

MetroGIS Coordinating Committee: Meeting Notes **DRAFT**

Wednesday, September 16, 2020, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Webex



1) **Call to Order (Dahl)**

Dahl called the meeting to order at 2:03

2) **Approve Agenda (Dahl)**

The meeting agenda was approved as is.

3) **Approve Minutes from last meeting (November 14, 2019) (Dahl)**

Minutes were approved with no changes

4) **Update on MetroGIS Coordinator Position (Kotz)**

Kotz reported that hiring the MetroGIS Coordinator is on hold due to a hiring freeze. There is no indication of when the hiring freeze will end.

5) **Election of CC Chair and Vice Chair**

Erik Dahl and David Brandt were reelected as chair and vice chair.

6) **New Coordinating Committee Members (Dahl)**

Pete Wiringa (U Spatial) letter of interest for education seat

Jessi Wyatt (Great Plains Institute) letter of interest for nonprofit seat

Both were approved by the Coordinating Committee as new members.

7) **Metro Conservation Network (Richardson)**

Bart Richardson gave a presentation about the Metro Conservation Network. It serves as a collective for common goals. Has several workgroups, including a Data and GIS Workgroup that Bart leads. That group has 3 major goals

3 main goals of the Metro Conservation Network

1. complete land cover data
2. create a data collection portal
3. ?

For land cover, want to complete data for the metro area. Some counties have old data that has not been updated since 2002 and changes have happened. And some areas have no data yet = holes in the data.

Run the regionally significant ecological areas model. This model was created many years ago. We are reassessing the ecological models.

If you have something that might fit into this metro conservation network program, send a note to Bart or Dave Brandt to get you connected. We could use some help at DNR setting up the data collection portal.

Brandt: do we have an idea of level of effort to update the data?

Richardson: No. Landcover data can be expensive and time consuming to update. We can train staff to do the data collection – e.g. aerial imagery interpretation.

Riley: are you looking to do whole counties or just focus on areas of know change.

Richardson: focusing on change areas makes sense.

Read: what kind of data are you expecting to go in the portal?

Richardson: for example, restoration sites would be valuable – point or polygons of the site and description of the type of restoration. This is the start of this partnership, so we don't yet have answers to all of the questions.

8) Proposal to Change Parcel Collection and Aggregation Workflows (Hoekenga)

See agenda for proposal overview.

Hoekenga: The Met Council would like to use the same process for parcels as we use for address points and road centerlines. The current process with parcels includes a lot more manual checking and manual steps than the process for address points or roads. We are proposing starting April 2021 to use this new workflow which shifts more QA/QC to the Counties' responsibility.

Randy K. We can add you to the county data producer workgroup meeting to discuss further.

9) Break

We skipped the break

10) Approval of 2020 MetroGIS Work Plan (Dahl)

Pete Wiringa: how often we will meet. Will it be quarterly?

Kotz: Met Council has no dedicated staff for MetroGIS and is down a couple of positions. So we are not in a position to lead the meeting organization. This is a good question for Chair and vice Chair.

Brandt: it would be good to meet more often. There is value in knowing what is going on in the region.

Randy K.: mentioned that counties are still meeting regularly. A big focus is NG9-1-1

Hoekenga. Maybe a meeting just to update people on active project can help.

Kotz: The GAC model involves the chair and vice chair doing significant work to make meetings happen. MetroGIS may need to consider a model like that until a MetroGIS Coordinator is hired.

Brandt: we could schedule the meetings ahead of time.

Dahl: agrees. Erik, Dave and Mark will work offline to schedule upcoming meetings.

Kotz: We will need someone to volunteer to take notes too!

Workplan was approved as is for 2021

11) MetroGIS Work Plan Projects – Brief Updates (Dahl, others)

Maintenance of regional datasets:

Hoekenga: we could use a regular schedule for updating the validation tools so as not to bother county staff so often. Maybe once per year.

Knippel: mentioned the huge amount of work going into the core regional datasets for NG9-1-1 and the immense value that comes to all of us from having extremely high quality data region wide through a partnership of local, regional and state government.

Broman: agreed and emphasized the critical nature of the strong partnership.

Ross: echoed the same thing.

Statewide road centerlines & Migration to Standard

Metro has migrated to current GAC standards

Statewide using the NG9-1-1 standard, not migrated to the GAC Standard yet.

Metro Stormwater Geodata Project

See slides

Parks and Trails Data Standard

Extensive discussion about trying to better coordinate standardization and aggregation of parks and trails data.

Ross: offered to organize a meeting to connect some of the key state government players with stakeholders in this group.

Knippel: Maybe the champion we need is not in our MetroGIS meeting. Might the Met Council parks folks provide a champion.

Kotz: I don't see anyone from the Met Council parks team playing such a role.

Matthews: Let's add this to the agenda for the next meeting.

9-1-1 Regional Data Viewer

Broman: It is active and running now. MESB has published additional datasets to the Geospatial Commons which have been incorporated into the viewer. We have a few enhancement ideas too. Overall it is very valuable.

McGuire: I'm wondering what constitutes a finished project vs. maintenance. And should there be a second, version of the viewer.

Increase Frequency of Regional Parcel Dataset

Hoekenga will meet with counties to discuss further.

External Data Publishing

McGuire: This included three external publishers.

OSM: not sure what the status is with this.

Google – Dead end

Esri – We have made progress in getting Esri to include our regional datasets in their community basemaps. Have not had notification that road centerlines are included yet.

Broman: would be helpful to MESB to have metro address points included in Esri world geocoding service

12) GAC Updates (Kotz, others)

Kotz:

- There is a lot going on with standards at the GAC. Road Centerline and Address Points have been tweaked to support 9-1-1 needs. Those modified drafts are now out for public review.
- A draft Trails and Bikeways Data Standard was approved by the Standards Committee and will go out for public review next week.
- The Damage Assessment Data Standard was approved by the GAC and will be published next week.
- The Emergency Preparedness Committee has formed an underground utilities subgroup.

13) Announcements or Other Business (Dahl, others)

Meeting adjourned at 4:05