



North Carolina
Geographic Information Coordinating Council
Local Government Committee

MINUTES
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
August 16, 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 August 16, 2017.

PRESENT

LGC members:

Kathryn Clifton, Chair, Davidson County, representing NCLM
Alice Wilson, Vice-Chair, City of New Bern, representing APA-NC and SMAC
Representative
Tom Bell, Western Piedmont Council of Governments, representing ARCED
Travis Penland, City of Hendersonville, representing Carolina URISA

Others:

Stephen Dew, Guilford County, Metadata Committee and Working Group for
Orthoimagery and Elevation
David Nash, City of Fayetteville, Working Group for Census Geospatial Data
Jeff Brown, CGIA, Staff to the LGC

Absent members:

Michelle Deese, Catawba County, representing NCLGISA
Robin Etheridge, Dare County, representing NCPMA

WELCOME

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

MINUTES

The Minutes from the May 17, 2017 meeting were approved as submitted.

MEMBERS

Kat welcomed Tom Bell to his first LGC meeting. He has been active as a board member for the NC Arc Users Group. He has been with the COG since 1998 and began using GIS in 2003. He is a GIS Analyst who specializes in assisting small towns in creating inventories of municipal utilities and web applications to access and edit their data. He looks forward to serving on the LGC.

The committee has a vacancy for the representative from the NC Association of County Commissioners. Jeff will follow up with the GICC Chair and member organizations on representation. He will confirm Marcus Bryant's status as a SMAC representative. In the meantime, LGC members need to elect a chair and a vice-chair. This process will be conducted by email nomination and vote. The Vice-Chair serves as a back-up for the Chair in this and other coordination meetings.

GICC TOPICS

The GICC met on August 9. Kat updated the committee on three items.

Council Priorities

The Council Chair welcomes comments on priorities for 2017-2018 by August 21. Technical priorities include statewide datasets for roads, orthoimagery, parcels and address points. The priority dataset for improvement is statewide streams. Preparation for Next Generation 9-1-1 and Census 2020 is an emphasis of the Council. Work continues on clarifying GIS practice and professional land surveying. Building technical knowledge and sharing information has Unmanned Aircraft Systems, open source software solutions, integration of GIS in data analytics, and enterprise data management as priorities.

Alice noted the issue of the new 2022 Reference Frame for which a working group has looked at the federal proposal and implications. This may be an advocacy issue for the Council depending on what the National Geodetic Survey approves. It is on the SMAC work plan. She also confirmed the value of a unified stream dataset. Tom commented that UAS has become more important and is a potential tool for local governments. For example, using a UAS to read the top of a transformer instead of using a cherry-picker can save time. He is glad the Council has UAS as one of its priorities.

Geospatial Data Act of 2017

Kat summarized the act. She noted positive elements for better federal geospatial coordination as well as opinions from URISA and the American Association of Geographers, the GIS Certification Institute and others. Some of the language and definitions may be interpreted as limiting government and private GIS professionals for federally funded projects. The Coalition of Geospatial Organizations is attempting to resolve issues by October 1. The Council intends to develop an opinion and has distributed source information to Council members for consideration. Tom added his concern that local governments be able to do their GIS work and not have to rely on

licensed surveyors for GIS products. Additional comments are welcome. The Geospatial Information Technology Association will hold a webinar this month.

Open Source Software and TAC

Jeff explained the plan of the Technical Advisory Committee to assess open source GIS solutions that have potential on their own or in combination with commercial GIS software to meet business needs of state and local government. The product would be a guidance document relating to solutions for desktop, database, server, cloud, and mobile software. The committee will develop questions and interview experienced users. Dan Madding of NC Agriculture and Consumer Services is leading the effort and invites local government participation. Alice noted traffic on the GIS list serve about open source software. Kat added her discovery of a story map produced by the City of Charlotte that used Knight Lab software from Northwestern University. David Nash saw the example and found it impressive.

LGC WORK PLAN

The committee reviewed the Work Plan for 2017-2018. Work tends to be ongoing in support of various committees and working groups. Work ebbs and flows for some of them. Local government participation is important to all of them.

Voted: LGC approved adoption of the Work Plan for 2017-2018.

NEXT GENERATION 911 and SMAC OPINION

SMAC requested LGC to review and comment on a draft opinion piece about NextGen9-1-1, distributed to LGC. Kat asked if there is a common practice locally for managing roads and addresses geospatial data for 911 purposes. New Bern has a 911 coordinator who works with county and manages data and identifies new addresses for 911. Tom is familiar with two counties, one of which manages address data in GIS and one in the 911 center. Kat found the document to be well organized and well presented. Once finalized and approved the document will be useful in communicating with 911 coordinators. She recalled LGC's review of the related National Emergency Number Association (NENA) proposed GIS schema a few months ago. Kat will send her comments to SMAC and invited others to send comments to Kat and Jeff.

STATE GIS LIMITED SERVICES CONTRACT

Jeff described the new contract (208z) for limited GIS services created and approved by NC Department of Information Technology that is applicable to local government procurement of GIS services as well as state government. A brief [description](#) is available on the web page of the State Government GIS Users Committee. For limited time and relatively small projects, vendors are pre-qualified for GIS services. An agency would need to negotiate a scope of work and price for a work order. Agencies are advised to check with at least two vendors. A small group is monitoring the contract and may recommend changes next year. This is not intended to replace a Request for Proposals

process for large projects. One vendor reached out to Stephen Dew regarding the contract, but others on the committee did not report solicitations. Jeff will find out more about a communication plan for the contract.

BRIEF UPDATES FROM COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee (SMAC)

Alice Wilson reported that SMAC met July 19. Briefly, Darrin Smith demonstrated the new [website](#) for the Statewide Orthoimagery Program. She found the information about the availability of imagery and dates of capture to be valuable. A report on elevation data by Hope Morgan included an update on progress on Phase 4 processing and a plan to process Phase 5 for bare earth first to support NCDOT highway projects and statewide orthoimagery. SMAC identified development of a unified hydrography dataset that better represents surface water for many business uses as a priority among Framework datasets. NC Geodetic Survey reported that all plats related to the reestablished NC-SC border have been recorded. Also, the 2022 Reference Frame Working Group will resume work on a recommendation soon. Regarding municipal boundaries, SMAC discussed the Powell Bill boundaries from NCDOT and found them to be comprehensive for incorporated areas. Municipalities are reminded to submit annexations to the Secretary of State. SMAC reviewed its work plan. Sarah Wray offered to break out transportation information into modes to include bicycle and pedestrian, rail, and others as available. Collection and integration of local roads for NCDOT statewide roads dataset continues to be a challenge. The National Agriculture Imagery Program data are available for 2016. Also, Dr. Tyrel Moore, the chair of the NC Board on Geographic Names, has retired and completed 8 years of service on the board. The Council Chair will appoint a new chair.

Kat seconded Alice's interest in pedestrian and bicycle path data for regional planning purposes.

Working Group for Professional Land Surveying and GIS

Chair Bob Brinson got a response from the NC Board of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyor and will set up a meeting with the Board's surveying committee in September to review the documents and findings of the working group.

Working Group for Seamless Parcels (WGSP)

Jeff Brown reported that 97 counties are updated this year to date. The working group will get together to consider which standard fields are of highest priority, review how many counties are populating those fields, and find ways to promote population of those fields. Kat emphasized the value of the field representing calculated acres, for example, for selecting parcels larger than a certain size for land suitability analysis and economic development. She frequently receives questions about properties meeting certain criteria including size.

Census 2020

David Nash updated the committee about the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) and the Census Bureau's request to each county and municipality to designate a person to

represent the jurisdiction in verifying residential addresses. This includes confidentiality forms related to Title 13 protections of data. For each, a letter went to the highest elected official. The Census Bureau will offer training in the fall. Data will be sent out in February 2018 and the review period is 120 days.

WGRT: Local Roads

Kat described a meeting of a subgroup in July that was looking at local roads and NCDOT's responsibility to collect non-state roads to maintain a complete set of roads. She noted the value of a road network that is routable and accessible for local governments. The group is looking at data requirements of NextGEN9-1-1 as well as the federal All Road Network of Linear Referenced Data (ARNOLD). The group seeks a tool for translating local road attributes to a standard set of fields. Harry Lee and Greta Bumgarner have volunteered to serve on the working group.

Metadata Committee

Jeff Brown reported on behalf of Stephen that the Metadata Committee anticipates availability of the XML schema for ISO 19115-1 metadata as early as this month. The committee needs the schema to update metadata templates. Also, software vendors will need to adopt the schema in metadata editing tools. Meanwhile, the intern from NC Central University set up some videos and is making progress on other training materials for the State and Local Government Metadata Profile. Jeff Brown and committee chair Sarah Wray of NCDOT participated in the National ISO Metadata Summit in Reston, Virginia on May 24.

ARE YOU ON THE MAP?

Kat noted a few recent additions to the content in "[GIS in NC – Are You on the Map?](#)" She will continue to seek submittals and watch for additions.

OTHER CURRENT ISSUES OR CONCERNS

No additional items.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Kat announced a Massive Online Open Course ([MOOC](#)) course on cartography this fall via Esri. There is no charge. She has taken some of the courses and can provide more information. Upcoming conferences: NC Arc User Group (September 20-22) at Carolina Beach, the NC Chapter of the American Planning Association (September 26-29) in Greenville, and NC Property Mappers Association (October 4-6) in Durham. Kat added that training is offered for NCLGISA members through the [LYNDA](#) portal for \$50 per year.

NEXT MEETING

Remaining LGC meeting date for 2017: Wednesday, November 1, starting at 2:00 PM

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25.

LGC's web page on the GICC website:

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