



MetroGIS Project Proposal

New Process for Creating MLCCS Data

July 2021

Part I: Project Overview

Project name or title:

New process for creating MLCCS data

General description of the project:

Minnesota Land Cover Classification System data is widely used by county and city planners in the metro area. The data is most useful for comprehensive planning and natural resource conservation when it is current and accurate. Unfortunately, due to the high cost of creating the data, a majority of the metro area has outdated MLCCS data. The goal of this project is to identify new GIS technologies that would lower the cost of creating MLCCS data.

What is the goal of the project?

- Develop a cost efficient process for producing MLCCS data.
- Potential solutions may include advanced aerial photo interpretation employing machine learning and artificial intelligence.
- Depending on the computer resources needed for the process, individual counties should be able to use the process to create their own MLCCS data
- This new process would also be used for an LCCMR grant proposal to create metro-wide MLCCS data

What general purpose or business need is being fulfilled by this project?

Support comprehensive planning efforts and natural resource protection with a process to create current and accurate land cover data. The data is frequently used for suburban development and storm water run-off planning.

What does success 'look like' for this project?

Metro counties are able to use this new cost-effective process for creating MLCCS data.

Part II: Stakeholders and Resources

Who are the stakeholders and/or beneficiaries of the project?

County and local governments and commercial developers

Who would fulfill the role of **project champion and what agency do they represent?**

*(A **project champion** is a senior management or policy-maker advocate from a stakeholder agency)*

Chris Lord, Anoka County Conservation District or someone from the MetCouncil

Who would fulfill the role of **project owner and what agency do they represent?**

*(A **project owner** is a stakeholder responsible for the on-going decisions and ensuring results are satisfactory, the owner assists the project manager in providing leadership to guide the project)*

David Brandt, Geospatial Systems Architect, Washington County

Who would fulfill the role of **project manager and what agency do they represent?**

*(A **project manager** is a stakeholder responsible for managing the timeline and delivery of the project)*

Bart Richardson, GIS and Database Coordination, MNIT @ DNR EWR

Who would serve as **project team members, and what kinds of work would they perform?**

*(A **project team** is a stakeholder responsible for the guidance and delivery of the project)*

Catherine Hansen, MNIT @ DNR

Jason Husveth, Critical Connections

Len Kne, U of M

Kristine Mauer, Hennepin County

Jim Drake, NatureServe

Paul Bockenstedt, Stantec

Jay Riggs, Washington County

Dave Holmen, Dakota County

Chris Lord, Anoka County

If **funding is needed, and if so, where would it come from?**

(Provide cost estimates if possible and potential sources of funding if known)

Funding Source: MetroGIS

Activity	Cost	Source
Research, report on and refine options for a cost efficient process for producing MLCCS data (Graduate Student, UMN or GIS Specialist)	\$8000 (30% time, 2 semesters, UMN grad student at \$25/hr plus fringe), 2 semesters OR 160 hours for GIS Specialist - 450/hour)	Metro GIS
Project Oversight	\$1500 (20 hours)	In Kind DNR
Project Review	\$4050 (6 meetings, 9 people, \$75/hr)	In Kind Various agencies
	\$13500 Total	

Part III: Practical Considerations

Does this project have any known policy implications?

Using the MLCCS data for comprehensive planning was a MetCouncil Best Practice policy when it was first developed 20 years ago. Updating the existing data would be make it a viable planning tool again.

Are there any pre-requisites that must be met or satisfied before starting this project?

No

Does this project align or connect to other projects either planned or currently occurring?

This is part of the newly formed Metro Conservation Network organization

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/nrplanning/bigpicture/metro-conservation-network.html>

What is the anticipated deadline for deliverables or lifespan of the project?

December 2022?

What is the 'likelihood of success' for this project?

High

Part IV: Business Needs Assessment

Please list all known agencies or interests that may have a **direct or **indirect business need** for the proposed project and its anticipated deliverables. Include contact information for key individuals if known.**

State of Minnesota

Metropolitan Council

All metro counties

All metro cities

Any organization or agency that needs current and accurate land cover data

Please list other agencies, interests or individuals who could contribute to, or positively influence, the development and execution of the proposed project.

MetroGIS

MnGeo