

CARE AND USE OF REGIONAL PARCEL DATA

(All users)

INTRODUCTION

This document is intended to provide the user with an overview of the requirements and guidelines that govern the use of and access to the MetroGIS-endorsed Regional Parcel Dataset, which encompasses the seven-county, Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area. Each of the seven counties that comprise the Metropolitan Area produces a component of this dataset. The data have been normalized to provide consistency over the seven-county area. This document is not intended to replace the license agreement or metadata, which the user is expected to examine in detail prior to requesting licensure.

LICENSE RESTRICTIONS

- Government Units and Academic Institutions (Public Parties) may access this dataset, without fee, via MetroGIS DataFinder (<http://www.datafinder.org>), subject to first obtaining a valid license. (See <http://www.metrogis.org/data/datasets/parcels/public/index.shtml>.) All other interests must pay a fee to the respective county(ies) for access. See <http://www.metrogis.org/data/datasets/parcels/private/index.shtml> for further information.
- The [license agreement](#) sets forth the conditions that the user must observe when using the Regional Parcel Dataset. The person requesting this dataset is expected to communicate these conditions to all individuals in their respective organizations that will have access to this dataset.
- Licensed Public Parties have the right to use the data only for their own internal business purposes. **No redistribution is permitted.**
- Derivative products made using the regional parcel dataset, including paper maps, .pdf files or other images of a finished map, are not subject to the provisions of the Parcel Data Sharing Agreement. Licensed users may distribute such map products in a manner they desire, provided the underlying source electronic parcel data are not accessible by the map recipient(s).
- The license agreement is a site license. Multiple copies of the data may be used by a licensed organization.
- Licensed Public Parties may have a Third Party use these data on their behalf, but the Third Party cannot use the data for any other purpose. A Third Party must obtain a license in addition to the license required for the qualifying Public Party interest. The Public Party is responsible for providing the data or password to its Third Party and ensuring compliance with the license conditions concerning use of the data by their Third Party.

A Third Party user may include any interest that obtains access to the dataset for the express purpose of assisting a Public Party in utilizing the data.

ACCESS

Government Units and Academic Institutions (Public Parties) and their designated Third Parties may access the Regional Parcel Dataset directly through the Internet via MetroGIS DataFinder once they have secured the required License. (Detailed instructions on how to access the data will be provided upon issuance of the required license.) All other interests - those which must pay a fee for access - must obtain the data directly from the [respective county\(ies\)](#), since MetroGIS DataFinder can not be used to distribute data for which a fee is required.¹

¹ Provision of access via DataFinder for non-Public Parties would require, at minimum, a commercial IMS license, which the counties have determined to be cost-prohibitive. They have concluded that they need more information to demonstrate that sufficient market interest exists before they will reconsider this matter. They have, however, agreed to investigate implementing a single point of access for non-Public Parties to submit parcel data requests to all seven counties. This mechanism would permit submissions to multiple counties simultaneously. The affected county(ies) would then fulfill these requests through traditional interaction with the data requester. Work is anticipated to begin on this project in 2005.

RESPONSIBILITIES

By the act of applying for a license and then subsequently downloading the data, the user agrees to abide by certain responsibilities, including:

- No redistribution of the data.
- Taking measures to prevent the distribution of the Regional Parcel Dataset in part or in whole to unauthorized users.
- Determining appropriate uses of the data.

In addition to the formal licensure requirements, the user is also encouraged to adhere to the following best practices:

- If a suspected error in the data is discovered, the user is encouraged to report it directly to the county(ies) involved. Over time, the data quality would be expected to improve if the users continually call attention to potential errors in the data. Contact information for each county is contained in the individual parcel metadata for each county ([http://www.datafinder.org/catalog.asp#Land Ownership](http://www.datafinder.org/catalog.asp#Land_Ownership)).
- If a licensed user receives a request from someone outside of their organization for access to the data, the user cannot oblige. Instead, the user is encouraged to refer the requestor to the metadata posted on MetroGIS DataFinder. This practice will accomplish two objectives: 1) adhere to any licensure requirements concerning access restrictions and 2) ensure the data user receives the most current version of the data together with the data documentation. This practice is recommended for non-licensed data as well.

SPECIFICATIONS

- The physical extent of the regional parcel dataset includes the Minnesota counties of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott and Washington.
- No attempt has been made to edgemark or rubbersheet between counties or to otherwise resolve any mismatches in common lines between county parcel datasets. This is an adopted policy of MetroGIS.
- See the Metadata ([http://www.datafinder.org/catalog.asp#Land Ownership](http://www.datafinder.org/catalog.asp#Land_Ownership)) and MetroGIS adopted data specifications ([http://www.metrogis.org/data/datasets/parcels/index.shtml#data specs](http://www.metrogis.org/data/datasets/parcels/index.shtml#data_specs)) for more information.