode.

Ross: Our next steps include adding in the data (including the metadata) of up to seven (7) state agencies by late September. We've got a lot of big things to be done between now and September. I encourage you to check back at the site and see how it is changing: (gisdata.mn.gov)

7d) Address Point Editor Tool 3.0 (Enhancements)

Kotz: We are proposing further enhancements to the existing Address Point Editor Tool. I will cover this more thoroughly in Agenda Item 8b when we review project proposals.

7e) Statewide Centerline Initiative

Ross: We met in St. Cloud on June 9 for a re-cap meeting with the project partners, we will be having conference calls every two weeks with the partner group; I will review the topic in greater detail coming up in Agenda Item 8a.

7f) Sharing Beyond The Metro

Maas: This item remains 'on hold', and it can be better addressed when we have our new MetroGIS website up and some definitive findings to share with Greater Minnesota partners from the Metro Centerlines Initiative. This effort to connect with our partners in surrounding counties and see what issues we share with them and if what

we are working on would be of interest and benefit to them. This will likely be pushed out into late in the year or early 2015.

7g) Private/Public Data Sharing

Maas: This item has been part of the MetroGIS discussion for a long time. Until a core of our stakeholders offer a clearly defined business need we really don't have any means to move forward on the issue, unless anyone here has some ideas they want to act on.

Ross: In relation to the Commons regarding issue of private or sensitive data, we are actively working with Minnesota Power *(major utility provider based out of Duluth)*, they are having an internal discussion of what they can and cannot make publicly available, and we want to work with them as to how to best use the Commons and get them into the shared space.

Brandt: In Washington County, we were interested in knowing where Comcast's fiber systems were, but no one at the County was willing to sign the non-disclosure agreement that Comcast required.

Maas: We can keep the idea in the queue. I still like the idea of a summit or gathering of the interests together to meet and discuss it, if we can get people to commit to participating.

7h) Stormsewer Initiative

Maas: This item has been effectively on hold as well, I keep assembling info and research as I have time. I circulated a 3-page initiative brief on what the project could be, which has gained some interest and led to new contacts. There remains interest in the issue from a diverse set of potential data users with interesting and disparate uses for a dataset of this kind. In the near future, I am simply going to be working with the data consumer community to document its business needs and this potential project 'cook' a bit longer.

8) Proposed Projects Review

Formally Proposed Projects—Eligible for Funding

Maas: As a quick reminder the Metropolitan Council has allowed MetroGIS to carry a portion of its unspent funding from 2013 into its 2014 budget, equating to $38,000 being available. At our last meeting (March 27) I encouraged stakeholders to develop and submit project ideas. Four were received, two of which we'll discuss, a third (Dashboard Application) was withdrawn from consideration at the present time and another (Infrastructure Survey) needs a bit of additional information added for full consideration.

8a) Geospatial Commons: First Year Funding

Kotz: As we are aware, the Commons is well into its development and will need to be funded, there are staff costs, development costs and server costs, most of that will be borne by state agencies. MnGeo, on behalf of the Commons has put in a request to MetroGIS for $28,000 to support its first year operations. Of note, the Commons has been identified as the 3rd item on our current work plan. We've already established that this is important. Beyond the immediate funding, the Metropolitan Council has already committed to the project and contributed staff time; working with the DNR on the Commons development. This funding would help supply our share of the collective need to support the Commons.

Ross: State In the future, the Commons could possibly be supported by a portion of the recorders fee. We are looking at what it would take in legislation to redirect funds toward it. Funding will need to be enhanced.

Read: Is this simply a budget for server use?

Ross: We are looking at around $75,000 for the initial server build.

Read: Is there any data preview function or interactive element?

Watson: There is a plug in for doing JSON that could be delivered through the Commons, we are presently "banging our heads" against it. The GeoJSON is a "heavy" format, if you produce in that format, you have to subset it out and we believe it inadequate for standing up services for all the data we will deliver; we simply won't have the resources to host every data dataset as a service that will be published through the Commons. We will build toward an interactive piece, but not likely in the first iteration.

8b) Address Points Editing Tool 3.0 (Enhancement)

Kotz: We currently have a bid of $22,500 for the desired enhancements to the tool; however, as is indicated in the agenda packet (pages 6 and 7) we are requesting $24,000 anticipating a bit more work that needs to be addressed. As the proposal indicates, this is an established project; ranking 4th on our current list of identified project priorities and has a high likelihood of success. This would be the second update of the tool (the 3rd version of the tool) and we essentially have the project lined up and ready to go. If we fund the Commons fully at $28,000 we are then asking for $14,000 more than we have in the 2013 carry-over budget. My question to the group is can we cut back on one or the other project? There are no line items in the Commons proposal; however, there are line items in the Address Tool proposal that we could potentially remove.

Bitner: Is there any apprehension to using MetroGIS tool by the cities and counties?

Swenson: We're certainly open-minded about it [in Hennepin County] and I feel we will find out very soon. We've met with our cities in the pilot program and all of our cities are open-minded about it as well. We haven't implemented anything yet, we waiting for our cities and we are willing to demo the latest version of the MetroGIS tool to see how it fits their uses. As it is able to fit their needs, we feel that the cities will support using the MetroGIS tool.

Bitner: How much stronger is your case if we cut a couple line items from the Address Point Tool proposal? We know the Commons will be there, we have been working toward a resource like that for the state for some time. Given the history of this group we should position ourselves to support it. Contributing funds to the Commons—given the relatively small amount we have currently available would be a symbolic gesture—however; the symbolism is valuable as a show of our support. Perhaps we could advocate for the municipal governments to fund the address tool enhancements to meet their specific needs?

Verbick: I can tell you that the cities like the [Address Point Editor] tool and will see the need for it and will use it if it is enhanced or not. From the municipal perspective, the enhancements are an exceptionally good part of it, a good direction to take. Again, the Commons is great, but it not likely a place where municipal users will go for their day-to-day data needs.

Swenson: The [Address Point Editor] tool will not have as much impact on our larger cities like Bloomington and Minneapolis. It will be much more impactful on the smaller cities, those with less GIS staff or support available.

Chinander: How do we keep the data coming in sync with each other; I would hate to see it go haywire from not being integrated.

Bitner: We've got the work of the Addressing Work Group to handle that; that topic has certainly come up.

Kotz: That will be the next level of integration and we are not there yet, however, this tool will help facilitate that integration.

Bitner: Given our discussion, I would offer a motion that we fully funding the Address Point Editor Tool Enhancements at $24,000, with the remainder [$14,000] of the budget carry over going the Geospatial Commons.

Read: I second.

Dahl: We have a motion and second for $24,000 to be committed to the Address Point Editor Tool Enhancements project and the remainder [$14,000] going to the Commons. Is there any further comments or discussion?

(No discussion or questions were offered)

Dahl: With no further questions or discussion, let's vote:

All in favor: *Slusarczyk, Brandt, Read, Verbick, Fritz, Dahl, Henschel, Kotz, Maloney, Bunning, Watson, Koukol, Busch, Swenson, Kne, Bitner, Carlson;*

Opposed: *Ross;*

Dahl: Motion carries.

8c) Desktop Application Proposal

Maas: Randy Knippel [Dakota County] proposed a Dashboard Application project, details of which are found in Appendix B (page 11) of the agenda packet. Randy has vetted the idea through the Data Producers Work Group, and garnered their support. Randy withdrew the proposal from consideration at this time to gather additional information. One of the key areas I believe he wanted to explore further was support from law enforcement and how the tool could serve their needs. I suspect this proposal will reappear in our next Work Plan review cycle. Please contact Randy if you have questions about this proposal.

8d) Infrastructure Survey Proposal

Maas: Brad Henry [University of Minnesota] submitted a proposal for MetroGIS to jointly participate with other agencies in surveying municipalities as to the disposition of the current digital infrastructure management systems. His proposal if found in Appendix B on page 17 of the agenda packet. Brad is actively engaged with the MN2050 project, working to raise awareness of our aging infrastructure and the investments needed to bring it up to par. Our participation in a survey of this kind would facilitate the stormsewer initiative and be a solid point of entry for dialogue and understanding with cities about the completeness, fitness and availability of their other kinds of geospatial data. Brad's proposal is an excellent start but needs a bit of fleshing out. I will be working with Brad to help solidify the proposal for consideration in our next Work Plan cycle.

8e) 2016 Metro Regional Leaf-Off Aerial Imagery Collection

Kotz: The Council collects aerial imagery at every Census year, as well as mid-decade. Our next collect is planned for 2016. We are beginning the planning now and we are actively interested in partnering with other interested agencies early. We have already been in contact with Chris Cialek at MnGeo to help coordinate it. The Council's minimum specs are for half meter resolution for the region; however, we would prefer to have 1' resolution and are interested in finding partners to help fund that. Buy-up options to 6" are possible. The imagery will be color, leaf-off and there was some mention of color-IR (infrared) in the specifications as well. If you are interested please contact me ASAP.

9) Discussion Topic: Centerlines

9a) Statewide Centerlines Overview

Ross: We've discussed the topic before here; in review, we are essentially working to prove out how we can move toward a statewide road data solution. Our focus at present is not trying to built it out, but determine how we can work together and have the right road authorities enter their data into the system. We have a new project manager, Brad Wentz, former county engineer from Becker County now working with North Dakota State University (NDSU).

The goal is the development of a multi-use dataset with both an LRS (linear reference system) and shared centerline system. The LRS aspect is a project that MNDOT has working in parallel to Centerlines for meeting its HPMS federal reporting requirements. The LRS can be thought of as a subset of the Centerline Initiative

We have recently exposed the tools for use, we have a pilot toolset at MnGeo; they center on how a local road authority would enter roads into the system. We are working with related efforts, we know how important it is to integrate with NextGen911 and how our system has to feed into that in the long term.

State Patrol is looking update its CAD (computer aided dispatch) system, they will likely need to be purchasing a centerline solution for that in the short term.

With the statewide effort, there are four (4) sections to our current plan:

In Section 1, we are developing the requirement documentation of the non-state partners, determining how local and non-state road authorities register their data to the LRS. We are examining building a common data model for all non-state partners; the Metro Centerline effort that Gary will be describing shortly will compliment that effort. Additionally in section 1 we'll be examining the limits of the Esri data model and tools and understanding the constraints of the MnDOT model and workflows.

Section 2 is also presently in play, the focuses on the HMPS reporting [federal reporting requirements] which had to go forward in the early stages as well. This was a primary need for MnDOT and needed to be addressed early. We acknowledge that the best and most accurate data comes from the local road authority partners and are working to improve how their data gets to MnDOT for reporting.

In Section 3 we will work to integrate the needs captured in Section 1 and integrate the data from non-state partners (geometry, routes, attributes) and conflate them into the system.

Finally, in Section 4: making the system and its data a multi-use resource and making available back the public. We will be determining which additional tools are needed, how to register the local data to the LRS and exporting the data into 911 routable centerlines and adding attributes and features in MnDOT that are desirable needed by non-state partners.

Section 1 is in progress, we are having on-line meetings every 2 week hoping to have that part complete bby August. Will have individual partner meetings as needed and requested, we acknowledge that there are significant differences between the needs of Metro and Greater Minnesota road authorities.

Maloney: How do you define a non-state partner; would DPS (Department of Public Safety) be considered a non-state partner? I know that we as a city would like to have all crash data in one place with a common reference. One challenge is all users aren't' referencing the same system, you need to go to several to get all the data. As an example, Highway 96, which cuts through Shoreview, I had to fulfill a request to make a report and cobble it together from several sources. Multiple agencies are writing crash data into multiple systems and referring to their own maps.

Ross: That is one of the exact reasons we are working on this issue, working toward one way to hold it all together. We are working toward the state having a crash interface for location and reporting purposes, some meetings on this have been happening in the last six weeks.

9b) Metro Centerlines Overview

Swenson: For background, Hennepin County began working to built out its own centerline, as we did so we observed work at the state level and saw the opportunity to work with other metro partners, the counties, the Council and MESB to document our shared needs. On May 9, we had a 'sticky wall' session and since that time have been collecting and documenting the range of needs of the partners. We will be meeting again on July 1 to determine and document our final requirements. I offer the following diagram as to what we are doing and we are keeping on track for what needs to be done:
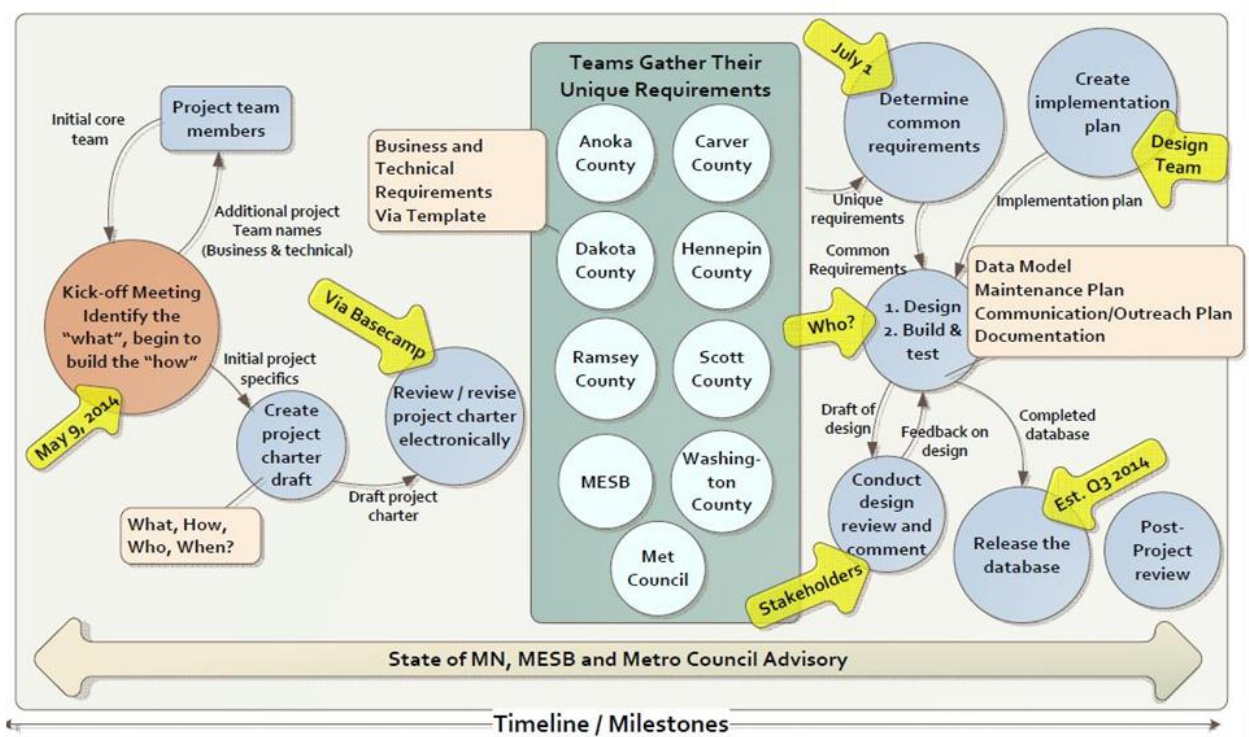
From the May 9 session we gathered a great deal of content and some direction on what we need to do and we've developed a project charter. We are collaborating through BaseCamp; an on-line tool All the participants have contributed their specific requirements from their respective organizations for centerlines, including needs that overlap with the state as Dan has identified such as LRS, routing and meeting 911 requirements.

As we find ourselves with a huge 'laundry list' of specific requirements, our project manager will be compiling those into sections and we'll examine the common ones work our way back through some of the uncommon ones. When we are finished, we will have a list of common core requirements for the project. At our July 1 meeting we will determine and finalize what the common requirements are, and which are the ones we wish to move forward with.

Then we enter 'planning mode'. We will engage our technical team, sit down and build a plan of action, for the design and building of the data model. When we are complete, we will have a well-defined data model. At that point we will be ready for outreach and communications to other counties, the state, the range of MetroGIS

stakeholders to solicit additional feedback and find how what we need relates to others needs. When that is complete we can move toward implementation and populating the data model and work with the state.

Ross: Hats off to the metro counties coming together on this; this will help the state effort.

Swenson: I want to reiterate we are not performing a build of the data, we are beginning documenting what is required in commons.

Chinander: Do you have a way to approach the cities and see what their needs are? Can you get complete buy in from the cities? Are there any deal breakers for them?

Swenson: That will be part of the outreach once we've solidified our needs, we will take it to them for comment and add their input as it comes.

Carlson: This is such good news; we've desired a resource like this for a long time. Having routable network capacity in a centerline data set where we can calculate commute times would assist us greatly.

Read: I wanted to comment about where the NCompass data sits, is someone willing to purchase that data from them?

Kotz: In my opinion, NCompass essentially saw that a public solution would be arising and the long-term value of their product diminishing. It seems like a reasonable business decision for them to propose selling it now.

Ross: One of its drawbacks is that the NCompass data is not a full statewide coverage and does not have consistent updates in all counties.

Brandt: We still continue to make use of the NCompass data as it includes Wisconsin county data.

Kotz: As for the Council's needs, we aren't interested in owning or maintaining the dataset, we aren't an agency that produces or maintains road data. At present we are paying $65,000 a year [for the NCompass data] so we see our contribution to a public solution as kicking in funding rather than maintaining data.

Ross: I'll mention that the State Patrol is considering purchasing a road data system for two years.

10) MetroGIS Re-Calibration Ideas

Maas: Now that I have been with MetroGIS for a little over two years, and I've seen how things operate, I want to ensure the collaborative is meeting the needs of the stakeholders and that we have the right representation at the table. With free and open data emerging, some of the original core functions of MetroGIS will be cleaving off. My main concern is that we continually make good use of your time as members at the table and we make good use of the resources we have at hand, both technical and budgetary to focus on projects and initiatives that meet our stated shared needs. I see our next 'frontier' if you will, as the municipal side, how to leverage the highest use and availability of data produced at the city level. We're fortunate to have Ben (Verbick, LOGIS), Hal (Busch) and Bob (O'Neil, Bloomington) and Mark (Maloney, Shoreview) in attendance, and having a strong city presence would be very useful to understand municipal needs and our needs from them. I'm open to ideas.

What I'd like you to consider is a small work group to meet twice (once in person, once virtually) between now and our next meeting to hash out some of these ideas. Also, I'd like to prepare a project document template to help standardize and streamline the project proposal process.

Kotz: As Geoff mentioned, it may be time to review how we do things and how we operate, we have had significant turnover at the staff level and some at the representation level with our membership; the time might be right for us to act on this.

Read: I'd suggest if we are considering the membership there is potential to tap the "community coders" folks, there are some real opportunities there.

Bitner: They have a lot of interest, there is a lot happening at the grass roots level, hack-a-thons and so on. There are many committed individuals who would make a suitable addition to our group.

Maas: I've attended a number of the hack-a-thons and similar events over the past year or so, there is a tremendous amount of enthusiasm, infectious energy and passion in that community that we should consider tapping into.

Kotz: Essentially, Geoff has asked if anyone would be willing to volunteer for a work group. I'm certainly interested.

(Brandt and Chinander also volunteered)

Maas: I can prepare some modest initial drafts of what I am considering for the group to take a swing at. You have my word it will be easy to participate in and work with.

11) Next Coordinating Committee Meeting:

Dahl: Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 25, 2014

12) Adjourn
Chair Dahl thanked the members for attending and adjourned the meeting at 3:24 pm