

MetroGIS Coordinating Committee: Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 27, 2018—1:00 – 3:30 pm

Metropolitan Counties Government Center, 2099 University Avenue, St Paul



Meeting Minutes ([Approved 2/28/2019](#))

Attendees:

Erik Dahl, MnEQB, Chair
David Brandt, Washington County, Vice Chair
Alex Blenkush, Hennepin County
Mark Kotz, Metropolitan Council
Andra Mathews, Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy
Brad Henry, University of Minnesota
Carrie Magnuson, Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District
Dan Tinklenberg, SRF Consulting Group, Inc.
Ben Verbick, LOGIS
Nancy Read, Metro Mosquito Control District
Marcia Broman, Metro Emergency Services Board
Jared Haas, City of Shoreview
Tony Monsour, Scott County
Chad Riley, Carver County

Guests:

Joe Sapletal, Dakota County
Matt McGuire, Metropolitan Council
Jon Hoekenga, Metropolitan Council

Staff:

Geoff Maas, MetroGIS Coordinator

1) Call to Order

Chair Dahl called the meeting to order at 1:08 pm

2) Approve Meeting Agenda

Motion to approve: Kotz, Second, Henry

Vote: unanimous approval, motion carried

3) Approve Minutes from last meeting on June 7, 2018

Motion to approve: Brandt Second, Henry

Vote: unanimous approval, motion carried

4) MetroGIS Policy Board Update

Maas indicated that next MetroGIS Policy Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 24, 2019. He mentioned that Anoka County would be choosing a new representative after the November elections

with the retirement of Commissioner Jim Kordiak. He further encouraged the Committee to advance any ideas they would like to present to the Board at its next regular meeting can be added to the agenda.

5) Geodata Standards Development Update

Activity relative to standards which are relevant to the work of the metro partners includes the following four topics; the Address Point Data Standard, the Parcel Data Transfer Standard and Metro Road Centerline Standard (which remains in development) and the revival of standards approved under the Governor's Council on Geographic Information which are being updated, formatted and advanced for attention by the Geospatial Advisory Council.

The Seven Metropolitan Counties, since May 2018, have been working toward the use of the Address Point Data Standard for providing their data for the Regional Address Point Dataset. As of August 29th, all seven metro counties had provided their data in the standard, and by September 14, Chisago County had also provided its data. This regional dataset is fully available on the Geospatial Commons. Future work related to the address point dataset will be the completion of the Addressing Resource Guide, improvements to the data based on user review and refinements to the validation and aggregation processes.

The Seven Metropolitan Counties have been working on transitioning their offering of parcel data in the recently adopted Parcel Data Transfer Standard for the Regional Parcel Dataset. In spring 2018, the managers of the seven counties agreed to begin work toward that aim. On August 16, staff from all seven counties plus the Metropolitan Council convened in St. Paul to work through details of the standard and transition to it for the regional dataset. The group has set October 1 as its 'goal date' to have data provided to the Metropolitan Council for testing the validation and aggregation scripts and endeavors to have the January 2019 version of the regional dataset available in the new Parcel Data Transfer Standard. Five of the metro counties have already provided their data to the Council for testing the validation scripts.

The candidate road centerlines, the Minnesota Road Centerline Standard (MRCS), remains in development. The MRCS has at its core the elements and structure of the MRCC v. 1.7 which was developed by the metro partners from May 2014 through April 2017. The MRCS was advanced originally by the 9-1-1 Standards Workgroup, which took the MRCC v. 1.7, made some minor additions and revisions to it and submitted it to the Standards Committee. The Committee approved the proposal for 60-day public review (which occurred from 4/9/18 to 6/8/18), the comments from which were collected and published. The Standards Committee convened on 7/18/18 to review the comments received, however was unable to full address all the comments in one session and identified numerous tasks that needed to be taken care of. These tasks included: better definition of terms in use, an effort to make a comparison with NENA definitions, more information on ZIP code coverage, more detailed information on the status and naming of the Unorganized Territories in Minnesota, the creation of standardized reusable domains, more reference examples for concepts explored in the standard, a need for more materials for outreach to support the stakeholder community in the next round of review and providing stronger context for the MnDOT/LRS attributes. If and when a statewide centerline standard is adopted, the metro partners will assess its merits for transitioning to it or potentially elect to simply translate the MRCC data as a whole into it to meet state purposes.

Mark Kotz, Chair of the Geospatial Advisory Committee also described the current transition of standards that were developed and adopted by the original Governor's Council on Geographic Information, for their advancement, review and adoption by the Geospatial Advisory Council.

The Standards Committee advanced this idea to the GAC at its last regular meeting and was given approval to begin to bring forward old standards into the new standards format and to submit them to the GAC (a few at a time) for review and consideration for adoption.

Key tasks for the on-going work of the Committee on bringing these standards up to date include alignment of language in the existing and emerging documents, creating a consistent look and feel with current Committee materials, updating the language and references in the documentation, updating domain values and new round of public review as needed.

Upcoming work for the Standards Committee includes a conference call and check in on the maintenance tasks on Tuesday, September 25 and an in-person meeting on October 25 in St. Paul; to work through the remaining stakeholder comments on the MRCS centerline standard and to determine the next action for its advancement, presumably this means a revision to create the MRCS. 0.6 and prepare another round of public stakeholder review in late 2018 or early 2019.

6) NCompass to MRCC Centerline Data Transition

Jon Hoekenga of the Metropolitan Council informed the Coordinating Committee that the Council has a need to create a lookup table between NCompass and MRCC to facilitate the data migration process, enabling the migration of street data assets associated with street IDs and is wondering if a similar need exists in other metro organizations. If there is a shared need, this might be an opportunity to develop one lookup table using shared or MetroGIS resources. The Council understand that a lookup table will not aid in transferring 100% of our assets due to the different geometries, however, it may help significantly when migrating systems and workflows to the Metro Regional Centerlines Collaborative (MRCC) based road data. Jon asked the group if there were any other uses who are transitioning their systems who need a look up table?

Tinklenberg: This would probably be very useful for the private sector, dealing with lots of road centerline data sources to build the data that we need.

7) Current MetroGIS Work Plan Projects – Brief Updates

7.1) Address Point Aggregation

As mentioned in Agenda Item 5, all Seven Metro Counties are providing data in the new state standard, with Chisago County anticipated to add theirs within a month or two. This project can effectively enter 'maintenance mode' with minor refinements to the data, validation, aggregation and publishing to ensure its continuance. Next steps for this effort include the completion of the first draft of the Addressing Resource Guide by MetroGIS and the eventual inclusion of data from both Isanti and Sherburne Counties to the north of the metropolitan region.

7.2) Metro Regional Centerlines (MRCC)

Also, as mentioned in Agenda Item 5, all Seven Metro Counties are providing centerline data in the new state standard and Chisago County is expected to be adding theirs in late 2018 as well through the 9-1-1 portal. Maas reported that the MRCC Best Practices/Resource Guide is complete and is available on the MRCC project page on the metrogis.org site. Anyone finding issues or errors in the MRCC data is encouraged to contact Jon, Geoff or the county GIS staff in which the error occurs.

7.3) Metro Park & Trail Data Standard & Data Set

Version 1.1 of the Metro Regional Park and Trail datasets are available on the Commons. Alex Blenkush at Hennepin County is planning on performing a collection and manual update of the data from the various regional partners for another update by the end of calendar 2018. This update will be published to the Commons. Blenkush is also shepherding the first version of the 'best practices guide' document to accompany the data. This will serve as a resource to both the user and producer community on what the data contains. The Metro Park and Trail Work Group plans to meet over the winter to determine which fields they would like validation on, to determine an update timing schedule and other long-term maintenance issues to keep the data current and published.

7.4) Address Point Editor Tool, v. 4.0

Joe Sapletal from Dakota County provided an update on the completion of the next generation of the Address Editor Tool (v. 4.0) The project team has been working with North Point Geographics to create an upgraded version in the WebApp Builder Environment. The initial budget was \$15,200 which was wrapped up on March 31, 2018. The project team was meeting frequently through calendar 2018 with the developers and team to chart progress. The final interface features a geo-referencing widget, batch upload and report tool functionality.

Sapletal used screen-shot slides to demonstrate the look, feel and main features of the new v. 4.0 interface for each of the tools. Key to the success of the new version of the tool are the three widgets available.

These include the georeferencing widget which enables the user to bring in a preliminary plat, to drag and drop it into place, then clear it out if you need to or commit it to the layout for the time being, image, adjust the transparency, turn on or off as you see fit (the placed image will be deleted if you close your session) The second widget is the Batch Upload Tool; enabling the user to drag and drop in various formats (.shp, .gdb, zip, etc.) where it allows all the fields in the data model and all the fields in your matching data models to match one to one. The third is the Reports Widget which enables the user to report by date, report by selected features and it matches the selection tools in ArcGIS On Line and can also report by status. All widgets are available for download and use via both GitHub and available on the Geospatial Commons as well as via ArcGIS Online.

Later in fall of 2018, Joe indicated that he would be creating an article for the GIS Lounge and will be working with Craig Prisland of Carver County in developing a maintenance plan (for versions, updating, documentation, etc.). Tanya Mayer and Geoff Maas will be preparing a message release of the tools availability sometime in fall-winter 2018 to the entire state-wide community.

7.5) Addressing Resource Guide

Maas indicated he is still working on the research and compilation of case examples and resources for the forthcoming guide, the intention of this document is to serve as a resource for both geospatial and non-geospatial professionals. The main purpose of the guide is to help the data producer and user community understand the origins, usage, terminology, and importance of addressing. He illustrated an example in the city of Faribault where poor application of numbering principles by the city led to later challenges in applying the correct numbers to new buildings and streets. Research and case example collection for the document is anticipated into fall and early 2019.

7.6) Statewide Centerline Initiative

This work is tied to the creation and adoption of a statewide road centerline standard. The current proposed candidate statewide standard is the MRCS v. 0.5 (which is the MRCC 1.7 with a few modifications). Upcoming work of the Standards Committee will likely result in a v. 0.6 and a new round of public review. Emphasis is on getting the 9-1-1 elements calibrated to meet that need. The Standards Committee will convene again on October 25 to complete its review of the public comments received with the second round of public review anticipated for late 2018 or early 2019.

7.7) Metro Stormwater Geodata Project

Two successful MSGP Steering Team meetings took place on June 26, 2018 (Minneapolis) and August 28, 2018 (Chaska) with a third planned for Blaine on Nov 14 and an esri Utility Network Webinar scheduled for November 27. The MSGP Steering Team is primarily involved in creating a prototype transfer standard to meet the needs documented from the April 17, 2018 needs assessment session.

In July-August the Steering Team broke into six 'flash teams' to determine specific needs and attributes. The findings of these break out teams will form the first prototype of the MSGP standard. In November and beyond the group is expected to select a site (or sites) within the metro for a test pilot area to gather and translate this data into it, create a sample dataset and offer it to the statewide community for testing and comments. Maas applied for a grant for the project from the University of Minnesota Water Resources Center (\$18,875), if received, this funding will be used to fund the creation of the pilot study dataset. Additional outreach on the project includes the following presentations: July 17 – Metro-MAWD Board of Directors in St. Paul, Nov 7 – the Conference on the Environment in Minneapolis and November 30 the Statewide MAWD Conference in Alexandria.

7.8) 9-1-1 Regional Data Viewer

A new proposal for a web mapping application for 9-1-1 uses was proposed, its primary function is intended as a viewer for the datasets relevant to NextGen9-1-1 use. This would be a region-wide resources (including Chisago, Isanti and Sherburne Counties into 2019) and largely serve as a communication tool to aid non-geospatially enabled staff to view, understand, print maps of the most current data relevant to NextGen9-1-1

Data to be carried in the proposed viewer includes the Address Point Data, Centerline Data (MRCC v. 1.7), Parcel Data, Current Municipal Boundary Data County Boundary Data, ESN(ESZ) Boundary Data, MSAG Boundary Data, PSAP Boundary Data and MnGeo Aerial Imagery Server Data

MESB tendered a request to the Data Practices Office on 9/12/2018 to definitively determine that ESN and PSAP boundaries are public data and can be shared freely without violation of federal law, state law or any designation by the state legislature and anticipates hearing back from them sometime in October or December.

The tool is anticipated to include a variety of core navigation, viewing and basic query functions; Maas and Broman will be working over the fall to prepare the first version of the project plan with a first version of the viewer anticipated for user testing in spring 2019.

7.9) Free + Open Public Geospatial Data Initiative

Maas provided a quick update of the status of free and open data in the state where 28 counties are currently making their data available. Isanti, Olmsted and Cook poised to move to open data in either late 2018 or early 2019. At the upcoming state conference, Kne, Guerts and Maas will be delivering a

presentation on the status of cities and their open data, notably, the responses from a survey conducted by the GAC Outreach Team.

7.10) Support for the Minnesota Geospatial Commons (in Maintenance Mode)

As of September 24, 2018, 768 Resources from 29 Organizations are available on the Commons. The MetroGIS Collaborative will continue to keep support for the Commons on its maintenance activities in its annual work plan.

8) The 'Move Toward Maintenance' of Regional Datasets

Maas gave a short presentation and opportunity to comment on what is planned for the continued commitment to long-term maintenance and stewardship of the regionally standardized datasets (centerlines, address points and parcels) remaining up to date and available. Additionally, it was discussed on how to better encourage their consumption by external platforms such as Open Street Map, Google Maps and ESRI Community Base Map. Maintenance and perpetuation of these regional datasets involves more than just the creation, editing and translation of the data; it also includes the various agreements, contracts & funding, producing and maintaining the documentation such as best practices, user guides and metadata, the commitment to validation/aggregation/flagging and reporting back to data producers, responding to and communicating with the ever-growing user community, continual refinements of both the data and the processes. Maas urged the group not to take these supporting activities for granted and that due diligence to their maintenance is essential to the continued availability of the data. The work of MetroGIS collaborative partners in the coming months and years will be to shepherd the refinement and completeness of data, create, refine and improve the documentation, metadata and best practices guide, provide advance planning and execution for next MOA/Contract cycle (set to begin in January 2021) and continue to be active in demonstrating value of this effort to leadership in the region.

Knippel: Our Data Producers Work Group/Eight County Collaborative meets monthly via phone and we report our activities to the IT Managers of the participating counties. They in turn, communicate up the chain to higher leadership. This helps them foster an understanding of the work and it reinforces the message that our collective activity has value. Things like the upcoming 9-1-1 regional data viewer will be good for elected officials to see. Also, with higher visibility, our data needs to be of increasingly higher quality. With the potential to export to external users like ESRI and Google, we further demonstrate our value. Interests like Google should be getting their data from us, the authoritative source, not the other way around.

9) 2019 MetroGIS Work Plan Prioritization (Kotz, 20 minutes)

Each fall the Coordinating Committee performs a prioritization exercise to weight and plan for its various initiatives for the coming calendar year. Maas gave a short overview of the available budget for calendar 2018 (\$50,000 total, \$28,000 of which is contractually obligated to the counties to translate their data) and Mark Kotz refreshed the group on the prioritization process and then lead the group in the annual work project prioritization exercise.

After the ranking and discussion, the prioritization list for 2019 was created. Project priorities identified for the **2019 Work Plan** work cycle are identified in the table on the following page. The first six (6) are active projects, the seventh 'External Platform Publishing' has been identified for 'investigation' during calendar 2019. Five projects have entered 'maintenance mode' and three others are 'inactive':

Project Name	Status in 2019	Priority Score*	Priority Rank
9-1-1 Regional Data Viewer	Yes	275	1
Metro Stormwater Geodata Project (MSGP)	Yes	270	2
Minnesota Road Centerline Standard (MRCS)	Yes	320	3
Parcel Data Resource and Best Practices Guide	Yes	250	4
Addressing Resource and Best Practices Guide	Yes	240	5
Metro Park and Trail Standard and Dataset	Yes	264	6
External Platform Publishing	Investigate	**	7
Metro Regional Centerlines (MRCC)	Maintenance	374	M
Support for the MN Geospatial Commons	Maintenance	360	M
Free + Open Geospatial Data Research/Outreach	Maintenance	308	M
Metro Address Point Data Dataset	Maintenance	286	M
Address Point Editor Tool, v. 4.0	Maintenance	187	M
Increase Frequency of Parcel Data Updates	Inactive	51	I
Creation of Regional Basemap Services	Inactive	44	I
MetroPlus Free Geocoder	Inactive	16	I

**After empirical rankings are complete, the Coordinating Committee discusses the projects and manually re-orders them as per their relevance to known business needs, likelihood of success and relevance to stakeholder interests. The order of projects reflects this discussion and does not match the numerical Priority Score assigned.*

***External Platform Publishing was added manually by the Coordinating Committee during its meeting on 9/26/2018. External Platform Publishing was not included in the ranking survey given to the Committee membership during August-September 2018, and therefore carries a score of "zero".*

10) Lightning Round Update

Each member of the Committee is encouraged to share brief highlights of the work of their agency.

Henry: Continued involvement with the MN 2050 effort.

Knippel: Dakota County is undertaking a fall leaf-off flight at 6" resolution. Also, I chair the Eight County Collaborative which convenes monthly via conference call, this includes the seven metro counties plus 9-1-1 and the northern counties (Chisago & Isanti) every other month; if anything you want to ask us or contribute, let us know, we will get it into our discussion.

Magnuson: No update.

Mathews: MCEA is having its annual fund-raising event 'Legally Green' at Macalester College.

MB: The MESB continued to work with the nine counties of our service area on address validation for 9-1-1 as well as with NG9-1-1 work. We are working to complete the evaluation of wireless data for routing and cell phone calls and displaying cell sector information for wireless to 9-1-1.

Mansour: – Scott County has a new GIS position available in our Public Works Department, hope to have it filled by December.

Koukol: Ramsey County will be delivering a presentation at GIS/LIS integrated work management inventory reporting application that we have built.

Fritz: Xcel energy is working to get its AGOL portal up and running;

Baker: The Metro Airports Commission is still transitioning to an enterprise system, slow going but we are getting there;

Grisbeck: MnDOT is wrapping up summer activities and construction cycle. Looking to translate more data into our LRS system, using the metro's MRCC data as one of the resources. Also, we are looking at more and more use of drones for various types of work.

Tinklenberg: SRF is in the process of developing a GIS strategic plan, more internally focused at the company to serve various business needs but also to be better able to offer client solutions. We will have 6 people participating in the conference in Duluth; large attendance, maybe next year SRF will have a booth at the conference.

Reinhardt: Hennepin County is currently running QAQC on the aerial imagery captured in late spring, should be available publicly in November. We intend to publish it as a service and have obliques available as well, using a public facing viewer from the vendor. We are extending our Pictometry contract for another year, and we've recently released an application for emergency management consuming live sensor data from across the county, interesting project, and we are building off of that to build more real time signal and traffic management application work. We also have an RFP out for roadway asset management systems, we hope to get some good responses on that. Gary Swenson left the county, his last day will be on October 12 and we are working through the transition plan for hiring a replacement.

Blenkush: I've been involved with data collection with our rail group at the county as well as being involved with the parks and trails project, working to update the pedestrian and bike trails and working with Ann, Geoff and Carrie on the research for the stormwater project.

McGuire: With the Metropolitan Council, representing the regional government on the work group that formed by the GAC to work with MnGeo to retire imagery layers from their imagery service (with Joe Sapletal). At present there are something like 77 layers, and there is some effort to trim that down to get rid of things that are seldom used, the GAC has asked for a proposal.

Read: Work of the Mosquito Control over the summer has involved mapping catch basins across the metro; there is something on the order of 277,000 basins throughout the region, if something can hold water, we try to map it. We are seeing an uptick in the West Nile Virus in recent years and we are working with cities to take part in the Adopt A Drain Program to facilitate more regular cleaning. We are always interested in getting our hands on the most current imagery so keep us posted if new flights are

coming, and we have begun to explore work with drones and seeing what this different scale can bring to our work.

Kotz: In my role as chair of the GAC will go through the same prioritization process for the GAC projects, will send out a survey to the entire community and will be working with GAC committee chairs to determine the priority of initiatives in the coming year.

Hoekenga: Focused on working on parcel and address point validations tools for our work in federating county data together. We look to post these tools on the Commons next week, so they can be used to run in-house validations on their address points.

Brandt: I was invited to attend the Association of MN Emergency Managers, they are becoming aware of the GIS value can offer them and wanted some hands on experience to try out, demos, such as collector applications to work with the data, so I am looking for help to frame this and bring it to them.

11) Next Coordinating Committee Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, December 6, 2018 at 1 pm with a high likely hood that the meeting would be moved into 2019 so as to not conflict with the St. Paul Government IT Symposium.

12) Adjournment

Chair Dahl called for a motion to Adjourn, Henry, second Knippel, meeting was adjourned at 3:31 PM.