MetroGIS Coordinating Committee

Wednesday, November 4, 2026





Recording and Transcription

Recording and transcription of today's meeting is for meeting minutes preparation only.

Starting recording and transcription now.





MetroGIS Coordinating Committee

Wednesday, November 4, 2026

1) Call to Order
2) Review and Approve Today's Meeting Agenda (motion item)
3) Approve Minutes from last meeting (motion item)
4) Introductions – Prospective New MetroGIS Members
5) MetroGIS Operational Guidelines and Procedures Update (motion item)
6) Project Updates
7) Project Proposal Review
8) 2026-27 Work Plan Check-In
9) Leadership and Chair-Elect Election (dependent upon approval of item 5)
10) 2027 Meeting Dates
11) Updates from other GIS organizations
12) Lightning Round Updates
13) Adjourn



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

Any changes or additions to today's agenda?

3) Minutes from last meeting on June 3rd, 2026 *(motion item)*

metrogis.org

Review of action items from last meeting

- ✓ **ACTION:** Menza to revise and publish the MetroGIS 2026 to 2027 Work Plan to identify the MetroGIS Operational Guidelines and Procedures Update and the Metro Park and Trail Data Standard as priority projects, while maintaining the remaining active projects in the work plan.
- ✓ **ACTION:** Mayer to distribute additional information regarding GAC committees and participation opportunities to interested committee members.



4) Introductions

- Dale Watt, Trust For Public Land
- Mitch Peck, Metropolitan Airport Commission
- Quentin Ikuta, National Indian Carbon Coaltion
- Coordinating Committee Members
- Guests



4) Introductions cont.

Full name	Representative Category	Organization	Seat
Kirk Stueve	Educational Sector	Saint Paul College	Education/Academia
Pete Wiringa	Educational Sector	University of Minnesota/U-Spatial	Education/Academia
(vacant)	Government - City	(vacant)	City/Municipal
Molly McDonald	Government - City	City of Bloomington	Metro Cities (Assoc. of Metro Cities)
Tami Maddio	Government - City	City of Eagan	Metro Cities (Assoc. of Metro Cities)
Jonathan Mortensen	Government - City	City of Shoreview	Metro Cities (Assoc. of Metro Cities)
Jessica Fendos	Government - City	LOGIS	LOGIS
John Slusarczyk	Government - County	Anoka County	Anoka County
Chad Riley	Government - County	Carver County	Carver County
Joe Sapletal	Government - County	Dakota County	Dakota County
Jesse Reinhardt	Government - County	Hennepin County	Hennepin County
Matt Koukol	Government - County	Ramsey County	Ramsey County
Matt McLees	Government - County	Scott County	Scott County
David Brandt (Vice Chair)	Government - County	Washington County	Washington County
Pamela Oslin	Government - Regional	Metro Emergency Services Board	Metro Emergency Services Board
(vacant)	Government - Regional	Metropolitan Airports Commission	Metropolitan Airports Commission
Mary Mortensen	Government - Regional	Metropolitan Council	Metropolitan Council
Nancy Read	Government - Regional	Metropolitan Mosquito Control District	Metropolitan Mosquito Control
Aaron Goemann	Government - Regional	Mississippi Watershed Management Organization	Minnesota Association of Watershed
Catherine Hansen	Government - State	MN Department of Natural Resources	MN Department of Natural Resources
Diana Flores Castillo	Government - State	MN Department of Transportation - Metro District	MN Department of Transportation
Alison Slaats	Government - State	MN Geospatial Information Office	MN Geospatial Information Office
(vacant)	Government - Federal	USGS or Other	Federal Government
Tanya Mayer	MetroGIS Staff (ex officio)	MetroGIS	Ex Officio/MetroGIS Staff
Aaron Menza	MetroGIS Coordinator (ex officio)	MetroGIS	Ex Officio/MetroGIS Staff
(vacant)	Non-Profit	(vacant)	Non-Profit Sector
(vacant)	Non-Profit	(vacant)	Non-Profit Sector
(vacant)	Private Sector	(vacant)	Private Sector/Business Geographics
(vacant)	Private Sector	(vacant)	Private Sector/Business Geographics
Dan Tinklenberg	Private Sector	SRF Consulting	Private Sector/Business Geographics
(vacant)	Private Sector	(vacant)	Utilities
Audrey Robeson	Special Expertise	Metro Conservation Network (MCNet)	Special Expertise
Brad Henry	Special Expertise	University of Minnesota	Special Expertise



5. Operational Guidelines and Procedures Update

MetroGIS Governance: Current vs. Proposed

Current Structure
(Version 6.0 – 2016)

Policy Board
Primary policy authority

Coordinating Committee
Operational decisions and recommendations

Technical Advisory Team and Workgroups
Standing and ad hoc

Proposed Structure
(Version 7.0)

Collaborative Council
Primary governance and decision-making authority

Policy Board (Activation-Based)
Convened when significant fiscal, political, legislative, organizational, or intergovernmental issues require policy-maker or executive-level involvement.

Leadership Committee
Advisory and operational support between meetings

MetroGIS Workgroups
Standing or ad hoc



5. Operational Guidelines and Procedures Update cont.

Membership & Representation

Current *(Version 6.0)* *Coordinating Committee*	
Counties	7
Cities	5
Regional Government	5
State Government	3
Federal Government	1
Nonprofits	2
Private Sector	4
Education/Academia	2
Special Interest	2
Total *(voting seats)*	31

Proposed *(Version 7.0)* *Collaborative Council*		
Counties	7	
Cities	8	+3
Regional Government	5	
State Government	3	
Federal Government	1	
Nonprofits	2	
Private Sector	2	-2
Education/Academia	2	
Informed Members *(formerly Special Interest)*	—	*(non-voting)*
Total *(voting seats)*	30	

Key Changes

- City representation increased from 5 to 8 seats.
- Private sector representation decreased from 4 to 2 seats.
- Special Interest seats replaced with Informed Members (non-voting seats).
- All other member categories remain the same.

Alternating Terms

Terms for city, private sector, and Informed Member representatives will be staggered (alternating) rather than all expiring at the same time to support continuity.



5. Operational Guidelines and Procedures Update cont.

Leadership & Decision-Making

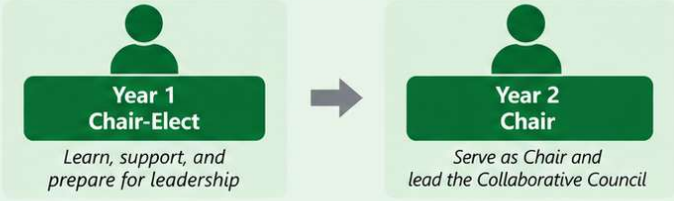
Current (Version 6.0)
Chair and Vice Chair



- Chair and Vice Chair serve concurrently
- Lead the Coordinating Committee
- Provide meeting leadership and representation
- Support coordination of MetroGIS activities

Proposed (Version 7.0)
Leadership Committee and Annual Chair Succession

Annual Chair Succession



Leadership Committee Membership



- Five voting members: Chair, Chair-Elect, two elected members, and the Metropolitan Council GIS Manager
- MetroGIS Coordinator serves as a non-voting member
- Provides advisory and operational support to the Collaborative Council
- Handles time-sensitive matters between meetings
- Responsible for member appointments
- Does not independently make governance or policy decisions



5. Operational Guidelines and Procedures Update cont.

Workgroups & Operational Procedures

Current *(Version 6.0)*
Multiple workgroup types and more rigid processes

Technical Advisory Team

Workgroups
- Separate Technical Advisory Team and other workgroups
- Roles and responsibilities vary
- Typically aligned with Work Plan priorities

Annual Work Plan
- Developed annually
- Limited flexibility for changes
- No formal process for extending a plan

MetroGIS Coordinator
- General coordination support
- Responsibilities not clearly defined in the guidelines

Proposed *(Version 7.0)*
Simplified structure with greater flexibility

Workgroups

Workgroups
- Single, consistent workgroup structure (no separate Technical Advisory Team)
- Clearer purpose, roles, and expectations
- Generally support Annual Work Plan priorities
- Can also be established to address emerging needs

Annual Work Plan
- More flexible development and review procedures
- Allows for targeted updates as needed throughout the year
- Option to extend an existing Work Plan for up to 12 months, when appropriate

MetroGIS Coordinator
- Clarified responsibilities for coordinating projects and supporting workgroups
- Supports implementation of Collaborative Council direction
- Serves as a non-voting member of the Leadership Committee
- Facilitates communication and helps advance MetroGIS work

5. Operational Guidelines and Procedures Update cont.

- **Questions & Discussion**



- **Requested Action**
  Approve version 7.0 of the MetroGIS Operational Guidelines and Procedures.



6) Project Updates

Metro Park and Trail Data Standard (Slusarczyk/Menza)

Survey Results

- **24 responses** across cities, counties, park districts, state agencies, and other organizations; 20 reviewed both standards
- **Generally positive feedback:** Schemas met needs well or very well for 67% of Parks respondents (14/21) and 78% of Trails respondents (18/23)
- **Implementation appears manageable:** Most anticipated few difficulties aligning existing data
- **Key refinements:** Clarify identifiers and feature relationships; address trail accessibility concerns; refine trail classifications and domains
- **Adoption considerations:** Minimize maintenance burdens, align with existing reporting, and clarify intended uses and audiences



6) Project Updates

Metro Park and Trail Data Standard

How did we get to this point?

- Started with park & trail schemas created by Geoff Maas
- Drafted new schemas with a focus on keeping only core fields for ease of maintenance
- Incorporated fields for Met Council's annual "Regional Parks & Trails Data Request"
- Built out a test file geodatabase with draft schema and domains
- Formed the "MetroGIS Parks & Trails Workgroup," held monthly meetings
- Sent out draft schemas and feedback survey to 100+ parks and GIS staff
- Reviewed survey feedback with workgroup
- Incorporated approved changes to schemas and domains

Parks Schema

Trails Schema



6) Project Updates

Metro Park and Trail Data Standard

Next Steps…

- Continue to gather feedback and refine schemas as needed
- Develop an aggregation workflow & validation script
- Create a “touch points” service to snap trails at borders
- Build Anoka Co parks & trails datasets to test with 2027 Met Council data submission
- Meet with MetroGIS to discuss data hosting
- Consider adding parks/trails to MetroGIS Regional Data Sharing Agreement
- Seek formal approval at next Coordinating Committee Meeting (Feb.)

Parks Schema

Trails Schema

6) Project Updates

Storm Water Geodata Project (Goemann)



6) Project Updates

Metro Food Resources Application (Koukol/Menza)

- Public map is live, with participating counties maintaining the data
- Long-term hosting and support options are being explored with Met Council
- Stakeholder survey is live until 11/11/2026

Metro Food Resources Survey

Metro Food Resources App



7) Project Proposals

Metro Construction Projects

- Proposed by Ramsey County to improve coordination of planned capital and construction projects across the metro
- Shared regional map to identify overlapping projects and coordination opportunities
- Support coordination of schedules, construction sequencing, traffic impacts, and public communication
- Build on Saint Paul's existing project coordination tool
- Establish a minimum shared project schema and update expectations, accommodating different agency capacities



7) Project Proposals

Statewide Imagery Program Needs Assessment

- Statewide imagery is a Geospatial Advisory Council (GAC) priority
- RFP in development for a statewide imagery needs assessment
- MnGeo seeks partner funding for 2027
- **Proposal:** Use MetroGIS project funds to support the assessment with MnGeo and other agencies.
- GAC Imagery Committee: Meets fourth Wednesday monthly; next meeting December 1, adjusted for GIS/LIS and Thanksgiving.



7) Project Proposals

Contract for Regional Data Viewer

- Critical application for maintaining regional NG911 datasets
- Met Council currently provides in-kind support
- Seven Met Council–county agreements cover NG911 data sharing, validation, and aggregation
- No Met Council–MESB agreement covers ongoing Viewer support, maintenance, hosting, and upgrades
- **Proposal:** Establish a Met Council–MESB contract defining roles, expectations, and ongoing obligations while clarifying the work for leadership



7) Project Proposals

MetroGIS Website Content Review & Refresh

- Much of the content is outdated, including project and document references dating back 10–15+ years
- Align website content with updated Operational Guidelines and Procedures, if approved
- Form a workgroup to identify content to retain, update, archive, or add
- **Goal:** A current, useful website that reflects MetroGIS's work and organization



8) 2026-27 Work Plan Check-In

MetroGIS Project/Activity Name	Contact	Status	Do in 2026-27	CC Priority
Regional GIS Data Provisioning	MetroGIS	Active	Ongoing	NA
Metro Regional Data Viewer	MetroGIS	Active	Ongoing	NA
Revamp MetroGIS Operational Guidelines and Procedures	Brandt	New	Yes	Priority
Metro Park and Trail Data Standard	Slusarczyk	Active	Yes	Priority
Metro Stormwater Geodata Project (MSWGP)	Goemann	Active	Yes	not prioritized
Metro Food Resources Map and Dataset	Koukol	Active	Yes	not prioritized



9) Leadership and Chair-Elect Election

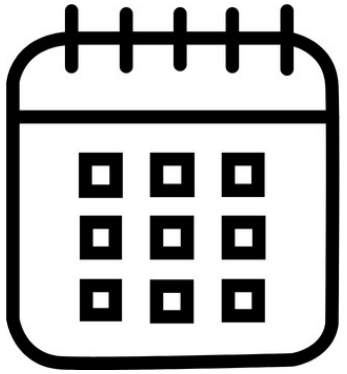
Cast Your Vote!

- Scan the QR code to access the ballot
- Select **one Chair-Elect candidate**
- Select **up to two Leadership Committee Candidates**
- Submit your ballot when finished



10) Proposed 2027 Meeting Dates

- February 17, 2027
- June 9, 2027
- November 10, 2027 (In Person)





11) Updates from other GIS organizations

Twin Cities GIS User Group (TCGUG)

A professional community of local government GIS professionals in the Minnesota Twin Cities metropolitan area.

Members work for a non-private sector organization within the Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington Metropolitan Statistical Area.

The core focus of the TCGUG is local government, but welcome members from the Education and Non-Profit organizations.

- Learn more about **quarterly meetings** and to **request membership** on their website



11) Updates from other GIS organizations

MN GIS/LIS Consortium

A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with over 600 members across the MN GIS/LIS industry.

The mission is to develop and support the GIS/LIS community in Minnesota for the benefit of our people and contributors.

GIS/LIS achieves their mission through a variety of programs and activities provided throughout the year.

- **Networking** Opportunities!
  - **Women in GIS** – Date TBD
  - **mAppetites Lunch and Learns** – December 10th (Tentative)
  - **GIS Day Celebration** – November 19th 5:30; Modist Brewing
  - **Mappy Hour** – November 9th 4:00; Bald Man Brewing



11) Updates from other GIS organizations

MN County Geographic Information Systems Association

(MCGISA)

A **non-profit** organization whose mission is to **advance GIS** technology in Minnesota **county governments** by providing professional leadership and support.

The goals include fostering awareness, collaboration and coordination among county, regional, state and federal officials; cultivate leadership and professional development through workshops, seminars, and meetings; and to provide a forum to share knowledge, information and experience among members.

- **Tea Time** – Spill the Tea every other Tuesday at 3 pm for 1 hour with other MN County staff
- **Quarterly meetings** – representatives from 10 regions of the state and the executive officers.



11) Updates from other GIS organizations

Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council (GAC)

A coordinating body for the Minnesota geospatial community **established by state statute**.

Advises the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo) on improving the operations and management of geospatial technology within state government, and on issues of importance to the community.

Represents a cross-section of organizations that include counties, cities, universities, business, nonprofit organizations, federal and state agencies, tribal government, surveyors and other stakeholder groups that benefit from geospatial technology.

- Public Meeting November 17th 1:00 pm
    - Requested changes to the open data opt-in process for counties



12: Lightning Round



Adjourn