North Carolina
Geographic Information Coordinating Council
Local Government Committee

MINUTES
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
May 29, 2019, 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 May 29, 2019.

PRESENT
LGC members:
Tom Bell, Western Piedmont COG, NCARC
Debbie Brannan, Cabarrus County, GICC
George Brown, Alexander County, NCLGISA
Jason Clodfelter, MapForsyth, NCLM
Robin Ethridge, Dare County, NCPMA
Ben Strauss, Wake County, NCACC
Alice Wilson, City of New Bern, NC-APA

Others:
Marcus Bryant, City of Durham, Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee
Stephen Dew, Metadata Committee and Working Group for Orthoimagery and Elevation
Marlena Isley, Alamance County, Hydrography Working Group
David Nash, City of Fayetteville, Working Group for Census Geospatial Data
Jeff Brown, CGIA, Staff to the LGC

Absent members:
Wayne Brewer, City of Raleigh, CURISA

WELCOME

Jason Clodfelter called the meeting to order and welcomed members and representatives.

MINUTES

The Minutes from the March 13, 2019 meeting were approved as submitted.

GICC TOPICS

Jason reported on topics from the May 8 GICC meeting.

NextGen911 and GIS

Jason reported that Gerry Means, the project manager for the NC 911 Board's Next Generation 911 geospatial data efforts, presented to the GICC. AT&T and GeoComm have 7-year contracts with the NC 911 Board for network and geospatial data, respectively, with 3-year extension options. GeoComm will be managing and maintaining a geospatial data repository (Data Hub). The Data Hub includes translations that match locally published fields to standard fields for aggregation into statewide datasets. Each Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) will have a portal for data upload and quality control. PSAP Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) systems will have access to the statewide data. AT&T will do quality control with Master Street Address Guide (MSAG) and Automatic Location Identification (ALI). Also, there will be workshops across the state. Jason will forward information to LGC and to listservs. He encourages participation in the workshop. Also, he pointed out an interactive map showing PSAP status.

Marcus Bryant added that Durham is one of two pilot counties (along with Richmond) for Next Generation 911 geospatial data, and he is working with the 911 office on data preparation. In Durham's case, the 911 office attaches 911 related attributes to centerlines and address points for the CAD system, not the GIS department. Durham will need to integrate more attributes in GIS such as emergency response zones. He recommended talking to someone on the project team sooner rather than later, as some workflow may be affected. Jason and George added that the workshops will provide information in the morning and provide training in uploading data for PSAPs in the afternoon. (Noted after the meeting: there will be local data preparation that may include address name modification, e.g., spelling out AVENUE instead of AVE, and road centerline splits related to emergency response zone boundaries). Marcus urged local GIS managers to get on board early to learn and add value.

Working Group for PLS and GIS

Jason reported that the working group finished its analysis of use cases and is now seeking comments on a summary document that contains the use cases and a template for a disclaimer for development of geospatial data. The working group requested that the LGC members send an invitation to review and comment to their respective organizations. LGC members confirmed that an email from Jeff has been forwarded to listservs. Jason plans to ask a colleague to send a message to the NC chapter of the American Public Works Association as well. Feedback is due by June 15. Jeff added that he is looking for ways to reach more private sector GIS professionals to get their comments.

Also, the working group recommends an annual meeting between representatives of the GICC and the NC Board of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors to continue collaboration.

Access to Infrastructure Data

Jason explained that he presented to the GICC a brief summary of the LGC survey of local governments regarding policy and practice related to infrastructure data. Written policies are not evident. Also, Hope Morgan of NC Emergency Management shared her findings about private utility companies, and Jessica Middlebrooks, counsel for the GICC, summarized relevant statutes, directives and case law related to infrastructure data. She pointed to the mandate for CGIA to make state and local government geospatial data available to the public on the one hand. She found other statutory language about "infrastructure facilities" that may be interpreted to constrain public distribution of "plans and drawings, … and other documents." In the absence of case law that would define the general terms, she found the UNC School of Government interpreted "infrastructure facilities" to include water and sewer facilities as well as transportation facilities. However, state and local governments distribute geospatial data for roads, airports and other transportation facilities. Also, the public records law has provisions related to GIS data that enable agreements about use of the data and charging for copies. Jessica also found the term "critical infrastructure" in the Homeland Security Act of 2002, with a broad definition that has not been refined.

Alice brought up a point that Hope Morgan presented – private utilities may be inclined to share information with the state Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during an event with the understanding that the data will not be distributed outside of the center. Jason observed an exercise in the state EOC recently and saw a room of private utility representatives fully engaged in the exercise, at least at the state level.

Consistent with Jason's description of two schools of thought, Alice commented that the City of New Bern has made infrastructure data publicly available to support economic development and other uses, but she is concerned about the risk of harmful use. Jason added that in Forsyth County, the departments that deal with community development, economic development, and taxation would like to have the infrastructure data, but the city/county utilities department is reluctant to make it accessible. He observed that there may be security measures that could allow access to trusted users.

Next steps by the Council are to be determined. Jeff pointed to the minutes of the GICC meeting of May 8. LGC ideas and comments continue to be welcome.

Municipal Boundaries

Jason reported that Secretary of State Elaine Marshall thanked the Working Group for Municipal Boundaries and presented findings to date. The group has a four-part solution that includes development of an improved baseline dataset, improvement in digital source files related to annexations, a modified data flow of annexation information from local governments to the Secretary of State to take advantage of county data sharing

capabilities, and maintenance of a statewide baseline dataset based on the annexation data. A pilot effort will involve Pitt, Iredell, and Forsyth counties and the NCDOT GIS Unit. NC Geodetic Survey will play a role with the NC Board of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors to promote minimum requirements for digital submissions of surveyed annexation boundaries. The goal is to publish via NC OneMap. Alice added that the working group will rely on promotion and guidance rather than rules and mandates. Alice also reminded the committee that in some cases municipalities and counties do not share data, meaning that some provision for municipal data submission to the Secretary of State should be included in a data flow.

As pointed out by David Nash, municipalities submit counts of occupied housing units within annexation areas to the State Demographer. Michael Cline is a member of the working group and has brought this issue to the group. The workflows need to be integrated.

2022 REFERENCE FRAME

Jason commented that Gary Thompson, NC Geodetic Survey, presented information about the new datum to a Land Records Workshop. After the meeting, Gary asked Jason for comments from the LGC regarding the potential impacts of the 2022 datum change to local governments. Jason distributed the presentation by Gary to LGC members this morning. He asked for LGC members to send it to their respective organizations and he requests feedback through the end of July to Gary Thompson directly. Jason pointed to slides 8-14 for our attention. The state plane coordinates will change, potentially in a large way to make clear to users that it is a new reference frame. He added that transformation tools are being developed for accommodating old PIN numbers in parcel data.

BRIEF UPDATES FROM COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Working Group for Seamless Parcels (WGSP)

Jeff Brown reported that the spring update is in progress. 67 counties have updated their parcel data in April and May to date. Others are on track for June.

Census 2020

David Nash, based on information from Bob Coats, the Governor's Census Liaison, reported that the New Construction Program registration is due by June 14, 2019. He urged jurisdictions to sign up to be sure new housing units get into the Census Bureau's Master Address File.

The State has a Complete Count Commission and a Complete Count Coalition. Counties and municipalities are encouraged to set up committees to promote complete population counts in the 2020 Census. Councils of Government are supporting workshops, too.

Alice added that for storm-displaced residents and Census 2020, the Census approach is to count people where they normally reside. Local governments need to document addresses and track information on damaged homes, homes with building permits for

rehabilitation, and houses being demolished. There are still displaced people who need to be counted. Efforts now can be useful if and when a jurisdiction challenges the 2020 Census count.

Orthoimagery and Elevation

Jeff Brown reported that quality review of the 2019 imagery, captured early this year, will take place this summer by local governments and the state team. The NC 911 Board approved funding for 2020 acquisition in the coastal region. The Board also approved a new line item for color infrared imagery to be produced from the fourth band at minimal extra cost.

LiDAR phase 5 of 5 has been released by the NC Floodplain Mapping Program to complete the second set of elevation data across the state. Ben Strauss added that Wake County has used LiDAR point clouds to make elevation models and create 3-dimensional displays to demonstrate the capability. Wake County also used LiDAR to analyze tree canopy height on some of the open space properties. Jason noted that Forsyth County has created their own digital elevation models from points and created 2-foot and 10-foot contours countywide. Jeff pointed out that one of the GIS/PLS use cases was creation of contours.

Hydrography Working Group

Jeff Brown reported that the group met last week and had a good discussion about ATLAS project streams—a combination of headwater streams and surface water from the Floodplain Mapping data. Legacy LiDAR, with 20-foot spacing, was applied in the ATLAS headwater stream models. The first version of ATLAS hydrography is intended for transportation planning and some water resource planning, but it is not ready to serve as an all-purpose statewide hydrography dataset. There are plans to run the models again with the newer high-resolution LiDAR elevation to better represent valleys where water flows. Observations of headwater stream origins from the field and integration of data from floodplain mapping in low lying areas are advantages of the ATLAS approach. The group plans to meet soon for another look at other surface water datasets in comparison to what ATLAS has produced. Alice pointed out that more attribution is planned. Also, the City of Raleigh has a pilot effort with the Division of Water Resources to integrate streams in the stormwater network. Jeff confirmed that local government participation on the working group is appreciated.

Working Group for Enhanced Emergency Response

Jason explained that the new working group, formed in February and chaired by Hope Morgan, is looking for ways to centralize data sharing for emergency response purposes. State and local governments need to discover the best available or authoritative datasets and get access to the data and descriptions. Also, the group is looking at people resources and how to get them integrated in response services. In three weeks, there will be more discussion about local government response and roles. More information will be coming from the group.

Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee (SMAC)

Alice Wilson reported that most items in the April 17 SMAC meeting have been covered today. She added that Esri has copies of NC Orthoimagery and has integrated it into base maps in ArcGIS Online at a scale of 1:36,000 or closer. Also, NC Emergency Management is working on 1-foot contours from the newer LiDAR data, likely to be available later this year. There is a new metadata guide for creating and editing metadata using ArcCatalog and the North Carolina State and Local Government Metadata Profile, posted on the NC OneMap website. On the topic of orthoimagery, NOAA acquires and publishes storm related imagery very quickly, something to keep in mind as the next hurricane season approaches. The Hurricane Florence imagery is still online.

The Working Group for Land Cover completed its survey and identified two groups of business needs—one set requires the highest resolution data for local government purposes, particularly for delineation of impervious surfaces for stormwater management, and a second set requires less resolution over larger geographic areas for a variety of purposes. The group needs to get together again to consider a product that would meet a lot of business needs. At the same time, NOAA's Office for Coastal Management is proposing a pilot land cover classification to produce a 1-meter product in two coastal counties, likely New Hanover and Brunswick Counties.

Metadata Committee; Roads and Transportation
Have not met since the last LGC meeting.

OTHER ISSUES AND CONCERNS
Alice Wilson will represent LGC in the Management & Operations Committee in June and the GICC meeting in August in Jason's absence.

Jason asked about AddressNC status in the context of the Next Generation 911 project and GeoComm's work on statewide geospatial data. Jeff's understanding is that statewide data, aggregated and standardized by GeoComm working with Public Safety Answering Points and GIS managers, will be made available for public access, including address points. CGIA is coordinating with Next Generation 911 on address data, and CGIA will revisit needs and opportunities for geospatial services related to address data.

Alice and Ben noted that the URISA Leadership Academy last week had participants from around the country, and North Carolina and Hope Morgan (speaking on LiDAR) got a lot of recognition.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The committee discussed upcoming opportunities:

- Carolina URISA held the GIS Leadership Academy in Raleigh, May 20-24, 2019. Those participating in the week-long training included Alice, Marlena, Ben, and Sallie Vaughn.
- The NC Chapter of the American Planning Association will hold its annual conference in Wilmington October 8-10. There will be several sessions on community resiliency and how GIS can be used. http://apa-nc.org/

- The NC Arc User Group announced that Jack Dangermond of Esri will be a speaker at the fall conference in Wilmington, September 18-20. Also, a symposium will be held in Hickory on August 2.

MEETING DATES FOR 2019
The remaining quarterly meetings will be held at 2:00-3:30 PM on Wednesdays 2-3 weeks after GICC meetings (August 28, November 20).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20.

LGC's web page on the GICC website:
http://it.nc.gov/gicc-local-government-committee-lgc