North Carolina
Geographic Information Coordinating Council

Minutes

August 17, 2022

PRESENT

Hope Morgan (Chair), Paul Badr, Amy Barron, Kathryn Clifton, Balu Chepuri, Bob Coats, Jason Dowdy, Stan Duncan, Dianne Enright, Kristian Forslin, Dean Grantham, Joanne Halls, Pokey Harris, Jason Hedley, Matt Helms, Dan Kempton, Sarah Koonts, Scott Lokken, Rich Elkins for Elaine Marshall, Haley Pfeiffer-Haynes, Allan Sandoval, Allen Serkin, Brooks Tate, Gary Thompson, Linda Thurman, Christian Vose, Natalie Walton-Corbett, Melanie Williams, and Eric Wilson

Staff: Tim Johnson, Colleen Kiley, CGIA

ABSENT

Steve Averett, David Baker, Seth Dearmin, Chris Nida, Bill Shankle, Tony Simpson and Vanessa Wrenn.

PROCEEDINGS

The council held its meeting in person at the Albemarle Building, 325 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, and via Webex.

Welcome and Chair Announcements

Hope Morgan welcomed the GICC to its second hybrid meeting. She announced that the first outreach meeting of the series was a success and thanked council member Joanne Halls for assisting with logistics and location and thanked the LGC and GICC members in attendance for their support.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 11, 2022 meeting were approved for adoption with no changes.

<u>Presentations</u>

Annual Report (Tim Johnson, and Colleen Kiley, CGIA)
Tim Johnson and Colleen Kiley gave an overview of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 annual report. The annual report is provided to the Governor and Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and provides a summary of the GICC's goals and accomplishments. Each year, the report summarizes topics discussed during GICC and committee meetings, GICC goals and status, and project highlights demonstrating collaboration and data sharing.

The FY 20-21 Highlights section covers meeting topics and discussions and included Covid-19 response from NC DHHS, resiliency discussions held not only during GICC meetings, but also within the LGC, FIC, and SGUC, the NC GIS Conference, and the Infrastructure Working Group formation and goals.

The goals update section of the Annual Report contains much more information than was able to be covered during the limited presentation time, but those interested can read the section online. Ms. Kiley shared accomplishments presented in the report on four topics. For Collaboration for Data Governance and Consistency, the report reviews legislative funding history and the work performed by working group members on developing a data standard for AddressNC. The report presents the NC Seamless Parcels project as a successful example of local/state collaboration. For Collaboration for Public Access to Geographic Information, the report covers the NC OneMap cloud migration, and the Infrastructure Working Group's investigations and content. The Orthoimagery Program funding, new products, and progress is covered in the Collaboration for Land Information section. The Intergovernmental Collaboration for Efficiency covers four topics: 2020 Census, NOAA Land Cover Pilot, elevation data, and the Hydrography Working Group. Each project has been successful due to the participation on the council of federal, state, local, and private sector members with common goals. Some projects in this section have funding needs. Finally, in the Sharing Information and Knowledge section, the report covers the ESRI Special Achievement Award given to NC OneMap, the benefits of the ESRI Enterprise License Agreement (ELA) and the desire among SGUC members for an alternative funding model for the ELA, and GICC outreach in the form of meetings and conference presentations.

The annual report concludes with goals for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

Building Footprint Working Group Business Plan (Ben Shelton and Darrin Smith, CGIA)
The Building Footprint Working Group has developed a draft business plan to document the need for an update to the statewide building footprint dataset and the update and maintenance approach. The current building footprint dataset is dated and missing hundreds of thousands of structures. The working group gathered to document use cases from seventeen local, state, and federal government as well as the private sector. Disaster mitigation, response, and recovery present critical use cases that must be maintained, but a large number of state agencies rely on the data for a variety of uses. The working group business plan proposes a joint effort to maintain geometry and attributes and relies on the endorsement of all stakeholders involved in updates for success.

The working group is seeking a funding mechanism for regular maintenance, as lack of funding is a significant risk factor to project success. Orthophotography could be used to update the data using automated methods which will allow the data to be on a regular update cycle and would be more a more cost-effective method than the original manual digitization method. The plan presents options

for data maintenance to address the potential for state led, federal collaboration, or private contracting. In addition, the plan outlines options for an initial statewide update followed by a maintenance frequency.

The business plan was adopted by the SMAC for its approval and the SMAC presented the plan to the GICC for adoption. Ms. Thompson opened the floor to discussion prior to a vote on adoption. Gary Thompson, GICC Vice-Chair and DPS representative expressed his support for the plan and said his agency was reviewing funding options. Kathryn Clifton asked whether the seamless parcels dataset contained attributes needed to update buildings, and specifically whether those attributes were being populated consistently by all counties. Mr. Shelton answered that the working group was collaborating with the seamless parcel working group and had provided their needs to inform their recommendations on required attributes. They have also explored working directly with computer assisted mass appraisal (CAMA) vendors because some of the data is in tax records. Allen Serkin inquired whether locally produced building footprints would be incorporated into the updated dataset or whether they would be expected to use the state layer. Mr. Shelton said that there is a role outlined in the plan for local governments to QC data and that when local data exists, the working group would like to incorporate their data.

After the discussion, Rich Elkins made a motion to approve the plan which was seconded by Bob Coats. Ms. Morgan called for a vote, and the plan was approved unanimously.

NC OneMap Disclaimer (David Giordano, CGIA, Jessica Middlebrooks, NCDIT)
The NC Department of Information Technology (NCDIT) legal counsel asked the GICC to review the NC OneMap Disclaimer in relation to publicly available datasets, responsibilities per General Statutes and the possibility of resale and commercial use of geospatial data.

David Giordano provided an update on the NC OneMap disclaimer revision. Mr. Giordano described the process that the GICC and M&O worked through to review the disclaimer. The disclaimer was discussed at the May GICC meeting, and council members provided feedback. The M&O, CGIA, and GICC General Counsel Jessica Middlebrooks evaluated each comment as it related to the disclaimer. They also reviewed the suggestion that NC OneMap track users and downloads, which Mr. Giordano said is possible but would need funding.

Mr. Giordano reported that they discussed questions around and possible modifications to GS 132-10 (i.e., the qualified exception for GIS in the NC Public Records Law). Ms. Middlebrooks clarified some questions regarding the statute. The first question related to its applicability to state and local government entities. Ms. Middlebrooks stated that her research determined that the statute is applicable to state and local governments. The second question asked whether state value added information appended to local government sourced data changes the ownership of the data. Ms. Middlebrooks answered that the original custodian of the data (local entity) would remain unchanged. Third, Ms. Middlebrooks reviewed a recommendation to update the statute to remove references to obsolete data transfer technologies, or to clarify its applicability to state and local governments. Ms. Middlebrooks cautioned against overcorrecting a statute and said that revising the language to reflect more commonly used data transfer methods could be looked at in the future, but she recommended reviewing what technologies are used first. If a revision were to be recommended in the future, Ms. Middlebrooks recommended working within a larger NCDIT legislative agenda.

CGIA and the M&O proposed revised language which was reviewed by Ms. Middlebrooks. The final disclaimer is a combination of a disclaimer and privacy policy as is common with most disclaimers for geospatial data. Ms. Middlebrooks said that with the new disclaimer, AddressNC data can be released to the public through NC OneMap.

Draft language for the disclaimer was provided to Council members prior to the meeting, and members had an opportunity to vote to adopt the new language after discussion. Ms. Morgan opened the floor for discussion. Mr. Serkin asked where the disclaimer was displayed, and Mr. Giordano referenced the location on the [NC OneMap website](#).

DIT Secretary Weaver requested that the final version be provided to Cherie Givens, Chief Privacy Officer, for review prior to final adoption. The members voted to adopt the new language pending final review by Ms. Givens.

NC Broadband Expansion (Angie Bailey, NC BIO)
Angie Bailey, Director of the NC Broadband Infrastructure Office (BIO), presented on the importance of spatial data and analysis in achieving the mission of her office. Goals of the BIO and Office of Digital Equity include expanding broadband access statewide, building a sustainable team to deliver digital equity to NC, leveraging data to identify and understand community needs, enabling more citizens to afford high speed internet, and increasing digital literacy among all North Carolinians. Ms. Bailey gave an overview of the state and federal funding provided through programs including American Rescue Plan Act and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Common barriers to broadband deployment include capital expenditures and low population density, while common barriers to broadband adoption include cost, availability of broadband, digital literacy and relevancy. Ms. Bailey highlighted programs and funding sources for programs to address these issues.

The Great Grant Program provides grants to broadband service providers to build infrastructure in unserved locations (<25/3 Mbps). North Carolina has been working to improve baseline data used to administer the grant program. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) data at the census block level does not provide the level of information needed to determine if all within a block have adequate service. Broadband survey data has been used to identify addresses in need of service. AddressNC data is used directly in the grant application to specify exactly which addresses would be included for new service. The BIO has a strong need for building level information for use in administering their programs, and Ms. Bailey expressed the BIO's support of the building footprint business plan and its implementation and said that funding might be available to assist with the project. She reminded the council that federal funding focusing on climate mitigation and infrastructure investments both relate to NC Emergency Management's building footprint efforts.

The Completing Access to Broadband project will be a partnership program between the state and counties to jointly identify underserved areas and will include a competitive bidding process to fund broadband expansion.

The FCC Affordable Connectivity Program provides subsides for qualifying low-income households for broadband service. Secretary Weaver encouraged everyone to assist with outreach in their communities to spread word about the program. He reported that eleven providers have signed up with the program. Ms. Bailey offered to share outreach materials.

Broadband information is on NC OneMap, and the BIO and CGIA have been partners data sharing, data collection, and data analysis.

Ms. Morgan thanked Ms. Bailey and encouraged her to engage with the Infrastructure Working Group conversations. She then opened the floor for questions. Rich Elkins suggested that if getting data from providers on locations served is difficult, that funding could be tied to data sharing. Ms. Bailey responded that the providers are required to fill out form 477, and that the new data sharing process developed by the FCC could provide more granular data, but that it is unclear what will be shared and what will be restricted from public. She stated that Congress was aware of the need for better mapping before investing the billions of dollars allocated to broadband expansion.

Committee Highlights

The SGUC worked through a series of questions to examine how agencies manage authoritative tagging on ArcGIS Online to gauge the need for statewide best practices. From this discussion, there was an interest in developing a best practices document that might lead to a common understanding of what to tag authoritative and how to handle authoritative data from other agencies.

The LGC general meeting again exceeded prior attendance, so they will continue to send out meeting invites through the NCGIS listserv. The meeting included a Municipal Boundary Working Group update, a spotlight presentation on mobile stormwater data collection, an update on the NC OneMap disclaimer, and updates on the Completing Access to Broadband project.

From the FIC, the FY23 Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) was released for Summer/Fall 2022 lidar/bathymetry collections, a good opportunity for cost-sharing for the Phase 3 area of the State to bring it up to QL1 lidar. The FIC, LGC, and SGUC met to discuss opportunities for intergovernmental collaboration.

The SMAC approved the building footprint business plan at its July meeting. The municipal boundary approval and annexation tool has been beta tested and will be released this fall. The need for approving boundaries will be a topic at each outreach meeting this fall. Funding is in place for the 2023 Southern Piedmont and Mountains project area.

Announcements

Outreach meetings for the remainder of the year will be held in Raleigh in September, Greenville in October, Asheville in November, and Kernersville in December. Please encourage your colleagues to sign up for these free meetings, and please consider attending your local meeting to hear from the community what GIS initiatives are important to them. The outreach meeting website, including registration links and agendas, is: https://bit.ly/GICC-outreach-2022

The website can also be accessed from the GICC website in the announcements section: https://it.nc.gov/about/boards-commissions/gicc

The NC GIS Conference will be back in person in Winston Salem March 8-10, 2023. Pre-conference workshops will occur March 7th. Please mark your calendars. The planning committee will provide updates as they work out details for the conference.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the Chair requested and received a motion and a second to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.

The remaining quarterly meeting of the GICC for 2022 will be held on November 16.

Presentations given at this meeting are on the Council website.

Votes to adopt the Building Footprint Business Plan (23)

Natalie Walton-Corbett
Matt Helms
Kathryn Clifton
Christian Vose
Eric Wilson
Allen Serkin
Amy Barron
Melanie Williams
Paul Badr
Brooks Tate
Bob Coats
Dean Grantham
Allan Sandoval
Haley Pfeiffer-Haynes
Pokey Harris
Gary Thompson
Jason Dowdy
Joanne Halls
Scott Lokken
Linda Thurman
Hope Morgan
Rich Elkins
Jason Hedley

Votes to approve the new NC OneMap disclaimer (24)

Natalie Walton-Corbett
Linda Thurman
Christian Vose
Paul Badr
Dean Grantham
Pokey Harris
Bob Coats
Kathryn Clifton
Jason Dowdy
Matt Helms
Joanne Halls
Allen Serkin
Melanie Williams
Haley Pfeiffer-Haynes
Eric Wilson
Scott Lokken
Amy Barron
Dianne Enright
Brooks Tate
Gary Thompson
Allan Sandoval
Steve Averett
Rich Elkins
Jason Hedley