MetroGIS Coordinating Committee: Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 6, 2024, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Location: Virtual
==DRAFT==

Attendees

☐	Special Expertise: Vacant	☒	Govt - Regional: Marcia Broman, MESB
☒	Govt - Co: David Brandt (Vice-Chair), Washington Co.	☐	Govt - Regional: Matt Baker, MAC
☒	Educational Sector: Pete Wiringa, UMN/U-Spatial	☒	Govt - Regional: Nancy Read, MMCD
☒	Educational Sector: Kirk Stueve, St. Paul College	☐	Govt - Regional: Mary Mortensen, Met. Council
☒	Govt - City: Molly McDonald, City of Bloomington	☐	Govt - Regional: Vacant, Watershed District
☒	Govt - City: Tami Maddio, City of Eagan	☒	Govt - State: Catherine Hansen, MnDNR
☒	Govt - City: Jonathan Mortensen, City of Shoreview	☒	Govt - State: Galen Sjostrom, MnDOT
☒	Govt - City: Jessica Fendos, LOGIS	☒	Govt - State: Alison Slaats, MnGeo
☐	Govt - City: Vacant	☐	Non-Profit: Jeff Matson, MCN/CURA
☒	Govt - County: John Slusarczyk, Anoka County	☐	Non-Profit: Vacant
☒	Govt - County: Chad Riley, Carver County	☒	Private Sector: Dan Tinklenberg, SRF
☒	Govt - County: Joe Sapletal, Dakota County	☐	Private Sector: Vacant
☐	Govt - County: Jesse Reinhardt, Hennepin County	☐	Private Sector - Utilities: Vacant
☒	Govt - County: Geoff Maas (Chair), Ramsey County	☒	Special Expertise: Audrey Robeson, MCNet
☐	Govt - County: Tony Monsour, Scott County	☒	Special Expertise: Brad Henry, UMN
☒	Govt - Federal: Shelby Sterner, USGS	☒	MetroGIS (ex-officio): Tanya Mayer, Met. Council

Other Attendees: Heather Albrecht, Hennepin County

1) **Call to Order** (Maas)
   1:01 p.m.

2) **Approve Today's Meeting Agenda (motion item)** *(Maas)*

Motion to approve Agenda: Brandt   Second: Riley   Motion carried.

See Meeting Slides for the following agenda item details.

3) **Approve Minutes from last meeting (January 25, 2024) (motion item)** *(Maas)*
   - Minutes from the last meeting are here: www.metrogis.org (top right)
   - Review action items from last meeting *(Mayer)*
     - ==ACTION:== Academic, Utilities, Non-profit, Federal Government seats (1 each) being recruited. Please send any recommendations and suggestions to fill those seats. This is being addressed by MetroGIS Leadership Group and a topic on today's agenda.

Motion to approve 1/25/2024 minutes as amended: Broman   Second: Brandt   Motion carried.

4) **Filling Vacant Coordinating Committee Seats + Welcome New Members** *(Group discussion)*
   - Vacant seats on the Coordinating Committee
   - Introduction of new members
   Vacant seats:

- Govt – Regional, Watershed District
- Private Sector – Utilities: reached out to Xcel and Connexus Energy

New:
- Educational Sector: Kirk Stueve, St. Paul College
- Govt - Federal: Shelby Sterner, USGS
- Govt - State: Galen Sjostrom, MnDOT
- Special Expertise: Audrey Robeson, MCNet

Left:
- Alex Steele has a new position with the City of St. Paul.
- Joseph Mueller moved to DNR and Galen Sjostrom took Joseph's seat.

5) **Revamping of MetroGIS Operational Guidelines and Procedures (OGP)** *(Group discussion)*
- A short overview on the need to revamp the OGP documents to meet the changing needs and operation of the collaborative including expanding membership, budget, current and future needs and maintaining the 'nimbleness' of the group.
- See [Meeting Slides] for an overview of this recommendation.

6) **County Partnership Agreements with Met Council** *(Mayer)*
See [Meeting Slides].
- Next set of Agreements
  - Draft and complete contracts in 2025
  - Term: January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2028, with option to extend for 2-years (12/31/2030)
- Mayer would like to convene a Workgroup for 2026-2028 Agreements
  - Discussion about new agreement scope and other possible changes for improvement
  - Help draft new agreement language
- Workgroup Timeline
  - Workgroup start in fall 2024
  - Complete new agreement language draft by June 2025
  - Metropolitan Council start contract process for all 7 counties in June 2025
- Volunteers:
  - Geoff Maas, Ramsey County

7) **Food Resources Data update** *(Maas)*
See [Meeting Slides].
- Quick update and overview and status update on Regional Food Resources effort

8) **2024 Project updates**
See [Meeting Slides] for more detailed updates.
- 4a – Regional GIS Data Provisioning *(Broman/Maas)*
  - 4 priorities: Integrate data into external systems, maintain and improve validations and standard adherence, documentation of processes and workflows, identify roadblocks to sustainability.
  - Recently met with 10 metro counties and Olmsted to survey staffing levels, software usage, GIS/PSAP Processes, Imagery, Data Management – to understand baseline and understand how to move forward with this project.
- 4b – LIDAR collection and data status *(Metro Managers)*
  - Sapletal reported: Everything passed vertical assessment, in alignment with other projects. Communicated with project partners about sending hard drives directly to them from the vendor. 3D Geomatics is working with MnGeo and Esri to configure

systems for storing the data for dissemination. Also working on generating derivatives and plan to distribute those as well. Understand frustration that it took longer than expected due to flying a 2nd year. There will be a new MnTopo relatively soon.

- o Check out **Minnesota Lidar Hub** for more information: https://lidarhub-minnesota.hub.arcgis.com
- o Wiringa: Derivatives question – what is being delivered? Finalizing which groups at DNR will create derivatives. These include NDSN, DSN, DEM. Others are being finalized, including building footprints in the future.
- o Wiringa: Are we able to borrow hard drives to get a copy? It depends. Some partners are getting drives. Sapletal can connect to partners with a drive.
- 4c – External Platform Publishing
  - o Work is being done to connect with companies like Esri Community Maps, Google Maps, Open Street Maps, HERE, TomTom, etc.
  - o Esri Geocoder – successfully uploaded Metro Address Points database to Esri Community Maps program. This dataset is now part of Esri World Geocoder. No date is set for submitting an update.
  - o Esri has switched to using HERE data (from TomTom). Washington County working on a pilot project with Esri to evaluate process to update HERE data using our centerline dataset.
- 4d – MLCCS Project Update *(Brandt/Richardson)*
  - o The DNR has published the MLCCS results, and the training data layers as part of the contract deliverable – in May 2024. Please download, review and reach out to Bart Richardson with feedback. Closes the MetroGIS project.

9) **2025 Project Proposals** *(Group discussion)*
- Project proposal process review and open forum of any possible topics.
- Project Proposals Due September 15, 2025 at 4:00 pm.
- Email to: metrogis-contacts@metc.state.mn.us
- Contact Geoff Maas with and proposal questions.
- Projects budget for 2025: $25,000
- November 2024 Coordinating Committee meeting: Review, rand and approve for the 2025 MetroGIS Work Plan
- Maas: Possible project idea: Revisit the Park and Trail Work. This might include setting up a focused work group with committed stakeholders to meet 4 times during 2024-25 for revisiting, refining and improving regional park and trail dataset, specifically to improve data, documentation, and meet the emerging regional park system GIS data needs.
  ==ACTION:== set up Park and Trail – half-day session in person before November (Maas). The following people expressed interest in participating in the work group:
  - o **Brandt:** Interested, has intern this summer. Limited resources for sustaining this at Washington County.
  - o **Tinklenberg**: Interested in this participating in the group. Their biggest concern is the completeness of the data.
  - o **Riley**: I'd like to be involved in the park and trail work
  - o **Alison Campbell** from Carver, to represent the city need (Riley volunteered).
  - o **Read**: We update trails internally for MMCD staff. Really interested in off-road trails (not on-road trails) when considering the definition of a 'trail'.
  - o **Wiringa**: Timeliness is a big issue. Definitions of Parks too, questions on schema (is a traffic triangle a park?). Interested in joining the group.
  - o **Sjostrom**: Pedestrian infrastructure steward for MnDOT and is interested in participating in this group. Specifically in types of trails (metro wide pedestrian infrastructure!).

- o **Beth Koch**, (Sapletal) Dakota County, would be interested in participating in Parks/Trail group
- o **Maddio**: I am interested in participating in the Parks and Trails group
- o **Fendos**: I know Rice County PSAP provided trail data to LOGIS to be included in the CAD dispatch data.
- o **Hansen**: MNIT DNR would also support a metro park and trail network project.
- o **Albrecht**: Please add Hennepin Co. to the invitation, so I can discuss the need with Reinhardt before volunteering. Hennepin Co. generally does not own parks but does maintain data.
- o **Mayer**: Would like to have a Met Council representative participate. Add me to start.

10) Meeting Calendar *(Mayer)*
- Next meeting, November 14, 1:00-3:30 pm – in-person meeting
- January 22, 2025, 1:00-3:00 pm
- June 4, 2025, 1:00-3:00 pm
- November 19, 2025, 1:00-3:30 pm – in-person meeting

==ACTION:== Mayer to send out next year's meeting appointments to hold the dates.
==ACTION:== Brandt will reach out to MCIT building for November in-person meeting; Mayer will check with Metro Counties Government Center.

11) Lightning Round Update *(Group discussion)*

Robeson (MCNet): Have been doing dissertation work – cataloging what cities use when planning (what falls in to comprehensive plans) and see how old those resources are, specifically natural resources. May be of interest to others when findings are ready to share.

Henry: With regards to asset management, the State passed a new law to coordinate all of the infrastructure (asset management, planning, etc.). The following is the link to the bill, with the pertinent text.

> **The Minnesota Advisory Council on Infrastructure (MACI) was approved by the State Legislature in May 2024.** It was rolled into the tax omnibus bill, HF 5247, **see lines 22.15-28.2**. This was the council that was recommended by the advisory council on infrastructure and patterned after the Michigan Infrastructure Council. This council will help with coordination across all infrastructure sectors, owners and funding sources; all functions including planning, design, construction, maintenance/operation; and training using asset management and other tools.

Riley (Carver County): Alison is working with their cities on Lead-pipe solutions using Esri's full solution for managing lead pipes. Fiber is a large effort to manage in GIS than ever expected. Migrating to Experience Builder (from Web App Builder apps). Just launched a new public parcel property app and need to follow-up with users to do a little training. Will be working on public website and digital accessibility compliance (by April 2026) including maps. Interested in learning from others who are doing this to help them with a solution.

> **Read**: Requests to do a presentation on how to make map digitally accessible at another MetroGIS meeting.
> **Slaats**: if you haven't seen these already, please see these map accessibility resources as a starting point: https://mn.gov/mnit/about-mnit/accessibility/maps/

Sapletal: Can talk with Beth Koch at Dakota Co. to discuss how they are doing it. Adopted much of what is available from MNIT. Esri has tested and meets certain guidelines and is good enough for their organization.

Brandt: Washington County is also doing the same thing. Working with resources available and getting guidelines on colors.

Hansen: MNIT DNR has a good group of folks meeting accessibility standards. Feel free to reach out to me Chad, I can connect you.

Tinklenberg (SRF): Corporate reorganization. New GIS hire. Team of 4 full-time GIS. Working on a big resiliency project with WI DOT, County and Regional safety plans for roadways, and decision support systems apps for Counties.

Brandt (Washington County): ADA work (started with StoryMaps, and moved to maps in general including PDFS, developing standards); GIS Intern interviews now to work on parks and trails, and NG911 apartments; community services and transit (local circulator routes).

Hansen (MnDNR): Parks and Trails – looking to contribute boundaries to Esri community maps program; Working with MnGeo on modernization with the Geocommons; Wrapping up a contract with Esri – to build ArcGIS Enterprise architecture in to Azure; Protected Area Datasets (PAD US) (government owned and protected parcels) https://www.usgs.gov/programs/gap-analysis-project/science/pad-us-data-overview; County Boundaries on the Geocommons (DOT and DNR) that don't completely line up; Accessibility review to all out-of-the-box Esri apps and custom apps to meet new standards.

Albrecht (Hennepin County): 3 new employees in GIS – fiber technician (with background in GIS) (Ethan), an Analyst, and an intern (historical imagery program); Updating apps to Experience Builder; Updating custom applications to JavaScript API; Accessibility – their Developer manages compliance; Still migrating to ArcGIS Pro and evaluating changes in Esri licensing (named-user vs concurrent licensing); dabbling in Kubernetes for Esri in a test environment to learn about future use at Hennepin County.

Fendos (LOGIS): ArcGIS Infrastructure Enterprise 11.2 and migrated to ArcPro; Converting/migrating Web App Builder applications to new Web Studio version (Vertiges web studio); New single purpose maps are being developed in Experience Builder; Hired a GIS Intern for summer to help support water service line inventory for a few cities (team of 6 people); Working on hosting a non-profit mapping event for city, county, and non-profit GIS users on August 21st:
- Mapping Expo Flyer: https://gis.logis.org/documents/MNMappingExpoFlyer.pdf
- Register: https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/10757450d502427b8bcb39b1acaf09cf
- RSVP by Aug 9.

Mortensen (Shoreview): A lot of data sanitization for building an asset management system. Just finished cleaning all the trail data (especially bad geometry).

Kirk (St. Paul College): Teaching GPS field techniques this summer. Happy to align with an organization if there are any small field data collection projects that might be helpful.

Broman (MESB): Metropolitan Emergency Service Board (911 and Emergency Services Areas). In addition to the monthly cadence with county partners, MetroGIS and Met Council for aggregating county data for use in public safety and 911 calling; MESB also doing an audit on all cell tower and routing information for all 3 major cell carriers to see which dispatch location would get calls from those towers. Also to note, there was a 1-time appropriation of $7 million for mapping school facilities (mapping indoors of schools of all types) to assist in emergency response. The money will be allocated by grants by Emergency Communications Boards. MESB will handle the 10-county metro area grants. Details to come on how this gets implemented. They are getting metro area x,y,z locations in 10 county metro areas from cell calls, so may tap in to new Lidar data. All money must be used by End of June 2026.

Mayer (Metropolitan Council): 2025 Imagery Metro 7-County Regional Spring Imagery. RFP process now and the contract will include buy-up options for counties. MnGeo is the contract manager and POC for County buy-up contracts. Timeline shared. Shared the list of Counties that have already expressed

interest in buy-ups with a request for 1 volunteer to be part of the contract proposal review team. In addition, some GAC Updates: 1) The 30cm NAIP collect in 2023 will be available in August 2024, and there is discussion of a 2025 collect. Contact Jeff Bloomquist if interested in a partnership; 2) Metro Emergency Mangers Association – EPC Liaison seat is vacant after Randy Knippel's retirement and in need of a volunteer; and 3) SCSU Geography/GIS Program elimination – letter of support from MetroGIS or individuals. Several MetroGIS CC members voiced support for SCSU Geography/GIS. Maas thinks we should send a letter.

Read (MMCD): Thanks for making air photos available! MMCD depends on them. Would like to offer testing access to imagery through non-Esri services. Who can they discuss accessing parcels through a non-Esri service - MnGeo. MMCD has had location problems on phones in the south metro (Dakota County), Verizon. Others have a similar experience?

Wiringa (U-Spatial): Working on accessibility too. Up to 25 staff (including students). Have added accessibility training as on-boarding. Doing less analysis and more dashboards and Experience Builder apps and working to get ahead on accessibility. U-Spatial is working with MDH on lead service line inventories https://maps.umn.edu/LSL/; Duluth office is working on hazard mitigation planning for counties and the state, and a wide variety of projects. Struggling with Esri licensing changes (named-user licensing replacing single use and concurrent licensing) especially with virtual machines they use; ArcMap retirement by July 31, 2024, but some will still have access through mid-year 2025 due to some items not available in Pro (https://community.esri.com/t5/education-blog/i-can-t-live-without-arcmap-because-plugins-add/ba-p/1314065)

Sapletal (Dakota County): Migrating to Experience Builder; Working on Property Information Search migration to ease people over to the new application; Lidar work; Thanks to Met. Council for taking over submitting Address Points and Centerlines to Esri Community Maps (less work for Dakota Co); Looking at upgrade to ArcGIS Pro 3.3 and Enterprise 11.3 (requires upgrade to SQL first); Emergency Operations Center (on-call) – exercises on radiological emergency preparedness in June; FERC requirement to do exercise for Bilsby Dam; GIS Intern just started to migrate WAB to Experience Builder and basemap updating; interviews for GIS Manager to start soon.

Sjostrom (MnDOT): Focused on field collection applications, designing data and applications for that; Looking for people to share insights in field GIS by those whose implementation use relational data because they are seeing a lot more relational data being accessed/updated/created via new field data applications – specifically those tying together Web GIS and field mobile device apps; contact me if anyone is interested in sharing with MnDOT or as a GIS Bytes presentation. 2 MN DOT Metro Maintenance Asset Management Unit positions are/will be vacant and posted. Digital accessibility growing at MnDOT (tool installed at agemcu – color oracle plugin). Escalating ArcGIS Pro adoption at MnDOT. Working on data sanitation of all linear pedestrian infrastructure data at MnDOT.

Slaats (MnGeo): Statewide datasets continue to grow (50 counties in parcels) and continue to work on sharing those datasets with Esri. MnTopo 2 is continuing to be built. PLSS funding given by Legislature, surveyor hired (Thurnau), grants awarded to 34 counties on May 1. Geocommons Modernization Project – completed an outreach survey, refining requirements, have a technical team and executive steering team guiding the project. ECN director/assistant director left earlier this year. County boundary datasets (DNR/DOT/Metro) all differ and reviewing next steps to bring in alignment, if possible. Governor Walz speaking at Plenary (Monday afternoon).

Maddio (Eagan): Working on the lead-service inventory project; Migrating to ArcGIS Pro (primarily utility editing workflows); Heavily involved in asset management, use GIS for asset management system at Eagan; Doing a lot of Esri app development and support; Getting a lot of data requests for city redevelopment work in the city; working on a lot of data collection projects, for example the Parks and Forestry Dept recently bought high accuracy GPS units so helping them learn how to use units, process the data and maintain the data; Staff just finished working on Public Works CRP using portfolio instant app from Esri; Completed an Emergency table top exercise this spring using Dakota Co. emergency response damage assessment app, and the new state app being developed for any storms that come

through the city; Working with Police/Fire building dashboards to use GIS in their work and to present metrics to them.

Sterner (USGS): had to jump off the call to prepare for my next meeting. Great to hear about all the excellent work happening across the committee! I have no major updates to share on regional GIS work within the USGS Upper Midwest Water Science Center at the moment but will have more to report at the November meeting.

12) Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

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Next Coordinating Committee Meetings
November 14, 2024, 1:00-3:00 pm – in person
[MetroGIS Work Plan for 2024](#)

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Summary of Action Items

ACTION: Maas to set up Park and Trail – half-day session in person before November. The list of those interested in participating is above in the meeting minute details.
ACTION: Mayer to send out next year's meeting appointments to hold the dates.
ACTION: Brandt will reach out to MCIT building for November in-person meeting. Mayer will check with Metro Counties Government Center.
ACTION: MetroGIS leadership team to continue filling vacant seats, including Watershed District and Utilities. Maas has reached out to Xcel and Connexus Energy. Please send any recommendations and suggestions to fill those seats.