



Geospatial (GIS) Data Provisioning to support Minnesota's NextGen9-1-1 System

Context. Between April 2020 and April 2021, the SECB's NextGen9-1-1 GIS Work Group convened on a regular (near monthly) basis. This Work Group, reporting to the SECB NextGen9-1-1 Committee included membership and participation from municipal, county, regional and state interests. The group's primary focus was to develop a report and series of recommendations for consideration by the SECB NextGen9-1-1 and other leadership on how to best plan for and leverage GIS data to support the statewide NextGen9-1-1 effort. The group also documented existing conditions and leveraged the experience of the participants who are engaged in creating and managing data.

Key summary points and findings from the full report:

In brief, the NextGen9-1-1 GIS Work Group in its set of recommendations from the report asks for clarity, oversight, and coordination on the following:

- Project governance and planning needs to incorporate inclusive stakeholder input, collaborative decision making, and clearly defined roles and responsibilities for the interests and levels of government involved;
- The project needs to be tightly linked to a well-documented overall NextGen9-1-1 transition plan that has the buy-in and support of leaders in both local and state government;
- Project outreach and communications needs to be consistent, clear and at such frequency that participants are clear on what is occurring and what is expected of them;
- Sufficient resources—both technological and fiscal—must be put forward and maintained by the state to support the full range of ongoing geospatial data maintenance activities, including data sharing, hosting, transformation/standardization, validation tools and services, and aggregation workflows. Such methods must offer flexibility due to the varied level of expertise, staffing, and engagement interest among data producers;
- The geospatial data supporting NextGen9-1-1 call routing and location validation would be well served to be viewed within a broader, more strategic context of all the geospatial data needs to support a PSAP's functions;
- This geospatial data produced by local governments is a core strategic asset that is multi-purpose by nature, serving many downstream uses and needs, including existing 9-1-1 and future NextGen9-1-1 requirements. Careful attention must be paid and collaborative work done at a state level to synergistically coordinate the NextGen9-1-1 geospatial data project with other statewide geospatial data needs and initiatives, as well as to leverage existing mechanisms such as the Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council and its Standards and Outreach Committees as trusted and inclusive methods for engaging the geospatial professionals in Minnesota to conduct this work.