



Metro Regional Centerline Collaborative Local Centerline Model and Dataset Project

Project Summary & Frequently Asked Questions

Metro Regional Centerline Collaborative Partner Organizations:

Anoka County
Dakota County
Ramsey County
Washington County
Metropolitan Emergency Service Board
Minnesota Department of Transportation

Carver County
Hennepin County
Scott County
Metropolitan Council
MetroGIS
Minnesota Geospatial Information Office

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Summary. *This document is intended to provide a clear and concise, summary information about the current road centerline data project and to answer many common questions. We very much appreciate you taking the time to review this document and encourage you to submit comments, critiques and suggestions to how this project, process and proposed dataset can be improved and enhanced.*

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Metro Regional Centerlines Collaborative (MRCC)

Project Summary & FAQs

1 – What is the Metro Regional Centerlines Collaborative (MRCC)?

The MRCC is a joint collaborative project involving the technical and managerial GIS staff from the Seven Metropolitan Counties (Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott and Washington), the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board and the Metropolitan Council *to develop a road centerline data model and dataset that meets core business needs of local governments and regional interests.* The MRCC has been actively working since May 2014; with Hennepin County providing project management, coordination and continuity to the collaborative.

2 – Purpose of the Metro Regional Centerlines Collaborative

At present, there is no authoritatively-sourced, publicly-available road centerline data solution that meets the core business needs of local, regional and state agencies in Minnesota.

The road data solution currently in use in the metropolitan region is purchased from a vendor (at an annual cost of \$65,000) by the Metropolitan Council. Under the agreement with the vendor, the Metropolitan Council is able to share and/or license the data with qualifying local and state governments and academic interests free of charge. This vendor-provided road data solution *does not* fulfill the counties or emergency services sectors business or accuracy needs completely, it is not being edited or maintained by the counties and the data is not fully publicly available. The current contract for this data is set to end on December 31, 2015.

The goal of the MRCC is to facilitate the creation and sustained maintenance of a local/regional road centerline dataset that can be used to meet the needs of local and regional partner agencies. Over the course of 2014, the MRCC has documented the specific business needs of the participating partners and developed a draft data model to meet those expressed needs.

3 – Key Principles guiding the project:

- Local jurisdictions—primarily cities and counties—produce the most current, most accurate and authoritative road network data;
- Developing a road dataset that is standardized across many local jurisdictions saves time and money and reduces duplicative effort by the local, regional and state users and the emergency services interests requiring the data;
- An authoritative, continually updated and standardized road centerline data is a core data infrastructure layer for effective emergency services deployment and many other uses;

4 – What is the Local Centerline Model (LCM)?

The **LCM** is the draft data model is a collection and description of the desired attributes identified as needed to fulfill the core needs of local and regional governments as well as the emergency response sector. This model was developed jointly by the MRCC project partners in direct response to their documented business needs. This current version of this document is available at www.metrogis.org (Go to Projects >> Centerlines >> Local Centerline Model Document); comments on it are encouraged!

5 – What is the Local Centerline Dataset?

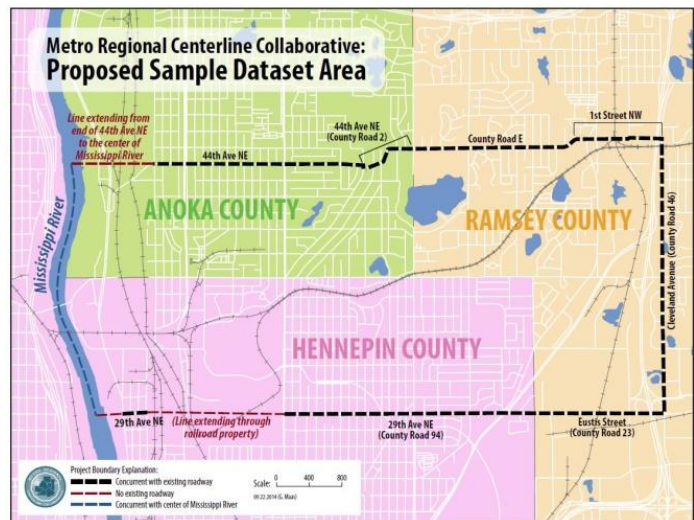
The **Local Centerline Dataset** *will be* a road centerline dataset containing the attributes identified in the Local Centerline Model This dataset is intended to meet many needs of local, county and regional users.

6 – What is the sample dataset?

The **sample dataset** is an initial ‘sample dataset’ of a ‘test area’ in the metro region. This sample dataset includes a portion of three counties (*northeastern Hennepin County, southern Anoka County and northwestern Ramsey County*) has been created using the early draft Local Centerline Model.

The sample is being made available stakeholders across Minnesota so they may:

- Examine the usefulness of the data model to potentially meet their various road centerline data needs for their internal uses;
- Assess its usefulness as a transfer standard so other agencies can use their data, and;
- To provide comments and suggestions for its potential improvement.



7 – What are the intended core uses of the LCM and LCD?

The core needs that this data model and dataset are intended to satisfy include:

- Vehicular routing;
- Address geocoding (the model will contain both assigned *and* theoretical ranges);
- Next Generation 911 call routing and location validation;
- Emergency services dispatching;
- Linear referencing uses;
- Cartographic representation of road features;

8 – What does this effort intend to accomplish?

This effort is—at present—focused on meeting the *specific and formally documented* road data needs of the Seven Metropolitan Counties. Once designed and deployed, the Local Centerline Dataset and Data Model will represent a ‘metro position’ to meet the needs of other agencies and interests; including meeting NextGen 911 requirements and some Minnesota Department of Transportation road data needs.

As these data resources are used and tested, the MRCC anticipates and encourages revisions and improvements to occur to the attributes and road data. Comment, critique, testing, usage and adoption of the data standard and dataset is welcomed from road data producers and consumers community.

We encourage other regions and stakeholders across Minnesota to build upon the work of the MRCC and not have to replicate the process of model development. The MRCC does not claim to have the full knowledge of the unique road data needs to be anticipated from stakeholders in Greater Minnesota such as national and state forest roadway, tribal nation roadways and so on. The MRCC endeavors to have this effort augment and support larger statewide road dataset development efforts in the future.

9 – As a road centerline data user or data producer, I would like to view, test and comment on the draft data model and sample dataset, how do I do this?

In early 2015, the MRCC published its draft data standard and provided an opportunity for to the road data producer and user community to provide their comment and critique of the data model.

If you would like to review and comment on the project and sample data set:

- You can download the data model documents and sample area dataset from the MetroGIS website here: <http://www.metrogis.org/projects/centerlines-initiative.aspx>
- Or by following this navigation: www.metrogis.org > **Projects** > **Metro Centerlines**
- Examine and test the sample data and review its attributes;
- Determine which attributes that you need that are presently missing;
- Determine which attributes could be better described or represented for your road data needs;
- Provide any additional feedback on potential improvements you would like to see added to the model and dataset.

Please note: The sample data set will be updated periodically to reflect the most current version of the data standard.

You are encouraged to submit your ideas, comments and feedback on the standard or sample data via email to: Geoff Maas at MetroGIS: geoffrey.maas@metc.state.mn.us

- Include **“MRCC Feedback”** in the subject line of your email;
- Also, please include your name, title and agency in your email.

10 – What are the next steps of this collaborative project?

As of Summer 2015:

#1) Initial ‘first build’ of dataset with core attributes populated in late 2015

The Seven Metropolitan Counties will be developing a ‘first build’ of the metro centerline in 2015, with a **tentative goal** of Monday, December 7, 2015 of having a draft dataset available for review. Technical and managerial representatives from the Seven Metropolitan Counties will be convening monthly to review their progress and share their successes and challenges.

This ‘first build’ will not have all of the data model’s attributes fully populated; however, many core attributes will be available. In this ‘first build’ period, key issues such as boundary road naming conflicts and edge matching will be explored, documented and resolved.

#2) Resource guide development and publication

Members of the MRCC team are working to develop other guides and resources to help facilitate the full future attribution of the data. These resources will include specific references on unique IDs, edge matching, attribution to facilitate routing and so on.

These resources will appear on the right side column of the following navigation:

www.metrogis.org > **Projects** > **Metro Centerlines**

11 – Who can I contact if I have questions about this project?



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