



North Carolina
Geographic Information Coordinating Council
Local Government Committee

MINUTES
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
May 17, 2017, 2:00 PM

PROCEEDINGS

The quarterly meeting of the Local Government Committee (LGC), a committee of the Geographic Information Coordinating Council (GICC), was held on March 29, 2017.

PRESENT

LGC members:

Kathryn Clifton, Chair, Davidson County, representing NCLM

Michelle Deese, Catawba County, representing NCLGISA

Robin Etheridge, Dare County, representing NCPMA

Alice Wilson, City of New Bern, representing APA-NC and SMAC Rep

Jessica B. Welborn, High Country Council of Governments, representing ARCED

Benita Staples, Mecklenburg County, representing NCACC

Others:

Stephen Dew, Guilford County, Metadata Committee and Working Group for Orthophotography Planning

Jeff Brown, CGIA, Staff to the LGC

Absent members:

Travis Penland, City of Hendersonville, representing Carolina URISA

WELCOME

Kathryn (Kat) Clifton called the meeting to order and welcomed members and representatives.

MINUTES

The Minutes from the March 29, 2017 meeting were approved as submitted.

GICC TOPICS

Professional Land Surveying and GIS

Kat Clifton reported that the Coordinating Council (GICC) met on May 10. The meeting included an update from the Working Group on Professional Land Surveying and GIS. Kat, Alice, and Marcus Bryant are involved from LGC.

The working group has prepared use cases to help distinguish GIS practice from licensed Professional Land Surveying (PLS). Documents are intended to cover state and local government GIS, private service providers engaged by a state or local government, and private service providers engaged by private clients. The group will finalize a set of use cases, a decision tree, and a summary and share the documents with the NC Board of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors (NCBEES). The shared interpretation continues to be that the local government exemption is in place as before changes in legislation in 2014.

A discussion between the working group and NCBEES is anticipated soon, including efforts to clarify definitions of terms such as “authoritative data,” “authoritative purpose,” “safety of the public,” “inventory,” and “stated level of accuracy.” The purpose of data creation is a key factor. Also, metadata is an essential element for documentation. Whether public or private, good practices in creating and documenting geospatial help protect the public. Looking ahead, regular collaboration between the Council and NCBEES is recommended. LGC asked Jeff Brown to share a copy of the decision tree for comment.

City of Greensboro GIS and Asset Management

Kat Clifton summarized a presentation by Steve Averett, GIS Manager for the City of Greensboro, to the GICC. This was another in a series of statements by GICC members about the value of GIS. He spoke about quantifying the value of GIS in city operations. The integration of GIS and asset management since 2003 has been successful and valuable. Greensboro uses infor EAM software. Applications include a tree inventory, city services, decision support for development, regulatory compliance, sanitary sewer overflows, and state reimbursement reporting. Work orders amount to about 5,000 per month for the 900,000 assets in the system. Improved customer service and cost savings are emphasized. Steve pointed out that an online application for reporting assets needing a fix is challenging to manage. The presentation is attached to the May 10 Council meeting event on the GICC [website](#).

Orthoimagery

Jeff reminded the committee that the Statewide Orthoimagery Program offers an opportunity for local governments to piggy-back on state contractors with flight vendors for additional imagery-related products from the 2018 phase. The contact at CGIA is Darrin.smith@nc.gov.

STATE ENTERPRISE LICENSE AGREEMENT

Jeff Brown explained the State's Enterprise License Agreement (ELA) with Esri for GIS software is about to start year 3 of 3. The current agreement ends June 30, 2018. Negotiations are beginning, involving the Department of Information Technology, the State Government GIS User Committee, and Esri. The Master Purchase Agreement of the ELA includes a provision for local government to get software pricing based on the General Services Administration (GSA) rates. This applies to training as well. After a discussion, LGC concluded that the provision is useful to local governments and recommended renewal of the provision in the next ELA. Stephen Dew uses the state's ELA pricing for reference as one of the options in the process of procuring software. Michelle recalls a municipality in Catawba County using it for reference. Alice observed that some jurisdictions, such as the City of New Bern, have their own ELA.

BRIEF UPDATES FROM COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee (SMAC)

Alice Wilson reported that SMAC met April 19. Briefly, the NC Parcels Program reported 34 counties updated so far this year, and 47 counties registered in the NC Parcels Transformer. The State Geologist described locations of former mines and the importance of overlaying parcels with that information. Discussion of hydrography datasets included the challenges of integrating multiple representations of streams for different purposes and inconsistencies with what is on the ground. Stream naming is challenging, too. Discussion about 8 county boundaries included the current work by NC Geodetic Survey on boundaries: Harnett-Wake, Davie-Yadkin, Jackson-Macon, Bladen-Brunswick-Columbus, McDowell-Mitchell, Granville-Franklin, Polk-Rutherford, and Chowan-Perquimans. For municipal boundaries, NC DOT has updated the Powell Bill boundaries that cover most but not all municipalities.

Also, NC Board on Geographic Names is working on stream name changes submitted to US Board on Geographic Names. The 2022 Reference Frame is likely to be a fixed-plate solution, with more information coming from the National Geodetic Survey. NC OneMap attempted to update to ArcGIS Server 10.5 but bugs led to going back to version 10.4.

Metadata Committee

Stephen Dew and Jeff Brown reported that the Metadata Committee has not met since the last LGC meeting, but the intern from NC Central University is making progress on training materials for the NC State and Local Government Metadata Profile. Jeff Brown and committee chair Sarah Wray of NCDOT were invited and will participate in the National ISO Metadata Summit in Reston, Virginia on May 24. On May 23, there is an online session on metadata tools by the Federal Geographic Data Committee; registration is free. Workshops are to be scheduled for this summer.

Working Group for Seamless Parcels (WGSP)

Jeff Brown reported that 64 counties are updated so far in the spring refresh of NC Parcels. The project team will continue outreach to complete the updates. 48 counties are

now registered for do-it-yourself transforming. LGC members are encouraged to support the effort. Jessica and Alice suggested asking councils of government to help reach out to their constituent counties as needed. Jeff will share status maps to help identify where help is needed.

Census 2020

From her notes from the GICC meeting, Kat Clifton shared information reported by Bob Coats, the Governor's Census Liaison. The main concern is the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) program and setting the stage for a complete population count. The Census Bureau conducted workshops in April to inform jurisdictions about what is involved and to encourage planning for address review and updates in a timely way (within 120 days) starting in February 2018.

New construction updates will occur starting in August 2019. There is already available a block count list of number of residential addresses by block, from the Census website, that can be joined to the block shapefiles. Address point data may be compared to the Census count in GIS. Also, there is a Census geocoder that handles up to 1,000 addresses at a time to help in finding mismatches. How deployed military will be counted is still to be determined.

ARE YOU ON THE MAP?

Kat reached out to local government and student winners of 2017 Herb Stout Awards to request participation in "[GIS in NC – Are You on the Map?](#)" Some of their submittals are now included. She was especially pleased with student projects. She will continue to ask for submittals and fill in gaps in award winners.

STATE ARCHIVES AND RETENTION SCHEDULES

Jeff Brown described a meeting between CGIA and State Archives staff to consider updates to geospatial data retention schedules to reflect developments in statewide geospatial data and local government data management practice. NC OneMap retains superseded datasets twice a year, particularly for imagery, parcels and other priority datasets. A [schedule](#) (County Management, Standard 7 on page 50) for local government geospatial data refers to NC OneMap in a way that could be clarified to not imply that CGIA will be responsible for archiving authoritative local government data. A question from a county data manager last year drew attention to the document. Compilations of statewide datasets from local sources are archived by NC OneMap, for example standardized parcels.

He asked LGC members to consider participating or recommending local government GIS professionals or members of respective professional organizations to assist in a short-term task to review and update retention schedules. Alice expressed interest and pointed out the importance of retaining property maps. Jeff will write up a short description with a copy of the relevant pages and distribute to LGC in seeking participants. Kat also asked how LGC and others could help local governments find ways

to meet archiving goals. Robin is willing to send a message to NC Property Mappers Association. Kat underscored the value of geospatial data for historical purposes. Alice recognized the value of metadata for archiving purposes. File names can be descriptive, but metadata records are particularly important for archived data.

MEMBERSHIP

Jeff reminded the committee that members serve 2-year terms that are renewable, and some of the members have terms ending this June 30. He reached out to Jessica and Alice and Kat reached out to Benita to begin thinking about renewals or replacements that would be appointed by their respective professional organizations. Jeff and Kat will follow up.

OTHER CURRENT ISSUES OR CONCERNS

The committee reviewed the LGC work plan. GICC Chair Stan Duncan will ask committee chairs about priorities for the next fiscal year and any issues the LGC would like the Council to address. In a discussion of priorities, the group identified:

1. Reinforcing the value of a complete Census count in 2020 and related address data. Some municipalities may need assistance in updating addresses. Some counties do countywide analysis including municipalities. *AddressNC* is updating the statewide dataset for early 2018 to be available for local updates as needed. Information about what will be needed from local government and when will be valuable.
2. Preparing for Next Generation 911 in local governments, including information about what will be required and when.
3. Retaining geospatial data in local governments in ways that are consistent with Council findings about archiving and current data management in state and local government.

On the work plan, the Working Group for PLS and GIS is likely to continue into the next year. The 2022 Reference Frame Working Group has been waiting for more information from National Geodetic Survey before the group meets again; it is likely to continue through the fall.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Alice and Benita will attend the Esri User Conference this summer, and Alice is doing a presentation. Stephen went to the Esri local government conference in Florida. The Esri emphasis was on ArcGIS Pro and how it relates to ArcGIS Online. Michelle and Benita confirmed that desktop is being deemphasized and is likely to go away. Benita pointed out that ArcGIS Pro does not support Parcel Fabric.

Kat will attend an NCAUG symposium on drones on Friday that looks interesting.

NEXT MEETING

LGC meeting dates for 2017 are the following Wednesdays, starting at 2:00 PM:
August 16 and November 1.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35.

LGC's web page on the GICC website:

<http://it.nc.gov/gicc-local-government-committee-lgc>