

MetroGIS Coordinating Committee: Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 8, 2023, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Location: Virtual

DRAFT



Attendees

<input type="checkbox"/>	Special Expertise: Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Govt - Regional: Marcia Broman, MESB
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Govt - Co: David Brandt (Vice-Chair), Washington Co.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Govt - Regional: Matt Baker, MAC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Educational Sector: Pete Wiringa, UMN/U-Spatial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Govt - Regional: Nancy Read, MMCD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Educational Sector: Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Govt - Regional: Vacant, Met. Council
<input type="checkbox"/>	Govt - City: Harold Busch, City of Bloomington	<input type="checkbox"/>	Govt - Regional: Carrie Magnuson, RWMWD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Govt - City: Tami Maddio, City of Eagan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Govt - State: Catherine Hansen, MnDNR
<input type="checkbox"/>	Govt - City: Jared Haas, City of Shoreview	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Govt - State: Joseph Mueller, MnDOT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Govt - City: Jessica Fendos, LOGIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Govt - State: Alison Slaats, MnGeo
<input type="checkbox"/>	Govt - City: Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Profit: Jeff Matson, MCN/CURA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Govt - County: John Slusarczyk, Anoka County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Profit: Vacant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Govt - County: Chad Riley, Carver County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Private Sector: Dan Tinklenberg, SRF
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Govt - County: Randy Knippel, Dakota County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Private Sector: James (Jim) Fritz, Xcel Energy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Govt - County: Jesse Reinhart, Hennepin County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Private Sector: Vacant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Govt - County: Geoff Maas (Chair), Ramsey County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Private Sector: Vacant
<input type="checkbox"/>	Govt - County: Tony Monsour, Scott County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Special Expertise: Brad Henry, UMN
<input type="checkbox"/>	Govt - Federal: Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MetroGIS (ex-officio): Tanya Mayer, Met. Council

Additional Attendees: Mary Mortensen, Metropolitan Council; Alex Steele, Minnehaha Creek Watershed District; Kendell Hillis, Bolton and Menk; Heather Albrecht, Hennepin County.

1) Call to Order (Maas)

1:03 p.m.

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

Additions/Changes:

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

3) Approve Minutes from last meeting (January 26, 2023) (motion item) (Maas)

- Minutes from the last meeting are here: www.metrogis.org (top right)
- Review action items from last meeting (Mayer)
 - **Complete:** Think about getting contributions to the larger platforms (like Google Maps) from a GAC perspective, the communication or investigation with NSGIC. And secondly, just MnGeo taking that on if the GAC entrusts. 12/8/2022: No update, keep as action item.
1/Knippel: coordinating a meeting with Slaats and Brandt regarding Google Rep conversation and other External Platform items. 1/23/2023: MetroGIS group met. Brandt will fill out the paperwork for a GAC committee since it is a GAC priority. This is also a NSGIC priority. Knippel will be on the NSGIC committee and will report back from that group.
6/8/2023: GAC Workgroup formed and working on this topic. **(Brandt, Knippel and Slaats)**

- **ACTION:** Brandt will bring this idea of developing a Parcel and Addressing Best Practices Guide to the GAC and MCGISA. 6/8/2023: Brandt mentioned at the GAC meeting, but not much response. Brandt will discuss at Data Producers workgroup and discuss bringing it to MCGISA. **(Brandt)**
- **Complete:** Rename “GIS Data Provisioning for NextGen9-1-1” project to “Regional GIS Data Provisioning” **(Mayer)**

Motion to approve 01/26/2023 minutes as revised: Tinklenberg Second: Brandt Motion carried.

4) Guest Presentation – Multi-city stormwater data assembly and testing the Metro Stormwater Geodata Project (MSWGP) schema (Alex Steele, Minnehaha Creek Watershed District and Kendell Hillis, Bolton and Menk)

[See MSWGP presentation.](#) The standard schema/domains and documentation is very useful to assembling this dataset. 50% of fields are actually used from the MGIS standard. The Standard document is used widely. The data available to translate in to the standard varies greatly by organization because they each have different focus and goals, such as inspection-focused vs updating features.

Fendos: Is this standard maintained as just a FC or is it maintained in a relationship-class? The goal is relationship-classes, but that has not been the case for many organizations.

Read: Unique IDs? There is an MGIS unique ID field designated, but they have not been checking that. The standard assumes the municipality or agency has assigned its own unique ID and it has been recommend to append the FIPS to make sure it’s unique. May need to explore a method to make a unique ID.

Stormwater Geodata Transfer Standard: <https://www.metrogis.org/projects/stormsewers.aspx>

5) County Food Resources Maps (possible metro project) (Maas/Reinhardt/Albrecht)

[See presentation, pages 6-10.](#) There has been a lot of interest in Ramsey and Hennepin County about making available food access and food resources within respective counties. This has been a big part of the Public Health work in both counties, and both have web application up that are similar but not exactly the same. It’s been very popular with leadership. There’s a desire to have something that transcends boundaries so residents can go to just 1 site rather than each county site. This would include data where one can access food from grocery store, food shelf, places that offer free meals, food mobile sites, school meal programs, etc. It’s time intensive data collection and maintenance. Currently the plan is to stand up services from Ramsey and Hennepin Co. to consume in each other’s web apps. Also discussing how to standardize some of the data. **Do other counties have this on their radar or are doing in some fashion? Are there any of you interested in participating in these conversations?** It would help to have more people to understand the broader business needs. **Dakota County is interested** in participating with Hennepin and Ramsey. Carver County did do something like this during Covid. Currently working on a Hunger Relief Plan at the County, so **Carver County is interested** in talking about it with other Counties. **Washington Co. is interested.**

6) 2023 Project updates

- Lidar New LIDAR collection and data status (Maas)
 - [See presentation, pages 12-14](#) and [3D Geomatics Hub site](#). Knippel thinks the preliminary data being delivered soon (before the end of summer?). Knippel recommends Joe Sapletal on agenda of next 8CC meeting for an update.

- External Platform Publishing (Knippel)
 - [See presentation, page 15](#). GAC Priority and Workgroup formed and is working on this topic. This topic is on the agenda for the next NSGIC meeting (next week). One major topic in GAC Workgroup is agreeing to the appropriate license to apply, especially across organizations for aggregated datasets.
- MLCCS Project Update (Brandt/Mayer)
 - [See presentation, page 16](#). Contract executed in March. Bart Richardson organized a kick-off meeting on 4/19. Project team groups and roles defined to start the next step of data assembly. No additional updates since then. There will be a need for using infrared imagery to use this tool for classification.
 - Statewide infrared FSA imagery: [Air Photos, FSA \(state.mn.us\)](#)
- Regional GIS Data Provisioning and Maintenance (Broman)
 - [See presentation, pages 17-42](#) by Broman and Maas. This particular project is focused on the ongoing care and feeding of the metro GIS data sets. Ramsey County is working to document their data flows, life cycle of data (addresses, etc.) for feeding in to the NG911 system. Are there other counties with documented workflows for address, road, etc. data? Dakota Co. has joint-powers agreements with cities. Washington Co. completed an evaluation in 2017 to streamline address sharing and the flow of data, but that is out of date with staff turnover.
 - Broman, MESB, commented that another benefit of documenting this process to an addition to the city to county piece is to highlight and emphasize how the Met Council is in the middle of all this from an NG911 perspective. MESB can't do this unless we have regional data sets and that that process from counties, each of the counties submitting data and the various steps that go on at Met Council to be able to get to ultimately posting refresh data for our use. If that doesn't happen, then we can't do our downstream work for NG911 and keep that data set up to date. It clearly means that there are important workflows prior to the Met Council as well as after. Salute the Met Council in all that they do, but they are definitely a key partner in the flow of data from the counties that MESB represents.
 - MSES, as the recipient, puts the aggregated data under the microscope as part of its role. Consistency by every county is very important. While everyone is very cooperative, sometimes data updates are inconsistent. In an established process where a county is expected to be updating on a regular schedule, inconsistency ends creating some side work to figure out where the problem is. 1) It was it that the county didn't upload, or 2) was there a problem in the Met Council process that process stopped, then didn't post? It ends up being a lot of emails to try to figure out where the source of the problem is. As a region, it would help to move towards some kind of consistent schedule of doing this. A regular assigned task at Counties for data updates combined with what the Met Council is doing for better reporting on the regional steps as well will help the consistency overall and that would benefit NG911 as the downstream user of this data.

7) Lightning Round Update (Entire group, remaining time)

- **Hansen, MN DNR:** We are continuing our work to move to Web GDRS to support platform GIS via our enterprise portal; migrating to Azure; and I am the interim GIS section supervisor at MNIT DNR, Hal is now the Deputy Chief Business Technology Officer for MNIT DNR. Please let me know if anyone would like to touch base - we would be interested in community support/collaborative efforts around Azure migration (data and apps and overall development)
- **Mayer, Met Council:** New GIS Manager, Mary Mortensen started June 6. In the process of hiring a new GIS System Administrator 2. Jon Hoekenga, Sean Murphy, and Nate Owens, after

metro county testing, launched validation enhancements. This was primarily to help improve sub-address information (specifically to help with the requirements to submit Address Points to Esri Community Maps program) and move tools to ArcGIS Pro. At the Met Council - Azure migration is nearing completion for GIS. Still troubleshooting solution to the latency issues between the desktop and databases in Azure. Next steps are to update ArcGIS on our Servers and then migration all users to ArcGIS Pro in 2024. Brief heads up – Regional Data Sharing agreements are on the last of 3 years, but plan to execute optional 2-year extension through a contract amendment. Expect that effort starting in September. Sean Murphy will be at Esri UC.

- **Riley, Carver Co.:** Planning to redo public parcel application asap. Fiber continues to be a big focus (full-time position to support Fiber work). Their home-grown fiber solution needs to be replaced by an off-the-shelf tool. Exploring ChatGPT use-cases, such as arcade and python scripts. Using Power BI for dashboards and connecting to restAPIs for queries – which simplifies their work than dashboards in ArcGIS. They will be at Esri UC.
- **Tinklenberg, SRF:** Focused on safety projects (County Road safety projects for 17 counties. Now working on 5 district safety projects). Started using V-GIS (augmented reality) this past year and exploring/testing use for their engineers. SRF will be at Esri UC.
- **Brandt, Washington Co.:** New IT Director at Wash. Co. EagleView flight received, but got a lot of leaf-on, so they are re-flying next year. Don't have budget for Nearmap every year because they get Pictometry every-other year. Esri Licensing cost changes with a new price model, planning to budget for that (115 licenses). Working on a GIS strategic plan/roadmap with Esri to update where they are at with GIS Enterprise at the County for next 4-years.
- **Reinhardt/Albrecht, Hennepin Co.:** A couple of staff attending the Esri UC. [Natural Resources application enhancements](#) just released. Working on enhancement to a field application – work management/tracking app used on a daily basis. Food resources mapping work. Also supporting Fiber work a lot. The right-of-ways are getting very crowded and challenges to install new infrastructure. Looking for new ways to partner with others (ISP, cities, etc.) and interested in discussing with others. Did develop a HUB site with partners they are working with for Fiber. Imagery: Nearmap subscription through 2023. Imagery/Remote Sensing assessment completed – use/satisfaction is good for Nearmap (cities and watershed districts and other local-government entities). Probably continue that subscription. Filling in gaps to include a spec flight. Gained frequency (2x/year) but lost some of the accuracy, but Nearmap is getting better.
- **Fendos, LOGIS:** City of Crystal is joining LOGIS. Supporting 9 cities now. Crystal will move their public works asset data to ArcGIS hosted at LOGIS. Supporting internal business lines: Public Safety, Permitting and Fiber. Developed 2 operations dashboards, incorporating Arcade to take part in Dashboard actions, so they offer this to their partners. Looking in to integrating PowerBI SAS solution – works well with GIS – business system integration with GIS. Invitation to talk to MN Utility mapping project to discuss collaboration opportunity with MN GAC Emergency Preparedness Committee and Gopher One and others. Also talking to MNDOT on how to collaborate. 2 people will be attending Esri UC. MN GIS/LIS is planning a gathering at Esri UC on Tuesday. Also working on Barcode application for city of Hutchinson, and lead and copper water pipe data inventory project.
- **Knippel, Dakota Co.:** Photos – oblique and air photos completed in mid-April and available in a couple weeks. Received the orthomosaic and tested accuracy. Tested at 11" (RMSE standard for 6" imagery). Nearmap orthos for spring/fall imagery. Can release 6" after 6-months of capture to the public. Available as an image service (rest service and WMS) <https://gisimg.co.dakota.mn.us/arcgis/rest/services/AerialPhotography> and <https://gisdata.mn.gov/dataset/us-mn-co-dakota-base-aerialphotography-service> . Continuing

with ArcGIS Pro migration. Exploring Cyclomedia data (County Assessor funded) every 5-years. Assessing cost-sharing between County departments to increase frequency. 360-degree imagery with GIS integration and they collect Lidar.

- **Wiringa, U of MN:** Nearly completely off of ArcMap, and will be removed from the Education agreement by Esri in 2024, a few apps still need to be migrated, but no more ArcMap on campus after 8/1/2024. There are few lingering groups with some concerns about products, tools, tool boxes that others have produced for Arcmap that have not been migrated to pro. Pulling Lidar from USGS on to object storage at the U of MN Supercomputing Institute. University researchers will be able to work with that data. They are working on creating derivatives and want to talk with anyone interested in creating those derivatives not using Esri software. They are migrating all the imagery obtained over the years, like NAP imagery from MnGeo, from more expensive block storage to object storage at the Supercomputing Institute, then converting to the cloud optimized geotiffs to better support visualization without a lot of overhead on storage. Also trying to figure out better ways to understand and delivery the imagery letter tiles in discovery tools for students and researchers.
- **Mueller, MnDOT:** Starting field data collection season and transitioning field data collection over to agile assets – field work manager. Some hiccups and working out with internal systems at MnDOT, so will rely on their Field Maps this year.
- **Read, MMCD:** Continues to use most recent imagery from counties and very happy with the WMS versions. Moving field data collection system from one custom system to more modernized custom system. Sorry about the mosquitos, it rained. Actually, it snowed. 😊
- **Slaats, MnGeo:** Esri Master Contract Agreement has been revised with some increased cost. MnGeo received a modest general fund appropriation increase this session. The plan is to pivot to more data work, starting with rebuilding MnTopo for lidar data distribution, and the addition to the legacy or original lidar data collect. PLSS preservation bill was passed. 9.7 million for re-monumentation and will pay for a new Surveyor for that work. The GAC GAT committee will advise MnGeo on grant money distribution to Counties. Attending UC because the Governor is presenting a couple of times. Slaats is working with Broman to update a data flow diagram from Counties to MnGeo to Geocommons. They welcome feed back on this data flow diagram.
- **Maas, Ramsey Co.:** Asset management work in Public Works. A lot of trail data cleanup. Stood up an aerial imagery downloader (mostly for engineering and surveyors). They can download a square mile at a time for specific sites.

8) Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 2:55 p.m.: Maas Second: Brandt Motion carried.

Next Coordinating Committee Meetings

October 26, 2023, 1:00-3:00 pm

Summary of Action Items

- **ACTION:** Brandt will bring this idea of developing a Parcel and Addressing Best Practices Guide to the GAC and MCGISA. 6/8/2023: Brandt mentioned at the GAC meeting, but not much response. Brandt will discuss at Data Producers workgroup and discuss bringing it to MCGISA. **(Brandt)**